



### **Joe Zvanovec (AGR-12, 1957-58) (XO, 1958-60, AGR-2)**

Anyone who was involved with navigating our ships probably remembers the layout of the picket stations: 40 by 80 nautical miles defined by Pt A in the middle, Pt B 40 NM to the North and Pt C 40 NM S of Pt A. The idea was to cover more area with a synchronized pattern where each of the five ships on patrol would be heading for the same point in their respective station on the same day. To accomplish this, we were to be at Pt A on 1 January each year, head N to be at Pt B 2 Jan, back to Pt A a day later, then down to Pt C the 3rd and back to Pt A, completing the cycle in 4 days and keep repeating it throughout the year. Thus we knew where the ship we were coming out to relieve would be (most of the time) and where to start our patrol.

Somehow, the staff at RADRON 2 decided we were having trouble figuring out where we were supposed to be on a given day so they issued a RADRON 2 INST on the subject. In it they said, sarcastically I thought, "If you have a calendar and can divide by 4, you should be able to figure it out." But, to make it easier for us they made up an encl. (1) starting with 1 Jan, and laid out the whole year: A,B,A,C, etc., etc. ending up on 31 Dec at Pt C. Simple. Just head N and be back at Pt A on New Year's Day and start over. The only trouble was, encl. (1) had 364 days, and a closer inspection revealed the omission of 31 July. That's what made the year come out even. I've always figured the whole thing was an elaborate hoax, at least I'm pretty sure it was.