



THE FIRST FLIGHT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

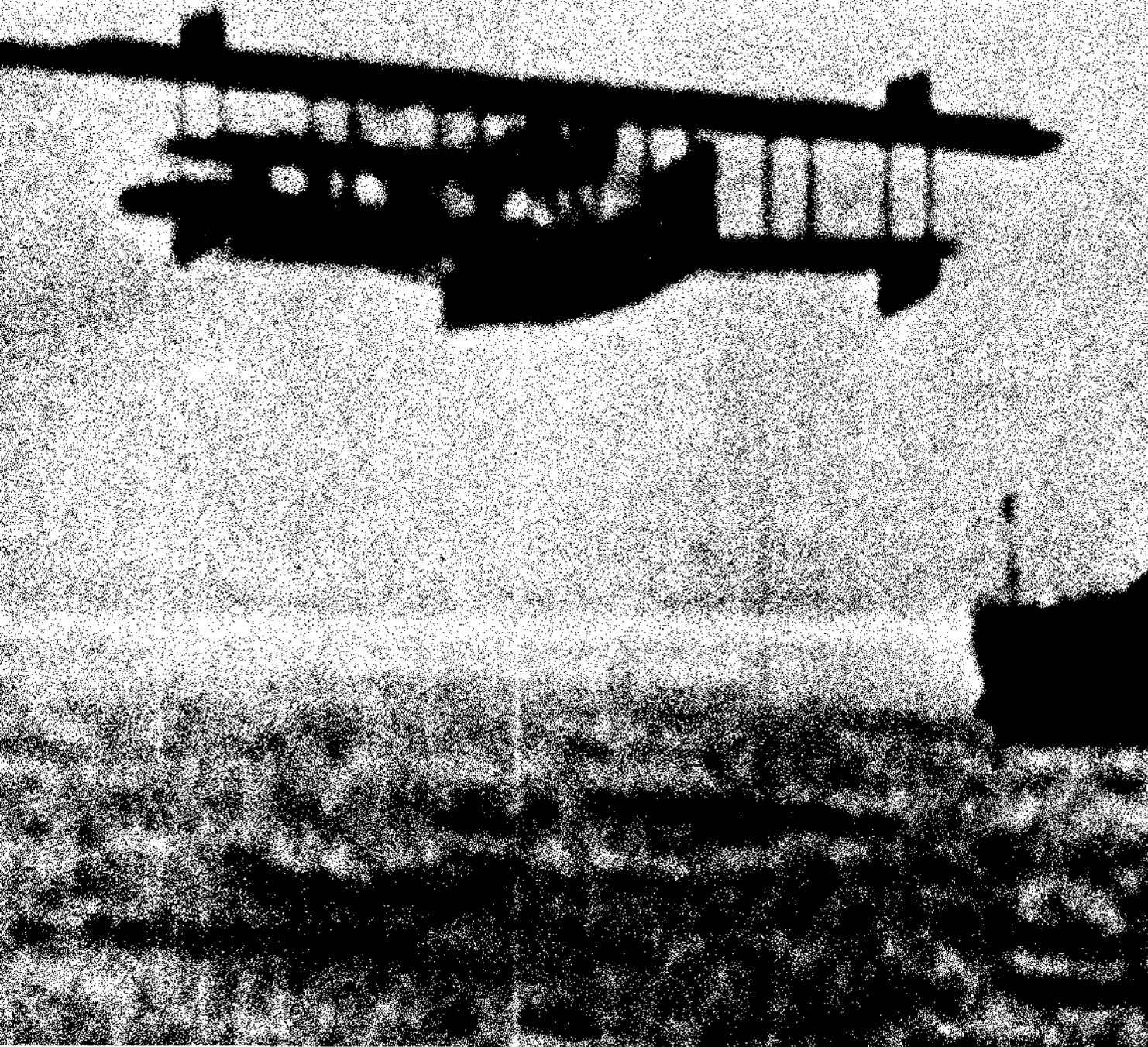
THE FIRST FLIGHT
ACROSS THE ATLANTIC
MAY, 1919

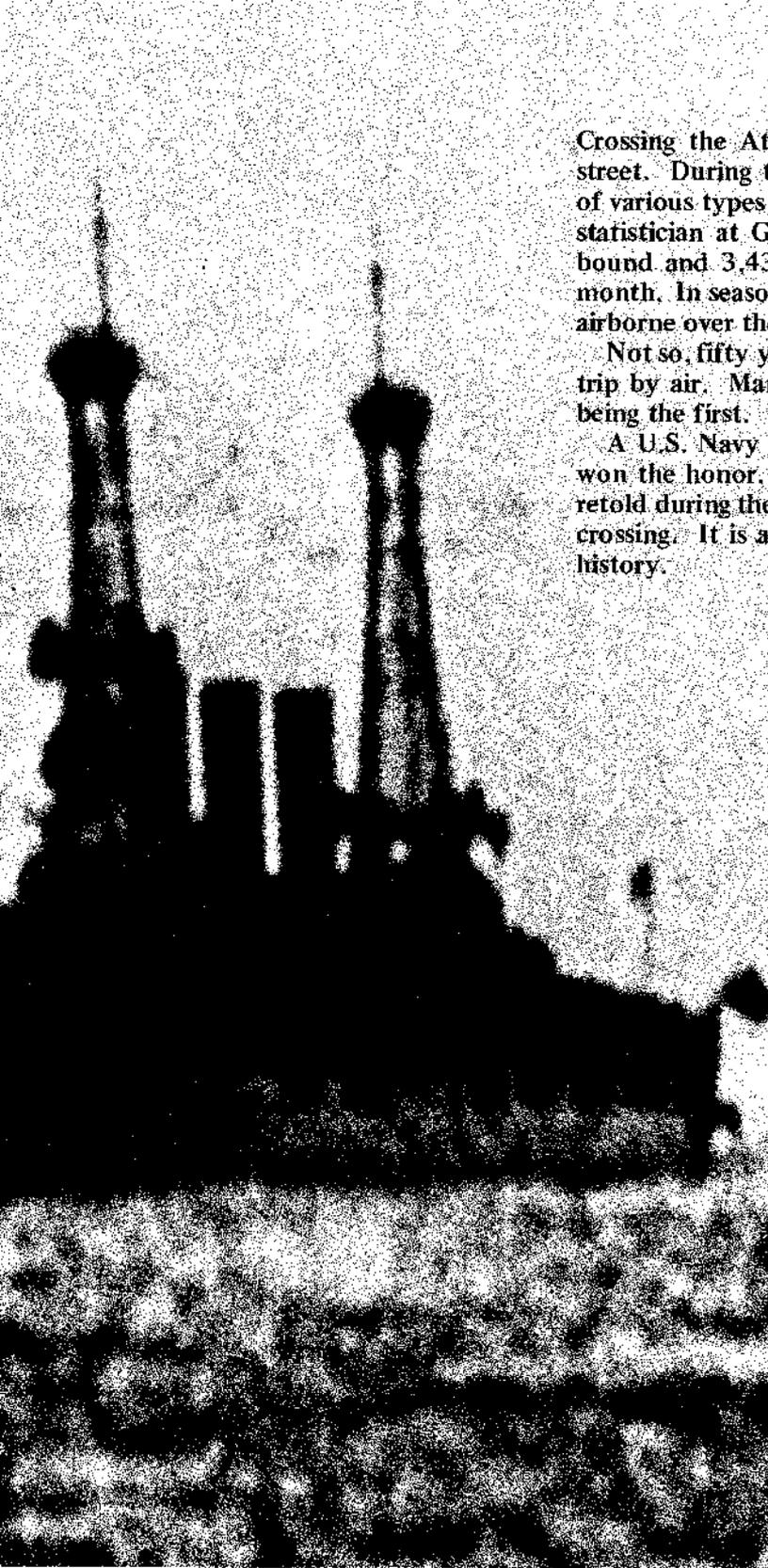


WRITTEN AND DESIGNED BY
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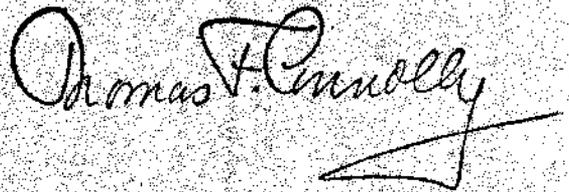




Crossing the Atlantic has become as routine as crossing the street. During the month of May 1968, nearly 7,000 aircraft of various types crossed the 50 degrees west longitude line. A statistician at Gander AFB, Newfoundland, said 3,494 eastbound and 3,433 westbound flights were logged during the month. In season, an average of 308 persons are continuously airborne over the Atlantic.

Not so, fifty years ago. In May 1919, no man had made the trip by air. Many were getting ready to try for the honor of being the first.

A U.S. Navy crew and aircraft, backed by the entire Navy, won the honor. The story of the NC-4's flight deserves to be retold during the year celebrating the 50th anniversary of that crossing. It is a proud part of Naval Aviation and American history.



Thomas F. Connolly
Vice Admiral, USN
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air)

TRANS-ATLANTIC FLIGHT ONE:
NEW YORK TO LISBON IN 20 DAYS



TED WILBUR

ON THE RAMP AT ROCKAWAY: THE CREW OF THE NC-4

IN THE PAINTING above are (left to right in foreground) Chief Machinist's Mate (Aviation) Eugene S. Rhoads, Lt. James L. Breese, engineer; Lieutenant Commander Albert C. Read, commanding officer; Ltjg. Walter Hinton, pilot; on aircraft: Ens. Herbert C. Rodd, radio operator; Coast Guard Lt. Elmer F. Stone, pilot. Other figures are members of beaching crew.