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APPENDIX

The Commanding Officer of CASU(F)-44, Lieutenant Commander James Stanley Purnell, (S), USNR, was born on 24 December 1910, in Baltimore, Maryland. He attended the Gilman Country School in Baltimore graduating in 1929, and graduated from Princeton University with a B.S. degree in 1933.

Shortly after leaving college, Lieutenant Commander Purnell joined the Gulf Oil Corporation and worked in the Sales Marketing Division in Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia until February 1941. In that month, convinced that the United States would become involved in the European War, Lieutenant Commander Purnell entered the Navy as a Lieutenant (jg), A-V(S), and was ordered immediately to Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas, for duty. At this station he performed the following work:

- (1) From 1 March 1941 to 1 Sept. 1941 he was the Executive Officer of a Cadet Battalion.
- (2) From 1 Sept. 1941 until 1 May 1942 he was the Personnel Officer of the Cadet Regiment.
- (3) From 1 May 1942 until 1 Jan. 1943 he was the Officer in Charge of a Cadet Battalion.
- (4) From 1 June 1943 until 28 Sept. 1943 he was the Plans and Training Officer of the Cadet Regiment.

When detached on 28 Sept. 1943, he reported to the Radar Training School, St. Simons, Georgia, at which activity he was under training for one (1) month in Fighter-Director work.

On 10 Nov. 1943, Lieutenant Commander Purnell reported to the Argus Assembly and Training Detachment, Port Hueneme, California, as Prospective Commanding Officer of an Argus Unit. However, the forming of Argus units was curtailed and on 9 ~~Sept.~~^{Feb.} 1944 he reported to ComFair West Coast and was immediately nominated