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APPENDIX

as Commanding Officer of CASU-44. The Bureau of Personnel confirmed this nomination on 11 Feb. 1944.

Since that time Lieutenant Commander Purnell has been the Commanding Officer of this unit. He has a proven ability to organize both officers and men. His loyalty to principle and his high sense of honor are respected not only by members of this unit but also by all persons with whom he comes in contact. He has shown that if he believes in a certain thing that he will fight for it without compromise. His calmness and good judgment in times of emergency is remarkable. His tolerance of mistakes, combined with an insistence for correct operations, is well adapted to his position as Commanding Officer of a unit in the advanced area.

Perhaps the most important characteristic of Lieutenant Commander Purnell is his realization that the job to be accomplished is more important than any individuals or any unit. At many times during the history of CASU-44, he has assumed responsibilities which no one else was willing to assume in order to keep planes in the air.