

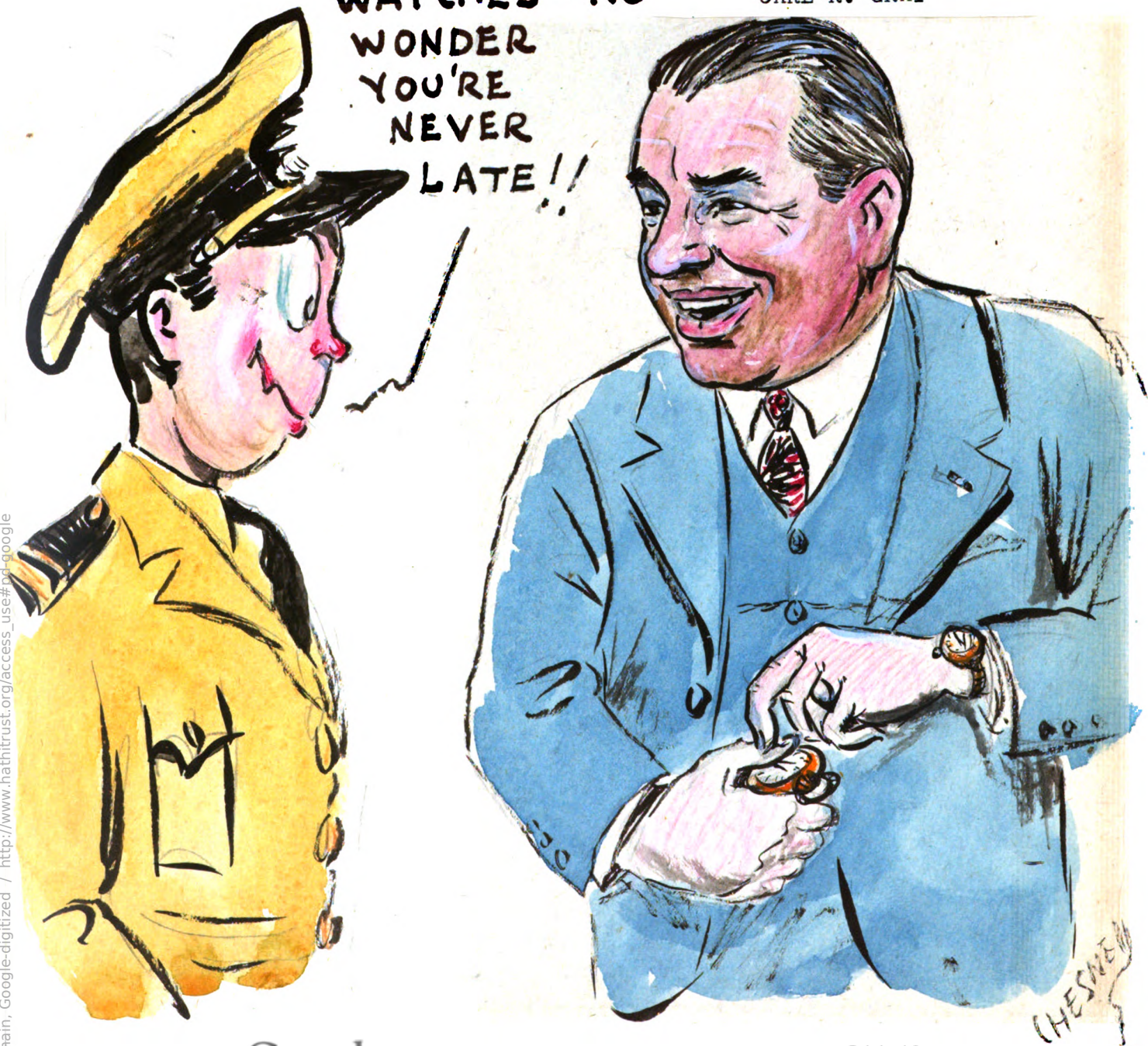
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745.2
C48

Eggbert and other Navy cartoons
by
Earle H. Cheney



Presented by
ESTATE OF
CARL R. GRAY

GOSH! TWO
WATCHES - NO
WONDER
YOU'RE
NEVER
LATE!!



A salute from the Navy
To Major General Carl R. Gray Jr.
with all good wishes

Carl Chrony
first edition
18 Feb 1948

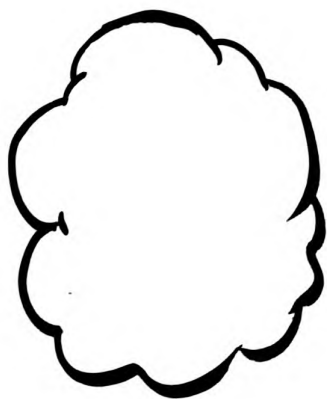
P.S.
I hope Eggert hasn't been
employed in the Veterans Administration
Carl

EGGBURT
AND OTHER CARTOONS



*Earle H. Cheney
Manila Luzon P.I.
23 June 45*

EGGBURT



AND OTHER **NAVY** CARTOONS

By

EARLE D. CHESNEY

PUBLISHED BY

ANDERSON HOUSE

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AUG 20 1959
Estate of
Carl R. Gray
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FOREWORD

Relaxation of wartime restrictions so "now it can be told" has made possible this first public appearance of "Eggburt and other Navy cartoons" by Commander Earle D. Chesney, SC(S) USNR.

From autumn of 1942 until the demobilization period, personnel of the United States Navy on ships and stations throughout the world chuckled over Eggburt—an errant, aggravating character whose bungling ineptitude exasperated and amused every officer and man who served with his prototypes. Other humorous cartoons by the creator of this paragon of bad example for junior officers likewise have regaled the Navy afloat and ashore.

Commander Chesney's fine, quizzical talent in delineating the ludicrous in Navy life—the same human foibles found in any organization—has been displayed heretofore exclusively to the Navy. While on active duty, this cartoonist contributed a variety of his work to a restricted Navy Department publication, the Monthly Newsletter from the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts.

Of course, Eggburt was no top secret of earth-shaking potentialities like the Manhattan Project, but under wartime security rules the entire contents of the classified publication could be circulated only within the Navy. Thus the public was deprived of Chesney's humor. With restrictions lifted, the family and friends of naval personnel—in fact, everyone—may enjoy his cartoons, too.

This volume is published to meet insistent requests from Navy "brass hats," WAVES and enlisted men for the complete series of Eggburt and other Navy cartoons by Chesney in permanent book form—a lasting memento of the merrier moments of wartime.

The undersigned has been the editor of the restricted publication in which these cartoons, drawn by Chesney in off-duty hours, were presented to the Navy and he has had the fun of writing the admonishing Eggburt verses. He feels that this public introduction to Chesney should include a word about the artist and a brief explanation of how these cartoons were created.

Instruction by homely precept is an old American custom. Moralizing always is more palatable when it is accompanied by a chuckle. Those facts were realized when the training of junior officers was a particularly urgent need. So Commander Chesney, with whom the undersigned served, created the humorous character of Eggburt to show newly commissioned junior officers what not to do in the Navy. Teaching by bad example, this caricature was devised to aid in the indoctrination of young officers of the Supply Corps, but his popularity and influence soon became Navy-wide. Admirals and apprentice seamen alike enjoyed him.

There's usually an Eggburt in every crew—at least one in every office. And there's a bit of Eggburt in all of us. He enables all who have his undesirable traits to see themselves as others see them. With a prod of friendly ridicule, he moves them to mend their erring ways. Thus Eggburt has served the Navy in his own peculiar way, wholly unheroic but sometimes useful.

Commander Chesney's ability as a caricaturist and cartoonist, which he exercises as a hobby, is but one sparkling facet of his talents. His sense of humor is irreplaceable. He has a keen, penetrating understanding of character. He spots sham and hypocrisy instantly and delights in satirizing

amusing officiousness with quick, deft strokes of his fluent pen. But his subtle satire is never mean or petty—always friendly. His is a great genius in making warm and hearty friends.

During his active duty as a naval officer in World War II, Chesney has had close association with “top side” of the Navy Department. He has traveled in every continent and has seen all phases of Navy life. Wherever he journeys he sketches to the keen amusement of his friends, who affectionately call him the “Brass-Hat Cartoonist.” His art has created the only satirical record of the more amusing aspects of naval operations in every theater of action.

In some instances, basic ideas of other artists were freely adapted for these cartoons and that assistance is here and now publicly and gratefully acknowledged.

Chesney’s cartoons now are a part of the Navy’s wartime literature of levity—a chronicle of humor which brightened many tense moments when the going was rough for naval personnel around the world. This volume appropriately preserves it.

F. LOWELL LAWRENCE

Lieutenant Commander, SC(S) USNR.

EGGBURT AND OTHER CARTOONS



THE EVOLUTION OF EGGBURT



Eggburt is a wise guy, but he has a lot to learn.
To him all regulations are no personal concern.
He gives no heed to Navy style and goes around quite sloppy,
Saluting with reluctant wave that's low and limp and floppy.
Yes, Eggburt is a character. He knows that he's a card.
Perhaps we can endure him—if we all try hard.



Eggbert is a gabby guy—a very wordy gent.
He knows it all, and tells it all without encouragement.
He can tell you how to do your job, and how to win each battle.
No matter how much work you have, he takes the time to prattle.
He drapes himself across your desk and chatters like a parrot.
How long, Oh Lord, how long can we restrain ourselves to bear it?



When Eggburt wears his raincoat which hides his bit of braid
He seems to think it abrogates the duties of his grade.
He walks with hands in pocket, gives Navy "Reg" the boot,
And doggedly declines to be the first one to salute.
Eggburt dreams that thus he rates a senior's due respect,
But Juniors don't advance in rank by that kind of neglect.



**Eggbert always tries to be the life of every party.
In all his social contacts he's a show off and a smarty.
On convivial occasions that brighten holidays
"Officer and Gentleman" to him is just a phrase.
He thinks it's smart when he can start riotous affairs,
But his conduct gives no honor to the uniform he wears.**



Eggburt does not realize how boorish he can be,
Ignoring regulations and common courtesy.
Superiors approach his desk. At ease our Eggburt stays,
Relaxing in a lolling pose upon his vertebrae.
He keeps his seat in thoughtless rest when he's supposed to stand.
He may relax too far someday, and then where will he land?



CHESNEY
LAWRABLE

Eggbert thinks that he's a wolf who frequently must howl
So several nights in every week he goes out on the prowl.
He misses many hours of sleep, staying out 'til dawn,
And when he tries to work next day all he does is yawn.
No man who serves his country now can hope to do his best
When he acts like Eggbert and fails to get his rest.



The telephone on Eggbert's desk is busy as can be
But his personal convenience gets the first priority.
Urgent Navy matters must wait while Eggbert shares
His working hours with business and his personal affairs.
The hours he talks by telephone in vapid conversation
If used for work no doubt would help to shorten the duration.

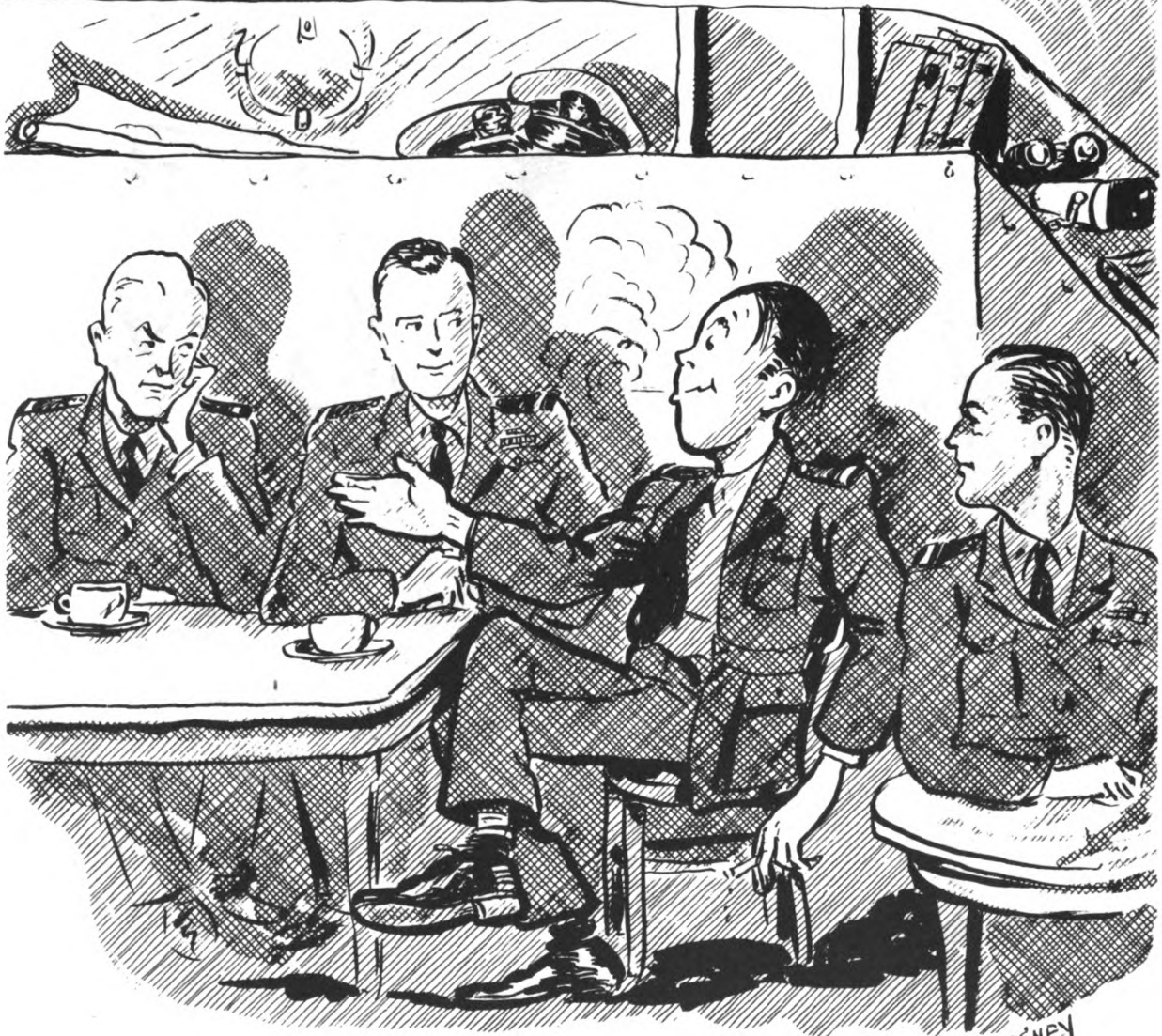


Eggbert is unhappy. He wants to go to sea
And win himself some medals and get salty as can be.
He couldn't be of use afloat, he's trained to work ashore,
But he wants to change his job—he doesn't like it any more.
He dreams of ships and shirks his work and fails to meet the test
Of men who serve the Navy most where they can serve the best.



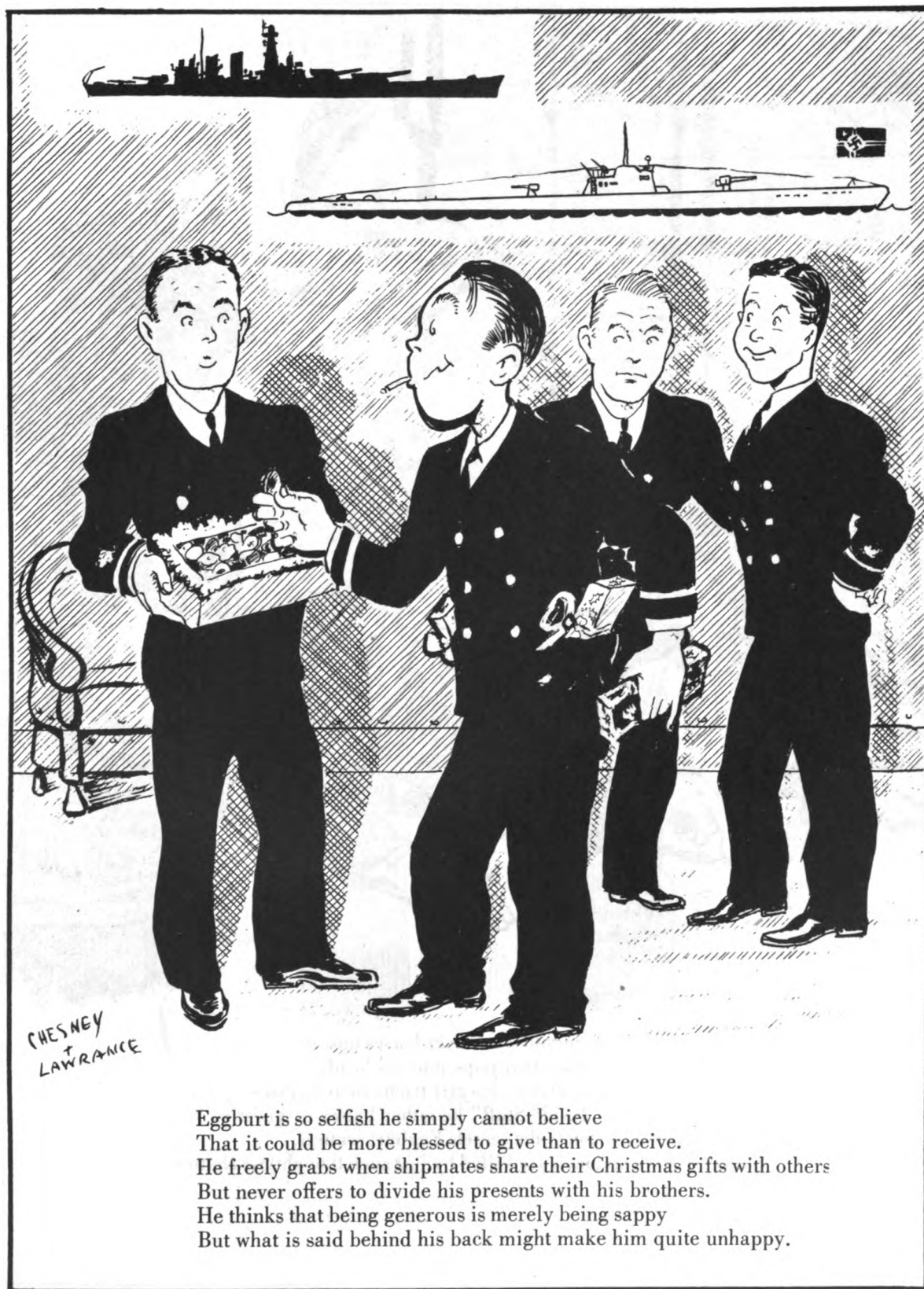
**Eggbert is an arrant snob who holds in base disdain
All whom he considers beneath his social plane.
Toward Juniors and all ratings he would never condescend
To seem the least bit pleasant lest they deem he is their friend.
He always snaps out orders with a curt and surly lip.
All who act like Eggbert hurt morale on any ship.**

Ye Ole Wardroom, Inn



CHESENEY
+
LAWRANCE

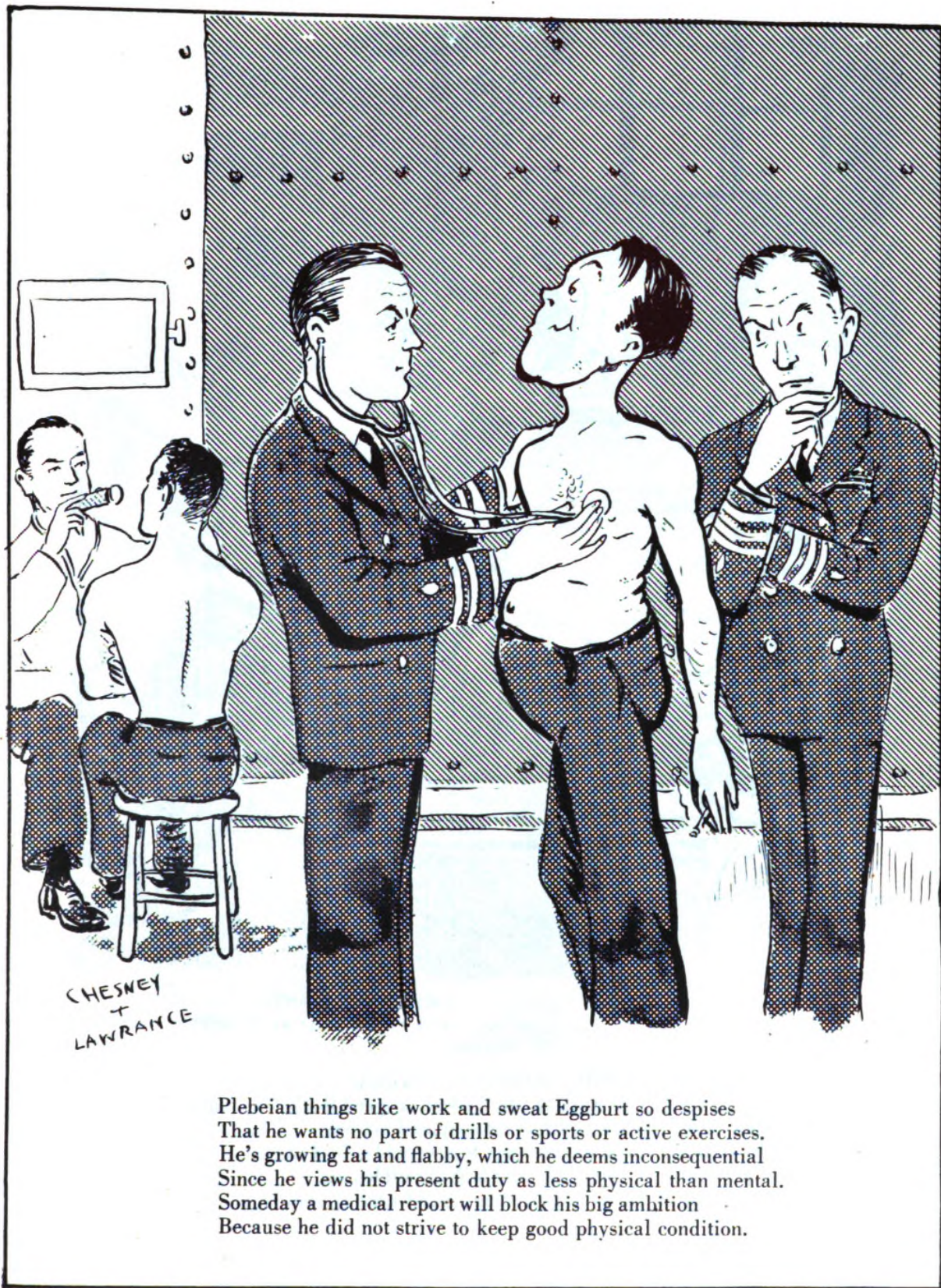
Eggbert's favorite subject is to tell what he can do.
Give him half a chance and he will try to prove to you
That he's the Navy's wisest man—of nothing he's afraid—
And that the war could not be won without his valiant aid.
He should be told that officers who really do the most
Get recognition they deserve and never, never boast.



Eggburt is so selfish he simply cannot believe
That it could be more blessed to give than to receive.
He freely grabs when shipmates share their Christmas gifts with others
But never offers to divide his presents with his brothers.
He thinks that being generous is merely being sappy
But what is said behind his back might make him quite unhappy.



Eggbert is a blabbermouth who never leaves unsaid
Each bit of information that pops into his head.
To boost his own importance, his girl friend he impresses
By prating of the "Inside Stuff" he either knows or guesses.
The enemy may listen to the secrets Eggbert scatters.
Ships are sunk and men are killed by just such thoughtless chatter.



Plebeian things like work and sweat Eggburt so despises
That he wants no part of drills or sports or active exercises.
He's growing fat and flabby, which he deems inconsequential
Since he views his present duty as less physical than mental.
Someday a medical report will block his big ambition
Because he did not strive to keep good physical condition.

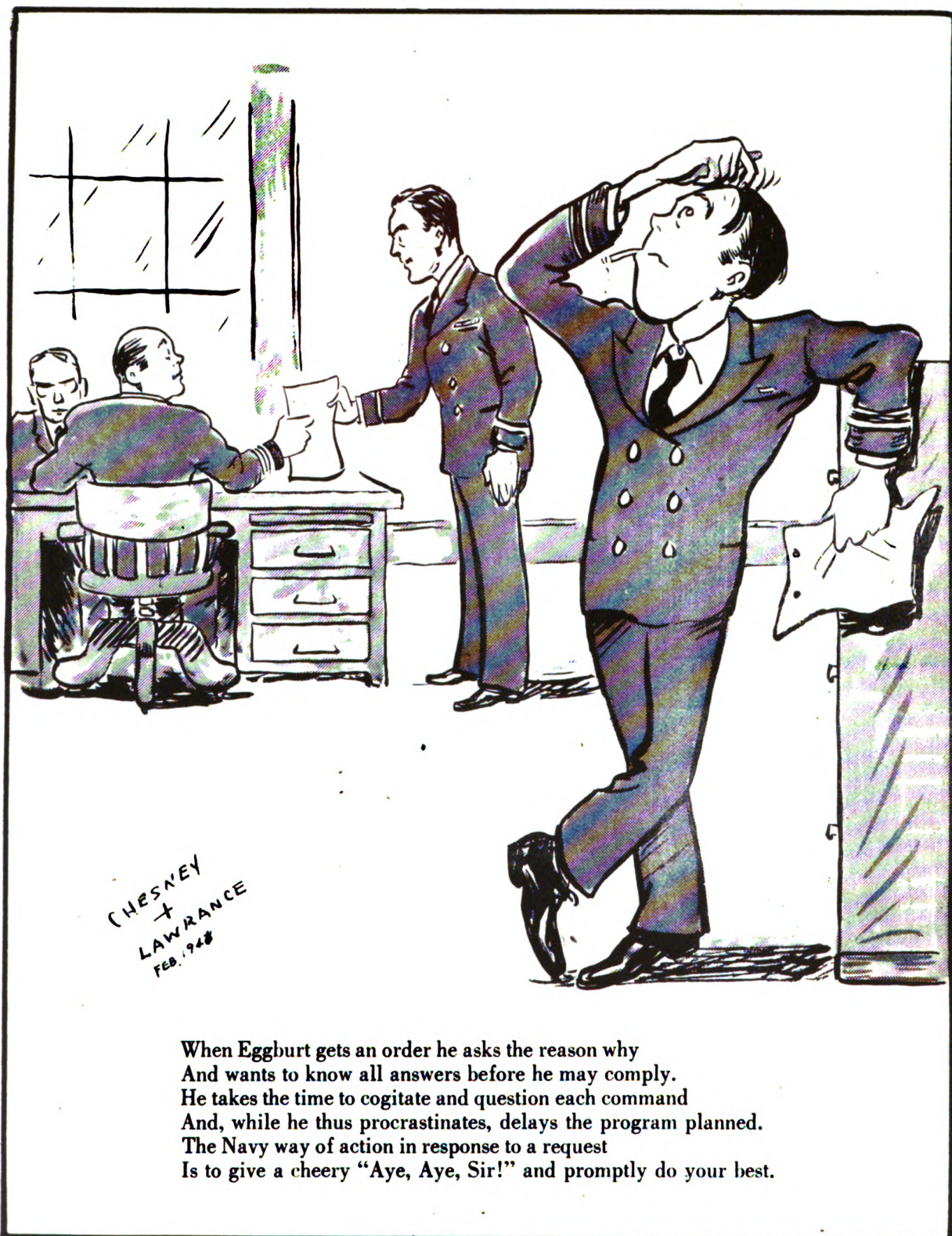


(CHESNEY and LAWRENCE--
With thanks to Lt A. Klinefelter, SC USNR)

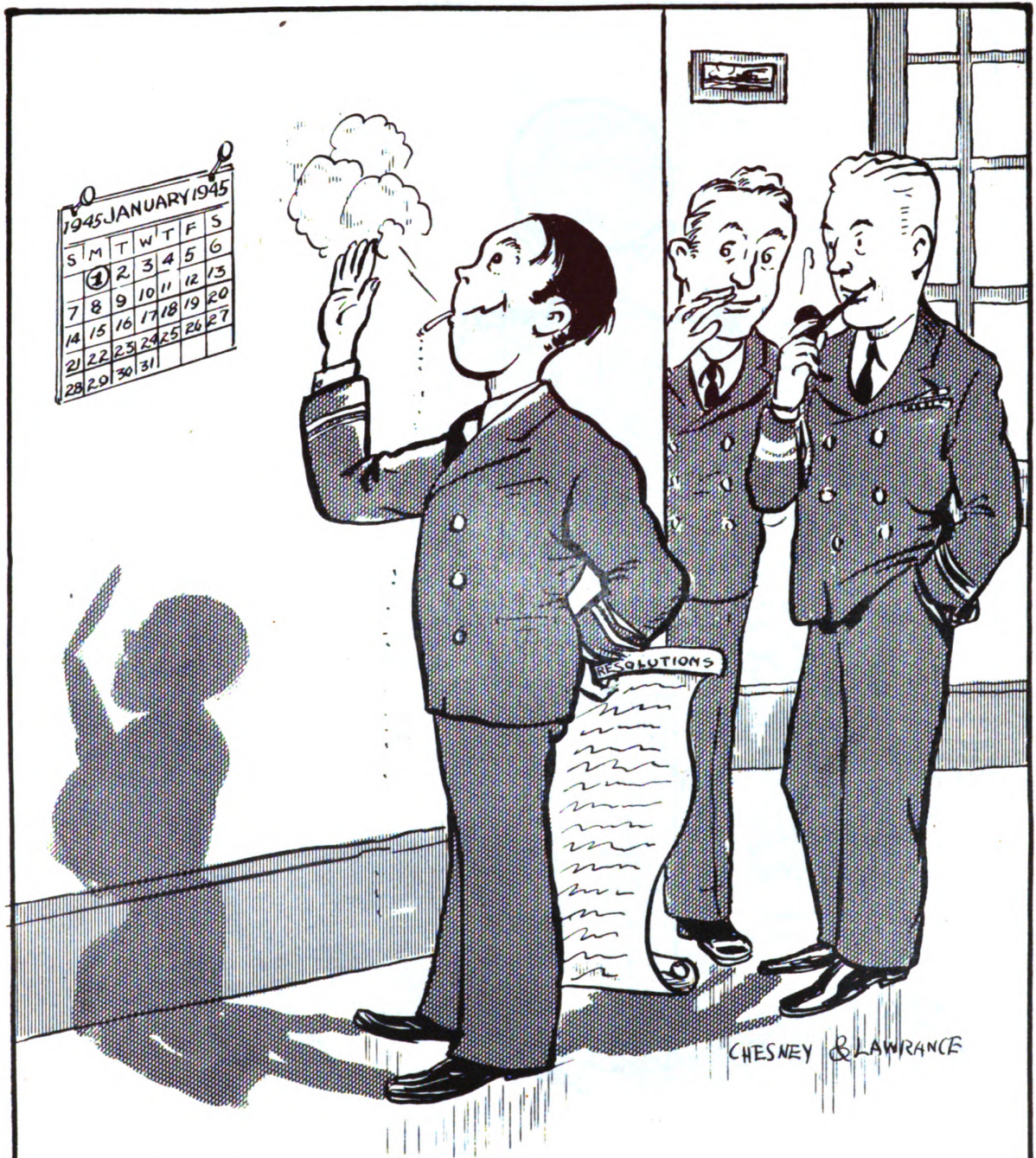
When Eggburt is on duty you rarely see him busy
While his colleagues work to win the war at speed that's fast and dizzy.
An officer, so Eggburt thinks, is not supposed to work—
He leaves such boresome business to a capable chief clerk.
If he persists in "Doping Off" and fails to pull his oar,
It's likely we'll not see him loafing 'round here any more.



On pay days Eggburt goes on sprees and spends his money wildly,
But after that his funds are low, which states the matter mildly.
He borrows money here and there—nickels, dimes, and dollars—
And then forgets to pay it back unless the loaner hollers.
Whenever he can dodge it he never settles debts.
If you think Eggburt's popular don't cover any bets.



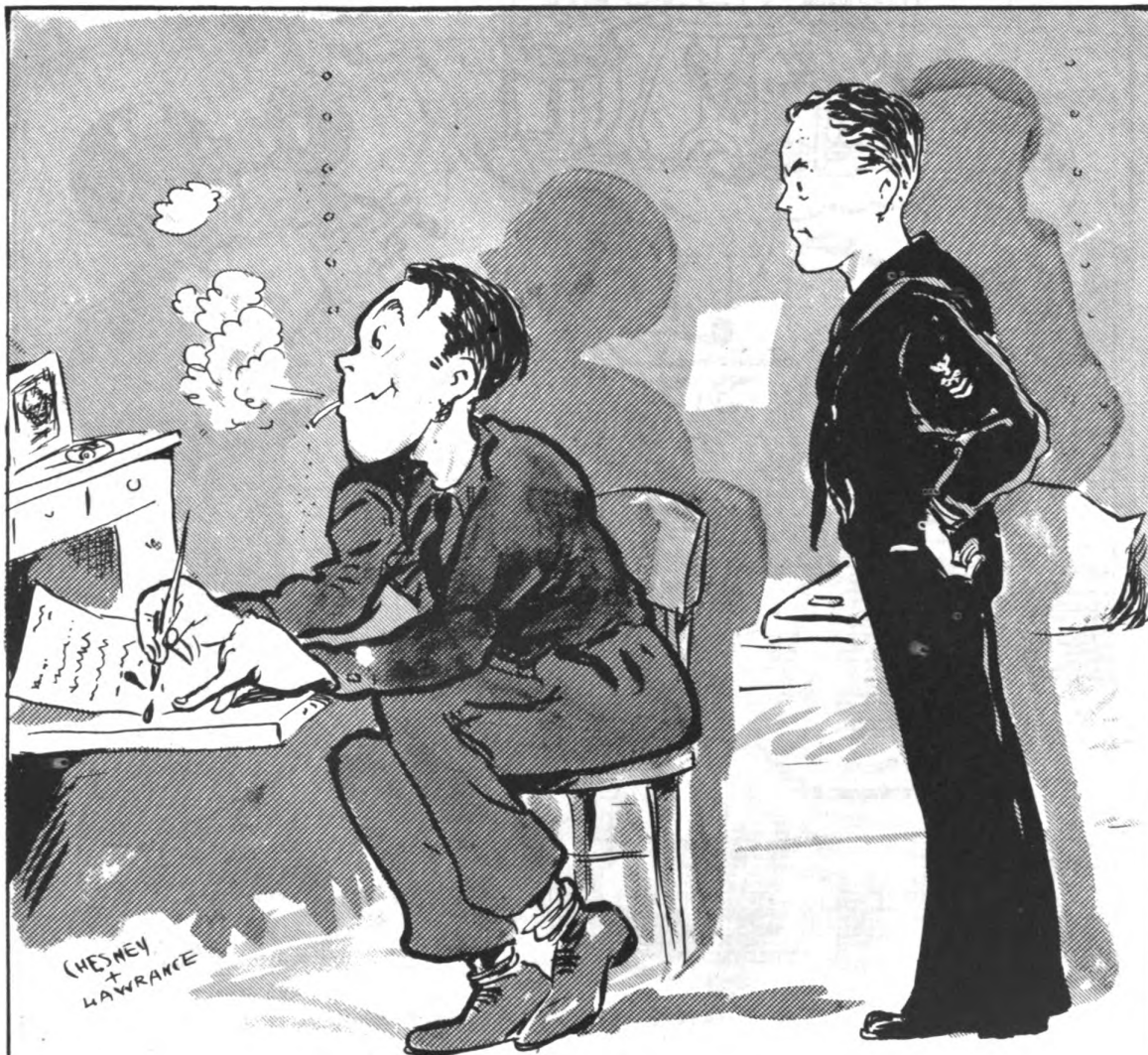
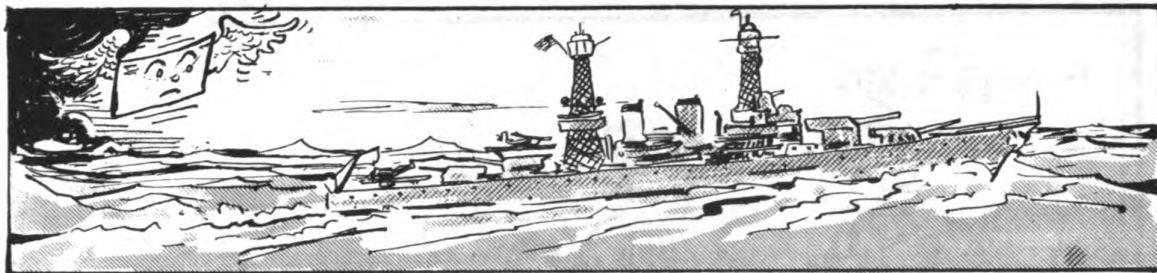
When Eggbert gets an order he asks the reason why
And wants to know all answers before he may comply.
He takes the time to cogitate and question each command
And, while he thus procrastinates, delays the program planned.
The Navy way of action in response to a request
Is to give a cheery "Aye, Aye, Sir!" and promptly do your best.



Each New Year's Day Eggburt resolves that he will mend his ways.
 He thinks mere resolutions entitle him to praise.
 But all his boasts and lofty vows leave colleagues unimpressed
 For he breaks his resolutions just as soon as they're professed.
 While Eggburt *talks* a "Can Do" role, they take the Navy view
 And judge him by the things he *does*—not what he claims to do.



Eggburt never knows the time and never seems to care.
Invariably he starts out late when going anywhere.
He thinks that time and tide, and war, and girls on him will wait,
So he never has been punctual in keeping any date.
The day his ship on schedule sailed and left him on the pier
Eggburt didn't blame himself; he thought the Captain queer!



To Navy correspondence rules Eggburt pays slight heed.
He thinks he knows a better way to get things done with speed.
When he has business to transact, a bit of ink he slings
And scribbles to a personal friend to pull for him some strings.
The friend may since have gone to sea and be of no avail.
Official matters never belong in unofficial mail!



Eggburt has a high regard for his own worth and wit
 And feels the Navy has no job too big for him to fit.
 He thinks his shipmates all concede that he's a special prize
 For he never misses any chance, himself, to put them wise.
 No doubt Eggburt would be amazed and taken quite aback
 To know that he's considered as the Navy's own "Sad Sack".



When Eggbert takes his pen in hand to give home folks a treat
Nearly everything he writes the censor must delete.
To matters of security Eggbert pays no heed
So when his letters are received they're nothing much to read.
His folks at home would worry less, and the censors he would please
If Eggbert used more judgment when he writes from overseas.



Eggbert's most amazing trait that we have noted yet
Is the number of important things he's able to forget.
He rarely can remember that credentials must be carried.
As a result, he's frequently delayed, perplexed, and harried.
If he does not train his memory it may be Eggbert's fate
To fumble vainly for his pass outside the "pearly gate."



Eggbert's tactless boastfulness is never so unwise
As when with foreign officers he tries to fraternize.
He magnifies the glories of the good old U.S.A.
And of our valiant allies has little good to say.
The rude and haughty attitude he shows in conversations
Undermines the amity of our United Nations.

MESNEY
&
LAWRENCE



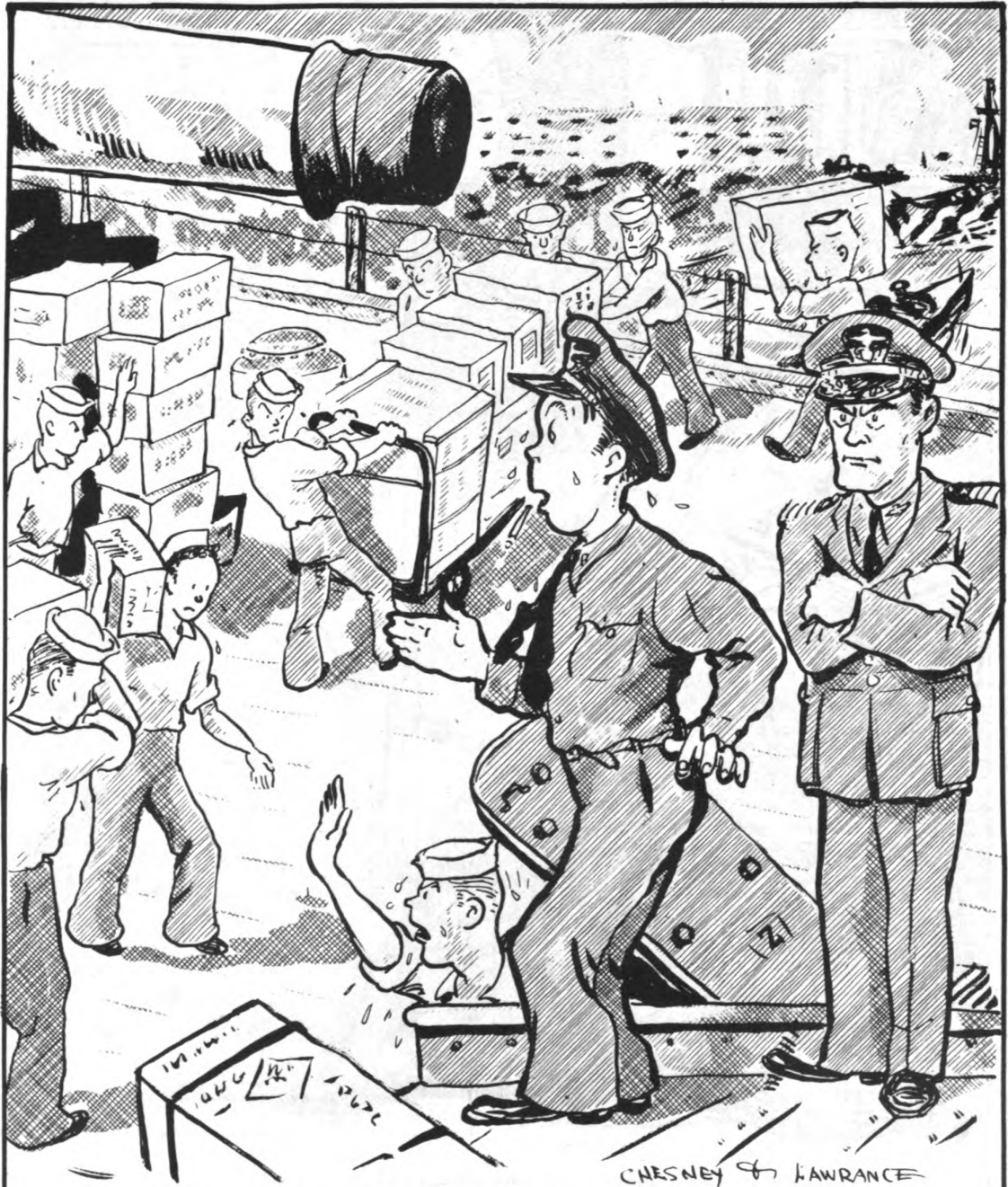
Eggbert is a chronic grouch who constantly complains
That he never has a chance to show his valor and his brains.
While cheerful shipmates work and fight so wrongs may soon be righted,
Eggbert sulks and thinks that all his prospects have been blighted.
His colleagues can be happy that they're still among the living,
But Eggbert still declines to see one reason for thanksgiving.



Eggbert never writes or wires when phones are in his reach
And when he makes long distance calls he hangs on like a leech.
He seldom has his facts at hand or plans what he should say
But runs up tolls in needless waste with trivial delay.
With toll lines overloaded, it is now an urgent need
To use long distance sparingly and then with utmost speed.

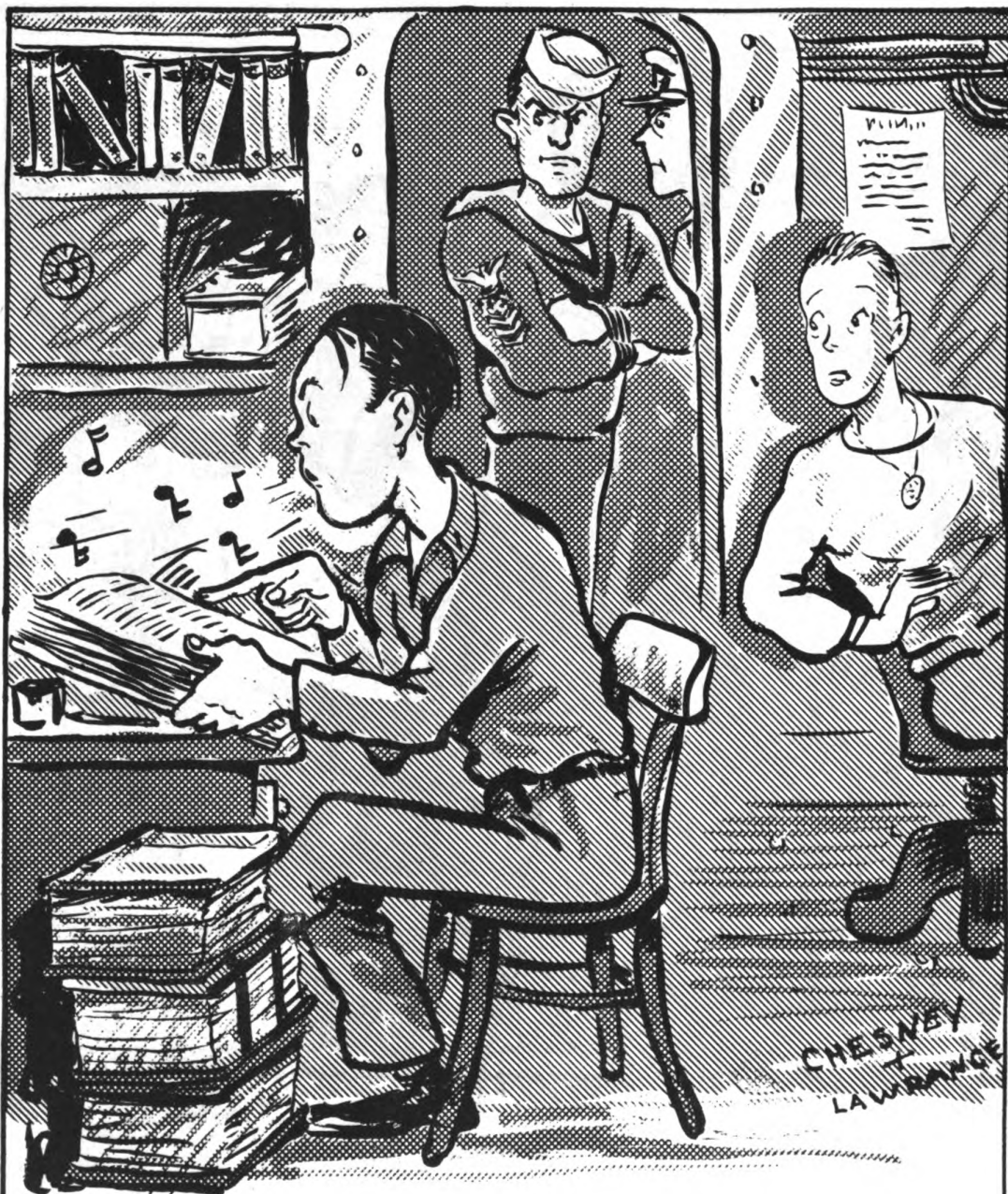


Eggbert always looks on work as something to avoid
And when he has a task to do he's very much annoyed.
He dodges every job he can to spare his brain and muscles.
When his C.O. watches is the only time he hustles.
If all hands worked like Eggbert our progress would be slow.
Each minute counts in winning wars. Time wasted aids the foe.

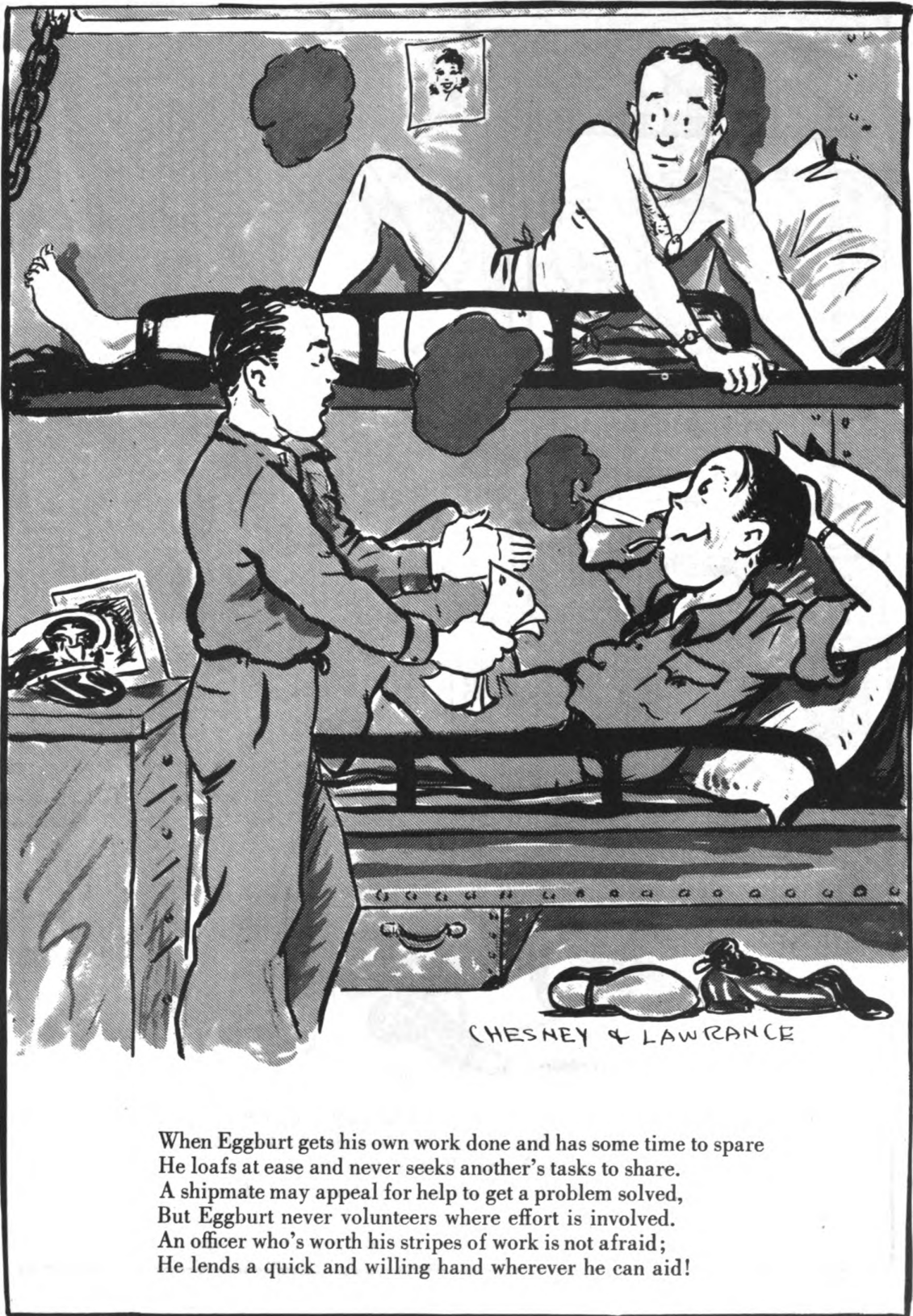


CHESNEY & LAWRENCE

When Eggbert requisitions he sometimes goes "hog-wild"
And orders with the judgment of a very greedy child.
Then deliveries swamp him, for he failed—forgetful dunce—
To cancel requisitions he'd submitted more than once.
The method of prevention of such "Eggburtesque" conditions
Is to know the way to write and also cancel requisitions.



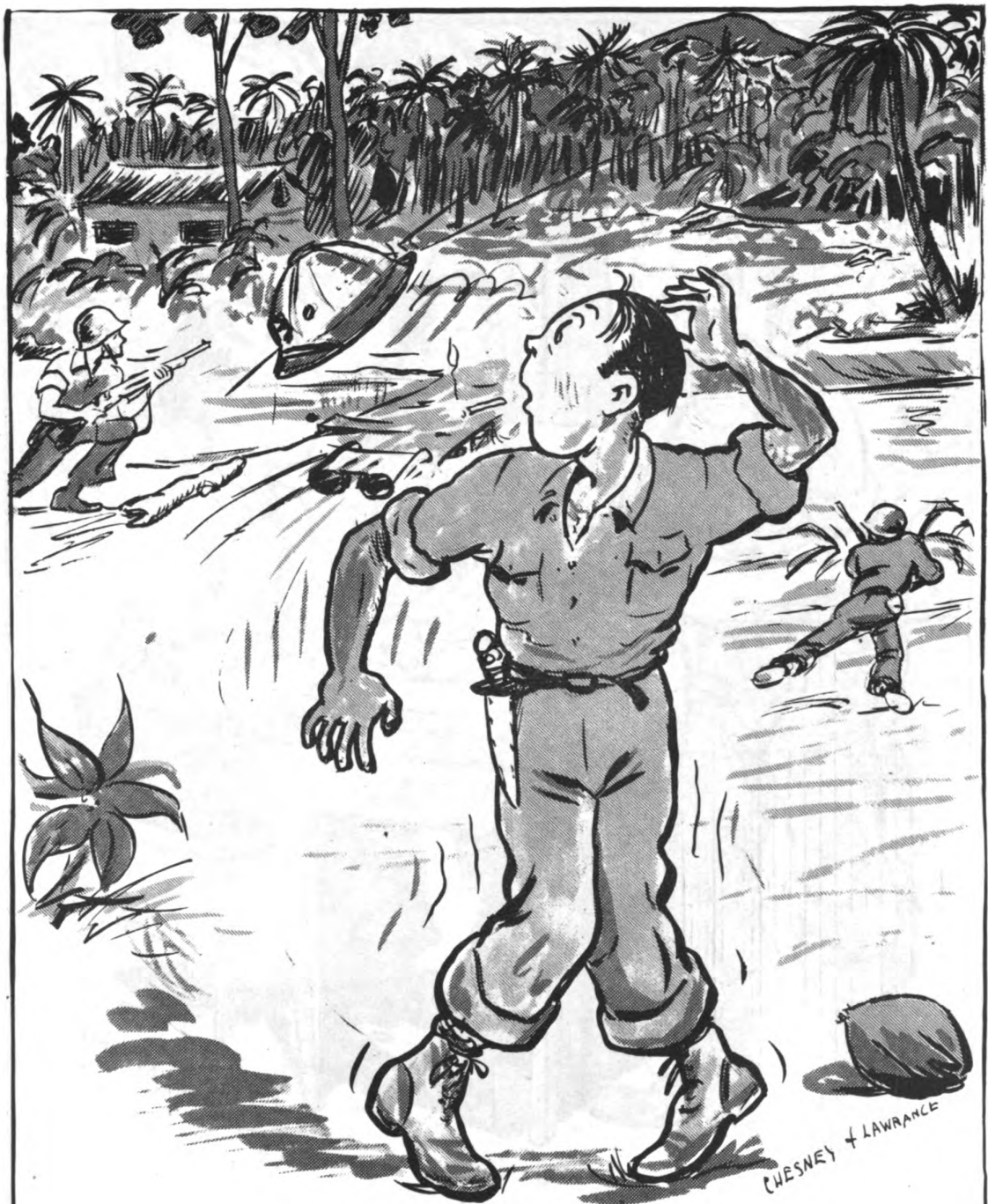
Eggbert is a thoughtless lad who whistles while he works
And never seems to realize how much that habit irks.
While colleagues try to concentrate, they find in him no boon
When he's chirping absent-mindedly on some distracting tune.
There's a saying in the Navy, which is taken as a rule,
That only two men whistle—the boatswain, or a fool.



When Eggburt gets his own work done and has some time to spare
He loafs at ease and never seeks another's tasks to share.
A shipmate may appeal for help to get a problem solved,
But Eggburt never volunteers where effort is involved.
An officer who's worth his stripes of work is not afraid;
He lends a quick and willing hand wherever he can aid!



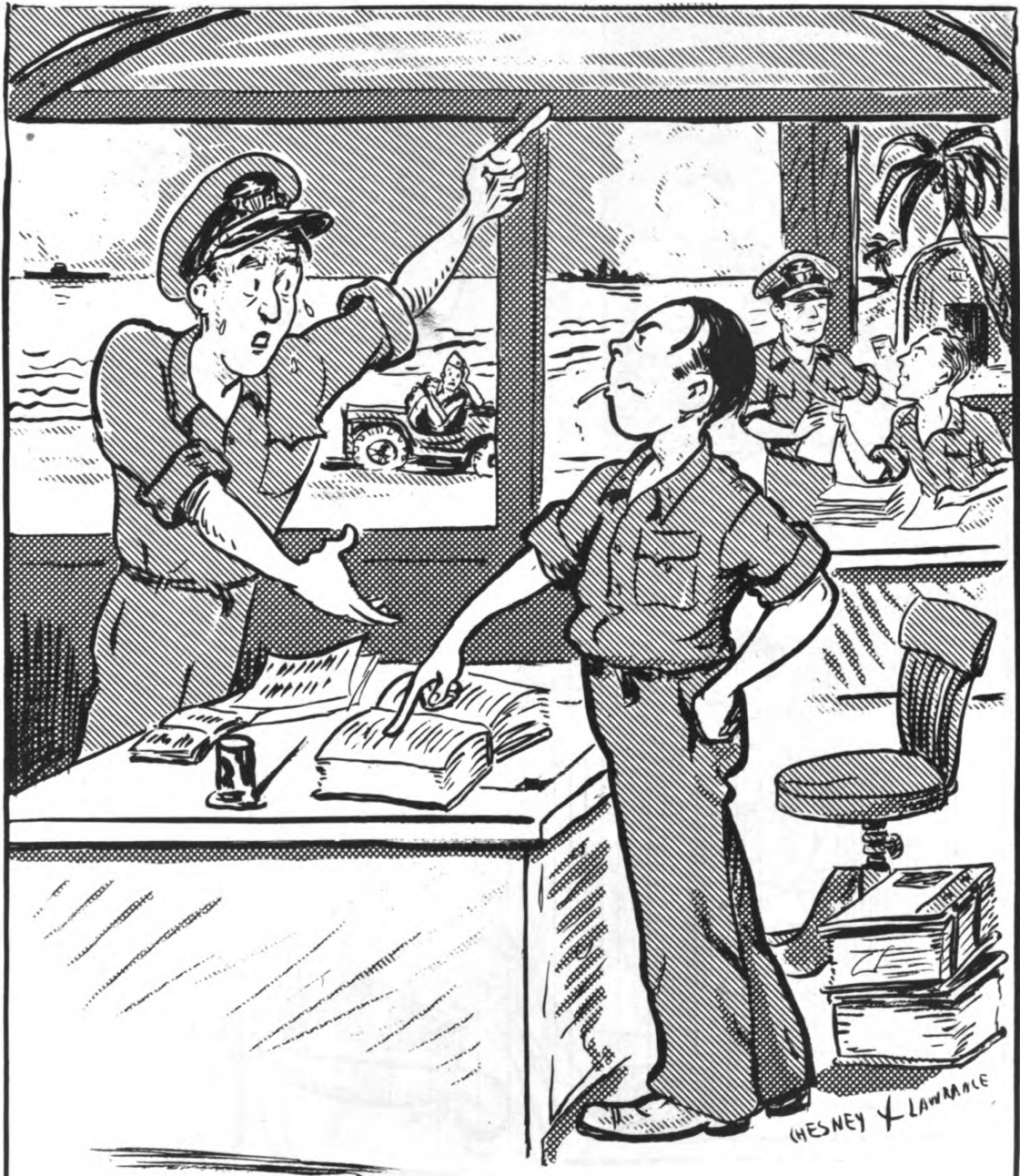
Eggburt shows but slight concern for problems of the crew.
He never tries to aid a man if there's something else to do.
When Joe requested NSI allotted from his pay
Eggburt said he'd fix it up some more convenient day.
But e'er he did, the ship was hit. One shell bore Joey's name.
His widow has no income now . . . and Eggburt is to blame.



Ashore where Japs were driven out and all was called "secure"
Eggbert hit the trail one day, foolhardy and cocksure.
He scoffed at veterans' warnings and thought that he was wise
Until a hidden sniper rudely gave him a surprise.
He learned where Japs are lurking you are liable to get hurt
If you don't keep under cover and stay constantly alert.



Pay day is no gay day when Eggbert mans the till
For he does disbursing duty with a fearful, frigid chill.
He pays cash with reluctance in a gruff and surly way
As if the men were cheating him, or had not earned their pay.
Since pay looms big in men's morale, the D.O.'s duty's clear
To boost morale the best he can by paying with good cheer.



“I’ll tell you why it can’t be done” is Eggbert’s favorite text
When urgent needs are pressing and problems have him vexed.
He cites the books of reference to delay and circumvent,
Construing them to ban all acts without a precedent.
But “Can-Do Boys” who serve the Fleet and strive to help it win
Find how to do what must be done, and do it with a grin!



Eggbutt thinks the time has come when he's no longer needed,
 So he strives to get acceptance of his resignation speeded.
 He dreams of flashy "civvies," of pleasure, and of peace—
 Unmindful of his colleagues who still fight without surcease.
 When the task is not yet finished, the men to be admired
 Are those who stick to see it through 'till the last shot has been fired!



Eggbert thinks deliberateness will make him dignified.
With him the adage "Haste makes Waste" is never modified.
He takes his time in everything—slow in word and deed—
Refusing to be hurried even when there's need for speed.
Some day when "General Quarters" sound and all hands hit the deck
Eggbert's dignity will crack like any bottleneck.

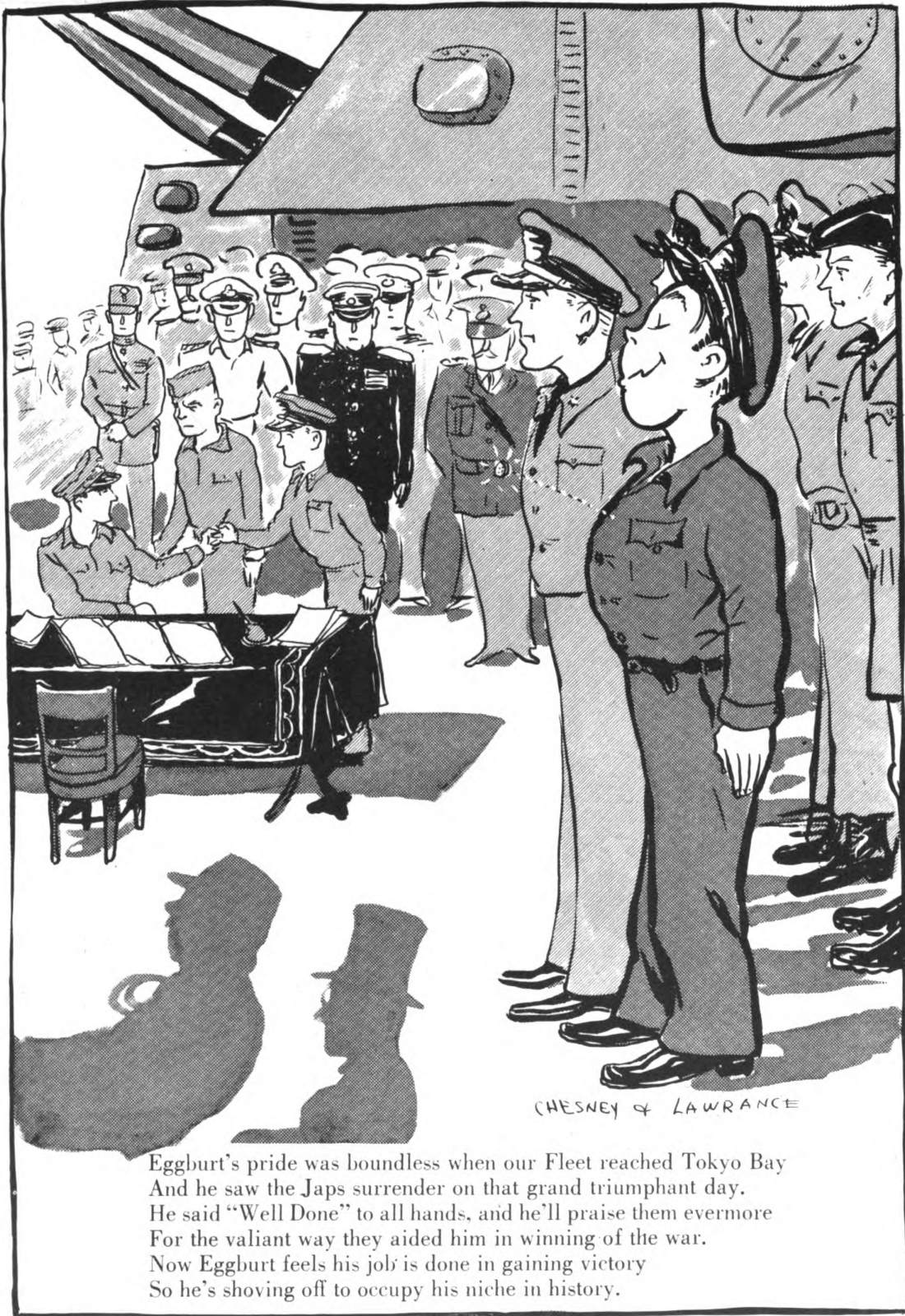


Since the Japs were forced to quit Eggbert's blown his top.
He started on a "V-J Spree" and doesn't want to stop.
He keeps on celebrating the victory we've won
And shrugs off all reminders of the work still to be done.
Eggbert and his thoughtless kind have not yet realized
That all hands must support the fleet until demobilized!



C HESNEY & LAWRENCE

When Eggbert makes a trip by air he disdains safety rules
And thinks those who obey them are merely timid fools
The air may be quite bumpy but he's "bravely" on his feet
Declining the suggestion that he stay strapped in his seat.
"Time wounds all heels" like Eggbert, so some wiseacre has said.
Someday he'll get a bump that may knock sense into his head.



Eggbert's pride was boundless when our Fleet reached Tokyo Bay
And he saw the Japs surrender on that grand triumphant day.
He said "Well Done" to all hands, and he'll praise them evermore
For the valiant way they aided him in winning of the war.
Now Eggbert feels his job's done in gaining victory
So he's shoving off to occupy his niche in history.

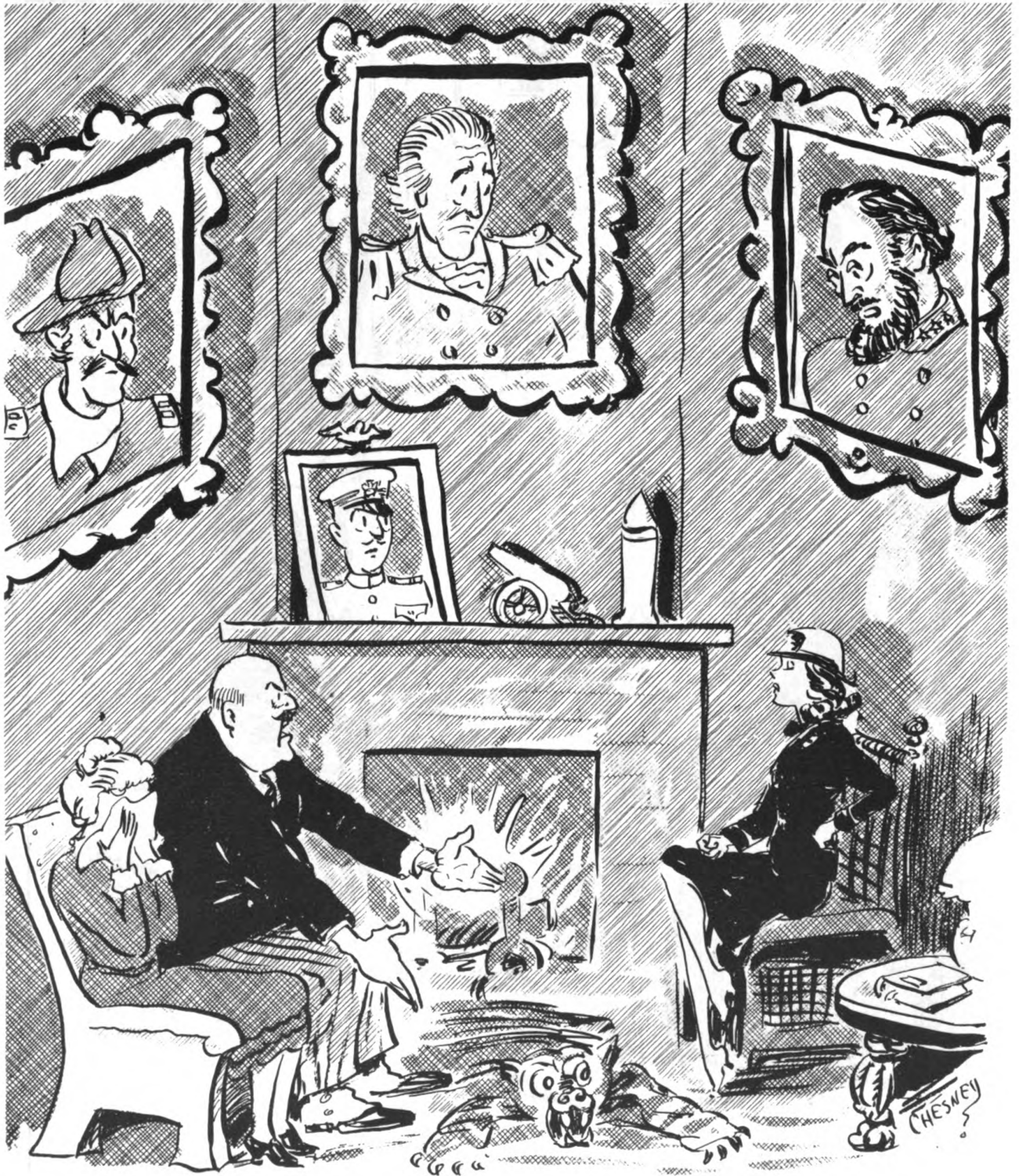


"Yes sir, Captain!"





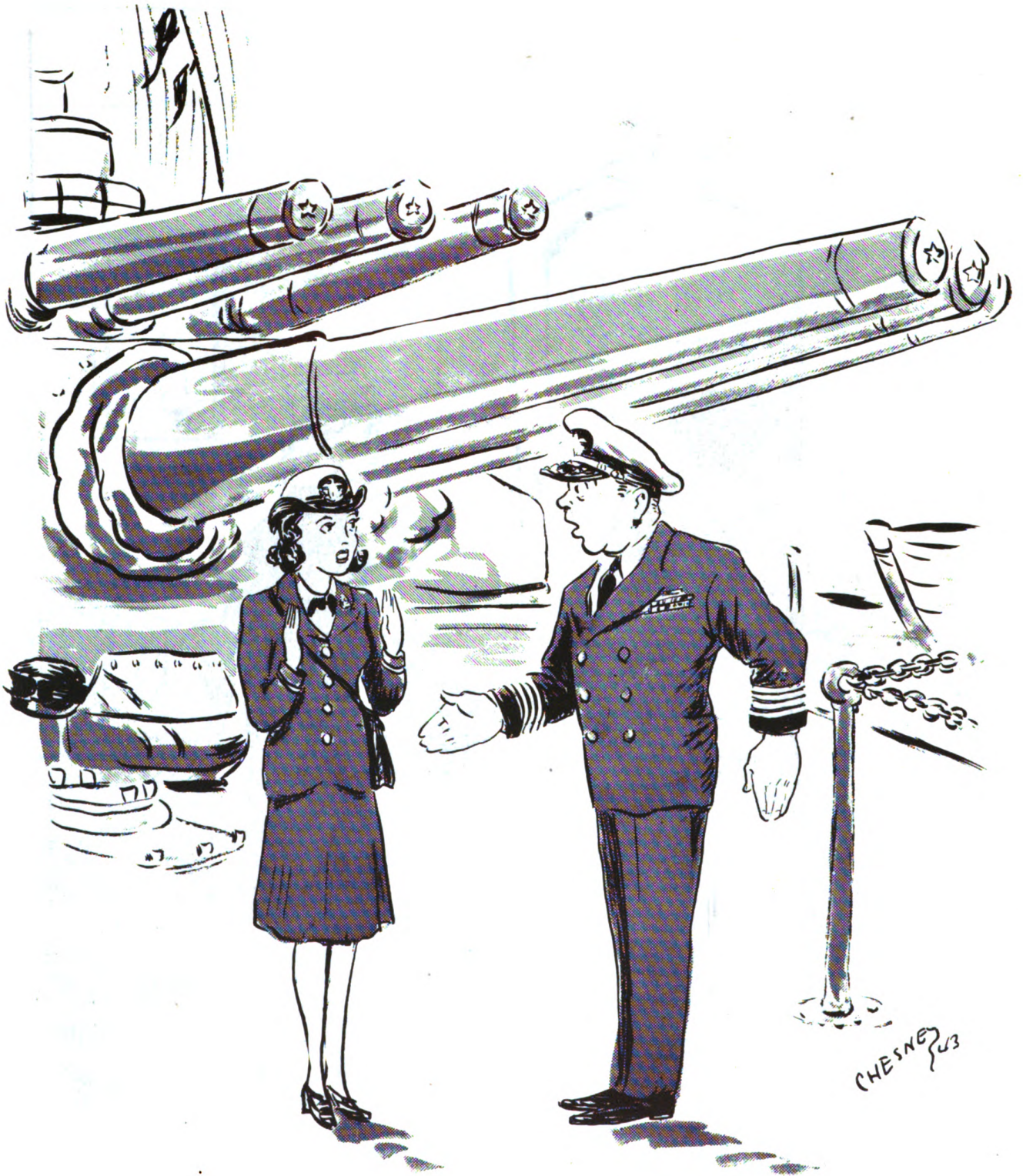
"I hit the deck at 0650, close the ports, dash through the hatch down the ladder to the galley, eat my chow and arrive at my station at 0800."



“But Martha—All Jacksons go Army!”



“Do you suppose the Naval Uniform Shop made a mistake?”



"Now—please show me one of those cute little 16-inch guns!"



"He says all I have to do to get my uniform gratuity is fill out my form."



“The Ensign is only looking for her identification card, sir”



"The housing situation is bad here, isn't it?"



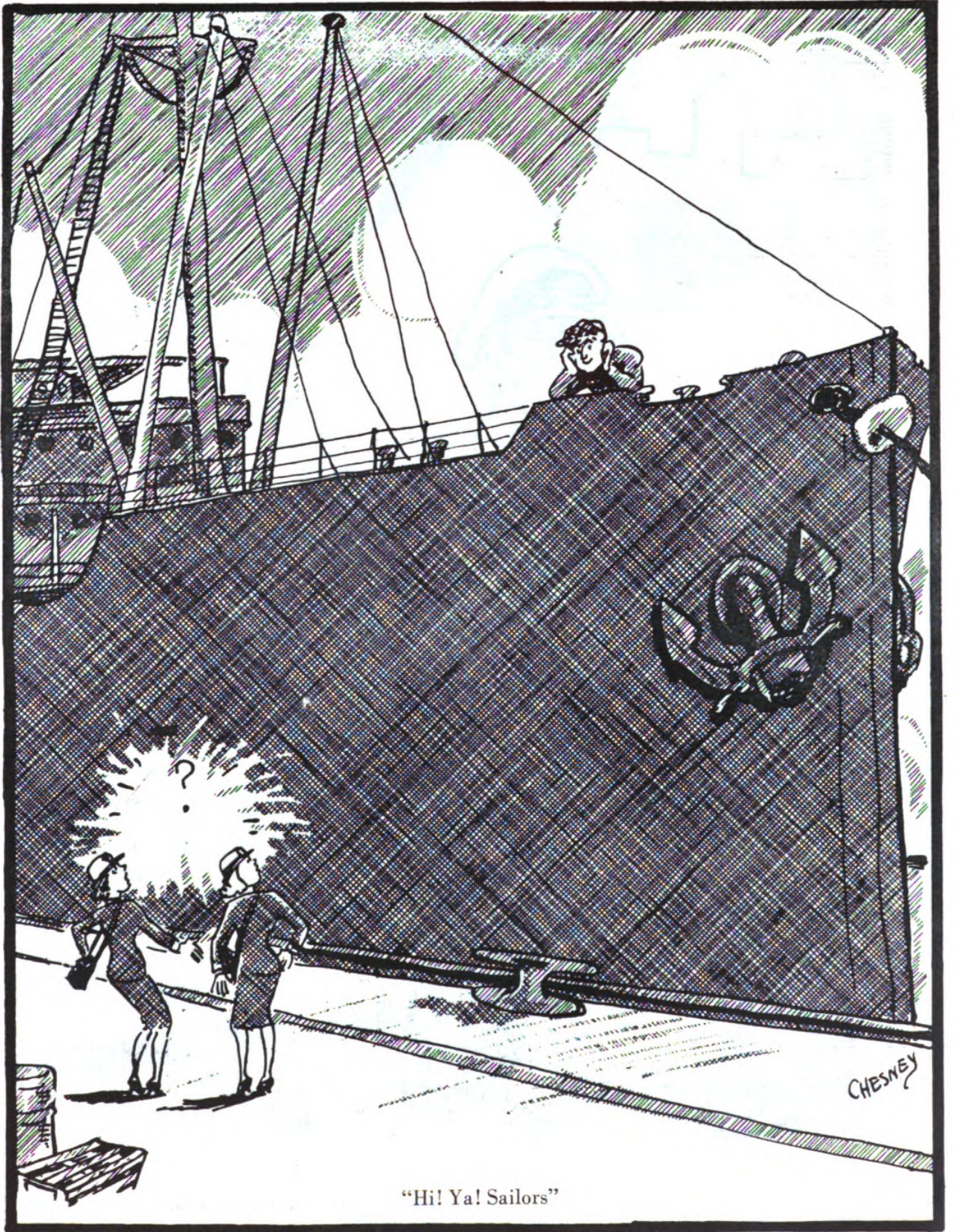
"Ensign Smith is developing into a serious bottleneck, sir!"



“It’s Irish stew. I made it from a recipe the commissary officer gave me at the Great Lakes Naval Training Base.”



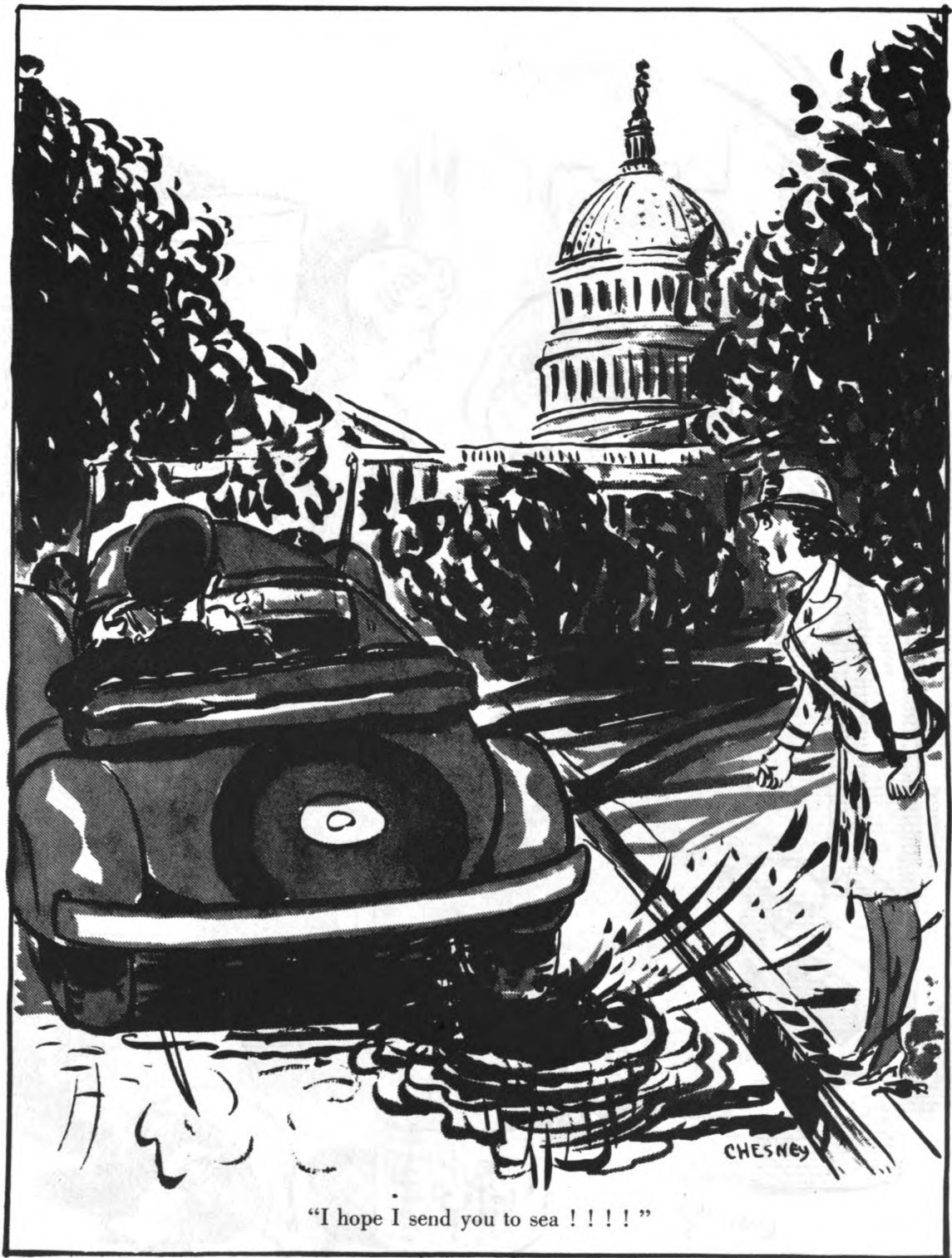
"Some night let's go for a ride in the car!"



"Hi! Ya! Sailors"



“Waves are not Government property so they don’t have to be guarded”!



"I hope I send you to sea ! ! ! !"







APOLOGIES TO E. SIMMS CAMPBELL

“What! ‘You’re reading the PMG’s NEWSLETTER, and don’t want a date’?!— Stay right there until I can get a doctor. You’re a hospital case!”



CHESNEY

"It worked"



“Stonewall, has that sailor gone home yet?”



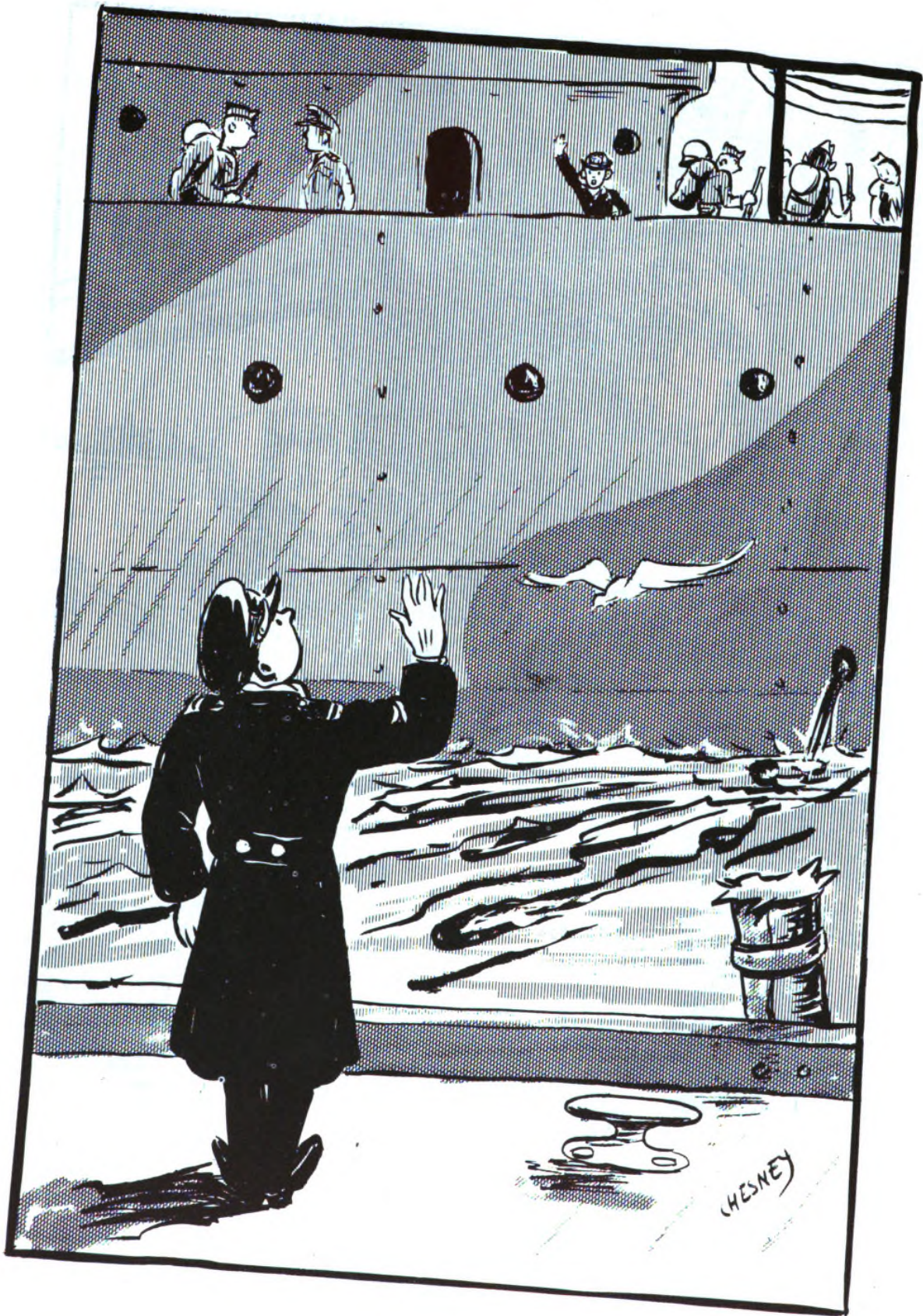
"Sure, all sailors are tattooed when they go overseas!"



“He looks awfully tired, doesn’t he?”



There's a mistake somewhere, Miss Joy, you're to release a man *for* combat duty not *from*!





“Which one is the cigarette lighter?”



“Uhh!—Bread and butter Commodore!?”



*with apologies
to Sansone
CHESNEY*

“What do we have to do — present them with the Jap fleet before they’ll notice us!”



“Oh! Where did I file that *Harper’s Bazaar*?”



APOLOGIES TO P.C. DELL

“For a while we were afraid there'd be no one to carry on the family's naval tradition.”





“The Cap’n must have forgotten he has been on duty tonight.”



“Oh! So sorry to keep you waiting, Admiral!”



"A victim of that tired feeling, Mr. Snodgrass?"



“All I get from Washington is—‘Mairzy Doats, Dozydoates and Lidlelambsedivy’?!”





“The cook’s cake must have fallen again!”



"He says he's from the North Carolina pre-flight school and lost his direction."



“What makes you think, sir, that the food isn’t up to standard?”

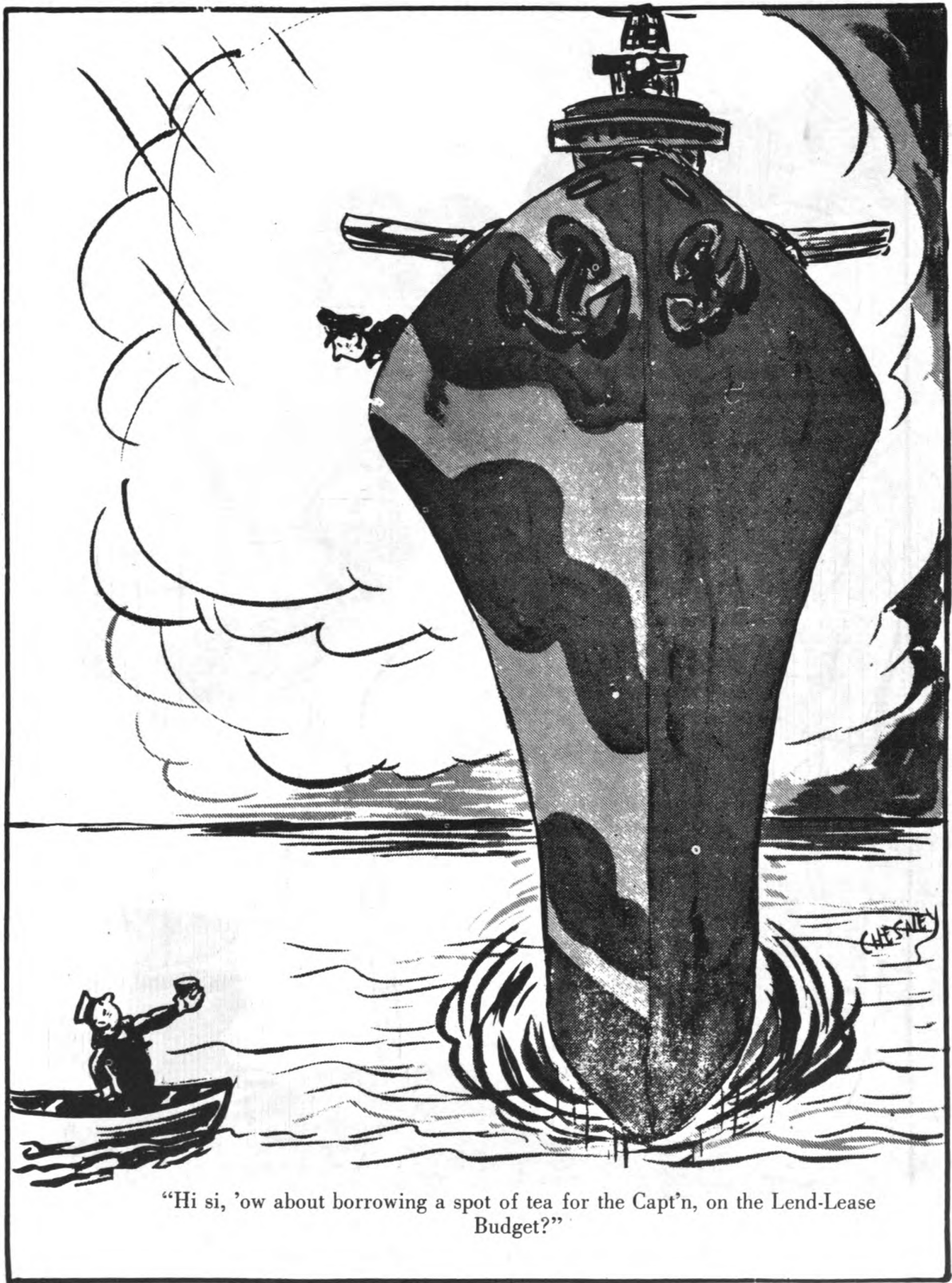


"Gad, sir, I swear there was a golf course here yesterday!"



APOLOGIES TO DAVE BREGER

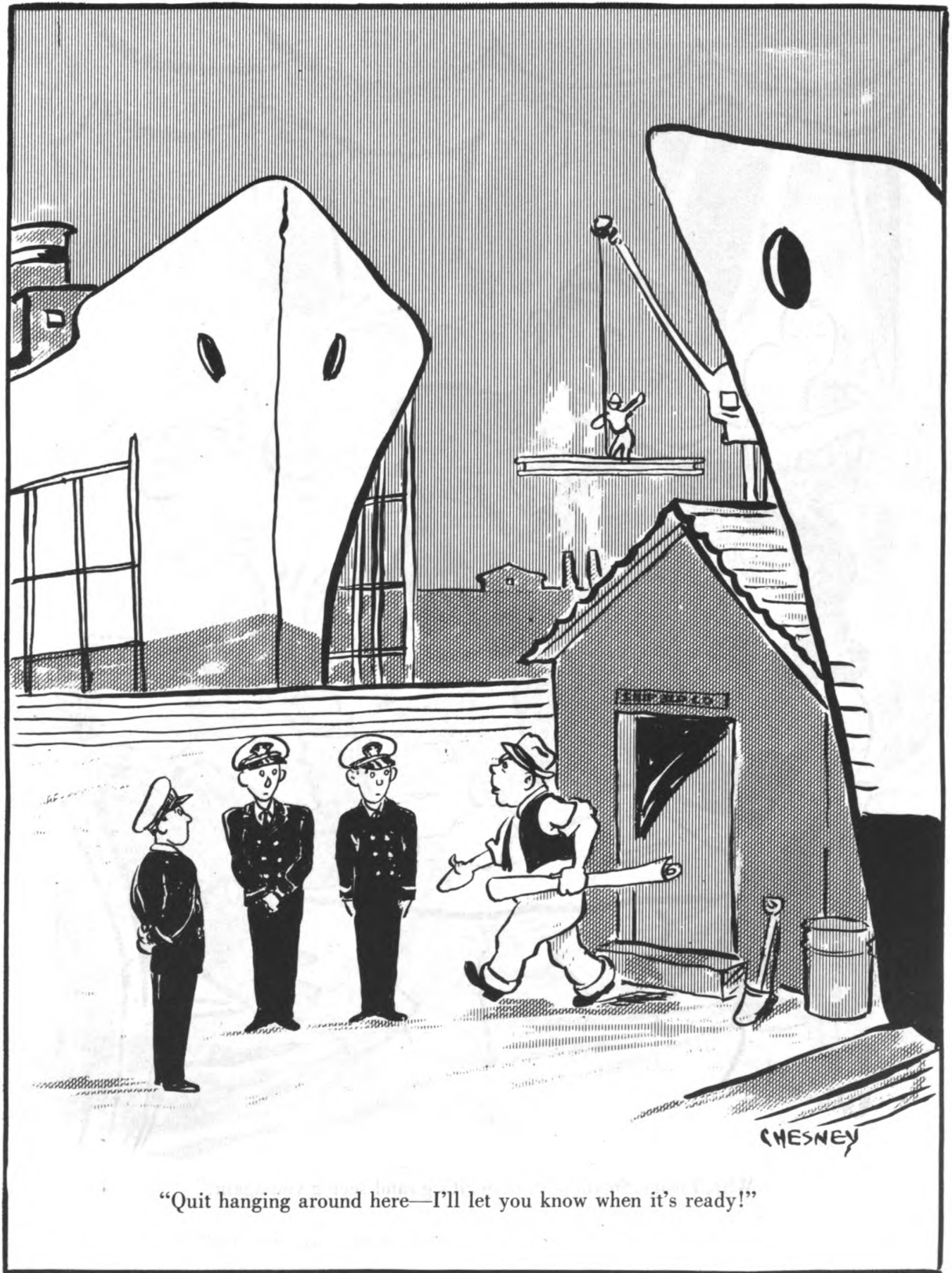
“But Junior, Admiral Young says it’s the best fed Navy in the world!”



“Hi si, ’ow about borrowing a spot of tea for the Capt’n, on the Lend-Lease Budget?”



“How long do you think the war will last, Ensign Smith?”



“Quit hanging around here—I’ll let you know when it’s ready!”



“Why, Ensign Smyth old fellow, it’s g-rand seeing you again!”



"The Cap'n insists on trying out the emergency fishing kit."



"It certainly is grand to get back in the swing of things after all those months at sea."



"He's just swallowed the crew's soup, sir."



“Make it three girl friends and have ’em scrambled.”



“Alright! But who pays, feeds, clothes and supplies all the Navy fliers?”



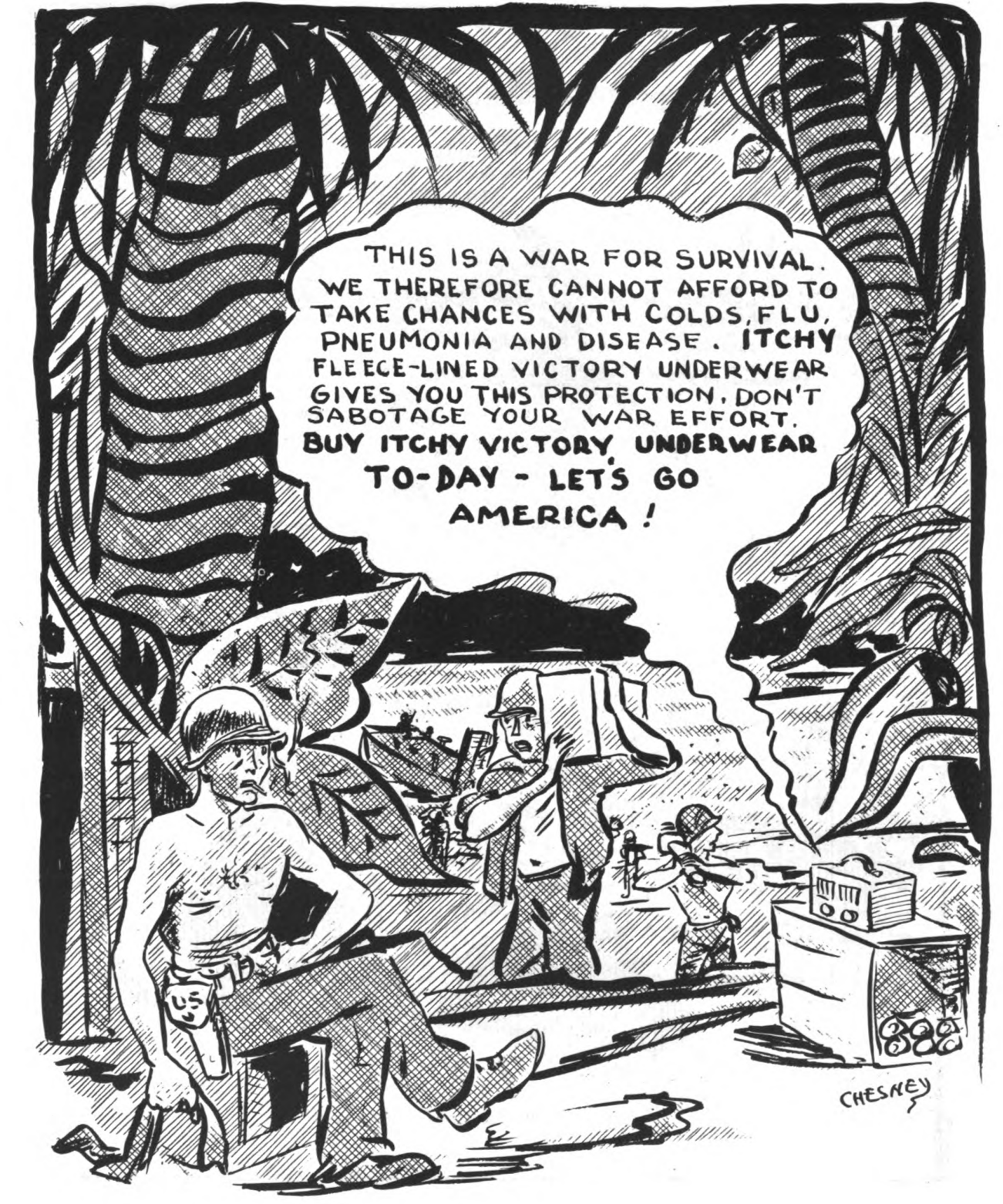
"The Navy rejected my merchandise just once too often!!"



"We just hit 'em with \$22,989.20 worth of ammunition, sir."



"I still don't want any spam!!"



THIS IS A WAR FOR SURVIVAL.
WE THEREFORE CANNOT AFFORD TO
TAKE CHANCES WITH COLDS, FLU,
PNEUMONIA AND DISEASE. **ITCHY**
FLEECE-LINED VICTORY UNDERWEAR
GIVES YOU THIS PROTECTION, DON'T
SABOTAGE YOUR WAR EFFORT.
BUY ITCHY VICTORY UNDERWEAR
TO-DAY - LET'S GO
AMERICA !

CHESNEY



“Sorry sir!! We are fresh out of jam!”



“Let’s pretend we’re on a desert island—what’s the first thing you’d think of?”

“Food!”



“Gosh!—What a supply officer she’d make!”



“Gee, ya see a lot of exciting things through this gadget, don’t ya Skipper?”



“Hm!?! Reckon I oughta get a few more to turn in with this half pint!!??”

NAVY DEPA



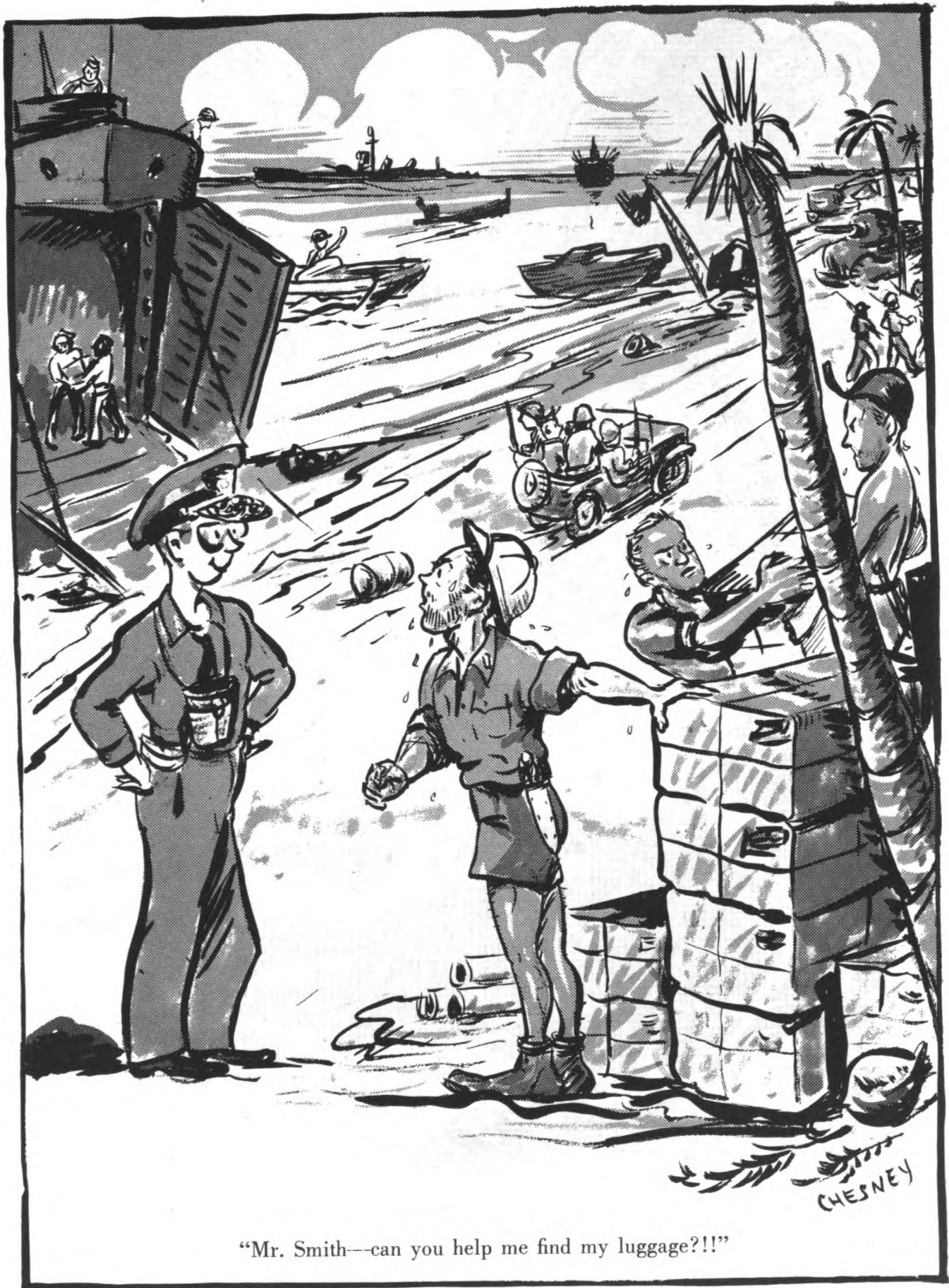
“Just tell the Admiral you want your leave at the same time I take my vacation”.



Thanks to BEN CHOLLAR LT(SC) USNR
AND J.J. HENDRY S1c

CHESLEY

“I’ll sure feel a lot better when I get that settlement of account from the GAO.”

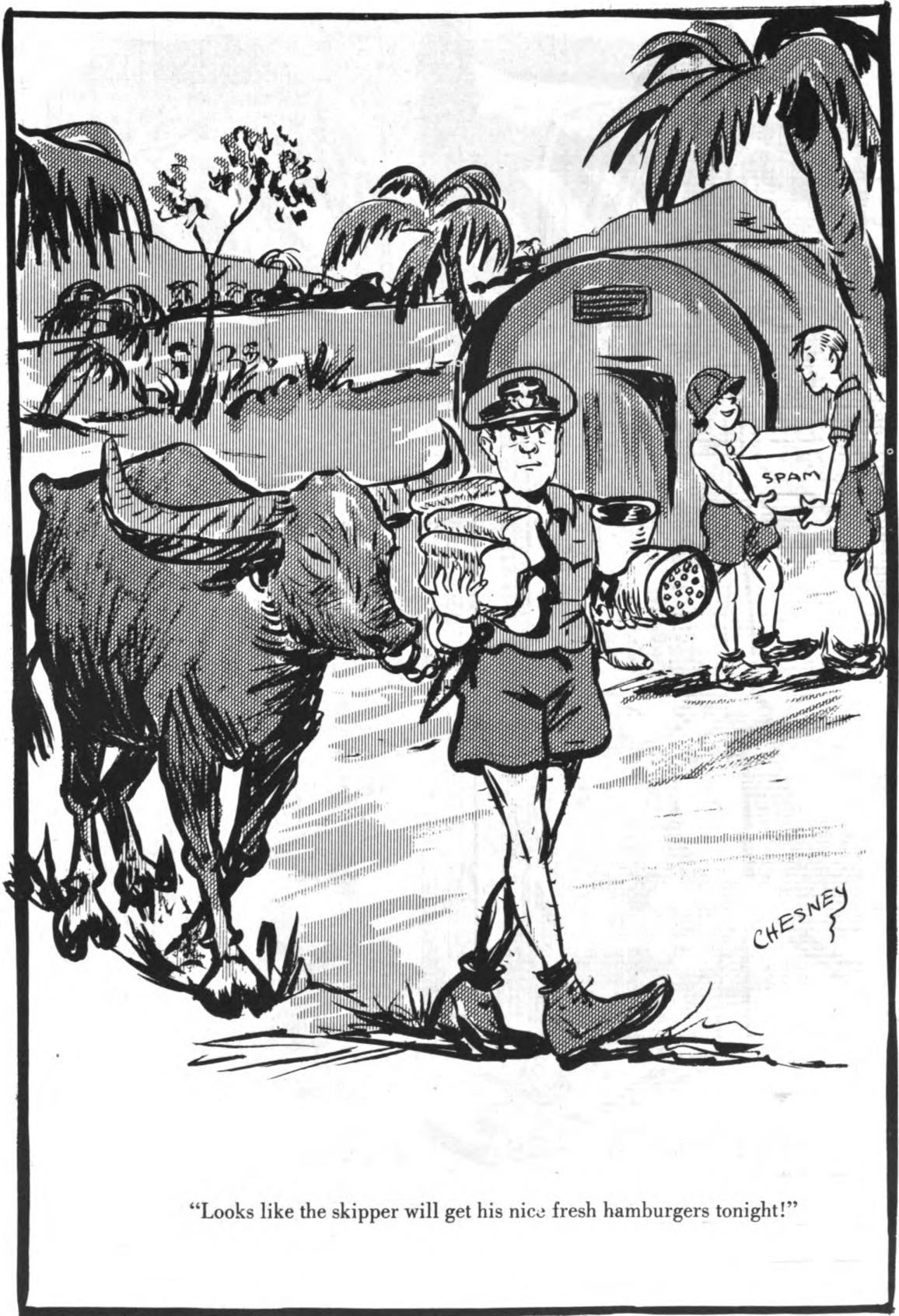


“Mr. Smith—can you help me find my luggage?!!”



CHESNEY

“When I think of what I could be doing in 'Frisco tonight—!”



“Looks like the skipper will get his nice fresh hamburgers tonight!”





"I understand they are not delivering packages in the States anymore!"



“Commander—we’re serving beef stew without beef—so tell the guests how lousy the food was on board your ship!”



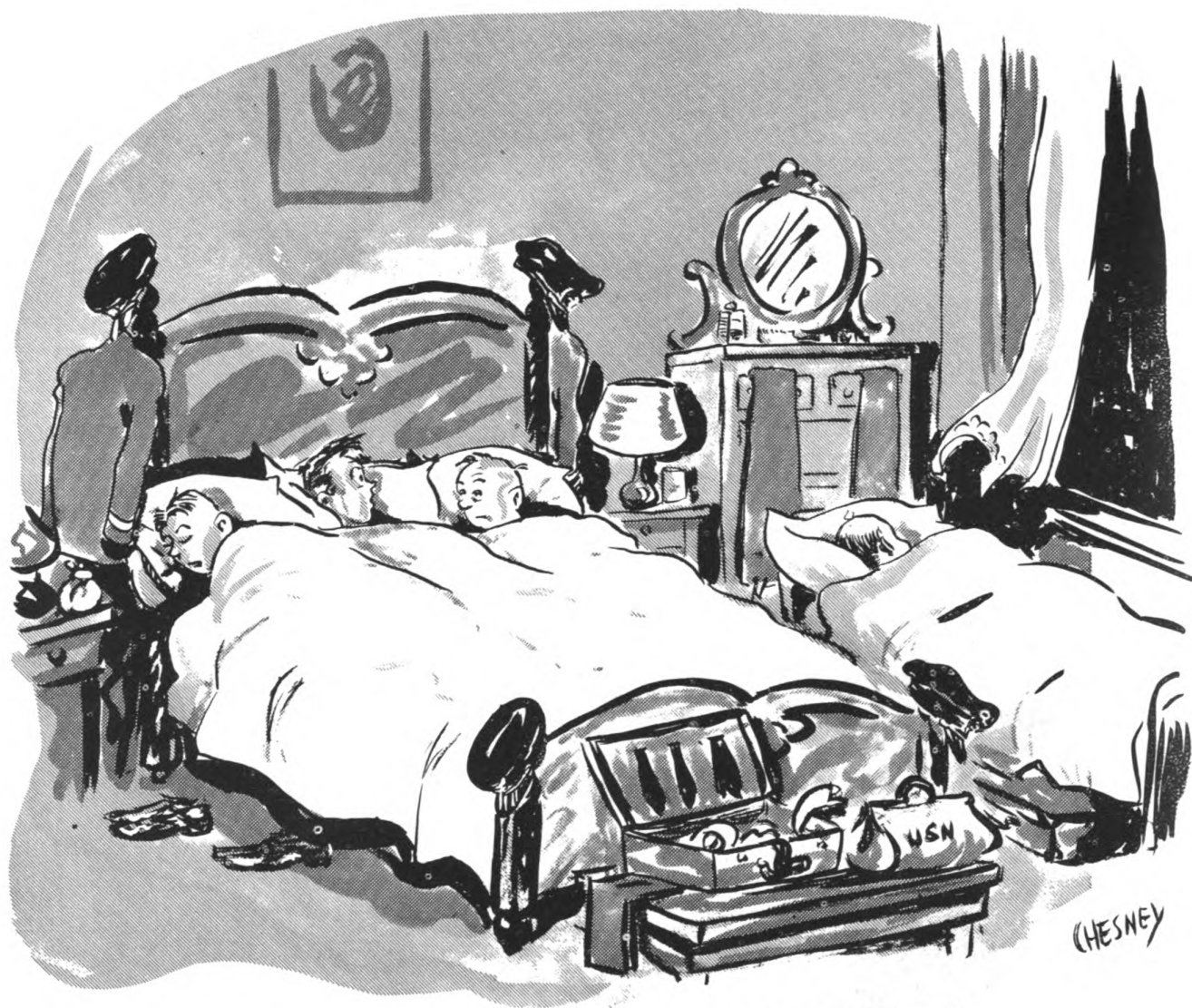
CHESNEY

Apologies to E. SIMMS CAMPBELL

“I guess it’s this way. I’ll be with my old battleship and you’ll be with your mother until I have enough points.”



“After due deliberation, the board has decided to act on your request for inactive duty.”



WITH APOLOGIES TO
THE NEW YORKER.

“Suppose we will be stationed in Washington long?”



“The monthly Newsletter says the must list for going overseas is as follows:

‘Equipment—bedding roll, field shoes, utility suits, coveralls, sun helmet, Arctic clothing (where needed), small arms and ammunition, steel helmet, gas mask, mosquito bar and net tent, folding cot, infantry pack, head net, rubber boots, rain clothing and trench tools.’”



“You mean you can’t tell me even one little military secret?”



“What luck! Your saluting arm!”

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