

STARK—THE COORDINATOR, IS KEY MAN BETWEEN NAVY AND BRITAIN'S ADMIRALTY

By William King

London, Nov. 20.—(AP)—The Spring day eight months ago when Admiral Harold R. Stark arrived in London to take over his new duties as commander of United States naval forces in Europe he went directly to his headquarters, pitched into the problems of his new command and worked far into the night.

The start was symbolic for this soft-spoken, white-haired naval officer. Through meetings, conferences and man-to-man talks with high ranking British naval officers, he works to keep the Admiralty in London and the Navy Department in Washington closely coordinated. This delicate task comes on top of his duties supervising the intricate organization of his widespread command.

Diplomatic Assignment

That isn't all. Admiral Stark holds a diplomatic job as well. He is United States representative to General Charles De Gaulle and fighting France.

No matter how late he works, he is up again by 7 a. m. and is at his headquarters about an hour later. The spry walk and glow of health in the face of the sixty-two-year-old Admiral show that he thrives on hours that would send many a younger man to a rest home.

"We had a half holiday Tuesday," joked one of his personal secretarial staff. "We got off at 8 o'clock."

Admiral Stark lives in a small apartment about three minutes' walk from the London Square which Englishmen call "Little America" because of the large number of uniformed Americans to be seen there night and day. But he would like it better if he lived in the same building with his headquarters.

"Then I would feel free to take secret and confidential documents to my rooms to study them there," he said recently.

He walks to his office which is in a large modern building, guarded by green-uniformed United States Marines, and plunges immediately into his work—dictating mail and memoranda, seeing members of his staff and reading urgent reports which cannot wait the quieter evening hours.

Eats and Talks

He frequently follows his old Washington habit of eating a light lunch at his desk. Just as often, however, midday finds him with an appointment for a luncheon conference. These range over a wide field, from officers of the Admiralty to representatives of any of the Allied nations with headquarters in London. Dinner may also be the occasion of another such meeting.

These semi-social occasions—a concession to English methods—are about the only claim that Admiral Stark allows social life to take on his time.

When the press of work permits the Admiral goes for a week-end to a refuge to the country where he indulges a passion for long walks. (His only other hobby is sailing in small boats, but he has given that up for the duration.)

He now holds the command under which he served twenty-seven years earlier as flag secretary to Admiral William F. Sims in the first World War.

Stark's London office might be the office of any executive of a large business firm—except for the touches that make it typically Stark.

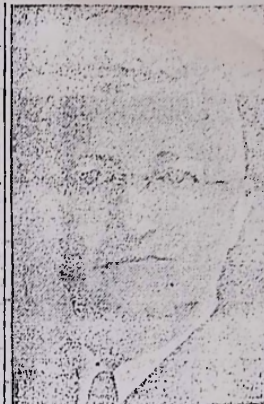
Picture Display

Behind his comfortable chair are the Stars and Stripes and admiral's flag which is flown from his ship when he is at sea. Scattered about the room are an imposing collection of autographed photographs. President Roosevelt and King George head the list, which includes Cordell Hull, Harry Hopkins, Frank Knox, Henry Stimson, Admiral Ernest King and General George Marshall. Stark received the picture of the King when, by royal invitation, he accompanied the British monarch on an inspection of the home fleet.

The Admiral has gained a reputation in London—as he had at home—for great sincerity and absolute frankness. The same attitude, he thinks, should prevail in all Anglo-American relations.

Must Stand Together

"Of course Britain and America will get along together, not only because they must but because it is natural," he said. "We may have our little differences but the best of friends have arguments and their friendship is not harmed when they get things settled. It is important for us to



ADMIRAL HAROLD STARK

even more important for us to stand together after the war.

"That is the point of view I try to put in my dealings with the British and when I speak to informal gatherings."

Then he added as he stood by the broad window of his office:

"But we must also remember that everything must be subordinated to one central idea—to get ahead with winning the war."

The office also reveals the Admiral's pleasure in discovering a well-turned phrase which expressed in a few words his philosophy or beliefs. "An egg today, a feather-duster tomorrow," "life begins each morning," "when in a hurry, wait awhile," "there is no substitute for hard work" are a few of the favorites on his list.

In a prominent position on his wall is a color print of "Old Glory" and written beneath is the legend, "These Colors Will Not Run."

"I particularly like that one," the Admiral says.

Ex-CNO Cruises on Mt. Olympus . . .

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Minnesota, which circled the globe with the Great White Fleet of President Theodore Roosevelt.

Asked whether, in his opinion, the "modern" Navy was as ready to fight as the "old" Navy, Adm. Stark said: "I have never feared for the American Navy. Our officers and enlisted men have always delivered, and always will."

The Admiral's present trip is being made at the invitation of Adm. William O. Fechteler, USN, present CNO. The Mount Olympus was chosen because the ship's present commanding officer, Capt. L. C. Quiggle, USN, served as Adm. Stark's aide during his tour of duty as Chief of Naval Operations.

One of the former CNO's favorite recollections is his service as commander of a squadron of small and old destroyers during WWI. Shortly after the United States entered the

war, the squadron was outfitted in the Philippines and sailed to the Mediterranean at the height of the southwest monsoon season. Then a commander, Adm. Stark earned the Distinguished Service Medal for bringing the squadron through successfully, and for commanding it during anti-submarine patrols in the Mediterranean.

Adm. Stark again was awarded the DSM in 1942, for his service as CNO. He served from 1939 until March, 1942, when the duties of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet, and the Chief of Naval Operations, were combined under Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King, USN.

Subsequently, Adm. Stark served as Commander, U. S. Naval Forces in Europe; Commander 12th Fleet and again in the office of CNO. He was placed on the retired list of the Navy as an Admiral in April, 1946.

"Landing Craft is the Bridge our Fighting Men Cross to get at the Enemy" JAMES FORRESTAL

THE GATOR

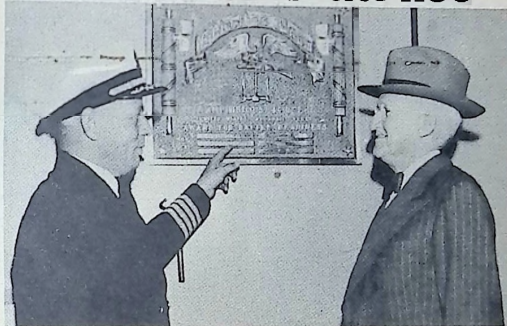
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Adm. Stark Boards Force AGC



ADM. HAROLD R. STARK, USN (ret.), former Chief of Naval Operations, smiles approval of the Battle Efficiency plaque won by the USS Mt. Olympus (AGC-8). Pointing to the plaque is Capt. L. C. Quiggle, USN, Mt. Olympus skipper. The vessel sailed 22 April for refresher training in the Caribbean with Adm. Stark as a guest.

Ex-Chief of Naval Operations Takes Cruise in Mt. Olympus

By R. E. Hurst, JOC

Adm. Harold R. Stark, USN (ret.), Chief of Naval Operations during the creation of the "two-ocean Navy", was one of the leading proponents of the amphibious forces in their early days, he told newsmen on board

the command ship USS Mount Olympus last week before she sailed.

The white-haired admiral, looking trim and fit in spite of his 73 years, is a guest on board the Amphibious Group Two flagship in Caribbean waters, where the recently overhauled vessel is undergoing refresher training.

Adm. Stark, who holds decorations from eight foreign nations for service in both world wars, praised the modern Navy, while admitting a "great pride" for the days of wooden ships and iron men.

"The old sailors were wonderful," he says, "and the modern ones can't be beat. Whenever and wherever I see Navy enlisted men in action I am proud of them. Look at the record."

Sailing from Norfolk is no novelty for Adm. Stark, who is spending his retirement in Washington, D. C., but is active in Navy Relief drives. He recalls leaving Hampton Roads during his midshipman days about the beginning of the century on board the three-masted square-rigger USS Chesapeake. In 1907, he left Norfolk on board the battleship USS

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Good Sweetheart



"Ido" at Portsmouth Naval Hospital between the Bar Harbor, Me., girl IAN, formerly of the USS Taconic. Designer, CHC, USN, Taconic chaplain patient of the bridegroom, best Taconic skipper and maid of honor,

LEAVES

of

WESLEY HEIGHTS

Admiral Stark Goes to Sea



Admiral Harold R. Stark, USN (ret.), former Chief of Naval Operations, smiles approval of the Battle Efficiency plaque won by the USS *Mount Olympus*. With him is Capt. L. C. Quiggle, USN.

Admiral Harold R. Stark of Spring Valley, who served as Chief of Naval Operations during the creation of the "two ocean Navy" was the guest of honor aboard the *Mount Olympus* when the command ship sailed for a refresher training cruise in the Caribbean recently. Looking trim and fit as he met newsmen at the Norfolk Naval Base on board the *Mount Olympus* before sailing, he praised the modern Navy, while admitting a "great pride" for the days of wooden ships and iron men. "The old sailors were wonderful," he said, "and the modern one's can't be beat. Whenever

and wherever I see Navy enlisted men in action I am proud of them. Look at the record."

Sailing from Norfolk was no novelty for our Spring Valley neighbor, who recalled leaving Hampton Roads during his midshipman days about the turn of the century, when he sailed in the three-masted square rigger, the USS *Chesapeake*. He left Norfolk again in 1907 in the battleship *Minnesota* which circled the globe with the Great White Fleet of Theodore Roosevelt.

Admiral Stark's recent cruise was made at the invitation of Admiral William M. Fechteler, USN, Chief of Naval Operations. The *Mount Olympus* was chosen be-

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Admiral Stark

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cause the ship's present commanding officer, Capt. L. C. Quiggle, USN, served as Admiral Stark's aide during his tour of duty as Chief of Naval Operations.