

On Tuesday, May 6 we got underway, departing Hawaii enroute for our next stop, Guam. We did some firing with our 50-caliber machine guns and we slowed to five knots four times a day to take BT observations. On May 9-10 at 1800 we crossed the International Dateline.

"HAR, HAR, HAR, WE ARE NOW ENTERING THE REALM OF THE GOLDEN DRAGON, POLYWOGS BEWARE"

As we gathered on the deck to undergo our initiations our dress of the day became dungarees reversed with our underwear on the outside. The royal court was assembled on the fantail ready to begin the trials of those who had never crossed. Water fights broke out between the Dragons and the Polywogs before the trial took place, but once it started everyone's attention was on the court proceedings and the work of the Royal Barber.

By the end of the evening half of the crew wouldn't have to worry about combing their hair for weeks to come. The Royal Barber had done his job well.

