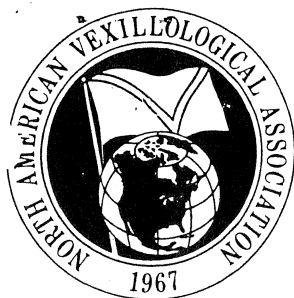


NAVA NEWS

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FLAGS OVER THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The flag of the South Pacific Commission was hoisted for the first time at the Commission's headquarters in Noumea, New Caledonia, on November 6, 1970. This date coincided with the 23rd anniversary of the Commission's founding. The flag has a field of medium blue with a large white ring centered in it. The ring is studded with six yellow stars grouped in the lower right-hand quadrant with a green palm tree. The ceremony of dedication which accompanied the flag-raising was conducted by Monsignor Pierre Martin and Pastor Thidjine, following addresses by both the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner of the French Republic in the Pacific, M. Louis Verger. Guests were treated with bowls of kava. (The South Pacific Bulletin, first quarter, 1970).

BETSY ROSS RIDES AGAIN

When the northern California city of Eureka decided to have a city flag of its own, they chose Miss Mary Elizabeth Ross, 21, to be co-chairman of a six-member committee to design and make the town banner. And what do you think Miss Ross is called by her friends and all who know her? You guessed it--Betsy! (The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, July 24, 1970).

FLAG-FLYING HOLIDAYS

According to the U.S. Flag Code, the American flag should be displayed on all days when the weather permits, but especially on the following days: New Year's Day, Jan 1; Inauguration Day, Jan. 20; Lincoln's Birthday, February 12; Washington's Birthday, Feb. 22; Army Day, April 6; Easter Sunday; Mother's Day, 2nd Sunday in May; Memorial Day, May 30; FLAG DAY, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, 1st Monday in Sept.; Constitution Day, Sept. 17; Columbus Day, Oct. 12; Navy Day, Oct. 27; Armistice Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving Day, 4th Thursday in November; Christmas Day, Dec. 25. (The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine).

WOMEN'S LIB IN MARYLAND

Whoever would have thought that there would be anything offensive to the you-know-what movement in the Great Seal of the State of Maryland? Well, one female member of the Maryland House of Delegates has introduced a joint resolution to change the motto on the Great Seal. The motto, which appears on a scroll below the State coat-of-arms, reads: "Fatti Maschi, Parole Femine." This is translated in various ways, such as: "Manly Deeds, Womanly Words," or "Deeds are Masculine, Words are Feminine," or "Let Men Act, Women Talk." The original is an Italian proverb. The Delegate's resolution, offered in February, says the motto "is derogatory to womankind and has its origin in the times and mentality of the Middle Ages." She recommends that the motto be changed to read: "Fatti, Fatti, Non Parole," which literally means, "Deeds, Deeds, Not Words." (The New York Times, Feb. 7, 1971).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITORMORE ON TRUNCATED STARS

From Mr. H. Michael Madaus,
Assistant Curator of History,
Milwaukee Public Museum:

In the December, 1970 issue of NAVA News Mr. Philip Reisman, Jr., submitted an interesting description of a variant on the first national (stars and bars) flag of the Confederacy. One of the features that Mr. Reisman noted was the star with only four points in the upper staff corner of the canton, representing one of the border states. Apparently the practice of utilizing incomplete stars to represent the border states was not unique to that flag.

Appended you will find a copy of a drawing of the Confederate battle flag of the 19th Mississippi Volunteers. This hand-sewn flag differs from the pattern utilized by the Army of Northern Virginia in several respects. It is rectangular, 38 inches on the staff by 44 inches on the fly, with a scalloped border. The white fillet is lacking, and the central star is larger than the others.

Most significantly different, however, are the two stars closest to the staff; while the other eleven stars are five-pointed, these two have only four. In fact, they are five-pointed stars with one of the points cut off. Presumably these stars represented Missouri and Kentucky, states which had Confederate "legislatures" but which maintained their allegiance to the Union. (Right, upper drawing).

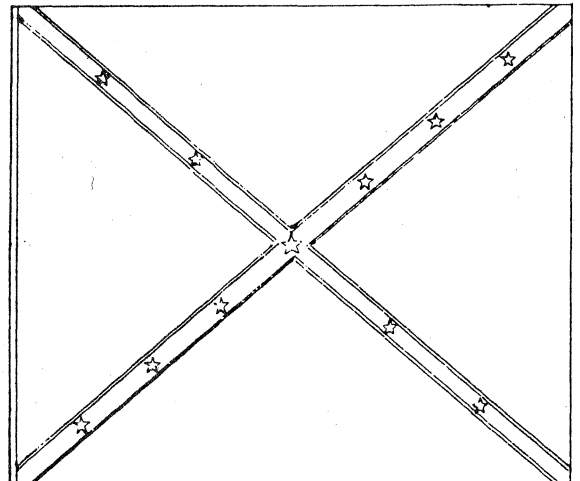
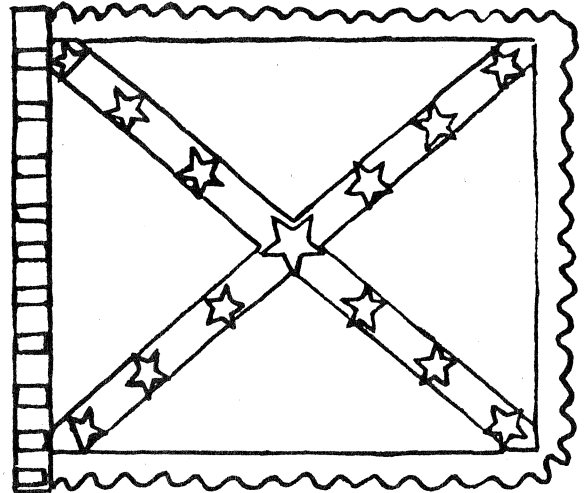
While most Confederate battle flags optimistically flew thirteen stars on the saltire, a few like that of the 19th Mississippi attempted to approximate reality. An even more realistic portrayal is represented in an unidentified Confederate battle flag in the collection of the Chicago Historical Society. 61½ inches on the staff by 72 inches on the fly, this flag bears only eleven five-pointed stars. (Above, lower drawing.)

The arms of the cross that traverses the field from upper staff to lower fly corners bear only two stars each instead of the three stars that appear on the other arms. The flag is doubly unusual in that the field is white and the fillet is red! The cross is blue and the stars are white.

Notes on the actual flag represented by the upper drawing:

Unit designation: 19th Regiment, Mississippi Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

History: Captured 13 July, 1864 at the battle of Carmargo Cross Roads, Mississippi, by Company H, 14th Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Returned to the Department of Archives and History in 1943 in accordance with a joint resolution of the legislature of the State of Wisconsin.



THE "L" Mr. Sasha Weitman, Assistant Professor of Sociology, State University of
YOU SAY! New York at Stony Brook, writes:

Thank you for the March issue of NAVA News. I can't think of any higher flagpoles than those mentioned on page 1, but I can think of at least two other words, "parallelepipedically" and "parallelogrammatically," that match "vexillologically" as far as the number of l's are concerned. They are, furthermore, bona fide members of the English language, while "vexillologically" is not.

MORE ON Mr. Michael E. Tancey, Jr., President, Flags International, Box 327,
FINANCIAL Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112, writes:
VEXILLOLOGY

. . . I am enclosing some rough water-color sketches of a few of the many corporate flags we have manufactured and placed in the northern Indiana--southwestern Michigan area. We are not endowed with a background in heraldry, but we find that our clients really appreciate having their own corporate flags and display them with great care. One firm has three different flags representing three product lines, all flown on a three-halyard yard-arm pole along with the United States and the Indiana state flag! A supper club flies a corporate flag with the U.S. flag and has six other flags on separate poles (total of 8). One city of 50,000 has over thirty flagpoles with some seven corporate flags on a single major street over an area of about one mile. We have provided some 60 different corporate/organizational flags in the past 10 months. . . .

The Editor regrets that the water-color sketches cannot be reproduced here, but he feels that the list below will indicate the wide variety of businesses using corporate flags:

1. A steel fabricating firm. Yellow, with a red "S" on a royal blue sphere with welding-arc design.
2. A private yacht signal. White tapered burgee with design to look like a locomotive and smoke. Business is located in a converted railroad depot.
3. An international financial firm. White, with a triangle and large "A" in three colors.
4. A bank. Light blue with gold eagle.
5. A travel trailer manufacturer. Green field with red and white lettering.
6. A savings and loan association. One of three described above. Vertical bars of yellow-white-yellow, with large figure one and name design in blue and red.
7. A chalet. Yellow tapered burgee with black lettering for name and dancing figures.

A VEXILLO- Perhaps not many NAVA members are aware that NAVA Corresponding Secretary
LOGICAL DEM- Bob Gauron, in private life, is a population specialist with the World Book
OGRAPHER Encyclopedia, where, in his capacity of Senior Editor, he directs a program designed to keep track of population, area, density and urban/rural statistics. This data is indispensable for the 125 country, state and province map indexes, numerous tables and hundreds of articles in the World Book. He sees to it that up-to-date figures are entered in a thick, 356-page Population Handbook that is used by all the editors. Since every statistic may be repeated under many different entries, the Handbook ensures uniformity and consistency in the entire set. (From: The Infielder, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, December/January 1971 house organ for employees).

FLAG COL- Flag collectors will be interested in an article in Yankee Magazine, Feb. 1971,
LECTOR which describes the collection of Boleslaw Mastai, who has gathered more than 200 antique U.S. flags, mostly hand-made, with various designs over the years.