Service Reorganization Begins 15 January

Many New Changes to Be Made Gradually. Eastern, Western and Southern Area Plans Effective With January 15th Date.

RE-ORGANIZATION of the Coast Guard Areas and Divisions, authorized in Treasury Department Amendment to Regulations, General Order No. 9, on 26 September, has begun. Plans for re-organizing the Eastern, Southern and Western areas to be effective from 15 January 1933.

Eastern Area Headquarters will be in New York City.

Western Area Headquarters will be in San Francisco.

Northern Area Headquarters will be in Cleveland, Ohio.

Southern Area Headquarters is at present in Mobile, although great political pressure is being brought to bear to move Headquarters to New Orleans, La.

Captain B. M. Chiswell, U.S.C.G., is the first Commander of the Eastern Area.

Captain H. G. Fisher, U S.C.G., commands the Southern Area.

The Western Area is in command of Captain Eugene Blake, Jr., U.S.C.G.

Captain H. D. Hinckley, U.S.C.G., is Commander of the Seattle Division, while Captain W. H. Munter, U.S.C G. is assigned to command the Boston Division.

Captain T. M. Molloy, U.S.C.G., becomes Patrol Commander of the Eastern Area and Captain W. H. Shea, U.S.C.G., takes over command of the New York Division with additional duties as Aide to the Captain of the Port

COMMANDS IN SEATTLE

Captain H. D. Hinckley, U.S.C.G., commanding Seattle Division under Coast Guard reorganization plans.

Owing to the many changes the re-organization *en toto* will be gradual.

The Coast Guard will be divided into four areas to provide greater efficiency in the service.

Under the re-organization plans the headquarters of the destroyer force of the Coast Guard, heretofore in New London, will be abolished, but the destroyers will continue operating. Several commissioned officers will be transferred from New London but the re-organization will cause no reduction in personnel.

Areas Designated

The areas will be: The Eastern, running from Maine to Cape Hatteras; the Southern from Cape Hatteras down the Atlantic and through the Gulf of Mexico; the Western taking in the Pacific and Alaskan coasts, and the Northern comprising the Great Lakes.

ASSISTANT COMMANDANT

Captain Leon C. Covell, U.S.C.G., Assistant Commandant of the Coast Guard. Captain Covell first entered the Coast Guard as a Cadet in June of 1900.

In the reorganization plans described in the accompanying article the Assistant Commandant and the four Area commanders, Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern "shall meet at Headquarters at such time as the Commandant may direct to make recommendations to the Commandant as to the disposition of forces among the areas and such other matters as may be proper."

Division commanders in the Eastern area will direct operations of destroyers and other vessels under the supervision of the area commander. All of the destroyers operated at New London, New York and Boston will continue at these places.

The destroyers of Division 1 of the destroyer force will continue in New London, but their operations will be directed out of New York. The destroyers of Division 2 now based at New York will continue there, and the destroyers of Division 3 keep their present station at Boston. The division commander at Boston will be in direct charge of the Boston destroyers.

Fort Trumbull will be known as the Fort Trumbull Training Station of the Coast Guard, because of the fact that the Receiving Unit is there. Capt. William T. Stromberg will be in command. Lieut. Comdr. Henry Coyle is commander of Section Base 4.

ORDERED TO NEW YORK

Under the reorganization plans described in the accompanying article, Captain T. G. Crapster, U.S.C.G., pictured above, becomes Inspector for the new Eastern area with Headquarters in New York. Captain Crapster is due to report for this new duty on 1 March, 1933, leaving his previous duties as Commanding Officer of the Destroyer Force with Headquarters at New London, Connecticut. Captain Crapster, who is a Navy War College graduate, first entered the Service in May of 1901 as a cadet.

Capt. T. G. Crapster, commanding the Destroyer Force, is ordered to the post of inspector for the Eastern area and will have headquarters at New York. He will go to his new station March 1.

Comdr. R. W. Dempwolf, chief of staff of the force, has also been ordered to New York.

Other important changes in officers appear in this month's Gazette, published elsewhere in this issue.

For Greater Efficiency

Plans for the re-organization, generally, were announced at Headquarters of the Coast Guard at Washington, D. C., but the information relative to the destroyer force was made public later. The re-organization, it was announced, is to provide greater efficiency in the service, which enforces all the nation's laws on the high seas, does rescue work and carries out the international ice patrol.

In the announcement of the re-arrangement it was emphasized that liquor smuggling did not figure as a goad to speed the completion of plans but that the re-organization arrangement was the culmination of years of study.

Areas

For normal peace time operation of the Coast Guard, the United States and coastal waters are to be divided into four areas as follows:

EASTERN AREA. This area will comprise the following divisions:

(1) Boston Division.
(1) New York Division.
(3) Norfolk Division.

SOUTHERN AERA. This area will comprise the following divisions:
(1) Jacksonville Division.
(2) New Orleans Division.

NORTHERN AREA. This area will comprise the following divisions:
(1) Cleveland Division.
(2) Chicago Division.

WESTERN AREA. This area shall comprise the following divisions:
(1) San Francisco Division.
(2) Seattle Division.

The commanders of these areas shall be as follows:

Commander, Eastern Area.
Commander, Southern Area.
Commander, Northern Area.
Commander, Western Area.

The area commanders shall have full authority and control over all Coast Guard activities within their respective areas, except the following:

Coast Guard Academy.
Coast Guard Depot.
Such other special units as the Commandant of the Coast Guard may determine.

The area commanders are chiefly operations officers and are responsible that the mission of the Service is efficiently performed in their respective areas. They are the direct representatives of Headquarters within their respective areas. In order that they may be relieved from administrative detail, communications and reports relating to maintenance and supply will be carried on direct between divisions and Headquarters.

Meet at Headquarters

The Assistant Commandant and the four area commanders shall meet at Headquarters at such times as the Commandant may direct, to make recommendations to the Commandant as to the disposition of forces among the areas and such other matters as may be proper.

BOSTON DIVISION—Headquarters, Boston, Massachusetts. This division shall include the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. Also the coastal waters, except foreign territorial waters, bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of coast line with the 66th meridian.
(2) 40° latitude—66° longitude.
(3) 41° 05′ latitude—71° 40′ longitude.
(4) Intersection of Rhode Island, Connecticut state line with coast line.

NEW YORK DIVISION — Headquarters, New York, New York. This division shall comprise the states of New York, east of the 76th meridian; Pennsylvania east of the 79th meridian; Connecticut; New Jersey and Delaware. Also Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and waters adjacent thereto, and the coastal waters bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of Connecticut, Rhode Island state line with coast line.
(2) 41° 05′ latitude—71° 40′ longitude.
(3) 40° latitude—66° longitude.
(4) 37° latitude—69° longitude.
(5) Intersection of Delaware, Maryland state line with coast line.

The waters between Fishers Island and the mainland (both on the north and east side of the island), and the entrance to the Pawcatuck River shall be in the New York Division.

NORFOLK DIVISION—Headquarters, Norfolk, Virginia. This division shall comprise the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina north of latitude 34° 30′. Also the waters bounded by lines connecting with the following points:

(1) Intersection of Delaware, Maryland state line with coast line.
(2) 37° latitude—69° longitude.
(3) 33° latitude—73° longitude.
(4) Intersection of North Carolina coast line with the 3th parallel of latitude.

This division includes the interior5 waters of Pamlico Sound, Core Sound and Bogue Sound. The southern limit of the coastal waters falls between Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout.

JACKSONVILLE DIVISION—Headquarters Jacksonville, Florida. This division shall comprise the states of North Carolina south of latitude 34° 30′, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida east of the 86th meridian. Also the waters, except foreign territorial waters, bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of North Carolina coast line with the 35th parallel of latitude.
(2) 33° latitude—73° longitude.
(3) 25° latitude—78° longitude.
(4) 23° latitude—80° longitude.
(5) 23° latitude—86° longitude.
(6) Intersection of 86th meridian with coast line.

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION—Headquarters New Orleans, La. This division shall comprise the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Florida west of the 86th meridian; also the waters, except foreign territorial waters, bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of the 86th meridian with coast line.
(2) 25° latitude—86° longitude.
(3) Intersection of Texas, Mexico boundary line with coast line.

CLEVELAND DIVISION — Headquarters Cleveland, Ohio. This division shall comprise the states of New York west of the 76th meridian; Pennsylvania west of the 79th meridian; Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, east of the 84th meridian and south of latitude 43° 05′; also the waters of the Great Lakes and connecting rivers included within the area, except foreign territorial waters.

CHICAGO DIVISION — Headquarters Chicago, Illinois. This division shall comprise the states of Michigan west of the 84th meridian and north of latitude 43° 05′; Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. Also the waters of the Great Lakes and connecting waters included in that area, except foreign territorial waters.

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION—Headquarters San Francisco, California. This division shall comprise the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Nevada. Also the territory of Hawaii and adjacent waters; also the coastal waters, except foreign territorial waters, bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of California, Oregon state line with coast line.
(2) 42° latitude—130° longitude.
(3) 37° latitude—128° longitude.
(4) 32° latitude—124° longitude.
(5) Intersection of California, Mexico boundary with coast line.

IN NEW YORK DIVISION

Commander Ralph W. Dempwolf, U.S. C.G., recently ordered to duty on the staff of the Commander, New York Division, from the Destroyer Force at New London. Commander Dempwolf first entered the Service as a cadet in October of 1902.

SEATTLE DIVISION—Headquarters Seattle, Washington. This division shall comprise the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. Also the territory of Alaska and adjacent waters; also the coastal waters, except foreign territorial waters, bounded by lines connecting the following points:

(1) Intersection of California, Oregon state line with coast line.
(2) 42° latitude—130° longitude.
(3) Intersection of 130th meridian with the coast line of British Columbia.

Division Commanders

The commanders of these divisions are as follows:

Commander, Boston Division.
Commander, New York Division.
Commander, Norfolk Division.
Commander, Jacksonville Division.
Commander, New Orleans Division.
Commander, Cleveland Division.
Commander, Chicago Division.
Commander, San Francisco Division.
Commander, Seattle Division.

The division commanders shall, subject to the orders of the area commander, be responsible for the administration and operation of all Coast Guard units within their respective divisions, except the units specified in Art. 26 and except as otherwise modified by regulations and instructions.

Where patrol commanders are assigned to an area, division commanders shall have no authority over the operation of floating units of the Coast Guard assigned to the patrol force, except as may be specifically delegated to them by the area commander.

Patrol commanders will only be assigned to an area when there is a major concentration of floating units within that area.

Districts

(a) First District: The coasts of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts to and including the northern entrance of Cape Cod Canal.

(b) Third District: The coast from northern entrance of Cape Cod Canal to Connecticut, Rhode Island state line, including Cape Cod and the Islands belonging to Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

(c) Fourth District: Coasts of Long Island and Fishers Island.

(d) Fifth District: Coasts of New Jersey and Delaware.

(e) Sixth District: Coasts of Maryland and Virginia to Cape Charles.

(f) Seventh District: Coasts of Virginia and North Carolina from Cape Henry to 35th parallel of latitude.

(g) Second District: Coasts of North Carolina south of 35th parallel of latitude; South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, east of 86th meridian.

(b) Eighth District: Coasts of Florida west of 86th meridian, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

(i) Ninth District: The United States coasts bordering on Lakes Ontario, Erie, and Huron south of latitude 43° 05′ (including Lake View Beach Station and Louisville Station).

(j) Tenth District: The United States coast bordering on Lake Huron north of latitude 43° 05′, and the coast of Indiana and of the lower peninsula of Michigan that borders on Lake Michigan.

(k) Eleventh District: The coasts of Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the upper peninsula of Michigan.

(l) Twelfth District: The coast of California.

(m) Thirteenth District: The coasts of Oregon and Washington and Nome Station, Alaska.

WAR COLLEGE GRADUATES

Referring to an article in the last issue, naming certain Coast Guard officers as graduates of the United States Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island, several of our readers point out that we did not mention all of the graduates of the institution named. Complete list of the Naval War College graduates now in the Coast Guard consists of Captains William J. Wheeler, Harold D. Hinckley, John Boedeker, William H. Munter, Philip W. Lauriat, Thaddeus G. Crapster, and Commander William J. Keester.

"COURTEOUS; GENEROUS"

"You fellows are certainly courteous and generous," remarked A. Johnson and J. Cotrell to Chief Boatswain's Mate Elisha V. Bunting, in charge, Spermaceti Cove. While the two, both hunters from Highlands, N. J., did not realize it, their "you fellows" took in the entire Coast Guard, for all they based their remarks upon was the fact that the Coast Guard crew under Chief Bunting had rescued them from cold, exposure and possible drowning, followed by a Coast Guard station fireside and a warm meal.

COMMANDANT ELECTED

Admiral H. G. Hamlet, U.S.C.G., Commandant of the Coast Guard, was last month elected Vice President of the Washington Chapter of Sojourners, national organization of commissioned officers of all branches of the service who are Master Masons.

Re-organization Demands Loyal Support

Admiral Hamlet Points Out, In Explanatory Letter, That Co-operation is Essential to Success of New Re-organization Order.

ON the subject of the Re-organization of the Coast Guard (referred to elsewhere in this issue) Admiral Hamlet recently issued an explanatory letter to the Service.

"The Assistant Secretary has directed me," Admiral Hamlet wrote, "to make such consolidations of units as may be practicable, and to reorganize the Service so as to give equal or greater efficiency with reduced cost.

"For some years past it has been apparent that a change in organization was necessary to give increased efficiency and economy, but with the unusual burdens thrown upon the Service there has been little opportunity to devote time to this pressing need," the Commandant continued. "The expansion of the Service since 1924 was built upon the old organization, which was not suitable for the expanded Service. This matter has been given considerable study by a large number of officers for several years past, and the late Commandant, Rear Admiral F. C. Billard, called a board of five high ranking officers for this purpose in January, 1931. The plan of reorganization now being promulgated is the result of the recommendations of the Board supplemented by further studies.

Basis for Re-organization

"The following fundamental rules have been followed as a basis for the reorganization of the Coast Guard:

"(1) Decentralization of authority and responsibility.

"(2) Authority and responsibility definitely fixed.

"(3) Where there is one major task to be performed, there should be one fundamental plan of operation under the direct control of one man.

"(4) In any locality where forces are operated in proximity or come in contact with one another, all such forces shall operate under one directing head.

"(5) Floating forces in any locality shall be under one command afloat, and floating forces actually at sea on patrol in any locality shall be under command of one officer at sea and on patrol with such force. In every such case, however, the commander afloat or on patrol shall be under the direction of an officer stationed permanently on shore.

Patrols Only In East

The order continues, "The internal organization of the Eastern Area, where a large number of units are operating in close proximity, will, of course, not be suitable for other areas. It is not the intention to assign Patrol Commanders to any area except the Eastern Area, unless there should be a major concentration of units within such area. The method of operation within the Northern, Southern, and Western Areas will not be radically different from the present method of operation, with the exception that area commanders will be fully responsible for the proper and efficient performance of Coast Guard duties within their areas. It is expected that the area commander will devote his time to studying the situation, making plans, directing operations where necessary, and obtaining results to the full capabilities of the forces assigned him. With this responsibility will go the necessary authority to make such disposition of his forces as he may deem best to accomplish his mission."

Officers on Patrol Boats

"Due to the concentration of major units in the Eastern Area, it is the intention that only reports pertaining to operations will pass through the area commander." Admiral Hamlet wrote, "and if results are to be obtained, this area commander must devote his time to operations, and it is therefore intended to reduce his paper work to a minimum. The area commander should be careful to see that his time is devoted to operations and plans for operations, and not taken up with routine paper work.

"As fast as officers are available, it is the intention to assign two or more officers to each base, one of whom shall always be on board a patrol boat actively directing the units of that base (75-ft. patrol boats and smaller craft) that are on patrol.

CALLS FOR CO-OPERATION

Rear Admiral H. G. Hamlet, U.S.C.G., Commandant of the Coast Guard. He points out that success of new reorganization plan depends on co-operation and loyal support from all units.

"One of the fundamental rules in the proposed reorganization is the decentralization of authority and responsibility. This, of course, is purely an administrative matter. The four area commanders have been set up with the idea that these officers would be given more authority than is now given to the division commanders, and would relieve Headquarters of considerable of the detail work now handled by that office.

More "Field" Authority

"If such additional authority is not given, then the area commanders, particularly the Northern, Southern and Western area commanders, would be merely other offices through which correspondence must pass, with the consequent delay in obtaining action. Particularly is this true of the West Coast, where, if the Western Area Commander can administer Coast Guard activities on the Pacific Coast under the direction of the Commandant, much time will thereby be saved. For instance, the detailing of vessels to the Bering Sea Patrol and the conduct of this patrol should be handled by the area commander, under the direction of Headquarters. With this authority must go the responsibility, and Headquarters will hold the area commander to strict accountability for the efficient and economical performance of all Coast Guard duties in that area.

Loyal Support Essential

"The success of the new plan of operation depends upon the cooperation of all units of the Service." The Admiral's letter concludes, "The purpose of this letter is to inform the Coast Guard generally of the object of the re-organization, in order to secure the loyal support essential to its success."

HEARINGS "ON THE HILL"

In reply to questions by Chairman R. W. Byrns, House Appropriations Committee, during recent Coast Guard hearings, Admiral Hamlet pointed out that even should the Eighteenth Amendment be repealed the Coast Guard would expect to have to counter-act a great amount of smuggling, expected for the purpose of avoiding payment of federal revenue.

During the hearings Admiral Hamlet and Commander Waesche took occasion to refer to the importance and fine work of Mr. O. M. Maxam and Judge Harrington. The Commandant pointed out that a waiver of the retirement age limit was asked for Mr. Maxam. Judge Harrington recently retired.

In the interests of economy, Commander Waesche made plain, 75 patrol boats will be decommissioned.

The shortage of Coast Guard commissioned officers was stressed and the committee was given to understand that the temporary commissioned officers would be made permanent as soon as qualified, if Headquarters has its way. Twenty-four more officers and twenty cadets were asked for.

Commander Waesche pointed out that the warrant Corps had already been reduced from 945 to 800.

On the subject of enlisted strength it was shown that enlistments had been discontinued at present time and, on the subject of re-enlistment bonus, during the course of Commander Chalker's testimony, Chairman Byrns said, "You will not need that inducement in 1934 when everybody is out of a job. You are furnishing good lodgings and fairly good rations."

Commander Waesche testified that considerable discontent was manifest in the Life Savings Branch following the discontinuance of the time honored $1.00 cash ration, replaced by the ration "in kind" with personnel eating at the station. The $1.00 ration, the Commander stated, has been for many years regarded as "pay" by the Life Saving Service.

The economy plan contemplates placing on inactive status 12 additional Coast Guard stations, making a total of 33 inactive. Patrol boats, more active than heretofore, are to cover the work of the closed stations.

Commander Weasche testified that, unless the Navy constructed new destroyers under Navy building plans, all but six destroyers would have to be returned to the Navy in 1936.

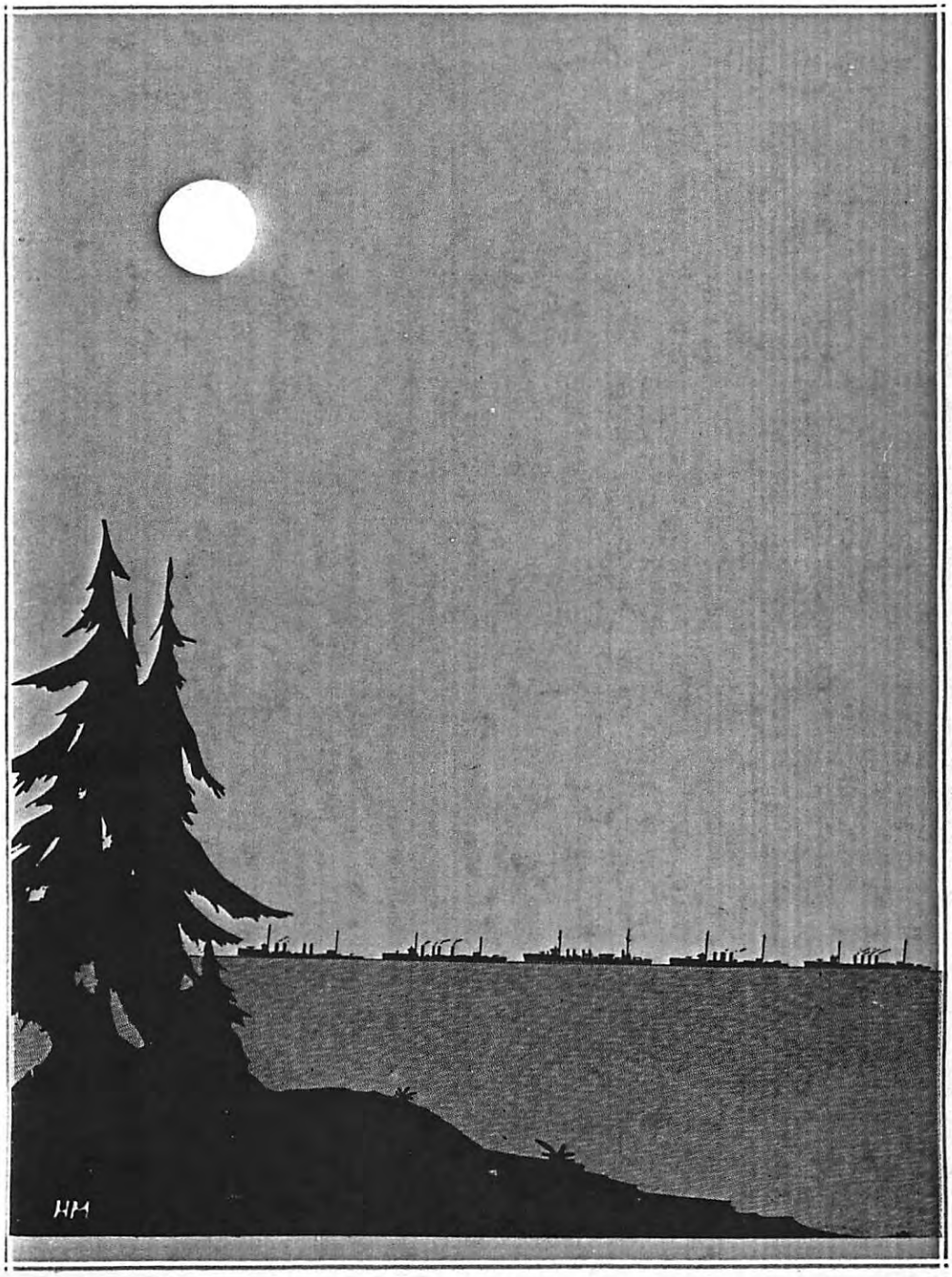
February, 1933
Volume Six

The U.S. Coast Guard

SEMPER PARATUS

25 Cents the Copy
Number Four

The National Publication of the United States Coast Guard



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER E. M. WEBSTER, RM. 304