

QUICK SUMMARY OF WORLD NEWS

The Rhodesia Conference in Geneva. The African National Council called for elections on a national basis in Rhodesia before an interim government is formed. Other African groups involved in the Geneva talks criticised this suggestion and demanded that independence and an all party interim government should be arranged without delay.

South African Violence. More than 600 police were last night involved in a house to house search after a racialist agitator addressed a large crowd in South Africa. Violent scenes broke out and the area is now reported to be sealed off.

Northern Ireland. The Northern Ireland Secretary last night reaffirmed the Government's intention not to withdraw the Army from Northern Ireland. "A bloodbath would be the only possible outcome of such an action" he said.

Trade Agreement. Yugoslavia yesterday signed a trade agreement with the European Economic Community. President Tito said afterwards that both sides of the agreement recognised that the independence of Yugoslavia was a vital factor in European stability and peace in the foreseeable future.

Devolution. A major split was developing in the Tory party yesterday over the issue of Devolution. Many Scottish Tories feel that they should vote against the mainstream of their party on this issue as it would be more in line with their constituents wishes.

New Tax Accusation by Conservative Leader. Mrs Thatcher, Conservative party leader, yesterday accused the Government of underhand tactics. The Government are trying to pass a bill which will allow them to increase the employer's contribution of National Insurance. The estimated revenue to the Government of this would be £1000,000,000 in a full Tax year. "This," said Mrs Thatcher, "is nothing more or less than a new tax, which the Government are trying to pass off as a minor administrative change in legislation!"

Union Leader Speaks Against Lords. Mr Jack Jones yesterday accused the Opposition dominated House of Lords of narrowmindedness over their refusal to pass unamended the controversial Docks Labour Bill last week. He called on the Government to take early action to curb the powers of the Lords; powers, he said which are offensive to a vast majority of workers.

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SPORT NEWS

In a test match at Madras, Australia beat India by five wickets. The scores were Australia 218 and 201 for five declared, India 140 and 143.

Boxer Joe Bugner is to see a specialist about his right hand which he injured when he defeated Richard Dunn of Yorkshire in a championship match earlier this year. Whatever the specialist's verdict, Bugner will be unable to fight again before March at the earliest.

WHAT THE DISTANT WATER FISHERY PATROL IS ALL ABOUT - By LT CDR P. Drummond

Introduction

1. By Anglo-Norwegian Fishery Agreement, British trawlers are allowed to fish off the coast of Norway but not inside a 12 mile limit. Outside this limit in certain areas Norwegian fishermen have established lines of fixed nets. British and Norwegian Fishery Protection vessels co-operate to ensure that fishermen of both countries respect each others's rights.

2. The aim of R.N. frigates undertaking Distant Water Fishery Patrol (DWFP) in this area is to ensure the observance of the Fishery Agreement by advising British trawlers of net concentrations, warning them if they appear to be breaking the rules, and helping the Norwegian authorities enforce the rules inside the 12 mile limit. HM ships are also enjoined to maintain friendly relations with the Norwegian authorities, assist and support British trawlers and to prevent incidents.

3. This is achieved by visiting the fishing grounds and providing a presence, boarding trawlers, both British and foreign by Fishery Inspectors, and close liaison with the Norwegian authorities.

Outline Programme

4. After embarking a doctor, a liaison officer from CFP's staff and two Min of Ag and Fish inspectors, AJAX sailed for Harstad with RFA TIDESPRING. The 2nd and 3rd of December will be spent checking oil rigs in the North Sea, and on 6 Dec we arrive in Harstad for 24 hours. This allows us to collect some stores and to be briefed by the Norwegian authorities. It will also be the last run ashore before Christmas.

5. Between 7 and 17 Dec AJAX and TIDESPRING will visit the various grounds checking trawlers off North Norway and probably as far north as Bear Island (close to the ice edge) and as far east as NOVAYA ZEMLYA (the Russian coast in the White Sea). Boardings will be carried out by the MAFF inspectors by gemini.

6. On 17 Dec we return to Harstad for a debrief and then sail for Rosyth, ETA 21 Dec when the visitors and Fish/Arctic stores will be landed. From there we sail for Devonport.

Ikara Trial

7. During the patrol it is intended to carry out an Ikara Cold Weather trial, which is the final test to complete the formal acceptance of the Ikara system. This mainly involves observing the performance of various parts of the system under cold conditions, but it culminates in a missile firing. In addition there is a requirement to check the tracking and guidance through a layer of ice on the radome, and to this end we may have to go further north than is strictly necessary for the Fish Patrol to find suitable conditions. Rough weather is also required for a test of the igloo.

8. TEDESPRING has been provided as a consort for the trial (and will also be handy for fuelling) and she will accommodate the trials team of 5 beffins. This means there will be a daily transfer to AJAX by helo or jackstay, weather permitting, as we have no spare bunks in AJAX.

The Environment

9. Two things should be immediately apparent on the upper deck off North Norway - darkness and cold. The sun never actually rises at this time of year, and "daylight" is twilight from about 0930 until 1200. The other important thing is the cold. You can see from above that we will be deliberately looking for icing conditions, and you are warned to take great care.

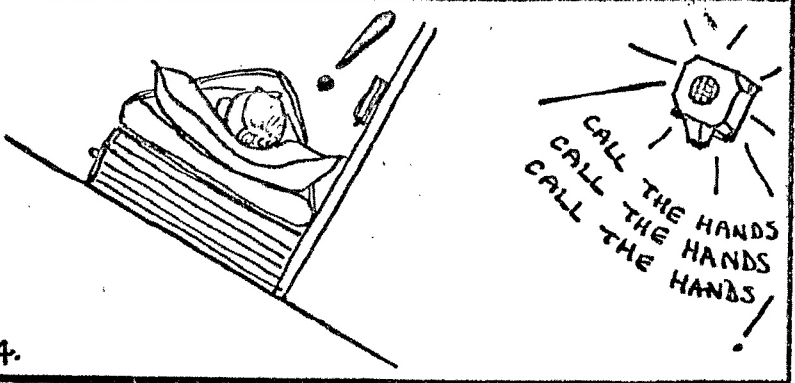
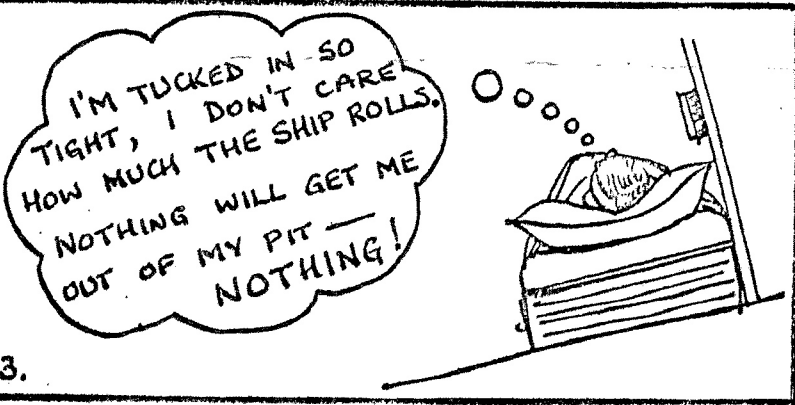
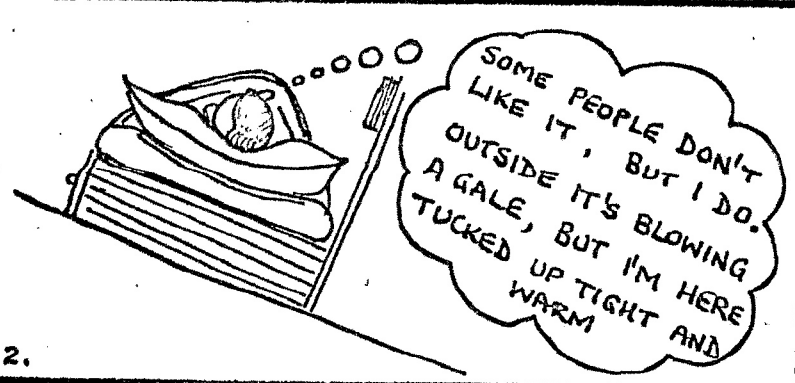
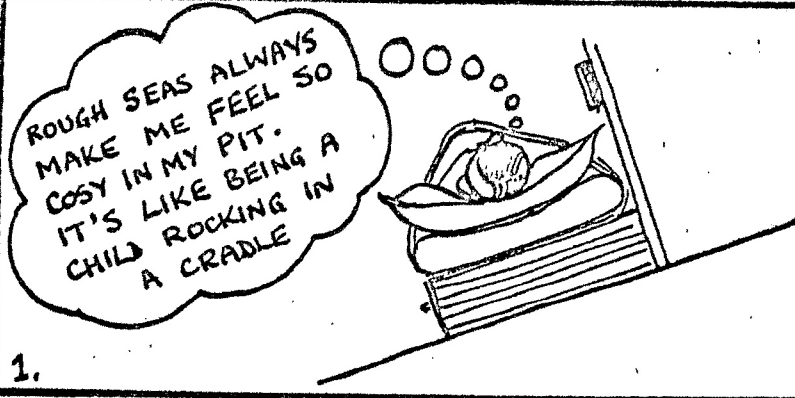
10. IF YOU FALL IN THE SEA YOU WILL BE DEAD INSIDE 5 MINUTES. If you are wearing a survival suit you will probably live long enough to be picked up, but may have to spend some time in hospital recovering - the chances of frostbite or worse are high. TAKE CARE. Between decks should be nice and warm, but beware metal fittings that go direct to the outside - if you grab a door clip you may find your skin frozen to it.

11. Access to the upper deck will be limited to citidel air locks only and will be carefully controlled. Always wear your full protective clothing and take great care moving about the upper deck.

12. The weather should not be too bad this month - the statistics say 7 or 8 days of gales in December, so we should only get 2 or 3

A. JACKS

by VERDIGRIS



The competitions

There are no rules for the competitions other than that anything submitted must be reasonably "clean". Put entries into the TWITT box outside the NAAFI clearly marked "COMPETITION ENTRY" and with your name and mess on it. The winners' entries will be published in the final XMAS edition.

Cartoon competition

Any cartoon submitted must be simple -- its not possible to reproduce any complicated drawings with the equipment onboard. Either single cartoons or cartoon strips are eligible, but please try to make them clear. We will publish some as we go and the winner and runners up in the XMAS edition.

Poetry competition

I'm told we have a number of poets onboard -- so how about putting your efforts on paper and submitting it to TWITT -- anything will be considered. Some of the entries will be used during the patrol, and the winner and runners up will be published in the XMAS edition.

Deliberate mistake competition

The First Lieutenant tells me that some of the mistakes in Daily Orders are deliberate ones -- note them down as they occur, the winner will be the person who correctly spots most deliberate mistakes on Daily Orders between now and 20th December.

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The only way to make sure that crime doesn't pay is for the Government to nationalize and run it

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RIDDLE My first is in TENNIS but not in LACROSSE,
My second's in SIDE but it's never in TOSS,
My third is in POST, but missing in GOAL
My fourth is in BALL, but absent in HOIE
My fifth is in BADMINGTON, not though, in CRICKET
My sixth may be seen in the BAILS, not in the WICKET
My seventh's in BOWLS and in BILLIARDS, it seems,
While my whole is a game that you play with two teams
* * *

And Finally --

Remember Brown Owl

Keep Pulling

