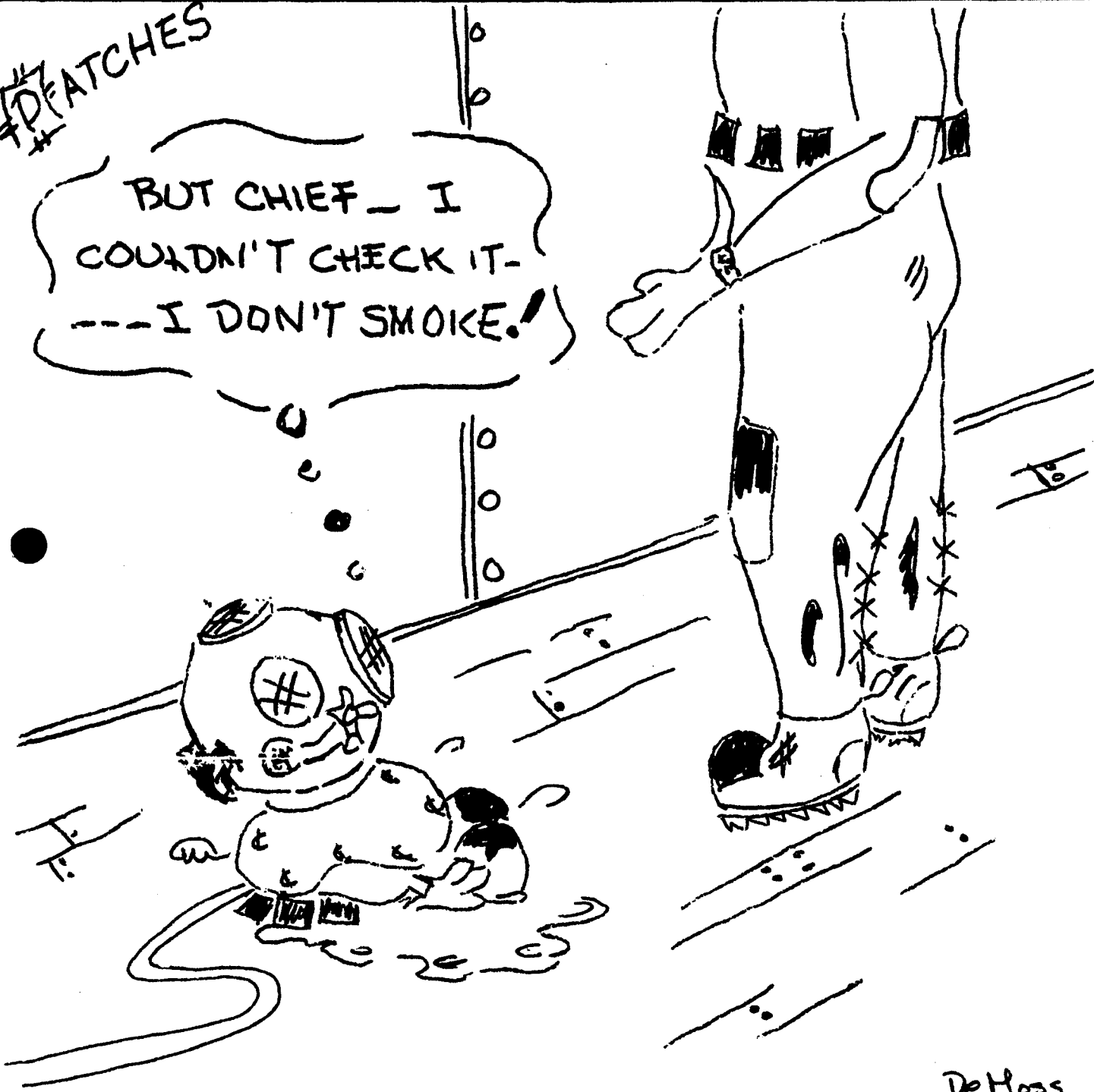


# THE FACEPLATE

JUNE 1959

#DEATCHES

BUT CHIEF - I  
COULDN'T CHECK IT -  
--- I DON'T SMOKE!



DeHoss

EXPERIMENTAL DIVING UNIT  
and DEEP SEA DIVING SCHOOL

FACEPLATE DISTRIBUTION

The duplicating process used to produce FACEPLATE will not make sufficient legible copies to provide all diving activities. Until now we have resolved this by sending FACEPLATE to the major commands and activities having the greater allowances of divers. Now, in reply to many requests, we are making two runs of the stencils and are providing twice as many copies as before - or enough to take care of just about all diving activities. The few still left out will have to wait until we get funds for a more satisfactory duplicating machine. (probably never).

DIVER DISTRIBUTION

The above mention of diver allowances brings us to the next subject. Recent work towards a pay raise for divers has produced machine accounting runs which give facts and figures on the Navy's diver population. I haven't smoothed the information out yet, but the list below is basically correct:

<u>TYPE DIVER</u>	<u>ALLOWANCE</u>	<u>ON BOARD</u>
Master (5311)	62	62
First Class (5312)	487	469
Salvage (5313)	122	180
Second Class (5314)	614	482
UDT (9954)	275	256
ECO (9974) (9992)	351	245
HM (8493)	77	84

Actually, this looks better than the situation really is because many of these divers are always in travel, hospital, at non-diving activities, etc.

DIVER PAY

Since I have already mentioned the pay raise I will go on to say that the present outlook is for the pay proposal to be given to congress this session. It has been approved by the Bureaus, Navy, Army, and everyone else who is concerned below the Department of Defense level. The rates aren't set yet, but a large monthly raise is proposed. Footage, time of dive and extra-hazardous pay will be dropped.

CHANGE 33 TO BUPERS MANUAL

You have all probably seen this change by now. In brief, it concerns divers in the following matters:

- (1) A-4203. Pay for scuba divers.
- (2) C-7305. UDT qualifications.
- (3) C-7305. Ship Salvage Officer deleted.
- (4) C-7406. UDT requalification.
- (5) C-7408. Diver requalification. (This change lowers master and first class limits to 100 feet and allows for any depth for shore-based divers).

## DIVER QUALIFICATION

If you have become qualified in scuba, make sure your job code has been changed to a 534- series so that the detailing people can determine your actual qualifications. Certain jobs require an ability in scuba.

## SECOND CLASS TRAINING

We have had to return some of the men reporting for second class training because they lacked swimming ability. This is a waste of time and travel money - especially since the BuPers Manual requires a swimmer first class ability.

## CORRESPONDENCE

A recent letter from BuPers to USS JASON (AR-8) was distributed to all diving ships and activities. It concerns salvage diving pay and is of importance and interest to all divers. Ask to see it if it hasn't been routed to you. It could prevent a checkage later from improper payment of salvage money.

## RECORD OF DIVE FORM

This form has not been too satisfactory and steps will be taken to modify it after the pending pay legislation is resolved. In the meantime the Comptroller of the Navy has ruled that only one pay dive may be entered on each form. However, SECNAV NOTICE 1085 of 6 May 1958 which gave instructions for using the form has been cancelled, and the BuPers Manual and NavCompt Manual require it only for pay dives. Therefore, the form need only be filled out when the dive made relates to an entry in the SUBSTANTIATION sections of the form. Routine dives (as all dives) will continue to be logged in the Diving Log Book (NavShips 1000). In other words, do what the NavCompt Manual says. No more is necessary.

## DIVING MANUAL

Parts 1, 2 and 4 should all be out this year to complete the manual. We have reviewed the galley proofs on part 1 (the big section) and it is about ready to roll. The other two will go fast after that.

## PROMOTION TO OFFICER STATUS

Any diver who gets promoted to officer status is advised to inform us here at the Diving School. We will see that BuPers issues you a letter stating that you are qualified diving officer. This could affect your future assignments.

## EDU NEWS

Since the publishing of the last FACEPLATE, we have added several new faces to the Unit, so we say "Welcome aboard" to:

C.F. WHITAKER, GMC from the EOD Unit TWO, Charleston, S.C.  
R.J. AVILA, GM1 from the USS SIAGIT (ATA-105)  
J.R. VAIL, HM1 from Instructor Duty, Deep Sea Divers School  
G. D. WILLIAMS, EN2 from the CNO Barge, Naval Gun Factory  
F.R. HUDEF, PHG3 from PIC, Suitland, Md.

The usual farewell beer bust, with all hands consuming an amazing amount of the foamy liquid, was a high success for the following:

CAPT G. J. DUFFNER, MC, USN, Senior Medical Officer, who departed on 1 June for duty in BuMed Submarine Medical Division and additional duty at the Experimental Diving Unit.

LCDR W. F. SEARLE, Jr., USN, Research Engineer and Project Officer who departed on 29 May for the 1st Naval District as Prospective Engineering Officer of the USS PROVIDENCE (CGO-6) at Boston, Mass upon commissioning.

George (Snuffy) HASLIP, GM, who departed on 2 June for the UDT Training School, Little Creek, Va.

\*Pete\* PRICHETT, GM, who will depart on 30 June for the USS SYLARI (ASR-20) at New London, Conn.

Orders have been received on LT John L. GREENE, USN who will report late summer from Staff, ComServSqn THREE for duty as Research Engineer and Project Officer.

#### PROJECT NEWS

LTJG G. M. JANNEY, USNR

#### DIVER DRESS

Divers returning from the Pacific have reported that they have been obtaining Japanese made divers' dresses which are much more flexible than the U.S. Navy Standard Dress. A divers dress of Japanese make was loaned to EDU. After trial dives in the river, most of our divers agreed that it was easier to work in the dress due to its greater flexibility.

A discussion of this situation with the manufacturer of the U.S. Navy divers dress has resulted in an experimental dress made of a softer, more flexible material. The experimental dress and a new standard dress are now undergoing a six months comparative endurance test at the Deep Sea Diving School.

#### SWIMMERS' MOUTHPIECES

A number of complaints about the size, shape, fit and general comfort of the various mouthpieces have been voiced. Dives lasting up to three hours, while breathing through a mouthpiece, have resulted in sore gums and jaws.

In an attempt to solve this problem, a study of mouthpiece design has been undertaken at EDU in conjunction with the aid of dental experts from the Navy National Medical Center.

#### BUOYANCY COMPENSATOR

The use of the new 3000 psi air cylinders has aggravated the problem of buoyancy change as the gas is consumed. With greater gas capacity, the new cylinders also suffer a greater change in buoyancy from full to empty. The Walter Hidde Company was contracted by BuShips to develop a buoyancy compensator. This buoyancy compensator was given an initial evaluation and sent back for minor improvements, and a second evaluation is now underway.

An evaluation of several small powder actuated stud driving tools for underwater use was recently completed. These tools are capable of firing studs into  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or more of mild steel. They were successfully used to place patches on a sunken LCI which is used for the Deep Sea Diving School salvage project.

### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT NEWS

The E.D.U. has been performing  $H_2O_2$  mixed gas oxygen toxicity studies in order to push ahead the present  $O_2$  limits. As a safety factor underwater electrocardiograms are run continuously on the subjects. It was discovered earlier that EKG changes preceded  $O_2$  toxicity symptoms, therefore it is hoped that any symptoms will be prevented by stopping a dive if the EKG changes. Along with this aspect basic knowledge is being obtained as to the effect of exercise underwater on the cardio-vascular system. The best news is that to date, after 28 dives on 10 people no symptoms.

We regret to say that the Senior Medical Officer has been transferred to be the New Director Submarine Medical Division replacing Captain Alvis. We will certainly miss Captain Duffner.

### DIVING SCHOOL

LCDR J. C. MC NICOL, USNR

### CROSS TRAINING

Provisions of BUPERS NOTICE 1540 dated 17 April 1958 are still effective even though the Notice has been cancelled for record purposes. The Notice stated that Master Diver, Divers First Class and Salvage Divers will be required to attend the applicable diver "Cross Training" course prior to 1 July 1962 in order to retain their qualifications. Those qualified divers who have served on board an ARS/ARSD type salvage vessel for more than 1 year, are considered to meet the salvage diving "Cross Training" requirements. (Scuba qualification is also required.) Transfer of diver personnel to "Cross Training" courses will be effected between "sea/shore and shore/sea" rotation as indicated in the school preference block on rotation data cards.

Make sure at your shorevey/seavey interview you indicate CROSS TRAINING Course Deep Sea Diving School on the rotation data cards. (This is important!)

Divers whose qualifications have lapsed for over one year will receive an extra two weeks of  $H_2O_2$  refresher.

HM (diving corpsmen) cross-trainees will get a special course consisting of scuba and  $H_2O_2$ /medical refresher.

### SCUBA TRAINING

All graduates of the 26 week and cross training courses are now assigned ESM 5342. Corrected page 13s have been forwarded to last know commands according to school records for those divers who were previously "Qualified in the operational use of SCUBA" at Deep Sea Diving School since September 1957.

## REQUALIFICATION

Change 33 to BuPers Manual is in distribution. Article C-7408(4) permits all dives and swims made during actual diving operations to count for retaining qualification providing they meet the time/depth requirements.

Shore based divers will no longer have to return to DSDS for requal. dives providing they have made four 45 minutes work dives at any depth. The change to Article C-7408(4)(d) is quoted for information:

"(d) All conventional divers while serving at shore based activities may requalify in accordance with schedule in sub-paragraph (b) above. Paragraph (b) remains unchanged and lists 45 minute work dives at any depth to 150 fts."

## PERSONNEL

CWO THOMAS has been detached and ordered to the USS GILMORE (AS-16) in time to move to Charleston. He was relieved by WO Albert FOSTER who checked in from the USS KITTIWAKE (ASR-13).

LT William WISE will be leaving as soon to take command of the USS PETREL (ASR-4). CONGRATULATIONS "BILL". He will relieve LCDR ULLRICH who has elected to retire 1 August.

## TRAINING

LT W. WISE, USN

The Cross-Training program is beginning to shape up. We are now able to, in most cases, form a class of Cross-Trainees. In the past cross trainees, when they reported, had to be plugged in to classes as they were being taught. Now, with the new reporting dates, we are able to form a separate class of cross-trainees only.

We have a great variety of courses in session at the present time; two (2) week medical officers, eight (8) weeks submarine medical officer, sixteen (16) week salvage officer, twenty-six (26) week diver first class, seventeen (17) week army class, six (6) week diver second class, and five (5) to ten (10) week PCO course - also salvage and deep sea, so you can see this keeps us on the ball. We have over 140 students enrolled at the present time.