Mrs, Shong Manages Navy Relief

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MRS. SHONG MANAGES NAVY RELIEF

Mrs. Shong practices what she preaches!

The active wife of CAPT John Shong, Director of Logistics, believes that Navy wives with time to spare can receive great satisfaction by helping with activities such as Navy Relief.

"I believe in sharing the load," she said—and Mrs. Shong certainly carries hers and much more.

Well known for her outstanding contribution of time and effort to Navy Relief, Mrs. Shong, who manages the office here, explained, "When we arrived two years ago, Mrs. Dornin asked me to take over—at that time sewing on Wednesdays was all that was done." Last March Navy Relief Headquarters started a Branch Plan Two here under the San Francisco Auxiliary. So Mrs. Shong remained in charge and the office began operating on a full-time basis.

"It takes a lot of time," she said, "but the work is rewarding and we have found a definite need in this area." The Society serves not only the school but Point Sur, NAF, DLI and transients. Twelve alternating interviewers make up her staff and all are volunteers. "There has been a good response for interviewers and sewing layettes," she reported. President of the Society here is Admiral Bergin and Mrs. Bergin serves as Chairman of Volunteer Women. Chaplain Thomas Burke is Executive Secretary.

Mrs. Shong willingly distributes her time to other needs. This busy woman works with the Catholic Chapel Guild in any capacity where she is needed, is a member of the OWC and Staff Wives Clubs, and bowls with the Staff Wives League. She and her husband formerly bowled with the Ball and Chain League (he won a High Average Trophy), but gave it up after a season of beautiful, sunny Sundays. Sooner or later it seems most everyone who comes to Monterey is drawn to one of the many golf courses and the Shongs are no exception.

"My husband was delighted when I learned to play," she said, "and now it is my favorite hobby." When the Navy course opened, she took the lessons and has played regularly since. In June she was named Captain of the USNPGS Ladies Golf Association.

A graduate of Michigan State University, CAPT Shong met his wife when she was at the University of Miami. They were married after he was commissioned and completed flight training at Pensacola. Their first duty station was San Diego, and the beginning of quite a variety of stations—Fort Lauderdale, Atlantic City, Bremerton, Coronado, Newport, Key West and Martha's Vineyard—near Cape Cod—and one of their favorites.

"The most interesting place we've lived is Hawaii where we've had two tours," said Mrs. Shong. "The climate is similar to my home state—Florida. And we liked the people and customs."

Mrs. Shong also enjoyed her interesting work—instructing ancient and modern hula. After completing a course in hula, she began teaching a few people—but like many other things in which she becomes involved—her number of pupils quickly multiplied into eight classes—ages six through adults. Her favorites were the teenagers, she said, because they like to work with all the implements used in hula.

Complimenting the busy, active family are two children—John, a junior at Marquette University, an ROTC Midshipman, and attractive Donna, a senior at Junipero High School.