

# R DIVISION

The most unglamorous job of all fell to R Division. Theirs was the never ending and thankless task of keeping the hull and its fittings in top shape at all times. Something was always breaking or otherwise causing trouble, and it was found necessary to keep men continually patrolling the ship looking for clogged drain lines, broken water lines, leaky valves, damaged bunks, and the countless other troubles that occur aboard a large ship. Seldom an hour went by that the call for C and R Patrol did not come over the P. A. system. Most of us became accustomed to this call and took it for granted, not realizing that each such call meant another disagreeable task to be performed by this busy division.

In addition to the repair work accomplished by R Division all construction or alterations, not sufficiently large to require the attention of a Navy Yard, were undertaken by this division. This includes the building of storerooms for the use of various other divisions, and lockers and racks of all descriptions. Most of this



*Barreing off a 20mm. gun mount*

work was time consuming although, perhaps, from the standpoint of the carpenter's mates attached to the division, it was the most enjoyable.

At the beginning of the war the subject of damage control was little known or practiced. After a number of U. S. Navy vessels had been lost that could have been saved, more emphasis was placed on this function, and when the Capps was placed in commission, provisions were made for an adequate damage control organization. R Division was the the backbone of the Admiral Capps, three repair parties located fore, aft, and amidships. These parties were equipped with the latest of damage control gear and were proficient in the use of that gear. It was necessary for the men in this division to master the use of the large and small



*Operating the "Handy Billy" fire pump*