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H.M.C.S. LEVIS

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### HAIL AND FAREWELL

*This is a farewell note to our Senior Ship the who is being transferred to the R.N.*

Saying good bye to old friends and team-mates is never a pleasant job. In wartime, it needs must happen frequently. But that does not make the task any easier.

It was that day last Tuesday when our "Wup! Wup! Wup!" as we left the jetty meant parting company with our first senior ship. As we all know, the "M" is leaving for other hunting grounds after five months of flying the flag of the guide in our flotilla. During that time, both at sea and in port, the crews of all the other ships in the group had developed a great respect for the Senior Officer's ship which was not merely due to her position. "M" had a reputation for smartness and efficiency which was hard to beat. The "good bye; good luck" which fluttered in bunting from her yardarm as the group sailed out of the harbor will be echoed back to her in the thoughts of all those who continue to sail under the triple red band.

Fortunately, the Senior Officer and a large part of his staff will remain under the old trademark now borne by our new senior ship. While many of his staff are well known on the other ships in the group, it is one of the unfortunate circumstances of naval service that the senior officer is seldom seen by the men serving under him. His duties both at sea and in harbor require a degree of attention and energy of which many will hardly be aware, leaving him little time for visits to the other ships in the group.

The senior officer, a commander in the R.C.N.V.R., is a veteran of more than five years service. One of the first "Long G's", he served on a destroyer before going to the west coast to take charge of the gunnery school there. Then he went back to sea as captain of H.M.C.S. "LETHBRIDGE". Last year he took over command of "M" and, until moving to the "D", has served in the dual role of commanding officer and senior officer.

It is interesting to note that our new senior ship was the first fitted out by the builders of "LEVIS". Thus, a truly sister-ship, she is a welcome addition to our group.

And so it is "Hail, and farewell".

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#### SPORTS

"Fifteen two; fifteen four, and a pair's six".

With furrowed brow and bated breath, the peggin' and cribbin' experts have been matching wits every day in the last week for the ship's cribbage championship, and by Thursday night only three teams were left in the fight.

Mearns and Timothy were the first to reach the final bracket and will match one of three teams struggling for the lower half of the bracket.

Champions of the last tournament, Leighton and Lightle survived the first round this time by taking the count of Youzefchuk and M.R. Campbell, but fell before the onslaught of Pierzchala and Fennessey who had climbed over McGraw and King to reach the second column.

Pierzchala and Fennessey then went on to eliminate the last-remaining wardroom combinations of Lieutenant Molson and Lieutenant Redford. Meanwhile Mearns and Timothy had been gathering steam by successively eliminating Burgess and Clarke, Van Damme and Andrews, and Robinson and Atkinson. Then the semi-final tilt gave Mearns and Timothy the victory.

In the bottom half of the draw, Bligh and Tompkins got the revs out faster than the Forward-Charlton; Sommerville-Dillon or Dobson-LeClair combinations could manage and now are matched with acoustical engineers, Robson and Kennedy for the right to advance to the finals.

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#### WORLD NEWS

LONDON - The Admiralty discloses that a number of British merchant ships were equipped with special landing decks during the most critical period of the Battle of the Atlantic. They're called "postal stamp" landing decks. They enable British merchant vessels to carry their own aircraft protection without sacrificing cargo tonnage.

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ROME - Action on the Italian front may quicken at any time. The allied commander in Italy, lieutenant general Mark Clark, told Italian patriots in a broadcast yesterday that large scale action by allied forces is in prospect.

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LONDON - Five British officials are missing aboard the famous transport plane "The Commando", enroute to Canada. One of the officials is the British Undersecretary for Air, commander Rupert Brabner. Wreckage has been found

*Our 'crib' tournament well under way!*

on the intended route of the plane, but so far there has been no trace of survivors. There has been no announcement regarding the identity of the crew on this flight. The crew usually are mixed service personnel from the R.A.F., the R.C.A.F., and the R.A.A.F.

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LONDON - Thunderbolt planes of the United States Ninth Air Force now are equipped with new five-inch high velocity rockets. The weapons can pierce the thick armor of the Nazi's biggest tanks as well as heavily reinforced concrete.

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OTTAWA - Prime Minister King has disclosed that the beginning of the campaign preceding the forthcoming general federal election may take place while the San Francisco world security conference is proceeding. The prime minister also said that because of his heavy duties as leader of a country at war, he will be unable to accept chairmanship or any important post at the San Francisco meeting.

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OTTAWA - The final wings parade ceremony which marks the end of the Commonwealth Air Training Plan will be held at Uplands airport this afternoon. Fifty airmen representing every aircrew trade and most of the nations participating in the plan have been selected to receive their wings at the special parade. They are the final fifty of a graduating list of more than 150,000 men. In Toronto last night the flag was lowered at No. 1 Air Training School at Malton Airport, following the largest wings parade ever held in Canada. The Malton Training School was the first one established under the air training plan. Before the flag came down, representatives of England, Poland, the United States, Scotland, Cuba, Mexico, Australia, France, Wales, China, and Canada received their wings as navigators and air bombers.

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#### BOUQUETS

Congratulations to our sharp-shooting Oerlikon gunner, Andy Van Damme who has qualified for Leading Seaman.

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#### OCEAN BUSTER

Asking Leading Stoker Gusland what he thinks of the new 11-ton town buster bomb.

"Tain't nothing," said Gus, after a recent mass attack.

Maybe you didn't know it, but Gus keeps solitary vigil in the tiller flat at action stations and gets the full benefit of all the depth charge explosions. He figures we went those town busters one better.

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## SPRING FEVER

Now that spring has come and the shore-going types have spring fever it's a good time to trot out the corny old verse by the guy with the fever:

Sprig is sprug  
De grass is riz  
I wonder where da boidies is  
Dey say da boid is on da wig  
Dow isd'at dat absoid  
I always thought  
Da wig was on da boid.

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## ASK ME ANOTHER

All right experts, here we go:

1. "Beatswain" In the 11th century ships were each under a Batsuen or Boatswain who commanded her crew in action and acted at all times as Master, Plot, or steersman, for which service he was paid 10 marks.
2. "Coxswain" Besides the Boatswain there was also a cogswain, who apparently was the officer in charge of a cog, a different type of vessel manned by 39 marines.
3. "Grog" In 1740 Admiral Vernon instituted the practice of having the rum watered, and since those days it has borne the name of grog, this being the nickname of the Admiral who habitually wore a grogram clothing and was nicknamed Old Grog.
4. "Uniform Silk" Handkerchief. Popularly supposed to be a sign of mourning for Nelson, this is of much earlier date when it was worn in action either around the head to prevent the sweat running into a man's eyes; or round the waist; or as a pad over the knee in case he was one of the handspike numbers at the heavy guns--when ashore, its colour varied according to the individual taste.
5. Uniform "Collar". With its three white bands, generally supposed to commemorate Nelson's three victories, this was introduced with the seamen's uniform in 1857. The original has two rows of tape, the third crept in by error. How many of you have noticed how many rows there are in the sailor's collar on the package of Player's Medium cigarettes?
6. "Saluting the Quarterdeck" Popular belief is that in former days there was a crucifix and that the salute was for it but actually the quarterdeck was the seat of authority and the position nearest the which the king's colours were displayed.
7. "Guard and Steerage" In the old first-rates the after bulkhead was pierced by a door amidships which opened from the captain's cabin to the half deck, which space was covered by the quarterdeck. The half deck was also known as the "Steerage" from the fact that the steering wheels and binnacles were placed there. The term "guard and steerage" refers to the guard and those people who were entitled to sling in the steerage and who did not necessarily turn out with the hands.

Now just one final set of brain teasers, unless the readers would care to have more after next week's answers. Here they are:

*Who'd god a  
code  
eaddywade!*

*A few  
more  
definitions*



Paying off the Mortgage

AND THE SMILE FOR THE DAY

Then there was the sailor who went home on leave and went down to the D.H.Q. where he joined up to see the recruiting officer.

"Sir", he said, on entering the latter's office. "Would you mind giving me that old line about the navy again. I'm getting kind of discouraged."