

Naval Electronic
Sensor
Operator

NESOP

L'opérateur
DéTECTEURS électroniques
Marine

OP(DEM)

NEWSLETTER
bulletin d'information

Vol. 29

édition. 29

276

00115

Christmas 2013 Edition

Version 3.1
Winter 2013

The NESOP NEWSLETTER is published by & for the NESOPs of the *Royal Canadian Navy*. It's purpose; to keep members current with items that reflect the NESOP community, by supplementing information provided by formal sources & acting as a forum for sharing unit-level items of interest.

This newsletter is only as strong as the members it supports, as it is they who provide the content.

Views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect official opinion or policy.

- Editor



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Has you been naughty, or has you been nice??

I'm sure it's no coincidence that "naughty", "nice" and "NESOP" all begin with the same letter.

Anyway, pleasure to meet you; I'm the new editor of the NESOP Newsletter. I inherited it from PO1 Darrell "Morty" Morton, who did a magnificent job with previous editions, but who in the end proved simply too mentally unstable to continue with it. If it seems to you as if - after a lengthy period of tranquility when Joey "Malibu" Smallwood was running the show - we are now going through editors like the Luftwaffe went through pilots, that's because we are.

One of the things for which I will simultaneously admire and curse Morty is his ability to work in PDF format; I loved the edition of the newsletter that was done in PDF, but I know the program about as well as I know the Quantum Theory of Fields, which is to say not at all. I guess I am going to have to take a course, which sucks a little because there's no more TD money so now I can't go to Australia to take it. Meanwhile, I am working in Word.

Morty started out his inaugural issue apologizing for the tardiness of that issue's release, and it seems I must do the same. When CPO1 Jimmy Percival (at the Career Shop at the time) tossed the tar baby to me, he suggested a Christmas-ish issue would be realistic. I confidently predicted I would have a Fall issue out (I even had a cover, which featured the outgoing editor wearing only a strategically-placed autumn maple leaf to cover his naughty bits, and believe me there was still room left under that leaf, so thank whatever Gods may be that you were spared it), but like Morty, I was overtaken by events, including a posting. I figured I would just delegate all my duties to my subordinates to...ummm...allow me to work uninterrupted, but upon taking up my new post I discovered I technically did not have any subordinates.

It's trendy these days to see everything in terms of "life lessons". So I guess you could say there were a couple of life lessons in that particular sequence of events. One, never assume anything. Two, when the Career Manager forecasts events to come, it would be inappropriate to laugh (right away, anyway), because occasionally he is right.

Like the previous editor, it is my intention to publish our newsletter twice a year. Also, for the next edition, when the end date for submissions is promulgated that's what I'll stick with. Whatever I've received by that date will be published.

I'm interested in doing occasional profiles of units, in which we will look at them in more detail than just the stock brief provided in the typical newsletter submission. We might look at unit history, evolution of the part our own trade plays in it, and the current framework as well as a breakdown of NESOP responsibility in it. This is intended to focus mostly on inshore units, because I have noticed a general reluctance in volunteering for these postings, and it is my theory that at least part of that reluctance stems from not knowing anything about them.

In conclusion, I'm always interested in your ideas, and in what you would like to see in future newsletters. Best regards,

- CP02 Mark Chapman
EIC NESOP Newsletter

Le BULLETIN OP (DEM) est publié par les OP DEM de la *Marine canadienne royale* et à leur intention. Son but : aider les militaires à connaître l'actualité en ce qui concerne le milieu des OP DEN, en complétant l'information qui provient des sources officielles, et offrir une tribune où les unités peuvent mettre en commun les sujets dignes d'intérêt. Ce bulletin ne vaut qu'en fonction des militaires qu'il appuie, car ce sont eux qui en fournissent le contenu.

Les vues exprimées dans le présent bulletin ne correspondent pas nécessairement à l'opinion ou à la politique officielles.

- Le directeur



The outgoing editor.
Photo courtesy
Gendarmerie Zeebrugge,
Belgium



Hello again from the Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Center (CFEWC). We continue to work hard at providing the best support possible to the CAF Electronic Warfare community. There have been a lot of personnel changes within the last year but the wheel of progression continues to turn and we are doing our best to ensure our clients receive the same high quality product we are known for.

PO1 Peter Rigby left us for HMCS Athabaskan and we were joined by his replacement, PO1 David MacNevin as EOB IC. PO2 Joe Bérubé arrived from the East coast to take the reins as EOB 2IC. Together, both POs have been taking huge steps toward improving our ability to serve the fleet.

Newly promoted, MS Christopher Russell moved from the Parametric section to the EOB section to help fill the very shallow void created with the departures of MS Simon Madgin and newly promoted PO2 Mike Spence. Now that Chris is somewhat comfortable in his new rank of Acting Lacking MS, he will be attending PLQ in January. We are all hoping that upon his return from PLQ the lost look in his eyes will be gone as he will only then be able to provide us with the leadership expected of a MS.

LS Jesse Hannah left us back in April to return to sea and has been replaced by two fine West Coast Leading Seaman, LS Layton Theriault and LS Tyler Ross both of which are busy working away on their OJT packages. Jesse, not sure if you are making the same impact onboard HMCS Algonquin as you did at CFEWC but as you can see it took two NESOPs to replace you here. (Just sayin')

LS Ross is learning that a scooter may be a great choice for Victoria but is not the warmest of rides here in the National Capital Region. He is also finding out that none of the tire shops carry scooter sized winter tires. LS Theriault has taken up the mantle of 'Soup Nazi' (or more politically correct "Soup Guy) and works diligently to provide us with a stand easy soup at least twice a month. His efforts help remind us why we became sailors: 10 o'clock soup!

LS Chad Foulds has joined the Royal Canadian Air "Farce" as an AESOP and is now Cpl Foulds. He will fly beside us while he awaits his trades training next year. We all knew he'd leave the navy one day as sailors tend to have souls.

PO1 Jason Hassen is ruling the Parametric section with an iron fist. MS Kevin Granger jumped from NEWC to CFEWC, joining the Para section, and has been put to work on generating platforms for a highly classified database.

PO2 Scotty Crouse finished his QL6B then left the Para section and has taken charge of something we're calling the Data Management Co-ordination Cell with MS Steve Thurrott and LS Rob Ewart (and former NESOP, LS Steve Fortier) under his tyrannical thumb. They are slaving away at populating a new database for CFEWC that will allow all sections to do our jobs more efficiently.

MS Trent Sampson is keeping his head down working away in JEAC. Keep sending those Sea Search collects to NEWC so they can send it up here for more in depth analysis. His efforts in signal analysis help keep us all collecting spec pay! (Truth)

LS Tyler "Cupcake" Stewart has become a permanent fixture in Signature Collections & Management; he was recently joined by LS Ray Ivanauskas as a replacement for newly promoted MS Stephen Parsons who is now sailing the high seas onboard HMCS Iroquois. You might see these guys setting up their trucks along the coast to conduct trials, keep in mind while you're doing those circles for days on end, these guys get to sleep in jammy hotel rooms and collect TD.



RR/L-R PO2 Berube, PO1 McNevin, LS Ross, MS Russell
FR/L-R CPO1 Murphy, MS Thurrott, MS Granger, LS
Ivanauskas, PO2 Crouse, LS Stewart

08:10 Wednesday: After a long night of carousing at The Pink Sequin, PO2 Scottie Crouse streaks for his desk, hoping to escape notice that he is not in uniform.

Does anyone else get the feeling that if you dragged a doughnut on a string past the first row, there would be a bloodbath? Just sayin'.

In closing, we at CFEWC would like to wish all NESOPs a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

By LS Tyler Ross, MS Christopher Russell and Cpl Chad Foulds



From the Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Centre

CFEWC PROFILE UPDATE

The Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Center (CFEWC) is located in building 91 of the Shirleys Bay Campus at 3701 Carling Avenue, west of Ottawa in the Kanata area. Unlike the coast, the campus is not located near any of the services we as sailors take for granted such as Clothing stores or Health Services, therefore a 404s or a personal vehicle are highly recommended for anyone coming to work at CFEWC.

CFEWC provides support to all elements of the Canadian Armed Forces in matters of Electronic Warfare. The unit is capable of providing direct support to units through construction of Land, Air and/or Sea EOBs or indirect support through second line signal analysis.

There are a number of positions for NESOPs within CFEWC, however they do require an upgraded security clearance. Ensuring your Level 3 is up to date will reduce the time you spend waiting for this upgrade. At CFEWC we have one CPO1, two PO1, two PO2 and eleven MS/LS positions. This means we have NESOPs of all experience levels employed within the unit with the Chief Petty Officer 1st Class holding the reins as Unit Chief Petty Officer. The Petty Officer 1st Class act as section heads of the Parametric and the EOB sections. They are responsible for the productivity of their respective sections and answer to the CFEWC Ops command team. There is one Petty Officer 2nd Class employed in EOB and one in the Data Management Co-ordination Cell (DMCC). They are responsible for overseeing the day to day operations within their sections, as well as seeing to the welfare of their subordinates. Master Seamen and Leading Seamen are employed throughout CFEWC as either Analysts or Signature Collection Operators. We work alongside other CAF trades such as AESOP, Int Op and Comm Research along with several civilian employed analysts.

Within the EOB or Para section you would spend most of your time researching and constructing EOB or building platforms. A popular phrase that truly represents what the EOB and Para sections do within CFEWC is Platform, Emitter, and Weapon. If posted to CFEWC you will hear that term often. Analysts employed in JEAC spend their days on second line signal analysis. Due to the nature of this work, assignment to this section requires completion of the SIGE 1030 and SIGE 2810 courses, both of which are done in house. The two Analysts employed in DMCC are responsible for collation of information for implementation into the CFEWC knowledge base and database.

The signature collection operators work in Signature Collections and Management (SC&M) and are responsible for operating either IR or Signal collection equipment, depending on their position within the section. If you wish to travel then this may be the section for you as they do find themselves on each Coast, Inland and from time to time in Europe providing support to all three elements within the CAF.

If posted to CFEWC a few areas to consider living when buying include Kanata/Stittsville, Carleton place and Gatineau. Kanata/Stittsville is the closer and more expensive option with many new houses going up all the time. Carleton place is a bit further away (37km) but considerably more affordable and a great place to raise a family. The commute from Carleton place only takes around half an hour as the highway takes you almost to the doors of CFEWC. In Gatineau QC you are looking at cheaper houses with bigger lots, \$7-a-day daycare and generous tax breaks for parents. Also, if you choose to live in Aylmer you will have a 20 min drive to CFEWC. There are however several other great areas within Ottawa to consider such as Barrhaven, Arnprior, Uplands Military housing and other communities within Nepean.

PO2 Berube and MS Russell



We had to chop up the piano for firewood!

Greetings from the NCR! Winter has begun to settle in around here and as a newly transplanted “West Coaster” for the last 10 years; I can tell you it’s going to be a pretty major adjustment! My wife and I re-located here at the beginning of September and are still settling in to our new jobs and surroundings. We are really looking forward to exploring this part of the country and experiencing all that the Capital Region has to offer.

I’m working in the JIIFC detachment out at CFS Leitrim in the south end of Ottawa. I had no idea what JIIFC was before getting here so I imagine there are more than a few of you who don’t either. I’ll do my best to explain as I’m still trying to figure it out myself. The Joint Information and Intelligence Fusion Capability Detachment or JIIFC Det for brevity sakes, falls under the Directorate General Operations section of Strategic Joint Staff. We are responsible for all Command and Control (C2) applications and operational information sharing that resides on CSNI as well as the DWAN.

Great, now what the heck does all that mean? Good question! That means that the JIIFC Det created, maintains and supports the programs that you and your commanders use on a daily basis to make decisions and plan operations and exercises. Some of these applications include, Command View (CV) and Web Publishing (WP) which are used to share information up to a 5 eyes level, Incident Management System (IMS) for displaying incidents on CV, Instant Persistent War (IP War) the secret certified chat room, and Command and Control Personal Computer (C2PC) for plotting the battlefield. There is also an unclassified version of Command View and Web Publishing on DWAN used by the CF and other government departments to share information.

JIIFC also has a Data Transfer section capable of transferring data between networks of differentiating classifications, and a training section which can travel anywhere to conduct training on our applications. All of the applications you see on the CSNI splash page are ours including my two personal favorites, Google Earth and Google Search (which I like to call Secret Google or skoogle for short.)

Hopefully I’ve been able to make that clear as mud, but I’m sure it raises more questions than it answers and I’d be happy to try and answer them, just ask. This is truly a diverse work place, we have civilians and members from all elements and trades working here which makes for a very interesting working environment. In my little section of Web Ops Support, we have a Civilian team leader with a strong computing background, a Warrant Officer Signalman, a Sgt Aerospace Controller, a PO2 NCIOP from the East Coast, a MCpl Armored Tank driver and a MS NESOP, Trevor Winter, from the East Coast. MS Winter has just left us for his 6A’s out in Halifax starting soon and I just landed out here from the REGINA, replacing PO1 Darryn Featherstone who took over as AWWD in REGINA. The last NESOP at JIIFC is our Detachment Chief, CPO2 John Forrester who traded places with CPO2 Dave Keeping at NEWC in January. PO2 Hollie Blakney was in the training section but was sent back out to the East Coast to join MONTREAL as her EWS earlier in the spring.

Well that was certainly a lot longer than I anticipated but I hope you have a slightly better understanding for what we do here, I know I do. You can visit us on the DIN at <http://sjs.mil.ca/sites/intranet-eng.aspx?page=949> to get more information if you’re curious. Wishing you and yours a Happy Holiday season!

PO2 Will Stewart.

Well hello to all the NESOPs out there from the NCR...yes, you heard me right; Ottawa! I was posted here on short notice at the end of March and of course you hear different things about leaving the coast and making the move inland away from the smell of salt air and the breeze of the ocean.

It was replaced with a cubicle, it is cubicle heaven but it has afforded me the opportunity to work in a joint environment and work with the CBRN OP and SF OP occupations. Upon arrival I met CWO Warren Ashton who

was a wealth of knowledge and handed me the reigns as the SOF Occ Mgr. With the position still in its infancy and having to fumble through the plethora of acronyms I had to learn the lingo quite fast and everyone was more than willing to point you in the right direction. As I was new to the CANSOF world I took the opportunity to visit the units that I was working for and with, CSOR in Petawawa and CJIRU in Trenton.

Immediately, I realized how operationally focused both units were (4 hours NTM - notice to move), CBRN OP is still a young occupation at only 3 years old and the SF OP occupation was a year old on 15 Nov 13. These were the first new occupations that have been created in the CAF in more than 40 years; of course it has all the growing pains to go along with that. This keeps me on my toes most days but at the same time it is very interesting to be part of the growth that they are experiencing over the short term and to see them evolve into occupations that are fulfilling the mandate of the GoC.

CANSOFCOM HQ itself has a great mix of personnel from all elements, for those who are not aware the DCOMD is Capt (N) Steve Virgin who was a submariner back in the day, so there is a NAVY presence dotted throughout the HQ.

One of the highlights since I have been posted here was the outreach visit to Petawawa attended by some members of the HQ. The day began with a static display of some of the Gucci kit the Special Forces operators use on a daily basis. We then moved on to a live fire demonstration of CQB (Close Quarter Battle) and the clearing of a couple of mocked up houses which included a balcony for us to view the demonstration. The day ended with a live fire demonstration where Alpha jets controlled by JTAC operators dropped live ordinance and at the same time other operators were firing weapons down range. To top it off our group had the opportunity to fire all the weapon systems that were avail to the operators...let's just say for a NESOP a lot of ammo went down range in the hour or so when we were afforded to play with such things as sniper rifles, automatic weapons, modified .50 cal and grenade launchers.

As the SOF occupations continue to grow and evolve they are now filling more positions here in the HQ and other places including some OUTCAN postings. On that note, my position here at the HQ will be turned over to the SOF world as of 1 Apr 14 and it will be filled by an MWO from one of the units as part of their succession planning management. Therefore, this will be the last submission from CANSOFCOM for a NESOP unless they have future plans to bring us back in a different capacity.

I hope this has given you some insight into the SOF world, have a safe and happy holiday season with family and friends.

CPO2 Bob Burton
CANSOFCOM
SOF Occ Mgr

Viam Inveniemus - "We will find a way"



So you might be wondering how there are possibly enough NESOPs here in Toronto to rate a combined response. The short answer is there isn't but I figure I would remind the rest of the occupation that a couple of current tradesmen and a few recently retired NESOPs are posted to the big smoke.

I am currently Area Cadet Advisor (Sea) posted to the Regional Cadet Support Unit Central Detachment Toronto located at 4900 Yonge Street. I provide support to 7660 Cadets and 400 or so Cadet Instructors Cadre Officers. This includes typical staff work and logistical support as well as instructing the senior leadership portion of the cadet program. I'm also charged with selecting and sending cadets to camp each summer. PO2 "Ret" Mark Stark is also employed here in central Ontario by the cadet program working in our headquarters as

IT Support. I can't seem to escape the fleet as Mr. Stark will often call me via landline starting with "SWC.....EW"

PO2 Pierre Pelletier is located in the Canadian Forces Recruiting Center, also located at 4900 Yonge. He has recently returned back to the GTA after successfully completing his QL6B, and he is currently the production manager for the center. That's right, the next time a sailor shows up from the Toronto area you can thank (or blame if needed) PO2 Pelletier. Primary reserve PO2 Tony Tremblay formerly a PO2 NESOP is also employed in the recruiting center at 4900 Yonge. He is a good resource for sailors missing the coast, in case any of us need to be reminded of how it was on "HMCS Athabaska" (A few of the old hands from HMCS ST. JOHN's on ROTO 3 will remember that one.)

It is hard to get used to the view as is often said you certainly can't see the ocean from here.



PO1 Rod Carew
Area Cadet Advisor (ACA) - Sea
Regional Cadet Support Unit Central Detachment Toronto

Since I updated you in the spring newsletter, a lot has been happening in the MSOC Project office. We reached a milestone in October with the release of the sharing portal which allows all five government departments involved in this project (DND, TC, CBSA, DFO/CCG and RCMP) to collaborate on files on a single system. While this doesn't sound like a great leap forward, the obstacles to allow different government departments to share documents on a single computer network have been significant. Now that we can work together on a secure network, the capability of both of the coastal MSOCs has been increased significantly. Much more work needs to be done to allow collaboration on a classified network and to introduce domain awareness and analytical tools on both systems which will bring the MSOCs to full operational capability. Originally, the project was to cease ops on 31 Mar 14 with a close out date of fall 2014. Due to some external contracting delays, the project has been extended by six months which will allow delivery of the very best product possible. The project will now cease in Oct 14 with final close out by spring 2015. It is uncertain at this time what will happen with the billet I currently occupy but it is likely that it will be shifted internally within ADM(IM) to another project office on completion of close out. As the only uniformed member (there is one MARS officer here but he's Navy, not ADM) on the ADM(IM) project team of about 65 DND public servants, contractors and OGD public servants, this has certainly been an eye-opening experience. I won't say it's been all roses but I can say that getting to understand the mindset of working in a civilian workplace again (after almost 29 years in uniform) has been enlightening. These are exciting times as we work toward FOC of an interdepartmental organization that is breaking new ground in how the Government of Canada conducts its security

CPO2 Stephen Haughn
ADM(IM) Director General Information Management Project Delivery
Marine Security Operations Centre Ops Liaison Officer

From DMRS 4-2-2 (Targets, Ranges & CIWS)

Gilbert Tremblay

Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class

Greetings fellow NESOP's, past and present, from the Directorate Naval Requirements (DNR). Once again, the high tempo at DNR continues with new project proposals and continued variations of old projects. In addition last December the entire section moved to the facilities at 455 De La Carrière, 6th floor (right next door to Louis St-Laurent Bldg).

Major Crown projects:

- The Halifax Class Modernization (HCM) continues to progress with HAL and CAL scheduled to conduct sea acceptance tests in Apr 14;
- Joint Support Ship (JSS) Project: is developing two design options: one Military-of-the-Shelf (MOTS) – The German BERLIN Class design through ThyssenKrupp Marine System Canada (TKMSC) was chosen as the replacement for the Provider Class, scheduling of the project is dependent on a number of issues;
- Arctic Offshore Patrol Ship (AOPS): Public Works announced in March a \$288 contract award to Irving Shipyard for Phase on proposals on design concepts for AOPS. No numbers have been articulated by the government, it is dependent on the NSPS schedule, costs and industry capacity to deliver;
- The Canadian Surface Combatant (CSC). As the Chief NESOP in DNR, I was a regular participant in the CSC Statement Of Requirements (SOR) meetings. These were held with DGNFD. The discussions afforded me the privilege of contributing to and benefitting from the strategic concerns of Senior Navy leaderships and the difficult challenges on the way ahead regarding the CSC combat systems, weapons and sensors being looked at for these ships.

In summary each of these projects is progressing at a steady pace (for a project that is) and they are underway and making way. As Chief NESOP in DNR, I am advisor for all of the minor projects related to AWW and there are many!

On the EW side of the house we have two very important and still on-going studies – ELINT & ECM Way-Ahead. These studies are looking at the systems we have now, determining what needs to be done and deciding what is available in the market to maintain or upgrade our current capability, and hopefully standing up projects in the near future.

Then of course there are classified projects led by CFIOG to replace TRS and CDSE equipment which are or about to be obsolete.

Another area that we have been busy with is the Naval Remote Weapon Stations (NRWS). The NRWS project will see the acquisition of remotely controlled stabilized .50 cal HMG mounts; they will not replace all the actual mounts but will supplement them. We have received industry feedback from the industry day held last year and they are being reviewed, this project is on-going and moving towards project approval (implementation) sometimes this year.

In closing I'd like to remind you all (again) that there is effort being made up here (regardless of how slow it may seem) to improve or replace our aging equipment. Don't shoot the future messenger when you wonder why things take so long!! The effort is always there but we have to be careful stewards of taxpayer dollars as well, in a tough fiscal climate!! Trade offs are inevitable, however, my focus remains the sailors at sea and delivery of future capabilities to defeat today's and tomorrow's threats.

Yours Aye,



CPO2 Gigi Tremblay



CORY RYDELL AND GREY CARTER HAVE YET TO CRASH, BUT THEY STILL MIGHT AS WELL TOW IT

WWW.ESCAPISTMAGAZINE.COM

Attribution: <http://www.escapistmagazine.com/articles/view/comics/critical-miss/10318-The-Canadian-Front>

From



THE EAST COAST



From the CANCOMFLANT/TG CNESOP



CPO2 Ed James

Hello from CANFLTLANT;

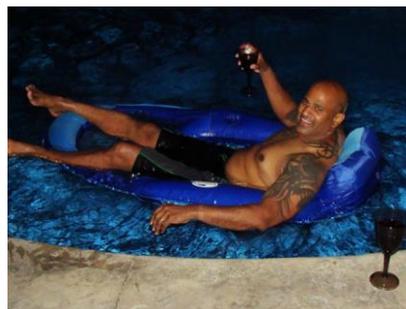
In the last news letter I was in Ottawa with the Marine Security Operation Centre (MSOC project) and awaiting my posting back to Slackers and the fleet as the Canadian Fleet Atlantic Chief NESOP (CFL NESOP). First off, I have to say I really miss Ottawa and the IR crowd, good times were had by all. Lucky Ron at the Lafayette pub in the Market as well as the Friday and Saturday sessions are the things of which legends are made. I have been at Commander Canadian Fleet Atlantic Head Quarters (CCFL HQ) for over a year now and love being back in the operational world of the Navy. CCFL is a challenging job but working with Staff has its benefits. As we get deeper into HCM FELIX the challenge of managing our people and getting them the training and experience they need gets increasingly difficult.

Last year the fleet was busy; some units more than others (IRO, VDQ). This year is no different with the exception of HAL commencing her first of the class HCM trials and FRE close behind. A well deserved BZ goes out to the crew of VDQ, who has shouldered the load of the sailing this year and will continue to do so well into next year.

I wanted to update the trade on a fellow NESOP, whom I had the pleasure of meeting up with when I was in Ottawa. I was concerned about his welfare, with him being retired from the Navy and now a civilian. I wasn't sure he would cope well with the transition. Turns out he is making out just fine. So well in fact, while I was at his place I had gone to the head, only to realize there were no towels with which to dry my hands after washing. There were just stacks and stacks of five dollar bills in his washroom. Turns out this is what he uses to dry his hands and wipe his A## with. Life is good on the other side. Thank you for a great time, Wayne Tansley. Lastly, the 43rd annual Mini-Grey Cup was held on 02 Nov 2012 at Porteous Field STADACONA. The mini Grey Cup is an annual flag football game between NCMs representing the Fleet Club, and Officers representing the Wardroom. The NCM's are affectionately known as "Slackers." The name, "Slackers" originated from the Battle of the Atlantic during WWII. After a long and rigorous deployment at sea, the sailors would relax or 'Slacken' upon return to Halifax. The Slackers were riding a 12-game winning streak; the win on the 2nd Nov brought their winning streak to 13 in a row. The NESOP trade was proudly represented by The Man, The Myth, The Legend Himself, the Iron Man, CPO1 (retired) Ken Fisher, who played in his 43rd mini Grey Cup. And no that is not a typo, it reads correct, 43rd mini Grey Cup. On hand were a few NESOPs to help CPO1 Fisher relive his glory days. At almost 60 Mr. Fisher manhandled his much younger Wardroom counterparts. Well done Chief Fisher. Since the last news letter CPO1 Ken Fisher has retired. I would like to thank Mr. Fisher for his service, as well as his exceptional leadership. He has had a tremendous influence on a generation of young NESOPs, myself included. Thank you too all the NESOPs that showed up that day to support Mr. Fisher on his final mini Grey Cup.



CANTFLTLANT CNESOP
CPO2 Edward James



HOME Made Baked Beans

- 2 cups navy beans
- 1/2 pound bacon
- 1 onion, finely diced



- 3 tablespoons molasses
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/2 cup ketchup
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 cup brown sugar



How come when you mix flour and water together, you get glue...and then you add sugar and eggs, and you get cake?

Directions

1. Soak beans overnight in cold water. Simmer the beans in the same water until tender, approximately 1 to 2 hours. Drain and reserve the liquid.
2. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).
3. Arrange the beans in a 2 quart bean pot or casserole dish by placing a portion of the beans in the bottom of dish, and layering them with bacon and onion.
4. In a saucepan, combine molasses, salt, pepper, dry mustard, ketchup, Worcestershire sauce and brown sugar. Bring the mixture to a boil and pour over beans. Pour in just enough of the reserved bean water to cover the beans. Cover the dish with a lid or aluminum foil.
5. Bake for 3 to 4 hours in the preheated oven, until beans are tender. Remove the lid about halfway through cooking, and add more liquid if necessary to prevent the beans from getting too dry.



Things on Halifax are as busy as ever. With the completion of SAT 2 trials the NESOPS onboard are looking forward to a much needed break for the Christmas leave period.

PO1 Clyde “The Man” Long is alive and well doing whatever it is that PO1’s do (Drinking coffee in the Chief and PO’s), while PO2 James “The Diver” Hirtle is working hard on his dive sup course.

PO2 Frank “The Tank” Lacroix is as busy as ever training the section and quizzing the junior bodies till their ears bleed.

MS Andrew “The Face” Fletcher and MS Darren “Biceps” Binder are ensuring fire positive control and that no FCO onboard is unable to manipulate the new fire control systems with anything but ease. LS Scott “Pheezy” Mcphee and LS Dave “Bucky” Buchanan are currently on their 5b’s working towards their FCS Qualification. LS Eddie “The Ghost” Renaud is busy doing anything that keeps him off the ship. AB Matt “The Barber” Marshall, AB Andy “Rescue” Swim and AB Joe “Almost late” Clairmont have recently finished their QL4 Course with AB Swim taking top student.

AB Colin “The Gambling Man” Agnew would rather go to Vegas than sail with the ship. AB Matt “The Mechanic” Amon is surprisingly still alive and doing well even after repeated attempts to blow himself up working on his cars. Now last but not least, the OS of the section are doing well. OS Ryan “Guppy” Gariepy is loving life as the best PLO on this side of the country. In the Attach posting world OS Chris “Frolic” Fralic, OS Darrel “Christina” D’Aguilar, OS Daniel “Pearly Whites” Peralty and OS Tyler “Tyler” Johnson are working on their packages and seeing what life aboard Halifax is all about.

Honorable mentions go out to LT (N) Mike Mahoney a former NESOP and currently the AWWO onboard (Traitor) and SLT Dumaresq who took her commission and is currently working on her BWK Qualification (also a Traitor)

Cheers from the NESOPS aboard HMCS Halifax;
AB Marshall

*From The Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre (CFMWC)
PO1 David McNevin*

Well it's that time once again where all us intellectual NESOPs allow the juices of creativity to flow and bring our fellow NESOPs up to speed on all the exciting news within our respective units. We at the Warfare Centre are no different.

First let me say part of this submission may sound familiar but it's important to spread the word on what the Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre (CFMWC) has to offer. It is also important that certain parts of our latest submission be re-said to bring all the new NESOPs up to speed regarding this fine organization.

Before we get down to business CPO2 Gerry Doutré and myself (PO1 David MacNevin) would like to give a big SHOUT OUT to PO1 Darrell Morton thanking him for the excellent Newsletter he produced last edition, complete with jovial comments that I'm sure put a smile on the faces of all its readers. (Well done Morty) We would also like to thank HMC Ships IROQUOIS and OTTAWA for the excellent support they provided the Warfare Centre during their ASMDEX and Harpoon/TAPA involvement.

Now down to business. The CFMWC is the CF Centre of Excellence for the development and delivery of maritime tactics and operational manoeuvre doctrine in support of Canada's maritime forces. This is achieved through our expertise in operational test, analysis, and evaluation, modeling & simulation, war gaming and naval concept development & experimentation; our cadre of maritime warfare experts; and our close working relationships with international partners. These capabilities enable the CFMWC to support the development of future maritime forces.

Here is a list of some of the Above Water Warfare tests and projects which have occurred and/or being worked on since the last Newsletter:

- a. ASMDEX using SM-2, testing the Navy's systems and AWW teams (Completed June 2012)(East Coast);**
- b. HARPOON and AHWCS testing and TAPA trial (Completed July 2012)(West Coast);**
- c. Microwave Signal Generator Purchase; and**
- d. Naval Fire Support working group with CFB Gagetown Artillery School**



(IRO new CHAFF self cleaning Kit)

Traveling to Hawaii, living it up on Kalakaua Ave (Honolulu's Sunset Strip) and experiencing all that Waikiki beach had to offer was amazing. The luxurious hotel, fine dining and relaxing spa treatments left me wondering "How was CPO2 Gerry Doutré enjoying his time at Hickam's Air Force Base?" Apparently swimming with the turtles made up for it. (His words not mine) Wait a minute, why did we go to Hawaii? Oh yes to participate in an exercise called RIMPAC 2012.

RIMPAC 2012 proved to be instrumental in capturing a lot of sound data for future EA projects. This trial was so successful that it could lead to Unmanned Surface Vessels (USV) being employed within the RCN. Unfortunately the Hulk target was sunk by Air Craft prior to OTT Harpoon engagement so the testing of new Harpoon tactics are now on hold. None the less PO1 Kyle Timmons and his NESOP team were ready to successfully carry out the Harpoon engagement and proved instrumental in the successfulness of the TAPA jamming trial. The CANEWS operators remained focused and engaged during the week long trial, demonstrating the professionalism and keen commitment to succeed of our junior operators. I would like to recognize the vast SIRIUS knowledge onboard OTT as PO2 Adam Callaghan and his fine ES operators all had a very comprehensive working knowledge of this system. I would like to encourage anyone

seeking information about how the systems reacts in a true sea environment to contact Adam as I know he would be more than happy to pass on any lessons learned and what OTT experienced during its time onboard. (By the way I received Adam's blessing prior to this going to print. Thanks, Adam)



(Ahhhhh
Whitner's)

The purchase of the Microwave Signal Generator has been approved. It will allow the Warfare Centre to interject RF signals into CANEWS during ASMD Missile exercises and in return add to the realism within the scenario. It will also help minimize the demand for yellow stickies and give the CANEWS compress button a well deserved rest.

Members from CFB Galetown, Valcartier Artillery School and CFMWC headed up a Naval Fire Support working group to incorporate a Naval Fire Support component into the Army's lesson plans. The purpose of this working group was to provide the Artillery members with a better understanding of HMC Ships capabilities and working knowledge on how the RCN conducts NFS operations.

We would once again like to pass on that several changes have occurred within CFCD 106 Change 12. The most pertinent being Threat Receipt Capability (TRC) found in MARTI 4160, G2 AAW Tactical Decision Aid found in MARTI 4630, and information on both NFS and MVI found in MARTI 3700 and MARTI 1001 respectfully. For ships prepping for OPS Team Training and WUPS it is strongly recommended your OPS Team become very familiar with these MARTIs.

In closing, with the HCM trials beginning to take shape, employment within the Maritime Warfare Centre will undoubtedly prove to be not only exciting but also a very rewarding place to work.

Before we sign off we would like to congratulate 2 much younger looking gentlemen on their 25 years of loyal and dedicated service.

AB Gerry Doure
Gulf War 1990
HMCS ATHABASKAN
12 Mess (Now 14 Mess)

OS David MacNevin
Initial Dive Course 1989
Fleet Diving Unit (Atlantic)



Update

CPO2 Gerry Doutre and PO1 John McCarthy

It has been so long since the fine article that Dave wrote it seemed only fair that an update be included in this submission. Dave MacNevin has moved on to the great Capital Region of Ottawa this past summer. Good luck Dave in your new posting and once again thank you for the detailed and informative turnover. I (PO1 John McCarthy) showed up here in June after a short second tour onboard HMCS ATHABASKAN (well, that was my actual posting, but I was TD'ed and tasked out to everywhere else it seemed like during my time there) Nothing better than requesting time off to play Regional sports before you actually even get posted to a new unit, let alone completed an in routine. Oh well, I thought it best to give them a taste of their new PO1 before I got there.

On to the business side of this update, since arriving at CFMWC, it seems like all I have been doing is courses at the MATTS facility at Lockheed Martin in Dartmouth. Got to learn not only how to be a SWC again on the new systems, but also an EWS, FCS and FCO. Oh well, good times. This of course is all in preparation for the multitude of trials that will be coming for the HCM ships. I am actually looking forward to them because all everyone has told me about this posting is how much fun the traveling will be.

We have successfully trialed our new Signal Generator onboard HMCS IROQUOIS. With the aid of the EW Shop here in Halifax (thanks goes out to Mr Rylan Conrad and Derrick Selig) and the NESOP section onboard IRO, we were able to generate and interject EW signals into the CANEWS even while alongside the wall. This should prove to be a great training tool for Jr NESOPs to identify different EW signals and practice voice reports on those signals, not only while conducting missile ex's as originally thought but also during training while not at sea. I look forward to giving a demonstration as part of AFT (Alongside Fleet Training) in the New Year to the Fleet.



Next year should be a very busy and challenging time here at the Warfare Centre and although it will put a dent in my "athletic scholarship" I look forward to it. If there are any questions that you might have on any of the new equipment or tactics, along with the legacy systems, please feel free and ask. If we don't have the answers there is sure to be someone around here that does. I look forward to seeing and working with many of you in the near future and once again good luck Dave in your new posting in Ottawa.

A word from Sea Training Atlantic;

PO1 Duane McNamara/ CPO2 George Hamilton



It's hard to believe it has been more than a year since our last newsletter. I'd like to start by saying thank you to Morty for his work on the last one, without a doubt a well edited and "narrated" newsletter.

I opened my last submission with "the tides of change are on us..." referring to positional changes here at Sea Training. Well that time is quickly approaching once again. There will undoubtedly be a number of staff changes within our ranks in the coming months. However, I will leave it at that so as not to create rumours or more importantly "adversely" affect my own posting with false information!

It has been a very busy year for ST(A). We conducted a number of WUPS programmes, Harbour Readiness Trials (HRT), Restricted Readiness Inspections (RRI), and Weapon System Training-Practical's (WST-P), a training cycle which spanned from Columbia to Kuwait.

One of the most rewarding aspects of ST(A) is the opportunity to interact with almost all of the NESOP community on the coast. Suffice to say we are a varied sort with an array of characters. But it is clear that as a trade moving forward we have a solid base of young leaders. The training programmes are often, if not always, intense but teams continue to adapt and overcome. This was clearly demonstrated by the crews of HMCS TORONTO and ST. JOHN'S as they prepared to deploy on OP ARTEMIS. Tasked not only to prepare for the

deployment but also train on and produce SOPs for new/updated equipment. A process the crews of HMCS HALIFAX and HMCS FREDERICTON continue to deal with moving forward.

On a lighter note, two successful and entertaining mess dinners have come to pass, the NESOP and ST(A) Mess Dinners. Both were well attended by past and present members (and yes Chief, you know which one you are, I had my red suspenders...just not on!!). I also, for reasons I will not disclose, had the “opportunity” to host our last Red Suspenders (a “professional development” tradition held at Sea Training Atlantic). The proceedings will never be discussed, but if there’s one thing I could say it would be...”please don’t make me host again, I’ll be good, I promise!!”

The plan moving forward has us visiting a number a ships in the winter/spring of 2014. The plan is evolving but we will at some point see VEQ, MON, HAL, ATH and later in the summer FRE. This will undoubtedly require the assistance of some past ST(A) members who seem to always rise to the challenge.

Hope all have a good holiday season.

*From The Canadian Forces Naval Operations School
PO2 “Bagsy” Baker*

Hello Everyone! Greetings from CFNOS! Another year has passed and it has certainly brought about some changes here that are keeping everyone on their toes. CFNOS is going through an exciting and busy time with the process of including our new HCM capabilities in all levels of coursing. Needless to say progress is slow and steady and we hope to bring HCM into the fold in 2014.

Ok, time to make fun of our section. I’ll start in Jan 13 since that was when I came along. I was able to see both PO2 James “King of the Elfs” Hirtle and PO2 Frank “I want a Kessel Jersey” Lacroix depart in April for the HAL, excited to have lots of trial trips in their near future...lol. PO2 Steve “I know the answer to that” Hunt received his 3rd chevron and quickly reaffirmed his status as the smartest man in NATO using words most of don’t understand and have to copy down and look up later. PO2 Rick “Ninja Smoke” Leblanc continues his tour at the school, although at times has been known to vanish like stink in the wind. PO2 Reg “I like the Avalanche...no wait I like the Canadians” Luce is lucky enough to have 2 NHL teams doing well this year, although he is a true Nordiques fan at heart!

I have heard a myth that there is supposed to be 8 MS posted at the school but have yet to see more than 2 be around at a time. MS Simon “Fire Control King” Parker recently came to us in the summer and has quickly learned the ropes of OPI duties. He replaced MS Brian “the BK Spoiler” Kennedy who headed off to the ATH in search of 280 glory! We have MS Sheldon “I love my big truck” Compagnon who has recently purchased a new truck that he can finally park at CFNOS as he has 12 years of service complete!!! Boy that is a great day getting that parking pass!! MS Donald “I can keep a secret” Macdonald and MS Curtis “Wildlife Extraordinaire” Penton along with Sheldon are currently blasting CHAFF in the mega. I get reports daily of how much fun they are having over there and wish they could do another couple of weeks of assessment!!! PO1 Pat “I love the UK” Brunet recently came back from a posting overseas replacing PO1 Sulley “j’ amour François” Macleod as he is currently on his year long French course in Shearwater which I heard is a great go! PO1 Gordon “older than fog” Carmichael is still in, hahaha and is passing along his tidbits of wisdom to the 6B courses with jubilation!

CPO2 Jake Lowthers (he’s my Chief...would you make fun of your Chief?...lol) holds down the fort through a crazy time at CFNOS, having to deal with the likes of us daily should be justification to increase his spec level..Haha.

Lastly I have been here roughly 11 months. I came from STJ that sailed a few days while I was there and I looked forward to what I thought would be a break....I might have unrealistic expectations for this posting as I along with everyone am busier than a blue arsed fly!



I also wanted to send a shout out to the HMCS TORONTO currently on deployment (NOV 13). I am hearing good things and hope for everyone to come back safe and sound for a well deserved rest!! Take care!!!!

From HMCS MONTRÉAL



Greetings from the grand old HMCS MONTRÉAL. With the calendar year drawing to a close as we near the holiday season one gets a moment to pause and reflect; well not really. With a ship coming out of refit and only one laptop for the entire Combat Department there is no time to pause. This has been a big, busy year for the MONTRÉAL.

While it's true this time last year the ship was firmly entrenched at the shore office in Shearwater we were kept busy with a robust schedule of refresher training, attached posted sails, career coursing, and daily mandatory PT. Flash forward through the summer with it's fast paced training schedule for MASS, BDCS, 3 weeks at Lockheed, plus attach posted sailing and summer block leave we find ourselves in September. What's so significant about September one might ask? Well on 26 September 2013 the crew of the HMCS MONTRÉAL marched through Irving Shipyard en masse and reclaimed our ship. Once moved back at jetty NF in the loving confines of dockyard storing began... as did duty watches. October saw the ship besieged by an invading force of tri-walls. Storing in the morning was never too bad when most departments lent bodies to the cause, but after lunch the storing party looked more like an Ops Room muster. But the amount we were able to store exceeded what Command had projected and so by the end of October a vast portion of storing was complete. November has been a slow plodding march to reclaim the Ops Room.

If the ship's re-storing and training schedule seemed like a hustle, than the flow of personal through the NESOP section more or less resembled the Boston Marathon. This summer saw CPO1 James Percival came in from the cold of Career Mangler in Ottawa and re-rejoined a ship's company as the MONTRÉAL's Coxswain. In the spring CPO2 Robert Burton finally unpacked and got settled just in time to get a call from Ottawa telling him that he's on the move again. He would be swapped with CPO2 Patrick "Are You Tracking" Saunders, and his motto of "breath and move" would be tested by MONTRÉAL's daily PT schedule.

This time last year PO1 Ray "I'll Approve This" Cushing was head of the NESOP section. It was a good time for those who wanted any sort of coursing, language training, ship's team diver, boarding party or development courses, he would sign off on it. But in late spring he was posted away, perhaps due to the fact his smoothie sale contribution to the ship's charity fund was making the wrong people jealous. The position of NESOP section head was soon taken over by PO1 Jason "I Was Here" Trapanier. Fresh NDHQ in Ottawa PO1 Trapanier quickly took charge of the section... and just as quickly posted out to deploy with the St. John's. The near sleight-of-hand replacement is PO1 Norman "NESOP Luncheon" Phee, but to be fair he will include all of CBT if it offers him the chance to eat liver and onions. PO1 Phee is the current head of this ragged band of near-do-wells, but for how long who knows.

For a fairly lengthy period of time the MONTRÉAL's NESOP section has been bereft of a PO2. But that changed with PO2 Holly "I Can Make This Work" Blakney. On a daily basis he walks the fine, near maddening line, of mediator between command and MS and below. The result of this has been a bag of Spitz a day habit and a permanently in hand Protected A folder. While still adjusting to 1 PO2, the section was rocked by getting a 2nd one. PO2 Scotty Wells joined the section late summer. Realizing that our section wasn't used to so much guidance he graciously took the responsibility of RPO till we had all acclimated.

This past year also saw a full swap out of the NESOP Master Seaman. MS Bradley Harrington so enamoured with the Middle East from his recent HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN deployment just had to go back with HMCS ST. JOHN's crew.

He was replaced by the ever whispering vault of endless knowledge also known as MS Chris Fralic. Some say he has been in 32 years, but the true nature of his origin may never be fully known. After testing the trial version of MS Chris Williams the MONTRÉAL decided to go ahead and obtain the full version. So in late summer MS Chris Williams trial edition was replaced with MS Chris Williams Professional Edition. The professional edition comes with a fully interactive human interface and is easy to use.

While the MS and above has changed more than a Newfoundland weather front, the LS and below has maintained some stability. LS Adam "I'm Still Here" Langford has managed to hang in there, much better than his beloved dinosaurs ever did. LS Robert "aka MS" Sinclair has flourished here, he sits with the Admiral's Addictions Free Living group, has completed a French course, acts as MSOD for duty, holds the seat of bar manager, and still works with the section. LS Cody "aka DIVEO" Johnson is in direct competition with Sinclair for secondary duties holder. While he may not have as many hats, the 2 he does hold of senior diver and express test co-coordinator on top of MSOD and section work makes him a very busy man. Finally there is myself LS Ken Squibb the most jr of the LS, I fill in the gaps working as a CSD loan holder, MSOD and assisting with junior operator training.

Equal in number and stability are the AB's of the section. AB Ken "Old Man" Stevens fresh from his QL5s now has his sights set on he 2nd hook. AB Ray "Left Hook" Eaton has been on loan to Mega for quite some time now, either that or he's running it. AB Mike "I'm a Diver" Ivanic during this past year completed his dive course, and now has his sights set on boarding party. AB Joey "Ol Papa Cumcum" Cummings fresh off his QL4's is chomping at the bit for HCM training... and sailing... and perhaps a dozen other goals he has set. AB Scott "aka MP" Broderick has been the busiest of all of us over the past year sailing, hopefully soon he will get the chance to sail with crew of the MONTRÉAL. Last but not least is OS Ryan "Agen" Lawrence, the most recent addition to the NESOP family on the MONTRÉAL. Recently he completed his OJPR while sailing on HMCS ATHABASKAN and now has his sights set on becoming QM qualified.



HMCS MONTRÉAL's NESOP Section frames Cox'n Jimmy "The Goon" Percival, drunk guys' answer to the rhetorical question, "Does this shirt make my mouth look too big?"



HMCS MONTRÉAL hosts Lockheed-Martin aboard.

***From HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN
LS Bouthat***



Greetings from the CHARLOTTETOWN shore office; lets get things started shall we? Well since last time we've talked we prepped the ship for re-fit, which was a totally awesome and painless task. Fully de-stored and sent to the ditch. Since then we have been enjoying some time ashore where I, LS Bouthat have been growing the king of beards, the grizzliest in all the lands, but I digress. Things here aren't too bad at all in Shearwater. Lots of gym time and huddling together hoping for a better tomorrow is what drives our sanity.

The section gave a warm welcome to PO1 Evan Entwistle, or slum lord as he's more commonly known as... just kidding, Twist. Received by a section heavy on the killick side so you can imagine the amount of paper work he complained to us about. Splitting time between battle watch and babysitting us really took a hold of our hearts and he has certainly been nothing less than a stellar boss.

As for the PO2's, we were very thrilled that we were getting TJ Hooker until we found out it was just TJ Clarke. For being a 280 lady he's doing quite well, he is well liked by the rest of the section and is quite knowledgeable when it comes to EW and cosplay, whatever those are...supporting Mega is no easy feat so hats and pants off to him we all look forward to sailing with him on a CPF and fetching his coffee, I'm sure.

New to the clan is everyone's favorite ginger PO2 MacDonald, passing his EW course with flying colours, newly promoted and ready with the whips, we have all heard nothing but outstanding reviews. We just got him in late November and we're anxious for him to show us that he's more than just a pile of red hair. And oh yes, we will get your lucky charms Donald.

Big shout outs to our MS's, Steve Thompson and Eric Flanagan AKA mom and dad, who have certainly made things easier for the PO's though we barely see our own parents. God I hope they stay together for the kids... Steve has had great success topping his QL5B course and doing an outstanding job with PLQ. Charity being a driving force in his career, though I've never met her, I'm sure she's nice, socks off for his contributions towards Run for Wishes and being a huge part of the GCWCC. Coming to us as a LS, Eric was quickly promoted and fills his role very nicely, handling admin like two stray dogs in an alley. He is currently enrolled in Saint Mary's, claiming it's for criminology degree, but we're all pretty convinced its for women studies, good luck Eric.

Now for the working part of the section, shirts off to the enormous contribution the LS and below have been making, and we'll start with the finest, me! As I mentioned before I'm currently the envy of the shore office with the looks of a lumberjack and the spirit of a grizzly. I am proud to say I now have 280 experiences, having sailed this summer with HMCS IROQUOIS; great bunch of guys, second place only to the CHARLOTTETOWN. LS Joe Quigley who just got back from overseas where he sailed the TORONTO. Gloves off to the weight loss, and good luck on the HALIFAX, you'll be greatly missed. LS Adam Doney, good job on the MEGA support and hanging out as sentry in Aldershot, he's a man kept busy. LS Derrick McKinnon (who I still give drives to in the morning) finally got his QL4 course finished, doing quite outstanding. He too did some sailing last summer out west on the Orca's. LS Tavis Moffat was "employed" in a canoe during the summer with water birds. It must be nice to go to the beach for "work", when you did "work". By the way your beard's almost as good as mine. AB Matt Davidson is still trying to get us to call him the silver surfer (sorry dude, its not going to happen). He finally got some salt on his shoulders sailing with the VDQ, turns out it was only dandruff. Our new token Frenchmen AB Hugo Duguay-Boucher. He is quite keen and we think he said he looks forward to sailing with us, although we can't quite understand him. Our newest lost puppy is OS David Power, currently on his NETP. He's smart and willing to learn. He'll be a fine addition to the team, as the heads won't clean themselves.

All in all, great section, great team work, and great beards. It feels nice to know we are still needed here at the shore office to assist the rest of the fleet. We all look forward to sailing with each other when we get the boat back. Looking forward to the next Mess dinner with the best trade in the navy, having a few wets. Keep on keeping on, have a wonderful Christmas or holidays, LS Taylor Bouthat out.

From HMCS ATHABASKAN



Here we are again writing from the lonely staff office on the wonderful Athabaskan. Since we last wrote from the shore office, over the last 10 months, the ship has progressed a lot but, the NESOP equipment did not.

Our staff got a new outlook, starting with PO1 Rigby; this forever young caper reminds everyone of their grandfather, with his catch phrase "going out there" at the end of every sentence and even by itself. We also got a new PO. PO2 Whyte

is our super quiet EWS that likes to blow his whistle and check the wind's speed. Our new master, MS Kennedy, is an ancient sailor and should not only be in the naval history museum but, he should also be in the museum of ancient history, with his stories dating back to 1802.

LS Rygiel has the best stories for the back watch when it comes to the "whiskey and wildcat days". He never has a shortage of funny and embarrassing stories to tell the boys. Next we have everyone's favorite newfie, LS Herritt aka Townie, aka Arnold, comes to work everyday after spending 5 hours at the gym in the morning, and then spends another 10 hours there after work. This protein filled killick loves to joke with the guys but then realizes that nobody knows what the heck he's saying. Mr. Clean, aka Yorkie, aka LS York, is the only one in the section whose head you can't stare at without going blind.

LS Piccione has the most nicknames on the whole ship, ranging from Guido, evil Scott and Pistachio. This tiny Italian stallion shows up to work with his evil laugh making everyone feel awkward. Next is everyone's favorite hillbilly, AB Tremblay comes into work riding his John Deer tractor every morning. If he's not out breaking his wrist on his bike, he's out muddin' in the woods with his 100 rifles in the middle of nowhere. Now comes the fleet's famous AB, AB Amyot is well known throughout the fleet for his crazy antics. Some examples that perfectly describe him are; smothering "Satan's blood" hot sauce on everything, drinking a bottle of plum sauce, asking the CO about the missing salads at lunch and even asking the Admiral of the fleet if our fleet can survive a random alien attack.

"Trevor" or as we have to call him, AB Lyrette, when not making a name for himself throughout the fleet he can be found awkwardly walking throughout 13 mess with chocolate bar and Pepsi in hand. OS Gaynes or as he likes to call himself "SODA" comes next. When he's not busy being a pro football player, he loves to take the story you tell him, and make his story bigger, better and stronger than yours.

Now we come to myself, OS Tiller, everyone's favorite Cape Bretoner. If I'm not impersonating Bubbles or any of the Trailer Park Boys, I don't think I would talk at all, unless it's defending my helpless Leafs. Last but not least is our newest OS, Garner is very passionate about his opinions, even when we know he is wrong, Hell will freeze over before he admits it.

Since the ship came back on the cold morning of 15 January, after running aground off of the coast of Cape Breton, or as we like to call it an "accomplishment" as stated by the newsletter on every stall in the heads. It came back as a frozen piece of steel, but the crew managed to get it sea worthy by June for the beginning of RRI's. Since then, we have completed many little sails throughout the summer and fall including our major port visit to Boston. That's all that I have to write about for the Athabaskan, if you're ever looking for me, or the other NESOP's you can find us down at Stubbs Pub sipping on a "few" wet ones.



From HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC LS LeMire/LS Richard



Hi everybody, this is Ville De Quebec the only French Frigate within the Royal Canadian Navy. We've been extremely occupied, by being the ready duty ship for nearly a year. Our sailing schedule's been incredibly busy.

We started off with a TGEX, trials support and fish pats then carried on with OP Caribbe. The second half of the year has been 3 additional lengthy sails and a few days were added because HMCS IROQUOIS was too tired to go to sea. Presently, we are doing a SCC sail, so in other words the sonar op's will launch real torpedoes (without warheads obviously) to a couple American submarines. What does that mean to us, secure your shit!

Our section still remains strong and unified. Let's start with the big cheese, our fearless PO1 "I have more knives on me than cooks have in the galley" Waite. He's been an excellent head of department, always friendly and will do anything in his power to protect the NESOP's.

Then the EWS, the old dog PO2 “My temper can alter extremely quickly from very happy to very angry” Cole. He is the typical old school PO2 but we love him, he always has a life lesson to teach us.

We recently received our second EWS, he is brand new PO2. PO “My life is about working out 24/7, LOOK AT MY ABS... BWAHHHh ‘Froese. On a serious note, he is a pretty cool person, a bit impulsive, strong character and always divulges what he thinks. Little fact, he recently acquired permission to grow his hair indefinitely. We even got a name for it: J-FROOO.

Next in the starting lineup are MS Andy Richards and MS Nathan Kuffner. Two great but incredibly different characters, without them the section wouldn’t have the skills and knowledge we have today. Thanks guys.

For our junior ranks we have 4 Leading Seaman which 3 of them being particularly new to the rank. LS “I’m hurt, I must go to the doctor in order to get a chit” Richard, LS “I bet you” Lemire, LS “I like to hear my voice” Beaulne and LS “need crypto to decipher what I’m saying in English” Turpin-Thauvette, Oh and... of course we are entirely Quebeckers, we rock guys!! Now let’s proceed to the Able seaman. AB “I only care about myself” Laidlaw, and AB “the gross ginger monster” Lamarre. They are supposed to get their killicks within few months but that ain’t happening but hopefully they can get on a QL4 course soon. AB “I Beat you up” Mercier, has recently obtained his NBP qualification which is going to be a MUST for our upcoming mission OP Artemis. AB Forgues, very reserved and competitive person. Our OD’s are: OS “I prosper from my mustache” Thorne and OS “Everyday I am missing” Phunsri.

Finally, we will indeed remain a busy unit, with upcoming work ups and OP Artemis, which is supposed to be a 6 to 8 months deployment. It will be our first time going overseas as a section, Looking forward to it and we’re sure we will have a good time. This is Ville de Quebec Out.

From HMCS TORONTO, Deployed, OP ARTEMIS AB Auchu



As we pass the midway point of Op Artemis Roto 3 with HMCS TORONTO - with 4 months at our heels - it's a good time for us to have some rest and relaxation. The first half of this trip was filled with excitement and some new experiences for the relatively young section. The section on board the Toronto has seen some awards and recognition. AB Corrigan (The Champ) received the Commanding Officers BZ Coin for his hard work and dedication on our first patrol. Many of our Seamen (and women) were promoted. OS Whalen was promoted to AB, also AB Parsons-Coady, AB Littlejohn, and AB Van Den Berghe were promoted to LS. On top of the promotions SSI's were presented to several members of the section, seriously punctuating the amount of time we have spent at sea in preparation for this sail, and with all of our previous sailing time onboard HMCS ST.JOHN'S.

Arriving in Kuwait was a major shock to the system. HMCS TORONTO conducted a crew swap in theatre, and despite all the warnings and stories passed on about the heat and sand nothing can prepare you for the feeling of that first hot gust as you step off the plane on to the burning hot tarmac. Our first day in Kuwait was met with a warm greeting from the crew that was already on board. It was hard to adjust to the heat, and some days I doubt that we have ever adjusted, but we managed to get the turnover and preparations for sailing. After spending some time in Kuwait, seeing the mall more times than I care to remember, we hit the sea for several sailors' first sail in the Middle East. This sail has brought us to several countries. We were able to see places like Muscat, Salalah, and even Djibouti. Now that we are in Dubai, we are more than happy that we are not conducting our Maintenance Period in any of those places. Not long before our RAMP there was an incident on board. One of our gas turbine engines caught fire. With quick action the fire was put out. After the investigation and many hours trying to fix it, it was determined that the GT would have to be replaced. Now we sit in Dubai with 24hrs of FMF workers on board tearing the boat apart to put the new engine in. The boat is a beehive of activity, between painting, MSE Maintenance, and CSE Maintenance, it's hard to look at a part of the ship that doesn't have a tech or a local worker working on it. We have almost reached the halfway point of our RAMP period and soon we will be getting back to sailing preps, and trying to get back in to the right frame of mind. With money spent like it was going out of style, some of us may indeed look forward to getting back out to sea. We can only hope the second half of this trip passes as quickly as the first half. More than anything we are all looking forward to getting home to our family and friends. For all our family and friends back home the HMCS TORONTO NESOP Section would like to wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and may your holiday season be safe and enjoyable.

From HMCS FREDERICTON
PO2 Joe Dickie



Representing the greatest city in Canada, HMCS FREDERICTON has overcome many challenges since the last instalment of the NESOP NEWS. The second east coast HCM ship, she was well received by her crew on 24 Jan 13 from Irving Shipyard, fresh from the HCM FELEX refit. I am sure you can imagine the work that was required to get her up to the standards expected prior to sailing. The NESOPS spent an abundance of time in the “Trainer” (as the support trades call it) learning the Combat Management System (CMS) and studying the futuristic systems onboard, however PCC seemed to think we were lying around drinking beer..... because they posted our PO1, Stephane Theriault to PRE and then Dubai to conduct duty watches for TOR, MS Simpson to TOR for 3 months to finish off the trip?? You know how absolutely nothing needs done when ships are just getting out of refit!!!! I am sure you have all been there, nonetheless we had quite a few days with LS O’Brien or LS Redpath as our Snr NESOP and I must say they stood up to the challenge. All in all it was a great learning experience.

RRI’s was the next milestone on the horizon which finally commenced in mid Sep. All were eager to set this fine ship to sea, (it had nothing to do with the long awaited sea pay and first issue of duty free I can assure you....) complete RRI’s and go for a run ashore in Boston. What a time, so they tell me.... Conveniently PO2 Sparkes had to undergo CSI training at this time and MS Olsen happened to be on PLQ, AB Parker, Terry and Gosse were attending their QL4 course, leaving us extremely short shifted for the trip, but as they say, everybody gets their licks. It all comes down to great timing I say, great timing. Needless to say, we passed RRI’s with flying colours, thanks to the work of our LS and Below (LS O’Brien, LS Redpath, AB Kauffeldt, OS St. Germain and OS Kastropil). When not in Officer Country, our AWWO, Lt(N) Glen Tucker was always willing to pitch in, often dressed in B Gear ready to attack a fire. The Manning Pool attack team/NAT (NESOP Attack Team), more often than not was made up entirely of NESOPS and our AWWO, Lt(N) Tucker, from Officer Country (2 Deck for the layman). I must say we have a great bunch, one of the best NESOP sections in the Fleet.

Having successfully setting FRE to sea, completing RRI’s, PTT (Not OTT, just PTT, Practical Team Training/SAFECERT), we have had a very busy and year. With all the pre-requisites behind us we look toward the wonderful world of trials, then trials and then trials after that, with WUPS in summer 2014 and a deployment in 2015. Fair Winds and Following Seas!

From THE WEST COAST

From the West Coast MOC Advisor
CPO2 Wayne “Bill” Frerichs

MARPAC Occupation Advisor
SENSORS SECTION CPO CFFSE



Greetings from the West Coast. Well, it has been a year since our last newsletter and many things have changed out here and around the RCN.

We have seen yet another year with many changes. CFFSE now instructs all levels of QL training for NESOPs and looks forward to seeing you all pass through our doors. HMCS CALGARY is at sea doing trials, WINNIPEG is preparing for theirs, VANCOUVER is being re-crewed and commencing training to take the ship, OTTAWA is prepping to start their

refit. To the crew of HMCS REGINA, your preps are nearing completion; you will deploy soon, best of luck and remain safe. There are more changes to come and the future of our occupation looks bright and interesting.

To all those personnel who have graduated from QL courses in the last year, BZ and congratulations. To all those who have been promoted, your hard work and dedication have paid off, congratulations and enjoy your new rank.

With the move to more cost efficient methods of during our business, Career Manger interviews by VTC will be upon us soon. Please ensure that all check their personal records and make sure that everything is up to date and ready for this.

Retirements

CPO2 Orwick
PO1 Vanderlee
PO2 Okeefe
MS Sulyma

Promotions

CPO2 MacFarlane	PO2 Davidson
	PO2 Wilcox
PO1 Featherstone	PO2 Spence
	PO2 Sheppard
	MS Russell
	MS Bishop
	MS Cote
	MS Teasdale
	MS Weatherell
	MS Awalt
	MS Weib

*From HMCS REGINA
LS Morin*



HMCS Regina's NESOP section has been running non-stop since coming together after a 100% crew turnover in July and August. We conducted DWUPS which helped the section members get acquainted and after accomplishing that there was no time to relax as we had to prove the ops team was ready to take on the impossible. We flew some of the best NESOPS known to mankind out to Halifax for OTT 1. PO2 Spence, known for his ability to grow the best Mexican moustache around, was the main reason for starboard watch's success during OTT1. As for port watch, PO2 Wilcox kept the resolves going strong and his story telling skills are still getting better.

As soon as the ops team was back in Victoria after this tumultuous training, WUPS was calling our name. ST(P) were able to bring HMCS Regina to a high readiness level during this shortened but successful sail which was combined with TGEX 14-01 of of SOCAL. Starboard watch, lead by Lt(N) Chong, had to accept the responsibility to be the power watch. We did so by, first of all, crushing records of pistol squatting and pull-ups under extreme thirst. How about port watch you may ask? Well, after spending 5 years in Ottawa, PO1 Featherstone had no issues coming back to sea and delivering like only a SWC can. With his previous experience on Regina back in 1997 and his steamer stories he sure was ready for the task to take us to the next level and eventually do it in the Gulf.

Coming home from this, it was time again to get ready to fly back to Halifax for OTT2. After 2 weeks of preparation and one passable health Canada inspection, the best were picked and flew to the ORTT in Halifax to prove once and for all the ability to defend and protect our home away from home, HMCS Regina. Not to be forgotten, Chief Macfarlane, our cherished CBT Chief, has since been dubbed hurricane admin.

LS Peppley and OS Earl both were dads for the second and third time accordingly.

Congrats to you and your wives! ☺ As for the former crew, PO1 Pearce took the scheduling position at the DC School, while PO2 Stewart got posted to JIIFC Det Ottawa and PO2 Lemay took a posting to HMCS OTTAWA. MS Pyza is now the PMC of the Pacific Fleet Club and the Formation MS and MS Lacombe has been posted to HMCS OTTAWA. LS Denis and LS Leitch both took up new residence in RJOC and AB Ouellette released from the CF and moved with her husband and kids to Alberta.

Now is time for me to get back to work, there are big shoes to fill since the old crew won the Lockheed Martin EW award, and the new REGINA crew intends to keep it. We all look forward to a restful Christmas leave period so that we can hit the ground running in Jan starting with MWUPs before our deployment.... Yay!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from HMCS REGINA's NESOP section

From HMCS WINNIPEG

LS Bowen



NES-Op-ery on the Winnipeg, though having suffered the blow of the American Dynasty, is slowly recovering. Since that event, numerous tasks had stretched the section thin of bodies for numerous tasks. And while we lamented not being able to train regularly in lieu of sentry duty while a welder proceeded to plug the holes in our hull we were still able to push onwards. From our very own PO1 Rempel becoming a repeat tourist/visitor of Halifax to AB Davis attending the dive course and our OS Prud'Homme completing his boarding party serial.

Though, that said, we are sad to see two of our own leave the section; we however wish them all the best in their future endeavors. LS Ellis who will soon be in the hands of CSOR as well as AB Seymour who has finished his contract and is prancing in greener pastures. That being said, our two FA(P) additions OS Boertjes and OS Munro have been valuable additions to the crew who joined us just in time to sail on the Orcas and the HMCS Calgary.

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a very jolly whatever-takes-your fancy! Sincerely, LS Bowen

From HMCS CALGARY

LS Dan Gignac



Howdy fellow NESOPs, what a year it's been for us on HMCS *Calgary*. We've successfully gone from Victoria Shipyards to being a functional post-HCM unit. It took a lot of work from the crew, and some help from our friends at Sea Training Pacific and Lockheed Martin, but we are closing in on being operational! From being part of the Watch on Deck to actually manning our consoles in Ops, it's been a long road. While sailing, we've done two sets of RRI's (the latter of which we are in the process of right now) and plenty of trials. Trial upon trial upon trial.....such is the life of the first West Coast HCM ship. We even threw a visit to Seattle, and a change of command in there, with Cdr Francoeur leaving and Cdr Wilson coming in.

Starting at the top, we finally have an AWWO, in Lt(N) James Lee, after what felt like an eternity without one. Of course, we have our fearless leader in PO1 Carlos Esquivel, who has been leading us to success while he has been at the reins. He couldn't do it alone (although I'm sure he could), so we have the pleasure of following the lead of our two Electronic Warfare Supervisors, the incomparable PO2 Mark Simper, and PO2 Derek "Sports Guy" Dawson. They have been working extremely hard, using their expertise with SIRIUS, as well as manning that shiny new EWS display, and the MASS launchers. Our "Gunslingers", MS Adam Marier, and MS Mike

Silver, have had to wrap their heads around NCPM 1000 (no, I'm not joking, it exists) and have found ways to keep us motivated. LS Daniel Borys, LS Matthew French, LS Chey Ford and myself, LS Daniel Gignac, AKA the A-Team, well, we've been standing on our heads keeping up with all of the changes. Granted, LS Ford, LS French and I spent time away from the ship on our QL5As, becoming the NESOPs that we thought we were. Of course, we round out the section with our ABs(some recently promoted) Mr. One-Liner, AB Johnny Champagne, AB Curtis Thiele, AB Alyssa Koehler, AB Paul Zaruba, AB Simon "Sleepyhead" Berube, and AB Randy Price. Along the dusty trail, we've roped up some attach postings along the way, because of our ABs off on courses and attach postings(LS Ford as well), with several Ordinary Seaman joining us for our recent sails. OS Evans came right to us from the Fleet School in September and began his journey to becoming a NESOP. For our sails this winter, we've also acquired the services of OS Aubin, OS Boertjes, OS Guest, OS Lacoursiere, OS Morin, OS Munro, just to keep them out of trouble, and get some hard-to-come-by sea time.

In between all of our sailing, our team has helped welcome two baby boys, with AB Thiele being a father for a fourth time, and LS Gignac, becoming a father for the first time. We also sent our fire control team back to Halifax for SafeCerts, working with the staff at CFNOS and Lockheed Martin, using the new drills, and finally getting our hands on the CEROS consoles. We were quite successful, and can't wait to begin the Shootout at the OK Corral, using the new and improved 57mm, CIWS and employ MASS for the first time.

The winds of change are coming for *Calgary*, but we will weather the storm. For now, I say, Happy Trails!

***From HMCS PROTECTEUR
PO1 Tim King***



Greetings and Happy Holidays from the NESOPS onboard HMCS PROTECTEUR!

It has been a very busy year for the Tanker. We took control of the ship in December last year and began the process of making her seaworthy. We plowed through Sea Acceptance Trials, Reduced Readiness Inspections, DCOTT and quite possibly the longest set of WUPS that any ship has ever had to endure. After the "kiss seen round the world" with Algonquin, we had to swallow the fact that our trip to the South Pacific and South-East Asia was not going to happen.

We came back alongside Esquimalt, re-loaded, fixed the bump on our nose and headed out to finish WUPS as part of TG-EX where the NESOP section onboard provided excellent target support to the Fleet during REGINA's WUPS.

AB Jamie "can't they raise that KU Unit up" Campbell, although new to the AOR platform, augmented the combat section extremely well; learning all there is to becoming an NCIOP??? With no CIWS and a SRBOC system that has yet to be trialed, he had to do SOMETHING besides take videos of every RAS. LS John "El Diablo Blanco" Helpard....well, let me see. I can assure you all that if any of you ever needed some inside information or intelligence about the less than 3 star accommodations in Mexico, he would be more than happy to share his experience with you. As a matter of fact, I think he even drafted a letter to Trip Advisor with some pretty harsh comments about the service. CPO2 Al Olejnik remains the Combat Chief here, padding his PER with all of the experience for laying charges, running trials and scheduling refresher training in the limited time that PROTECTEUR has been alongside. If I have to witness ONE MORE investigation and question period, I think I'll be getting some sort of sea-service type insignia to wear on my NCD's.

CPO1 Ian Kelly, the most senior non-NESOP on the coast (hahahaha) is the gel that makes our little family onboard here stand out amongst the weeds. Acting as the ship's sheriff and pseudo-godfather to the NESOPS onboard, there is definitely a disciplinary lesson to be learned from him somewhere. When I find it, I will let you know. Luckily for us here on PRO we had the pleasure of having LS Billy "Guns" Huston Attach Posted for the duration of our TGEX and SOCAL Oiler. I keep trying to convince the cooks that they should let him in the galley on the mids to make his West-Coast famous breakfast wraps, but alas, the closest I could get him is the Scullery....Sorry Billy. You are the best Molly in the fleet....I know it's not much, but maybe I can get you some kind of gold plated dish rack. As for me, with no CIWS,

no SRBOC, limited CSNI connectivity and no missiles I have resorted to undertaking absolutely every secondary duty I can lay my hands on.

On a more serious note, we here on PROTECTEUR would like to send our sincerest condolences to the family of PO1 (Retired) Thomas "Mugak" Smith, Rest in Peace, old friend. We would also like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday season. To those fellow NESOPS headed up to the great gunnery range in the sky, we wish you fair winds, following seas, a full magazine and no misfires.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
PO1 Tim King aka "Julie the Cruise Director"



Military Motivational Poster of the Month

*From CANFLTPAC
MS Dan Buch*



Good day to all. This past FY was a very busy year for us here at CAN FLT PAC, starting with myself MS Danny Buch being posted here in April 2012 replacing PO2 Martin Duhamel, and CPO2 Gordon Dolbec replacing CPO2 Sylvain Jaquemot.

We had very little time to get much paperwork done in the office as we were straight out to sea attached to ALG for TGX 2-12. When we returned from sea we started a very demanding schedule preparing for RIMPAC 2012 and a Canadian led Amphibious Task Group. In June we found ourselves in San Diego embarked on USS Essex heading to Hawaii. What a remarkable experience to be a major part of this exercise. For the next Six weeks we worked and lived along side our American, Australian, and Mexican Navy counterpart as well as the various other Nations involved. It was tremendously busy yet very rewarding experience for all involved. After the completion of a very successful RIMPAC we received some time to take leave and enjoy a bit of our summer with our families. As we all know there is never any rest for the wicked. After returning from summer block leave we rolled right into the planning phase for TGEX 3-12. TGEX 3-12 attested to be illustrious days in the Canadian Navy, with full exercise capabilities of HMCS Victoria. Although the weather decided that it didn't want to play fair and felt the flex should have to be changed hourly the exercise provided the evidence that our team could run an extremely rewarding and challenging exercise for all participants involved under any condition. With the completion of TGEX at the end of Oct. we found ourselves starting to get close to the Christmas

time of year and the start of a new year, which also happened to be the same time of year to start the planning phase for TGEX 1-13 with SCC attached to it. SCC was a success and only saw a limited number of staff attend as it was primarily an ASW event, no requirement for NESOPs. We are currently preparing for the FPC for upcoming Trident Fury 13 along with the multi element JOINTEX occurring this spring.

This will be my first and last post for the NESOP News Letter from CAN FLT PAC as I am posted to Black Rock as of 2 Apr 13, with my RFD date being 22 Apr 13 so that I can also teach my first and last Barracuda/Hammerhead operator course. My position here at CFP F3 has also been taken over by the NCIOP trade with the CFP MS NESOP billet switching to RJOC. CPO2 Dolbec will be posted this summer and is going from “Leading The Fleet” to scaring the fleet in his new red hat.

***From the West Coast Target Cell
LS Jack Curry***

Editor’s note: Jack Curry is a stoker we picked up from JPSU, and the only serving Canadian I know who actually has a decoration for being wounded in Vietnam. Yes, associated with the Vietnam War – true story. Anyway, the Target Cell Manager, CPO2 Chris Preston (a Reserve bos’n) retired in November and was not replaced. So now a facility with a few million dollars in inventory which serves the fleet in challenging gunnery and ASM targets is being run by a killick stoker. Just in case you thought nothing could still surprise you.

This year has been a busy one with Deployments on three MCDV’s for their workups, in the spring.

HMCS Algonquin was outfitted for workups in February/March. Also we outfitted two CPF’s and four USN’s ships for Trident Fury. With a total of 4 Hammer heads destroyed during those exercises.

Two HH/Barracuda operators course were run this year one in late spring, and one in October, also CPO2 Treverton and LS Curry attended a Train the trainers course for instructing HH/Barracuda operators, that was held in CFB Halifax. HMCS Ottawa was outfitted for her workups and also for TGX. HMCS Calgary is doing ongoing trials with Hammerhead’s this fall and will be doing workups early in the new year.

HMCS Protecteur and HMCS Algonquin were outfitted for TGX this fall, but unfortunately Algonquin did not make the trip to Southern waters (**for those who do not follow the news, the snout of the tanker opened the entire port side of her hangar**), however Protecteur was outfitted with both Hammerheads and aerial targets for the exercise, where a total of five Hammerheads were destroyed and three Vindicators were launched. HMCS Regina will be outfitted for Workups in December for a early sail in January prior to being deployed to the Persian gulf. HMCS Protecteur will also be outfitted and sail with Regina as consort for Mission Workups.

Some major changes to staff this year as CPO2 Chapman was posted to IPSC, and was replaced by CPO2 Treverton, And CPO2 Preston the target cell manager retired as of November 14/13 after 44 years service to the navy. LS Curry is the interim manager until a replacement can be found in the New Year.

***From AWWTC Black Rock
MS Jesse Truscott***

Greetings from AWWTC! We at the NESOP trade school take our role very serious, with emphasis on providing the fleet with a quality product. There is a lot that happens here on a daily basis behind the scenes. From meeting the demanding instructional requirements of QL courses, managing PAT’s administration/employment; to preparing ourselves for instruction of the new equipment associated with the Halifax Class Modernization. We are a cohesive unit that works together to achieve the highest standard possible. The school is a place of constant change and a fast pace learning environment. For most of us here, shore postings seem to be short lived... as time flies when you enjoy what you do.

Submissions for the last NESOP News Letter unfortunately never made it to print, so let’s do a collect and analyze all the data from the previous reporting period as well as current events. There have been many amendments to mention such as the several turnovers of staff, structural additions to the organization chart, also in more recent news; some critical changes in our force generating capabilities.

CPO2 Bill Frerichs completed the transition to Section Chief and took the reigns as the current NESOP MARPAC Occupation Advisor from CPO2 Mike Barker, who has since been posted to PLQ as the PLQ Senior Instructor. Currently the large number of personnel awaiting Jr. QL level coursing has been on the table top. The MOC advisor, accepted the challenge and proactively sought requirements for implementing a QL4 here on the West Coast. The ability for the west coast to offer this critical training will boosts the force generating capabilities here at Black Rock, allowing the qualification of 24 personnel annually. Those who are currently awaiting a QL4 course will soon have the opportunity to develop their skills, progress their careers and carry on with training at their Home Port Division.

Having the ability to offer training at all QL levels also requires extra staff to ensure the demands are met. Therefore, there have been some additions to the org chart. The newest addition is PO1 John Penner who relieved PO1 David Vanderlee (retired) as Senior Instructor. While Dave was performing the role of Senior Instructor he had an opportunity to pursue a career outside the Navy and has since followed through in his decision. Along with having the responsibility of Senior Instructor PO1 Penner still has commitments looking after Delta Training. PO1 Lloyd Boutillier, who was employed as the Damage Control Scheduler, has been welcomed to Blackrock as the section's 2nd in-house PO1. PO1 Boutillier will be looking after the regulating/administration side of the house.

PO2 Bruce Bevil has moved on from AWWTC into a new role with Port Security. Although he is missed, we still regularly hear from Bruce in his semi-regular email to the entire Naden and Dockyard parking stakeholders. He seems to have grown into hi new role with ease, explaining to laymen MARPAC parking policy and threatening dire consequences to any who would flout parking regulations.

PO2 Rex Heslop had been busy with the completion of his OPME's, learning about his leadership style, fulfilling OPI duties and completing several contracting and procurement exams which should qualify him to run a large corporation. Shortly after completing all training and gaining all necessary qualifications, PO2 Heslop was loaded on his QL-6B course and has now packed up is desk and is attending Black Rock as a student vice instructor. Hats off to our resident Electromagnetic Theory guru, PO2 Dominique Gougeon for the many hats she wears here at the school. Currently Dominique's duties include, OPI, Instructor, CSD, IT Manager; and Website Manager. In the coming months she will be the relied upon to instruct several QL courses as the op schedule ramps up.

MS George Gray, (AKA Hardest Man in NATO), although no longer employed at AWWTC, remains fitted equipment here at the school, albeit in a non-NESOP position. Now employed with Fleet School's computer support group, he has applied his personal wealth of Information Technology experience which makes MS Gray a valued asset here at the school regardless of the role he is assigned. Other new additions include instructors MS Greg Hamilton and MS Danny Buch. Greg was another position gained from WTS, his current role is taking care of PAT admin and instructed the most recent QL5-A. Danny attended HCI training in Halifax this summer prior to commencing any instruction him at the school. Both MS Hamilton and MS Buch are welcomed additions and their knowledge and experience is expected to assist Blackrock's force generating capabilities.

Rounding out the roster of instructors include MS Steve Tremblay and MS Jesse Truscott. MS Tremblay has graduated his second QL3 Course, and will be lead instructor for 2014's 1st QL-5B in the calendar. Only a few short months remain before his students are joining the fleet. Some of Steve's secondary duties at the school are representing the United Way and Unit Harassment Advisor.

As for myself, (MS Jesse Truscott) I have been a part of the staff here at Blackrock since last May. I remember my first day of instruction like it was yesterday. I reported for work and began instruction of a QL3 course. It just so happened to be course start the day I began my posting. I immediately transitioned into the role and haven't looked back since. I am thankful for the opportunity to be an instructor and can honestly say this is the highlight of my career thus far. I have now instructed two QL3 courses and am currently den-mother to the ongoing QL-4 session0046. To all my past students, I hope you are enjoying your time at sea and in the trainer and I look forward to mentoring you again when my time here at the school is through...hopefully not to soon.

Congrats to recently promoted PO2 Lisa Davidson, her time here at the school has come to an end as she finds herself validating her training, posted as the new EWS and A/Section Head of HMCS Vancouver's Sensor Section. Good luck back in the fleet Lisa!

Also a late breaking welcome to both PO2 Tracy Schulz and MS Philippe Burton who are now hanging their hats at Black Rock, PO2 Schulz will be leaning into the next QL-5B crs as her first time through as course OPI, and MS Burton will be learning the ropes as he takes lead for the first time as the next QL-3's lead instructor.

Well that about sums it up from us at Blackrock.

*From MARPAC HQ
POI Nathalie Scalabrini*

I would like to start with saying goodbye to a colleague MS Randall Sulyma NES OP who has retired this year. Happy retirement Randy.

If you have the chance to get posted to PCC(P) but still want (or need) to be able to make friends you should consider a posting elsewhere. Believe me the "ability to easily make friends" is not a required personal quality for the job. Everyone tries their hardest to avoid any contact with you or anyone working with you and PCC (P) should be deleted from Caller ID. But there is a way around that if you already have friends...The only NES OP position at PCC (P) lies within the Training cell as "Training Coordinator".

The Training cell is broken down into 3 very distinctive sections:

Force generation

We are mandated to develop efficiencies in force generation for the Formation. We actively seek sailing opportunities for sailors with OJPR packages. Each ship has a number of training billets (core crew vs. training bunks) that are ours to manage. So the bottom line is; if you require sea time for an OJPR (or EQ) we will send you to sea and sometimes on an East coast ship. COXNs have been very compliant when requested they land trained members IOT embark trainees for specific sails. This is called Force generation.

Monitor Mass Help Desk

Another function of the training cell is to maintain the Monitor Mass help desk for MARPAC. When you didn't even know what Monitor Mass (divisional management tool) was before getting posted there makes the learning curve a little steeper than necessary..lol..but the team is awesome and can troubleshoot anything you bring to them very efficiently. With Monitor Mass comes a new tool to help you (supervisor) in managing the tracking of signatures on OJPR packages called Training Tracker (MMTT). This tool is the greatest after sliced bread and keeps improving every week because of your inputs and recommendations. So go have a look and let me know what can be improved and what you want it to accomplish for you.

Reserve Forces Training

Within our cell we have a circle of Subject Matter Experts in all things relating to training in within NavRes. They are Force generating over 150 sailors every year, which are many sea days. This section is headed by a PO2 who is empowered enough to be able to keep a vessel ashore if he says so. This posting is the opportunity of a lifetime as Leadership goes. You will learn much about different styles of leadership and the one that fits you best. This is a great way to make a positive impact on all trainees that comes through your path. My roles and responsibilities give me freedom to make decisions and affect trades directly which is seldomly seen at my rank level. This is the extent of the training cell but don't think for a second this is all we do, PCC(P) keeps its fingers in every pots as a matter of speaking which keeps us on our toes and diversifies our corporate knowledge.

PCC Pacific continues to be dedicated to supporting and implementing MARPAC's Mission through the provision of quality personnel support and comprehensive human resource management. The PCC Organization's priorities for Fleet and Formation personnel support is:

Sustain ships in international/coalition operations;
Provide effective management of personnel for all operations;
Support the introduction of VICTORIA Class submarines;
Rationalize personnel tempo and data tracking;
Enhance QOL of personnel including retention aspects; and
Contribute to naval recruiting efforts in Western Canada

Don't be afraid of us, we don't bite.

Next Generation Electronic Warfare

It's my intention to try making this a regular feature, if the global community will cooperate and introduce interesting new capabilities on a fairly frequent basis. Today's item of interest is a jammer, built for the United States Air Force, called "Angry Kitten". No, I'm not making that up.

Actually, the name provides for an interesting side discussion on the evolution of product names for the U.S. military. In days past, the military was perceived as a cadre of benevolent warriors; seldom actually employed in warfare, but honed to a fine pitch of battle readiness and offering a menacing deterrent. Military projects in that era were awarded aggressive names like "Ass Ripper" and "Sudden Death". Some time thereafter, members of the fair sex began to take their place in the U.S. forces and in the military forces of their allies, and the project directors decided to take the aggression down a notch with project names like "Nail Breaker", "Hair Musser" and "Liam Hemsworth Is Dead". Turning the page yet again, military forces find themselves being deployed to areas of conflict rather more frequently – as a consequence, an identity crisis has ensued, and names like "Angry Kitten" are the result.



Anyway, Georgia Tech Research Institute's newest venture into the EA (Electronic Attack) market offers, according to its makers, "fully adaptive and autonomous capabilities that aren't currently available in jammers". What they mean by "adaptive capability" is a concept that has been often discussed but seldom implemented – machine-learning algorithms.

At the commencement of an EA engagement, the system chooses an optimal initial jamming technique from a range of options. It monitors and assesses how effective the technique is at defeating the emitter. But it also employs what the developers refer to as "cognitive learning algorithms" that allow it to respond against an emitter it has never seen before.

There probably are not many sailors left in the navy who remember the AN/ULQ-6 – prior to RAMSES, our only attempt to put a jammer to sea. It was as far from this as smoke signals are from an iPhone 5. One of its modes, called "blip enhance", actually made you look as big as a carrier to radar, by amplifying your echo back at the search/acquisition radar. Designed to protect the actual carrier or high-value unit (as if nobody else is smart enough to figure out it's almost always the one in the middle), it required you to mimic the carrier's radar echo, and therefore draw the missile toward yourself instead. I don't know that it was...ummm... ever actually employed in that manner. One neat trick its users did discover was that if – for example, in an Encounterex – you stationed all your ships in line-abreast formation at close range and turned on your ULQ-6's in blip enhance, it generated such a huge, fuzzy echo that it looked like some kind of weather phenomenon to "enemy" radar; if you were doing the exercise at night, drifting downwind on the enemy at around wind speed, without lights, would usually work amazingly well – once.

Now, thanks to Digital Radio Frequency Memory (DRFM), a jammer like Angry Kitten can "deceive an enemy by recording his received radar signals, manipulating them and sending back false information that seems to be real... You can create false targets, or hide real targets, using the enemy's own waveforms against him." Think of the complications a system like that could introduce to your SSM shoot.

<http://gtri.gatech.edu/casestudy/GTRI-next-generation-electronic-warfare-angry-kitten>

Next Generation Gunnery

Since Electronic Warfare is only half of what we do, let's take a look at what is on the horizon for gunnery. A general rule of thumb seems to be that much less potential for large technological advance lies in gun design than lies in ammunition design. An interesting example, although it may well never see the light of day, is the Long Range Land Attack Projectile (LRLAP), under development by Lockheed-Martin for the USN's projected ZUMWALT Class. The class is expected to consist of three ships, whose main mission would be as a gun platform to support landings and troops once ashore. The ZUMWALTs are way over initial cost projections and the usual efforts to assign them additional missions (to make them more appealing to those who hold the pursestrings) look quite a bit like the beginning of the death spiral we have seen happen before when the stars fail to line up appropriately for a new design; whether or not the ZUMWALTs ever taste salt water, the ammunition is a wonder.

The rounds would weigh 230 lb. apiece, and the ZUMWALTs would sport 2 x 155mm guns capable of firing 10 rounds per minute apiece from a 300-round magazine. That sounds pretty slow, but keep in mind that the maximum range of these GPS-guided rounds is 100 nm. Obviously, a spotter ashore would be essential, but it would mitigate to almost nothing one of the risks that initially killed the NGS role for the CPF when it was in the final project-definition stages – the danger of placing a near-billion-dollar warship within the reach of shore batteries.

<http://www.defenseindustrydaily.com/next-gen-naval-gunfire-support-the-usas-ags-lrlap-07171/>

Sticking with the theme of gunnery just for a moment, this story raised a lot of eyebrows.

<http://news.nationalpost.com/2013/11/18/uss-chancellorsville-sailors-burned-after-drone-crashes-into-cruiser/>

USS CHANCELLORSVILLE, a TICONDEROGA Class cruiser, was struck and damaged by a BQM-74E target drone which was being used to test the ship's combat system. Although the article was short on detail, it seems probable that the drone was being used as a component of a tracking or firing event, for which we routinely prepare by including "rogue drone" procedures and by bringing onboard gunnery systems to the Standing To state. Perhaps CHANCELLORSVILLE did as well; it seems unlikely the USN would take no precautions against such a possibility, but for whatever reason, they were ineffective. Typically the range will turn the drone away at about a mile, but the thing is hurtling inbound at 460 kt. or so, and there's not a lot of margin for error; by the time range staff realize it is not going to turn, it is probably too late for them to warn you, which is why you have to be paying attention and treating every presentation as if it were a real attack from a gunnery standpoint.

Nobody was killed, which is a mercy, although a couple of sailors received burns. But a burning question for the investigators is bound to be why the ship took no defensive action and did not shoot down the drone with onboard gun systems, considering that is what they are designed to do. The wise do not wait until it happens to them to take a lesson from such situations.



In Memoriam

The seagoing brotherhood mourns the passing of one of its own – Thomas McGachy Smith, better known as “Mugak” to his friends, died suddenly November 5th, 2013. I never knew Tommy, except by reputation, although we must have just missed each other in HMCS SAGUENAY where he was joining at the same time I was leaving. But the tributes left by shipmates who did know him paint a picture of a man who could make you laugh in the worst of times, who stood his watch without complaint and whose friendship was a precious thing. He will not pass this way again.

The sea--this truth must be confessed--has no generosity. No display of manly qualities--courage, hardihood, endurance, faithfulness

Joseph Conrad



And that's it for now. Enjoy your leave with your families and friends, if you are so fortunate as to have it, and spare a thought for those sailors everywhere whom duty keeps at sea protecting those who pass upon it in pursuit of their lawful occasions. Fair winds and following seas.

FIN

