

# *The* EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We can proudly and honestly say that throughout the long dark hours of war and the tense days of the bloody invasion beaches, or under roaring air assaults, the Samuel Chase has established a reputation that reflects honor to the ship and to the men who sailed her.

With the cessation of hostilities, and the knowledge that shortly, we the men, and our fellow shipmate, the Chase, will soon part to return to the lives war interrupted, I hope this book will be a reminder of the bond of fellowship we forged during our days in the service of our country, and also a reminder of the Chase, who to us was more than an inanimate shell of steel; who was a living shipmate fighting with us in a way only certain ships can. So to our shipmates and to our friend the Chase, let us wish Godspeed and smooth sailing along the seas of the future.



*E. W. Holtz*