



Cleaning rifles and sharpening up the uniform.

EIGHTH Division

THE MARINES on board the USS DES MOINES function as an integral part of the Gunnery Department and are known, in the ship's organization, as the Eighth Division. As the Eighth Division the Marines man two three-inch fifty-caliber twin rapid fire mounts of the ship's AA battery and thereby become a component part of a fighting ship. The daily routine of this division, as in all other gunnery divisions, requires that all hands be busily engaged in drill, or turning to on the endless hours of chipping, painting, polishing, and gun maintenance.

Returning to the Marine Detachment you find an organization which, by regulation, is required to be trained and equipped for operations ashore as part of the ship's landing party or other force; or for limited operations as an independent force. In addition, regulations require that the detachment provide gun crews and also provide for the internal security of the ship. In meeting these requirements the Marines are, at times, essentially a guard unit and will be doing four on and eight off on such watches as Captain's orderly, Executive Officer's orderly, corporal of the guard, communication orderly, brig sentry, or brow sentry. When required, the Detachment will operate as a rifle platoon and form the nucleus of the ship's landing party.

"Away the full guard and band," a call heard quite often during the Mediterranean cruise, results in a flurry of activity which terminates in a ceremony on the quarterdeck in honor of a visiting civil or military official.

All of this makes for a busy cruise, but it isn't all work. Liberty call results in a flurry of activity too, and it is then that the sea going Marine is rewarded for his hard work. Names such as Paris, Rome, Naples, Pompeii, Lisbon, Nice, and many others take on a new meaning for hearing the name is one thing, seeing the city is quite another. It gets rough at times but the DES MOINES and her Mediterranean cruises will be long remembered by the Marine Detachment.

SEATED, LEFT TO RIGHT: T. E. Kernan, M. G. Bertuzzi, D. L. Abernathy, W. A. Mills, Capt. W. C. Bell, Gunnery Sgt. A. R. Hill, C. B. Glasby, C. E. Lemere, R. J. Rhodes, T. F. Nolan. . . .
STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT: M. M. Kennedy, H. L. Manus, W. H. Ryan, R. M. Bennett, C. H. Voltz, V. J. Montalto, D. R. Duggan, V. L. DeRosa, J. L. Monseau, E. J. Sabatino.



Marine's birthday cake.



Officers at birthday party.



SEATED, LEFT TO RIGHT: C. J. Bryk, G. B. O'Brien, W. J. Scott, A. G. McCue, 1st Lt. F. Grabowsky, 1st Sgt. C. R. Burton, O. W. Davidson, W. A. McLean, T. Krasnoger, E. T. Bly. . . . STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT: J. W. Smith, H. C. Aciz, J. H. Robertson, E. G. Pedersen, P. J. Robinson, A. J. Sweeney, J. N. Bush, R. B. Pickering, J. B. Tohill, R. E. Andersen.



1951-52 Naples