

# **U.S.S. THUNDERCHILD**

## ***HIGHWAY PICKUP PROCEDURES***

As a part of the public-service aspect of the ship's mission, we have volunteered our services in cleaning up litter from a section of Highway 44 during the summer months. This not only allows us to perform a public service but, also provides an opportunity for crew members to work together as a team, collect aluminum cans for the ship, and get some sunshine and exercise at the same time.

There are some precautions we have to take. There is high speed traffic on the highway and many possible unforeseen hazards. For this reason, we have to be prepared for just about anything.

The first thing to do is to dress for the occasion. Brightly colored clothing will make you more visible to motorists. Comfortable walking shoes are a must for obvious reasons. A good pair of gloves will help keep your hands clean and protect them from injury. On sunny days, a brimmed hat will help protect your face and neck.

Once we get there, we will divide into two teams, one starting from each end of "our" highway and meeting in the middle. Half of each team will clean up each side of the road. The area we cover extends from the road surface to about six feet from the shoulder. It is best to stay off the road surface and not go any further from the shoulder than absolutely necessary. It is not worth risking your safety for any piece of litter. This also means that you should not cross the road unless you really must.

What do you pick up? Generally, anything that was not put there by nature. Of course, there are some things that can cause problems: broken glass, large and/or heavy items, car parts, etc. These can be left to be picked up later by someone with a vehicle.

The bottom line is to use common sense and always keep your safety and that of your fellow crewmen in mind at all times. If these suggestions are followed, we will all have a safe and enjoyable outing.

