

R DIVISION



The carpenter shop

portable fire pumps, rescue breathing apparatus, asbestos suits, submersible pumps, and much other equipment designed for the control of damage. Certain skills also had to be mastered, such as, the proper way to fight the three different types of fires, that are found aboard ship, how to shore up weakened bulkheads, and how to apply emergency patches to a broken pipeline or to a hole in the ship's hull.

Although not strictly classed as damage control, but closely related to it, is the routine job of sounding all tanks, voids, and cofferdams daily to determine the amount of water in each. If the amount of water in a given void exceeds the safe limit for that space, the engine room is notified and the space is pumped out.

Allied to this task of taking routine soundings is the maintenance of the proper list, trim, and stability of the ship. Here the First Lieutenant, who is in charge of R Division, must cooperate with the Engineering Officer to obtain the desired results.

R Division was, perhaps, one of the least appreciated and underestimated divisions aboard. These men deserve credit for a disagreeable job performed in a pleasant and efficient manner.



The carpenter's mate handles the anchor windlass