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to  
Reminiscences of  
Rear Admiral John F. Davidson  
U.S. Navy (Retired)



U.S. Naval Institute  
Annapolis, Maryland

1986

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*Orion* (AS-18) in the late 1940s, pages 237-238; high stakes poker game played by Admiral James Fife in the late 1940s, page 241; officers' mess gambles for cigarettes at Perth in late 1940s, pages 242-243

Gannon, Captain Sinclair, USN (USNA, 1900)  
U.S. Naval Academy Commandant in the late 1920s talked to midshipmen about conduct, pages 35-36

Gates, Thomas S.  
Secretary of the Navy Gates sent Davidson to Turkey in 1958 with understanding that he would have a shot at U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent when he returned, pages 341-342

German Navy  
The submarine *Mackerel* (SS-204) had an encounter in 1941 with something which might have been a German submarine, pages 163-164; German warship attacked the submarine *Blackfish* (SS-221) during a patrol in 1942, pages 173-175; U.S. patrols in Denmark Strait in 1942 to search for U-boats, pages 186-188

Giraud, General Henri Honore  
French general transported to North Africa in British submarine in 1942, pages 169-170

Greece  
*Albany* (CA-123) crew pitched in to help when Volos was destroyed by an earthquake in the mid-1950s, pages 317-319

Green Bowl Society  
Bureau of Navigation became aware of the existence of this secret group after a plane crash in the 1930s, and excluded known members from detail duty, pages 138-140

Grenfell, Captain Elton W., USN (USNA, 1926)  
Joke played on Grenfell by other Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet officers in 1944, page 209

Guns - 14-inch  
On USS *Arizona* (BB-39) in the early 1930s, page 63

Gyro Compass  
Caused difficulty in the submarine *Blackfish* (SS-221) in the Arctic in 1942, pages 184-185

Halsey, Captain William F., Jr., USN (USNA, 1904)  
While commanding officer of *Reina Mercedes* (IX-25) in late 1920s, gave Davidson 40 demerits for improper performance of duty, pages 30-31

Hannegan, Captain Edward A., USN (USNA, 1928)

*Lake Champlain* (CVA-39) commanding officer "crosses paths" with Davidson in *Albany* (CA-123) during Mediterranean operations in mid-1950s, pages 299-300

Hardin, Wayne

U.S. Naval Academy football coach in the early 1960s allowed his players to put football before academics, pages 283-284, 376; strict with players before 1961 Orange Bowl appearance, pages 373, 375; remarks about Davidson, pages 375-376; angered U.S. Naval Academy lacrosse coach by removing gear from players' lockers for spring football practice, page 377

Hart, Rear Admiral Thomas C., USN (USNA, 1897)

As chairman of the general board in the late 1930s, opposed the development of large submarines, pages 155-156, 159-160

Hattendorf, John

Requested information from Davidson about his former executive officer, Richard Colbert, page 76-77

Hazing

At the Naval Academy in the late 1920s, hazing often had a playful aspect, pages 27-30, 42-43

Hazlett, Commander Edward E., Jr., USN (USNA, 1915)

Very influential on Davidson as submarine detail officer in mid-1930s, pages 111-112, 127; grew up in Kansas with Dwight Eisenhower, pages 124-125; recommended Davidson as naval aide to President Eisenhower, pages 125-126; health, pages 125, 127; anecdotes showing skill as detail officer, pages 127-128

Helicopters

Precarious on cruiser *Albany* (CA-123) in mid-1950s, pages 316-317

Hill, Vice Admiral Harry W., USN (USNA, 1911)

U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent in the early 1950s started concept of honor code, page 43; impressed by Davidson's use of senior midshipmen to introduce guest speakers, pages 277-279; defended a midshipman deficient in English, pages 279-280; big supporter of U.S. Naval Academy athletics, page 284; supported Davidson's selection as Superintendent in 1960, page 285; former U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent retired in Annapolis, concerned when the Academy studies acquiring land from the city in the early 1960s, pages 391-392; skillful handling of midshipmen's prank during 1952 color parade, pages 421-422; vigorous as Superintendent in the early 1950s, despite his age, pages 423-424

Hobby, Lieutenant William M., Jr., USN (USNA, 1923)  
As executive officer of *Cachalot* in the early 1930s,  
followed skipper Merrill Comstock's lead in allowing  
Davidson no supervision when participating in a  
synchronized drill, pages 97, 104

Holloway, Vice Admiral James L., Jr., USN (USNA, 1919)  
On the value of traditions at U.S. Naval Academy, page 48;  
on the importance of picking the right person for a job,  
page 77; convinced by Rear Admiral Smedberg to allow  
Davidson to be his deputy in the politico-military  
division in the mid-1950s, pages 319, 334; frocked  
Davidson to rear admiral for overseas trip in mid-1950s,  
page 336

Hooven-Owens-Rentschler (HOR)  
HOR engine in *Cachalot* (SS-170) built in the early 1930s,  
was modified from eight to nine cylinders, page 107

House, Lieutenant (junior grade) Arthur C., Jr., USN (USNA,  
1934) Stem engineer officer in *S-44* (SS-155) in the late  
1930s, page 146

Humphrey, Midshipman Pat L., USN (USNA, 1929)  
Classmate inadvertently caused Davidson trouble while they  
were serving punishment in late 1920s, page 30

Hurricanes  
*Mackerel* (SS-204) survived Atlantic hurricane in 1941,  
pages 156-159; *Albany* (CA-123) rode out hurricane at  
mooring in Portsmouth, Virginia, in the mid-1950s, pages  
315-316

Inspections  
On S-boats at *Coco Solo* in the late 1930s, page 151

Intelligence  
British provided information about torpedoed enemy ships  
in World War II, page 174

Intraservice Politics  
Davidson irked by steps taken to keep any one community  
from getting too much power in a division, pages 330-333

Ireland  
U.S. naval officers forced to land in Limerick by engine  
trouble during World War II had to scrounge civilian  
clothes to respect Ireland's neutrality, pages 188-189

Irvin, Captain William D., USN (USNA, 1927)

Issued an order in the late 1940s decreeing that only commanding officers be allowed to dock submarines at New London, page 247

Italian Naval Academy

Dinner party during visit of *Albany* (CA-123) in mid-1950s interrupted when the cruiser was sent to bring aid to a Greek town ravaged by an earthquake, pages 317-319

Ives, Commander Norman S., USN (USNA, 1920)

Submarine division commander during World War II concerned when *Blackfish* (SS-221) engineer was relieved for emotional problems, page 180

Jackson, Captain Edward S., USN (USNA, 1900)

Commanding officer of *Utah* (BB-31) in the late 1920s was a dapper dresser, page 52

Jackson, Lieutenant (junior grade) Roy, USN (USNA, 1929)

Fought for a more senior position in the *Arizona* (BB-39) wardroom in the early 1930s, pages 61-62

Japan

Zero attacked *Blackfish* (SS-221) off Australia during World War II, page 195

Johnson, Captain Alfred W., USN (USNA, 1899)

As assistant to the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation in the early 1930s, responded with doubt to an inquiry about Davidson's chances of attending submarine school, page 138

Johnstone, Harold H.

Electric Boat employee supervised building of *Blackfish* (SS-221) in 1942, page 176

Joint U.S. Mission for Aid to Turkey (JUSMAT)

Davidson disappointed with assignment to this group in 1958, pages 340-342; country team dealt with black market case involving a U.S. Navy chaplain and a high Turkish official, pages 346-347; country team used double standard in relaxing customs rules, pages 347-349; objectives of mission in late 1950s, page 349

Joy, Vice Admiral C. Turner, USN (USNA, 1916)

As U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent in the early 1950s, flexible about possibility of losing department head Davidson to President Eisenhower to be naval aide, pages 125-126; strong supporter of humanities from Korean War negotiations duty, pages 26, 274, 276; assessed by Davidson as Superintendent, page 276; allowed Davidson to leave early to take command of *Albany* (CA-123) in 1954, pages

276-277

Joyce, Father Edmund P.

Davidson filled in for Joyce, Notre Dame vice president and U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors member, as a banquet speaker in the early 1960s, pages 378-380

JUSMAT

See Joint U.S. Mission for Aid to Turkey

Kefauver, Lieutenant (junior grade) Russell, USN (USNA, 1933)

Advanced through crew of *Tambor* (SS-198) between 1940 and 1943 to become skipper, page 219

Keith, Captain Robert Taylor Scott, USN (USNA, 1928)

Fellow Arizona junior officer borrowed Davidson's car to buy government alcohol during Prohibition and almost got caught, pages 69-70; stationed at U.S. Naval Academy, recommended strict punishment after brigade-wide prank at the 1952 color parade, page 422

Kelly, Captain James W., CHC, USN

Davidson wrote short but highly complimentary fitness report for this U.S. Naval Academy chaplain in the early 1960s, pages 417-418

Kempff, Rear Admiral Clarence S., USN

Characteristics of and circumstances of his promotion to flag rank in the 1930s, pages 65-66

Kennedy, President John F.

Rude to his host, Davidson, at 1961 Army-Navy football game, pages 394-395; gave U.S. Naval Academy graduation address in 1961, pages 395-400; during visit to a carrier off San Diego, had cocktails served and demonstrated gift for extemporaneous public speaking, pages 427-428

Kerrick, Captain Charles S., USN (USNA, 1902)

As commanding officer of *Arizona* (BB-39) in early 1930s, pages 58-59

King, Admiral Ernest J., USN (USNA, 1901)

*Blackfish* (SS-221) commanding officer Davidson wrote to CominCh King in desperation in 1942 to get evaporator coils and is successful, pages 190-191; decreed in 1945 that senior submariners who had not made a combat patrol could not command a division or squadron, pages 214-217

Kinsella, Lieutenant William T., USN (USNA, 1934)

Davidson's assessment of his *Blackfish* (SS-221) executive officer, page 204

Kirkpatrick, Rear Admiral Charles C., USN (USNA, 1931)  
Swapped assignments with Davidson in 1962 when latter left the Naval Academy, page 425

#### Korean War

Canada's true position on the war not made public at the time, pages 257-258, 260; U.S. negotiator appreciated value of strong background in English and humanities, pages 274, 276; boys entered U.S. Naval Academy to avoid draft until Congress passed law requiring them to finish enlistment if they dropped out, page 282

#### Korth, Fred

Misled Davidson and other naval leaders in discussion of necessity of an academic dean at U.S. Naval Academy in the early 1960s, pages 357-358; praised Davidson for his good work as Superintendent in June 1962 and then had him relieved in September, page 425

#### Koruturk, Admiral Fahri, Turkish Navy

As Turkish Chief of Naval Operations in the late 1950s, page 342; dissatisfied with use of personnel in Turkish armed forces, page 350; impressed by Davidson's effort to converse in Turkish, page 351

#### Krulak, Colonel Victor H., USMC (USNA, 1934)

Opinionated as U.S. Naval Institute board member in the early 1950s, page 289

#### Laing, Captain Frederick W., USN (USNA, 1930)

Davidson relieved Laing as commanding officer of the *Orion* (AS-18) in 1948 and the next day Laing reverted to commander, page 230

#### Laird, W.W., Jr.

DuPont heir provided incredibly generous funding to private school in Wilmington, Delaware, and the surrounding area in the mid-1960s, pages 431-436

#### Lake Champlain, USS (CVA-39)

Crossed paths with the cruiser *Albany* (CA-123) during fleet exercise in the Mediterranean in mid-1950s, pages 299-300

#### Lankford, Richard E. (Democrat-Maryland)

Congressman disappointed Davidson in the early 1960s by dishonesty concerning U.S. Naval Academy's proposed land acquisition, page 392; against use of stewards for flag officers, pages 392-393

#### Leadership

Davidson's philosophy of letting inexperienced officers

make mistakes, pages 312-313

Lemnitzer, General Lyman L., USA (USMA, 1920)

Complained to West Point Superintendent William Westmoreland after he attended an Army-Navy basketball game as Davidson's guest and Army lost, pages 381-382

Libby, Rear Admiral Ruthven R., USN (USNA, 1922)

As Commander Battleship Cruiser Force Atlantic Fleet in the mid-1950s, conducted precarious close-order exercise at high speed and without lights, pages 299-300, 308-309, 313; advice on bringing one ship alongside another for refueling, page 308; agreed with Davidson's decision to keep *Albany* (CA-123) at Portsmouth, Virginia, mooring to ride out hurricane in the mid-1950s, but placed full responsibility for ship on Davidson, page 316

Liberty

In the Los Angeles-Long Beach area in the early 1930s, page 68

Lidstone, Midshipman Nicholas A., USN (USNA, 1930)

Accused of hazing plebes at the Naval Academy in 1928, pages 27-28

Liquor

*Utah* (BB-31) officers smuggle liquor aboard in Cuba in the late 1920s, pages 19-21; *Arizona* junior officers joke about executive officer's plan to arrest them for drinking, page 56; *Arizona* officers able to buy government brandy in California in the early 1930s, pages 68-70; Davidson and friends make homemade liquor, pages 68, 70; served to officers aboard a carrier off San Diego in the early 1960s at President Kennedy's request, page 427

Lloyd, Midshipman Russell, USN (USNA, 1930)

Davidson's football hopes ended in 1925 when the plebe coach saw him try to tackle Lloyd, who was almost twice his weight, pages 8-9

Lockwood, Vice Admiral Charles A., Jr., USN (USNA, 1912)

As Commander Submarines Pacific Fleet during World War II, kept successful skipper Eugene Fluckey from overextending his luck by preventing further patrols, page 83; as Commander Submarine Division 13 in the mid-1930s, scolded *Cachalot* (SS-170) skipper Merrill Comstock for relying too heavily on newly-qualified Davidson, pages 103-104; sent Davidson to Bureau of Personnel in 1945, despite his protests, because of his previous experience there, page 129; unhappy with Davidson about personnel detachments in 1945, page 214; comments on submariners versus sub-mariners

at Washington dinner, page 243

Long Beach, California

As liberty port in early 1930s, page 68; March 1933 earthquake led to Navymen's families moving aboard ship, page 70

Lynch, Commander Frank C., Jr., USN (USNA, 1938)

Recounts reaction of World War II submarine skipper Sam Dealey to his own risky tactics, page 82; submarine division commander Davidson rode in Lynch's submarine on a cruise around Cape Horn in 1947, pages 224-225; favorable assessment by Davidson, page 228; accident caused Lynch's retirement in 1954, pages 228-229

Mackerel, USS (SS-204)

Low tonnage made it impractical for wartime use, page 90; specifications, page 155; survived Atlantic hurricane in 1941, pages 156-159; used to train prospective commanding officers in the early 1940s, pages 160-162; fired at what lookout perceived to be a German submarine in 1941, pages 163-164; patrols for U-boats in the Atlantic prior to U.S. entry into war, pages 165, 168-169

Magruder, Lieutenant Commander Cary W., USN (USNA, 1908)

Anecdotes as duty officer from his tour at U.S. Naval Academy in the late 1920s, pages 12-13

Malta

Chief of Naval Operations Burke allowed Davidson to handle the situation when Malta's prime minister tried to levy huge tax on cars at U.S. naval base in 1957, pages 320-323

Marlin, USS (SS-205)

Had difficulty with Atlantic hurricane in 1941, pages 156-157, 159; used to train prospective commanding officers in the early 1940s, page 161

Married Officers

Revocable commissions offered in the early 1930s made it possible for the Navy to get rid of junior officers who married within two years of being commissioned, pages 120-123

Mast Cases

In *Arizona* (BB-39) in early 1930s, pages 59-60

McCain, Ensign John S., Jr., USN (USNA, 1931)

Assessed by Davidson, pages 78-79; family, pages 79-81

McCain, Midshipman Joseph Pinckney, USN

Admiral's son kicked out of U.S. Naval Academy in 1961 for

having too many demerits, pages 80-81, 405

McCormack, John W. (Democrat-Massachusetts)  
Pressured Davidson to allow Heisman Trophy winner Joe Bellino to accept a speaking invitation in 1961 from Cardinal Cushing, page 374

McDougal, Midshipman David S., USN (USNA, 1933)  
Often in trouble at U.S. Naval Academy in the late 1920s, page 29

McFall, Lieutenant Albert D., USN (USNA, 1950)  
Davidson relied on aide McFall during football ticket scalping scandal at U.S. Naval Academy in 1960, page 367

McKinney, Commander Eugene B., USN (USNA, 1927)  
Anecdotes about McKinney from World War II duty as submarine training officer at Pearl Harbor, pages 209, 211-212

McMillen, Lieutenant Commander Gervase C., CHC, USNR  
Anecdotes involving Albany (CA-123) chaplain during Mediterranean cruise in mid-1950s, pages 300-303

McNamee, Rear Admiral Luke, USN (USNA, 1892)  
Inquired to Bureau of Navigation Davidson's chances of getting into submarine school in the early 1930s, page 138

Melson, Rear Admiral Charles L., USN (USNA, 1927)  
Circumstances of assignment as U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent in 1958, page 341

Mini, Captain James H., USN (USNA, 1935)  
As U.S. Naval Academy Commandant in 1960, broke news of Army-Navy ticket scalping scandal to Davidson, page 367; made a poor impression on Davidson as commandant, pages 415-416

Minter, Captain Charles S., Jr., USN (USNA, 1937)  
As U.S. Naval Academy Commandant in the early 1960s, unsuccessfully attempted to keep Admiral John S. McCain's son at the Academy, pages 80-81; traced unauthorized phone line into first classman's room, page 406; assessed as commandant, pages 416-417

Mitscher, Commander Marc A., USN (USNA, 1910)  
As officer in charge of flight division at Bureau of Aeronautics in the mid-1930s, resented submariners have selection board for selecting candidates when naval aviation did not, pages 130-131

Momsen, Lieutenant Charles B., USN (USNA, 1920)  
Davidson recalls submariner credited with developing escape lung, pages 87-88

Momsen Lung  
Question about who developed this rescue breathing device for submariners, page 87

Moore, Midshipman Clarence J., USN (USNA, 1929)  
Davidson's friend at U.S. Naval Academy in late 1920s, page 39

Moore, William H. Ill  
U.S. Naval Academy lacrosse coach in the early 1960s angered when the football coach had Moore's players' gear removed from lockers, page 377

Moreell Commission  
Studied expansion possibilities for the Naval Academy in the early 1960s, pages 386-392, 401-403

Morton, Ensign Dudley W., USN (USNA, 1930)  
Submarine school classmate of Davidson in 1933, pages 81-82, 84

Mumma, Lieutenant Commander Morton C., Jr., USN (USNA, 1925)  
Excelled as peacetime submarine skipper, but cracked under wartime pressure, pages 141-142; success as PT skipper, pages 218-219

Murphy, Robert D.  
Davidson briefed Deputy Under Secretary of State Murphy in the mid-1950s, page 329; angry when shown by the Navy that a State Department officer was withholding messages, page 337

Murray, Commander Stuart S., USN (USNA, 1919)  
As submarine detail officer in late 1930s, helped Davidson dodge undesirable assignment, page 129; defended Davidson's decision to set up a selection board for submarine school candidates over the protests of aviators, pages 130-131; won bet with Davidson when an officer, given leeway to choose travel arrangements, asked to change his orders, page 133; tried to discourage an officer's selection as an aide so he could take a command tour instead, page 137; issued Davidson orders as commanding officer of *Mackerel* (SS-204) in 1940, page 155

National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS)  
Davidson served as executive director of NAUS for a year in the late 1960s, page 437

## National War College

Officers prevented from attending National War College during World War II rushed to head of list in the late 1940s, page 248

## Naval Academy, U.S.

Background to Davidson's entrance in 1925, pages 5-8; sports in late 1920s, pages 8-9, 31, 39-40; smoking regulation, page 11; duty officers in late 1920s-early 1930s, pages 11-13, 51; summer cruises in late 1920s, pages 13-17, 21-22, 38; academics in late 1920s, pages 22-24; history professor's teaching method in 1950s, pages 23-24; instructors and officers in the late 1920s, pages 24-26, 35; former Spanish ship *Reina Mercedes* (IX-25) used as a brig for midshipmen in the late 1920s, pages 25-30; plebe hazing in late 1920s, pages 27-28, 29-30, 42; social activities in late 1920s, page 34; importance of grease mark, pages 36-37; sailing program, pages 38-39; parades in late 1920s, pages 41-42; honor code, pages 43-46; graduation in 1929, page 47; value of tradition, pages 47-48; only half of class of 1933 commissioned initially as an austerity measure, pages 123-124; commandant in early 1950s concerned about military conduct, pages 265-267; turn-backs, pages 281-282; guest speakers, pages 278-279, 283-284, 286, 376; Athletic Association and Preble Hall, pages 287-288; board of visitors, pages 292, 378, 383-386; faculty promotions, pages 292-295; civilian faculty committee, page 293; competition among service communities for commandant's billet, page 330; Davidson's satisfaction as Superintendent, pages 354, 423, 425; circumstances of institution of academic dean in early 1960s, pages 356-358, 363-364; granting of bachelor's degree started in 1939, pages 359-360; validation program, page 360; faculty involved in curriculum changes in the early 1960s, pages 360-361; balance of military versus academic in early 1960s, pages 362; marching to classes stopped in the early 1960s, page 363, 413; facilities discussed by board of visitors in early 1960s, pages 384-385; graduation in 1961, pages 395-400; graduation in 1962, page 425; Nimitz Library, pages 402-403; social activities in the early 1960s, pages 403-404, 423; first classmen wired phone into their room to conduct business in the early 1960s, pages 405-406; "burial of math" ceremony, pages 407-408; religious services, pages 409-411; uniforms, pages 407-408; Davidson's dealings with parents, pages 411-412; cemetery, page 412; Catholic chaplain involved in adultery in early 1960s, pages 412-413; relationship between commandant and Superintendent, pages 414, 417; admissions, page 419; minorities, pages 419-420; during 1952 color parade, midshipmen marched without their shoes, pages 421-422

See also English, History, Government Department; Academic Board; Moreell Commission

#### Naval Academy - Athletics

Sports in the late 1920s, pages 8-9, 31, 39-40; sailing program, pages 38-39; football coaches in the 1950s and 1960s, pages 283-284; as Superintendent in early 1960s, Davidson a big sports supporter, pages 365, 376; Davidson arranged for more home football games, pages 370-371; Navy played in Orange Bowl game, 1961, pages 372-373; swimming facilities studied by board of visitors in early 1960s, page 384

See also Army-Navy Football Game; Wayne Hardin; Midshipman Joseph M. Bellino, USN; Midshipman Roger Staubach, USN; Edward J. Erdelatz; William H. Moore III

#### Naval Aviation

Creation of selection board to narrow down submarine school applicants in the late 1930s angers officers in the Bureau of Aeronautics, because no screening was done before flight school, pages 130-131

#### Naval Institute, U.S.

Binding of *Proceedings* changed in the early 1950s, page 287; excellent financial picture resulted in the Institute hiring a brokerage outfit in the 1950s, page 287; Institute role in Preble Hall, pages 287-288; essay contests, pages 288, 420; personnel in the 1950s, pages 289-291; discussion of open forum, page 291; Davidson's recollections of being vice president in the early 1960s, page 420

#### Naval Reserve, U.S.

Problems for detailers caused by rapid release of reservists at the end of World War II, pages 219-220; incident concerning a reserve doctor, released as a hardship case after pressure from a Minnesota congressman, who ran off to a lucrative practice in Florida, pages 221-222

#### Navigation, Bureau of

See Bureau of Navigation

#### Nevada, USS (BB-36)

Midshipman cruise in 1927 through Panama Canal to West Coast, page 17

#### New London, Connecticut

Pier landings difficult for submarines in the early 1940s because of tricky river current, pages 160-161; submarines with skegs removed during World War II had difficulty docking at New London without damaging propellers, page 247

New London Ship and Engine Company (NELSECO)

Discussion of NELSECO engines in the submarine *Mackerel* (SS-204) in 1940, page 155

New York, USS (BB-34)

Davidson is temporarily attached to this battleship in the summer of 1929, pages 18, 49; officers aboard in mid-1929, page 52

Newport, Rhode Island

U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen entertained at the Breakers during summer cruise in 1926, pages 16-17

Nichols, Commander Stanley G., USN (USNA, 1926)

As Submarines Atlantic engineering officer, angered when Davidson went over his head for evaporator coils, page 191

Nimitz, Fleet Admiral Chester W., USN (USNA, 1905)

In the early 1960s, recounted an anecdote from his time as midshipman in 1905 concerning illegal beer and a benevolent officer, pages 31-33; anecdote about the difference between a lady and a diplomat, page 115; walked to work with Davidson every morning in the mid-1930s in Washington, D.C., pages 116-117; anecdote about the Nimitzes's visit to aide Gene Fluckey's house in the mid-1940s, pages 117-120; handles newly-uncovered Green Bowl Society in the 1930s, pages 138-140; as Chief of Naval Operations in the late 1940s, backs down to Vice Admiral Radford on aviator personnel assignments being made by OP-05, page 332; gave U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent Davidson support when Davidson stopped the tradition of midshipmen marching to classes in the early 1960s, page 363

Nulton, Rear Admiral Louis M., USN (USNA, 1889)

As U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent in mid-1920s, gave impression of being dominated by Mrs. Nulton, page 35

O'Kane, Commander Richard H., USN (USNA, 1934)

On World War II submarine skipper "Mush" Morton, page 82

O'Leary, Commander Forrest Marmaduke, USN (USNA, 1920)

Submarine division commander who had never made a combat patrol chastised a skipper for not being aggressive enough, page 216

Officer of the Deck (OOD)

Desirable qualities for battleship OODs in the early 1930s, page 64

OP-05

See Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air)

OP-61

See Politico-Military

Division *Orion*, USS (AS-18)

Participation in fleet problem off Panama in the late 1940s, pages 230-231; Davidson brought his parents from Norfolk to Panama in *Orion*, pages 231-232; transported dependents from canal zone in the late 1940s, pages 233-234; picked up wounded man from freighter off Norfolk, pages 234-235; Davidson assesses ship during his command, page 236; Davidson ordered to remove slot machines, pages 237-238

Panama

Idiosyncrasies of S-boats going through Panama Canal in 1930s, pages 144-145; living conditions for officers at Coco Solo in the late 1930s, pages 145-146, 151; golf a big pastime, pages 146, 150, 228; cheap domestic labor available, pages 150-151; attitude toward Americans in late 1930s, pages 151-152; Americans stationed at Panama didn't have to pay income tax in the late 1940s, pages 224, 227; living conditions in the late 1940s, pages 227-228; submarine personnel in Panama in the late 1940s, page 230

Parish, Midshipman Elliott W., Jr., USN (USNA, 1929)

Captain of U.S. Naval Academy lacrosse team and Davidson's closest friend as a midshipman in late 1920s, pages 39, 41

Patrol Reports

A skipper's literary prowess often enhanced details of World War II submarine patrols, page 199

Pearl Harbor, Hawaiian Islands

Davidson's reaction to news of 7 December 1941 attack, page 168; conditions for officers in 1944, pages 211-213

Pearson, Lester B.

Canada's Secretary of State in the early 1950s gave a secret briefing at the Canadian Defence College where he revealed sympathy for U.S. position in Korean War, pages 257-258

Pease, Dr. Royal S.

Senior U.S. Naval Academy English professor in the early 1950s attacked by fellow professor and defended by department head Davidson, page 269

Personnel Administration

Assignment of submariners and junior officers by the Bureau

of Navigation in the mid-1930s, pages 111-115, 127-128, 130-137

#### Philippines

Filipino stewards caught selling illegal liquor aboard *Utah* (BB-31) during Prohibition were eventually sent back to the Philippines, page 20; stewards in *Cachalot* (SS-170) in the mid-1930s accidentally sent hair blowing throughout the submarine and were grounded, pages 105-106

#### Pirie, Captain Robert B., USN (USNA, 1926)

Anecdote about U.S. Naval Academy Commandant in the early 1950s misspellings in a memo critical of midshipman's spelling ability, pages 265-267; assessed by Davidson, page 267

#### Politico-Military Division

Davidson handled situation when Malta prime minister tries to levy a huge tax on U.S. cars on naval base in 1957, pages 320-323; background of division, page 323; function in mid-1950s, page 325; relationship with other divisions, pages 325-326; handling of 1956 Suez Crisis, pages 326-327; selection as OP-61 an indicator of future promotion, pages 334-335

#### Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Navy Yard

Frigid cold in January 1934 hampered sea trials for submarine *Cachalot* (SS-170), pages 99-100

#### Potter, Dr. E.B.

Davidson's favorable recollections of this U.S. Naval Academy English professor's teaching skills from the early 1950s, pages 23-24, 271

#### Prisoners of War

Navy promoted personnel held prisoner during World War II to the rank they would have obtained, and one case where that policy caused problems, pages 225-225

#### Prohibition

*Utah* (BB-31) officers smuggled liquor aboard in Cuba in the late 1920s, pages 19-21; *Arizona* (BB-39) junior officers joked about executive officer's plan to arrest them for drinking, page 56; *Arizona* officers able to buy government brandy in California in the early 1930s, pages 68-70; Davidson and friends made homemade liquor, pages 68, 070

#### Propulsion Plants

See Engineering Plants

#### Punishment

Midshipman Davidson spent a week in the *Reina Mercedes* (IX-25) as punishment for neglect of duty and accumulated a threatening number of demerits, pages 26-30

#### R-Boats

Used in submarine training in the early 1930s, pages 75, 89-89

#### Radar

Poor quality of radar on submarine *Blackfish* (SS-221) during World War II, pages 169, 171-172

#### Radford, Admiral Arthur W., USN (USNA, 1916)

As Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air) in the late 1940s, stood up to Chief of Naval Operations Nimitz on issue of personnel assignments not necessarily being made by the Bureau of Personnel, pages 332-333; reliance on Lieutenant Stansfield Turner for briefs in the mid-1950s, pages 335

#### Raguet, Commander Edward C., USN (USNA, 1909)

Insisted on a proper wedding after Davidson eloped with his daughter to Mexico, pages 73-74

#### Randolph, Lieutenant (junior grade) Alfred P., SC, USN (USNA, 1924)

Hampton Roads-based supply officer warned *Utah* (BB-31) officers of planned customs inspection while illegal Cuban liquor was aboard during Prohibition, pages 20-21

#### *Reina Mercedes*, USS (IX-25)

Brought to U.S. Naval Academy after capture in Spanish-American War in 1898, page 25; Midshipman Davidson spent week in this station ship in the late 1920s as punishment for neglect of duty, pages 26-30

#### Religion

Officers at Canadian National Defence College studied religion versus Communism in the early 1950s, pages 252-253, 258-259; *Albany* (CA-123) chaplain promoted good behavior during mid-1950s Mediterranean cruise, pages 300-303; religious services at U.S. Naval Academy, pages 409-411; discussion of U.S. Naval Academy chaplains, pages 409-413, 417-418

#### Replenishment at Sea

Unnerving to Davidson as new skipper of *Albany* (CA-123) in mid-1950s, pages 307-308; Davidson ordered investigation after tanker and submarine tender suffered mild collision in early 1960s, pages 428-429

Rice, Vice Admiral Robert H., USN (Ret.) (USNA, 1927)  
Favorable opinion of his Albany (CA-123) executive officer, Richard Colbert, page 77; replaced as submarine detail officer by Davidson in early 1945, page 129; as U.S. Naval Academy English department head in 1940s, difficulties with Academy-graduated professor, pages 268-269; recommended Davidson to replace him as department head, page 273

Rickover, Rear Admiral Hyman G., USN (USNA, 1922)  
Proponent of eliminating varsity football at U.S. Naval Academy in the early 1960s in favor of swimming and hiking, page 384

Riley, Rear Admiral Herbert D., USN (USNA, 1927)  
Sent back to OP-61 in mid-1950s when a suitable replacement couldn't be agreed upon for division head Smedberg, page 331

Roanoke, USS (CL-145)  
Temporary flagship of Commander Cruiser Division Five in the late 1950s ordered to remain undetected in the South China Sea, pages 338-339

Roseneath, Scotland  
Used as a base for U.S. submarines early in World War II, page 173

Royal Navy  
French Navy distrust of the Royal Navy during World War II, pages 170-171; amused by American confusion about torpedoes, pages 141, 175; circuitous method of selling British submarines before U.S. entry into World War I, page 177

S-Boats  
Living conditions, pages 90-91; quality of engines, page 107; effective for harbor protection and close inshore work, page 109; many S-boats based at Pearl Harbor in the mid-1930s, pages 110-111; officer allowance in the mid-1930s, page 135; idiosyncrasy when approaching pier, pages 144-145; impractical inspections in white uniforms at Coco Solo in late 1930s, page 151  
*See also S-44 (SS-155); S-45 (SS-156)*

S-44, USS (SS-155)  
Davidson's pride at first command in 1939, page 144; operations in late 1930s, pages 144, 151; officers in late 1930s, pages 142, 146-148

S-45, USS (SS-156)  
Engineering-minded commanding officer, Lieutenant John

Waterman, often took over engineer officer's job in the late 1930s, page 143

*Sailfish*, USS (SS-192)

When wartime commanding officer cracked under pressure during a Japanese depth charge attack, he turned command over to his exec, pages 141-142

Sallada, Commander Harold B., USN (USNA, 1917)

During Bureau of Aeronautics duty in the mid-1930s, voiced resentment that submariners had a selection board for candidates when aviators did not, pages 130-131

Sellars, Lieutenant Commander Robert F., USN (USNA, 1934)

Davidson's successor as *Blackfish* (SS-221) commanding officer was unsuccessful in hunting Japanese ships, pages 200-201, 206

Severn River Naval Command

U.S. Naval Academy Superintendent's chief of staff handled administrative details of the Annapolis naval station in the early 1960s, page 414

Shiphandling

Idiosyncrasies of handling S-boat submarines alongside a pier in the 1930s, pages 144-145; experiences in maneuvering the heavy cruiser *Albany* (CA-123) in tight situations in the mid- 1950s, pages 307-313, 317-318

Skegs

Removal of skegs from submarines during World War II caused some propeller damage when docking, page 247

Slot Machines

Davidson was ordered to remove slot machines that had been funding crew's recreation fund from *Orion* (AS-18) in late 1940s, pages 237-238

Smedberg, Rear Admiral William R. Ill, USN (USNA, 1926)

Wrested Davidson from Chief of Bureau of Naval Personnel, Vice Admiral Holloway, in 1955 to be his deputy in the Politico-Military Division, page 319; recommended Davidson to be OP-61 in 1957, pages 331, 334; assessed by Davidson, page 334; Bureau of Naval Personnel chief, Smedberg, sent Davidson to Turkey in 1958 with regrets, page 340; congratulated Davidson on selection as Superintendent in 1960, pages 355-356; angered by Secretary of the Navy North's sudden institution of civilian academic dean at U.S. Naval Academy in 1962, page 358; appoints the Moreell Commission to study possible U.S. Naval Academy expansion in the early 1960s and takes responsibility when the

commission stirs up bad feelings, pages 387, 389-390, 392;  
disappointed by Davidson's retirement in 1964, page 430

#### Smoking

As a Naval Academy midshipman in the 1920s, Davidson sometimes smoked before breakfast, despite official prohibition, page 11

#### Smoot, Captain Roland N., USN (USNA, 1923)

Senior detailer in late 1940s planted seed in Davidson's mind that he might be ordered as skipper of Truman's presidential yacht, page 261-262

#### Social Customs

Benefits of old custom of exchanging social calls, pages 57-58; Davidson joined *Arizona* (BB-39) wardroom as ensign because he filled a more senior billet, page 61

#### *Squalus*, USS (SS-192)

Human error involved in the sinking of this submarine in May 1939, pages 142-143

#### St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland

College president concerned that U.S. Naval Academy might have designs on campus land in the early 1960s, page 390

#### Staubach, Midshipman Roger T., USN (USNA, 1965)

Superintendent Davidson interceded when he thought plebe Staubach was being roughed up by Navy's varsity football team in 1961, page 375; impressive in Southern California University game in 1962, page 401

#### Stewards

Sold illegal liquor on board the USS *Utah* (BB-31) around 1930, page 20; stewards on board the submarine *Cachalot* (SS-170) in the mid-1930s filled the boat with flying hair, pages 105-106; anecdote involving Davidson and Maryland congressman opposed to use of stewards in flag officers' quarters, pages 392-393

#### Stormes, Lieutenant Max C., USN (USNA, 1925)

First lieutenant in *Cachalot* (SS-170) in the mid-1930s allowed by the captain to approach a tender at too great a speed, and then put in charge of repairing resulting damage, pages 95-96, 104

#### Strategic Bombing

A divisive issue between Navy and Air Force in the mid-1950s, pages 327-328

#### Stroh, Captain Robert J., USN (USNA, 1930)

Chief of Naval Operations Arleigh Burke, unhappy with

advice from Davidson's assistant Stroh, asked that he be transferred in the late 1950s, pages 98-99; Davidson not given first choice for OP-61 assistant when Stroh assigned in 1957, page 331

Stroop, Vice Admiral Paul D., USN (USNA, 1926)

Took Ensign Davidson up for his first flight in the early 1930s, page 18; First Fleet commander in the early 1960s ribbed by Davidson when he chastised two skippers who suffered a minor collision while refueling, pages 429-430

Stump, Admiral Felix B., USN (USNA, 1917)

As Commander in Chief Pacific/Pacific Fleet in the mid-1950s, frustrated to find messages to State Department Under Secretary were being intercepted and ignored, page 337

Submarine Design

Fleet type submarines' conning tower doors welded shut after flooding experience of *Blackfish* (SS-221) during World War II, page 174

Submarine Division 12

Components in 1934, page 93; Submarine Force Commander Freeman insisted submarines steam in formation, which was extremely difficult, page 94

Submarine Division 62

Commanded by Davidson in 1947-1948, this division operated in both the Atlantic and Pacific from its base in Panama, pages 224-229

Submarine Duty

Appeal of submarine duty, pages 89, 154, 226-227; living conditions in S-boats, pages 90-91; qualification procedures for submarine officers in 1930s, pages 101-103; detailers were able to deal more personally with submariners than some other specialties, page 132; criterion for excellence as a submarine skipper in the 1930s versus World War II, pages 140-141; inspections in white uniforms at Coco Solo in late 1930s, page 151; quality of enlisted personnel in the late 1930s, page 152; personal problems caused chief petty officer of *Blackfish* (SS-221) disqualification from submarine duty during World War II, page 153; officers in charge of training prospective commanding officers in the early 1940s, pages 162-163; patrol reports during World War II, page 199; difficulties with cold weather duty, page 186; at end of World War II, many submarine officers tapped for ship commands when reservists released because of their early command experience, pages 219-220

### Submarine Force Pacific

Mission in the mid-1930s, page 108

### Submarine School

Course of study in 1933, pages 75, 88, 91-92; Davidson's classmates in 1933, pages 78, 81, 84; instructors and competition among students, page 86; selection board necessary in the late 1930s because there were more applicants for submarine school than spaces, pages 130-131

### Submarine Squadron Two

Operated out of New London, Connecticut, while under Davidson's command in 1949-1950, pages 239-240

### Submarine Tactics

Commanding officers given greater freedom in lining up attacks as World War II progressed, page 205; daring tactics discouraged by submarine trainers at Pearl Harbor, page 210

### Submarine Training

See Submarine School; Submarine Training Commander Pacific

### Submarine Training Command Pacific

Short practical course for new commanding officers at Pearl Harbor in 1944, pages 207-208; duty as a training officer served as relief between combat patrols, page 208; training officers in 1944, page 208

### Suez Crisis

Handling of this 1956 incident by OP-61, pages 326-327

### Taliaferro, Ensign Philip B., USN (USNA, 1943)

*Blackfish* (SS-221) broke the tension during depth charge attack, page 196

### Tatnall School, Wilmington, Delaware

Background of school where Davidson was headmaster from 1964 to 1968, pages 431-437

### Thomson, Earle W., ("Slipstick Willie")

As department head at U.S. Naval Academy in early 1950s, Davidson addressed Thomson's request that more emphasis be placed on electrical engineering, pages 25-26

### Thomson, Commander Thaddeus A., Jr., USN (USNA, 1907)

U.S. Naval Academy executive officer refused to lessen Midshipman Davidson's punishment after he is accused of neglect of duty in 1928, page 28; got Davidson's class standing changed when shown his grease grade was wrong, page 37; after incident in September 1926, Thomson tough on

Davidson during encounter in September 1928, pages 37-39; stern and unpopular as executive officer of *Arizona* (BB-39) in early 1930s, pages 54-56, 59; unpopular as commanding officer of cruiser *Wichita* (CA-45) in late 1930s, page 56

Tobacco

See Smoking

Tolson, Ensign David W., USN (USNA, 1927)

As junior officer in *Utah* in early 1930s, affected a deep voice when on duty, page 50

Torpedo Data Computer

Value to submariners during World War II, page 200

Torpedoes

Unreliability caused problems in the early days of submarines, page 109; accuracy firing torpedoes used as criterion for excellence among submarine skippers in the 1930s, pages 140-141; U.S. Navy weak in torpedo skills at outbreak of World War II, page 141; difficulties with magnetic exploders, page 175; difficulties with premature explosions, page 197; greater latitude given submariners when attacking improved successes, page 205

Training Command Pacific Fleet

Davidson spent an enjoyable but undemanding one and a half years as head of this command from 1962 to 1964, page 426; Davidson ordered an investigation after a tanker and a submarine tender suffered a minor collision during refueling, pages 428-429

Travel Orders

Navy travel arrangements in the 1930s versus today, pages 133-134

Trescott, Midshipman Charles E., USN (USNA, 1929)

Five-stripe midshipman in late 1920s sent by duty officer to investigate potential hazing at dinner table, page 27

Tucker, Lieutenant Houston C., Jr., USN (USNA, 1939)

*Blackfish* (SS-221) engineer was transferred early in World War II for emotional problems, pages 179-180

*Tullibee*, USS (SS-284)

Crew member taken prisoner by the Japanese when this submarine sank caused problems after the war, having been given automatic promotions, pages 225-226

Turkey

Difficulties with black market in late 1950s, pages 343,

346-347; housing difficulties, pages 343-344; inefficient organization of military in late-1950s, page 350; living conditions, pages 352-353

See also Joint U.S. Mission for Aid to Turkey (JUSMAT)

Turner, Lieutenant Stansfield, USN (USNA, 1947)

Assessed as topnotch from duty in Politico-Military Division in mid-1950s, page 335

Twohy, Midshipman Henry B., USN (USNA, 1929)

Davidson beat classmate Twohy in golf finals in 1929, page 41

Ultra

*Blackfish* (SS-221) got information on a Japanese convoy's rendezvous location, but navigation problems caused the Japanese ships to change course, pages 197-198

Uniforms

Though impractical, white uniforms worn for submarine inspections at Coco Solo in the late 1930s, page 151; naval officers forced to scrounge for civilian clothes when they are grounded in Limerick, Ireland, during World War II to maintain Irish neutrality, pages 188-189; appearance of *Albany* (CA-123) crew in mid-1950s, pages 304-305; at U.S. Naval Academy in early 1960s, pages 407-408

Utah, USS (BB-31)

Midshipman Davidson's discomfort during summer cruise in 1926, page 13; living conditions and status of sailors in 1920s, pages 14-15; made European cruise in mid-1929, but left Ensign Davidson behind, page 18; officers smuggle liquor from Cuba aboard ship, pages 19-20; officers aboard in 1929-1930, pages 48-50; Davidson's duties in engineering department, pages 49-52; converted from coal to oil-burning in late 1920s, page 51; demilitarized and converted to target ship in 1930, page 53

Voge, Commander Richard, USN (USNA, 1925)

As submarine operations officer during World War II, sent *Blackfish* (SS-221) off on back-to-back patrols without a break, page 206

Warren, Pennsylvania

Davidson's memory of boyhood town, page 3

Waterman, Lieutenant John R., USN (USNA, 1927)

As commanding officer of *S-45* (SS-156) in the late 1930s, turned the submarine bridge over to executive officer, Davidson, whenever there was engine trouble, page 143; tendency to second-guess his officers, pages 143, 160

Watkins, Captain Frank T., USN (USNA, 1922)

Davidson's captain detail officer changed Davidson's orders twice within a short span in 1950, pages 248-250

Weather

*Mackereel* (SS-204) survived Atlantic hurricane in 1941, pages 156-159; difficulties in North Atlantic in December 1941, page 166; *Albany* (CA-123) rode out hurricane at mooring in Portsmouth, Virginia, in the mid-1950s, pages 315-316

Westmoreland, Major General William C., USA (USMA, 1936)

Davidson "roasted" West Point Superintendent at banquet before Army-Navy football game in 1960, pages 380-381; chastised by the Army Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff when Army blew a big lead in an Army-Navy basketball game, pages 381-383

Wilkinson, Ensign Eugene P., USNR

Wilkinson excelled at first duty aboard the *Blackfish* (SS-221) during World War II, pages 178-184, 200, 205

*Williamsburg*, USS (AGC-369)

Davidson displeased when he almost received orders to command Truman's presidential yacht in the late 1940s, pages 261-263

Wright, Captain Jerauld, USN (USNA, 1918)

Given temporary command of a British submarine transporting a French general to North Africa in 1942, page 170

Yeomans, Commander Elmer E., USN (USNA, 1924)

Commander Submarines Pacific Fleet Charles Lockwood unsuccessfully requested a submarine squadron in 1945 for his staff officer Yeomans even though he had never made a combat patrol, pages 214-215, 217

Zero

Attacked submarine *Blackfish* (SS-221) off Australia during World War II, page 195