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NARRATIVE

Shortly after commissioning of the unit, additional personnel was ordered to report by ComFair West Coast. General rates arrived first. There were sufficient numbers of these general rates except for yeomen, and it is felt that sufficient yeomen should be assigned as early as possible due to the amount of office work necessary for organization.

Personnel assigned
Between 20 March 1944 and 10 April 1944, aviation rates reported aboard. These men were specially selected carrier-type plane personnel from CASU's 5, 6 and 7. Many of these men had seen service on carriers and were capable in all respects.

Men were not particularly desired
Several men assigned to the unit were constant disciplinary cases. These men were not particularly desired, but there was no way available to prevent taking them with the unit to the combat zone in spite of efforts to transfer them from the unit prior to embarkation.

At Point Mugu all hands went through an intensive training program under the supervision of the CASU Commissioning Detachment and the Acorn Training Detachment. Most of the emphasis was put on the use of equipment. Each man learned how to make a pack containing essential items considered necessary in the advanced Pacific areas. Pup tent camps were erected and the men received thorough instruction in the care and use of small arms. Most of the officers availed themselves of short training courses at Port Hueneme in Naval legal procedure, recognition and ordnance.

In spite of the large amount of time devoted to this training program, there was also time to begin the training of inexperienced personnel in matters pertaining to Naval Aviation. For example, approximately forty (40) seamen second class who had just completed training school at San Diego were assigned