

Reply

A NEWSPAPER FOR THE CREW

"TRY ME,
You'll like ME!" ...

... "OR GET THE SHAFT!"

A PERSONAL REPLY TO THE SHAFT

We of the REPLY are here to print the opinions, facts, and imaginations of the HOUSTON GOLD crew. In no way do we intend to put down the SHAFT. Our desires are to represent the individuals constantly pinged upon by both the SHAFT, and now, the REPLY. All articles are printed "in their entirety" and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or ideas of the REPLY staff.

We desire articles from all crew members: cartoons, anecdotes, poems, anything to improve crew morale. Competition between the two newspapers will hopefully improve the content and build both papers into something to be desired by the whole crew and not just a minority.

Some of the things that both papers will have in common are: they hope to inspire crew participation, promote good morale while giving no slack to anyone, develop the hidden talents of some of the crew members, and just plain aid in making the patrol cycle swing along a little faster.

We challenge you SHAFT to an improved newspaper. As a closing statement, we will say that we received your SHAFT and now you get our REPLY.

SINCERELY, REPLY STAFF

THE REPLY SECTION

Someone once said that criticism is the highest form of flattery, however there is a difference between criticism and just plain bad taste. This is something that the writers of THE SHAFT have failed to grasp in their grubby little minds.

The writers of THE REPLY would like to know just who ordained THE SHAFT writers with the title Master Mud Slingers? Judging from what I have observed of the actions and conduct of THE SHAFT writers, it might well be said that "people who live in glass houses, shouldn't throw stones".

As for people who are supposed to be worried about repercussions from THE SHAFT writers and associates on their respective boards, I sincerely doubt whether the "BIG THREE" click could think of a question much less ask one.

Qualification is a goal to be strived for. It is the duty of each and every qualified man to aid and assist the non-qualified people in qualifying. To use the fact that one is qualified to "brow beat" those that are not should be considered the lowest form of personal pettiness. A look at THE SHAFT staff will prove our point.

THE SILVER TONGUED BARE

Dear Duster Dan,

It was not hard for me to eliminate you as the originator of the personal poke directed toward me in the last issue of THE SHAFT. You lack both the originality and ability to express yourself in writing which was needed to write such a thing.

It is obvious to the most casual observer that the writer is the same person that asked me just 3 weeks ago to help him write his personal NESEP application letter.

By the way, I will not hold this personal poke against you. When you get out of the service you can go to work for me.

PS: You shouldn't hide behind the name Duster Dan.

LOVE, NUTCH

IS IT TRUE THAT PORKCHOP WEARS SIDEBURNS?

CHARLESTON AFTER DARK

Since a good portion of the crew will be journeying to Charleston for the Winter, a very timely article would be one containing some information about the Charleston area. This article is geared for the jet set, the swingers, and even the old chiefs who enjoy an occasional night out on the town.

At the age of 18 you can legally buy beer and at the age of 21, you can legally purchase liquor. This does not mean persons at the age of 18 cannot get anything they want.

It is illegal for bars to sell liquor by the drink, but an individual may purchase his own bottle, and carry it to the bar then purchase his set ups. Most bars seem to come up with whatever you want to drink despite the liquor laws. If you order a mixed drink in a small bar, don't be surprised if the bartender fills your order in the back room where he keeps his stock. Just be patient, he'll come back.

For the man who wants everything such as beer or liquor on Sunday in Charleston, you might try Johnny's News Stand on Remount Road for liquor, and the two fruit stands across from the North 52 Drive-Inn Movie for beer. Liquor goes for \$2.00 a half pint and beer goes for \$2.00 a six pack. If liquor is your bag, and you decide to go to Johnny's, don't be fooled by the outward appearance of a straight news stand. Just tell Uncle John what you want, and he'll get it from the back room.

The man who likes to gamble will think he is in Reno. Poker, black jack, and dice games are very popular in the back rooms of most bait and tackle shops. Beware of pool hustlers who may let you win the first couple of games. Many of them make their living playing the game.

For the man interested in exotic dancers, they are found in great abundance in Charleston. Don't be surprised if some of the girls are really good looking and not the usual Suzie Cream Cheese type.

I recommend staying off of Reynolds Avenue otherwise known as the strip. It is a perfect place to get into trouble.

CHARLESTON AFTER DARK (cont'd)

The following is a list of bars and clubs in Charleston and what they offer. I am by no means recommending any of these places, instead I am letting you know what is available when you get down there.

Here is the Key: S = STRIP SHOW
B = BEER ONLY
L = LIQUOR ONLY
G = GAMBLING
lb = LIVE BAND

Purple Tree Lounge	S B L G
Purple Onion	S B L G
Joker Club	S B L G
Merchant's Seaman Club	S L G lb
Big Johns	B
Flying Dutchmans	B lb
Cotton Club	B L G
Swinging Cellar	B L G lb
Neptune Club	B L G lb
A & N Club	B L G lb
RVA Club	B L G lb
Key Club	B L G
Jet Lounge	B L G
Pat's Grill	S B L G
Horse Shoe Club	B

See you all soon, UNCLE JOHN

THE LIGHT SIDE

MOOSE BREEDING SEASON

He came into the messhall feeling broken and down-hearted,
Because the Mosse Breeding Season had already started.
He could've been out in the swamps looking for a mate,
But instead he's on patrol, so I guess he'll just have to wait.

He weighs 250 or even more,
And he can't fit through the MCC door.

His women are all heavy if you know what I mean,
Believe me, I know, cuz I've already seen.

If he can't get a Moose, "TV MAMA" will do,
And believe me MOBY, she sure knows how to s---!
So if you're ever low on cash and need some money,
Every body will pay to see something funny.

I'll even be glad to pay a buck
To see you throw a quarter ton f---.

LIL BROTHER

THE LIGHT SIDE

It seems our boy MOTTIN has become quite conscientious lately. Here is what I base my statement on. The other day while enjoying donuts in Crew's Mess, BARRIOS approached MOTTIN with the following question, "Hey MOTT" said Jerry, "How about letting me look at your spread eagle photography?". MOTT's reply, "Hey man, Shh, I don't want the whole crew to know I look at that perverted crap".

VIRGO

IS IT TRUE THAT SA WRIGHT IS TEEN-ANGEL IN DISGUISE?

THIS ONE CUTS ME UP

Not only do we have a nurd aboard who calls himself THE SPADE, but now we have a sadist who goes by the name of Meat Slicer (alias Empty Coffee Can). Two patrols ago the cooks started falling victims to him. The first was MOTT THE SPOT. Not only did he get MOTT thrown off that glorious job of mess cooking, but he also broke down his spirit so hard that he cannot even make E3.

His next victim was BILLY THE BAKER. He dropped BILLY's morale so low that he wouldn't ship over. The XO then decided to step in and start making the cooks wear thick heavy gloves but that didn't stop The Slicer as he went right through them ole gloves and got his next victim SLIME. Joe was so pissed off that he shaved off his beard.

No matter where the XO looked, he couldn't seem to put his finger on The Slicer, and if he did, woe be to him.

The next one to feel the wrath of The Slicer was SMILEY WRIGHT. After he got taken in, SMILEY took his hostilities out on NAPOLEAN. Imagine that, killing a poor horse because of The Slicer.

Then all hell broke loose and the CO stepped in. He disguised all the cooks by making them wear masks. It worked for awhile because SHEP got off without falling victim to The Slicer.

But that can't last forever.

Look out DROWN because he has your number.

LOVE, SECTION 8

IS IT TRUE THAT GUIDO DISLIKES PUERTO RICANS?

THE LIGHT SIDE

There once was a young man named STARK
who was born when it was terribly dark.
They put him outside, to see if he cried,
But instead he let out a harsh bark.

We have a young seaman named SALEEM
who had an erotic wet dream.
He awoke in a sweat and his skivvies were wet
from a buildup of orgasmic cream.

LIL BROTHER

IS IT TRUE THAT LIGHT LUNCH MARKS LOSES WEIGHT BY THE TON INSTEAD
OF BY THE POUND? (SOUNDS A LITTLE RISKY)

There once was a nuke named STARK
who married some say for a lark.
He is crazed, I'll admit,
But there's something to it
when a nuke finds a fluke
and is somewhat rebuked
By his passionate yet erstwhile Quack.

We now have a Quack named GROVES
Who is married some say, but does it show?
He's quite a modest yet subtle young man
When he's drinking his whiskey and rye.
They say he's running for public man
As the XO of the 60 WHY.

Then too we have poor Pat PECORELLI
the jest of many a crew,
One wonders why the career-minded PAT
never smells rats in the rack,
When the XO yells PAT COME BACK FOR ONE MORE,
and PAT insists he's sane as can be
But he ships over anyway for only three.

SHORT STROKE, LONG POKE

IS IT TRUE THAT BILLY "B" RAN OUT OF RED INK WHEN HE GOT TO BARRIOS'
NAME ON THE FIRST POINT COUNT?

THE LIGHT SIDE

Dear Mr. Carson and Mr. Smith,

The Weapons Department extends a vote of gratitude to you for your help in getting the Weapons System on the line. We couldn't have done it without you.

WEPS DEPT

IS IT TRUE THAT CONVEY CAN'T SHIPOVER BECAUSE HE IS UNDERWEIGHT?

To the Silver Fox (alias NAV),

I have heard tale that you have joined Creapen, Light Lunch, and Satch in the art of Weight Reduction and Waist Control. Kind sir, I would like to give you my whole-hearted congratulations and this slight tip.

The only way you could possibly achieve your weight loss goals would be to trade legs with a grasshopper and forget to take his ass.

RESPY, THE AUTUMN WIND

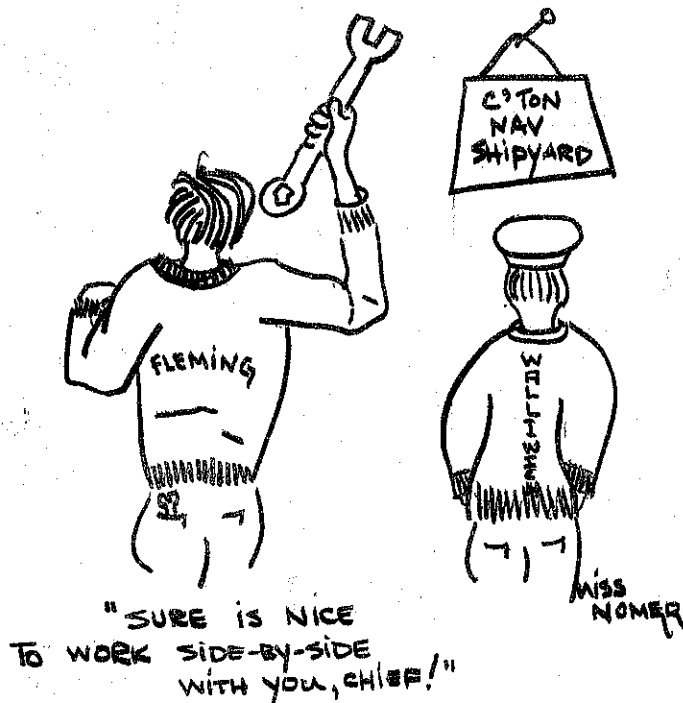
IS IT TRUE THAT GRAM SPENT HOURS IN THE SHIP'S OFFICE BROWN-NOSING FOR SAILOR OF THE MONTH?

I don't believe it, but it's happened again.
One of our seaman has brought aboard gin.
So come on XO, find it, lets get hot,
Because LAMBERT's been selling it for a buck a shot.
You'll never find it now XO so your job is already done,
Because LIGHT LUNCH has just blown Sanitary #1.

LIL BROTHER

IS IT TRUE THAT TN(SS) MARTIN HAS A BROWN BELT IN KARATE?
(JUST ASK JAKE, HE'S HAD SOME PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE)

Overheard in crew's mess "BERKLAND, you are dink so get out of that (beep) card game and get qualified". The nerson who said it was JACKOB. PS: He was also dink!



HELPLESS FOOLS

What unfair fortune fate deems sometimes,
 Rendering us helpless fools to her guide.
 How we ride in a dingy on the uncertain sea,
 Cresting the mammoth waves

not knowing what
 the other side hides,

Nor even what hides the other side.
 Try as we may
 To discern our way
 And point in the direction we want,
 We still remain helpless fools to her guide,
 And if she says, "NAY",

we don't.

HJ

Anyone wanting to submit articles, cartoons, poems, limericks,
 shorty stories, opinions, current events, replys, etc. drop
 them by Launcher or the MT workbench in your spare time.
 Support your new newspaper with good ideas.

'TOON by Miss Flower



HOW DO YOU
GET ALONG WITH
SUCH LONG HAIR
IN THE NAVY?



IT'S EASY, I
GUESS; NOBODY
REALLY NOTICES
IT, SO THEY DON'T
SAY ANYTHING.

— ONE WEEK LATER —



HEY, DID
YOU HEAR
ABOUT
Z-GRAM 57?



YEA, NOW
I CAN GROW
MY HAIR
LONG!

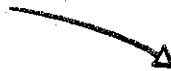
— ONE WEEK LATER —



HEY, DID
YOU HEAR
ABOUT
Z-GRAM 70?



YEA, NOW I HAVE
TO GET MY HAIR
CUT LIKE YOURS
BECAUSE EVERY-
ONE IS LOOKING
AT HAIR CUTS.



WELL, YOU CAN
SAY YOU HAVE
MADE PROGRESS!
YOU HAVE BEEN
IN 20 YEARS
AND YOU CAN
LEGALLY LET
YOUR SIDEBURNS
GROW 1/2 INCH
LONGER



I GUESS THAT
IS TRUE, AT
THIS RATE I'LL
BE ABLE TO HAVE
MY 12 INCHES OF
HAIR BACK IN
JUST 480 YEARS.



200 YEARS OF
TRADITION, UNMARRED
BY PROGRESS!

OPINIONS

According to occasionally reliable sources, a major ecology campaign is blossoming in our very midst. This new action is apparently being carried out by a valiant and unselfish, though anonymous chief auxiliaryman. The campaign began with an all-out assault on "devil-tobacco" in the Control Room.

Our hero, not content with merely checking pollution of his atmosphere, has also taken an extremely active role in the "keep SAM HOUSTON green" campaign.

Even more commendable is his campaign to rid the boat of hazardous "dink pollution". Dinks, as you all know, can be eliminated only by affixing proper signatures to certain spaces on qual cards. Rumor has it the master mechanic's siggy showed up in the Navigation Department space of one such card. There seems to be virtually nothing this incredible man is not qualified to sign off! In the presence of such superior knowledge, dink pollution will soon be a very rare thing, indeed.

Hats off to our unsung hero and his fight against the evils of the world. May his crescent wrench shine brightly always.

DOCTOR DO NOTHING

It looks like the SAM HOUSTON GOLD crew might have to make just one more Polaris patrol. We are all disappointed over the happenings of the past week and in most cases, this change of plans at this stage of the game really hurts. Time will tell what the final outcome will be. Half of the crew already has a set of orders. 99% of the Wardroom have orders. If the SAM HOUSTON GOLD makes another patrol their will definitely be a lot of paperwork in the coming months both for ourselves and the Bureau. Let's all hope for the best in the coming weeks.

DISAPPOINTED SOUL

It is my opinion that many of us are looking at one more patrol with the wrong kind of attitude.

MENTALLY ILL/INSANE

OPINIONS

I would like to express my opinion on a subject that has brought forth much unpublished controversy. I can't see any reason for waiting in crew's berthing for 20 minutes to eat cold meals. I am trying to bring out a point that many of my shipmates have talked about. It seems to be a popular opinion that the reason we wait in crew's berthing is because the chiefs do not like to see more than two people at a time standing in front of the galley. If this is the case, why don't we do like we have in previous runs and have a cook take charge of the chow line. My real gripe is not having to wait in the line, it is eating the cold chow that waits at the end of the line. If we started serving out of the galley window we could at least get warm meals. If I am wrong about my reasons, I apologize, however, I would like to know the real reasons why we have to eat cold chow. If anyone knows the real reason please let me in on your secret.

VIRGO

A lot of people gripe about chow or the chow line being messed up. I, for one, would like to commend our Commissary Division on excellent meals and fast food service. I would hesitate before trying to cook a decent meal for 140 guys. Maybe if we give the cooks and messcooks a break, the service will be that much better. At home I'm lucky to get steak once a week and lobster maybe twice a year.

NOT-ON-A-DIET

As a long standing member of the crew of SAM HOUSTON I have seen many people come and go with both bad and good ideas. I've seen chow served at the window and set up as it is now. I think the commissarymen have been trying to do their job the best way they know how and no one knows their job better than them. Over the past couple of weeks I have noticed that a majority of our biggest grippers are some of our senior petty officers. These people should open their eyes to some of the good things around them instead of looking for something to bitch about. We now for the first time in years have teaspoons instead of shovels to eat with. We now have a group of cooks who put forth that little extra effort needed to make their meals appealing. No one can deny the fact that sanitary conditions in the galley are 3.99. Just to quiet these people down I will suggest a couple of methods for putting chow out. One way would be to set up the chiefs table and serve the rest of the crew from the window. Another way would be to set up for 1st chow and serve from the window for 2nd chow. Whatever way chow is served, I will go along with it. The people who don't like it should go to another restaurant.

CHARLIE BROWN

AN OPINION

Plagerism, censorship, and slander. Three small words, yet three very important words when applied to the meaning of Freedom of the Press. Here aboard SAM HOUSTON we have a small slice of America. America has always been noted for Freedom of the Press, and also for Freedom of Speech. However, aboard SAM HOUSTON this is not the case.

Certain members of the crew have been publishing a newspaper known as THE SHAFT. This newspaper has constantly resorted to the use of plagerism, censorship, and slander. It has failed to afford the crew members aboard SAM HOUSTON their basic American rights of Freedom of the Press and Freedom of Speech.

I have heard of numerous articles being submitted to THE SHAFT which were not published or were changed in such a manner that THE SHAFT could take full credit for the idea.

By starting a new newspaper we hope to be able to rectify this problem. Articles submitted by members of the crew will be published in their entirety. The publishers of this newspaper will not endeavor to censor or change any article which is submitted to us. The authors of the articles will receive full credit for their work.

With your help we can make this a newspaper for the entire crew instead of just a few people. If you have any suggestions, questions, or complaints, bring them to our attention, and we will see that they are put to the entire crew. Maybe someone can get some action.

This is not meant to be a means of harassing anyone or being a bitch sheet. Hopefully, we will be able to get some serious questions and answers. If the newspaper fails, the fault will rest with YOU because you are afraid to use your basic rights as an American.

ONE OF THE CREW

CURRENT EVENTS

WASH DC: Another airline hijacking was announced today. Flight TWA-53-1 was hijacked from Quonset Point, R.I. to Rota, Spain. An unidentified member of the Sam Houston Blue Crew wanted to make sure of one last Polaris detergent patrol aboard the BIG SAM.

NLON: More demonstrations in this small New England town. Rumor has it that there's a U.S. Submarine Base in that local area, and that the demonstrators are doing more of their thing towards ending war. RIGHT ON AMERICA.

DELAWARE: Three new assassinations headline the news. One assassinator shot WALLACE's assassinator and another assassinator shot WALLACE's assassin's assassinator. We are presently unable to receive the final report from the news correspondent at the scene.

TENNESSEE: Moonshine war continues. Deadly DUNAGAN trades licks with local authorities. All are arrested on morals charges and drinking while intoxicated.
HILLS

CHASN: A huge welcoming committee has amassed for the BIG SAM welcome. The crew plans to spend an enjoyable well-deserved rest during the forthcoming two years. The Navy Band will be on hand to play "OH SUZANNA" to lead a medley of tunes for the returning Navy veterans.

U OF I: Another pantie raid on this small university campus ended on an unusual note: Today's college girls were found not to be wearing the conventional undergarments. (Many G-strings were thus encountered).

SPORTS FOR TODAY

New York 2 to 1
Los Angles 5 to 3
Washington - Washed up/or out

Treacherous Light Lunch MARKS trounced Dan's Duster.
Sadistic Satchelbutt sideswiped Moby's Dick and
Revengeful Red on the Head surfaced Billy's "B".

COMING ATTRACTIONS TO SAM HOUSTON THEATRE

Saturday

26 MAY: THE GREAT WHITE HOPE (GP) James Earl Jones, Jane Alexander

Comment: This cinemascope drama concerns a Negro boxer who makes good, it goes to his head, and the end result. LOOKS INTERESTING. FOX Release.

Sunday

28 MAY: (Matinee) THE ABOMINABLE DR. PHIBES (GP) Vincent Price, Joseph Cotton

Comment: Definitely a worthwhile horror flick, AIP Release.

(2000) THE MERCENARY (GP) Franco Nero, Tony Musante

Comment: This cinemascope drama concerns a group of revolutionaries in Mexico who are after a lot of silver and possibly the future of their country. HAS POSSIBILITIES. UA Release.

Monday

29 MAY: NO BLADE OF GRASS (R) Nigel Davenport, Jean Wallace

Comment: Another cinemascope release. It is an adventure worth watching. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED! (RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE AUDIENCES) MGM Release.

Tuesday

30 MAY: THE BRIDE WORE BLACK (XXX) Jeanne Moreau, Michel Bouquet

Comment: This interesting adventure concerns a newly married bride who is quickly turned into a widow and the end result. HAS DEFINITE POSSIBILITIES AND MAYBE SOME SKIN. UA Release.

Wednesday

31 MAY: SCREAM AND SCREAM AGAIN (GP) Vincent Price, Alfred Marks

Comment: One helluva horror flick. You won't believe the action. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. AIP Release.

Thursday

1 JUNE: HUSBANDS (GP) Peter Falk, Ben Gazzara

Comment: This comedy-drama concerns three businessmen buddies who decide to go on a binge in England. Loads of breads. RECOMMENDED. COLUMBIA Release

Friday

2 JUNE: BLUE WATER, WHITE DEATH (G) Peter Gimbel

Comment: A documentary filmed in cinemascope concerning a skin diver's hunt for the habitat of a huge white man-hungry shark. Plenty of color and should be real interesting. An NGP Release.