Liverpool Institute High School

PRESENTS

BILLY BUDD

Based on the Novel by Herman Melville

By Louise O. Coxe and Robert Chapman

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th February, 1967.

IN THE

SCHOOL HALL

At 7.30 p.m.

The Play was Produced By

Mr. J. E. Sharp

Sets Designed and Constructed By

Raymond Draper, Sydney Hort, Alan Jessop, Lawrence Law, Ken Spain, Ian Wakeman, Philip White.

Under the Supervision of

Mr. J. W. MacDonald, Mr. N. Lloyd, Mr. S. Reed

Stage Director

Mr. R. E. Roberts

Lighting Assistants

David Bruce, Donald Grundell, Gerald Seiflow, Stephen Taylor

Properties

Gwilym Owen, Frank Scott

Sound Effects

Ronald Davies, Kevin Bruce (Recorder)
The School Choir, Directed by Mr. S. Crouch

Costumes

Hired from Nathan Ltd., Drury Lane, London Under the Supervision of Mr. T. Cummings

Business Managers

Mr. P. N. Clarke, Mr. A. J. Penna

Prompters

Martin Potter, Raymond Roberts

Billy Budd

CAST

Edward Fairfax Vere, Captain, Royal Navy Michael Ainsworth		
Philip Michael Seymour, First Officer Geoffrey Silcock		
John Ratcliffe, First Lieutenant Christopher Jones		
Bordman Wyatt, Sailing Master David Feintuck		
Gardiner Midshipmen Michael Fitzsimmo		. Michael Fitzsimmons
Rea }		Alan Roberts
John Claggart, Master-at-Arms		
Surgeon Edward Goldsmith		
Squeak, Master-at-Arms' man		
The Dansker		Stephen Hughes
Jenkins		Garth Prince
Kincaid		Alan Brownbill
Payne		Stephen Kenny
-Butler	Sailors	Raymond Hodges
O'Daniel		Peter Rimmer
Talbot		Andrew Childs
Jackson		Philip Hatcher
Billy Budd		David McKittrick
Hallam, a Marine Eric Griffiths		
Messboy		
Stoll Helmsmen Stuart Clark		Stuart Clark
Byren Peter Smith		
Duncan Michael Humphreys		
		53 SE

HISTORICAL NOTE

"Hearts of oak are our ships, jolly tars are our men". In fact life aboard a vessel of His Majesty's Royal Navy in the late eighteenth century was anything but "jolly". The food was apalling: salt meat as hard as a rock, biscuits full of worms and slimy water. When a man fell sick, which was hardly surprising, he would be lucky to receive more than the most perfunctory medical attention. Discipline was fierce: men were brutally flogged for quite trivial offences. Pay, moreover, might easily be two years in arrears. For the privilege of serving in such conditions me would be pressed (impressed, press-ganged) when there were not enough volunteers.

In 1797, during the War with Revolutionary France, the system cracked. There were two great mutinies at Spithead and the Nore. At Spithead the men obtained promises of better conditions, but when the more violent outbreak at the Nore followed the Government became concerned lest this country also drift towards Revolution. They determined to crush the uprising by cutting off food and water supplies and by removing the buoys which would make possible a safe escape to sea. In the end the men, thus beseiged, submitted under a promise of pardon to all except ringleaders, many of the latter being hanged, flogged or imprisoned.

The Navy was back under control and won a decisive victory at Camperdown later in the year; but there was always a chance that trouble might break out again. Officers were particularly vigilant and martial

law rigorously applied.

The Play takes place on board the "H.M.S. Indomitable" at sea, August 1798, the year following the Naval Mutinies at Spithead and the Nore.

ACT ONE

Scene One — A compartment of the crew's quarters.

Scene Two — Maindeck Scene Three — Maindeck

INTERVAL OF TWENTY MINUTES

During which Refreshments will be served in the Canteen

ACT TWO

Scene One - Maindeck

Scene Two - Maindeck

Scene Three - Maindeck

ACT THREE

Scene One - Captain Vere's Cabin

Scene Two - Captain Vere's Cabin

Scene Three - Maindeck