



Gosh I'm Confused!



What Comes Next?!!!

preliminary hazing the pollywog officers were shown no mercy. High on turret three the Casanova of the Junior Officers' Mess was demonstrating his famous technique on a convincingly attractive but not too willing siren, and persuasion wasn't abetted by glasses of a foul tasting beverage concocted by the ship's doctor. In fact, as the would-be seducer started to shift his chair around the table, "she" leapt to her feet and screamed: "You make one pass at me and I'll slap the lunch out of you!"

The Assistant Navigator wandered around, taking sights with an amazingly intricate but altogether inadequate array of instruments and charts, proclaiming the distance to Tokio in inches, while an odd-looking character circled the decks and mournfully quacked like a duck.

Then suddenly, amid a fanfare of trumpets, Davy Jones and Peg Leg were seen rising out of the sea on the bow, and the Junior Officer-of-the-Deck hurried down from the bridge to greet them.

J. O. O. D.: "Ahoy, there!"

DAVY JONES: "Davy Jones, the Royal Envoy of His Royal Majesty Neptunus Rex, and his assistant, Peg Leg."

J. O. O. D.: "Come aboard, Davy Jones and Peg Leg, and follow me to the bridge, where Captain Wiley awaits you."

CAPTAIN WILEY: "Welcome aboard, Davy Jones and Peg Leg."

DAVY JONES: "Captain Wiley, I bring you the

greetings of His Royal Highness Neptunus Rex, and I bid you welcome once again to the Realm of the Briney Deep. It is a great pleasure to see you once more. When last we met you were commanding a destroyer squadron and we recall with pride the way you and your trusty Shellbacks gave the Japs hell at Makassar Straits, off Bali, and in the Java Sea.

"I am especially glad to come aboard this vessel. I am particularly pleased to find that the Japs did not succeed in keeping the West Virginia out of the fight, and it is good to know she will be in there pitching again to rid the Royal Domain of those dastard Japs.

"It has come to the Royal Ears of my Royal Master that all is not perfect on the West Virginia. Therefore he has ordered me to meet the ship before you enter the Royal Domain and declare His Royal Will.

"Sir, Neptunus Rex and His Royal Party will board your ship tomorrow at 0700. I request that the ship break out the Jolly Roger at that time, and all hands prepare to welcome the Royal Party. In the meantime, Captain, I request that the pollywogs be assembled on the forecandle and nearby parts of the ship and listen to the Royal Proclamation and hear the Royal Summons."

J. O. O. D.: "Pass the word for all hands to attend the Royal Proclamation!"

At this point the emissaries descended to the platform on the forecandle and read this proclamation: