

ESSO FLEET NEWS

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Two Officers On Shore Assignments

Two licensed officers in the fleet, Glen A. Shaw and John J. Bajor, have accepted shore assignments. Mr. Shaw was named transportation allocator in the New York Branch Office, Agency Section, and Mr. Bajor becomes technical assistant in Standard Oil Company (N. J.), Esso International Division, in New York City. Both assignments became effective on April 24.

Mr. Shaw obtained his 3rd mate's license from the U.S. Maritime Academy at Kings Point in June, 1970. He then joined the (See **OFFICERS**, page 4)

'Esso Chester' Aids In Rescue

The *Esso Chester* was about 15 miles off Barnegat Light, New Jersey, on March 25 when at 0724 Second Mate John Stanley saw a flare and spotted an orange-canopied life raft some distance away. He could see that it was occupied.

Mr. Stanley called Captain Howard G. McCartney, master in the *Esso Chester*, who slowed the vessel and maneuvered in the vicinity while he radioed the Coast Guard Cutter *Morgenthau*, nearby. The cutter quickly approached the drifting raft, lowered a lifeboat, and picked up the

occupants. The *Esso Chester* was then released and proceeded on to New York.

The *Esso Chester* later received a telegram from the Coast Guard commending the personnel on watch for their alertness in sighting the two survivors and for their quick reporting that brought the cutter to the rescue.

In a personally written letter to the Marine Department in Houston, the captain of the stricken vessel, the fishing boat *Gra-Cee II*, said:

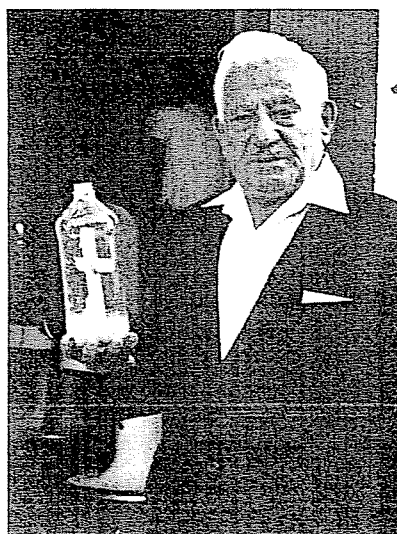
"I would like to commend to you the captain and crew of your tanker *Esso Chester* for their part in our rescue on March 25 off Barnegat Light. When my fishing boat *Gra-Cee II* caught fire early that morning, my mate and I were forced to abandon ship without even sending a distress signal, and were adrift for four hours on rough, icy seas. Your captain and crew spotted our raft and acted most promptly in calling for help and coming to our aid. As matters turned out, the USCG Cutter *Morgenthau* was in the vicinity and the *Chester* did not need to take us aboard, but it was good to have her standing by with the ladder already lowered until the other ship arrived. I would be pleased to board the ship sometime in happier circumstances to meet the captain and crew and express our deep gratitude. Please convey my thanks and regards to all hands."

The letter was signed by Captain Louis Puskas, Jr.

Annuitants Describe Life In Puerto Rico

Editor's note: About 30 retired Marine Department employees live outside the continental limits of the U.S. To find out how they are getting along and how they like living in their present locations, they have been contacted by letter with a view to passing their observations along to Fleet News readers who may be curious about living conditions on other shores. Two retired employees who replied, almost by return mail, live in Puerto Rico. They are Severiano R. Rivera and Braulio L. Villanueva.

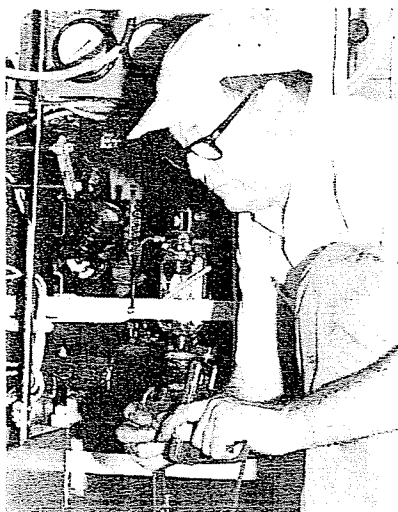
Mr. Rivera, who retired as messman in 1958, lives in Ponce, Puerto Rico, where last February he turned 79 years old. "I'm a bachelor, I feel 50 and I'm still young enough to go to the beach and look at girls," he writes, and adds: "I like to live in Ponce. The country is very high and it is beautiful. The food is expensive, though, and some of it is a little too strong for me. Just as soon as I save a little money, I plan to



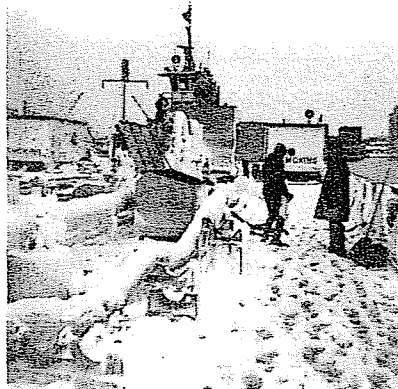
come back to the United States for a visit." Mr. Rivera's latest pastime was making a cross to put inside a bottle—which he did successfully as shown in the accompanying picture.

Braulio L. Villanueva, who lives (See **PUERTO RICO**, page 3)

TAFFRAIL TALK



E. B. STUBBLEFIELD, 2nd assistant engineer in the *Esso Philadelphia*, is shown here bending tubing for hooking up the ship's burners to individual gauges, two of which are shown at the top left of Mr. Stubblefield's cap. "When we get all connected up, we can see at a glance what the pressure is in each burner and can make any necessary adjustments to provide for more even burning," he said, and added: "You might call it a refined improvement upon the original installation in which all three burners were connected to one gauge."



ABOUT 4 INCHES of ice and snow covered the deck of *Esso Barge No. 5* as she and the *Esso Bay State* fought heavy seas and a big snowstorm during an overnight voyage in March from Portland, Maine, to Everett, Massachusetts. Weather in the area averaged about 15 degrees above zero during the month.



STEVENSON SCOTT, 2nd cook in the *Esso Bangor*, looks fondly at a picture of his daughter, Denise. "She's only 16, but she is already studying to enter law school when the time comes," he said. "She's at the top of her class at Yates High School in Houston. My wife, Dorothy Jean, is a teacher and with her help Denise should go far. We have a baby boy only 19 months old and we may try to make a doctor or lawyer out of him when he grows up. I believe in giving my children the highest education that they can get and am already planning for his college days."

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PERSONNEL IN THE 'ENCO SUNSHINE STATE' paused during a coffee break recently to welcome a new chief mate, Buford E. McRae, second from the right. Mr. McRae joined the *Enco Sunshine State* on March 25. His previous experience includes eight years in harbor tugs with G & H Towing Company in the Galveston-Houston area, and then with Red Circle Transport, sailing from Mobile to San Juan. He holds a master's license. From the left are Eddie Brand, AB/Tm; Paul D. Gonzales, OS; Joe B. McCary, AB/Tm; William J. Smith, AB/Tm; Clarence M. Thibodeaux, Jr., chief engineer; Mr. McRae; Fred V. Thomas, chief mate and relieving master; and Valry Kinchen, Jr., chief cook, Captain Carl B. Borup is master in the *Enco Sunshine State*.

Barcelona Retires After Long Service

LOUIS BARCELONA, transportation allocator in the Baton Rouge Branch, retired on April 1 with more than 42 years of service that began in 1929 when he joined Esso Standard Oil Company at Baton Rouge as a messenger. Shortly thereafter, he advanced through several clerking positions, and in 1943 he became an electrician's helper and later that same year an apprentice welder. Mr. Barcelona was named dispatch clerk in 1944, ship dispatcher in 1947, and transportation allocator in 1967. At a retirement ceremony for Mr. Barcelona, Baton Rouge Branch employees gave him a trolling motor, but they gave the battery to Mrs. Barcelona. "This will make it possible for you to keep control of his fishing excursions," they said. Mr. and Mrs. Barcelona plan to continue living in Baton Rouge.

Four In Ocean Fleet Retire On April 1

Four seagoing employees retired on April 1 with a total of nearly 100 years of service in the company.

HENRY MIRANDA, messman, heads the list in years of service—25. He started his career with the company as utilityman in the *W. S. Farish* and served as utilityman and messman in various company vessels during his career. His last ship was the *Esso Bangor*. Mr. Miranda lives in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

Following close behind Mr. Miranda in years of service is HENRY W. SMITH who retired after nearly 24 years in the fleet. He joined the company in 1948 as electrician in the *Marine Leader*. He sailed as

3rd assistant engineer in the *Esso Aruba* in 1949 and a year later he became 2nd assistant in the *Esso Bermuda*. He sailed as 2nd and 3rd assistant in various company vessels over the past 18 years until he took sick leave last June. His last assignment was as 2nd assistant engineer in the *Esso Florence*. He lives in Washington, New Jersey.

After 21 years of service, JAMES R. SHARP retired as OS in the *Esso Newark*. His first company assignment at sea was as OS in the *Esso Bayway*. This was in

1951. He sailed as OS and deck maintenanceman in various vessels until his retirement. He lives in Charleston, South Carolina.

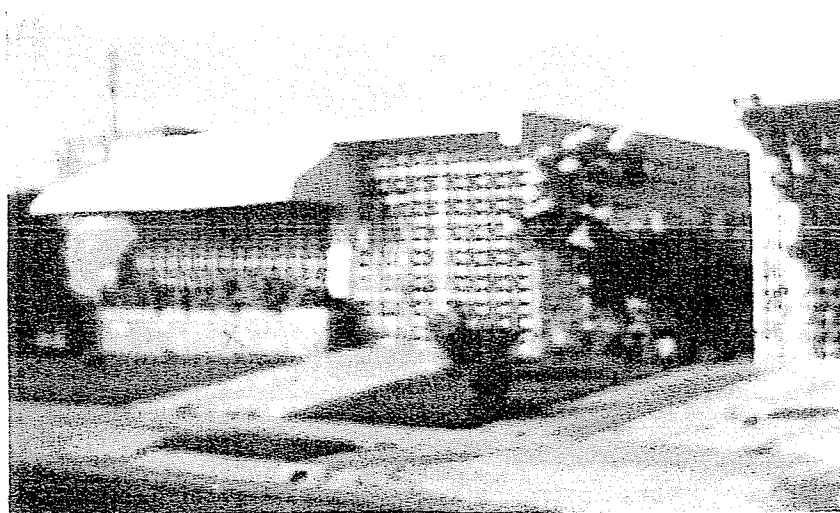
JAMES A. PERKINS retired on April 1 with over 20 years of service. He was employed as OS in the *Wallace E. Pratt* in 1951. He later sailed as wiper in the *Fort Fetterman* and as oiler in the *Esso Binghamton*. He later served as fireman and oiler in various company vessels and was OS in the *Esso Huntington* at the time he retired. Mr. Perkins lives in Baton Rouge.

PUERTO RICO continued from page 1

in Bayamon, Puerto Rico, says that "life here is good, if not perfect. The people's ways are very easy to adjust to, whether you speak Spanish or not, though some knowledge of Spanish is helpful. Native Puerto Ricans are very courteous and hospitable, but we do have many of the same social problems of the mainland," he writes.

Mr. Villanueva, who retired from the fleet as 2nd cook in 1963 at age 65, decided to live in Puerto Rico because of its tropical climate. "It is less subject to extremes of heat and cold. The community I live in is beautiful, each family has its own house, a spa-

cious backyard, a lovely garden, and large fruit-rich trees. Progress increases each day as new business centers, schools, recreation areas, and houses are built. But all consumer items, especially food, are as expensive as they are on the mainland and the dollar buys less and less every day. My main recreational activities are dancing, going to club meetings, and meeting new people. In spite of rising prices and some social problems, I recommended Puerto Rico to anyone contemplating retirement. Its excellent climate and lovely beaches are its best attractions all year round," Mr. Villanueva concluded.



Mr. and Mrs. Villanueva have been living in this attractive home in Puerto Rico since he retired. "The Humble pension plan has helped me so much in obtaining my most comfortable and agreeable way of life," he said.

ESSO FLEET NEWS is published every other Monday for active and retired employees of the Marine Department, Humble Oil & Refining Co.; Emmett A. Humble, General Manager; Sydney Wire, Assistant General Manager.

GENE LEGLER Editor



Shaw



Bajor

Humble Fleet, sailing in the *Esso Chester*. From November, 1971, to February, 1972, he worked ashore in Logistics and Planning in the Marine Department headquarters office in Houston, after which he returned to the *Esso Chester* where he was serving at the time of his new assignment.

He is married and lives in Floral Park, New York.

Mr. Bajor graduated from Kings Point with his 3rd assistant engineer's license in June, 1969. He then joined the Humble Fleet, sailing in the *Esso Florence*. Before he attended Kings Point, he sailed for a short period in the fleet as OS.

In 1970, Mr. Bajor spent September and October ashore as transportation allocator in the Baltimore Branch Office, and then returned to sea and was in the *Esso Lexington* at the time of his new appointment.

He is married, has two children, and makes his home in Bricktown, New Jersey.

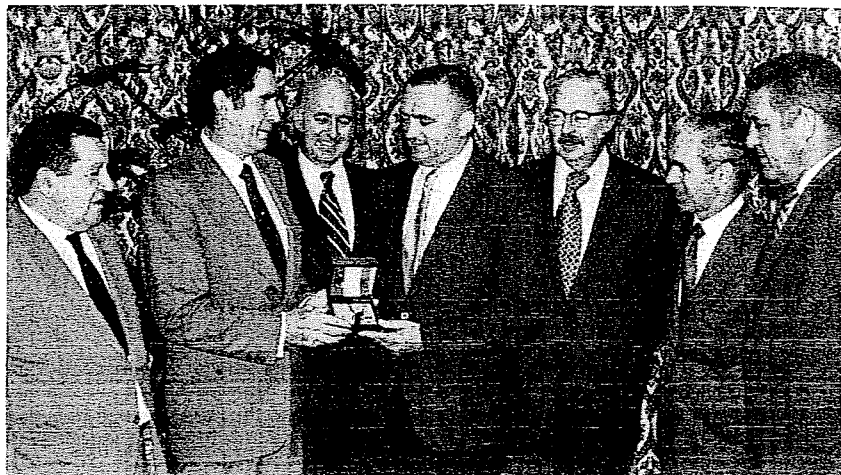
Equity Portfolio Values

The Thrift Fund Trustee has advised that the value of each unit in the Equity Portfolio as of the last business day in March 1972 is 12.53 dollars.

Last Business Day of	Unit Value
May 1971	\$10.00
June 1971	10.06
July 1971	9.76
August 1971	10.35
September 1971	10.32
October 1971	9.96
November 1971	10.15
December 1971	11.14
January 1972	11.63
February 1972	12.31
March 1972	12.53

Service Awards

Captain Abernathy Presented 30-Year Award



CAPTAIN DAVIS L. ABERNATHY completed 30 years of service on January 25. He is shown here during a visit to the Marine Department headquarters in Houston recently where Sydney Wire, assistant general manager, presented him with a service emblem and watch. From the left are Captain Henry E. Wichman, master in the *Esso Philadelphia* which was in port at Baytown at the time the presentation was made; Mr. Wire; Captain Donald E. Graham, employee relations coordinator; Captain Abernathy; Paul J. McEwan, head of Personnel Services Section; Captain Leonard H. Earle, port captain; and James Gordon, assistant operations manager. Captain Abernathy started his career as messman in the *R. W. Gallagher* in 1941. He advanced through various ratings, obtaining his 3rd mate's license in 1944, his 2nd mate's license in 1946, a chief mate's license in 1950, and his master's license in 1955.

Bankers Congratulated By Shipmates On 20th Anniversary



ERNEST BANKERS, AB, shaking hands with Captain Roland E. Parkhurst, in striped shirt, was congratulated by shipmates in the *Esso Baltimore* for completing 20 years of service in the fleet. His anniversary date was March 2. Mr. Bankers joined the fleet in January, 1944, as AB in the *SS Beacon*. In March, 1944, he became Bos'n in the *Beacon* and served in this rating until October when he resigned from the fleet. He returned to sea duty in November, 1952, as AB in the *Quemado Lake* and has been serving in this rating in various company ships since then.