



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

Newsletter late again, but Web site nearing conceptual stage.

Okay, I've been here before; sending out the newsletter, apologizing for my tardiness and promising that it won't happen again. In my defence this time I'll point out that your Costal Advisors asked me to delay putting out this edition until after the Career Managers has completed their visit to the East Coast (that gets me to about the middle of January). Then we decided to extend the deadline for submissions until the middle of February, which had me with a end-February to mid-March release date. Next, we decided to wait a little longer as the NESOP Mess Dinner was scheduled for the 13th of March and it made sense to see if anything worth reporting happened that evening. This set me up for a end-March release date and all was going well until my school work became a ten-to-twelve hour per day evolution. On the positive side, this last semester had me working with Adobe Illustrator CS3, Adobe Photoshop 7, Dreamweaver 8, MS Visual Studio 2005, and MY SQL. For those familiar with computer software, you'll recognize these

programs as the foundation for my work at developing Web sites, the goal of my taking a two-year program to begin with. So, while the newsletter is one-month behind, I am extremely close now to establishing a NESOP Web site that I hope will become the "Home Port" of all NESOP's in the future. I'll explain further the plan for this site later in this edition.

Speaking of the mess dinner in March, which was attended by over sixty personnel, it was a wonderful evening and all who attended certainly seemed to enjoy themselves. Well done to those who put it all together and to CPO2 Wayne Tansley for his keeping the dinner "somewhat" under control.

So, while this news is somewhat astern of station, sit back, put the feet up, grab a tall cool one and proceed to enlighten yourself with all that's somewhat new in the NESOP world. Hope you all enjoy!

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

CPO2 (Ret'd) 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 Tardiness Explained	1	"IN MEMORIAM of..."	36
News from the NCR	2	NESOP HOME PORT.ca	38
News from MARPAC	14	Closing Thoughts/Points of Contact	39
News from MARLANT	23		

News From THE NCR



From the Career Shop

by CPO2 Danny Myers

NCIOP/NESOP/SONAR OP Career Manager – LS & Below

Hello from the Career shop in Ottawa. As I sit here in the surreal shade of the palm tree in my office, waiting for the refreshment cart to make its scheduled daily rounds, I'm reminded of different times. Times of long ago, where away from the ship I lounged on pristine tropical beaches sipping cool citric drinks, and watched the warm breaking sea making asymmetrical spiral designs in the sand and foam. But just now, thinking that I hear the tinkling of loosely stacked rum bottles on a heavily laden cart being pushed down the flats, the uncontrolled canting of my head forces me to look out over the square city kilometres through my seventh floor window. Out through the laminated safety glass, my wishful tropical gaze falls upon the frozen hellish beauty of the "world's longest skating rink" more commonly known as the Rideau Canal. This abstruse sight brings me to my feet, and I think about what I was supposed to be doing before my thoughts drifted away from those

posting cancellation messages and Administration Reviews piling up at the end of my desk. There is a lot of truth in the adage of "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy", but I just hope that someone out there appreciates how very dull military life can get here in Disney sur la Rideau!

Putting nose back to the stone, I understand that once this article hits the waves, the Career Visits will have been completed, and I hope that everyone of you now have a better understanding on where you are in your career, and where you have to go to make the next rung in the ladder. Remember you are responsible for developing a plan and placing that plan into action.

As your CM, I am responsible to provide council, recommendations, and final decisions on things that we have hopefully captured. When pondering on Posting Preferences, you need to not only focus on where you are today, but where you need to go in the next 5 to 10 years, and at the next rank level. I know that you need to go to sea

...at least once in every rank level; you need to tell me where your wishes lie for the future. Yet one good reason to come see your Career Manager every year!

Seems the well stocked cart has finally made it to my imaginary cubicle door, so I'll keep this one short and sweet; I anticipate that everyone had an extremely joyful holiday season wherever you may have been, and that we were able to prescribe good news or give sound advice during your interview this year. Adieu till next time... can I get one shaken...not stirred...and maybe with one of those little umbrellas's in it...?

That's it from The Shop till next time.



CMS - D MAR Pers

Occupation Manager Notes

By CPO1 Chuck Horner

NES OP/NCI OP Occupation Manager

In the last issue, I was looking for a good picture to represent the NES OP trade. I am still looking for a better picture for my web page. So, once again if you have any good pictures to show what the NES OP trade is all about I am in the market.

I also mentioned concern about recruiting; well last year we ended up increasing our original Strategic Intake Plan (SIP) from 35 to 50. CFRG recruiters as of 16 Feb 08 we able to hire 40 with one and a half months to go, I do not know if they will reach 50 but they are trying. From the AMOR briefing in Feb 07, we asked for a SIP of 39 for this FY 08/09. This year the AMOR brief on the 19 Feb 08, I asked for it to be changed to 50 for 08/09 and 54 for 09/10, as we lost over 53 NESOP's from the occupation, including Occupational Transfers (OT) and releases.

At the CMS briefing held in early Feb 08, the CMS was briefed on the status of the trade, which is Yellow (Trained Effective Strength (TES) is within 10% of Preferred Manning List (PML)) for the beginning of the FY 08/09 and that the trade had no **major** issues at this time. I will be briefing DGMPR in March covering all the issues the trade has.

NAVY Occupation Analysis (OA) on the NES OP Trade commenced back in 2004. In the Jan 07 timeframe, the MOSART organization was informed that it would be shut down. We were also informed that all the Naval studies that were ongoing and close to completion were to carry on and finish with some time constraints. The Navy indicated that they wanted the naval studies to continue and that they would sponsor the studies and keep the naval personnel in the jobs to complete the OA. This means that we have till the summer of 08 to complete the re-write of our JBOS to the new format of JBS. I want to thank all of you who have been asked to provide input, as I know most of the time it was under short notice.

Coming up next is the OAG to be held in Halifax in the May time frame. I hope that you forwarded any issues to your Coastal Advisor. Posted on my web site are last years minutes if you wish to read them to see what type of issues we deal with at the OAG.

In Closing, I am looking for pictures, input for OAG items and asking that you take time to look at D MAR PERS Occ Managers web site;

http://maritimeapp.mil.ca/dmarpers/management/moc3-3-5/3-3-5_e.asp?dmarpers=1

CPO1 Chuck Horner



NEWC Ottawa

Here in the Nations Capital the winter season has arrived (and gone) with force, 30+ cm of the white stuff and temperatures that are dipping in the double digits. As with most years end of November signifies the Career Managers briefs and visits. Here at NEWC that only real surprise is that Mr. Rob "Spud" Gallant is still merited in the top third, I guess you can remove the man from the trade but the NESOP blood stays forever.

At NEWC we have seen a big turnover in the posting department. LCdr Turpin has slid into the position of CO of NEWC very nicely and without much fuss. He is a great addition to the team and an excellent mediator between the civilian and the military members of NEWC. LT (N) Brown returned to Halifax in September. He is awaiting his ORO course, and the birth of second child. From all of us here good luck! His replacement LT (N) Low arrived mid December and is looking forward to Christmas leave already, welcome to the team. PO2 Sean Kenny has been relinquished to daddy duties as he is on PATA leave and enjoying his time with Maggie. Due to medical reason he has also been placed in SPHL for ongoing treatments hopefully they figure what his ailments are and get him back on his feet and in fighting condition, or at least well enough to swing a golf club. His replacement, PO2 Tracy Schulz, has joined us from the west coast, when she is not running around central Canada doing the recruiting thing she is a great asset to the NEWC team.

With the promotion and posting of PO2 Scott Mackay and the retirement (again) of MS David Gray, NEWC needed 2 Master Seaman. MS Cam Fletcher and MS Brian Kennedy have arrived and are doing just fine. Both passed the SIGE 2810 Math course and are awaiting the final course before diving into the production of CANEWS tapes and EW database. LS Hugh Ledger has returned to the west coast to resume his sailing career on the Algonquin. His replacement LS Adam Kehoe arrived 1 week before Christmas vacation. With his relocation leave and annual leave remaining, he should be to work around mid Feb. LS Kehoe has passed his SIGE 2810 math course and is preparing for the MEWLGS course. He is also a member of the CFEWC hockey team. Anything to get away from the office, he is already fitting in greatly here at NEWC.

In the new APS only two people are leaving the NEWC team. PO1 Gary Murphy is posted and returning to the east coast fleet as SWC on some lucky ship; he will be truly missed. His replacement will be PO1 GG Tremblay, he has already started poking around, and this could be the making of a long posting. As for myself, I successfully completed my PLQ in November and if what the career manager has informed me comes to fruition I will be promoted and posted 2008. As everyone knows if someone leaves a position it has to be refilled. So, if anyone is considering a move to Ottawa there is a position at the LS position opening in APS 2008. Just ask your career manager for information.

Lastly, NEWC would like wish MS Robert Stevens (NETC) a happy retirement. After 22+ years of dedicated service Rob will be starting a new career with Rogers Wireless. Good luck and thanks you for all the technical help you have rendered during your short stay with NEWC.

So from the NEWC team in Ottawa we hope that all had a great holiday season and that the New Year brings new adventure and great memories.

Till the next edition,
Fair Winds and Following Seas.

LS Trevor Winter



CFEWC

Happy belated New Year everyone! CFEWC has undergone a few personnel changes over the last few months. New to the team is PO1 Steve Smyth from CFFS (E), attending the SIGE 3810 (Intermediate ELINT Analysis course) in Baltimore. MS Bruno Savoie arrived from HMCS Ottawa, currently suffering through his QL6A course in Halifax. MS Pierre "Red" Pelletier came from HMCS Iroquois in Aug 07, will also be heading off to Halifax later on this year for his QL6A. As for the rest of the people, well let's see, we have our infamous UCPO CPO1 Ken Fisher, PO1 Gilbert "Gigi" Tremblay (going on his ALQ residential in February), PO2 Claude Philippe, PO2 Darryl Barrett, newly promoted MS Melanie "MQ" Martin-Quevillon, the McKinnon clan (Jennifer and her partner in crime Dylan in NEWC), MS Randall Sulyma, MS Dwayne "Jarhead" Albert (getting ready to go back to the fleet this summer), LS Eric Richard (returning soon from PATA leave), LS Lucas Mack, LS Martin Derry, LS James Hirtle, LS Johann Dandrade.

By MS Pierre Pelletier and PO1 Gilbert Tremblay

LEST WE FORGET – PO1 ALAIN BAILLARGEON

On a sad note, we had a funeral for PO1 Alain Baillargeon, who left CFEWC a few months earlier for Victoria, passed away in November and was put to rest with all the dignity and support of the CF in his hometown of Weedon, Quebec. Many will sorely miss you Al.



Internment pictures available at:

http://cfsuo.mil.ca/ndhq_cwo/06-Nov-07-Interment-PO1-Baillargeon_1_e.asp

From the CFEWC UCPO

Well, it's 2008, who would have thought that this newsletter would still be around? NESOPs were leading the way on many things and this was one of them thanks to Terry Prowse. The mess dinners for all ranks of the MOC were another, thank you Ray Doucette. There are other projects including the Spec pay issue that the trade hammered away at. I mention a few senior names but I believe each would tell you, as would the remainder of the seniors (and I mean that in the nicest way), that ideas go nowhere without the support of the remainder of the group. To each of you who has had a hand in the development of the trade, be it course content, refresher training, group cohesion or breaking down the wall that at one time existed between the east and west coast, you should be very proud of your accomplishments. I think the thing that has stood out to me the most throughout my NESOP career is the positive, can do attitude. We have taken on every challenge, including, being given more equipment to operate without any additional bodies to do the job.

I would use this space to pitch the pluses of a posting to Ottawa and CFEWC, but there does not seem to be a shortage of persons wanting to come here. To date, we have had every NESOP LS PLQ qualified and each has had the opportunity to complete OPMEs. We take great pride here in trying to offer as many career progressing opportunities as possible, many of which are not as readily available on the coasts.

The OAG meet in Esquimalt was well attended. Many good things were put forward on your behalf. Please take the time to read the minutes located on CPO Horner's (MOC Manager) web site. Items ranged from the STIR operators to new equipment to the realigning of the CPO2 positions to better balance the coasts and operator trades. There is something of interest there for everyone.

To each of you I wish you a prosperous 08 and look forward to seeing many at the PD day on either coast.

By CPO1 Ken Fisher

**CFJIC**

Good day fellow NESOP. We are still busy over here and I just finished my imagery analyst course and I am ready to start working in support of OPS at B squadron. I will be coming down for the NESOP PD day in March and will give a small brief on the support that we can bring to the fleet. We have received good feedback from the Charlottetown on products that we have sent so far. Dan (PO2 DENIEF) is still waiting for his re-muster; it should be done for the next APS. So heads up, somebody on the coast will have to move. The course is long and challenging but at the end of the day it's rewarding and it gives you a better appreciation of the INT capability that you can bring to the fleet.

PO2 Luc Thivierge



CANCOM

Canada Command was created to address the realities of the new international security environment facing Canada and to place greater emphasis on the defence of Canada and North America.

As an integrated national operational command headquarters, Canada COM allows the Canadian Forces to bring the best available military resources from across Canada to bear on a crisis or threat, wherever it occurs, nation-wide. The creation of Canada COM means that for the first time, a unified and integrated chain of command at the national and regional levels will have the immediate authority to deploy maritime, land and air assets in their regional areas of responsibility in support of domestic operations.

In addition to regular staff positions that are held in a usual Headquarters, Canada Command also includes a Joint Command Centre that is staffed 24/7. Present per watch staffing includes:

- 1 Senior Watch Officer LCDR/Maj, (SWO)
- 1 Operations Watch Officer (OWO) CPO2/Capt,
- 1 intelligence Officer (INTO), and
- 1 Information manager/Common Operating Picture Manager (IM/COP)

At start-up, the manning for JCC OWO was Capt/Lt (N) until it was realized that operations based CPO2/MWO would be ideally suited to be Ops watch Officers. Staff work is still underway to hard cast 3 Capt positions to CPO2/MWO. Present OWO staffing has 1 NESOP, 1 NCIOP, 1 AESOP, 1 Cbt Arm Capt and 3 Cbt Arm MWO.

Manning 24/7 means shift work, the typical Canada Command shift work is 2 days, 2 nights, 4 days off, with 2 standby days followed by 2 days 2 nights etc. Normally, after 3 sets of rotations you would be off for 12 days when positions are 100% filled (and there are no HHTs etc). Because the shifts are 12 hours, in a year you work about the same amount of time as a 'day worker' but your work time is compressed and your time off seems abundant - makes a day worker's Weekend off seem short.

The OWO is instrumental in keeping Canada Command in close contact with the Regional HQs. We have various tools, communication devices and channels which we use extensively to maintain situational awareness for the Commander, Canada Command. Some tools that we use are very familiar to the Navy like ipWar chat and others, like the Domestic Event Network (USA) are not. It takes a few watches before you are becoming comfortable and over a year to experience the events that are cyclical: fires, floods certain operations and exercises. We regularly communicate with all the regional headquarters, RCMP, Government Canada Ops Centers as well as NORAD and US NorthCom.

Canada Command is located on Startop Road, so it's not right downtown, because shift changes at 6:30 AM/PM you can avoid the traffic. With the time off between shifts you have much more time to spend with 'the kids'. Even if you are working on a Saturday, if Canada is quiet one of the 4 projection screens has on HNIC where the Leafs are usually losing.

Gerry White
CPO2
Canada COM JCC OWO



CANSOFCOM

I've taken over what could be the least known of our Chief billets in Ottawa (or anywhere, for that matter). The NESOP trade inherited this billet back in the spring of 2006 and CPO Dorrington filled the job until Jul 07. His article in Issue 19 gives a great explanation of what our Command does on a day-to-day basis. My job here entails many different facets. I am in the J1 section of HQ, which falls under the Support category. I am responsible for the staffing of all honours, awards and recognition within the Command (for those of you that know me, medals are right up my alley!!). I also staff all Access to Information and Privacy requests and have recently taken on the task of designing a Command Badge, which should be approved by the Governor General in the not too distant future.

Needless to say, working in the SOF environment is quite the eye opener. This isn't the army; they'll tell you that the first day. The SOF mentality is very different from other military mindsets. The mission is the primary concern. If a Private has a good idea, s/he is encouraged to bring it forward. If it makes sense, it happens! Bottom-up leadership happens all the time in our world. The daily tempo in an HQ that handles Joint Task Force 2, Canadian Special Operations Regiment, Canadian Joint Incident Response Unit and 427 Special Operations Aviation Squadron can go from "busy" to "hectic" in a flash. Things that the Navy takes weeks to plan can happen here in a couple of hours, because it has to. The nature of our business demands quick thinking and rapid production. That little bit of stress is countered by the relaxing time we all spend in the gym, for everyone in the Command is deployable on short notice. We're all "encouraged" to be EXPRES exempt and doing a 13km ruck march carrying 24.5kg is a great way to keep the feet toughened up.

I'm looking forward to the possibility of a basic parachute course in the spring. So if you're willing to open your mind to a new way of doing business (most of which you can't talk about), this is the spot for you (but not for a few years—I'm not leaving!!). A new city, bigger mortgage/no PLD, new languages (French and Special Forces—what are sliders??) lots of PT and CADPAT with tan beret make this a wicked posting. I'm loving it!!

Canadian Special Operations Forces Command
CPO2 Stephen Haughn





JIIFC

Well it is that time of year again for festive merriment and raising a glass to good people that has gone before us. I have been employed for the past year and a half with the Joint Information and Intelligence Fusion Capability Det. I know your asking yourself what does this all mean? Well I'll tell you; first I fall under the training & standards section within JIIFC Det, which falls under SJS (Strategic Joint Staff). Here is where we instruct personnel in the C2 Applications; C2 Applications consists of Command View, Mission View, Incident Management System, IPWaR and Netmeeting. I should say that the naval personnel posted to this detachment have proven to be valuable assets. With them they bring an expertise and understanding on how joint operations are conducted. No longer do we live in a world where the three-armed wings of the military do their own business and keep to themselves. New initiatives are quickly ramping up to be a much more collaborate force through the uses of web-based architecture. Through tools such as Command View, C2PC and IPWaR all three element are providing up to date SA enhancing the fighting capability of are men and women abroad.

Enough about work, if you get a chance to get posted in the NCR I'll tell you that the city of Ottawa is a great place to bring up a family. Numerous national museums at your disposal; a selection of four school boards to send your children; centrally located between the states, Montreal and Toronto and finally Scotia Bank Place host to the Senators. Don't worry JJ, haven't jumped on the bandwagon, still true blue through and through. Well I think I have said enough, just want to wish everyone a belated Merry and safe Christmas.

Peace

PO2 Pierre Marshall



CMS - DMRS

I offer greetings to all NESOPs past and present from the hallowed halls of the Louis St. Laurent Building in Gatineau Quebec. We have been very busy up here at DMRS with various new and variations of old projects.

Some of the major projects DMRS is working on include the Halifax Class Modernization, Joint Support Ship, Arctic Offshore Patrol Ship and the Destroyer Replacement Project. As the Chief NESOP in DMRS, I regularly attend meetings on the combat systems and weapons being looked at for these ships. Each of these projects is progressing at a rapid pace (for a project) and is making great headway. The Chief at DMRS is also an advisor for all of the other smaller projects related to AWW.

In addition to my duties as an advisor, I am also the Project Director for Naval Surface Targets (NST), Close In Weapon Systems 1B (CWIS 1B), Sea Search and Sea Search II. As such, it is my responsibility to ensure that the projects related to these systems run smoothly and to start any new projects related to these systems.

In that capacity, a Miscellaneous Requirement (MR) (any project under \$5 Mil) has been started to purchase a surface simulator for each of our CIWS 1B systems. This is a \$2 Mil MR that has been quickly moving up the chain. We are also looking at commencing a Capital (Under \$50 Mil) Project to upgrade our CIWS 1B to CIWS 1B Baseline 1.

The NST project has completed its option analysis phase, we are trying to skip the next phase and we should be starting to purchase new targets either mid 08/09 or early 09/10. When we start buying targets we should be getting 5 Manoeuvring

Targets (Barracuda or similar), 6 Small Boat Threat Representative Targets (Hammerhead or similar) and 40 High Speed Inflatable Towed Targets each year for five years. This will give us a large enough stock of targets so that we can start aiming at and sinking fast moving surface targets.

Both the Sea Search and Sea Search II projects are nearing their completion with the final installations for both systems soon to be in place. Then we will look at other issues related to Sea Search, such as a technology refresh and ergonomic issues. Of course there is more going on with these 2 systems, but I refuse to bore you with the details. Nope, I definitely refuse.

Another facet of a job up at DMRS is the numerous trips one must take to help projects move along. I must sadly confess that I had to visit my family in Halifax twice in one month in order to work on various projects. Of course there are the trips to sunny Calgary, Medicine Hat and the West Coast. Then there are trips all the way to Shirley's Bay and Quebec City. I am starting to believe that someone has come to his or her senses and I am not allowed to leave Canada.

So, if you are an East Coast Chief NESOP looking for a job next summer, I think we (Editors note: There goes CPO2 Kitchen again, speaking on behalf on someone else!) would be able to help you.

I do not bite, well not hard any way, so if you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me.

CPO2 Wendell Kitchen (1-819-997-5491)



D Cap P

The Directorate of Capability Planning (D Cap P) is responsible for the analysis of the Force Development scenario set, and accordingly, the definition of required Mission Effects and Capability Goals. This activity includes the preparation of draft Strategic Initiating Directives that summarize desired scenario objectives and outcome, as well as providing the applicable force planning assumptions, constraints and restraints. It also includes the conduct of the Operational Planning Process (OPP), and the application of Capability Based Planning (CBP) procedures and tools. Finally, the results are recorded in text based scenario reports in accordance with the established format, requests for guidance are made, and results are presented in Power point to Chief of Force Development and the Capability Development Board.

Basically you get to sit at the big table and see how and why decisions are made at the strategic level. As a senior NCM you have some say as to how it goes, your tactical experience is what you contribute to the team. The people you brief are L1's (Civilians with the equivalent rank of a Commodore) as well as two maple leaves and our boss the Vice CDS, three maple leaves.

CPO2 Farouse



CFLRS/NRTD Borden

Greetings to all from snowy Borden Ontario. As this is the second submission to the newsletter from here, I will make the description of this pleasant place brief. For those who do not comprehend why in the world a sea going sailor is in the center of Ontario, CFLRS/NRTD Borden is a recruit training center for both regular and reserve Canadian Forces recruits. During the summer the Naval Reserve runs the recruit training program through a compressed 9 week serial and during the fall, winter, and spring we run the regular force 13 week program. We have just finished our fall serials where in December we graduated quite a few new fresh minds into the fold. It was grand to see CPO2 Ryan Tompkins at the parade (although it took a few moments to click in that I wasn't the only NESOP in Borden for a day at least) who was at the time watching a relative graduate. We are currently engaged in our winter serial with 4 platoons currently in house. It really is a pretty good go here if you can accept that you look like a bush 24/7 and have to shovel your driveway from snow twice a day. But during the summer the motorcycle riding is pretty good, so that's at least a plus. I look forward to the newsletter and the articles it provides and would like to say thanks to all those on the coast that try to keep me up to speed on things. If only Joey Lamky would stop trying to make plans for my weekends with strange girls he meets on face book!!! Until next time my fellow defenders of the EM spectrum.



PO2 Stark



CFLRS Saint Jean

Over the last few years the Basic Military Qualification (BMQ) course has changed significantly. To meet current recruiting targets the Canadian Leadership and Recruit School (CFLRS) Saint Jean has been growing constantly to meet these requirements. This year's targets exceed more than 8000 new recruits and Officer Cadet Candidates. In the recent past, most of the instructional positions here at the school have been filled with members from the Combat Arms trades. Our commitment in Afghanistan has forced the Army to remove most of the Combat Arms members filling ATR billets and the Air force and Navy now fill a majority of the billets within the school. Combat Arms trades now represent approximately 23% of the instructional staff within CFLRS Saint Jean.

There are currently six NESOPs employed here at CFLRS, all of which are employed within the training platoons. The school is divided into four training Divisions Alpha thru Delta. PO1 Steen, PO1 Manuel, PO2 Remillard, PO2 Scalibrini and MS Farrel are all part of Delta Div, CFLRS's newest training Division which stood up in September 07. MS Berube

has just recently joined the School and is working in Alpha Division. Positions held by NESOP's within the school include Platoon Commander (PO1), Section Commanders (PO2) and Section 2 I/C (MS).

Under the new Training Plan, the BMQ course is 14 weeks in duration. The initial week (week 0) is designed to facilitate completion of all the administrative requirements of new Candidates joining the CF, including their initial physical fitness test (EXPRES). Those that are not successful in attaining the required minimum standard for fitness according to their age are offered an opportunity to be transferred to the Recruit Physical Training (RFT) Platoon in which they have up to ninety days to meet the minimum standard. If they are successful they return to a regular training Platoon. If they are not successful candidates are then released from the CF.

In an endeavour to produce a more robust candidate with respect to all facets of military life, candidates are exposed to many opportunities to expand their general service knowledge. During week 3, all BMQ courses at CFLRS proceed to OTTAWA and conduct a tour of the Canadian War Museum. During the spring and summer months they also have an opportunity to attend a wreath laying ceremony at the military cemetery at Point Claire in Montreal. On week 9 they proceed to the field and conduct their first of three weeks of field training which includes two days of small arms firings on the range and a 13km march. They return to the field in week 9 where they undergo Topographic training (Map and compass marches, day and night exercises) On week 11 candidates go back to the field and are exposed to BIVOUC life (living in a hutchie or 10 man tent). On week twelve they participate in Ex Normandy which is a culmination of all their training. During this exercise Instructors act as Section Commanders and candidates are required to conduct section attacks based on scenarios presented by a dedicated staff within the Figurant Effect Demonstration (FED) Platoon (trained civilians and military members who act as enemy force). The scenarios presented to the candidates are extremely realistic. Certainly they provide the necessary stresses to ensure candidates are capable of performing under adverse circumstances while sleep deprived as they are only allowed a maximum of 4 hours sleep within a 24 hour period (non consecutive).

The BMQ today is a much different beast than most of us have been exposed to in the past. The successful candidates are well trained and are exposed to much more than ever before. The ultimate product is a much more versatile Private and Ordinary Seaman who can be employed immediately from a general service requirement perspective. They come to the fleet with force protection experience and a proven ability to work well at the section level and more times than not a desire and an ability to assume more responsibly in a shorter time frame.

PO1 R.T Manuel



DMPOR

News from the house of (policy) red tape and mirrors.

Greetings to all from DMPOR; by the time this hit's the presses we will have finished attending Fleet Week 08 in Halifax, where I hopefully had the chance to reconnect with many of you and get updated on any new issues that revolve around EW within the Fleet.

My present priority is to get the annual consolidated weapon restriction message on the street and that should happen early Feb. We are still attempting to push the new versions of MARCORD 46-1, 46-2, and 46-3 through the chain of command, but they all require some massaging prior to release. On the horizon we will be looking at conducting a review of CFCD 114 (H) in the near future and that publication will see another major rewrite, as the new CF EW, CF SIGINT and NATO EW policy will change the way we refer and look at many aspects of Electronic Warfare. We have with AAW targets and drills that are on the horizon.

DMPOR personnel were completely changed for the AWW section with exception of me last APS. LCdr McBain came from WTD Esquimalt, to replace LCdr Harrold who is still in NDHQ, in some new strategic position. Cdr Trim arrived at DMPOR to replace Cdr Zwick and was immediately sent to Staff College in Toronto; upon completion he was posted to another new strategic position. Cdr Zwick is now CO of HMCS Montreal and Cdr Boisjoli, has inherited the AAW section of DMPOR, awaiting a player to be named later to fill that role. Capt (N) Woodburn became the new CO of CFB Halifax and was replaced by Capt (N) Peskett.

Having said all of that 08 looks to get a whole lot busier and the challenge to keep afloat should be interesting to say the least. Once again as you may have heard during Fleet Week, there are no problems unless you have generated the paperwork to identify it. SOCD's are to articulate the problems and cost that the deficiency is having on the fleet. The appropriate directorates will develop the solutions once the deficiency has been identified. Cheers

CPO2 Gary Reid
DMPOR 3-3-3



CPO1 Paul Helston prepares for a run ashore in some rough port.



West Coast Advisor Report

by CPO1 Dave Hart
MARPAAC Occupation Advisor

I am going to keep this one short and sweet.

The Career Managers have come and gone; the holidays are but a mere memory, and I know everyone remembered Valentine's Day? I made it through that one as well J .

Training and Personnel issues are of course still with us, continuing to be hot topics on the west coast. (Pan-navy would be more accurate) We are looking at a Mentoring Program to determine if we can use that approach to help and assist our up and coming MS, PO2 and PO1s especially with our current training set up or lack of training facilities we have on the Coast; is but one of many reasons we feel there needs to be forward progress on some of our training concerns.

I am not going to discuss the OA or other related topics; however while trying to face the multitude of subjects head on, there still of course is the never ending requirement to fill all our positions/billets. The continuing reality is that that not all ships will have all the requisite personnel. With 4 west coast ships; CALGARY, PROTECTEUR, OTTAWA and REGINA deploying for 5-7 months with CTF 150, WESTPLOY and RIMPAC 08....it has been and will continue to be challenging to say the least.

I would like to add a personal thought; sadly and quite suddenly one of our own was taken from us late last year. Petty Officer First Class "Big Al" Baillargeon, though no longer with us in body, will always be with us because he has touched all of us in some way, changing us for the better. I know Big Al has made his mark on me.

I am off to other exciting and challenging pastures this March, CPO2 Jim Percival will have the reigns until late summer when CPO2 Bob Clevett fresh from "We are here to Help HQ" will swap jobs; with Chief Clevett taking over as the West Coast Occupational Advisor.

In closing I want to take this opportunity to say Bon Jovi and Many Thanx to all; especially to you the Sailor/NESOP at the coalface and remember to give yourself a pat on the back occasionally because you have truly shown over the last couple of years if not longer the perseverance and flexibility that is truly indicative of what NESOPs are.



News from "The Rock" AWWTC CAYUGA

Hello to everyone from Black Rock.

First of all we hope all had a great Christmas and New Years. As we are nearing the end of another great year at "The Rock" here is an update of what been happening lately. The old grizzled one CPO2 Jimmy Percival is still leading Black Rock into the future. PO1 Bill Frerichs, our standards PO, was "double-hatting" as the section PO1 after Donny Weaver retired and until PO1 "Big Al" Baillargeon replaced him in mid July. PO1 Frerichs has now returned to Standards full time to ensure the new NESOP trainees have what it takes to carry on in their new careers, so we still get to see him all too regularly.

Tragically the Navy, our trade, and we at Black Rock lost Big Al in October of this year...fair winds Alain, you will be missed.

PO2 Al Olejnik triumphantly returned from his 6B this October. Sadly just falling short of top student award this time, he did achieve his qualification during his 1st kick-at-the-cat. Well done Al! PO2 Olejnik was promoted to PO1 effective 30 October 2007. Congratulations to PO1 Romuald "the Polish Sausage" Olejnik! He will be Black Rock's temporary PO1 until he gets a ship of his very own (HMCS Winnipeg) in January 08. He is therefore in charge of ensuring CPO2 Jimmy P knows what he is supposed to do and where he's supposed to be on any given day because, God knows, he'll forget.

PO2 Rich Pearce remains at the school swamped with the colossal task of the section budget, the massive renovation and modernization project, and all round golden boy of Black Rock. He also had the honour of going to the Remembrance Day ceremony in Ottawa this year, representing Black Rock, West Coast Sailors and all NESOPs in general with his usual flair.

PO2 Lloyd "Boots" Boutillier was posted in from HMCS Vancouver replacing PO2 Dave Vanderlee in May 07 and is currently head instructor for two courses and PAT coordinator, which is a Herculean task all its own. He is now on a first name basis with every COXN and Buffer ashore and at sea. PO2 Dave Vanderlee and PO2 Ken Simoneau were posted to HMCS VANCOUVER in what was considered a fair trade for all. Good luck on your QL6B course Dave!

MS Mike Comboye remains at Black Rock and is instructing a course of 10 students while keeping all staff, students and PATs well fed in Cheeseburgers, bagels and soft drinks from his well-stocked canteen. As primary caretaker of the Fleet School's # 1 canteen, with unquestionably the best office coffee in MARPAC, he was recently invited to attend the Avalanche vs the Canucks game in Vancouver as part of the NHL's CF Appreciation day. MS Comboye was by all accounts well behaved once he remembered to bring a uniform and figured out where the beer was sold in GM Place.

MS Mark Simper (our proud new father of a baby boy in July) is now instilling his wisdom upon new NESOPs in place of MS Carlos Esquivel, who returned to sea onboard HMCS VANCOUVER in the early summer. Mark has the secondary duty of student volleyball coach because as they say "those who can do, those who can't teach"

Another new addition to the Black Rock family is MS Brent "Doc" Halliday. Doc took over instructing QL-3 Course 0018 for MS Steve Lavigne. MS Lavigne departed Black Rock for MS Halliday's old position on HMCS REGINA, taking full advantage of Regina's exotic sailing schedule by introducing himself to the South American continent. He also played hired gun on any softball team that will take him. Apart from his normal instructional duties, MS Halliday is spearheading the AWWTC United Way Drive including the always popular weekly BBQ charity drives here at the school, which is proving to be a great success. Thanks to MS Halliday for organizing this and MS Comboye for handling the logistics for these important events.

Late breaking news is that the Queen saw fit to promote Doc to PO2 Halliday and he will shift billets and get a desk of his own in the soon to be vacated PO1 Olejnik billet. Atta boy Doc and we'll see both you and Al at the wet down.

11 September 2007 saw the graduation of another group of fresh-faced NESOPs ready for employment in the fleet. Course 0017 graduated sending OS Scott Dickie and OS Neil Young to the East Coast at FA(A) while OS William Brown reported for duty onboard HMCS OTTAWA. Congratulations go out to OS Dickie for achieving the title of Top Student, we're sure he'll receive hours of enjoyment from the coveted Jane's Recognition Guide. Best wishes to all three Ordinary Seamen, we hope their receiving units get much use out of them. Why only 3 graduating out of the 6 that started? You don't want to know. If you do want to know, ask the Chief, because it's funny to watch that vein in his forehead start pulsing.

As of this writing 0018 will graduate 14 December, so that means 3 probably going east and 2 staying west. The 10 students on 0019 will graduate 25 March 08 and the 6 on 0020 will graduate 11 April 08

Currently Black Rock has three courses in house, so it's a busy time especially with a couple of empty billets, but we'll muddle through as always. We have hauled the old net out of storage and reinstated Wednesday volleyball and BBQs (beats circuit training at the gym) on the parade square outside Black Rock. We even went out and bought a new ball!

NOTE: Staff and students anxiously awaiting challengers if any are brave enough to come out.

Yours aye from the "Rock"

AB Ken Churchill





CFFSE WTD

As most of you may have realized by now, there has been quite a turnover here at the CFFS (E), Warfare Training Division in the past year. CPO2 Lonnie Thompson replaced CPO2 Denis Labelle after his retirement. PO1 Steve Smyth left us for CFEWC Ottawa and was replaced by PO1 Todd Green. PO2 Billy Blore and PO2 Darryn Featherstone swapped positions with Billy taking EWS on HMCS REGINA and Darryn becoming the new EWS Assessor. At least Billy can still be a cowboy on the Regina. The NESOP formerly known as MS Tracy Schulz became PO2 Tracy Schulz and was posted to NEWC in Ottawa, leaving her position open for another up and coming MS to fill. We had MS Tim King briefly, but unfortunately HMCS Algonquin wanted him back so we had to reluctantly return him. But not before we took him on a couple of runs in Halifax.

PO2 Morgan "Big M little organ" Miller remains at NCOT plugging away at the DB while PO2 Joe Lamky has become the NEIP coordinator at CFFS Esquimalt and PO1 Rick Manuel left for BRT, St. Jean, (have fun with that Rick).



Left to right: PO2 Darryn Featherstone, PO1 Todd Green, CPO2 Lonnie Thompson, PO1 Gord Dolbec, PO2 Joey Lamky, PO2 Morgan Miller



PO1 Bill Frerichs with Jennifer Jones



ATHENA SSE

Happy belated New Year and greetings from our newly named but same old digs!

Wow! Where to start? NESOPS & 291ers; always a good mix! In all seriousness, things out here have been steady, and as always, challenging. Aside from a new name, new crests and yes, even one new NESOP (I had to throw you in here somewhere, Jason), we also had the privilege of newly updated equipment and a new OIC, LCDR Thornhill. Welcome aboard sir!

Unfortunately, these last six months saw us lose MS Lisa Davidson to CANFLTPAC (have fun with Staff), newly promoted MS Marie Corey went back to "Battle Wagon 283" and MS Troy Stickley managed to dodge the 280 bullet and has settled in nicely on HMCS Winnipeg. Farewell and Following Seas crew! Between summer and fall ops, never ending ship deployments as well as our own support duties, things out here are moving along at a great pace. A Merry Christmas and Holiday season was had by all.

MS Byron Rempel is getting his studying into high gear for his upcoming 6A course as well as just having upgraded his PER with OPMEs. LS Bill McMillan, freshly off of his PLQ, is slowly settling back into the mould and getting used to a more relaxed pace. We welcome with open arms LS Jason Winn. Newly returned from his OSA course in Kingston, he seems to be enjoying his new skills and a more moderate type of work atmosphere as opposed to his old "Fleet Life". I however, seem to have reached the end of my time here at the SSE and am eagerly wondering what awaits me next APS, as I'm sure we all do!

So, although it was short and sweet, that's it from out here at the Admirals Place. If you're looking for a nice change from the Fleet or the School, and are due for a little time ashore, why not consider the SSE. We need some good NESOPs who want to expand on their EW skills and don't mind playing with Secret Squirrels. I'd tell you more, but that would be illegal!

From myself, Byron, Bill and Jason, take care of yourselves and all our best for the upcoming year.

LS Phil (Philly B) Burton

Reminder from CPO2 (Ret'd) Wills

Our west coast NESOP community continues to attempt to keep our retired and serving members in touch, this fall we started our own website. Here we are posting what is going on and trying to keep track of where everyone (serving and retired) have gone. We also have a regular newsletter that comes out about once a month outlining anything new for that month and reminding all of our monthly 'retired guys' luncheon the third Tuesday of every month. If you are interested, you can book mark this link: <http://www.nesopwest.ca>

CPO2 (Ret'd) Al Wills



HMCS ALGONQUIN

Greetings from dry-dock! There have been many changes onboard HMCS Algonquin this year. We lost some old friends and gained some new slippery skivers. PO1 John "Fred" Penner was leading the troops with an iron hand from his rack, but is now posted, on loan anyway, to Blackrock. PO2 Mahoney moved on to impress young minds at the recruiting center in Kingston, Ontario. In exchange, we received PO2 Troy "EW" Robbins, who quickly impressed us with his quiet dignity, and PO2 Enrico "Coco" Deschenses, who came to us from CFEWC in an excellent physical condition as he is getting ready for his SAR Tech Preliminary course, good luck.

MS Tim King is currently off on his QL6A, and MS Marie Corry adds a touch of sensitivity and class in his absence; but, now she's on loan to Black Rock too. LS Tremblay, fresh off his PLQ, is on his 5Bs in Halifax. LS Hugh "I'm Getting Divorced Again" Ledger is here from NEWC and still has that moustache. LS Allen "Bobby Ketchup" Day returned to us from passing his PLQ course, eager to take the bull by the horns. LS "Simon" Madgin passed his QL5A, and won't shut up about it. LS Scotty "Doesn't Know" Weatherell performed adequately as a molly and a doorstep. LS Dan "Toothless Wonder" Borys is still here, dammit! LS Eric "Squatter" Lemay is back on the market. AB Owen "The Earthquake" Demarce is providing shelter to homeless sailors. OS Mark "The Last OD" Pyza passed his QL4 and AB Robbie "Ship's Piper" Morris received his ABs in December.

Algonquin spent Canada Day in Vancouver, followed by a MARSECPAT up the BC coast. We had lots of exciting ports of call like Nanoose Harbour (where we snapped #2), and Campbell River (where we snapped #1). The section had more than enough fun during Fleet Week in San Francisco (never mind why); followed by TGEX stops in San Diego and Ensenada, MX. Now, we have no fuel, no ammunition, no guns, no STIRs, no antennas, and no pubs. So we are looking forward to spending the next year watching the ship get a \$25 million paint job (er, I mean refit).



HMCS OTTAWA

Hello to all from HMCS Ottawa!

This submission finds us in the thick of it as we sail to Hawaii, along with our friends in the red hats. We are doing a ten day D-Wups and an SCC exercise. PO1 Macfarlane is enjoying a stint as a day-worker, covering both watches, due to our AWWO's broken rib. He thinks it's a pretty good deal, but I notice he was still working at 0200 and we do have a prefire briefing first thing in the morning!!

PO2s Walker and Falconer are sitting EWS and are the glue that holds the section together, keeping us out of trouble with the back row.

On loan to us are MS Lavigne, and Leading Seamen Mack and Sheppard. We appreciate their help and experience immensely! Also of note, OS Perron, has joined us from Blackrock as cafeteria hand. His first ever experience on a HMC ship, three weeks out of basic training!

As for our regulars LS Fortier (Look Out Below!!) is at home, safe and sound, nursing a compression fracture, (Three points of contact, from now on Fortier!)

Congratulations go out to LS Spence on his recent promotion. LS Spence and I are back from an enjoyable stint in Halifax. We even managed to fit in our 5A's course in between nights out!

LS Teasdale, OS Brown and OS Truscott are bolstering their experience as junior bodies by tirelessly logging hours in "the chair" and as look-outs.

We are all looking forward to some well deserved relaxation time in Hawaii, with the added bonus of a port visit to Maui. Hopefully, the charge report will be minimal.

Till the next time,
LS Hamilton



HMCS PROTECTEUR

Greetings from the HMCS PROTECTEUR. It's shaping up to be a busy year for the floating Wal-Mart, as we bid a belated Happy New Year to our comrades on both coasts. After an abbreviated holiday leave period, PROTECTEUR got underway January 7th for MIDPAC Oiler. Just as it sounds, we are to take station in mid-Pacific – not too far from the Hawaiian Islands – to refuel and resupply American and Canadian warships returning from and departing on various missions.

Following our return to Esquimalt February 24th, we'll commence an incredibly hectic period of making ready for a long deployment to somewhere that's mostly sandy. March will be absorbed by a refresher training blitz as we catch up on expired requirements. There will be tons of equipment and supplies to get aboard and strike down, and hopefully some gaping holes in manning will be plugged. We'll leave as the spring flowers are at their finest, and be back just before the last autumn leaves fall.

LS Ryan Pollard finally received word that his long awaited shore posting may come, and is expected to leave us for ATHENA in April. LS Eric Lashinski has an application in the final stages of consideration for MARS Officer, and could also reasonably expect to leave us soon if he's accepted. I haven't seen a message yet replacing either, and that's my entire section. It will be difficult to blame any training deficiencies that may surface during Mission WUPS on someone else, if I am playing the parts of SWC, FCS and Chaff Supervisor!

What lies ahead for the tanker would only be speculation, but I've heard she will undergo at least one more refit following the upcoming long deployment, and might expect to remain in service another 4 years. That's just scuttlebutt, and should be treated as such, but it's amazing how often the grapevine is correct.

Best wishes to all for a safe and successful year floggin' the oggin.

R.M. Chapman, PO1
SWC/USS
HMCS PROTECTEUR
AOR 509



HMCS VANCOUVER

Good day, AB Walker here – on watch in sea state 5 or 6 writing an update for fellow NESOP's on what we've been up to on HMCS Vancouver.

In June 2007 HMCS Vancouver attended the Portland Rose Festival to wrap up a busy spring schedule that included exercise Northern Edge / Ardent Sentry, and a MARSECPAT. Then to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Captain Vancouver's naval accomplishments, we participated in an exchange of high school students from Vancouver BC to Vancouver Washington.

We had a change of command in June – we said goodbye to Cdr Knippel and welcomed our new CO, Cdr Donovan. That is also when the section said goodbye to PO2 Boutillier, MS Simper and MS Scalabrini. New additions to the section include PO2 Vanderlee, PO2 Simoneau, MS Heslop, and MS Esquivel.

August brought us weapon certifications and we assisted in HMCS Calgary's workups. We had the pleasure of hosting TTT staff, and showing them what our NESOP team can do. My 57mm shoot was interesting – it started with a misfire, and ended with a check fire. Thanks to a great NESOP team, and a very calm, capable FCS (MS Heslop), we got 20 something rounds off onto a moving target while the ship was weaving and my SWC (LT Wills) let me lock up the target locally.

In September, we had a very interesting day sail in which some CDS and numerous command staff in NATO sailed with us in their civilian dress for the morning. October was a combination of refresher training and preparing for TGX.

November was TGX and WUPS assist for HMCS Calgary followed by an AWUPS for us. The NESOP team and the entire ship's company worked hard and performed well to show our new CO just what we can do.

December was career manager meeting time, and then the Christmas leave period began. At this time, we also lost OS Truscott to HMCS Ottawa.

It is now early February as I am writing this, Christmas is over and we are on our way to SCC in Hawaii to assist Ottawa in her workups. We have brought sea cadets with us from all over Canada. When we finish hunting and being hunted by submarines, we will do an FNO course and then commence with destoring, as Vancouver is going into dry dock. Most likely the section will help out other NESOP teams on other ships until Vancouver is ready for us again, and we can continue to be "Ever on Guard".

AB Walker
NESOP
HMCS Vancouver



HMCS WINNIPEG

Greetings fellow NESOP's - LS Callaghan here with the New Year's edition of HMCS Winnipeg.

First off, a belated Happy New Year to you and yours! I hope everyone is excited to be back and start fresh in 2008! You'll all be happy to know that HMCS Winnipeg is back in the game!!!! We took our mighty ship back in September and although she still needs a lot of work, as we slowly chip away it's looking more like a warship with each passing day.

Our W&S Bill these days' looks a little bleaker than we'd like unfortunately and I am positive we are not the only ones suffering this fate. Keep on keeping' on 276ers, hard work and long hours seem to be our forte.

Our starting line-up looks something like this:

SWC- (DivO) **LT (N) Lisi** – In need of a climate change she joined us from HMCS ATHABASKAN in July. She enjoys dark rum and hiding in her office, while we make her look good! All jokes aside, thanks for caring about us and we are happy to have you aboard Ma'am.

PO1 Olejnik - Back on board after a successful 6B's and a stint at Blackrock. Congrats on your promotion to PO1.

PO1 Barker - Traded to Calgary for a Gulf Trip and future considerations. Wishing him a safe return.

EWS- **PO2 Howlett** – Filling in for a few months trying to get this ragged bunch in check and we thank him for it.

PO2 James – Sent to Halifax for conditioning and his 6B's; best of luck PO2, we hear you are doing really well.

FCS- **MS Stickley** – We picked him up from Athena in the summer, he helped out Ottawa on TGEX and is excited for the challenges of ramping up.

LS Mack – Successfully passed his PLQ but failed his TRB with regards to conduct. It won't be long till you get them back friend.

SNR ESOP- **LS Sheppard** – Back from parental leave with a new baby boy and looking for all the career courses he can handle.

LS Callaghan – Travelled to dockyard for some French education, then to PROTECTEUR for WUPS/TGEX and now hoping to for a posting to CFEWC in the coming months.

LS Johnson – Well, what can I say, he's the strong, silent type.

AB Stevens – Acquired from Vancouver in the summer, then went off to Halifax for his 5A course where he received Top Student honours. We hear he's a "puker" at sea but he should to fine work.

The "OD"- **OS Silver** – last but certainly not least OS Silver. He is cleaning and making copies while patiently waiting on the next FCO course, which we are expecting will be in April. Until then it's drill and more drill.

The future holds a busy schedule for the Winnipeg. It's time to ramp up once again. That of course means RRI's, SRI's, OTT1, OTT2, WUPS and all the rest of the alphabet soup. With talks of a Gulf trip in 09' fishing traps around the world BEWARE!

338 in you're Jane's, but, #1 in your hearts.

Winnipeg OUT!

News From MARLANT



East Coast Advisor Report

by CPO1 Randy Smart

MARLANT Occupation Advisor

I don't know if starting the New Year was rewarding for all, but I hope that all did manage to touch base with the career managers. I would like to thank Chief Charest and Chief Myers for the time they spent briefing the MOC. The New Year will I'm sure bring its' share of postings and promotions, so congratulations early to those I won't see personally.

The MOC saw a couple of reviews conducted by CPO2 Gracey from CMP DPGR; all were conducted with the attendance of reps from both coasts and ended on positive initiatives for the trade. 2008 will present its' share of challenges, shortages, even retirements, CMS has provided briefing notes to fleet personnel on up-coming strategic changes and events, all of which will prove to be positive for the navy, and the proposed evolution of the sensor trades.

All is good for the future. The next year will produce up to six new 6B Directors, all of which should get jammy postings to sea; we will also be canvassing personnel for inland postings, a sometimes good move for those more thrill seeking NES Ops.

As this is the opening commentary for 2008, I will keep it short and only hope that there will be more to talk about mid-year, maybe the "MESS DINNER" (only for the thrill seekers in the MOC), in March will produce some good banter, backed by pictures (Editor's note: no pictures or salty tales were passed to me, so we'll assume that there was nothing of special interest that anyone wanted to share (for whatever reason) with the rest of us), the weather has changed three times while I was typing this so it must be time to do a job related duty. Until the next issue!!!

From CPO1 Doucette

As you are all no doubt aware the Naval Centennial will take place in 2010. The aim of the Canadian Naval Centennial is to build and strengthen in Canadians an appreciation for their navy and to promote the role of the navy within the Canadian Forces in a maritime nation like Canada. The theme is to "Bring the Navy to Canadians" and events will be focused to honour the past, to showcase the current navy, and to reinforce the requirement for the future navy. In preparation for this year long celebration, the MARLANT Organizing committee is looking for suggestions on how best to make this a memorable series of events and are asking for suggestions from all MARLANT personnel.

Suggestions could range from local one day events to recommendations for commemorative materials or national campaigns. This is a chance for everyone to contribute to this momentous milestone in both our navy and nation's history. Recommendations and suggestions should be forwarded to CPO1 Ray Doucette, the Marlant Canadian Naval Centennial Chief, via email.

Additional information may be obtained by viewing the website below.

<http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/centennial/>



CCFL TG CNESOP

By CPO2 Wayne Tansley

Hello to all! Another year has passed by and here it is 2008. The Canadian Navy is now in its 98th year. I remember when we use to talk about them old chiefs and we simply stated it is time for the old son of a BIT^* to get out and make room for us movers and shakers. This morning I woke up and realized hey, that's me! Here I am almost 32 years completed and only 11 more years to the big CRA. Now I assume most of you under 40 crowd are speaking in words your mother wouldn't want to hear, so hopefully I now have your attention. I sincerely say Happy New-Year to you and your families.

I hope everyone read the information about the last TGEX on both coasts. When you include the deployed Task Groups and HMCS Toronto and Ottawa there were over 3,200 of our sailors at sea on the same day. Out of 8900 personnel pan Navy this was a real milestone for us. TGEX 6-07 saw participation from HMC Ships Iroquois, St.John's, Ville de Quebec, Halifax and Preserver. The MCDV community also supported the tail end of the exercise when we arrived back in the Marlant Op Areas. I have seen many an exercise in my day, but to include all the tangibles we packed into this TGEX, what was accomplished was amazing. In a 3 week period the task group conducted 21 GUNEXs, 19 ADEX,s which included JAMEXs and RENTEXs. HMCS Iroquois successfully conducted a SM2 firing, HMCS Ville De Quebec completed HR workups, HMCS Preserver completed DWUPs and after a very successful at sea phase, CFNOS produced 11 more OROs for the Fleet. HMCS Halifax and St. John's were involved in all the milestones and as usual these two ships were instrumental in the success achieved by all concerned.

There are numerous events going to take place in 2008, preparations are well underway for our 100th Anniversary coming up in 2010. If you are not aware of the website, here it is <http://www.navy.forces.gc.ca/centennial/>, make use of it, as it is very important we remember our past and become involved in our own centennial celebrations. The Task Group will sail again in February 2008 and spent a few days alongside in sunny Florida. I am hoping we can again get together as a group and continue our NESOP ways.

CPO2 Tansley WH
TG CNESOP

Subject: 6 truths of life:

- 1) You cannot touch all of your teeth with your tongue.
- 2) All idiots, after reading the first truth, try it.
- 3) The first truth is a lie.
- 4) You're smiling now because you are an idiot.
- 5) You will soon forward this to another idiot.
- 6) There's still a stupid smile on your face.



SEA TRAINING ATLANTIC - *“Train As We Fight”*

By CPO2 Steve Murphy

Greetings to all. Since the last edition I have probably been on all East Coast ships in one capacity or another as we have had a busy run in the last year. I always think to myself that if I am busy on ships, then the NESOPs that have to get all the “real” work done are even busier. Believe me, I can appreciate how busy our NESOPs are. As I said in my last submission, planning ahead is key and if we work together correctly we can make the ship’s transition through the TRP process or whatever type of WUP we are doing a little smoother. I hope we are achieving that, if not, let me know how I can improve.

After a year or so in the job I have come to realize that we are always working with constraints, constraints such as equipment, manning, and training. Yes it is frustrating, but these are the realities of life in the Navy today, which should be no surprise to anyone. I have sailed in ships without radars, ESM kit, etc. Roger out, we move forward and focus on what we “*can do*” to contribute to mission success rather than what we can’t do. I have seen one full W&S Bill since being in this job. Sometimes we share our sailors to help out another ship but usually we sail well short. Again, we are all busy but I would ask all of us to take a closer look at the sailors we have and ask yourself if they would benefit from time at sea. Yes it sucks to do WUPs of any kind in another ship, but the training opportunity can’t be beat and can only make produce better sailors.

Up next in the batting order is FREDERICTON coming out of a refit, VILLE DE QUEBEC getting ready for a SNMG1 deployment, and MONTREAL and ATHABASKAN moving forward in their TRP. I look forward to working with (again in some cases) all of the NESOPs to get your team and ship ready for the challenges ahead. I ask that each Senior NESOP read the STG and understand where your ship is in the TRP and what it means to you and your team, then explain it to your sailors so everyone knows and understands what is expected and why. If there are any questions, fire away.

It is also quite clear to me that there is considerable experience in our C&POs and especially at the PO1 level. We need to make every attempt at sharing that knowledge and mentoring our junior sailors so that our collective corporate knowledge and experience is not lost. This is a most powerful method for sailors to learn a variety of personal and professional skills. By empowering our juniors to make informed decisions with some guidance from the more experienced sailors can only make us a more professional group of sailors. Most of us do this now without realizing it, but take a moment and ask yourself if you have done this. Here ends my plug for Professional Development.

In closing, I could not help but remember a QSP board I was involved in back in the late nineties where there was considerable debate about keeping a single, lone, NGFS Knowledge Specification in our Job Description so that we would not completely lose our knowledge of Naval Gunfire Support. As we proceed with our testing of NFS in anticipation of having that capability again, I think back and realize that one PO2 can make a difference if given a chance.

Editor’s note: Yes, a PO2 can make a difference. As CPO2 Murphy will attest to, that west coast PO2 stood his ground and we decided he was right. (Isn’t that right Steve?)



CFNOS Halifax

CFNOS AWW

Good day EH, how's she going? Here at the school we are busy getting ready for QL6A (03 Jan 08) and QL5B (15 Jan 08), already in house is QL6B, so we have a fairly busy schedule for the next couple of months. We would like to congratulate the previous QL6B, QL6A and Senior ES OP course on a job well done. The MEGA was a little rough but excellent training nonetheless.

Some new arrivals here since the last newsletter are PO2 Ray (Big Gay Ray) Cushing and PO2 JJ (I Love Chips) Mac Donald; they are fitting in quite well, except for PO2 Cushing, he seems to think that his car doesn't need fuel to work, he found out the hard way that is does, (outta gas in the CFNOS parking lot). Oh yeah Gooch is back and he bought a new truck. The new vehicle is a Ford F-150 4x4, his old truck was 2 wheel drive, so now he brags about having a 4x4, however the first snow "storm" (10 cm) he stayed home because the roads were too slippery.

Pete Rigby made it too work all the way from the valley in his car. Gooch said he couldn't get the truck into 4x4. We had some retirements since the last news letter Chico Arseneau, Tom Smith and John Macleod have all retired after serving their Country. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors. That's For Now Folks.

CFNOS Standards

Ah the smell of spring is in the air and that means the start of yet another Mega is just around the corner. That also means CPO Muir is busily planning his 1st tee-off time (golf lesson), Mega permitting!!!!

A little tidbit on the role of Standards. One of our major tasks is to maintain the QSP's (Qualification and Standard Plan for those who have forgot what QSP stands for) for all NESOP Courses QL 4 and above. This is an ongoing task, with CFNOS able to approve changes to Chapters 3 and 4 while DMTE is the approving authority for Chapters 1 and 2. Any change recommendations are done in conjunction with the AWW Section and TTT. There have been changes to the FCO, and Senior ES OP course as well as changes to the EWS & SWC assessment forms for the Mega. There will be some fine tuning done to the FCS course as well. Changes to the various QSP's will ensure that they are up to date and that trainees are being taught relevant information that will help them do their jobs when they return to the fleet.(stand by for more changes at the QL5A level with QSP board to follow, we'll be looking for volunteers).

QSP Compliance Monitoring is also a major task that is always ongoing. QSP Compliance is when Standards monitors what is being taught to ensure that all the teaching points in the QSP are covered and the instructor adheres to the QSP and doesn't go off and teach something totally different. At the end of each monitoring session instructors are queried for any changes to the QSP ie timings, adding/removing points etc. Individual sections are responsible for monitoring the Instructor's teaching techniques and style. The goal for QSP Monitoring for each course is 20% & to that end Standards has developed a Data Base to record QSP monitoring to ensure that goals are achieved for each course.

PO Carmichael has joined the fold since the last Newsletter, but is currently off jet-setting in the Middle East for 6 months & should be returning to us in the May-June time frame. CPO Muir Golf membership is up for renewal this summer & is dependant on how low his handicap is, so we wish him luck out on the links & hopes he drops by every week or so!!!! PO1 Kennedy is the senior man afloat here and continues to pass on his wisdom to future directors while keeping within the "SHARP" boundaries; he was also named Nova Scotia Minor Football Official of the Year! Congratulations Terry. So if you're in the neighborhood, drop in and pay us a visit.

CFNOS TTT

Greetings fellow NESOPS from everyone here at TTT. The time is upon us again for another newsletter addition. Here at TTT we have been real busy with the trainer running non-stop with all the OTT'S and the fall mega. Once again we would like to congratulate all the QL 6A and 6B students on yet another successful Mega.

The personnel change we had this year has worked out well. The leader of the Pack PO1 "I'm taking parental leave" Burton just added another boy to the household and possibly the future NESOP trade only time will tell, congrats Bob. Then we have PO2 Larry "all I want for Christmas is my 6B" Peek. He will have the reigns while Bob is gone under the close supervision of PO1 Pat Tye. Thanks for the help Pat were going to need it here in the basement. We have MS "Mickey" Maule who is working out just fine. Well, not working, but you who know Andrew know what we're saying.

Then there is myself, MS Dan "I Didn't do that" Curlew, who continues to count every day that he and Mickey don't argue. The record of 2 days just can't be broken. And we can't forget LS Leroy "I caught the bear with the glove hand" Stoyles. Nice one Leroy, but take it easy on the car. Try to let the next one go.

We had the retirement of MS Penney happen this year right before the fall mega. We wish you the best of luck Rick. We at TTT would like to thank LS Mudge and LS Berresford for helping us through the fall mega; you did an excellent job and we'll take you back anytime. We would like to wish everyone a Safe and Happy Holidays that will soon be upon us and hope to see you all soon at the next NESOP PD Day and possibly Mess Dinner.

MS Curlew



CFMWC
by PO1 Gerry Doutre

Do we have it right?

For all NESOPs, EW and Fire Control personnel out there who have more than twenty years in, I ask you this: "What made you in particular, make this great occupation a life long career?" I challenge you as the leaders of today to sit back for a moment and reflect to see if we are doing things right in this wonderful and exciting MOSID of ours. For myself, the reason I am still serving is simple "I am a war fighter and was a war fighter from the start." Who out there remembers firing the main armament at tanks on the beach? Launching Sea Sparrow missiles at Robot X targets from the M22 consoles? Slewing that director on 03 beach over and unleashing 5" HE rounds 2000 yards from the ship in an alarm mode, while wearing shorts, boots and a headset? Acquiring that distinctive Big Bulge A sound on the WLR? Sitting behind the Corvus chaff launchers during firings as the chaff loading team, waiting to reload? Sitting in a 3"50 gun mount firing broadsides with the barrels inches away from our heads? Holding your breath when a missile left the ship allowing the toxic smoke to clear because you are just metres away as the aimer on the beach? All of these tasks and many, many more were done by me and whole lot of others prior to the rank of Leading Seamen. I have fired more missiles as an AB than I have as a SWC of today. Just so there is no confusion, I joined as a NESOP.

Are the young NESOPs of today excited about electronic warfare and fire control? Are they receiving trade training at the appropriate levels? FC training and doing the business at sea is exciting and in my opinion needs to be at our lowest levels with supervision and direction. That is what supervisors and directors want to do, supervise and direct. I agree that technology has to be taken into account and will impact how we do business, but there is nothing less exciting than sitting at a fire control console watching the "SWC" do the war fighting business. There are systems out there and more to come that will require a junior operator firing these types of weapons at sea, and if we prepare properly and think strategically

our NESOPs will be firing them. The CIWS 1B in the surface mode, the Remote Controlled EO/IR Stabilized Machine Gun are just two examples. Who better to do these functions than junior NESOPs? We must ensure these systems are manned and operated at the lowest levels in our trade for the future. The current Frigates will be modernized soon and the Destroyers will be replaced eventually, maybe even sooner than we think. The days of sitting in front of an SCC will be long gone. The systems and ships of tomorrow will be fought by the SWC; however these specialized weapons dealing with the small boat threat and low slow flyer threat will be manned. So, when I hear we are moving CIWS 1B operation training to the supervisor level, I think we are going down the wrong road. Do not be scared of these new pieces of equipment. For example: The CIWS 1A was installed on ATH for the first Gulf War, the command org was so unsure of this equipment, the RCP was manned by an off watch OOW with the RCP key (not a firing key) around his/her neck. NESOPs are very capable and whatever new war fighting kit comes along, as leaders we need to grab it and let our junior operators fire/operate it.

I know, a lot of you are asking what about Electronic Warfare. EW is extremely interesting and is a very important war fighting tool, but it not only takes training, but years of experience to become experts in this field. I am a firm believer we need to look ahead for training and ensure we get it right the first time prior to the arrival of new equipment and ships. EW and FC are the backbone, not only for our trade, but the backbone for war fighting in today's and tomorrow's Navy. The thought of letting any of these two areas of warfare slip or shift to another trade in any type of re-org makes me cringe at the thought of it. We have the most exciting MOSID in the Navy, and if I was to tell potential young sailors they will be firing remote machine guns, Gatling guns and main armaments as soon as they join their first ship, the line at the recruiting centre would be endless. Excitement, that's what made me stay in and along with a whole lot of others. Identity is the key, what we have in the Navy as an occupation is special like no others. We are the war fighters. As professionals we need to ensure our younger NESOPs see themselves as distinct from all other occupations. Technology will continue to impact our occupation along with the Navy. We as leaders must be ready to identify the challenges which lie ahead. I highly encourage all NESOPs to take full part in Professional Development days, Fleet Weeks, AG, etc...to ensure our occupation is headed in the right direction. As leaders we must lead change, not fight it.

As for the Warfare Centre, PO1 Hamilton is my relief and I wish George all the best ashore in this excellent PO1 shore position. My time here at the Warfare Centre has been very interesting and rewarding. Knowing how the Navy works from the centre and both coasts has been very beneficial to me. I highly recommend this posting to any professional PO1 NESOP who wants to shape the Navy and the NESOP occupation of the future. April 1st I am off to the "The Unlucky Lady" (ATH) for the third time in my career. I am looking forward to sailing with a very professional and well trained NESOP and CDSE team. If my opinions in this article spark discussion among all leaders in our MOSID, then I have accomplished my aim. Let's get it right the first time by thinking strategically.

PO1 Gerry Doutre
CFMWC Halifax
Operational Test & Evaluation Group
Above Water Battlespace

Only the collective, professional application of all the expertise at our disposal will lead to mission success.



HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN

Hello fellow NESOP's.

LS Ernie MacDonald here from good old HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN. First, on behalf of the NESOP Division here, we would like to give PO2 John "Gunny" Garnett and his wife Nikki a congrats on their first child, a healthy baby girl named Abigail. He has joined us in Dubai for the second half of our deployment

Well, in case you didn't know, we left Halifax Nov 1st, 2007 for a 6 month deployment, on Operation Altair and we are well over the halfway mark. We've had port visits in Norfolk, Gibraltar, Alexandria, Egypt as well as Manama, Bahrain and Dubai, UAE. So far it's been a great trip seeing such places as the Great Pyramids, Monkeys of Gibraltar, and the Arabian Desert.

We have been quite busy here boarding Dhows and have even managed to capture rumrunners trying to make a run for the border (no we couldn't keep the rum). We helped a crew that had no water or fuel get back home; rescued 2 people in distress after their dhow sunk and were left stranded on a barge for days with no food or water. Many Sea Search and TACELINTS sent to Ottawa to keep NEWC busy and happy, by the way congrats to the NESOP's of HMCS TORONTO for winning the 2007 Lockheed Martin award for Excellence in EW Intercepts.

Let's get to the people who are making up our section on this deployment. We have PO1 Mike "Who's the toughest NESOP" Culligan heading the section making sure we get TACELINTS and Sea Search collects out to NEWC. We have PO2 Dave "Waiting on 6B's" Masters heading up EWS on Port side of the house. On the STBD side for EWS we have on loan from CFNOS PO2 Gordy "can't clean my glasses enough" Carmichael making sure that the TACELINTS we send are up to snuff. MS Rob "Haystack" Jensen is FCS on Port watch keeping his boys in check. MS Lisa "Waiting on 6A's" Schaefer is FCS on STBD watch learning all about EWS from PO2 Carmichael. LS Jason "5 minutes to watch" Sparkes is on loan to us from HMCS ATHABASKIN learning FCS on a CPF; he misses his old 280 lady. LS Curtis "I miss the Freddie by" Penton comes to us from HMCS FREDERICTON for his first 6 month deployment. LS Tony "The Bandwidth Bandit" Hickey is on port watch doing TACELINT's and learning FCS. Myself, LS Ernie "DJ Big Monkey Dog" MacDonald, I am on STDB watch learning FCS and co-hosting the morning show. LS Karen Duncan was landed as she is expecting her first baby later this year. Newly promoted LS Mike Jackson is landed on medical but we hope to have him sail with IRO on her deployment. Newly promoted AB Joe "Squiggy" Quigley is here on STBD watch doing Sea Search collects and honing his EW skills. Also newly promoted AB Nathan "Don't talk to the cooks" Bradbury is on port watch. Nathan will be returning home early to witness the birth of his first baby in March; we wish him and his girlfriend the best. Last but not least. OS Steve "I wanna sail" Thompson is also landed; we hope to get him back with us on the lakes trip coming up later this year.

Well, that should sum up everything here from us on the old CHARLOTTETOWN. We'll see ya'll back in the fleet in May. Until then, we'll be Dhow hunting.

LS Ernie MacDonald
NESOP
HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN



HMCS FREDERICTON *"Stalker of the seas"*

Good day fellow CROWS from fight'n Freddy. We have shed the fish pat Freddy nickname (possibly) and headed to some southern destinations, Key West Florida, Bridgetown, Barbados and Trinidad /Tobago for some golf, exotic drinks and weather in the high 30's. Oh Yeah, and a visit from the Prime Minister. Everyone was ready for a nice summer alongside, but lo 'n' behold it was cut short (only home for a week), then we headed up to the Great White North for a NORPLOY and some Inuit art and a teaser port visit to St. John's (1 night). We are presently in refit for a few months and almost the entire section is farmed out.

PO1 Duane (Mack) McNamara still has the reins of the section and has just successfully completed his ILQ. PO2 Mike Murray is still warming our hearts with his compassion and caring way of supervising and preparing to go on his ILQ. PO2 Clyde (I finally got rid of COMSEC) Long is still trying to stay sane with his job as RPO. We have recently lost MS Cameron Fletcher to NEWC. MS Gary (Admin Guru, self titled) Toohey is still trying to sort out the PO2's UER's and get them all the refresher training possible. LS Sheldon Compagnon has finally flown the coop after 7 years and is now employed at Shearwater in an Accommodations billet and is still striving for the MS rank (in his own sort of way).

LS Donald (Fat Mack) Macdonald and LS (Grinder) Binder have returned from overseas where they enjoyed a tour on HMCS Toronto, which just completed a NATO deployment. LS Curtis Penton volunteered for HMCS Charlottetown's Gulf deployment and won't be seen until the New Year sometime. LS (Flannel) Flanagan was recently promoted in Sept and is presently employed in Freddy's Shore Office. OS Jason Dingle, the proud father of a bouncing baby boy (Jet), has recently returned from parental leave. OS Gould has decided to turn in his government issue and give it a go on Civi Street. That's it for now from the Freddy group. Fair winds and following seas.



HMCS IROQUOIS

The NESOP's aboard HMCS IROQUOIS are some of the finest today's Canadian Navy has to offer. From their pinpoint accurate gunnery, Stellar Fire Control Supervisors, and two of the best SWC's that the East Coast has seen in a long time, this crew seems to never let up. Coming off a successful NATO less then a year ago, the NESOP section is battling a vigorous training schedule in preparation for another tour in the spring of 2008. Constantly in the middle of multiple ADEX's, EW exercises, and proving their worth in Gunnery exercises, it seems that this section of young sailors from around Canada will never give up.

The section just received more support as LS Haynes and AB Olsen just finished their QL5 course and returned to the department with the seasoned attitude of an old school sailor. PO1 James, PO2 Metcalfe, PO2 Mackay, MS Seymour, MS Boone LS Lacroix and LS Tremblay just got back from OTT. Showing the West Coast what being a NESOP is all about. As well as OS Nelson, who decided to give sailing another chance until his retirement this fall?

All though this department has battled a gruelling training schedule and spent a lot of time away from home, the NESOP's aboard HMCS Iroquois are looking forward to another deployment in the up coming months, and this section of sailors always seem to be "Relentless in Chase".



HMCS MONTREAL

The ship has been slowly preparing for the arrival of the new helicopters, due to arrive at some point during the new year. The year began for us relatively relaxed with the HMCS Montreal having entered refit back in mid-December of 2006. Our section spent most of their time in and around the shore-office, the occasional deployment and even had the opportunity to take part in the 90th anniversary of Vimy Ridge in France. AB McMurray, AB Kuffner and LS Matchim all had the pleasure of taking part in the ceremonies for this memorable occasion. LS Glibbery, who has since left us for the HMCS St. John's, was the unfortunate back-up who practiced the drill and ceremony with the members going over, but was never actually needed in the end. He still had his chance to go to Europe though, only with another ship and in a different capacity.

LS Mudge, although having missed out on the Vimy Ridge trip due to his 5's course, was not spared the need for personnel of other ships either. LS Mudge, along with several other member of the Montreal's crew, were attached to the HMCS Halifax for the Great Lakes trip this spring. LS Mudge was able to squeeze in a brief visit home to Chatham, Ontario while on the trip, which we're sure made it worth his while. AB Noble spent most of his time outside of the shore-office, working at Trinity as well as taking two courses at Dalhousie University. It was a good time to take advantage of the slow-paced environment rarely enjoyed by sailors these days.

The section's bosses spent most of their time doing whatever it is bosses do. PO2 Cushing was ship's RPO, PO2 MacElwain oversaw the section's day-to-day operations and PO1 Lowthers was tasked out to the school, later being posted to the HMCS Ville De Quebec. MS Raymond assisted PO2 MacElwain in "over-seeing" things in the section.

Upon taking the HMCS Montreal back from the ditch, the NESOP section was pleased to receive two new members, fresh from Black Rock, OS Price and OS McPhee. These two were so keen the day they arrived; they came to attention on the brow for AB McMurray. AB Kuffner would have had a blast with these guys, so it's probably a good thing he wasn't around that day.

In conclusion, we would like to welcome to the department our newest members. MS Entwistle, whose one-of-a-kind sense of humour has been a great addition to the already jovial atmosphere shared by the section. He's kind of sick and twisted (hence his nick-name "Twist") but, it makes it all the better. The department would also like to welcome our brand new section head, PO1 Saunders, coming to us, just off his 6Bs as well as PO2 Ezio just off her EWS course.

With new additions, often come the farewells too. PO2 Cushing will be missed as he leaves the Montreal for a position at CFNOS. The department would also like to wish AB McMurray the best of luck at his new unit, and we all hope you come back to visit when you get the chance.



HMCS PRESERVER

Hello, again from the "HEART OF THE FLEET." I'm back from Parental Leave to help PO1 Hamilton, who's been the lonely 'Fighting NESOP' on board for 7 months. He displayed a strong knowledge of posting firing signs, operation of CIWS, and Evidence camera operator during DWUPS. Even without my help, he managed to destroy a TDU, and then had to take down those signs "AGAIN!"

It was hard coming back to the grind after being off so long, but like riding a bike it was hard to forget. Now moving right in to TGEX 2/08 and looking forward to warmer weather. We just picked up 2 new FIAC's since we destroyed the last one with over 4000 rounds of 50cal and 5.56mm, and of course the 2 BARRACUDA's.

Now I know why hobbies are encouraged. Busy during the RAS of other ships, and various other exercises only take up part of the day. We are now alongside and FMFCS is back to continue keeping her sea worthy. She maybe a tired old girl, and like everyone she has her good days and bad days, but we are slowly moving towards the future; 2012 anyone????

Who knows maybe we'll offer Air Miles on your next fill of 200cums or more.

LS Jeffery Howie
NESOP
HMCS PRESERVER

SIMPLE HOME REMEDIES

1. IF YOU'RE CHOKING ON AN ICE CUBE, SIMPLY POUR A CUP OF BOILING WATER DOWN YOUR THROAT. PRESTO! THE BLOCKAGE WILL INSTANTLY REMOVE ITSELF.
2. AVOID CUTTING YOURSELF WHEN SLICING VEGETABLES BY GETTING SOMEONE ELSE TO HOLD THE VEGETABLES WHILE YOU CHOP.
3. AVOID ARGUMENTS WITH THE FEMALES ABOUT LIFTING THE TOILET SEAT BY USING THE SINK.
4. FOR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE SUFFERERS ~ SIMPLY CUT YOURSELF AND BLEED FOR A FEW MINUTES, THUS REDUCING THE PRESSURE ON YOUR VEINS. REMEMBER TO USE A TIMER.
5. A MOUSE TRAP PLACED ON TOP OF YOUR ALARM CLOCK WILL PREVENT YOU FROM ROLLING OVER AND GOING BACK TO SLEEP AFTER YOU HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON.
6. IF YOU HAVE A BAD COUGH, TAKE A LARGE DOSE OF LAXATIVES. THEN YOU'LL BE AFRAID TO COUGH.
7. YOU ONLY NEED TWO TOOLS IN LIFE - WD-40 AND DUCT TAPE. IF IT DOESN'T MOVE AND SHOULD, USE THE WD-40. IF IT SHOULDN'T MOVE AND DOES, USE THE DUCT TAPE.
8. REMEMBER - EVERYONE SEEMS NORMAL UNTIL YOU GET TO KNOW THEM.
9. IF YOU CAN'T FIX IT WITH A HAMMER, YOU'VE GOT AN ELECTRICAL PROBLEM.

DAILY THOUGHT:

SOME PEOPLE ARE LIKE SLINKIES - NOT REALLY GOOD FOR SHIT, BUT THEY BRING A SMILE TO YOUR FACE WHEN YOU PUSH THEM DOWN THE STAIRS.

The preceding was meant as humour only; don't try these at home!



HMCS ST. JOHNS

Hello to the Crows and Gunners on both coasts. Things are going well for the NESOP Section onboard the ST. JOHN'S as we strive to achieve our goals in the trade and in life. Take PO2 Danny Lalonde for example, in the past year he and his fiancé had a baby. It was just a SHORT while ago, and he is currently taking a SHORT period off for Parental Leave to take care of his son. Oh how fast they grow up eh? One day he is just this little guy sucking his thumb and the next thing you know he is out of his rack (for a change) and home playing with a baby boy his own size.

Then we have our other PO2 sidekick Jamie Collins, who is back from his very short QL 6B course. I thought the course was longer than a month, ha, ha, oops my bad. Seriously though, it's good to have an experienced Run the Rock veteran back with us again. He recently acted as SWC for a day of Advanced AA & Surface gunnery and performed extremely well. Too bad he can't do simulated basic gunnery in NCOT. MS Jodi Ezio left us as a new PO2, for HMCS MONTREAL back in December. Good luck Pat. MS Tony Griffin...err, I mean Bourgoin (he just happens to look & laugh EXACTLY like Peter Griffin from the Family Guy) is a happy Father as well, a baby girl fell his way early in 2007. MS Scottie Wells has been a nice addition to the Section. He has been enjoying all the torment from his subordinates including nice hand jesters and picture text messages at all hours of the day and night. LS Mike Reynolds, A.K.A. "Lunchbox" (as those of you who play videogames know him), is still on ST. JOHN'S and will probably never leave this ship. He is a permanent fixture like a Gas turbine; only his *gas* smells worse. He is finally on is QL 5B and is hoping to pick up a leaf in the future. Apparently he collects them and is into bird watching as well.

AB Jason Caldwell returned to us from his QL 4. Not much new with him other than his request to switch to a light blue uniform and give the AESOP trade a whirl. AB Mike Andrist is not sailing with us at present. He's landed to NCOT due to an injury. AB Tyler Stewart is still our youngest NESOP. His hope for 2008 is that he will cease having his posterior spanked by "exotic dancers" for being (in their words) "very naughty." He is going on his QL4 in March and then proceeding on his dive course. OS Randy Woodman is also new to our team this year. Then there is PO1 Darrell Morton, our fearless leader who is full of wisdom, witty jokes and *funny* comments. For a big, tall guy, he sure can sneak up on you, waiting for you to say something he can twist into a huge, funny burn against you. P.S. if you get tapped on the shoulder and there is no one there, look the other way and chances are PO1 Morton is probably there.

A special thanks to the following personnel who have graciously volunteered to sail with us to alleviate shortages (sorry Danny) over the past year. In no particular order, thanks to; PO2 Toni Phee from HMCS ATHAGASHCAN, who is now standing in line to try out for Canadian Idol. The following 3 guys from FREDDY: MS Gary Toohey, a young, whipper-snapper from Montreal, and OS Scott Dickie, & Jason Dingle from "The Dickie & Dingle comedy hour". Ok so I saved myself for the end, I am LS Christopher Glibbery A.K.A. Monster. I joined ST. JOHN'S almost a year ago and can't complain at all. I passed my dive course in the summer and will be proceeding on my QL 5 course in March. Well, we had a good year of sailing and have some interesting deployments to look forward to in the near future.

Well that's all for now. We here onboard HMCS ST. JOHN'S would like to wish all of our fellow tradesmen East and West, fair winds and following seas.

LS C. Glibbery
HMCS ST. JOHN'S



HMCS TORONTO

Hello again from the HMCS TORONTO NESOPs. We are currently deployed on Operation Active Endeavour and enjoying a well-deserved Port Visit in Aksaz, Turkey. The tattoo shops have been over worked with all the business we've brought them!!! Things here have been very busy for the last few months, as you can imagine. First off, we've all expanded our vocabularies with cute new naval acronyms while BOBing around the GOG on our way to the HOA (Or was that the HOA Gagged on BOB...I could never get that straight.)

We've had some interesting operational experiences along the way. During the FIT phase of our transit PO1 Keeping went over to the flagship USS NORMANDY to show them how an AEGIS/SM-2 was meant to be used. (Top that one, Tansley). He also recently discovered that Greek MPAs really are fitted with automatic countermeasure dispensers (who knew?). Retirement has never sounded so sweet for PO2 Watson and PO2 MacNevin. They were unable to add much to this edition as both are in sickbay being treated for Carpel Tunnel syndrome from all the TACELINTs they've sent out so far.

Our port visit to Cape Town, SA was another memorable highlight for all. We started things off with a bang firing one of Hout Bay's 1754 18lb cannons (Fire Control, old school Baby!). After a week of safaris, shark diving and cheap booze things got even more interesting with the arrival of LS MacDonald and LS Binder who joined the ship from the Fish Pat Freddy. Both have been a very welcome addition to the department.

Toronto is very proud that we were here to take such a strong part in the rescue of the Yemeni soldier after the Volcano. That will be something we'll all remember for the rest of our lives.

AB Horaski was promoted to LS while we were in Souda Bay enjoying the concert that DND put on. Unfortunately, he was duty and couldn't celebrate his promotion in proper fashion so LS Andy (Paper weight) Richards decided to celebrate enough for the both of them!!! As for MS (Benny the Bosun) Bennett, he can be found walking around all of the ports looking for new gadgets to add to his tool belt! MS Steve (Crack Pipe) Whyte, the French Redneck, can't wait to be reunited with his 4 wheeler so he can go out and shoot something. LS Sampson has been keeping us up to speed with his Sea Search collects and is on the hunt to find out who broke his BEER BOOT!! AB Fletcher has been busy training for his QL-5 course or what can also be called arguing with MS Bennett all watch!!

As for our schedule were home before Christmas for a nice break. From all of us, have safe and Happy Holidays. Until next time, Take Care.

ZNR UUUUU ZOC
R 051441Z FEB 08
FM NDHQ CMS OTTAWA
TO AIG 2617
BT
UNCLAS
SIC LAG

SUBJ: 2007 LOCKHEED MARTIN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EW INTERCEPTS 1. THE LOCKHEED MARTIN OF CANADA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MARITIME EW INTERCEPTS IS PRESENTED ANNUALLY TO THE UNIT THAT HAS DISPLAYED THE GREATEST EFFECTIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY IN EW INTERCEPTS FOR BOTH CANEWS AND SEA SEARCH 2. HMC SHIP INTERCEPTS CONTINUE TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF ES REPROGRAMMING AND AN EXCELLENT SOURCE FOR THE EW COMMUNITY

AS A WHOLE. CANADA S REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE IN EW CONTINUES TO GROW THROUGH CONTINUED EFFORTS BETWEEN SHIPS AND NEWC 3. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE 2007 AWARD GOES TO HMCS TORONTO. THE SELECTION OF A WINNER WAS BASED ON MANY ASPECTS. TOR SUBMITTED COLLECTS OF CONSISTENTLY HIGH QUALITY CONTAINING ALL REQUESTED DATA FILES. ISSUES AS THEY OCCURRED WERE ADDRESSED QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY. WHEN POSSIBLE, COLLECTS INCLUDED PICTURES OF THE EMITTER PLATFORM AND POWERPOINT SLIDES WITH DETAILED LABELLING OF ANTENNAE WHICH WERE OF ENORMOUS VALUE. ADDITIONALLY TOR MAINTAINED LINES OF COMMUNICATION AT ALL TIMES TO PERFECT THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF COLLECTION SPECIFICS 4. ON BEHALF OF LOCKHEED MARTIN, CFMWC, AND NEWC WELL DONE TO ALL SHIPS THAT CONTRIBUTED IN 2007. CONGRATULATIONS TO TOR FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE. THE AWARDING OF THE TROPHY WILL BE CONDUCTED AT A DATE TBD BT

STRAIGHT FROM THE BURNING BUSH.

A Soldier, a Sailor, and an Airman got into an argument about which branch of the service was "The Best." The arguing became so heated the three service men failed to see an oncoming truck as they crossed the street. They were hit by the truck and killed instantly.

Soon, the three found themselves at the Pearly gates of Heaven. There, they met Saint Peter and decided that only he could be the ultimate source of truth and honesty. So, the three servicemen asked him, "Saint Peter, which branch of the Canadian Forces is the best?" Saint Peter replied, "I can't answer that. However, I will ask God what He thinks the next time I see Him. Meanwhile, thank you for your service on Earth and welcome to Heaven."

Some time later the three servicemen see Saint Peter and remind him of the question they had asked when first entering Heaven. They asked Saint Peter if he was able to find the answer. Suddenly, a sparkling white dove lands on Saint Peter's shoulder. In the dove's beak is a note glistening with gold dust. Saint Peter opens the note, trumpets blare, gold dust drifts into the air, harps play crescendos and Saint Peter begins to read the note aloud to the three servicemen:

MEMORANDUM FROM THE DESK OF THE ALMIGHTY ONE

TO: All Former Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen
SUBJECT: Which Military Service Is the Best

1. All branches of the Canadian Forces are honourable and noble.
2. Each serves Canada well and with distinction.
3. Serving in the Canadian Forces represents a great honour warranting special respect, tribute, and dedication from your fellow man.
4. Always be proud of that.

Warm regards,
GOD, RCN (Retired)
Have a Great NAVY Day!

IN MEMORIAM***PO1 ALAIN BAILLARGEON***

Tragically, suddenly, but peacefully, our friend and colleague PO1 “Big Al” Baillargeon passed away on Saturday the 27th of October 2007.

Al was posted out west to CFFS (E) from CFEWC in July 2007. After the usual posting nausea of taking leave, finding a place to live, etc, he took up the position as Black Rock section supervisor on the 16th of August 2007. Al fit right in and as soon as he hit the plates he rearranged all the secondary duties and scheduled training. He implemented a new school archiving policy because as he put it “this system sucks”. He started a re-work of the sorely out of date Black Rock SOs because as he put it “you know we don’t teach goddam fire control here anymore, right?” Yes, he was fitting in nicely.

Al was an avid outdoorsman. He thought nothing of driving up to the Sooke Hills and setting up camp all by himself for the night just to watch the deer in his binoculars. We were talking about Adventure Training for Black Rock and I mentioned how I had been on a couple of canoeing trips over the years and had really enjoyed it. He thought that a canoe trip to Della falls on Great Central Lake up Island would be great. We talked about it often and we were planning to make it happen.

While moose hunting in northern Quebec, Al and his brother Martin rescued some snowmobilers who had fallen through the ice. To accomplish this they had to put themselves at great peril. As a result, the Quebec Provincial Police nominated them for a bravery medal. He recently had a telephone interview with a local Quebec TV reporter who was doing a story on it back home and wanted to do an on camera interview. He said it was really nothing but he was pretty proud of it.

He talked often about retirement in the next few years and figured Black Rock was his last posting. He was planning to move back to his hometown of Weedon, Quebec where he had recently purchased a new house. While I was back there for the funeral his brother Louis showed me the house he grew up in, the one he had recently bought, his favourite hunting spot, and the beautiful new rifle he had bought the last time he was home.

Sadly, Big Al had some medical problems. He had been feeling poorly for a while and on Monday the 23rd of Oct Al was put on a week’s sick leave. I called him on Friday the 26th to see how he was doing. He said “not too good but I should be good to go on Tuesday”. That was Al for you. He never showed up for work that Tuesday. Since I was his section Chief, I was the guy who went looking for him. I went and got his building manager to let me in to his apartment and we found him there lying on his couch. He appeared peaceful, as if he had just fallen sleep.

Al was buried on the 6th of November 2007 with full military honours in the Cimetiere St-Janvier in Weedon, Quebec beside his late father in the presence of his family, friends and colleagues. It was a gloomy wet day at the small cemetery that overlooked the St Francois River valley, and that somehow seemed fitting. Those of us who knew Al know how much he liked naval ceremonies and parades. The honour guards and pallbearers performed to perfection and I'm sure Big Al was proud of you and more than pleased. I think he may have been a little embarrassed with all the fuss though.

Al's family, his mother, sister and 2 brothers came out to Esquimalt to finalize his affairs. While they were here we had a "Celebration of Life" at the Legion where we all gathered to bid Al farewell and raised a pint or 3 in his memory. CPO1 Dave Hart gave a heartfelt tribute and a number of us read out e-mails and messages from Al's friends and colleagues, past and present. The family was both impressed and honoured.

Al was a big friendly guy with a big heart. He had a twinkle in his eye and a crooked grin and would always greet with you a handshake. All who knew him will miss Big Al and we will not forget. No, we will not forget.



WWW.NESOPHOMEPORT.CA

One of the goals that I had when I decided to take a two-year Web Page Administrator program was to (as quickly, but professionally, as possible) design, produce, and post a NESOP Web site on the internet. As my training has progressed since last September, I have obtained, learnt, and become reasonably proficient at the necessary software/skills to produce a site worthy of our fine occupation. Therefore, it is now time to commence the design process of this site and for that I would appreciate all and any input you may have.

While it is my goal to eventually have a site that will contain sufficient content to make NESOPs want to use this site as their home page, it takes time to develop and create even the most basic of sites that will both stand the test of time and allow for expansion as time moves on. If the site is created with too small an audience in mind or too little input, it will serve little purpose to anybody.

Some of the initial things that I would like to include in this site include:

- Ø All past and future editions of the NESOP newsletter;
- Ø A page of "favourite" sites based on input from the intended audience - NESOPs;
- Ø A form that will allow visitors to provide their name and (at a minimum) email address, so we can all keep in touch with our fellow NESOPs;
- Ø A news page where users can provide breaking trade/personnel related stories; and
- Ø Any other items deemed worthy by you the users (could include pictures of events, banking sites, shopping sites, computer/software sites, music or radio station sites, etc.).

So, this is the time for anybody with ideas to step forward and pass them along for consideration. This site should be no different than our newsletter - for the user, by the user. As an occupation, we have always been in the forefront when it comes to trying/implementing new ideas and concepts and we have always set the standard for other occupations to follow. I hope that the idea of a NESOP Home Port Web site will be met with the same enthusiasm as previous trade related endeavours and that many of you offer up ideas as part of the sites design process.

Any and all ideas can be passed to me via email at csmallwood@eastlink.ca, or retirednesop@hotmail.com. I look forward to any and all input!

Closing Thoughts ...

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

* **Publication Editor/Producer**
CPO2 (Ret'd) Joey Smallwood
 (902) 444-9063 or by E-Mail,
csmallwood@eastlink.ca

* **Marpac News POC**

CFFS Esquimalt (Blackrock),
 (250)363-4835, Fax 604-363-5820;

* **Marlant News POC**
CPO2 (Ret'd) Joey Smallwood
 (see above for contact info); or

* **NCR POC**
 TBA

There you have it – almost forty pages of news and highlights on most of the activities of us NESOPs.

I say “most of” because this edition has one of the lowest unit participation rates since its inception, with the percentage of submitting units down in the sixties this time around. Here’s hoping that the submission rate for the fall edition climbs back up to the ninety-percent participation level that we’re accustomed to.

If you have any issues with respect to your newsletter, be sure to pass them on to your coastal advisors / senior personnel so that we can address them. This is your newsletter and only you can ensure it continues to be a viable source of information for NESOPs.

For those who did take the time to send something in, a well done to you. It was interesting to see that the highest level of input came from the NCR region.

In future editions I would still like to start including individual submissions in addition to the unit level entries. So, if you feel like writing a poem, song, story, false (but well disguised) tidbit on another fellow NESOP, letter to the editor (I’m a civie and I now have somewhat of a longer leash to comment) or anything else, feel free to email it to me. I will ensure that names of all individual submissions are kept between me and the writer.

Once again, thanks for letting me continue to be an active member of the

greatest occupation. I hope that I have released a product that meets the standard of the occupation.

I’ll be looking at getting the next issue out in the fall (really!), so get those pencils / fingers / tongues sharpened and get ready to tell all. Maybe I’ll have a better picture by then....

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

CPO2 (Ret'd) Joey Smallwood
Editor-in-Chief

