



## ORDNANCE SCHOOL ON WHEELS

**T**O KEEP AVIATION ordnance personnel and pilots up-to-date on bombs and fuses currently being issued to the naval service, 15 mobile units have been set up to carry "the word" wherever naval aviation operates.

While some of the traveling classrooms move with their equipment carried in 2½-ton trucks, others are streamlined versions packing all their material in metal "torpedoes" for transport in the bomb bay of a TBF. An added value of the mobile bomb and fuse units is that it enables men in the field to move up in rate by combining special instruction with experience while still far from an established school.

Both the mobile unit officer and his petty officer are trained in teaching, as well as in handling and use of

their material. Over the past months classes have been held in all parts of the world under varied conditions. Schedules are flexible, so that units can stay two days or two months.

**T**O GET THEIR story across, the units carry both standard and specially prepared 16 mm. movies showing the inner workings of the fuses. In addition to using large drawings and portable blackboards with colored chalks, the instructors give the fuses themselves to the men to take apart and study. One result of the mobile units' work has been to help reduce the percentage of ordnance troubles due to careless armament crews, pilot failures and improper maintenance and stowage of fuses.



TORPEDO CONTAINER, PACKED WITH MANY TYPES OF BOMBS AND FUSES, EVEN A MOVIE PROJECTOR AND FILMS, IS CARRIED IN BOMB BAY OF TBF

## BOMB UNITS TRAVEL OVER WORLD, BRINGING "WORD" TO ALL AIRMEN

WAR EXPERIENCE showed that, to get best results from bombing operations, pilots and ordnancemen must receive periodic refresher instruction in workings of bombs and fuses. Bombers scored hits on the enemy without getting maximum destructive effect—often traceable directly to failure of the men to appreciate limitations or full possibilities of Navy bombs and fuses.

To meet the growing need, a limited number of instructional units were organized for assignment by various naval commands. Since they have been scattered over the world

for several months, they are scheduled to return to the mainland shortly for instruction in developments since they started afield.

Later they will be sent out to give still wider training in ordnance equipment, with new units which will give the latest information on small arms, projectile fuses, turrets and tactical use and loading of aircraft torpedoes and rockets. The latter ordnance is coming into increasing favor on aircraft, so instruction must be given men who have had no experience in their use.

► Need for constant attention to training was shown by a recent accident in the South Pacific, where an ordnanceman attempting to remove the fuse from a bomb exploded it instead, killing 15 persons.

In some cases, classes have been held at night when men could find spare time to attend them. The mobile units met with greater success in less advanced areas of the Pacific.



Before going into the field to bring the latest word on ordnance to advanced areas, mobile bomb unit officers get last-minute refresher

course. Here instructor explains fuse of parafrag bomb; being delicate mechanisms, fuses must be protected from weather