

## “Launch of the Cruise Missiles”



The Synchronauts, a synchronized dance team made up of ten talented seamen who called the U.S.S. Snafu home, were rehearsing for a ship-wide talent show. The men had modified the traditional Western square dance by adding nautical-themed maneuvers to their performance. Instead of do-si-do-ing around in a circle, they employed the “torpedo wiggle.” And in lieu of the time-honored star promenade, the men expertly executed a series of thrilling “starboard cannonades.” All went swimmingly until the dress rehearsal, when for the first time they added dance partners – ten lissome members of the Women’s Army Corps. The Synchronauts breezed through the torpedo wiggles and starboard cannonades and even the always tricky “propeller quadrille.” It was the “launch of the cruise missiles,” however, that marred an otherwise outstanding performance. One minute the men were nimbly swinging their partners in the air. The next, all ten simultaneously “launched” their “missiles.” The tragedy was tempered only by the fact that each WAC had applied for early retirement.