



## RADIOMEN

Among the stranger people on this earth are radiomen. A radioman is a person either going on or coming off watch.

Contrary to popular belief radiomen are not crazy. A radio man has two brains, one perfectly normal brain which is destroyed during the process of learning radio and another which is in a constant state of turmoil and is used proficiently in his work. This latter brain is filled with dots and dashes and procedure signals.

Radiomen are like groundhogs, they seldom see the sun, coming up topside only on Saturday mornings at the special request of the commanding officer. If the sun is shining and a radioman sees his shadow, he goes below and everyone knows he will be there six more days.

Sitting at his typewriter, a radioman receives an endless story of the world flowing through his ears, unable to get out because both ears are stopped up by headphones. The stuff flows out through his fingers and is given out as press news, weather, messages, and so forth.

When conversing with a radioman do not try to point your story by asking if he remembers "the message to Garcia" because he will jump and scream "What's the number of it? Who sent it? If it's lost, it didn't come in on my watch."

Radiomen live on black coffee and cigarettes. All through the long midnight watches they sit and dit and dah, so tired and weary of it all and wondering why they ever chose radio as a profession. When they go off duty, they hurry home to their little ham radio sets and just dit and dah to their heart's content.

Girls who fall for radiomen will find that they are courted with considerable sparking and after they are married will receive much broadcasting both loud and long.

Radiomen are found on all ships and in all stations and are quite harmless if left alone, fed occasionally, and given annual leave so they may rig up new "ham" outfits at home.