

Dear Mother—



We are lost again.



Let's go that away.



Who flushed the head!









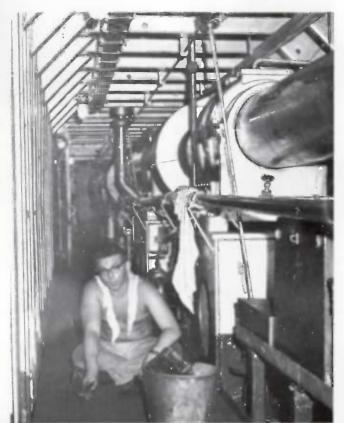








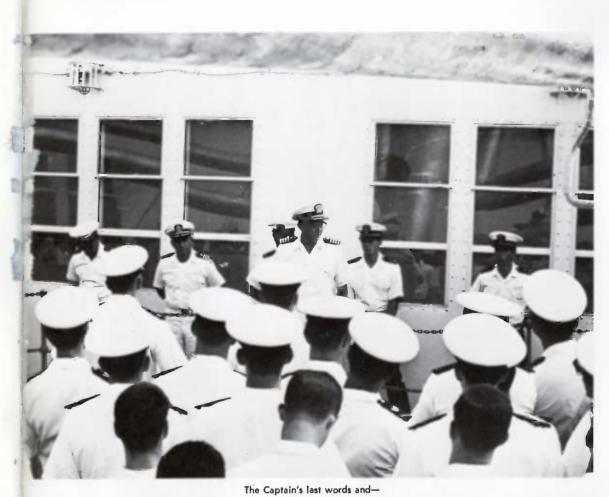
Watch that sunburn.



Some last minute touch ups.

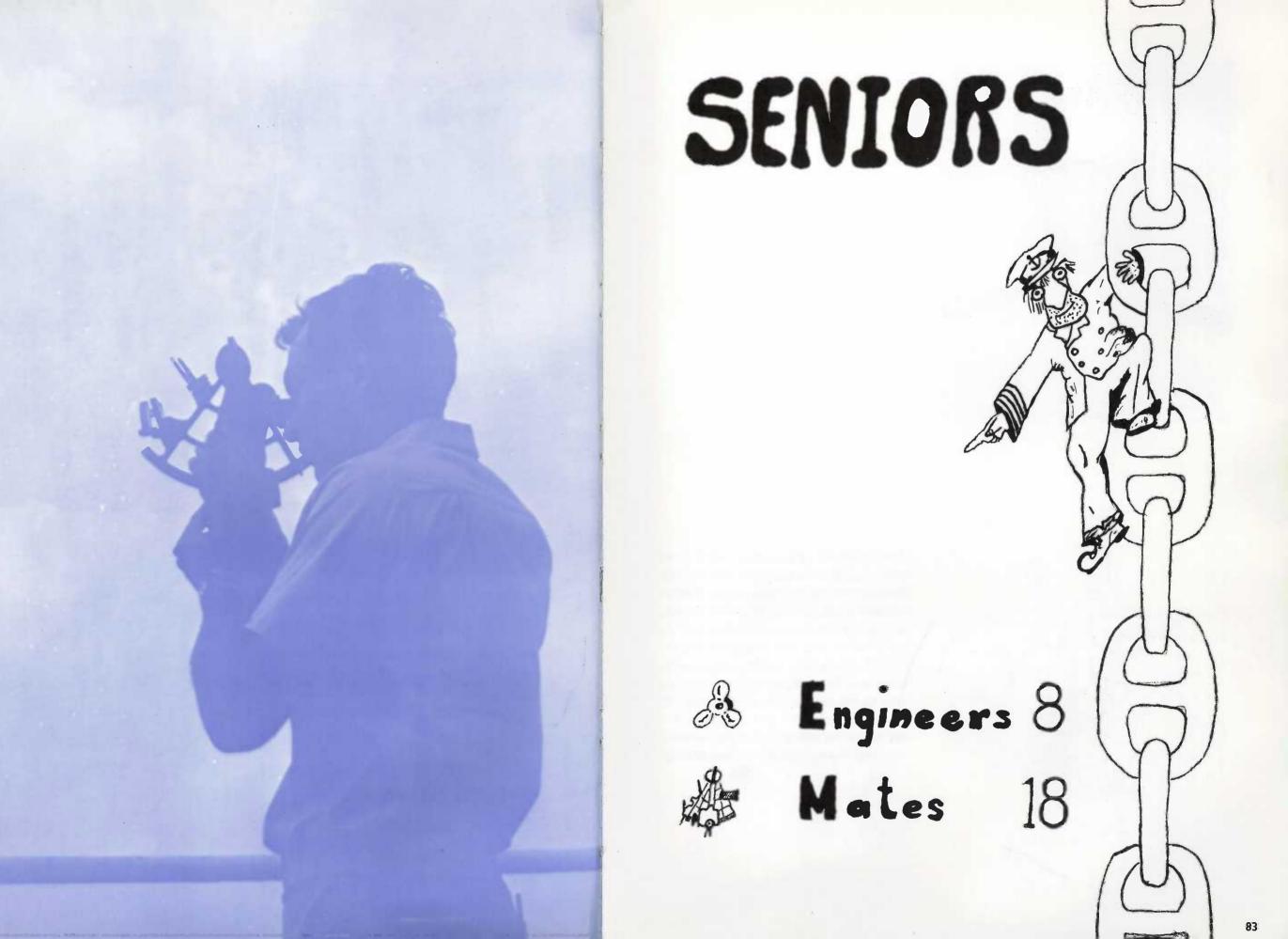


Remembering where he had been.



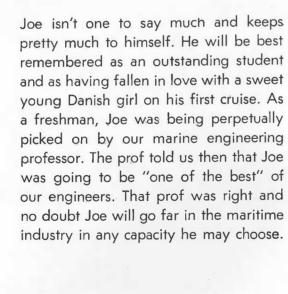


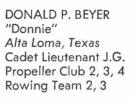
his good-bye.





JOSEPH G. ABSCHNEIDER
"Joe"
Seabrook, Texas
Cadet Petty Officer 3
Cadet Ensign
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3,4
Distinguished Student 1, 2, 3

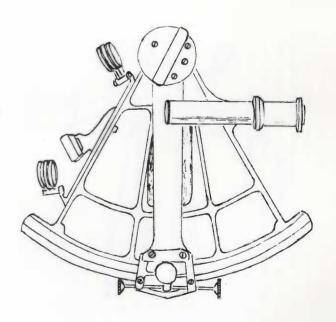


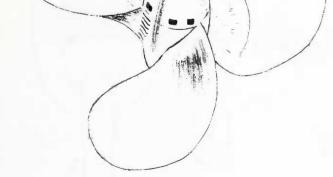




Don is perhaps one of the easiest men in the school to get along with. He is noted for his part in helping Hedemann buy the "Hog", but he sold interest in it when it was discovered that new laws made the bike unlawful. As a freshman, Don always ate all the strawberries at late tables and cut poor Hedemann and Pickavance out of their shares.

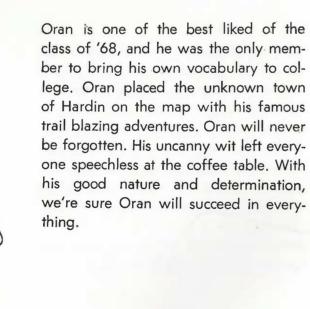
Good luck in the future, and may your garden blossom with strawberries.

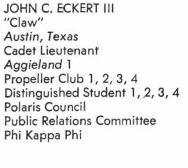






ORAN M. CROCKER
"Cheetah"
Hardin, Texas
Cadet Ensign
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4
Distinguished Student 2, 3

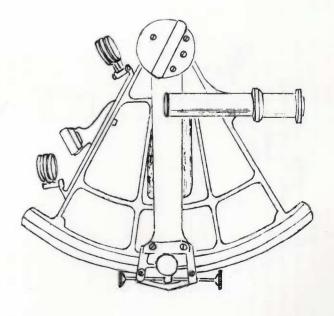






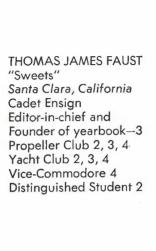
John was the member of our class with the photographic memory. While most of the class was busy studying all night, John would be in the rack, getting a good night's rest. Mareno used to pray every night that he would wake the next morning and be blessed with the "Claw's" ability to comprehend. John was nicknamed the "Claw" because of the unusual way in which he held everything from a pencil to a girl.

A real conscientious guy, John will be a valuable asset to the shipping business. We wish John good luck in any business he enters.

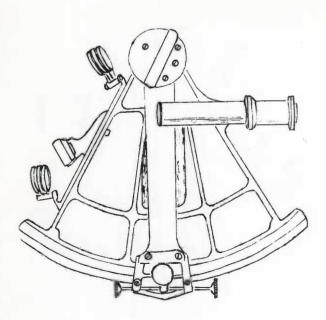




CECIL B. EUBANKS
"Taco"
San Antonio, Texas
Corps Executive Officer
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4
Yacht Club 2, 3, 4

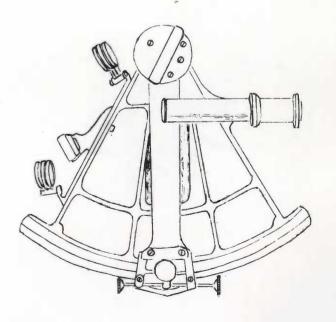






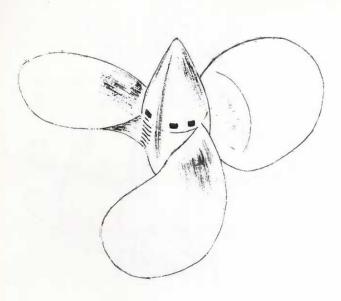
Cecil sure fooled the academy. He started the program with intentions of going to sea, and now he claims to have a job on the Bolivar Ferry. If anyone is qualified to run the ferry, Cecil certainly is the man for the job. No one is quite sure how Cecil got in with the Master of the boat, but we hear that he makes several trips a day to go and see a "sick relative" that lives in Bolivar. "Taco" will no doubt try to sign on the ferry as a Spanish speaking mate and work his way up to Master. Good luck, Cecil, and may you move up fast in the ferry-boat business.

Will we ever forget "Sweets"? The hallways of 50th and U will echo eternally with the sound of FAUOOOST. A revolutionary from California, he came to T.M.A. to rock the administration, shock the student body, and confuse the faculty. It all seemed in vain, until we took a second look. This curly headed personality from the west coast is, without a doubt, the originator of ideas that will make this school great. As the number ONE Do'er in the school, this 68'er already has plans for changing the industry. To say the very least, there is but one dynamic T. J. Faust. We wish you smooth sailing and good luck as you climb the ladder to success.

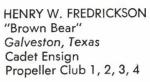




WILLIAM F. FERGUSON
"Fergy"
Houston, Texas
Corps Adjutant
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4

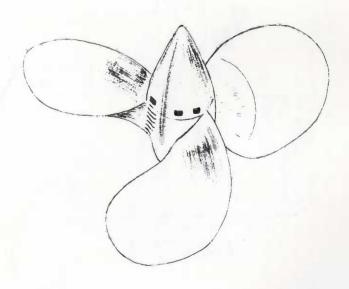


This is one Engineer that has himself in tow with a sweet nurse. The poor unsuspecting little girl allowed herself to become engaged to Fergy at the 1967 Christmas Dance. We feel sorry for Mary Ann, because Bill is determined to spend his entire life at sea and come into port only once a year. Knowing Bill the way we do, he will no doubt live up to his pledge of "Ships before Mary Ann". Good luck in the future and you had better keep this book under lock and key.



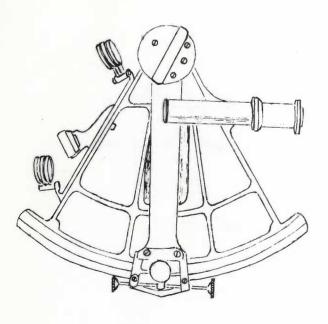


Buddy hails from Galveston, the All-American tourist trap. Buddy was an easy guy to get along with and very quiet. He hardly ever got upset and hardly ever got out of the rack except to eat and use the head. He was one of the few engineers that were taught the procedure of taking a meridian passage of the moon. Of course in this respect, Buddy was fortunate to have the finest of instructors, George Mareno and Ed Higgins. Another aspect that will long be remembered is Buddy's appreciation of wine and women. Buddy will make an outstanding engineer, and the class of 1968 wishes you all the luck.

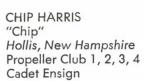




RICHARD GONZALES "Sugar Bear" Galveston, Texas Cadet Ensign Propeller Club 2, 3, 4

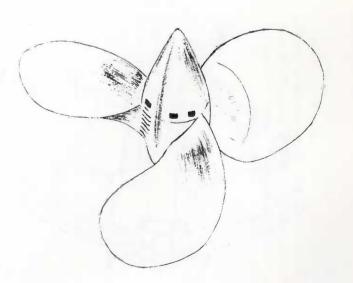


Richard was the Daddy of the Class of 1968. After serving his time in the Navy, Rich decided that he liked sea life, but wanted to make more money than the Navy offered. His mature approach to solving problems and his desire to overcome many obstacles and get a license speak of the qualities that will lead to success. We will not soon forget the electronic navigation class which included maneuvering board problems of the same type that Rich worked while in the Navy. Mr. Hopkins wasn't able to pull any tricks on Rich.



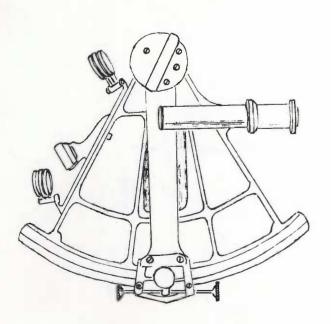


Chip is one engineer that really believes in the "down under", not only in skin diving but also on a ship. Chip wasn't one to say much but his dress and manner did more than a thousand words. Chip's favorite sport was failing to get a haircut and causing the entire naval science department to go into a turmoil. But, after many trials and tribulations, joys and sorrows, good times and bad times, Chip has finally made it. We all wish Chip the best luck in all his endeavors.





ROBERT F. HEDEMANN
"Rasputin"
Houston, Texas
Cadet Lieutenant
Rowing Team 2, 3
Propeller Club 2, 3, 4



Varooooom ... cough ... cough ... as the "Hog" died and "Rasputin" dismounted. On hand were five beautiful playmates, all vying for his attention. Later, after telling his audience stories about flying in the First World War and a circumnavigation in a sailboat, "Rasputin" mounted his 1950 vintage Harley Davidson, and poured the gas to it, while babies screamed and women fainted. We will never forget Bob's stories, his fantastic imagination, balding head, laziness, fun-loving antics, and his carefree attitude. Good luck in the future, Bob, and may all your dreams come true.

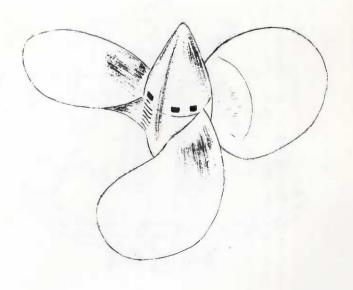




Dick came to the Academy from the big town of Beeville, Texas. Many nights were spent reading the local newspaper trying to keep up with who ate at whose house, and who got married during the past week.

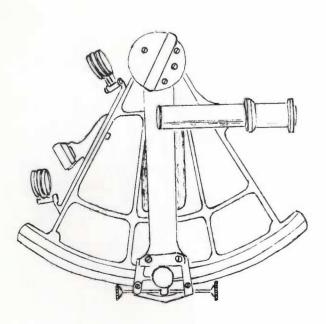
Although pets were forbidden in the academy, Dick did manage to keep his pet crab Oscar for a few days, until it got lost. Later, cats were kept by Dick, but they kept disappearing and he and his roommate Boudreaux never could explain it.

Dick will be a very successful engineer and will be a credit to any corporation he is associated with. Good luck, Dick.





GEORGE S. LAVEN, III "Insect" Parker, Colorado Cadet Ensign Propeller Club 2, 3, 4

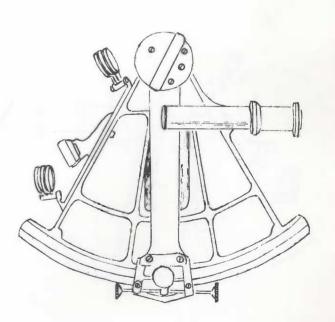


Intelligent, outspoken, the "Bird's" favorite companion, and always busy playing wayout records, best describes "The Insect". The Academy has made the Insect an expert on just about every aspect concerning military bearing except haircuts. Mareno will not soon forget the help George gave him in music appreciation. All of us owe George our sincere thanks for the effort he put forth to ensure our being properly dressed at every function. We're sure that in his future years his vibrant personality and wit will carry him a long way. Best of luck and smooth sailing!



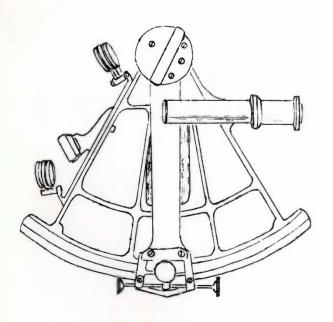


If ever an intelligent answer to an unintelligent question is needed "Univac" has it. Mike need not ever worry about being at a loss in any conversation as long as he may rely on his "Dictionary of Useless Information". In spite of what we jokingly termed "useless" information, Mike never let his schoolwork take second place—a good reflection on his character and determination. The Corps will remember Mike for the many times he thoughtfully led us in prayer and the fine job he did serving as Corps Chaplain. Good luck, Mike!





G. WILDON MARENO
"Bird"
Mobile, Alabama
Cadet Lieutenant, Platoon
Leader
Propeller Club 2, 3, 4
Yacht Club 2, 3, 4
Newman Club
Distinguished Student 2, 3
Class Editor Voyager

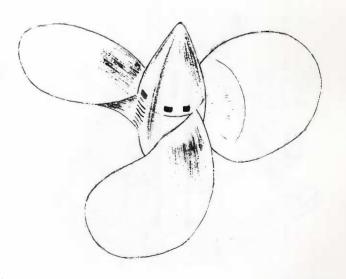


During his stay at T.M.A., the "Bird" developed an uncanny interest in astronomy which enabled him to observe meridian transit of the new moon. He also developed a great interest in modern music under the guidance of the "Insect". This future Mobile bar pilot devotes most of his spare time to studies in Marine Transportation and the uses of medicine. Wildon was always one to engage in a friendly yet sarcastic exchange of words and phrases during meal time. In the future, we're sure that the "Bird's" irresistible personality and driving initiative will carry him a long way in the maritime industry.



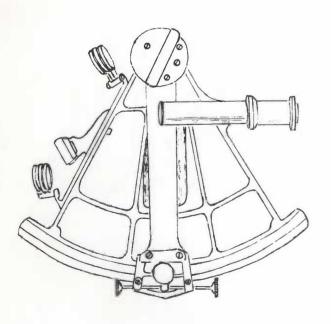


Hershey didn't start school with a big bang, but during the years he has managed to hold his own, never quitting or showing signs of despair. Hershey will be remembered by all of us for his ability to work maneuvering boards in Naval Science and in general, his outstanding military bearing. We wish Hershel all the luck in whatever he may do. Smooth sailing!

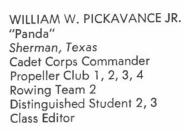




ALEX P. MOTA
"El Indio"
San Antonio, Texas
Cadet Ensign
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4

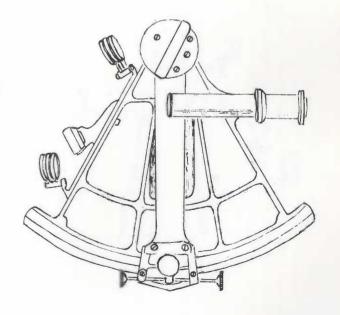


Alex will always be noted for being where the action is. His major obsession was that of being a devoted lover of some sweet "little thing" in good old S.A. Alex was the only member of the TMA sports car club who could navigate his Alfa Romeo through the Galveston fairways with shiplike precision. Without a doubt Alex's fine personality and outstanding ability will take him far in the maritime industry, and we all hope that our S.A. bud may always sail in calm weather.



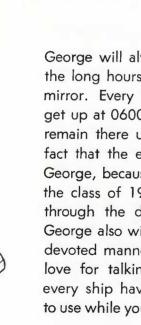


"Panda" was not the only nickname Bill earned while at TMA, since a certain group of people dubbed him with the handle, "El Bruto". Bill is a boy with many talents who seemed to have his finger in almost everything. Some people compare Bill with a kite-he got where he is from wind and pull. But we know this is not true; as corps commander he set a good example to his fellow cadets by his hard work and initiative. As a mediator he was always there to help equalize the pressure between the faculty and cadets. We wish Bill success in the Navy, Naval Aviation, Air Force, Coast Guard, Commercial Airlines, and whatever other-endeavors he may choose to follow. We would even welcome him in the Merchant Marine.

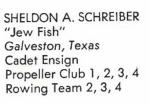




GEORGE W. RUMMEL "Boca Grande" Houston, Texas Cadet Lieutenant Propeller Club 2, 3, 4 Yacht Club 2, 3, 4

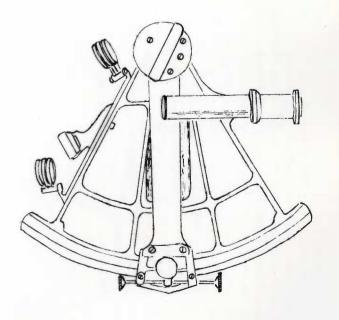


George will always be remembered for the long hours he spent in front of the mirror. Every morning George would get up at 0600 and go to the head and remain there until 0730. It is indeed a fact that the entire class benefitted by George, because without him no one in the class of 1968 would have made it through the daily routine of shaving. George also will be remembered for his devoted manner towards Faust and his love for talking. Good luck and may every ship have ample mirrors for you to use while you shave.



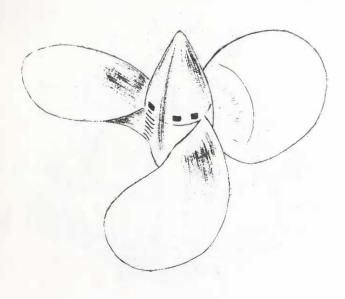


Sheldon was commonly referred to as "Batman", not because he looked like batman, but because of the midnight hours Sheldon used to live. It was many a class that Sheldon had to sit at the back of a classroom and hide from the sunlight. This is all in the past, since Capt. Philbrick took Sheldon under his wing and moved him back on campus. The girls around the "exclusive" Galveston tavern area are killing themselves since learning that Sheldon is in love. It looks as if the "midnight hour" is a thing of the past, and Sheldon the unique is going to graduate. Good luck from the class of 1968.

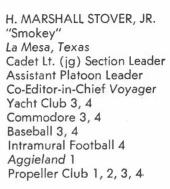




CHARLES T. STONG
"Strand"
San Antonio, Texas
Cadet Ensign
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4



Chuck has always been immaculate in his appearance; his uniforms were always spotless and his brass well shined. An inspection hasn't been held that Chuck couldn't pass. On his way to the galley for some more chocolate, he would greet everyone with a deep sigh. When he could be pried from the boob tube or extracted from the pool table, Chuck was a welcome addition to a bull session. As a sophomore, Chuck lost many a battle with the bag monster and had the marks to show for it. But that is all past, and we wish Chuck a smooth running engineroom, ee e uh.

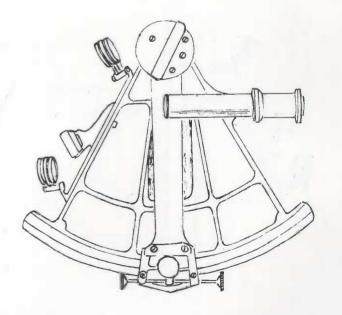




Whenever the Academy's Yacht Club is mentioned, the first thing that comes to mind is the vast boat handling experience of it's Commodore, Smokey Stover. Smokey has worked very hard in acquiring additional boats for the club. His greatest feat was the acquisition of the forty foot yacht, the Clipper II. However, while docking one afternoon, something happened and the yacht went slamming into the dock. Oh well, we needed additional ventilation in the cabin anyway. Yes, the collision that day did ruin his entire day.

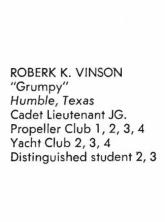
Outside of Smokey's small mistake, he will be very successful in any endeavor he pursues.

Good luck and smooth sailing, Smokey.

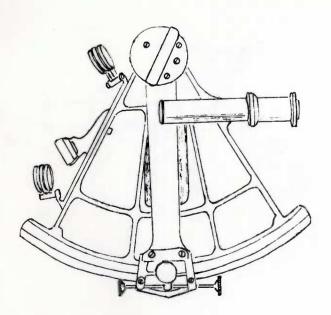




GARY J. TROUT "The Whisperer" Portland, Oregon Propeller Club 2, 3, 4 Cadet Ensign

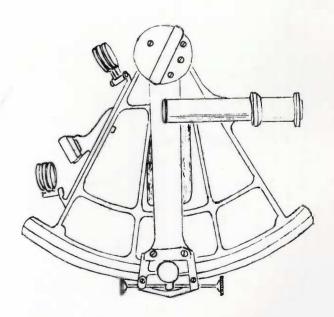






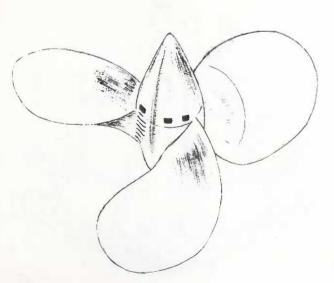
Gary earned his nickname, "The Whisperer", from his ability to make himself heard and understood when talking to others. "The Whisperer's" greatest ambition seems to be owning and operating his own tramp Liberty ship. Gary will long be remembered for his frequent visits and socializing with different foreign ships while in port. With his successful years behind him, we are sure Gary will find much success in the future. Good luck to a good friend and classmate.

"Grumpy" will be remembered for his cheerful smiling face, especially when confronted with courses such as labor economics. His resemblance to the "CLAW" is slight, but most instructors fail to realize that Vinson and Eckert are two entirely different people. "Grumpy" is indeed one person who sweated out every semester, not for the grades, but for the bank's approval for his loan. The class of 1968 sincerely hopes that "Grumpy" will follow in the footsteps of his idol "Snoopy" and become a WWI fighter pilot. Good luck from all the members of the class of 1968.





LEWIS R. WISE
"Wiz"
Midland, Texas
Propeller Club 1, 2, 3, 4
Cadet Lt. JG.
Corps Chaplain
Yacht Club 3, 4



Wiz is by far one of the nicest persons in the cadet corps, with something good to say about everyone, even his professors.

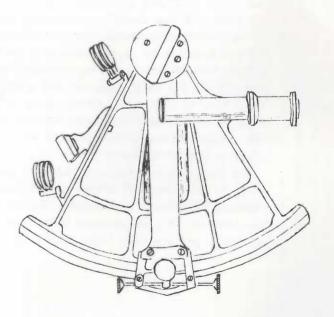
Never has he lost his temper in trying to quiet down the troops so prayers could be said before the evening meals. On many occasions, he took a big chance in even trying to insist on prayers. The animals tearing away at the galley doors would stop short of nothing.

As an engineer, Wiz will be very successful and a credit to this Academy.





Defined, Bill would be "any of various swimming birds in which the neck and legs are short (family Aniatidae, the duck family)". It is not certain exactly how Bill got his nickname but it is generally assumed that it comes from a car that he occasionally drives, which has two big white ducks painted on each side. At any rate, he lives up to his nickname and you can hear him most any day "quacking" down the passageways at the school. No doubt Bill will go far, be it running boats or running people out of their minds. Good luck, Bill, you will not soon be forgotten.



Class History

The Class of '68 embarked upon its college career on the main campus of Texas A&M University in the Fall of 1964 with 23 eager and unsuspecting freshmen. The only things we had in common that first year were several one hour courses and the Aggie Spirit. In June of 1965 we reported to Galveston for our first cruise aboard the T/S Texas Clipper, on her maiden voyage as the training ship of the Texas Maritime Academy. At last we were a class unit, and proud Sophomores after a rigorous year in the A&M Corps of Cadets. After more than two weeks delay we set sail for our first sea experience aboard our "new" ship; we were at last "iron men walking tarpaper decks."

After our first eleven days at sea we somehow managed to reach our first port of call, Halifax, Nova Scotia. From Halifax we proceeded on our first transatlantic crossing to the wonderful town of the sea, Copenhagen. The class of '68 will always be remembered by the Danes for leading a charge against the Royal Palace guards which needless to say, ended in defeat for the courageous cadets. Edinburgh, Scotland was our next stop and from there we went to Southhampton, which was used as a base of operations for an assault on London. After Southhampton we started the long voyage home, stopping in Hamilton, Bermuda. Hamilton had the misfortune of being the last port visited by the Clipper that summer, and many a last fling resulted in an acute difficulty in performing the next day's duties. At last, on August 22nd we arrived home in Galveston with many memories, experiences, and salty sea stories to brag about.

After a month of leave we reported to the Texas Maritime Academy in Galveston, which was to be our home for the next three years. That first nine months in Galveston began preparing us scholastically for careers as Mates and Engineers in the United States Merchant Marine. During our Sophomore year the Class of '68 was added to by several transfer students from other colleges, bringing our class to full strength-twenty-six members. Dorm life that year proved very interesting. Being the lowest class with the least responsibilities we had the most fun. Aside from hard studying, we managed to keep the passageways flooded with water, the bulkheads covered with shaving cream, and the Gulf of Mexico littered with upperclassmen. By June of 1966 we were more than ready for our second cruise; so was Galveston.

The Texas Clipper sailed, on schedule, in June of 1966 and we began our second cruise as seasoned Juniors with new responsibilities. After twenty days at sea regaining our sealegs we landed in Dublin, Ireland. Laying waste to that once beautiful Irish city, we advanced on Bordeaux. The French cuissine was much to our liking and after the bomb squad left the ship, we departed for Malaga

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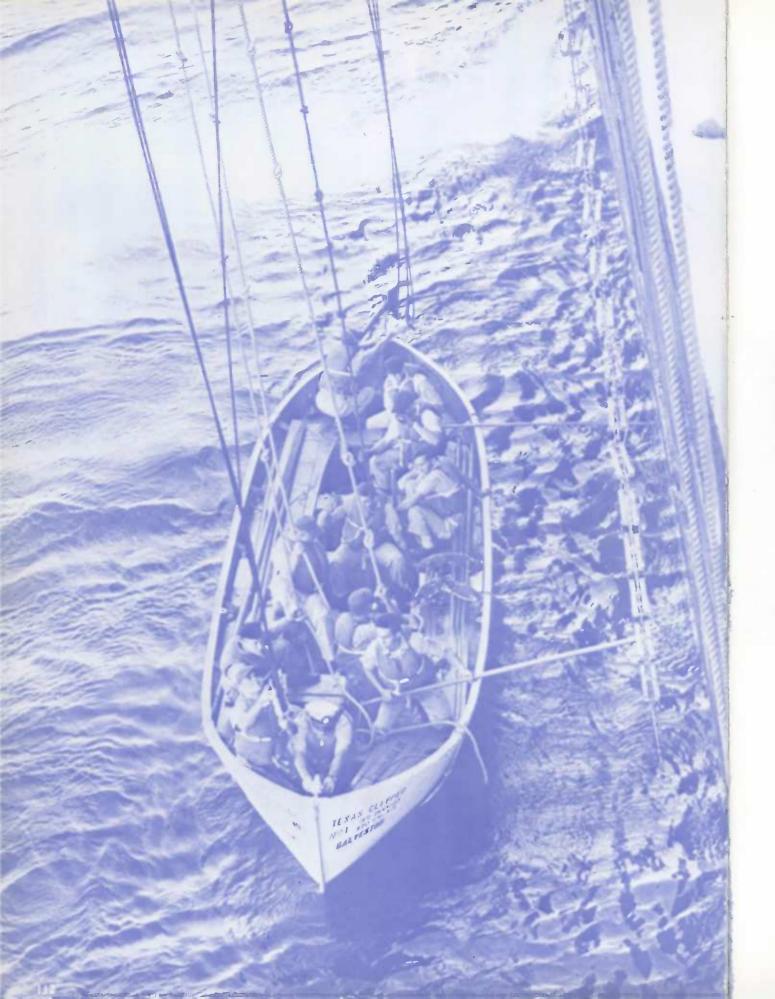
and Torremolinos, Spain, From Malaga we went to Las Palmas, Canary Islands, where we witnessed a peculiar midnight moonrise, very unusual for that part of the world. Our next stop on the journey home was Nassau, in the Bahamas. Like Hamilton the previous year, Nassau had the misfortune of being our last port of call before reaching home. After a last minute scramble getting all hands on board we once again sailed for home with more new memories and tales of adventures bold.

Our Junior year in Galveston proved to be one of hard work. The load of professional courses increased as part of the preparation for future license examinations, and degrees in either Marine transportation or Engineering. Many hours were spent burning the midnight oil. The January graduation of the Class of '67 left us with the welcome responsibility of running the Corps of Cadets. We looked forward to our third cruise the following June, not only because it would be our final one, but because we would at last be able to assume some of the responsibilities of the jobs we were training.

We left Galveston in June of 1967 headed for South America on our last cruise. Port of Spain, Trinidad was our first stop, and after four days of unlimbering from nine months of studying we quickly left for Rio. Upon nearing the Equator we discovered an immense shortage of shellbacks, but the ensuing polywog revolt only ended in disaster on initiation day. As Seniors we were given the dubious honor of receiving our initiation last. After a minor delay in rescuing an injured Greek Captain we finally arrived in Rio de Janeiro. Aside from the language barrier we managed to make our presence felt from Ipanema to the statue of Corcovado. One week and many parties later, the people of Rio were glad to have us move on to Recife. From Recife we proceeded to Willemstadt, Curacao, our last port before going home. The last of our money was spent on last minute gifts and the usual seafarers' pastimes, with any remaining coins going to the local casino.

The Fall of 1967 marked the beginning of the end for the Class of '68. Our Senior year was one of hard work making up needed courses and final preparation for license examinations. However, the year passed quickly, and almost before we knew it the climax of license was past and the short wait until graduation had begun. Finally on May 25, 1968 we received our degrees, licenses, and commissions. Four long years of work had come to an end.

Although no longer a single unit, the Texas Maritime Academy Class of 1968 is perpetuated by our common memories, four long years of comaraderie, and by the proud '68 on our Aggie rings.

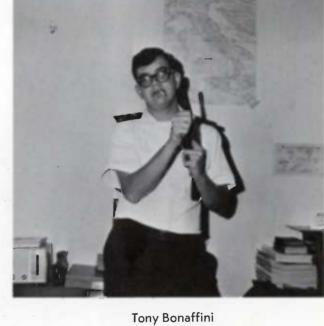


TUM ROMS





Max Blanton





Ralph Collins



Jeff Cane



Harry Brown



K, Ron Crook



Oscar Dabney



Tom Gibson



Paul Greenwood



Bruce Gustin



Dave Guernsey



Ed Hamilton



Mike Holloman



Nat Holt



Bob Jordan



Frank Johnson



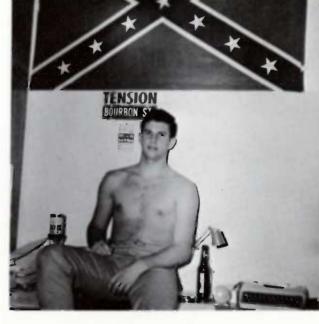
Dallas Johnson



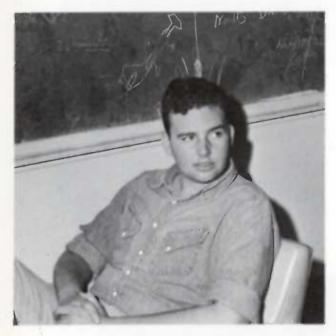
Jim King



Chris Kremenic



Ken McWilliams



Ken Montour



John Mills



Danny Lee



Dick Nicholas



Bob Paramore



Pat Quinn



Otto Schickschneit



Randy Skopinski



Craig Rassiner



Larry Smith



L. R. Smith



Norm Sollid



Bob Thrailkill



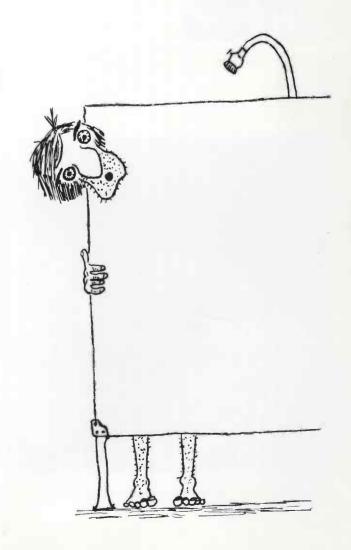
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"What's this little wooden box?"



Typical Day at the Yacht Club



"Huh?"



Raz and his Hog



"Maybe this will make my hair grow back."



"Chief Goodrich is serving another delicious meal."



I am no weenie



Claw, the picture of coordination.



Right!!!

"Santa Claus going to stuff another car?"



"What! Me seasick?"



That's a haircut!



"The Navy rejected me."



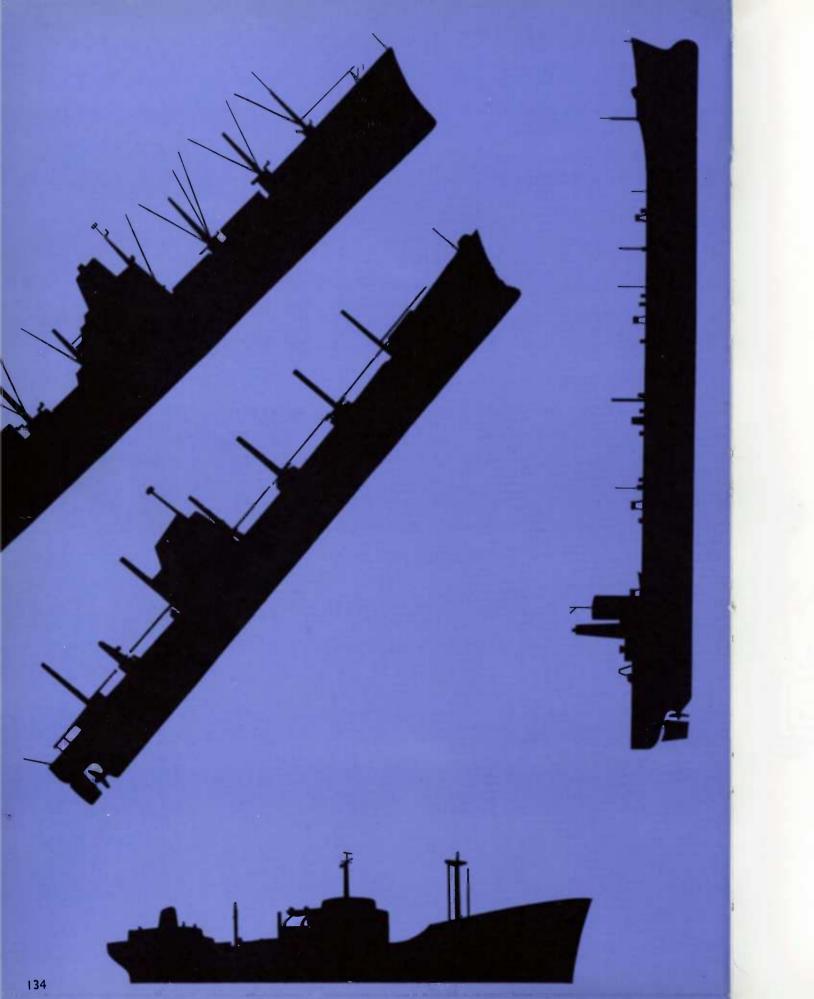
"Here let me clean the lint off your hair."



"Is that a ship or a boat?"



"What do you mean this little pig went to market?"





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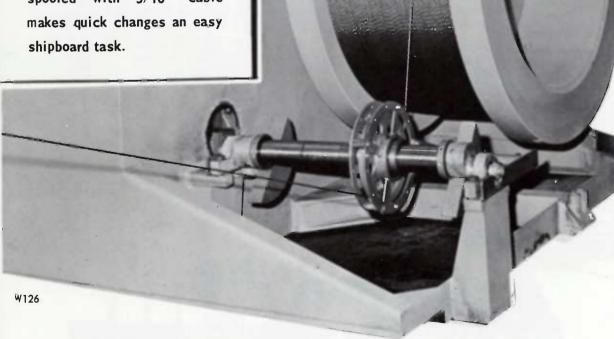
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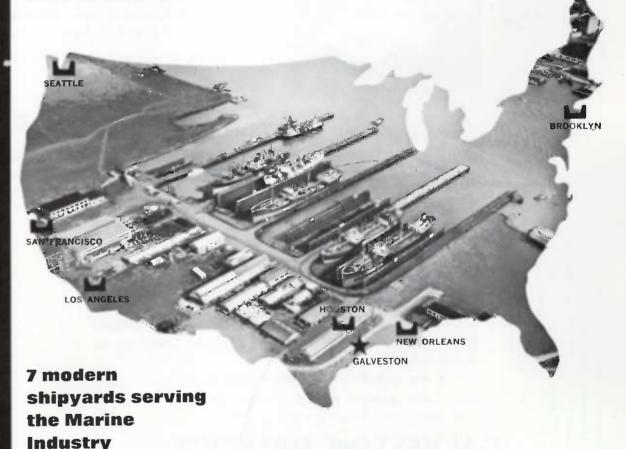
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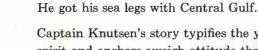
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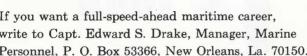


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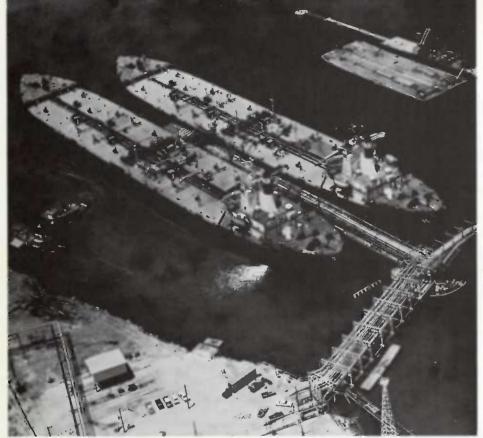
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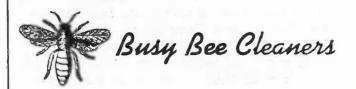
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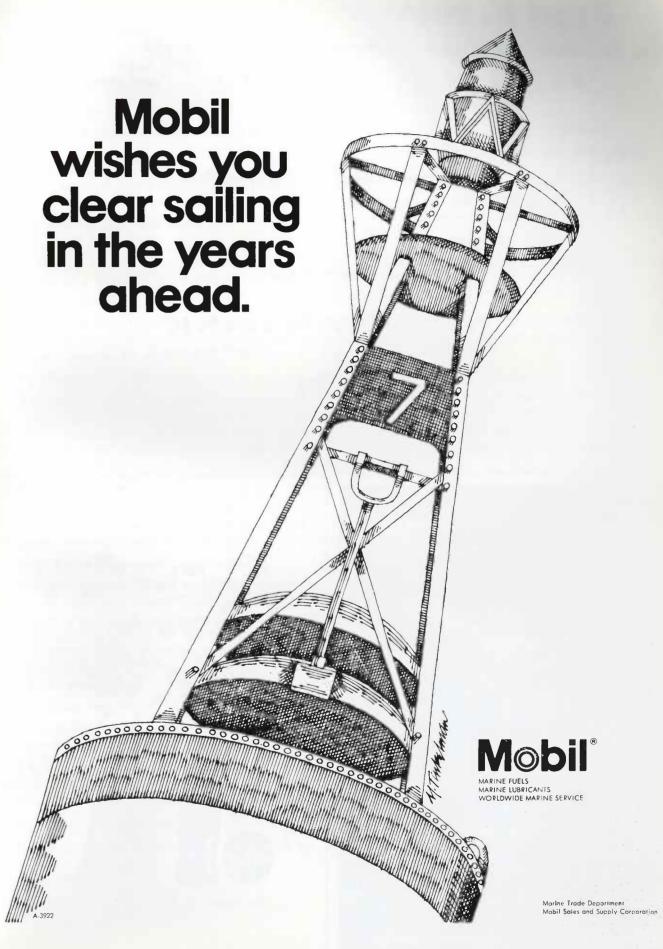
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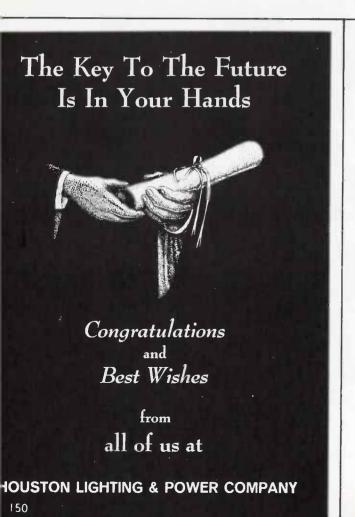
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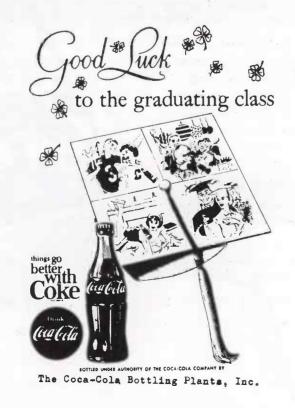
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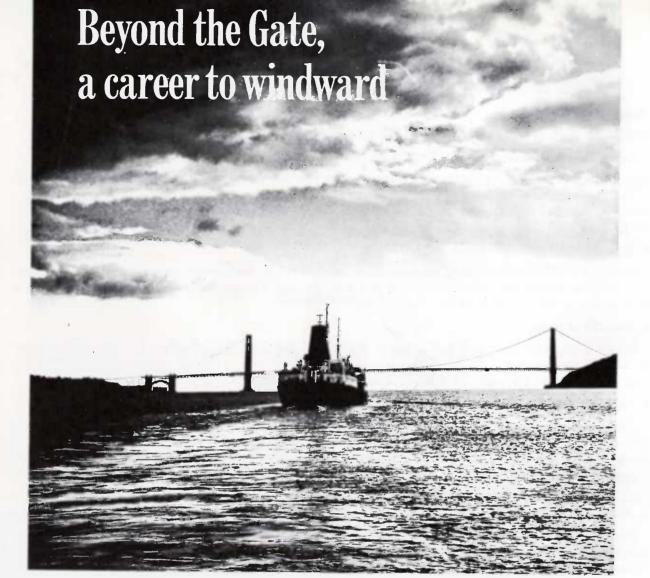
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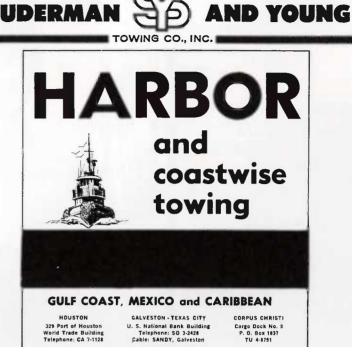
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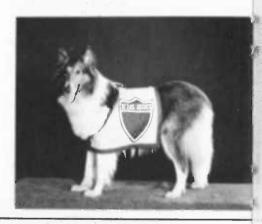




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