



**The NESOP NEWSLETTER is published by and for the NESOPs of the Canadian Navy. It's purpose; to keep members current with items that reflect the NESOP community, by supplementing information provided by formal sources and 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**

**NESOP Occupation Takes a Moment to Reflect on the Past 20 years**

Yes, I'm slightly astern of station with the release of our special 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition. I had hoped that by providing the extra time we would be able to get 100% participation from all units where NESOP's reside. We did get most and for those unable to get a submission in, hopefully you'll have twice as much to say next time. Needless to say, the extra time you waited will be worth the wait.

As all who attended would agree, our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Professional Development Day and Mess Dinner were a tremendous success! Scattered throughout this special edition are pictures from the dinner. I've been careful to select only those which will ensure no one gets in trouble. It was great to see the outstanding turn-out for our dinner and the pride all felt belonging to the best occupation in the Navy.

As I write these words, HMCS ATHABASKAN, with SNMG1 staff in company, have assumed command of the squadron. Best of luck to you all as you demonstrate to the rest of the world that Canadians still remain the best at all we do.

Welcome back to the NESOPs on

HMCS HALIFAX. I'm sure you had plenty of "War Stories" to share with your fellow NESOPs over the holidays.

The career managers have now concluded their annual visits to both the NCR personnel and to both coasts. Hopefully you all had the opportunity to meet with your respective career manager and that he had good news for you. For those fortunate enough to in-line for promotion and / or courses in 2006, congratulations in advance and best of luck in your future endeavours.

I would like to thank CPO1 Terry "Nodder" Prowse for his work on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Title at the top of this page. We will be working on something new for future editions, so if you have any suggestions ensure you get them to me soonest.

Now take a seat, put your feet up and read all about your fellow NESOPs and what they've been up to. Enjoy!!

*It's not the size of the book that matters, but rather what's between the pages.*

*CPO2 Joey Smallwood*

**Le BULLETIN OP (DEN) est publié par les OP DEN de la Marine canadienne 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**

**In This Issue ...**

Editor Delayed Elsewhere	1	News From MARLANT	20
News From The NCR	2	Closing Thoughts/Points Of Contact	37
News From MARPAC	11		

# News From THE NCR



## *From the Career Shop*

By CPO2 Boudreau

NCIOP/NESOP/SONAR OP LS & Below Career Manager

Hello from the "Shop" as it's known here in Ottawa. CPO1 Mike McCallum and I have been extremely busy since August getting ready for and conducting Merit Boards. CPO1 Doucette (NESOP), CPO1 Pelletier (NCIOP), CPO1 Price (SONAR OP) were the board members and

Cdr Mountford was the Board Chairman. They conducted the boards from 12-23 Sep 05 here in the NCR. This year as one of the board secretaries I was extremely surprised to see how important a language profile is for **your** merit position. This is just as important for the NESOP's whose first official language is French. The board

members did see some Franco's without an English profile. Eight points lost. In this competitive and tight merit listing it could make the difference in being number one or number five. CPO1 McCallum and I are looking forward to our first CM Brief and interviews. By the time you read this we will have already given you the (hopefully) good news. This year for XMAS I hope you all get what you have asked for. Times are good for the NESOP community we've had a very successful PD Day and Mess Dinner. It was nice to have lots of participation from the NCR and the also from our fellow West Coast NESOP's. I believe it was the most successful Mess Dinner to date and we owe a special thanks to CPO2 Joey Smallwood, CPO2

Steve Murphy and PO1 Gerry Doutre. It's hard work from guys like them that make us the most successful MOC. I think I can say that this is one of the most rewarding jobs I have ever had. I would also like to thank the MOC advisors on both coast for their input and assistance to both CPO1 McCallum and myself. Their assistance has been invaluable during a busy season. Well that's all from the "Career Shop" and I hope that we gave you all good news during our visits.

CPO2 R Boudreau





## NEWC Ottawa

A belated Happy Holidays from the NESOP's at NEWC. Winter has settled into the Ottawa Valley, and our new personnel have completed all the coursing required for gainful employment. The career managers have come and gone, big smiles all around. We've had some promotions and new people will shortly begin to arrive in the New Year. MS Brad Harrington will be posted back to the East Coast in the spring. Hi Brad, Bye Brad!!

Also, Brad and wife Laurie are expecting their second child. Congratulations! MS Dave Gray and MS Robert Gagnon (NET) were recently appointed to Master Seaman. NEWC would also like to extend congratulations to both well deserving, members. MS Steeve Mimeault is back with us for the time being, providing much needed expertise with Library Generation for some of the less experienced. NEWC would like welcome LS Hugh Ledger who will be joining us in the New Year from HMCS Protecteur. PO2 Dave Keeping has been busy keeping us safe by killing, the vicious white tail deer - terminating two with extreme prejudice. He even traveled to the prairies to keep folks there safe. Nice work Dave, keep those tree-eating bastards at bay. CPO2 Wayne Tansley has taken the initiative of transforming our formerly bland "purple" office into a nautical time capsule. Are these pictures straight yet? Hope you all had a great and safe holiday season with your friends and family, wherever you may have been.

Until the next issue, fair winds and following seas.

LS J. Rodgers





## CFEWC

Since the last newsletter, there's been some roster shuffling. PO2 Saunders and PO2 Featherstone have been posted back to their respective coasts while MS Hawkins and MS Deschenes have been posted in. Also.... we've had PO1 GG Tremblay posted in to replace PO1 Roch Vibert who retired in Oct.

In the last edition we touched upon the roles of the different sections at CFEWC. This time around, we're going to delve into training and employment opportunities inherent to CFEWC.

PO2 Justin Raymond



From left to right- PO1 Baillargeon, MS Albert, MS Hawkins, C1 Roch Vibert, PO1 Tremblay, PO2 Raymond and CPO1 Fisher

Missing- PO2 Collins, MS MacMillan and MS Deschenes

## From the CO's Cabin

It is my pleasure to address the readership of the NESOP newsletter, since taking the watch as CO of CFEWC. I thought I would take a few words to remind folks of CFEWC here in the west end of Ottawa. CFEWC is the Canadian Forces (CF) centre of expertise for EW operational support. It provides responsive EW support to the Navy, Army, and Air Forces for programming of their EW systems. The unit was initially formed as an extension to the EW Emitter Data Base Centre, and has evolved through the EWOSC project to provide a wide range of EW support activities in accordance with current defence requirements, priorities, policies and doctrine. CFEWC also provides support to many other "J" staff organizations including J2 STI/ J6IO and of course to CSE and the international community for Tech ELINT.

Employment at CFEWC presents many new and emerging technological EW areas. It presents you, NESOPS, an opportunity to expand your theoretical, analytical professional knowledge in an environment free of the day-to-day pressures of the fleet. As you are aware, NEWC is co-located within Bldg 91 and the two units enjoy a very good working relationship.

The future growth of CFEWC is governed by the Electronic Warfare Operational Support Centre (EWOSC) Project scheduled to commence in late 06. EWOSC will enhance the current CF EW operational support capabilities by improving and increasing the analysis capability and EW database services provided by CFEWC. Specifically, EWOSC will introduce IR, EO and RCS signature and Intercept Exploitation enhancements to the CFEWC for inclusion into the CFEWDB to meet operational support.

Although a CF and joint facility, the naval presence is strong and sailors bring a unique and enjoyable aspect to employment here in CFEWC (ask the army folks!). So my recruiting pitch is this: should you be looking for a place of future employment away from the pressures of the coast, we would love to have you, assuming the CMs are supportive (I of course will assume they are supportive and "nice"). I encourage you to take the time and speak to your fellow NESOPS who are or have been here, either in CFEWC or NEWC. I have no doubt that should you desire to expand your specialized skill set, then CFEWC is for you...right CPO1 Fisher.

CDR David Brown  
CFEWC CO

## OPPORTUNITIES GALORE

Welcome to the home of opportunity, CFEWC. I am going to touch on the training opportunities for a person posted to the Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Centre (CFEWC).

The normal sequence for a CFEWC analyst, NESOP in this case, is to successfully complete the Mathematics for SIGINT (self-paced ~ 3 weeks) as a prerequisite to attending the Technical ELINT/Radar Analyst Training (SIGE 2810 (3 weeks)), then the technical writing (2 days), Data Interpretation & Analyst Procedures (two weeks), Basic Air EW (one week), and Advanced Operational EW (three weeks in Winnipeg). Should you be called upon for a deployment while employed at CFEWC, you will also be required to complete the Operational SIGINT Analyst course (OSA) in Kingston along with related refresher and DAG training. CFEWC also endeavors to further ones professional development in the areas of computer applications, leadership, safety, group dynamics and other such developmental training. There are also courses at Fort Meade Maryland where SIGE 3810 and SIGE 4810 are taught. We also have persons deployed overseas and give them peace support operations (PSO) coursing.

We also have persons that regularly are selected to deploy with the Privy Council Office (PCO) in support of the Prime Minister as well as CFIOG deserving members taskings such as the group selected to attend the 2005 Major league Baseball all-star game in Detroit. Every LS/Cpl in the unit who is physically fit has been loaded on and passed a PLQ course. The unit plans adventure training regularly such as a 4 day dog sledding trip in Algonquin Park.

The one prerequisite for a posting to CFEWC is to hold a level 3 security clearance. NESOP's are supposed to have that level, but we still have some who do not. If you do not hold it or are in doubt see your supervisor and then the Security Officer to get the paperwork in. It can take up to 2 years to acquire so act now.

CPO1 Ken Fisher  
UCPO/Trg O

## Desert NESOP

Six months at Camp Mirage...where do I start? The facilities at Camp Mirage are excellent. From the palm tree shaded patio to the hockey rink to the foosball tables, the Air Force provides nothing but the best. The pace at this secret desert airbase is staggering. Throughout ROTO 4 of OP ATHENA and ROTO 0 of OP ARCHER the EW Cell here at Camp Mirage has presented well over 100 pre-flight briefings and resolved numerous RWR ambiguities. We also backstopped the Intelligence section as official camp paparazzi during VIP visits. It's an excellent opportunity to learn about and participate in Tactical and Strategic Airlift Operations. Camp Mirage pros: No bong bong, no duty watches, no cleaning stations or part-ship hands. Camp Mirage cons: 2 beers per day (enforced), out-of-bounds areas in the Host Nation city (enforced), on-camp MP detachment (enforcers) and it's an *Air Force* camp.

MS Brian MacMillan



## NEDBAG 55

As a contributing nation to, and user of the NATO Emitter Database (NEDB), Canada was requested to host the 55<sup>th</sup> NEDBAG (NATO Emitter Database Advisory Group) in Sept 05. Canada had previously hosted this meeting in 1997 with much success. The NEDBAG is an advisory group of the NATO Electronic Warfare Advisory Council and holds conferences bi-annually, consisting of Emitter Working and Plenary Sessions. In layman's terms, this means that we populate and maintain what we all refer to as NEDB. NEDBAG is made up of 17 (and growing) submitting



nations to the Database, and normally has 60-70 participants including the NEDB Staff from Supreme Allied Commander (Transformation).

CFEWC hosted the 55<sup>th</sup> NATO Database Conference in Ottawa in Sep 05. As the host nation this was somewhat common practice to setup a 17 Nation Conference here in Ottawa but became a grand learning experience for a NESOP to under take something like this and I highly recommend anyone who gets an opportunity like this to go for it as it was very rewarding in the end.

It was not all work as we did get an opportunity to take a few of the nations out for a round of golf. In the evenings the real work got done down at the Irish Village here in the Byward Market.

I will be heading back to the coast in APS 06 and am looking for a relief so if anyone is interested in coming to Ottawa get your name in ASAP. I will be attending the next NEDBAG being held in Amsterdam of March of 06. It looks like the next meetings after that are going to be Athens Greece then Rome Italy or Istanbul Turkey. So a great opportunity to visit some ports afar not on a 460 ft steel Hotel. See you all next year!

PO2 James Collins



## CFJIC

Hello from CFJIC. As many of you attended the PD day/Mess Dinner on the East coast, you now have some kind of idea what we actually do here at CFJIC. It was nice to be able to get the word out to the fleet about what we do. It has been fairly busy here since our last report, especially since my counterpart spent six months in Halifax on his QL-6B, and left the whole shop to me. Upon successful completion, PO2 Evans has returned to the unit. He must have been stressed out though, and not eating properly, because the attached photo was lunch at the unit one day. It was great to see him back to his normal eating habits.

We have been working towards improving communication with the coasts lately, and have made great head-way, hopefully you'll be seeing more of our products floating through the airways soon. If you are looking for any further information, please contact us and ask, we're here to support you.

PO2 Denief





## JIIFC

A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from JIIFC and the NCR. It's hard to believe that I have been gone from the coast for a year already, for those that miss me I have been told that I have at least another year and half left. "Go Sens Go" Time flies, when you are having fun and a have a winning team to cheer for. Rumours have it that CPO2 Neish loves JIIFC so much that he has put in an extension until ~~2008~~ 2010.

With big changes happening in the Ottawa area due to Transformation and along with it the standing up of CEFCOM and Canada Command in February 06, it's hard to tell where and who JIIFC will end up. Next APS JIIFC will be increasing by 21 positions (all NESOP's) you wish, building a temporary structure to house this increase in personnel at LEITRIM. This will be followed by a possible completion date of 2009-10 for a permanent National Fusion Center. And they say the military has no money, just move up here, you'll see that the pockets are deep.

With the ever-changing job description of the NESOP, I have been officially moved from the SIGINT team to Open Source (OSINT) with the Intelligence Operators. I guess when I went to CFB Kingston for a 2-week exercise in June 05, the SIG INT world felt threatened by my knowledge and skills, they saw that I had learned their job in a day and this threatened them, so now I will attempt to pass on my knowledge and skills to the INT World.

Chief Neish struggles with his sanity, he has moved to the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the hospital and sends me random e-mails of gibberish. They say he is doing fine and will make a complete recovery in a couple of years. I guess his career managers meeting didn't go so well.

Congrats to all that have passed their courses got promoted and/or retired this year. Look out HMCS Toronto, Morty is back.

Submitted by PO2 Daniel Lalonde  
Edited by CPO2 Robert Neish

### Birth Announcement

I would like to take this opportunity to announce the arrival of another NESOP to the NCR.....

PO2 Colin Evans and his wife gave birth to a bouncing baby boy on Tuesday night, weighing in at a little over 9lbs. Colin is off on leave for the next couple of weeks, if you would like to send a congratulatory message, send it my way, and I will ensure that they get it.

Dan Denief

## CFRC KINGSTON

Hello to all from the Limestone City.

Having just been posted to CFRC Kingston, I finished my NRC (National Recruiting Crse), in Cornwall, and find myself a more ethnic diverse public relation-speaking guru. In short, you really have to watch what you say to the public coming in the front door. There is never a shortage of applicants, just a shortage of successful applicants. I have been trying my hardest to sell the Navy, but most people in this neck of the woods prefer Air Force or Army. In order to sell the Navy I think a Great Lakes tour would be called for with yours truly as the cruise director. On a more serious note, I do enjoy talking to the kids during school presentations about some of my experiences and what the CF has to offer.

My CO, Captain McBean, is an ex NESOP from the west coast. He was my LS years ago on the Terra Nova. A good group of people work here. Having an old sailor as my boss makes for some interesting stories.

All in all, things are going fairly well here in Kingston and the wife and I are settling in for a cold winter (quite a rude awakening after living in Victoria for 18 years).

In closing, I bid everyone a belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Best of luck on '06!

PO2 Troy Robins



**Head Table Party of Six for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NESOP Mess Dinner**



## ***CANFLTPAC / F3 Operations***

by CPO2 Lonnie Thompson  
CANFLTPAC CNESOP



Cheers from the West Coast.

As usual, at F3 Operations we have been busy since the last newsletter. A couple of TGEXs have come and gone. HMCS WINNIPEG is home from her deployment in the "Gulf" Area with OPERATION ALTAIR. We are preparing for another Fleet Week in Halifax.

During the Last TGEX, 5-05, we employed the new High Speed Inflatable Towed Target (HSITT). The target was towed behind the Barracuda and used for TACDEV for small boat attacks (SWARMEX). These small boat attack runs were conducted with off San Clementte, providing the fleet with more realistic target profiles with regards to small boat attacks. The West Coast Fleet has also completed an NGS (yes, that is right NGS from a CPF/Trump) Optest on San Clemente Island. This event was considered a success from an Optest/eval standpoint, due to the hard work and long hours put in by all units we may now be back in the business of conducting NGS.

Exercise Trident Fury is fast approaching and will prove to be one of the largest exercises undertaken by the Fleet off our Coast. The exercise will involve a large portion of our Fleet, joined by units from many other countries and will involve the firing of MSL's, main armament and a large assortment of airborne weapons. This will prove to be a very exciting exercise, with the possible inclusion of HMCS HURON as a SINKEX target for surf/air weapons and a comprehensive scenario designed to provide a significant amount of training for all involved.

In closing, as someone new to the rank and position, the transformation from CFFSE to F3 CNESOP was a big step for myself and I would like to thank everyone for their assistance! The exceptional support we here at FLEET have received from the ship's NESOPs and personnel at all levels throughout the organization have been exceptional. The door is always open if you have a concern or would just like to discuss an issue.

V/r;

Lonnie Thompson  
CPO2  
CANFLTPAC F3 Operations  
Task Group Chief NESOP



### NESOP 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mess Dinner Begins



SEA TRAINING

## ***SEA TRAINING PACIFIC - "Train As We Fight"***

by CPO1 Paul Helston

Good day. Another edition of the NESOP Newsletter and time for another submission from Sea Training Pacific. While I am not an actively practicing NESOP because of the Coxswain thing, I still like keeping in touch with my fellow NESOPs. So to that end I'll let CPO2 Clevett speak to the NESOPerry aspects of Sea Training. This fall schedule saw us visit Ottawa for a month and we will start the Harbour Readiness Training program initiative with Regina 22-23 Nov 05. As you can see by the attached picture the staff under went two days of DC training. This included one day of fire fighting in Chemox and the next in SCBAs. I can tell you the difference is significant. My latest intel indicates this is one of the Navy's top priorities and we should see ships start to be retrofitted in approximately two years. Why not sooner you ask? The answer is not just in the procurement of the SCBA but the engineering to install filling stations, racks etc. In the mean time I believe it is safe to say the manual start is here to stay and is a safe method of doing business.

In January we were aboard Regina for SRIs, followed by a possible Air WUP on Vancouver, Directed WUP on Algonquin and finish off the first half of 2006 with a full WUP for Regina. Aside from those events the staff have been working on a number of projects such as the new Basic Ship Safety package (BSS) for all classes to replace the KYS book. Other projects included staffing reviews on projects, MARCORDS, NCPMs, STG, CFCs, SSOs and a myriad of other important documents. Along those lines the two Sea Training Command Teams will meet in November to discuss some of those various policy issues and we hope to have both staff meet for a Symposium next April. Additionally there is the usual In Port Training, Harbour Firex and attending meetings and conferences.

Well enough of what we are up to. As stated in the Sea Training Guide, the key to a successful WUP lies in leadership; particularly the C&POs. Having said that, leadership does not end there! Regardless of rank there is an element of leadership needed by all ranks. This can take the form of take charge of your section and can extend to having a positive influence in any of your duties. A good example of this is if you see something wrong, don't just walk past it, but point out

the problem. Don't pass a fault. This can be as simple as having a positive attitude and being a team player. I would encourage all of you to be forward looking or proactive as possible.



Sea Training Pacific



CPO1 Ray Doucette Leads the Choir



## *News from "The Rock"*

### *AWWTC CAYUGA*

Here at Black Rock there have been a few changes. First, congratulations to CPO2 Lonnie Thompson who was promoted and posted to Can Fleet Pac, We received PO1 Don Weaver in trade. PO1 Bill Frerich has replaced him at standards, and he has since been very busy invigilating all exams at Black Rock. PO2 Real Langford is posted away from Black Rock. The staff presently at Black Rock are CPO2 Ryan Tompkins, PO1 Don Weaver, PO2 Ken Simoneau who's wife just had a baby girl on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November named Madison, she weighed 6lbs 15oz, (congratulations to him and his family) PO2 Billy Blore, PO2 Dave Vanderlee, MS Carlos Esquivel, MS Bruno Savoie, MS Kyle Timmons, and MS Will Farrell. I would also like to welcome the new Fleet School Combat Chief, he is a fellow NESOP, Chief Moger.

The cal lab is finally up and going with brand new computers, also the CANEWS antennas are being moved outside where the old director pedestal stand was. There are some rumours about making some more office space and putting in air conditioning, which would be pretty nice around here.

There are presently 3 classes in house and another one starting in the new year so it pretty busy around here. Also we had course 0007 graduate October 17. This course went through a hard time, actually everyone at the school did. After being secured from night classes OS Trevor Butler was riding his motorcycle up Esquimalt road and was involved in an extremely severe accident. Trevor succumbed to his injuries a week later and passed away September 24<sup>th</sup>. He would have made a good NESOP and will be missed.

So that's pretty much it here at Black Rock.





## CFFSE WTD

WTD has under gone major renovations, new blue carpet and a shift in the location of our desks. With the new changes comes a renewed drive. For all newly posted personnel to the 280's we have finished the new QSP's for the QL-4/5/6A/B courses. CPO2 Denis Labelle has directed us to offer significant discounts to all those interested in obtaining the accreditation.

We have been extremely busy this past while with upgrades to NULKA software and all the training requirements for the CIWS 1B.

MULTOTS completed testing for CCS 280 Version 8.0 software, CPO2 Labelle went to Australia for some NULKA training, although he hasn't

said much about NULKA since then, but he came back with a good tan. Both tankers have completed Weapon System Certification and now the ALGONQUIN and IROQUOIS are next in our sights with Team Training, Weapon Certs, MRI 1 and 2 approaching. It has also been a busy time for the MCDV's doing Weapon Certs, we even had to call in help from PO1 Don Weaver for that. We have also just finished a complete rewrite of NCPM 709, to bring the Kingston Class drills and procedures more inline with the heavies.

PO1 Jay Hassen is now the proud Dad of baby girl Danica Iris, congrats Jay. PO1 Ian Kelly has been doing not only his job but Jay's as well leaving

him with a couple of hats to wear. The doctor says that this will suit both of his personalities well. PO2 Shawn Falconer is expecting a new creation of his own sometime in march; we are hoping that the baby turns out to be just like its mother. MS Paul Frigon has been busy with his arts and crafts portion of his job, now if we could only get him to figure out the photocopier. Over at NCOT PO1 Rick Manuel is doing the best he can to keep PO2 Joey Lamky in line as he has built a shrine in his cubical to pay respects to the Cmdt as well as the Leafs. (go Senators)

MS Paul Frigon  
FCS Assessor



## HMCS ALGONQUIN



~~Happy Holidays~~ Happy New Year to the Fleet from the team on HMCS ALGONQUIN. It has been a very busy fall for the fleet. The NESOP Section on ALGONQUIN got to practise NGS, which is something, that has not been done in seevvveerrraaaaaalllll years. Most of us here had no idea what the term even meant. But as a team we were willing and up for the challenge. As a fleet we all did well but I know ALGONQUIN really enjoyed the opportunity to destroy tanks ashore. After NGS came the SWARMEX, were we had an absolute blast. The ship was heeled over at 30 degrees but when we heard steady we pumped rounds down range. It truly was a beautiful sight.

The rest of TGEX 5-05 was somewhat of a let down for the Section. They tried to make us do intermediate gunnery after that! Can you imagine? The rest of the gunnery was a bit tame after that but we still enjoyed ourselves. The FC team can hardly wait to see what the new changes they will toss at us in this year. The EW team was put to task during the exercise when we spent a portion sailing around without radars on. We had to define the RMP with ESM from us and other units that came over via chat. There are a few others out there that can confirm that none of us ever read the OPTASK CHAT before we chatted!

We never made it into Mexico due to shaft problems and I am certain our ship can be heard all the way to Hawaii due to the noise it puts out. The runs ashore in San Francisco and San Diego were fairly quiet, as we had no one arrested! Other than that we are glad to be home. We sailed a few bodies short, as LS Dave Tremblay and OS Eric Lemay are both on their QL4 in Halifax. As well LS Tom Patterson is still on his parental leave and will be rejoining us in the new year. LS Phil Burton was off in Kingston doing the OSA course so as you can see we were short a few warm bodies in some of the seats. I think it's the norm to sail with a max reman of 50% or so? The rest of the team led by PO1 Steve Gracey, PO2 Keith Churchill, PO2 John Penner, MS Darryl Barrett, MS Tracy Schulz, LS Johann Dandrade, LS Ray Sweeney, LS Bill McMillan, LS Shea Thorne, LS Luke Mack, LS Daniel Borys, LS Dom Cote enjoyed the challenges put forth by the exercise and look forward to possibly sailing with an entire section next time!!

Happy Holiday's New Year to all and stay safe!

## HMCS CALGARY



Hi everybody! HMCS Calgary has been doing well and keeping up with a steady sailing schedule. We are now slowing down for the holidays, with the exception of sailing in support of a recruiting video. OS Mackay just returning from a successful QL-4 course in Halifax. AB Moffett is currently on his boarding party course. AB Braga is now LS Braga and we congratulate him. Dawson and Crouse were promoted to LS at the end of WUP's, and look forward to their QL-5 B's in the New

Year. OS Adamowski, MS Mahoney, MS Pearce and PO2 Long were posted in since the last newsletter and are fitting in nicely on the best ship in the fleet. MS Mahoney has returned from a 3-month parental leave, as he welcomed his new daughter into the household. MS Pearce has re-qualified as a diver and has successfully completed a Diver Supervisor course. We are also looking forward to OS Munger to join us on the completion of her QL-3's in Jan. PO2 O'Keefe and LS Derry are still fixtures onboard Calgary. We are glad to finally have PO1 Dolbec back. OS Starcevic has had his attach posting extended and will sail with Calgary till June. HMCS Calgary will be heading out for a SOVPAT in the early New Year. Calgary's NESOP section would like to send out a belated best wishes to all for a safe and happy holiday season. ONWARD!

LS Crouse



## HMCS REGINA

Greetings from the Regina! First of all, a big congrat's goes out to AB Stewart, AB Amos and AB Paquette for achieving the "Top Student" award on their QL4. That is three courses in a row for Regina NESOP's and they have proudly set the bar high for all Jr NESOP's in the fleet to follow. A well done also goes out to AB (Skeeter Snow peas) Wilcox for placing in the top third on his QL4 course (topped by AB Running bear Amos!). Another congrat's (or condolences) goes to AB Wilcox for tying the knot this summer. We recently welcomed two new EWS's to Regina - PO2 Featherstone (from CFEWC Ottawa) and PO2 Pippy (from the Rock). PO2 Featherstone has been busy since joining us this summer, with AP to the Protecteur and then off to HMCS Ottawa for OTT2 (welcome back from the 3 year holiday in our nation's capital Darryn). The rest of the gang that is still here are - PO1 Smyth, MS Duhamel, MS Rempel (myself), LS Comboye and OS Jones. We also have a few rentals from FA (P), LS Aubin and OS Buch. Coming to our family soon will be LS Andrist from Athena and OS Gendron fresh off his QL3. And last but not least, it looks like our Combat Chief Jimmy Percival, will be leaving us sometime in the New Year. As far as sailing goes, Regina will be ramping up with a very busy schedule in '06. We have trials, SRI's, WUP's, RIMPAC and WESTPLOY coming up all in the New Year.

That's all from here. Best of the holiday season to all and happy seas!

## HMCS VANCOUVER



Hello all, from the illustrious Vancouver. Our schedule for the past year has been busy to say the least, from work-ups last Feb. to D-Wups in April followed by an ORO course and FNO course. Which brought us to Oct for TGEX 5-05, during the TGEX we stopped in San Francisco for fleet week, good times had by all. Our next stop was Ensenada, Mexico, where we all got to see some interesting sights. After our return home from TGEX we had a nice break for five days before setting sail yet again to Vancouver for the Grey Cup.

The department itself has seen some changes such as PO1 Treverton posted in as our SWC, followed closely by PO2 Boutilier as our EWS. MS Gray is still kicking around, uninjured for a change. MS Howlett will soon be taking his parental leave to spend some time with his new baby boy. Upon completion of his leave he will be enjoying his new posting wherever that may be. LS Heslop is looking forward to returning to the department in December after his stint as molly. LS Gougeon is celebrating her promotion and looking forward to her 5b's. As for myself, LS Stopa, I'm eagerly awaiting my 5b course and trying to get by, one day at a time. AB Hanna continues to keep us laughing. AB Awalt was unfortunately injured during TGEX and has been landed until May. The newly appointed AB Lashinski was also injured during our stay in Vancouver (stupid Taxi Cabs) get well soon guys. OS Churchill and OS Kehoe have recently returned from their QL-4 course as STIR gods. OS Stevens continues his attach posting here on Vancouver.

Well, that's it for the NESOPs on Vancouver, take care all and see you next time.



## HMCS WINNIPEG

We're finally back home after being away conducting OP ALTAIR for six and a half months. A great time was had by most of us at the more tropical ports. Saipan, Seychelles (which was gorgeous), Singapore and Fiji were a blast, the rest of them were rather typical, Diego Garcia, New Zealand, Australia, Hawaii, the dreaded 'box' stops and wherever else I'm forgetting. All in all, it was a good trip, not very exciting for the NESOPs but the tax-free money sure had us dancing in the streets.

As you all know there are a lot of postings after a six-month deployment so we are bracing for a big changeover, but as for now only our two rentals, LS Verge and LS Payne have left us. LS Verge came to us from Athena and has now gone off to her new posting, HMCS Vancouver and excitedly went back to sea to go see the Grey Cup in Vancouver. LS Payne is headed back to HMCS Protecteur (and also back to sea right away), then on to Athena. We offer thanks to them and their units for allowing these fine NESOP's to make the trip and contribute as well as they did.

Lt(N) Goodyear has moved on to North Bay to give his sweater a workout and has been replaced by an eager Lt(N) Kovacs, who comes to us from HMCS Protecteur. Congratulations go out to him on his recent passing of the AWWD course. PO1 "Speedy Gonzalez" Jaquemot had a great trip and is currently in Mexico living it up, trying to rekindle his affectionate devotion to the sun in order to get his skin back to its usual golden brown hue. PO2 "POD OFFICER" (polish for PO pronounced poda feetza) Olejnik was up to his usual iron pumping and remained pretty calm except for when everyone started to grab at his nuts (mixed nuts that is), making him turn from Bruce Bannerski into the Incredible Polish Hulk. PO2 Lange was spotted most of the time either on the flight deck, the exercise bike, or running up his chit with the newly promoted PO2 Champ both drinking all the white wine in sight. PO2 Champ prefers to be remembered more for "cutting a mean rug" however.

As for MS Kenny... well he prefers to not be in the limelight so we'll just leave him alone. LS Lalonde's most memorable moments took place in Diego Garcia, after having gotten to know Mr. Jack Daniels, they had a great conversation with a garbage can for most of the night. LS Berezuk is the "**Goods**". For any of you who know him, you'll understand what I mean. AB's Callaghan, Fannon and Denman left the trip early to attend their QL-4 course in Halifax. It has been pretty quiet without having them around. During several of the port visits, AB's Callaghan and Denman could not decide which superhero they wanted to be, so they played the part of both Spiderman and Flash Gordon. ...sorry inside joke I guess. Our token American, AB "G" Fannon, was quite busy during the trip either stressing his views with Ex-pats in Bahrain, defending his beloved George W. Bush and the USA, or sending mass emails to the entire ships company on a whim, which he now knows is a big no-no. AB Johnson and OS Nelson tried to keep their heads low and their faces out of sight, just how they like it. It worked most of the time. AB Johnson must have had a great trip though because prior to our deployment he was counting the days to the end of his contract but has now recently signed for another 22 years!! Whew, that's a long time! Last and certainly the least, welcome back to LS Pollard and AB Sheppard to the section who were landed for our deployment.

We're happy to be back and we're looking forward to the possibility of having a little more time at home next year although our upcoming OPSKED seems to dash our hopes. Being a high readiness unit and maintaining our Best in the West status means a busy New Years schedule ahead of us.

We wish all the NESOP's and their families out there, wherever you may be, East, West, Colorado, Ontario, etc. a belated Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 2006.

...see WINNIPEG pictures next page



In Pearl Harbour enroute to the Arabian Sea...

Standing from L to R: PO2 Champ / LS Lalonde / PO2 Olejnik / LS Payne / PO1 Jaquemot / LS verge / Lt(N) Goodyear / The Goods / PO2 Lange / MS Kenny

Kneeling from L to R: AB Johnson / AB Fannon / AB Callaghan (with our prized EW trophy – see? we are the Best in the West... oh wait, that would make us the best of both coasts!!) / OS Nelson

Missing: AB Denman (who joined us later in Singapore after successfully completing the Ships Team Dive Course)



AB "Poncherello" Denman.

## News From MARLANT



### *East Coast Advisor Report*

by CPO1 Randy Smart

MARLANT NESOP Occupation Advisor

Well what can one say, it has been a few months since the last submission. I have had the fortunate privilege of being posted to the Primary Leadership School (that's the old JLC) and will have no doubt the time to invest in helping some NES OPs gain experience and training to become strong and effective leaders.

On the MOC side of things, most have heard the briefs or been properly informed by their supervisors on the MOSART projects that are on going. I will stress that these projects are only proposals to date, have not gone past the QL3 level and will require further approval and monitoring. These proposals are not new and it was fleet personnel that did the initial stages of reference and overview for what could be the Combat Operator of the future. It should be noted that back in the early spring a call went out for operators to assist in the boards for the review of the MOSART requirements, "ONLY" two fleet personnel responded and were eventually attached to the review process with other members from the Ottawa and West Coast establishments. All must be cognizant of the fact that things change as technology progresses, having said that no one is going to be handed a pink slip at the end of the day or in the future.

A last demand (because this is a must) that goes out is for supervisors to continue, confirm and process the "SECURITY CLEARANCES" for themselves and their subordinates. There are and will continue to be more attractive shore billets for NES OPs and they are going to go to those who are ready to slip into the positions because they were professional enough to ensure that their career progression was lined up with their career requirements.

To close, after thirty-one years as a sailor and twenty as a NES OP, where I initially complained and whined (1980-1985), it had to be the most refreshing change that I had to adapt to, participate in, and help become what we are as an MOC today, it was not difficult. To the future and health of the Navy and our MOC.



**PO1 Rick Tenyeck, Mr. Brian Thompson & CPO1 Randy Smart discuss MOSART!**



## MARLANTHQ – N34

As we all return from Christmas holidays, I'd like to wish everyone in the NESOP community a very Happy New Year and I look forward to working with and hearing from as many of you as possible. That being said, welcome one and all to ORAC(E).

First question normally asked - what does the acronym ORAC stand for? Operational Requirements and Analysis Cell (East) or is it Old, Really Ancient Chief (Exclamation mark) - you decide. Basically, we work in the following manner. Problems with the Combat and Control System for the HALIFAX Class Frigate are noted by operators, FMF (CS) analysts, CFMWC personnel, or others such as ORTT personnel. These problems are brought to the attention of ORAC(E) and we discuss with Lockheed Martin Canada (LMC) and Canadian Software Support Team (CSST), the ramifications and significance of the problems, prioritize the suggested solutions. After LMC has made the changes and with quality control supplied by LMC and CSST, they are "bench-tested" in the Pullen Building at Stadacona, and Harbour Acceptance Trials are conducted. Following these trials, ORAC, trying to take advantage of intense operationally orientated exercises, trails the new version to sea and encourages operators to stress it as best they can. If they break it - okay.

Now, normally the changes made to the existing software do not have negative effects on existing conditions because every change is subjected to rigorous quality control checks. What usually happens is that improvements to the system help the operators reveal other problems or permit them to suggest further improvements. You might wonder why, after having the CPFs for almost 15 years now, we still have software issues. I liken it to driving a car. If all you ever do is drive the car in first gear and never get above 20 km/hr then it is unlikely you will find many problems. After you become more familiar with your car and you learn to shift gears then you might discover problems with the clutch. Further improvements will allow you to increase your speed and you may realise you need better brakes or suspension systems which may lead to a larger engine, etc. This is the same with the CPFs. Don't forget that every time we add a new system or change existing ones we have to look at its impact on software. The crew of HMCS ST. JOHN'S, with the arrival of the Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile can attest to the need to change CCS to allow for the difference between the CPF's current Sea Sparrow and its successor. The more we become familiar with the ships, the harder we drive them and more we demand of them. It is the goal of ORAC(E) is to perfect the CCS to the point where Command can feel confident in operating the system in AUTO ASSIGN, which may sound optimistic but is not really that far off.

Now, my job in all this is to fill the rather large shoes of Danny Myers, who had already departed for Disneyland-on-the-Rideau - (thanks for the turnover, Dan). I am dealing with the software changes that affect Above Water Warfare which includes not only weapons related software but radar and electronic warfare. It is an extremely interesting job and has forced me to expand my knowledge base to think of almost the whole combat picture, (Awfully Slow Warfare software concerns, fortunately, is not part of my job description). Now to do this job I have to rely heavily on the 'subject matter experts (SMEs). Who are these 'experts'? You are - and I don't mean just the senior NCMs. I mean the operators (NESOP and NCIOP) who sit in front of the consoles 24/7. It is you ladies and gentlemen that fight the ship who are more likely to locate problems or who can recommend improvements and as such it is from you that ORAC gets the feedback essential to enable Command to succeed in completing assigned missions. During the recently completed the at-sea trials for Version 8.2, with the help of FREDERICTON's and MONTRÉAL's NESOPs we recreated a problem which had been reported informally to me by a Fleet School instructor. We will now dig deeper into the CSUMs and STANAGs and find a definitive answer to what is supposed to happen and what is happening. Now, there is the formal process of UCRs and Software Problem Reports which is the preferred method of reporting software problems but with the wonders of E-mail you can always provide a heads-up directly to me, (please let your bosses know what you have done).

.....continued on page 22

## MARLANTHQ – N34 continued.....

Time and circumstance permitting we can try to reproduce, either during at-sea testing or in the Pullen Building. If the problem is reproducible then we will weigh the significance and importance of it and suggest corrective action if required. As I stated at the beginning, I look forward to hearing from you because in this job, the more problems we hear about - the better.

CPO2 Christopher Lee  
LN34-63 SO ORAC AWW

## CCFL



Greetings from the Fleet Chief NESOP's office. As you may have noticed, the name is changing from TG Chief NESOP to Fleet to reflect the new way of doing business out here on the east coast. I relieved CPO Dorrington in July after a short notice promotion and shuffle of billets. Not long after, hurricane season struck and the Task Group was deployed to the Gulf of Mexico for relief efforts. We warfighters were left behind as rear party to make way for humanitarian trades to take the front lines. The hot issues on the waterfront are keeping us busy; trying to ensure the Barracuda is ready to go, shifting the flag to MONTREAL and, as always, ensuring there are warm bodies in the seats when ships go to sea. CANFLTOPS 2/05 was a very busy time for surface and air gunnery as MON and FRE both got to conduct intermediate and advanced serials. Lots of great experience for both teams! Planning is now underway for COMREADOPS in Feb. and getting ready for Fleet Week. Don't be afraid to drop in to D166 for a visit the next time you're in the south end of the dockyard.

CPO2 Stephen Haughn



**PO1 (Ret'd) Mike Spioneck says "He's buying"!**



## SNMG 1

As the SNMG1 Staff Chief EW for 2006 I thought I would provide a bit of insight into what it is I actually do (yes Joey I actually do something other than miss meetings). First a bit of history.....

The Standing NATO Response Force Maritime Group 1 (SNMG1) is a unique naval entity. It is the first active, permanent international naval squadron ever formed. Its roots go back to 1960, when it was proposed that a NATO Anti-Submarine Warfare Task Group be formed. In early 1965 Canada, the Netherlands, the UK and the US responded to this proposal by each committing one ship for a five month series of exercises entitled MATCHMAKER I. When this proved successful, it was repeated in 1966 and 1967.

This success led to the approval in mid-December 1967 of the permanent Standing Naval Forces Atlantic by the Defence Planning Committee of the North Atlantic Council. The Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic (SACLANT) was authorised to activate and operate the force shortly afterwards. STANAVFORLANT came into being on 13 January 1968 in a short ceremony at Portland, UK. Initial participants included HMS BRIGHTON, HNLMS HOLLAND, HNOMS NARVIK and USS HOLDER, augmented in March 1968 by HMCS GATINEAU and FGS KÖLN.

On January 1st 2005 the force was renamed to Standing NATO Response Force Maritime Group 1 (SNMG1) to reflect the integration into the NATO Response Force. As well Standing Naval Force Mediterranean, (SNFM) was renamed Standing NATO Response Force Maritime Group 2 (SNMG2).

Today, the ships are usually attached to the force for up to six months on a rotating basis. To provide continuity, the force commander and staff are appointed on a more permanent basis, rotating annually. For 2006, Canada's year in command, the force commander, Cmdre Denis Rouleau has selected the national staff from across Canada and not only from the east coast, which was usually the previous practise.

In peacetime, the force exercises primarily in the Eastern Atlantic. Thus, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) has operational command of the force, and the Commander Allied Maritime Component Command (MCC) Northwood administers the force on SACEUR's behalf. This will change if the SNMG1 enters the Med. It would then chop to MCC Naples. This happens often based on both SNMG1 and SNMG2 participating in Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR.

In terms of specific and continuing tasks, SNMG1 spends about 60% of its time under way, conducting training exercises, cooperating with non-SNMG1 forces to make the optimum use of available training and support facilities. In the course of this work, the force participates in major NATO and national exercises at sea and plays an important part in the evolution of new NATO naval warfare tactics. Also, the force is scheduled to visit various ports, including those of non- NATO countries, to show itself as a visible symbol of naval solidarity.

In the year 2006 both HMCS ATHABASKAN then HMCS IROQUOIS will sail as Flagship for CSNMG1. As the Staff Chief EW it will be my job to ensure all units contribute to an accurate RMP through the effective use of EW. With that in mind I will be specifically tasked to stand watches as one of the Watch Chiefs, Chair EW Supervisors' meetings, identify EW exercise requirements, prepare EMCON plans and EW tasking for operations/exercises, and assist the Staff INTO with any/all intelligence requirements.

.....continued on page 24

## **SNMG 1** continued....

In addition to the above, and maybe the most important job during NATO's time of transformation it will be my job to try and adapt the organisation into an "alliance" of Electronic Warfare. This will present a particular challenge with the new, non-traditional NATO units.

Our time in command will be a year for Canada to once again demonstrate to our NATO partners our ability to successfully command at sea. This will be a tremendous challenge and it is the Commodore's intent to establish a high tempo, operational focus for the task group. With that said over the next year a great many of you will be hearing from me with requests for all kinds of information. I look forward to working with ATHABASKAN and IROQUOIS as well as all the other agencies East, NCR, and West that I will need support from.

Editor's Note – Steve, I hope you make it to your EW meetings on time! In addition, is that a glass of water in your hand in the picture below? Perhaps you were just getting the water for George?



**Diners LS Baker, CPO2 Dennis Morgan and CPO2 Steve (never on time) Murphy**



## *CFNOS Halifax AWW*

Hello there fellow NES Ops & CPO2 Boudreau (Groucho Marx) from everyone here at THE SCHOOL. We have been busy the last couple of months moulding new minds or making new minds mouldy (perhaps a little bit of both). There have been 2 FCO, 1 AWW, and 2 CIWS "D" and 1 SEASEARCH crs since the last newsletter. There have also been some changes here at the school, CPO2 Brian (I am going to the mess) Holm-Larsen (recently retired) position as training chief has been taken over by CPO2 Tom (Get away from the JOE LOUIS pastries) Dorrington aka Gooch, PO1 George (I wish it would snow) Hamilton has been posted to HMCS Charlottetown and replaced by PO1 Wendell (Are we out of RONI) Kitchen, PO2 Ed (I am getting' loaded this weekend) James passed his AWW course and is now PO1 Ed James SWC onboard HMCS IROQUIOS, PO2 Mike (I can't teach cause I'm going golfing) Culligan has been TD'd to HMCS MONTREAL as the acting SWC congrats to both. PO2 Luc (Hey Stu lets go hunting, said with a thick french accent)

Thiverge has been posted in from HMCS HALIFAX and now PO2 Stu (O.K. Luc) MacElwain and MS Sam (Has anybody seen Sam lately) Metcalf have a hunting buddy. Sam shot a deer (small dog) and it was so small it only had 2 ribs and one steak. Stu also bagged a deer that was 125 - 150lbs, all with the help of Lucy Luc. PO2 Pete (hey Chico lets go for a smoke) Rigby was posted in from HMCS VQ, now Chico has a smoking buddy. MS Dave (I am too cheap to turn on the heat in my house) Mac Nevin has been posted in from HMCS Charlottetown, Dave has passed testing and been accepted for JTF training. Congrats to him. MS Scott (I can't seem to stay out of the POOP) Wells has been placed on waivers and sent to HMCS Halifax for their NATO because MS Rick (Holy Christ Dave is cheap) LeBlanc is on the DL. LS Michelle (Where are we going for dinner) Dumaresq was TD'd here for a while assisting with FCO/FCS/CIWS D training. She has since returned to VQ (followed shortly thereafter with a promotion and posting to Ottawa),

thanks for the assistance.

LS Phil (I have to check my pocket JANES for the answer) Beresford has been TD here from HMCS ATHABASKAN while recovering from shoulder surgery. Still here is PO1 Andy (I can't believe they went through all the RONI and JOE LOUIS already) Farouse. PO2 Claude (Why is Mike golfing again). PO2 John (It's not my job to do paper work I am only the RPO). MS Jeff (I wish Wendell wouldn't eat all the RONI). PO2 Duane (I don't care) Cole, PO2 J.J. (I LOVE CHIPS) Mac Donald have been posted to HMCS HALIFAX good luck and smooth sailing.

Welcome to all posted / TD in and good luck to those who have moved on. Well that is all from the AWW section at THE SCHOOL, we wish the best to you and yours during this Holiday season.

P.S. CPO1 Doucette thanks for the pizza, wine and beer during the NES Op mess dinner (at 0500 buffalo) we really appreciated it.

MS Rick LeBlanc  
CFNOS/AWW/CT

**Editor's Note – as this edition goes to print, CPO2 Gooch Dorrington is packing his bags and preparing to head in-land to a posting to the National Capital Region. See picture next page for Gooch's story about what he'll be doing in his new job.**



“Gooch “I’m headed to the Special Task Force” Dorrington



## CFNOS TTT

by MS Trepanier

Greetings from Tactics Team Training at CFNOS Halifax. All is well as we have another MEGA behind us. In the past few months we said good-bye to Steve (Look at me I'm a chief now) Haughn, and we welcomed back Howie (Get me off the Halifax) Martel. Posted in long enough to do his in-routine was Adam (Oh no not a 280) Boone, but was delightfully promoted and sent to HMCS IROQUOIS. I would like to take this time to congratulate Jake (are my boots shiny enough) Lowthers on his QL-6B course and Tony (can you say wind change) Phee on his QL-6A course, good luck guys. Furthermore, stepping into Jake's place is Larry (get me a 6B course) Peek; welcome Larry. We will soon be saying good-bye to LtCdr Mike Jones of the RN as he will be heading back to England. From all of us at TTT we offer everyone a belated Joyous Christmas holiday, and may the crew of HMCS HALIFAX have a safe return trip home from NATO.

Written by: MS Jason Trepanier CFNOS-TTT



## **CFNOS NESOP STDS**

by PO2 Eric Vaudreuil

Standards is the name, QSP is the game. Good day fellow NESOP's. Not a lot to report here in Standards. We've had no personnel changes since the last newsletter, CPO2 Dennis Morgan is still our fearless leader, PO1 Terry Kennedy is still here, and myself PO2 Eric Vaudreuil. Almost forgot validation, who's there again let me see on my recall list, oh yeah I remember seeing him roaming around now, PO1 Roger Tymchuk. We've just finished another FCOP course, 10 more FC qualified NESOP's for the fleet, which brings our total to 60 for this year. No major changes to the QSP's, there's a new EWS assessment sheet for the MEGA, for all you non 6a Qual MS out there, you can thank PO2 Jake Lowthers for that. If you have any questions or want to visit to drop in we're located in S-17 in the penthouse.

PO2 ERIC VAUDREUIL  
721-6586



**PO1 (Ret'd) Spud Gallant describes retirement to MS Ezio**



## CFMWC

by PO1 Gerry Doutre

2005 has been a very busy year for OTEG/AWB here at the CFMWC. We conducted operational tests during WIN's Missillex; ATH, STJ and HAL's Missillex; HAL's SNMG Missillex; and ALQ, CAL and VAN's Counter battery & Swarmex events. AWB continues to be involved with a wide range of projects including: Harpoon, SM-2, NSSM, ESSM, 76mm, 57mm including 3P Ammo, CIWS 1B, Sirius, Nulka, Sea Search, SRD-504, CANEWS, Ramses, 40mm Bofors, Remote Controlled Heavy Machine Gun (RCHMG), and Chaff / IR Optests.

2006 is shaping up to be even busier, what you might call a "missile-firing year". We are in the planning stages to conduct Optests on both coasts this coming year with SM-2s, ESSMs and NSSMs. Even a Harpoon shoot off of Hawaii in Feb, that reminds me, "where did I put that suntan lotion". It doesn't stop there either, Optests are planned for the CIWS 1B, the Remote Controlled Heavy Machine Gun, Electronic Warfare and 3P ammo for the 57mm as well. Needless to say that working at the CFMWC can be quite exciting at times.

The "20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the NESOP" Mess Dinner turned out to be a huge success. I hope next years event will be even bigger and better!

I encourage all NESOPs to take advantage of the Final Reports we send out from every Optest. They are sent to all units on CD and can also be viewed on our MCOIN III website. The Final Reports are full of valuable information and lessons learned. If your unit is participating in a missillex, I recommend all NESOPs onboard read the Operational Test and Evaluation Master Plan (OTEMP) sent out by my unit. It has every detail wrt the plan for the missillex or Optest. Also, I recommend taking a look at past final reports so your unit does not make the same mistakes. See you on the range and Happy Shooting!

PO1 Gerry Doutre  
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## HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN

In the last newsletter my predecessor claimed that the Charlottetown was the busiest ship in the fleet. Unfortunately our time in refit has taken that title away from us for now. Things on board Charlottetown are of course still moving forward as we transit from our somewhat "extended" refit back to operational readiness. On board personnel-wise as Bob Dylan once said "The times they are a changing". I'll try and keep all the movements as brief as possible, however there are a bunch. In the out box are: MS Dave MacNiven to CFNOS, MS Brad Harrington to CFEWC, and the beloved consumer of the Western sandwich with cheese PO1 Kitchen has also departed for CFNOS. Arriving from elsewhere are: newly promoted master seamen, or persons in this case, MS Karen Archer, and MS Rod Carew, as well as the arrival err return, of PO1 George Hamilton. Also arriving from the west coast are OS Lisa Menard, and OS Tony Hickey who are fresh from their JNR ES OP course and are really "in the drivers seat" when it comes to eagerness to pursue their careers as NESOPS.

We've also had a spate of promotions, LS Karen Duncan, AB Ben Desrosiers, AB Ernie MacDonald, and AB Mike "Fingers" Jackson, are all still celebrating their newly acquired chevrons. Also while not "officially" a member of the section I'd also like to extend a welcome to CPO1 Terry Prowse, on board as our Cox'n. Some NESOP's out there might find his name a little familiar.

Best of luck in 2006 to all.

MS Rod "Hollywood" Carew

"Friend or enemy, it's my job to make the right call!"





## HMCS FREDERICTON "Stalker of the seas"

Grrrr from the Stalker of the Sea's. It's been awhile since our last encounter. HMCS Fredericton has been busy with Arctic Sovereignty Patrol, Fish Pat 02/05, Mega Phase, DWUPS, Fish Pat 05/05 and CFO where we took part in a nice charity "Shave a head for Cancer". P02 Randell was kind enough to volunteer himself and have his head and mustache shaved. It was the first time he didn't have a mustache since he was seven. During our Arctic Fish Pat we had fun during the "Crossing the Line" ceremony King Neptune came to visit. Over 100 tadpoles participated. It was quite a site seeing our Bullring being painted by the 2 junior officers in diapers. Travelling so far north and taking in the scenery was a good change. I would have to say that the highlight of our year was to have our relaxing nine days alongside Norfolk replaced with an action packed 10 day Fish Pat.

Thank-you to MS Maule AKA "powder" that was on loan from the ATHABASKAN for DWUPS. Good luck with NATO. It's good to have PO1 Burton and MS Theriault back even though they're PUSSEY from their ILQ and PLQ courses. It's shaping up to be a busy New Year for FREDDY with lots of exciting Ports.... I mean FISHPATs. MS Oulton will be attending his PLQ course. OS Penton and OS Flanagan will be on the QL-4 F/C Operator course Jan/06 and AB MacDonald, AB Binder will be on their QL-5 shortly after. PO2 Peek is posted to TTT, good luck PO. So needless to say we will be understaffed for awhile. Best wishes from FREDERICTON. Have a safe and happy New Year. Oh, did I mention we sailed for Fish Pat.





What goes through the mind of a NESOP OS Penton and AB MacDonald?



**Another Outstanding Turn-out for the Annual NESOP Mess Dinner**



## HMCS HALIFAX

Hello to all, it has been a while since our last meeting of words and a lot has happened in the past six months. Here on the HMCS HALIFAX we have had a busy schedule leading up to and during NATO '05. We have gained OS Dave Worton and OS Justin Dickson from CFFS Esquimalt as well as LS Andre Heckert from HMCS ST JOHNS. PO2 Duane Cole and PO2 J.J. MacDonald left CFNOS in early summer to replace PO2 Luc Thivierge and PO1 Howie Martel. PO1 Pat Tye remained onboard taking up position in the back row as AWWPO proudly displaying his new crown laden shoulders.

We have been blessed with the opportunity of two missile shoots, one in late spring and the other during NATO. Due to our refined skills and unprecedented abilities, there were no surprises when both shoots went off without a hitch, one being skin to skin. Don't worry about not getting the chance to praise us, there will be a press conference to follow.

Throughout NATO we have had many discoveries. We have learned that LS Steve Robidoux displayed a good attitude and work ethic while being deployed as long as his pocket contained a sufficient amount of skittles. MS Scott Wells, who helped us out by joining our team at short notice, had the distinguished honour of being welcomed early in NATO by a "friendly" German sailor. LS Cam Fletcher discovered that lying in the flight deck netting may be comfortable at the time but may not always be a good idea. Throughout tough times LS Christian Williams and his boisterous laughter continued to provide great morale and comic relief for all.

Our only losses, other than 500,000 brain cells, were MS Mike Murray who joined the staff at TTT and Lt(N) Blair Brown who had to report home for the arrival of a new family member. Lt(N) Sheldon Gillis was kind enough to replace Lt(N) Blair Brown as the STBD watch SWC and has become an integral part of our fun loving team.

All in all that just about sums up the activities of the NESOP section onboard HMCS HALIFAX. We all look forward to getting back on dry land and spending time with our families over the holidays. Good luck to HMCS ATHABASKAN and her upcoming NATO in 2006. A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

LS Joe Dickie  
NESOP  
HMCS HALIFAX



## HMCS ST JOHNS

Hello again and a belated season's greetings from the NESOP crew aboard HMCS St. John's. Another year has gone by with changes, some good and some bad, but all in all a good year. We have just recently received our glorious ship out of refit and are currently trying to settle back in alongside. As for our department, PO1 Murray has excited into greater passage and has landed on the Weapon's Cert staff. Which I'm sure he'll enjoy, but might make some a little more gray and

have some lose a little more hair trying to meet his expectations....LOL! PO2 Kelloway is now Charles in Charge and doing a great job. PO2 Bond has joined us from the west coast and we look forward to sailing with him as he has fit in nicely in the branch. MS Watson has been as rare as a four leaf clover offering himself to benefit our brother's in arms on other frigates, which I'm sure, has served them both well. MS Curlew has recently moved up to the trainer providing assistance to help our future EWS's and SWC's and gain experience for an upcoming 6A he's eagerly awaiting. A newly acquired MS Ezio has opted to leave the 280 life for now and learn the ways of the "Workhorse of the Navy" in which she is welcomed and we are looking forward to sailing with her in the near future. LS Pittman relocated to Trinity for a much-deserved shore posting to recharge his batteries for his next sea going unit. LS Reynolds is enthusiastically awaiting a shot at the new 5B course in the New Year in which he will do great on we're sure. I'd like to send out a big congrats to LS Goguen who has just become a father for the first time and enjoying paternity leave with his new daughter, we can't wait to get him back and wish him all the best. AB Courchesne is a QL4 graduate that also has lent a hand to other ships in the fleet as of late. OS "Lollipop" Burke has a 4's course coming up in the New Year that both him and us have great expectations on. OS Houghton and OS Chaisson have joined us this year wherein they have quickly adapted to the life of a sailor that have both demonstrated the abilities to be assets in both the NESOP world and to the Navy as well. As for me, I have recently been told that I have "POSSIABLY" another year onboard, which would technically classify me as ship's fitted equipment to my delight!

Cheers LS "Bagsy" Baker



Can you guess what song they're singing?

## HMCS TORONTO



Hello from the TORONTO. During the last 6 months we have been busy with deployments and also getting the ship ready for refit. The Great Lakes Deployment was a lot of work and a lot of fun as well as we visited some great ports and fired the 57mm in Lake Ontario. Took in a lot of baseball games at Cleveland and Chicago and are all experts in flight party etiquette. Thanks to our loaner SWC, PO1 Wendell Kitchen for putting up with us!!!

We would like to welcome back PO1 Morton back to fold after the completion of his QL-6B course. Congrats on getting through the meat grinder!!!!!! We also welcomed LS Mark Birret to the branch and MS Andrew Bennett who came in from up the hill to finally replace the cactus we had subbing in for MS Tony Phee.

Fresh from the "other coast" is OS Godda and OS Fletcher. OS Fletcher arrived just in time for re-fit so to get some salt on his uniform he is heading over to the ATHABASKAN for her NATO. Also going over to the ATHABASKAN are OS Horaski and AB Watton who are sure to tell their new bosses that they have MANY appointments to attend to as they do on here.

During the re-fit we intend to start a Canasta league except for MS Garnett who has put his name in to the Boston Red Sox for their vacant General Manager position.



## HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC

Hello to all fellow Nesops. A little bit of moving around occurred since our last chat. We recently had the joy (I did say joy) to take part in SCC and CFO during which we had a contest of who could reach the most "beautiful" shade of green during TCMs... and the winner was AB Courchesne from the St-John's. Thank's for coming out! The two runner ups, LS Hoehn and OS Labelle were ashore doing a fine job representing the 332 because the sickbay no longer had enough budget to supply them with special bags. Our most beautiful smile, PO2 Rigby, is now sharing his knowledge at CFNOS AWW. MS now PO2 Waite left us for a better looking (what he says), but older lady, HMCS Athabaskan. Following those departures, we welcome PO2 Douville and MS Mimeault back onboard. AB Tremblay is on his FCO course and we are looking forward to abuse him a little more... euh... USE him, that's what I meant! For my part, I no longer need a dolly to get on watch but I do have to admit that when I was asked to strike the guardrails in a 40 knot wind, I missed the school a little tiny bit.

Smooth sailing to all, and good luck to get rid of your nickname OS Burke, a.k.a. Lollypop.

## "...System, Break Engagement..." *NESOP Retirements*

### Retirement PO1 Roch Vibert

After 24 years as a Firecontrolman 071, then NESOP 276 to NESOP 00115, I have decided to let go the anchor in the Ottawa Region and accept a position with the public service of Canada here in Ottawa.

I completed High School in June 1981 and the following month, I joined the navy. After basic training and much needed second language training, I was off to Halifax for trade training. Funny how things go around. In 1982, when I did my Fire Control Man course at Osborne Head, the Instructor was a young Petty Officer (well younger) by the name of Ken Fisher who was terrorizing the school with a firing key. He is now the CFEWC unit Chief Petty Officer and is terrorizing us with his countless e-mails.

My first ship was HMCS ASSINIBOINE, then SKEENA (twice), ATHABASKAN for a four-month deployment, FREDERICTON and VILLE DE QUEBEC (twice). Between sea posting, I did two tours at CFNOS before getting my last posting here in Ottawa.

My best time in the Navy is by far my last posting on HMCS SKEENA which led to the decommissioning of the ship and the following posting to HMCS FREDERICTON where most of SKEENA crew were transferred. We did some great sailing. We worked hard and played hard and I have memories that will last a lifetime. I was a Master Seaman at the time and Chris Smallwood was our section head. Some guys that were part of the commissioning/de-commissioning crew included; Wendell Kitchen, Terry Kennedy, Jonh Mcleod, Andy Collier, Darren Moline, Craig Lawrenson, John Dingwall, Bob Burton, Mike Culligan, Steve Haughn, Stu MacElwain, etc...

There is no doubt, I will miss the Navy. However, I have the opportunity to remain with DND and be part of a great team at CFEWC which is working hard to make your job at sea safer and easier. I'm sure I'll see many of you when you get posted in the National Capital Region at either NEWC or CFEWC. I will miss the camaraderie, the port visit, the satisfaction of having accomplished something after a deployment and all the great people you meet from coast to coast. However, what I can enjoy now is, double dipping, spending more time with my family, working from 0700 to 1500 and no duty watch.

I can honestly say that my time in the navy was more ups than downs and that the memories will last forever. I wish you all the very best.

Fair winds and following seas.

Roch Vibert  
PO1 (Retired)

And a Few More Pictures....



Can you identify the retired NESOP's?



## Closing Thoughts ...

Items for publication, critiques or recommendations for improvement are gladly accepted and should be submitted to:

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**PO2 Danny Lalonde**

You're now up-to-date with respect to the "goings on" of your fellow NESOP's. Once again we're almost at 100% participation in what is really "YOUR" Newsletter. The efforts you make to get those entries in, regardless of size, ensure we continue to have the Newsletter that sets the standard for the Fleet.

As you can tell from the pictures of our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mess Dinner, all who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have added to their fond memories of being part of the NESOP family. I have both hard and soft copies of all the pictures, so feel free to stop by and look them over.

I would like to again thank CPO2 Steve Murphy and PO1 Gerry Doutre for their outstanding efforts in making our mess Dinner such a huge success. Both went the extra mile taking care of the little things that make all the difference. We will be looking at a date for our 2006 dinner soon, so keep an eye out for that news.

I would like to thank all those who came out for CPO2 (Ret'd) Brian Holm-Laursen's retirement function last month. The turn-out was one of the largest we've had in a few years. Keep up the great work. It'll be our turn someday and you'll appreciate the large

crowd taking the time to recognize your career.

In closing let me once again thank all of you who take the time to submit. Keep up the great work.

I'll be hoping to have the next issue out by May, so start now getting those pencils / fingers / tongues sharpened and get ready to tell all!

Keep your paperback (NESOP Newsletter) in the door and you elbow smash ready at all times.

**CPO2 Joey Smallwood**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

