



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

Rewards come to those who wait!

As the annual fishing trip week progressed my father continued to assure my brother and I that rewards come to those who are patience and wait. I hoped that he was wrong as I had the longest fish so far at 16 inches.

The end of each day brought us closer to the end of the trip and me finally being awarded the trophy for the longest fish of the year.

Each evening my father would assure us that he was not worried at all and that (as he does every year) he would catch a larger fish than mine before the last day came to an end.

I have no doubt that you are guessing where this story is going, but I'll continue it anyways as it allows me to fill up the opening editorial remarks!

Sure enough, with only 2 hours left to the fishing trip, my father hooks a keeper and when the measurements were completed shortly after the fish was landed, he had hauled

in a 16 and ½ inch fish. The look on his face told me that an "I told you so" speech was coming shortly.

So goes it too for all those who have been promoted so far this year. From what I have been hearing, it has been a banner year to date, particularly on the east coast. While we have seen many years of experience retire over the last six months, many up and comers have assumed positions of greater responsibility and I am sure they will continue to lead the greatest trade in the CF. Well done to all who have waited for their rewards!

With that being said, time now to move on the meat of the matter – your next NESOP Newsletter.

So, sit back, put the feet up, grab a tall cool one and proceed to enlighten yourself with what's been going on in the NESOP world.

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

CPO2 (Ret'd) Joey Smallwood
www.nesophomeport.com

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

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News From THE NCR



From the Career Shop

by CPO1 G. Charest & CPO2 D. Labbe
NCIOP/NESOP/SONAR OP Career Managers

Greetings from Ottawa to all.

First, I would like to introduce CPO2 Labbé as our new addition to D Mil C2; he is our new CM for the LS & below. He replaced CPO2 Myers on 1 Apr 09. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Myers for all his hard work and support during the last 3 yrs in the shop and at the same time give a big welcome to Chief Labbé.

Second, down to business. It has now been 2 1/2 yrs since I have been here, I have completed 2 selection boards so far and a third one is well on its way. May / Jun for us are like every other month of the year - BUSY, BUSY! PER Board will be conducted from Sep to Oct 09.

As for me, Dan Labbé, being a member of the board last year and now involved (face first) in the electronic selection board process and seeing how the selection is done for the first time as a board member last year, all I can say it has been a real eye opener for me and all CHIEFs who were/has been involved during the last two years, especially CPO2s. This year, we

intend to invite all PO1s in the NCR for the first forenoon IOT introduce them how the selection process and the board are done. In all, board members' opinions are without a doubt the fairest, unbiased and most efficient system for establishing an individuals merit standing.

One major item we noticed during the selection board is that personnel need to ensure that their Peoplesoft data is correct and up to date, IE. Language profiles, QL quals, Leadership quals, Fitness etc. These items need to be current all year but especially for that period as the scoring criteria for selection process assigns points for these qualifications, which in turn equate to scores for positioning on the Merit Selection Lists. Individuals and supervisors shall ensure that the PeopleSoft data is correct; it is to your responsibility and mostly to your benefit. Do it early and do not wait until the selection boards commence.

Shortly after the board this year, we will be conducting our coastal visit interviews, they are as follows: Possibly Whidbey Island early Oct, CFEWC in Nov, East & West Coast Dec to early Jan, including St-Jean mid Feb. Attending the brief is very important, it

will usually answer a lot of the general questions you may want to ask your respective Career Manager. For the interview process we would like to see all personnel, ensuring that a divisional rep is present (DivO/Div Chief/PO). This will give us an opportunity to see everyone and even if you think you have nothing to discuss, it will give us an opportunity to put a name with a face and make a plan together for your career.

Third, we would like to informed you of recent acquisition senior two appointments; CPO1 Glen Feltis has been appointed to CFJNBC Coy Trenton CWO/CPO1, and CPO2 Frank Comeau at the Senior Leadership Academy School in St Jean sur Richelieu, QC.

We are looking forward to see you all.

CPO1 G. Charest and CPO2 D. Labbé
Career Managers
114/115/324



CMS - D MAR Pers



Occupation Manager Notes

By CPO1 Chuck Horner
NES OP/NCI OP Occupation Manager

Well another Fiscal Year (FY) has magically appeared on the calendar and the HR cycle has begun. It all started this year with the AMOR brief in February where I once again asked for an increase of NES Ops to be recruited. As for recruiting numbers the NES OP Occupation is doing okay based on a five year average intake of 92% of the requested SIP. March was the month to brief CMS on distressed trades so the NES P trade was not on the agenda for CMS, but was briefed to D MAR PERS and the Branch Advisor with stats and the way ahead for current and future concerns.

The Occupational Advisors Group (OAG) was held in Esquimalt 26 & 27 May; the minutes are being drafted. All but two action items were closed, DMPOR is continuing to work on having the Silver Book updates and myself working on having the Job Based Specification (JBS) completed. We have a PO1 on an incremental tasking order to complete the JBS by 31 July 2009; he will be in contact with both coasts as he finalizes the document. If you are contacted please put every effort to have a quick and accurate response so that we can finally have a current trade specification. There was great discussion during the two day meeting with the majority of it being about training to reflect the changes made in the JBS thus far. The trade has conducted changes for the QL3, QL4 and QL5A with the QL5B next while the JBS is still being worked on. The next OAG is scheduled to be held in Halifax some time after the Olympics 2010. I hope that you forwarded any issues you may have on to your Coastal Advisor when the issue or concern is fresh in your mind. Posted on my web site are past minutes in both official languages.

The JBS is currently under review by DPGR Spec Maintenance personnel, but as I mentioned by end July 2009 the re-write of our JBOS to the new format of JBS will be hopefully completed. After that we have on last processing hurdle to achieve, a Qualification Requirement Assessment (QRA). During this process the trade will decide on how we will change our training from QL training to Job Based Training. This could change the length, time and how many courses we require to have in a school house environment.

Coming up next is summer leave followed by the Career Manager and Occupational Managers briefs, hope to see you all at the general briefings.

In Closing, remember everyone is a RECRUITER and please be proactive and provide input for OAG items so that we can make the trade even better than what it is today. If you have a spare minute or two 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

Welcome to Ottawa, and the small section we like to call NEWC. Put on your safety boots and hard hats, because you're going to be taken on a tour. We are currently undergoing some changes and restructuring so watch your step, it might be a little messy in here. (1x) LS Kehoe, (2x) LS Kehoe, (3x) LS Kehoe, (4x) LS Kehoe, (5x) LS Kehoe. There you go Adam, you were mentioned 5x's. And the Civies' should be mentioned too. Now that the UN-important stuff is out of the way close the door behind you and come on in.

Let's start by saying how much we miss LS Dylan McKinnon since his early retirement. We're still trying to figure out how to fill the void? Maybe with LS Mudge, from the MONTRÉAL, when he gets here in July, we'll have that problem solved.

Now on to our Chief, CPO2 John Forrester, who spends more time travelling back and forth to the coasts than he does in his office, is working on plans with the CO to make NEWC even better than it already is. We all love his ideas; but getting the changes implemented seems to be a problem.

The Production Manager, PO1 Gilbert (GiGi) Tremblay, who is the next best thing since sliced bread or is it the crustiest thing since French bread? GiGi just returned to us from a 1 month long course in Portsmouth, England. No one knows much about this course, other than its where units send their PO's to get rid of them for a while. Congrats on the new Qual GiGi!

Now sitting in an RPO billet, or will be sitting there soon, PO2 Wade Bond, at a unit of 9 NESOPS, a CO, OPSO, Clerk and a Tech (is he really part of our unit?), will be filling his days with excitement, and stamping leave passes. Have fun with that Wade.

PO2 Tracy Schulz is back from her SIGE 3810 course, in Baltimore. She was there for Obama's inauguration, and there is no doubt in anyone's mind that we are going to hear about how exciting it was, and of all the new things she's learnt. Congratulations on passing the course Tracy.

NEWC will be saying "Good Bye" to PO2 Sean Kenny, who will be retiring this June. Good luck in the future. MS Brian Kennedy enjoys long walks on the beach, moon lit dinners, cuddly puppies, and when ex-NESOP Mr. David Gray is away on courses. Too bad courses have to end Brian.

Sometime this summer, NEWC will be saying another "Good Bye", to MS Cam Fletcher who's remuster to AESOP was approved. But, until then he will still be sitting in an ANAL position/billet here at NEWC. We all hope this position (Anal) is treating you well Cam, enjoy the Air Force and the posting slump.

Now for the 6th and final mention, LS Adam Kehoe, and I will emphasise the LEADING, since his return from his PLQ course, is still waiting for his remuster to CDS. With all your ideas on how to run the world, you have my support Adam.

As for the final and newest NESOP at NEWC, LS Jason Horaski, (insert PER here. "AWSOME!") has quickly become the greatest thing since sliced bread. I guess that answers the question about the PO1. Everyone here at NEWC hopes you enjoyed your tour of our humble little establishment, and remember that those CANEWS library tapes actually could work and be correct sometimes. Who knew?

LS Jason Horaski
Emitter Analyst



CFEWC

Greetings from CFEWC in Ottawa. I have now been in the job for about 8 months and still on the curve but it's getting a little flatter everyday. The biggest challenge was learning all the assorted acronyms that form a huge and very effective chaff cloud in the NCR. The other is working with all the Air and Army trades that until now were quite unknown to me. It's like an exotic foreign port where everyone dresses differently, speaks an unintelligible language, has their own distinct culture, and then after awhile you realize....they are just like you after all.

Ottawa is a great city. It's the nation's capital but still retains some small town charm. It has great restaurants, pubs, and other night life. We have the Ottawa Senators NHL hockey team and my beloved Habs come to town 3 times a year. There are festivals year round including Winterfest where we even went skating on the Canal and had hot chocolate (spiked of course) and a Beaver Tail. How Canadian is that?

Now about CFEWC. A significant milestone was achieved at CFEWC with the acceptance of NGES as the next generation database software. This will ensure that the Navy, and the CF as a whole, will be a fully engaged partner in the allied EW community. The new CFEWDB will be a robust storehouse for RF, EO/IR, RCS and other related data.

Why a new database? As we all know, platforms have evolved and emitters have become more complex. The National Air and Space Intelligence Centre (NASIC) recognized this and developed NGES to meet the requirements of reprogrammers. The CF also faced these same issues. The adoption of NGE will allow Canada to work closely with our allies, provide input, and increase our access to data.

One of the real emerging sections at CFEWC is the EO/IR collection cell that is doing some exciting work. We employ two LS NESOPs there that are definitely doing some great work outside the normal scope for their rank and QL. Their platform signature collection measurements will prove to be a significant asset in populating the new DB.

My goal for NESOPs at CFEWC is to provide both an enjoyable and rewarding shore position where on completion, that NESOP can take back valuable skills learned to the Fleet. The training opportunities at CFEWC are almost limitless. They range from courses such as OSA and SIGE 2810 in order to do the job here to professional and personal development courses such as second language and OPMEs. In my possibly biased opinion, CFEWC is by far the best place for NESOPs to work in Ottawa.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the posting of CPO2 Dan Myers from D MIL C2 LS and below CM. Dan, you did a great job and you leave pretty big shoes to fill. I know from my time as west coast MOC Advisor what an under appreciated, over worked, and critically important position that is. Best of luck my friend.

Have a great summer everybody!

CPO1 J. Percival

And now the real news from CFEWC:

Greetings from CFEWC. Since the last entry into the NESOP newsletter CFEWC has commenced several changes within the building. New personnel here at CFEWC seem to be settling in and adjusting well.

The new UCPO is CPO1 (don't call me Sir!) Jim Percival and is settling in well. He is, unfortunately, a Habs fan living in Ottawa (a hard thing to do). The Ops Chief is CPO2 Brian Rees who has just recently returned from the Dominican Republic for a mid winter vacation and now looks like he is native to that region amongst all us pasty winter white locals.

PO1 Steve Smyth is currently in the JEAC (Joint ELINT Analysis Cell) with his newly acquired skill set from Baltimore, Maryland and is now off to Europe for a NEDB WG. Nice work if you can get it. PO1 Dave Keeping, when he is not off emptying Ontario lakes of all the fish, has settled in as the SPO (Special Projects Officer). This is a particularly busy job during the 3rd floor renovation as everything looks like it has been chopped, cut and rebuilt. PO2 Darryl Barrett (PREDATOR) is still in ECC and takes advantage of his close proximity to Scotia Bank Place to enjoy such concerts as Motley Crue and Miley Cyrus.

Also in ECC is MS Randy Sulyma who is currently on his PLQ in Halifax after returning from VDQ and her recent deployment. MS Steeve Mimeault has also returned from Baltimore, Maryland with new skills (deadly ones) and has integrated well into JEAC. Steeve has also managed to get some coursing on his down time involving electrical circuits. This has proven to be a learning experience in a new house as there have been some recent "power bumps". He is quite possibly the only person on earth to double the power going to an AC power adapter (enough to cause smoke and alter the physical state of it). MS Bruno Savoie is in parametrics and hasn't missed a UFC event in North America in some time. He currently also holds season tickets to Sens games, its just unfortunate they weren't playing a bit better as of late. MS "Red" Pelletier is currently on a SIGINT course in Baltimore accompanied by LS Callaghan and PO2 Schultz from NEWC. The course will be completed in early spring, when they should be returning to a snow free Ottawa.

LS Steve Fortier is currently working in parametrics and has found his place within CFEWC and has settled nicely, in a nice new home. Last but not least is LS Darren Binder who came to CFEWC last year. He is currently working with Threat Analysis, who seems to always be off conducting trials with several units. As for yours truly, I just recently returned from HMCS Montreal. Currently I am working in JEAC and preparing for the upcoming BBQ season. I will begin BBQing once the snow melts and I can find the BBQ. Everyday I seem to get a bit closer.

In closing CFEWC is going through a major renovation on the third floor that in the end will be greatly beneficial in terms of the capability the renovation will give to the unit. In the mean time as we approach the posting season, CFEWC and Ottawa remain a great place to work and live and a nice change of pace for those coming in from the coasts.

For interest, below are paragraphs that detail CFEWC's role and way ahead that were recently published in the ADM(IM) newsletter "IM wired to the Web" by Capt F.Bohac, CFEWC DBM.

CFEWC is a unit of Canadian Forces Information Operations Group (CFIOG) under ADM(IM), and was stood up in 1996. Located at the CRC campus in Shirley's Bay, its mission is to deliver comprehensive operational and strategic EW support to the CF. CFEWC functions as the central point for the coordination, collection, analysis, and provision of EW data and electronic intelligence (ELINT) derived from it. Inherent in this function is the task of maintaining a comprehensive database containing parametric characteristics of EW systems.

As of June 2008, the Canadian Forces Electronic Warfare Centre (CFEWC) has officially adopted the Next-Generation Electronic Warfare Integrated Reprogramming Database System (NGES) as its primary database used for reprogramming of electronic warfare (EW) systems in the CF. This is a significant step forward not only

because it moves the unit toward a very modern database architecture, but also puts CFEWC into the role of direct contributor to the main Allied EW database for the first time.

All the best for the upcoming summer season.

Yours Truly,
LS Luke Mack



Front Row L-R

CPO2 John Forrester, LS Adam Callaghan, PO1 Gigi Tremblay, MS Steeve Mimeault, CPO1 Jim Percival, LS Jason Horaski, MS Cam Fletcher, MS Brian Kennedy, LS Darren Binder, CPO2 Brian Rees

Back Row L-R

MS Red Pelletier, PO1 Dave Keeping, LS Lucas Mack, LS Steve Fortier, LS Adam Kehoe

Missing

PO2 Sean Kenny, PO2 Tracy Schultz, MS Randy Sulyma, PO1 Steve Smyth, PO2 Darryl Barrett



CANSOFCOM

Hello from the 12th floor of NDHQ. Things progress along at their usual hectic pace here at the Headquarters of SOFCOM. It's amazing how the little crises during the week cascade into a full scale panic by Friday afternoon. Sliders are a wonderful memory and no matter how hard I try to institute the venerable tradition in this Command, it just doesn't seem to take hold. Our HQ continues to support the sharp end of the arrowhead and move forward in the fight against the bad guys. In my little corner, the badges continue their slow progression toward approval and the Access to Information requests keep on coming. On the recruiting side, if you're up for a challenging and rewarding career change, don't rule out CANSOFCOM. We've got JTF2, the Canadian Special Operations Regiment and Canadian Joint Incident Response Unit-CBRN with a wide range of choices that may interest you. We are not an army unit; we are joint. We need all three uniforms to make our units what they are. Check us out at http://cansofcom-comfoscan.mil.ca/en/index_e.asp

Canadian Special Operations Forces Command
CPO2 Stephen Haughn



JIIFC

Having left the Career Shop in early April to fill a spot left by CPO2 Rob Brydon at the JIIFC Det COP Development desk, out in what some would say "more harboured surroundings" in CFS Leitrim. No longer able to ponder career mangling through the 7th story windows in NDHQ, wait with baited breath for the daily drink cart deliveries and D MIL C Bingo games, but on the whole, work here has been a welcome change. Not sure that I can say that I miss the many phone calls, emails and emergency response requests yet, but I'm certain that given enough time I'll purge my CORE memory and won't remember the many bad things that I experienced as a Career Manager, just the many good.

I realize that I'm supposed to be saying a few words, giving you an update on *whaaatsszaaapp* since the last JIIFC submission, but until the next news letter I'll let you read the W5 on COP Dev from the last issue. The shop has been continuing to do the same anyway...well as best as can be without Rob Brydon here. So in an attempt to not force the editor to spend much money on ink for this issue, I'd like to just say a short good bye as the OS to LS Career Manager.

For those who have been a CM will echo, the job is highly recommended employment ...for everyone at least once. I truly enjoyed my 3 years in the job, and I hope that I was able to steer, council...career manage each of your careers to your liking. As I bid each of you *salut*, I'd like to make one last recommendation; please execute the recommendations and plans that we discussed during your interview(s). Remember you are always your best career manager, and as such are responsible to action what is necessary to enable you to succeed with a career in today's navy. All I can do mostly is guide your actions and decisions.

As I clear my *Career Manager P-Net* cct for the last time, our navy today needs hard working, dedicated yet flexible people. Our occupation has a history of being very successful and proud, and today it is filled with such sailors needed to continue to face the challenges of the occupation and the navy. For all you "EARLY WARNERS and

SHOOTERS”, it has been my extreme pleasure to have been your CM. I wish each of you a most successful and rewarding career. Until next time, fair winds and good luck!

CPO2 Dan Myers

Joint Information & Intelligence Fusion Capability (JIIFC)



DMPOR

First of... the new snow-blower came in very handy! J

Well, I can hardly believe it has been eight months already, and I have not committed suicide here in Ottawa. Where has the time gone? Oh yes I remember, using the new snow-blower J. The family and I have enjoyed our first taste of “a real winter”, and we had the beaver tail, seen the ice sculptures, and yes even skated on the canal. My feet still hurt from the skates. Seriously though, the past eight months have been very busy, and I have made headway on some things, and gotten nowhere on many others.

The final draft of MARCORD 46-2, MARCORD 46-3, and MARCORD 46-4 are with my boss for a final sanity check. Hopefully, I can have them out to the coastal SMEs for a final once over, prior to submitting to DMPOR for approval by end of April. The review and rewrite of CFCO 114 is for the most part complete, but is on hold, until the new CF EW Policy is released. I feel it necessary to wait for review of the new CF Policy document prior to releasing this. With the new CF Policy, there maybe a requirement to supersede this document all together, and or create a new MARCORD instead, perhaps being OPI'd by NEWC?

I continue to work with CPO2 Lee at DMRS, in an effort to create a Target Infrastructure Project, with the hopes of having it formally stood up by next fiscal year. The Target Standing Offer Agreement has been approved by PSWG, and hopefully will get through treasury soon. This allows the formations to obtain their target requirements by forecasting their needs, and ordering directly, which will save money, and frustration. Targets included in this agreement will be Hammer head, HSITT, TLX's, TRX's etc.. The Navy will gain valuable trg by employing these targets more often, rather than being happy to put a 22 mil offset on the Buoy in the Deltas. The Infrastructure Support will be the biggest hurdle, as this will be a capital funded project, and will perhaps take as long as 5 years to see fruition. Yes that's the snail pace of Ottawa.

During Fleet Week, we seized the moment and gathered all the NESOPs together, that we could get out of the bar that is... to hold a work group on NCPM 701. You may or may not have been aware of some of the recent changes that had occurred in early 2008, WRT the “Engage” Order and some other minor details, which seemed to have gotten changed due to a communication error. After the dust settled and a few harsh words here and there; all us NESOPs came together in a consolidated front, and changed this back, which was championed by CPO2 Steve Murphy on our behalf. We also used the opportunity to do a thorough re-write of the manual, which was released shortly thereafter, thanks to some outstanding work and dedication by PO1 Sully Macleod at CFNOS.

For all of those who have DMPOR website bookmarked, you may have had some troubles connecting to our site, since we no longer fall under DGMPR. We now fall under Assistant CMS, so therefore our website has changed. Please note the new link under my signature. That's all for now, hope everyone had a safe and fun Christmas/March Break. I am now looking forward to summer leave, which seems so far away. Take care, and if you are ever in

Ottawa, look me up, I have a great BBQ, and know for a fact that Jimmy Percival got a great Beer fridge, just ask Al Wills, he can vouch for it, that is if he can remember. J Oh and PS, the HABS still suck David.

CPO2 Ian Kelly

DMPOR 3-3-3

SO Electronic Warfare

http://navy.dwan.dnd.ca/english/asstcms/dmpor/AWW_EW_AMMO.asp



DMRS

News from DMRS

Greetings to all. I trust everyone is enjoying the arrival of spring, and this spring's arrival includes our West Coast brethren who actually had more than one snowfall this winter. I will take this opportunity to provide a brief description of what DMRS does and a bit of an update on NESOP related projects.

For those of you who don't know, DMRS stands for Director of Maritime Requirements (Sea) and is headed by Capt(N) Hendry. It consists of quite a few different cells (or in our case - cubicles) whose occupants' sole purpose in life is to look at what the Navy needs to remain current and also to project what the Navy will need for future operations. In theory, a simple task; in reality, not so simple. As you can imagine, everybody in the Navy has an opinion, just like those reading this Newsletter. The trick is to weigh these opinions, investigate options and then make recommendations to the Senior Review Board, who will bestow their blessing to continue - or not.

Crucial in this process is the Statement of Capability Deficiency (SOCD). It is well and good for sailors to moan and complain about perceived problems, but without documented proof that a problem exists it is very hard to convince the powers that be to part with money. And don't forget, it's not just the Navy brass we have to convince, it is the Army and Air Force because they are also seeking a share of the same pot of money. And once we get it past the CF hurdles, we still have to ensure that all the steps have been taken to fulfil a myriad of other conditions imposed by Treasury Board and Public Works, etc. As you can imagine, this is a very laborious process and moves at a snail's pace. Project time, from inception to eventual acceptance into the Fleet, is usually measured in years.

So what is DMRS working on which relates to NESOPs? A great many things, some of which, while not classified are not really suitable for discussion in an open Newsletter such as this. If you want to know more, try to make it to the annual OA briefing, or for those who can't attend, get your bosses to provide you a debrief following Fleet Week where a great deal of information is imparted.

Let's look at EW first. The CPFs will be getting a replacement for CANEWs (details to follow at some point in the future), and replacement for SHIELD (an excellent website was forwarded by CPO2 Murphy - http://navy.dwan.dnd.ca/english/dgmfd/dmrs/sections/dmrs_08/intro.asp). An investigation as to the requirement of ESM in the Arctic Offshore Patrol Vessel is ongoing. Sea Search is undergoing investigation for upgrading. As for its current location in ops, that will remain until the Halifax Class Modernization deals with it.

From a target perspective - threat representative targets remain a crucial requirement. DMRS, in concert with other directorates and agencies, such as the Warfare Centre, are always looking at providing ships with targets which represent realistic threats ships may face, from supersonic targets to low-slow fliers. A prime example is the

Hammerhead, a Canadian-developed, remotely-controlled target, developed to provide a realistic expandable target which is as near as possible the real thing for practice against FIACs. Barracudas, initially purchase as Harpoon targets, have taken on an increasingly heavy workload as they double as towing platforms for the HSITT and targets for Advanced Surface Firings. Maybe future use will include Harbour Security, Force Protection, or surveillance of Vessels of Interest prior to sending over a boarding party.

This brings me to the infrastructure project for Barracuda. DMRS is actively seeking options to provide MARLANT and MARPAC with permanent facilities which will permit storage and first line maintenance of Barracuda, and a training centre of operators. It is also intended to store Hammerheads, HSITTs, EBITs, and other such naval targets in such a facility with dedicated personnel to oversee the preparedness of the targets for Fleet usage. However, this will take time since finding real estate to erect suitable structures will be a problem, as will finding personnel to fill dedicated positions required for such a target cell.

The CIWS, most recently upgraded to the Block 1 variant, will be upgraded again. FELEX CPFs will receive what is called Baseline 1 which will see improved computer performance, an Ethernet capability, the loss of the current LCP, which will be incorporated into the RCP in ops. The current training restrictions on using the IR camera will be removed when the Surface Simulator cards arrive next year. This will allow operators to train with the 1B without fear of reducing the camera's lifespan, and at almost \$1M bucks a camera and a lengthy repair time, we can't afford to burn out cameras, especially when their availability may be mission critical at some point in a future deployment.

Finally, this will be my second-to-last submission to the Newsletter. The next submission to the Newsletter from the DMRS world will be from a newly-minted C2 as I have decided to call it a career. My last submission will be a little further into this Newsletter, (presupposing Joey includes it). I am returning to Halifax and will be walking out of Stadacona for the last time on my 53rd birthday, June 2nd 2009, after serving 33 years and 91 days.

Christopher Lee
Chief Petty Officer 2nd Class



CFLRS

Hello to all NESOP's from the centre of training excellence at CFLRS. There are six NESOP posted here at this time and one is on his QL6A course. The start of the summer season is upon us here at CFLRS and that means extra officer training plus the posting season. This is always a challenge for the school because of the manning for platoon staff.

PO2 Remilard is currently trying to complete his ILQ distance learning package and keep up on his job as platoon 2 I/C with the help of PO1 Manuel. Once this is completed I know he can not wait to go on his QL6B course. Three NESOP's are in the area on ILQ and ALQ courses. The ILQ students commented on the quality of students at CFLRS and I put out an open invitation to come and visit, PO2 Rigby took me up on it and got to see an inspection and to get an idea of life at CFLRS for new members of the CF. If someone finds themselves in the area drop in and a tour can be setup.

One of the bigger challenges facing staff is new students showing up to CFLRS not in physical shape to complete the training, we call it the xbox generation. If any one has family about to proceed on training here you might want to send them to the gym first.

In conclusion CFLRS is the type of posting that will give you lots of experience and job satisfaction not gained in our normal Navy life. "I need a relief next summer"

For CFLRS NESOP's
PO1 Tye

French Text

Bonjour à tous NESOP's du centre de formation à l'ELRFC excellence. Il ya six NESOP affichés ici à ce moment et on est sur son QL6A cours. Le début de la saison d'été est à nous, ici et à l'ELRFC moyens supplémentaires que l'agent de formation et le détachement de saison. C'est toujours un défi pour l'école en raison des effectifs du personnel de peloton.

PO2 Remilard est actuellement à compléter son apprentissage ILQ distance et de tenir sur son travail en tant que section 2 I / C à l'aide de PO1 Manuel. Une fois cela terminé, je sais qu'il ne peut pas attendre d'aller sur son QL6B cours. Trois NESOP sont dans la région et sur ILQ ALQ cours. ILQ Les étudiants de la qualité des étudiants à l'ELRFC et j'ai mis sur une invention à venir visiter, PO2 Rigby m'a pris sur elle et se voir à l'inspection et de se faire une idée de la vie à ELRFC pour les nouveaux membres de la FC. Si quelqu'un se trouve dans la région et une baisse de la visite peut être configuré.

Un des plus grands défis auxquels fait face le personnel des nouveaux élèves à présenter ELRFC pas en forme physique pour compléter la formation, nous l'appelons la xbox génération. Si l'un a de la famille sur le point de procéder à la formation ici, vous pouvez les envoyer à la première salle de gym.

En conclusion ELRFC est le type d'affichage qui vous donnera beaucoup d'expérience et la satisfaction au travail de ne pas acquise dans notre programme normal de la vie marine. "J'ai besoin d'un secours l'été prochain"

For CFLRS NESOP's
PO1 Tye

NESOP QL3 1921





West Coast Fleet Chief Report

by CPO1 Paul Helston

Good day all, I have been in the job now for two years and unless something changes I will be here in 2010. The picture you see at the end of my submission is from last years RIMPAC exercise with Radm Locklear and most of the Senior Chiefs, Coxswains, Command Master Chiefs of the participating nations. RIMPAC is the largest Naval exercise in the world held every other year.

The last article I wrote I provided an update on the CANFLTPAC Fleet Efficiency Working Group (FEWG). This time I will provide an over view of the Fleet activities in the Pacific which has been busy as usual. HMCS Regina and Ottawa participated in RIMPAC at the end of her four-month Westploy deployment and Fleet staff had the lead as the Sea Component Commander with Fleet staff and then Commodore Greenwood in USS Kittyhawk. HMCS Calgary and Protecteur also deployed as part of CTF150 in the Pearson Gulf but also circumnavigate the globe. The fall saw a TGEX with Regina, Winnipeg, two MCDVs, Fleet staff and Sea Training with a port visit to San Diego.

This year Winnipeg has deployed in a very unique mission, which will see, them participate as part of NATO off the horn of Africa but also work with seventh Fleet in the Far East and later conduct exercises and port visits in Australia and Guam. Victoria crew has been seen many of its sailors doing training and at sea on the East coast and it is anticipated that HMCS Chicoutimi will arrive in Esquimalt in the late spring of 2009. Protecteur will deploy for three months at the end of March to participate in the Chinese International Fleet Review. However, the over all focus in the Pacific Fleet this year is geared towards Operation Podium the security of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic games. There have been numerous exercises such as exercise Trident Fury this May, ships working with SOFCOM and of course ex-Silver. Silver was an all Government exercise with the RCMP as the lead agency but also included other agencies such as public safety and many more. The CF had approximately 1000 personnel who participated including hundreds of sailors from MARPAC who were in Frigates, MCDVs, ORCA as well as divers, force protection, port security units, logistical support and a Maritime Component Commander HQ located in HMCS Discovery in Vancouver.

On the 13th of March RAdm Greenwood conducted his change of Command in Protecteur which was attended but hundreds of personnel including the Minister of National Defence, the CDS, numerous dignitaries and personnel from the Fleet. During his tenure in Command RAdm Greenwood focused on people and though not everything he did was transparent to everyone he lead the FEWG, championed changes to terms of service and numerous other initiatives. The good news is with his promotion he goes to Ottawa and the Deputy CMS to continue these efforts for the betterment of the Navy and her sailors. The new Fleet Commander, Commodore Ron Lloyd, who I have a long association with going back to when we commissioned Calgary when he was the Combat Officer and I was the PO1

SWC. He as expected has brought is engaging and energetic style of leadership to the Pacific Fleet as he did in his previous Command of the Canadian Fleet Atlantic.

He has indicated from the out set his number one priority is people and in his initial guidance to the Commanding Officers he indicated he understood the pressures in the Fleet and provided the following saying in no particular order:

Look after your ships company and they will look after you,
I fail and the team succeeds as opposed to you/the team failed and I succeed,
The more you sweat in peacetime the less you bleed in war,
Train as you fight,
There is a time and a place for everything,
Fail to plan, plan to fail,
Flexibility is the key to seapower,
Communication is the key to success, and
If in doubt, do what you think is the "right" thing to do.

In the first week in Command the Fleet has instituted the sailor of the Quarter/Year award, which is a West Coast variation of and East Coast initiative. Guidance and Direction has been released to ships to curtail unnecessary attach posting and justifying those that are operationally sound. A new fitness policy with new initiatives will be promulgated shortly. He has approved the FEWG initiative to trial for a reduced homeport duty watch consisting of seven personnel. I expect the FEWG itself will soon cease to exist but will be rolled up into a Fleet implementation plan which will be posted on our website in the coming month.

Lastly, you will see the Commodore and I in the very near future as it is our aim to visit every ship and speak to ever mess in the Fleet.

Have a great Navy Day

CPO1Paul Helston, Fleet CPO





MARPAC J34



MARPAC TARGET CELL

A new section was unveiled the 28th of April 2009 by J3 Capt (N) Falloon. The Maritime Forces Pacific (MARPAC) Target Cell officially opened with a ribbon cutting and open house at 311B in Colwood. The MARPAC TARGET CELL has been created to support operations and the management of surface and aerial targets used to support ship's company training at sea. "The official opening of the Target Cell marks a significant step forward," said Chief of Staff Operations Capt(N) Les Falloon. "This Target Cell provides a dedicated storage and work space to protect the targets from the environment and permit routine maintenance."

MARPAC has been operating Barracuda remote controlled targets since the early 1990's. Recently the Hammerhead, Vindicator II, DT 25 and DT55 have been added to the remote controlled inventory. We still have the towed and stationary targets such as EBITs (Enhanced Ballistic Integrated Target), HSITTs (High Speed Inflatable Towed), KRTs (Killer Red Tomato) and HSP (High Speed Plastic). Air towed targets include the TRX and TLX. "The target cell provides us with remote-controlled targets that enable the navy to do realistic training at sea," says Capt(N) Falloon.

As we all know for many years we were in the business of missing the target. We would lock on then apply an offset to ensure we did not destroy what we were attempting to shoot. This has changed and with it the mind set must change. We are encouraging units to conduct live firing with HE ammo instead of the traditional BLP. Hit and destroy the targets. I would also like to encourage new ideas to be submitted to the J34 shop with respect to targets and ammunition usage. We are not the only ones who track down viable targets if you come across a target or an idea for a target please forward it on and we will investigate on your behalf. Good shooting.

J34-5-1 CPO2 Bret Tisdale



CFP HQ F3 Operations

By: CPO2 Sylvain Jaquemot
CANFLTPAC HQ / F3 Operations
AWW/EW CPO

With 2008 now behind us, we had a good start to 2009 with a productive Fleet Week in early January in Halifax. It was good to see old faces again. HMCS WINNIPEG has now set off for OP SEXTANT with a stop over in Hawaiian OPAREAS conducting a very successful "BLACK" ESSM firing. Well done and good luck in your mission! Congratulation to HMCS CALGARY's NESOP section in being awarded the "LOCKEED MARTIN CANADA EW INTERCEPT TROPHY" for 2008.

The focus quickly shifted here with the upcoming 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics (V2010) and JTFG established in Esquimalt. Some of our staff have been selected to support the operation and will take part in various exercises (Bronze, Silver and Gold) prior to OP PODIUM. We completed EX SILVER in mid Feb in HMCS Discovery where the Maritime Component Commander (MCC) HQ was established and will be for OP PODIUM. After working out connectivity issues during the first week, we quickly got rolling the second week working alongside the RCPM and various OGD. The aim was to validate the MCC CONOP and continue to develop SOPs. Coming up in May 09 is EXERCISE TRIDENT FURY (ETF 09), in support of the ORO sea phase where we'll conduct various AWW exercise along with USN and other participating nations.

The Target Cell has now been established in MARPAC, PO1 Al Robertson (NCIOP) has been selected as the target cell manager along with a LS SUP TECH. They will oversee the training, deployment and operations of the targets. Ships will still need to maintain two trained operators embarked IOT utilize the BARRACUDA when ISE. We've also taken delivery of HAMMERHEAD targets which will enable us to further our gunnery practice.

In closing, along with the 100th anniversary of the NAVY in 2010, the NESOP Trade will also be celebrating its 25th anniversary, when in 1985 the EW and FC trade were amalgamated under the "Maritime Other Rank Progression System" (MORPS) project. In marking the event, I'd like to propose having a commemorative coin/patch and pins done up for serving and retired members. The coins would be sequentially numbered (challenge coin) and available only to serving and retired members (one per). For fairness to all, names of all those interested would be drawn at random so that coin "0001" can go to anyone and so on. Another coin (not numbered), unlimited quantity, would also be available for you to handout as gifts/exchange. I've attached draft samples below; if you have suggestions/comments on what we'd like to see on it, let me know. Send me your requests, (numbered coin, gift coin, pin and patch). Once I have collected the amount of request, I'll advise on cost, obviously the more we order, the lower the cost. Contact me at (sylvain.jaquemot@forces.gc.ca)



Coin Front

Specs: - 1.75in

- Antique Silver Metal
- 3D design 2 sides
- Numbered (Serving/retired mbrs only)
- Epoxy coated
- Cut edge



Coin Back



Pin / Patch



News from "The Rock" AWWTC CAYUGA

Greetings from Black Rock,

Well where to start? There have been numerous events taking place at the school here as the AWWTC is pumping out new members to the fleet at a feverous rate. QL-3 Courses 0023, 0024 have graduated, sending off a plethora of newly minted minds ready to take their skills to a new level. QL-3 course 0025 is due to graduate next and promises to deliver some dynamic new faces to both coasts.

As for the staff here, there have been a rattling number of staff rotations. PO1 Dave Vanderlee has returned to his rightful posting at the HMCS VANCOUVER shore office while finally his replacement PO1 John Penner showed up with tooth pick in mouth ready to dig in. PO2 Lloyd Boutillier has been promoted to PO1 and is off to greener pastures with HMCS CALGARY. PO2 Pearce is off to CFNOS HALIFAX and is on his first attempt at glory with the QL-6B course. PO2 Tim King is now posted in and has taken over as the new guy to blame when things aren't ordered correctly. Don't worry Rich we got the blinds to fit. PO2 "Doc" Halliday is still here and is as always buried in his paper piles making it all look good.

As for our worker bees, MS Mike Comboye is off at CFNOS and has successfully completed his QL-6A course and we should see him back shortly. MS Mark Simper just caught word his time here is short as he is bound for the city of Ottawa and a stint at CFEWC. Word of advice to you Mark... Buy a snow blower!! MS Derek Dawson as promised by the career manager (time late 1.5 years) has finally arrived putting to rest profound rumours. He is getting his feet wet and will make for a fine instructor. MS Rex Heslop is off to sweat out a summer in Halifax as he will be off to learn the finer details of being EWS on his QL-6A.

And lastly thanks to the drive and determination of our ambitious Chief the building here has taken on a modernization that rivals the HCM program. From new security doors to embroidered carpet runners, to freshly painted classrooms and new blinds and well the list goes on and on and so does the running total. CPO2 Clevett spared no expense in ensuring we would be beautified. Please come down and check out your new and improved 'Rock.

Cheers from Black Rock.

MS Heslop.



CFFSE WTD

Hello fellow NESOPs from Warfare Training Division at CFFS Esquimalt. Christmas has come and is long gone and now our spring program is well underway. Our new Div Cdr, LCdr Chris McKelvey, was posted in just before Christmas, and we finally have a new Weapons Officers, Lt(USN) Chris Gutierrez who arrived in November. We would like to wish good luck to MS Troy Stickley as he is off to Halifax to challenge his QL6A.

We have run two each of the ORO, AWWD, FCS and FCO Delta courses since the last newsletter and sent 13 graduates back to the fleet with their Iroquois qualification. If you are interested, the next set of Delta courses, including EWS, are being run in October, so keep an eye out for the solicitation messages.

Most of the WTD team sailed on HMCS WINNIPEG at the end of October as they completed their MRI 1 and 2. LCdr McKelvey, CPO2 Thompson and PO1 Macfarlane were back onboard in mid Feb conducting another MRI 2. HMCS ATHABASKAN came west in early January as we assisted TTT staff conducting their OTT 2. After the spring Delta courses we spent a week in early March conducting Weapon Certs with HMCS REGINA.

Things are quiet for us at the end of March as people are using up their remaining leave. The next major item on our agenda is HMCS CALGARY's weapon cert in April. So we have some time to polish our briefs and briefing skills. WTD and a couple pers from ALG will be attending a SM-2 course in June after finishing the locally taught ESSM course that is being held at WTD. That's all from WTD for this period. For those of you, who don't live in Victoria, remember that spring is coming!

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 the Flagship of the Pacific Fleet and the only Area Air Defence destroyer on the West Coast. We are currently climbing out of our extended work period, enjoying the return of our STIR directors. Now if we only had a gun... As usual while the ship was in refit the troops made their presence felt in the rest of the fleet. PO1 Penner took LS Tremblay, LS Borys, and LS Lemay with him for Protecteur's trip around the world. Upon their return LS Lemay was posted ashore to Athena, LS Borys went on his PLQ, and LS Tremblay sat back and waited for his leaf to show up. PO2 Deschenes switched to SAR tech- congratulations on your new job Coco. PO2 Robins was posted to PLQ School as and instructor, in time to keep an eye on LS Borys and LS Weatherell. LS Day deployed with the Calgary, and in spite of all our begging and bribery, they gave him back. AB Pyza went on the same trip, and then on to his 5As. What the hell is a 5a? LS Demarce got his kellicks and went to the gulf on the Winnipeg- congratulations Owen!. AB Robbie "Pork Chop" Morris went along to keep Owen company. LS Madgin Simonized the Ottawa for their Westploy. Sorry about that guys. LS Ledger ran the section in the shore office, as the senior NESOP in the unit, organizing training days and lording over us with an iron fist. LS Weatherell passed his PLQ – in one try! And then rode the shore office like a dirty mule. We now bid a fond farewell to PO1 John "Here for a Decade" Penner, who takes over the P1 spot at Blackrock, and tremble in fear at the arrival of PO2 Shawn Falconer. Oh he'll be our P1 all right- his crown is probably in the mail with LS Dave Tremblay's leaf. Also on the horizon is LS Steve "The Other One" Tremblay. May God have mercy on us all. As we rebuild the ship and the section, Algonquin looks forward to Portland Rose Festival in June, lots of Sea Trials and Workups and Weapon Certs and OTT and Christmas, and then the Olympics! Until next time, may your gun always be loaded, and your CANEWS always be empty.

LS Weatherell
Port Watch FCS
HMCS Algonquin



HMCS CALGARY

After a conspicuous absence from the NESOP Newsletter, HMCS CALGARY has returned with tales of excitement and derring-do following an unusually active year. CALGARY returned from the Gulf in October after a successful seven-month deployment with HMC Ships IROQUOIS and PROTECTEUR on OP ALTAIR ROTO 4. CALGARY earned the Lockheed Martin EW Award for excellence in EW due to our prowess and drive in conducting ELINT collection with Sea Search. After some long-needed rest and relaxation for the deployed crew, we have another challenging year ahead of us with several more training sails, culminating in a three month SOUTHPLOY down to the west coast of Central and South America. No rest for the wicked, indeed.

As another posting season arrives, its time for another round of musical chairs, as we say goodbye to many of our longer-lasting resident NESOPs. PO1 Barker is off to CFFSE Standards. PO2 MacMillan is off to the city of Ottawa

this summer to work as an imagery analyst, leaving PO2 Timmons to look after us kids (lucky him!) Incoming to our NESOP "Holy Trinity" is PO1 Boutillier, who will be welcomed back warmly by all of us who remember him from his last stint on CAL four short years ago. On the Junior Ranks side, we say farewell to our longest lasting NESOP, MS Dawson, who after 6 years is finally getting a chance to spend some time ashore honing the young minds up in Blackrock (beware the Sea Search phase, new kids!!) As well, MS Andrist is off on his QL-6A course this summer, leaving us Masterless for the time being. As they say, when the cats are away...okay, maybe not. We said goodbye as well to LS Mackay, who is warming a seat over in JTF-P J2 now, and good luck and safe travels to LS Moffett who is off to Afghanistan to check bags in Kandahar as flight line security.

We are fortunate to be getting AB Marier and AB Cote back from Halifax, as they have successfully completed their QL-4 and QL-5A courses (respectively) No more excuses on your Watch-On-Decks now, boys! We are also lucky to be gaining AB Greenway for the next few months, and we thank him for being such a productive rental. As for the rest of us, we'd like to roll out the welcome mat for our new fish, OS Olchowy (aka "Kentucky Red") and ask him to forgive us for working him like a rented mule. It's been a while since we've had an OS, and it's just so nice. AB Scherer is looking forward to his upcoming Fall Studies at McMaster University and we wish him the best of luck in his future. Not many philosophers can say they've done what he's done! He should whip his classmates into shape in no time. LS Starcevic is back from his QL-5A course, and his PATA leave (welcome to the world, little Logan!) and now has the formidable task of getting himself back into the NESOP groove. LS Mitchell is keepin' on keepin' on, and has his motorcycle-building to keep him occupied (and sane) and as for myself, LS Adamowski, I too dream of better things, but am trying to keep it, and all of my mates, together and sane for the remainder of the year, and into the future.

We'd like to thank all those whose stay was shorter in length, but no less vital to our success. For the deployment, MS Gray, LS Day, and AB Pyza assisted us, and we thank them for their commitment. We'd also like to thank some of the various rentals, including AB Truscott, and OS Leitch, and anyone else who I've forgotten in my old age.

As an addendum, CALGARY just returned from Ex. TRIDENT FURY, where we successfully fired 282 rounds (to the joy of the Gunners) at the expense of 'A' system and intermittent faults on 'B' system (to the scorn of the STIR Techs), and received one beautiful VINDICATOR kill (the video looks great!) Our brand new OS's, Bruce, DeBon and Olchowy had to ramp up their CANEWS skills quickly, and did a fantastic job. Good job boys! We'd also like to welcome our new FCS, LS Hamilton who lived up to his billing with a successful four days of firing. Just don't expect you're going to fire off 282 rounds without a fault again, Greg. Lastly, we have initiated our new AWWO, Lt(N) Punkert into our little family, and she is learning to love us, despite our independent ways, and questionable moral fibre. So, ONWARD we sail, and wish all our fellow NESOPs fair winds and following seas...

LS Adamowski



HMCS OTTAWA

Good day to all from the NESOP team on HMCS OTTAWA. Although we are slowly losing members as OTTAWA prepares itself for refit, we still have a couple members onboard who are eager to get this letter out, so that we can move onto bigger things such as de-storing. Oh what fun!

Since our last submission, OTTAWA conducted SCC off the Hawaiian Islands. It took a while for the ship to find its way into the straights due to some mechanical problems, but soon enough she set her course for Hawaii to meet

up with the American Navy to ensure that no sub would go undetected. OTTAWA's crew has recently moved into the shore office for the next several months and are almost finished destoring her (and let us tell you there is enough stuff in 2 and 3 stores to almost sink this ship).

So where are our NESOPs? Our fearless leader PO1 Lange will be training Reg Force Officer Trainees this summer at Venture and is currently on a modified GMTI course. His time spent here since he arrived has been enjoyed by all (we just can't tell him ourselves because you always have to respect that chain of command!!) We look forward to him returning when OTTAWA's crew returns to their home vessel. PO2 Falconer has been lost to the HMCS Algonquin as there new SWC, we wish him good luck and hope he enjoys workups! PO2 Frigon is spending a year at JTF Games (I'm sure when he returns he will be able to do twice as many push-ups putting him at an even 20!!)

MS Bevil has turned down his remuster to AESOP and is hoping to be promoted to PO2 very soon. We hope we are able to hang on to him here. A big congratulations goes out to MS Duhamel who has recently returned from the successful completion of QL-6A training in Halifax. He is hoping to accompany LS Hamilton on CALGARY for Southploy. This leads us to LS Hamilton, our elder of the LS, who has just returned from his QL-5B course and is now TD'd to CALGARY where he is the Fire Control Supervisor. LS Spence, where is LS Spence?? He must be enjoying some tea somewhere. LS Fannon, our newest member was posted to OTTAWA in January 09 and has brought with him vast knowledge of the EW spectrum. LS Teasdale, fresh back to us after a stint at RJOC, where his computer skills were being utilized. AB Scherer, our friendly neighbourhood TD from HMCS CALGARY, will be releasing in June with plans on returning to school. AB Truscott completed his QL-4's where he was top student and recently returned from a three week trip with the Orca's. AB Lacombe also finished his QL-4 training at the top of his class and now hopes to finish his developing software that will greatly contribute to the Nesop trade. AB Brown, recently promoted, has again also finished his QL-4 course but let down the ol' team for he did not obtain top student....come on....but, he has really nice hair. OS Helpard has been developing his skills as a Jr. NESOP and is keeping the section entertained with his exploits. OS Morris, our little sailor with a big heart has showed that he loves what he does and also recently returned from the Orcas accompanying them for their three week sail. Finally, we can't forget to mention CPO1 Hart, our Cox'n, who is our unofficial honorary member of the OTTAWA NESOP section, one who still gets a big smile when the gun goes boom!!

Well that's about it from all of us on HMCS OTTAWA, We hope everyone in the trade is having fun in their own little way and we look forward to seeing what you all have to say in this upcoming letter, so with much ado, yours truly,

AB Brown and AB Lacombe
Fire Control Operators



HMCS REGINA



Yaaa...HOOO!!! Under the in-your-face control of Cdr. Haydn Edmundson, HMCS REGINA lunges through the “Hole in the Wall” at a teeth-rattling 30 knots during a recent FNO/MARSECPAT deployment. The photo was taken from our RHIB.

For those unfamiliar with west coast marine geography, the Hole in the Wall is an extremely narrow passage between towering rock formations, reminiscent of the Norwegian fjords. Bisecting Sonora Island, the Hole in the Wall enters from Calm Channel and opens into Surge Narrows. Some intrepid seaman learned long ago that, while it was a tight squeeze, the sides were a near-sheer drop-off, making it easily deep enough for a warship to pass. Now it is somewhat of a test of nerve and seamanship for west coast officers lucky enough to command a frigate or destroyer. I went through here years ago in HMCS HURON, under Cdr. John Keenlside, but at nothing like this speed. Once inside, it broadens out a bit, and there’s just enough room to turn around.

Last year was a busy one for REGINA, with a lengthy WESTPLOY/RIMPAC deployment that took us from the dizzying ramparts of Hong Kong to the steaming streets of Singapore, the bustling, clamorous markets of Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) to the rocky solitude of Guam. Winding up the show-the-flag portion of the trip, during which we were privileged to sail with the USS KITTY HAWK Strike Group for the old girl’s final voyage (she ended an era as the last conventionally-powered Aircraft Carrier in the U.S. Navy), REGINA joined the multinational forces of RIMPAC for a series of challenging naval exercises that saw us fire every Above-Water weapon in our inventory with the exception of VLS. During 57mm AA firing the AWWO (Lt(N) Stephen Wall) and his team smashed the metal hoop of the sleeve target so that it swung in wide oscillations behind the aircraft, and had to be cut loose. Dual Harpoon (telemetric, no warhead) firings on the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) by HMCS OTTAWA and ourselves struck the target hulk, which was hammered all day by multinational surface and air missile firings, and finally sunk with torpedoes.

However, the highlight of the deployment for those on the port side of the Operations room was the TAPA Trial. This test was designed to validate Chaff/ECM efforts against inbound missiles. The east coast donated about 40

SHIELD II rockets for the purpose. They had been damaged by water before arrival, so we were unsure if some or any of them would function – I am happy to say every single one left the launcher, and almost all of them bloomed. I can't go into detail in an unclassified forum, but the combination of RAMSES and SHIELD II in some phases of the trial was 100% effective, breaking missile lock every single time. It was certainly a confidence-builder in soft-kill techniques and technology.

This year looks to be considerably lazier for REGINA; following successful completion of Weapons System Certification earlier this spring (although we'll have to do it all again following this summer's change of command), we sailed on the FNO deployment discussed above and are scheduled to participate in TGEX/TRIDENT FURY in May. After that, an idle summer alongside for some, although many REGINA sailors will likely be loaned out to other units as the fleet manning situation continues to bite deep. Until next time, we in REGINA wish you fair winds and following seas.

PO1 Mark Chapman	PO2 Bill Blore	PO2 Ken Simoneau (fm. VANCOUVER)
MS George Gray	MS Steve Lavigne	LS Dave Wilcox
LS Phil Burton	LS Dan Buch	AB Daryl Bowen (TD to WINNIPEG)
LS Steve Johnson (fm. WINNIPEG)		AB Andrew Boorman
AB Lois Broughton (fm. FAP)		OS Matt Chalovich
OS Chad Foulds		OS Jeff Leitch (fm. WINNIPEG)
OS Chris Russell (fm. VANCOUVER)		OS Dan Lucia
OS Jae Lee (fm. WINNIPEG)		OS Josh Laton (fm. WINNIPEG)
CPO2 Steve Gracey (CBTCH)		



HMCS WINNIPEG

Yaaargh Maties! Hello from the Winnipeg and our pirate fighting crew of miscreants. Currently we are on our much anticipated deployment which we have been working up to for the past year. To prepare for this sail we've jumped through the usual hoops of TRP, OTT1, trials, HR WUPS, OTT2, M WUPS and CBRN training. All to say that we've been sailing pretty much non-stop since February and are more than ready to kick some serious pirate @%#!

We've seen some major changes in getting ready for this deployment. We've had a drastic turnover in personnel (a bit of a revolving door) since we started getting ready for this tour. Many of our crew were recently shore posted starting with LS Callaghan who accepted a transfer to NEWC in Ottawa, and we wish him the best in O-town in his jammy shore posting. MS Stickley has also been transferred ashore to WTD. Another of our boys who headed off to Ontari-ari-ario was PO2 Howlett who accepted a posting to help recruit future NESOPs in Kingston.

We've also made some new additions to our team, gagged and stolen under a cloak of darkness from the Regina we have our new SWC LT(N) Wall (in place of our PO1), our FCS MS Stewart, and our FCO AB Bowen. LT(N) Lisi is still with us for at least one more tour. Our new PO2s have both been recently promoted and thrown into the fire, PO2 Rempel has joined us from Athena and PO2 Esquivel from Vancouver (acting as Section Head for the Trip). A congratulations is in order for our newly appointed MS Mack. Our 280-ladies AB Morris and newly promoted LS Demarce are easily learning their way around the CPF and quickly becoming valuable members as our new FCOs. Finally we have the most brilliant and important members of any section, the new ODs; OS

Snashall, OS Bishop and OS Pippy (yay that's me!). We're all wide-eyed and soaking up the marvels of CANEWS, Lookouts and cleaning stations with zest and flair that is only seen in the young blood of newbies.

All in all we have a strong section that is ready for the ups, downs and craziness that any 7-month deployment is bound to bring. While we're all very much looking forward to being reunited with our friends and family at the end of our mission, we are enjoying and making the most of the time we have together and ports we're visiting at this time.

OS Pippy
HMCS WINNIPEG



News From MARLANT



East Coast Advisor Report

by CPO1 Randy Smart

MARLANT Occupation Advisor

The bitter end may have come at last?????????????????????. Puzzled yet, one never knows what one will read in these hallowed pages, or what one can read between the lines! The East Coast has and will see a large loss of talented folks in 2009; it will also most likely see finally some deserving sailors get the rewards they have so patiently waited for. Promotions will certainly be awarded to the deserving and I will congratulate you on your willingness to proceed to the next step. For those that “have” and “will attend no more scan seminars” I congratulate you also, and thank you, for the support you have shown the trade over the years and the assistance you have provided to me in maintaining the core trade of the Combat Operators. The challenges ahead for the NES OP MOC will be varied and rewarding (I’m not recruiting), the leap into the new technology for the CPFs is significant, and the young tads coming up through the hawse-pipe will have fun and enjoy their time at sea. For some older seadogs we have seen a transition from two separate entities EWs and FCs come a long way and become the front runners in the fine style of, Combat Operators, (there’s that name again), and suffice it to say that the NES OP trade will never go away.

As I look back over the years it seems that an ever improving pattern was in the crystal ball for the trade, we have had the best sailors for years, we have had the best tradesmen for an equal time, and I put it to you to carry-on the traditions of the navy and keep the trade alive. This sounds somewhat final, and it is, I have opted to settle for the home for retired sea-farers, and FireControlmen, “FLORIDA”, so I expect this to be my last log entry as a serving sailor, can’t say that retirement will keep me away from the MOC 100%, so I will keep the slip rails greased for a while, and hopefully participate long distance for now. My thanks to the many who have become my friends, my thanks to those who have waited the thirty-five years for the Grumpy Old Chief to stand-down. I came in with a smile expecting to do my best and become the Chief of OHGR, but as with all the good hiding spots, that died out with the FC Trade, (tears to my eyes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!). In the short time that I served I have seen significant changes, and as like everyone was adverse to the changes, but looking back all was for the good of the CF, all was for the good sailors, and in the end, sailors still got chowder and sliders on Fridays, the TOT is still there just more expensive, and diet beer can now be found in the Iron Lung. It was a good run ashore. It’s a good time to retire!!!!!!

CPO1 Smart
East Coast Advisor
NES OP



CCFL TG CNESOP

This is an opinion article, be forewarned. If you don't like the opinion I express, enjoy the conflict. Opinions are like hawseholes. Everybody has one, but nobody likes to hear someone else's. So with the caveat out of the way, I shall reveal my chosen topic. My chosen topic for this issue is The NESOP Newsletter.

A couple of months ago, I returned from sea, TGEX 2-09. I then enjoyed March break with my family then returned to my 268 unanswered emails. One of those emails, must have been the hastener for submissions to the NESOP Newsletter. I assure you it wasn't deliberate, but I must have deleted it in my rush to clear my inbox. So here I sit, several weeks later, responding to another hastener. Joey Smallwood, retired NESOP, is the self sacrificing editor of this digest. Joey has informed us that submissions are becoming fewer and fewer. He assesses that interest in the newsletter is waning.

I don't know. I think everyone likes to spend some time on watch reading the articles. I also think, not everyone enjoys the prospect of drafting a submission. There in lay the issue. *The pun was deliberate, enjoy.* To progress my thought processes, I had to formulate a question to embrace my subject. So I asked myself "Why is interest waning?" During the dizzying inspiration of a Monday morning coffee rush I came up with operational tempo, quality & content, length, rate of issue, relevance and the effort required to prepare a submission.

The operational tempo of the fleet is high. Both coasts are extremely busy and sea time is a premium for all ships. Sure we don't go to sea as often as we did 20 years ago, but now when we do go to sea there is no down time. Every minute of everyday is flexed. Good or bad. That's probably a topic for another column. The issue is, with the work of the current deployment, preparations for the next deployment and the un-assuredness of attach postings, people are tired. I'm impressed by the NESOPs in the fleet and their efforts to support one another. I am thinking however, we're at a tempo we can't sustain. So with all this effort, getting the gumption up to draft a meaningful article to submit to the newsletter becomes onerous. The submissions then aren't always Pulitzer worthy.

Far be it from me to be unlike any other NESOP and express cynicism, but articles that describe a ship's staff aren't compelling. Photos are nice, but how many group photos with a 57mm do we need? So under the heading of quality and content I'm suggesting, forcibly written articles of a routine nature make for a poor read. Do I have the answer? Not perhaps, *the* answer. But, I have *an* answer and it is listed in the next section of this article. Suffice to suggest that people need inspiration in order to submit something a little less mundane. They then need to make those new articles of sufficient length to be compelling.

This brings me to the next point, and that is the length of the tome itself. Everyone who submits on time, normally has their article find a place. Twenty three pages of like articles are a bit much to take. Perhaps document real estate should be vied for, instead of merely granted. Limit the document to 16 pages and send rejection notes. This isn't meant to discourage submissions, but inspire those to realize that their words need to be worthy of our trade forum. Then when your article finds a place in the pages, there is a sense of reward. Then with dedicated submission and publication dates we develop the challenge.

The rate of publication is difficult to pinpoint. Joey certainly has a great deal of patience. The vicious circle is that deadlines come and go for submissions. Without submissions you can't publish. Procrastination is prevalent in just about everything I do. I hate waiting to the last minute, but it seems to me that it happens more often than not. Deadlines are the great motivator. Instead of pushing deadlines to the right, publish a shortened version of the

document with an article outlining which units didn't make an effort. I would certainly add to my list of reminders to the SNR NC members of the fleet to have their submissions in. Perhaps we need to determine if this will be a June/November publication. Perhaps more frequent with specific content.

The relevance of our newsletter is questionable to me for reasons I've already mentioned. In my opinion this ties in with the quality/content issue. I'd like to see articles that help educate the community. CPO2 Kitchen once wrote an article about STIR EPM features that provided a great deal of clarity. We have dozens of EOB experts in the fleet. Lessons learned from CFNOS/CFFS(E). A bent towards topical issues of substance may be more interesting. Keep the feel good stuff, but add more productive content. Now, really, I have heard just about every NESOP express the opinion that they know a better way of doing business. Here's the forum to generate discussion, to educate, and to inspire. But that takes exertion.

It takes effort to prepare a submission. It's so much easier just to go for a coffee and talk about our stresses. Writing them down for everyone to critique is a bit more ponderous. But this is what we need to do. An open forum is remarkably rewarding. We had an open forum discussion with NEWC earlier this year. I have been of the opinion for years that EW has taken a back seat in our trade. I was sure that no one cared, much less discussed EW issues anymore. Then at that meeting, I was pleasantly surprised to hear thoughtful discussion and Q&A on a variety of EW issues. I was rewarded. NESOPs do care and we are holding on to some of our EW. Heck I might go so far as to say we've progressed in some areas. But the old WLR 1C gave us obstinacy as well as sore ears. So I'll continue to support the theory that FC is the entry level position and EW takes real experience and dedication. Topical issues can be opinion, create a discussion, raise questions. It is worth the effort.

Those being my initial ideas I then asked myself the question "Why should we let it die?" A cynic would say for all of the reasons I mentioned above. But when it comes down to the brass, NESOPs like to complain, but we hate to lose. That's right you are overly competitive. Did that get you riled? Let this document die and we lose. We have something unique throughout the Navy. Other trades may mimic, but they can't capture the inspiration that spawned our idea. There have been newsletters for other trades in the years gone by, but NESOPs have only existed since 1985. That's right, we share a milestone with the navy as a whole. 100 years of Canadian Navy, 25 years of NESOPs in the same year (2010). If I recall correctly the NESOP Newsletter was inaugurated in 1985 as a means to bring our community together. The stimulation was to reduce the conflict of the EW/FC wars and to bring commonality to our issues. Whether you agree with me or not, I think it's done just that. Keep in mind that beer was cheaper in 1985, so the exact date of the first issue isn't particularly clear to me. So, I'm left dumbfounded. I can't think of a valid reason to let this document die. So, the logical course is to encourage more interest.

Why should we be more interested? This could be an opportunity to share our issues. I've heard concerns this year that some feel we are losing considerable corporate experience at the same time as we attempt to evolve the trade. Those concerns dealt specifically with gunnery. I've already mentioned EW. This document gives us prime opportunity to share that corporate knowledge with the new Ordinary Seaman. Development and entertainment all rolled into one source.

We also have the opportunity to see what the other coast is doing. I like both coasts. There I've said it. I don't want to move west, but that's a reasoned assessment. I prefer the east coast style. West coasters aren't afraid to make mistakes. They are adventurous and willing to try new things, innovative. East coasters are more mission oriented and less willing to err, results driven. West coast "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." East coast "If at first you don't succeed, get your frigging head out of your arse and do it again." My curmudgeonly tendencies are more placated by the east coast mentality. I remind you again that this is an opinion piece. I am in no way implying that the west coast isn't operationally minded. I'm just pointing out that their approach is different.

So now that I've alienated half my audience, I'll continue with reasons why we should maintain interest. We like to complain, so use this venue for whining. What's bugging you? I volunteer to accept your questions and to

attempt to answer as many of your concerns as possible. I'll tie it into the job description so the next office holder has something to do with their weekend. I'll hold the right to omit, edit or ignore any questions that are submitted. I'll call the column something witty and pithy.

We can use inspired content. How many of you knew that PO1 Morton has a way with the HB2. That's a pencil hardness rating. In the newsletter interest building department, why not add PO1 Morton's caricatures? Or anybody else's creations. I'm positive NESOPs in general have a great deal of talent, we can use the newsletter to provide them an open forum for their creations. Again we are vying for real estate so make it good.

As the coffee wears off, I have come to the idea of a postings, promotions and passings column. I like to go to retirement functions. There's something rewarding about seeing someone make that leap into their next life. No matter how many years you've been able to contribute, the military is undeniably a significant aspect of your life. The military makes you something different. Your perspective, drive, ambitions are all altered by your commitment. I hate to miss a retirement. I like people to know I'm proud of their contribution. An article outlining the most recent promotions, postings and passings would be outstanding. By passing I mean all aspects of the word, who's retired, VOT'd, CFR'd etc.

Okay the coffee is now completely gone so it's time to wrap up. The NESOP Newsletter has taken a great deal of effort over the years. It's not an enviable task to be editor as interest has taken a roller coaster ride over the 20+ years of existence. But, it's a valuable forum. I guess I'm suggesting a content review. What would we like our newsletter to read like? It's clear that we need to encourage more eager and qualitative articles even if they're just opinion. And hopefully we'll get better at sharing and embracing those opinions. Rather than ignoring them like so much gas from a hawsehole.

CPO2 Paul Steen
CCFL TGCNESOP



SEA TRAINING ATLANTIC - *"Train As We Fight"* By CPO2 Steve Murphy

Well another Newsletter and this one will be my last as a Sea Trainer. Where has the time gone? CPO2 Dennis Morgan is in the Hoppers waiting to take over; we will turnover during FREDERICTON's WUPs. I am sure PO1 Jeff Douville won't mind two Sea Trainers following him around.....

A lot has happened since the last newsletter. TGEX 2-09 was likely the most exciting TGEX the navy has seen in years. We had lots of bullets, both real and practise, moving targets, flying targets, real fast jets, slower jets, EW aircraft, crippled ships, and last but not least, a group of determined pirates who kidnapped a boarding team. While the entire scenario was conducted in a few days which seemed unrealistic, the training design was created to address individual vignettes with a continuing scenario superimposed over them. HMCS HALIFAX (aka HMS WORTHINGTON) and the DC school, with assistance from a civilian company called Special Effects Atlantic, created probably one of the most real DC events we have seen at sea. Anyone that participated in that scenario will tell you how real that one was. PO1 Gerry Dautre fired a 69 rd salvo of HE ammo from the big gun toting 280.....then they brought in a ringer named PO1 Ed James and he fired 89 rds in 2 salvos from the same big gun toting 280 and neither of them hit anything. PO1 Bob Burton fired a 2 rd salvo from the little frigate and destroyed the target immediately. Area air defence at its finest!

As some of you may know CFCD 129, Naval Readiness and Sustainment R&S Policy was reviewed and updated. The Naval (R&S) policy articulates maritime readiness standards, identifies levels of and options for sustainment of maritime forces. In lower deck speak this book tells us what is expected of ships at various levels of readiness. The spin-off from this document was the revisiting of how WUPs are conducted and what training needs to be completed for the various levels of readiness. As a result, the Sea Training Symposium for 2009 was primarily focussed on the review of CFCD 102 and how to bring it in line with CFCD 129 as much as possible. Both Fleet Commanders have been briefed and there is still some work to do but you should see changes soon.

My time at Sea Training has been enjoyable to say the least. The latest generation of NESOPs at sea now are some of the finest sailors in the Navy. That is not solely because of anything Sea Training or CFNOS or anyone else has done but because they are smart, proud sailors who get the job done. I truly enjoyed working with all of them. A special thanks to all of you who volunteered (voluntold?) to go from ship to ship to help other NESOP divisions/ships get ready for their missions. You know who you are and keep up the good work!



CFMWC

Hello to all, far and wide from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre now consists of two NESOP positions. A CPO2 filling the role as AWB CPO/Analysis and the PO1 position who is also an AWB Analyst. We the NESOP community, gained a new position here at the CFMWC as the Mars occupation PML'ed a billet to us permanently. We actually gained an extra CPO2 position so that speaks loud and clear to our PO1's and below, which simply meant an extra promotion for all concerned. Well done for all of you who got promoted due to the creation of this new billet. The PO1's position is currently filled by PO1 Jake Lowthers. Work here is very interesting to say the least, the warfare centre is a very dynamic place that provides an individual all the necessary scenarios and opportunities to develop skills and knowledge well beyond what steady state training can provide. The Operational Test and Evaluation Group is responsible for planning, conducting, analyzing and reporting of Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) of naval systems and platforms and Operational Tests (OPTESTs) of task groups.

OTEG is staffed by both military and civilian specialists, and works in close cooperation with the Tactics section of the CFMWC, as well as with other military and civilian organizations. OTEG is organized into functional sections and has, in addition, liaison staffs in both coastal formations. For major crown projects, the OTEG Operational Test Director (OTD) will be resourced as part of the project yet be employed by and reside in CFMWC. OTEG is led by a director, with five core sections – Above Water Battle Space, C4I Battle Space, Underwater Battle Space, Platform Integration and Operational Analysis, and two detachments - MARLANT Det and MARPAC Det. These five sections and two detachments comprise the planners, testers and analysts for OT&E and OPTESTs.

OTEG staff also includes a small support staff for database management and office support. This past year and leading up to 2010 will prove to be a very busy timeframe with testing and evaluation planned, in all areas of warfare. Having just completed a single ship black missile scenario with HMCS Winnipeg in early February it allowed the Warfare Centre team to transition to the follow on TGEX 2-09 Multiship black missile. These events culminated in lessons learned for not only the TG, but the Warfare Centre as well. These firings provided vast amounts of data which the team dissected in order to continue refining our tactical development and ensure equipment maintains its fighting efficiency.

Our upcoming projects this year include: HMCS ATHABASKAN/HMCS FREDERICTON Missilex in July, HMCS FREDERICTON FORACS OCCC in late Aug early Sep, and HMCS CALGARY Missilex in Nov. Here at CFMWC we typically are conducting Optests on current/future equipment or tactics related to AWW, so if Directors or NESOPS in general have questions or need information we've probably got the answer. Feel free to give CPO2 Tansley or myself a call or drop by.



CFNOS Halifax

CFNOS AWW

As always the CFNOS is buzzing with rumours and courses which is often leads to confusion as to which are real or fake (courses are real, rumours are rampant). Since the last News letter there have been many changes to CFNOS AWW section. On the staffing front PO2 Kelloway, PO2 Oulton and MS (dress policy) Leblanc returned to the fleet to test out the sea legs one more time. In return PO2 (I'm confused) Long, PO2 (my wife loves my dog) MacElwain and MS (jumpin Joe) Dickie joined the fleeting ranks of instructor. PO2 Ezio has given birth to a wonderful baby boy and is presently enjoying her time with her son and family in Alberta. Upon return from Afghanistan PO2 Schleihauf will be going to Borden as an instructor (poor newbies).

CPO2 (Gooch) Dorrington will soon be departing as AWW DCPO and heading for the second time to Ottawa as a newly promoted CPO1, best of luck to Gooch. MS Jensen will soon be joining us and be introduced to the instructor world.

The new QSP's for the QL4, 5A, and 5B are now in effect and we have just graduated one of each course. Students are learning new and improved courses of our fine NESOP trade. MS Dickie and MS Contant visited NEWC and CFEWC to further there instructional aspects of Seasearch and PTA (good beer and beaver tails). The trip was a success and students can look forward to understanding more in depth about the EW part of the NESOP trade. PO1 Carr, PO2 Collier, PO2 Cushing, PO2 MacElwain and MS Dickie have completed SIRIUS training (no I'm not kidding) which is being taught at the QL-5 level (SIRIUSly). We are completing the Spring MEGA for the QL-6A and QL-6B where as always our aim is to graduate all students and get them to sea so we can prolong our shore postings. We have also commenced the next 6B and soon will start the 6A. Good luck to all (we still don't want to go to sea).

Written by MS Guy Contant

CFNOS TTT

We've had some changes up at TTT in recent months.

First off, PO2 Mike "no I'm not related to Greg" Murray was successful (I know!!) on his AWWD course and got promoted to PO1 (Seriously!!). He leaves us at the end of May for HMCS Montreal where he can put his new motto "that's the P2's job" into effect.

His replacement is PO2 Johnny "*Marry me Jeeter*" Garnett. He actually filled in for Mike during the last Mega Phase, and I believe I speak for everyone here at TTT, when I say; he does put the *soft* in Softkill.

MS Dan "have I mentioned I'm 6A qualified?" Curlew also left us for HMCS Halifax. He recently sat as EWS during their SROTT and was able to experience how it feels to be on the other side of the fence. The best thing that happened the whole week was when he yelled "ORS, my display just went down!!" This was fortuitous as losing his display was just the edge the team needed to allow them to achieve a "SAT" that run.

MS Chris "*beam me up Scotty*" will be leaving us this summer as well. He's off to the Fleet where he will be setting his phasers to stun and hunting Klingons on a regular basis.

MS Toni "*Peter Griffin*" Bourgoin has been on loan from HMCS St. John's for the past few months. I must say that since I had the pleasure of him working (yeah...working...sure) for me for the previous 2 years on STJ, I was *especially* happy to have him report for duty. It just seems more real (up here in the simulator) when I hear him say on the net "lost target" or "AGEN" or "I'm not sure what the problem is SWC". It really takes me back. Somehow, you can't help but believe him. Seriously, though...keep doing *whatever* it is that you do Toni.

LS Leroy "*there's a difference between Goalie and Golar*" is still anxiously awaiting his medical release. Not as anxious as his supervisors mind you. When he finally throws in the towel, he is off to Moncton where he will be instructing commercial pilots. This type of scenario is *exactly* what keeps me up at night. I was never afraid of flying...but I suspect I will be soon.

Additionally, MS Andrew Maule was successful on his QL-6A and will be posted to HMCS Fredericton this summer.

I am (of course) filling the role of ASuW PO1 and my colleague PO1 Duane "hey I'm building a house" McNamara continues to fill the role of AAW PO1 (everyday...from 0730-1130). There have been some changes in recent days as we are now assessing the SWCs in the Ops Room vice acting as AWWC and ASuWC in the Control Rm. It's been an adjustment, but so far we like it, and it has gotten nothing but positive reviews from the students. Unfortunately, when a less than stellar candidate makes it through the training process successfully, we can no longer insinuate that the blame falls on Tac AAW or Tac ASuW, we have no one to blame but ourselves. Therefore, I'd like to personally apologize for PO1 Peek. Nuff said.

Last but not least, we've had CPO1 Ken "*don't put any stupid quotes for me or else*" Fisher join us from Ottawa as well. At least I think he's here. Sometimes he's here. He's a C1 and they move in mysterious ways.

We have a busy year scheduled up here, between OTT's for the Fleet (East and West Coast) and the Mega Phase being moved up a month, to take place late Summer/early Fall. To help us meet this challenge we are expecting MS Gary "*Senior MS...very Senior*" Toohey up here in a month and another MS to be named later. To replace LS Stoyles, we've all chipped in a few bucks and gone to Toys R Us to buy a Tickle me Elmo who we feel will more than adequately fill the void.

So that's it from TTT, where we get to tell MSE and CSE types that we are "off to the trainer" every day...and it's actually true.

It goes without saying, all of the comments above are meant in good fun and no malicious intent was...err...intended.

PO1 Darrell Morton
ASuW PO1
TTT

The TTT CPO1 (CPO1 Ken Fisher) would also like to say a few (hee, hee) words:

Good day all,

I have left the hallowed halls of CFEWC to Jim Percival and moved back to CFNOS Halifax. I will be looking after the Navy's NCMPD for now. That includes the Navy's input into Basic Military Qualification (recruits) thru PLQ to CQ and the SAP program. If you have concerns or items you want looked at make sure to forward them through your chain of command.

I will reiterate the importance of educational upgrade and progressing, be it OPMEs, college, or university through distance or residence. When the boards sit in the fall the coursing taken and language profile can make the difference between being in the top 2 or number 10. Please sit with your chain of command and explore the possibilities to strengthen your profile.

There are many initiatives on the go these days and with HCM FELEX racing up to the start line you will undoubtedly start to see info on the equip changes and messages on the new training. To add to this we have the CQC and the Olympics. The demands will be many but they will not go away. When you get a tasking take it on and find the fun in it because there always is some.

Off the coast postings are a way of life now. I have saved this entry submitted by CPO Paul Steen who went to St. Jean as a PO1 and returned to Halifax a CPO2. For those who say it is impossible to get fair PERs etc. out of jobs in the centre they are wrong. Decide and plan your career and take a look at when you want to move then let the Career Manager know when you do your interview.

Subject: RE: CFB St Jean

To All,

CFLRS St.Jean is a good place for someone who wants a unique experience. There are opportunities here that can be had nowhere else. The diversity of training and instruction lends itself to a pretty interesting work environment. Who would have thought you'd get an opportunity to get an air break license as a NESOP. It's one of the new changes to the GMTI-IT course they'll receive here. The personnel around here are professional. The work environment is very comfortable. I've been here since September 06 and I now have an A/X second language profile. Although French isn't required, it would help. I've had zero difficulty in conducting business around here. Most people have at least a functional English ability. I'm also on an IR. This has it's advantages and disadvantages as you can all imagine. You have to be flexible here. There are many non-standard hours and lots of changes. Being IR makes the late night departures and arrivals much easier to deal with.

The idea of moving or travelling IR will probably be the biggest factor to most sailors. The availability of apartments furnished or otherwise has greatly improved since I arrived. The local landlords are now in competition to provide the best rates and amenities. St. Jean itself is quite a nice little town. It's close enough to Montreal to be convenient and far enough away to get that small town feel; kind of like Tantallon or Lake Echo to Halifax.

I'd recommend that anyone coming up, wait until they arrive to draw their green stuff. Halifax tries, but it doesn't have everything you need once you're here. It's better to travel light.

With the new CANFORGEN 027/07 we sailors will be able to stand out more too. We'll finally have distinctive adornments to the CADPAT uniform consisting of black T-shirts and black rank insignia.

Have anyone who's interested in coming, email me. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

PO1 Paul Steen

4 PL Petty Officer First Class / 4 PL Petty Officer First Class Steen.P@forces.gc.ca

<<mailto:Steen.P@forces.gc.ca>>

CFNOS TTT NCOT

Good Day to all from the NESOP staff of east coast CFNOS TTT NCOT (code word for Weapon Certification). It has been a challenging and rewarding year which has seen its share of changes. During which NCOT conducted several successful ship certifications and Missile Readiness Inspections. Also I would like to take this opportunity to thank all fleet NESOP's that provided us with valuable input and recommendations, which greatly contributed to latest NCPM version. On a staff note it looks like PO2 J.J MacDonald will be leaving us and finally has an opportunity to sail on Canadian Destroyer with his posting to HMCS IROQUIS. He was just too efficient as a 280 EWS assessor. MS Holly Blakney is currently busy challenging his QL-6A and is looking forward to all the challenges it brings. Well that's about it from here and please keep sending us valuable input.

Cheers

PO1 Sully MacLeod



TRINITY

Greetings from Fleet Support Office within Trinity. There has been substantial movement within Trinity's lower floor. CPO2 (Congrats Frank) Comeau has been posted from Trinity (post Afghanistan) to the Royal Military College Saint-Jean (NCMPDC), instructing the Advanced Leadership Qualification (ALQ) and Chief Qualification (CQ) courses. I was posted from CFMWC in Dec 08 to Trinity as the Fleet Support Chief. So, after a number of months as the Fleet Support Chief and fulfilling the requirement left empty by Frank/Al Hirtle's departures, PO1 Ed James has been posted in as the AWW Analyst effective Apr 09. You got her Ed!

This unit encompasses a mixture of sub-units providing a wealth of information to MARLANT. Units vary from OPInt, Formation Imagery, GeoSpatial, RJOC(A), MSOC Great Lakes and METOC. The type of info that can be requested through this unit is dynamic to say the least. I challenge you, in particular the floating grey hulls, to tap this unit's capability. If you don't ask, you don't get. We can only push so much.

I hope all are made APS happy and have a great and safe summer.

CPO2 George Hamilton

Fleet Support Chief

Trinity

Halifax



HMCS ATHABASKAN

Ships ahoy from ATHABASKAN, we are calling this year the “Year of the Ordinary Seaman”. Thanks to our 8, yes you read right, 8 Ordinary Seaman. To those of us that have been doing their work here for the past five years. They are the best sight we have seen outside of a shore posting message with our names on it. ATHABASKAN has had a very busy year, from HR WUPs to TGEXs, including a very successful Missilex and on to OP TATOU when we provided security for the “Summit of the Americas” off the coast of Trinidad & Tobago.

Leading our pack these days is CPO2 “I push the ship down rather than myself up Doutre”. Who has done more push ups in the last month than he has in his career, 1,000 and counting. What is the rush with the push ups Chief everyone knows chiefs don’t need to do those? CPO2 Doutre is off to N34 this June. PO2 holy crap he belongs to our section Peek had a minor mishap playing soccer last year. Followed up by his 6B course and we have not seen him since. Latest word is that he is coming back to ATHABASKAN as our new PO1. Next, we can always find PO2 Sean “Freaky” Waite moseying around the Ops room with his cup of steamy Joe. At first glance he seems rather calm and docile, but we here know better. He leads the section in a friendly push-up contest with well over 6000 push-ups. Yeah, again we prefer ladders and duff, not trying to push the ship into the water as a pass time. Let us not forget the lovely conversations on the practical application of a pinky finger in over 7 killing techniques. Keep it for the boarding party Waite, my arms are getting sore. He is often seen participating in LS Clarke’s kendo expeditions on the flight deck and pursues his many alongside hobbies. Which number in the dozens and take to long to mention them all. He too is leaving the comfort of a long posting to finally go ashore to CFNOS. Good luck and try to keep the course material to NES Op stuff. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our two new PO2s to the fold - PO2 Theriault and Contant are enroute this June.

MS facebook is the best thing that has ever happened to me Delorme has been guiding us on our way since PO2 Peek’s disappearance. Hey Ben what is that voice you can hear in the background is that canoe.ca, kijiji or the ladies of Maxim calling you away. Where would we be without the solid leadership of a keen master seaman, wait... PER season is over? Well then, that changes everything. MS Dwayne Albert is making use of the Queen’s investment of his QL6A course by blowing his whistle and screaming nonsense into the ringing ear of as many AWWOs he can go through in the run of a posting. He articulates the importance of leadership; when it is someone else’s responsibility. The poor LS seem more frantic at times than the OS. There is plenty to learn and even more to teach in MS Albert’s case. He is still running, biking and eating his vegetables (we won’t mention the chocolate chip cookies... oops) and enters into every Triathlon he can find. Unfortunately his time on ATHABASKAN is coming to an end, as he is soon to move up in the food chain and move on to HMCS Montreal. Good luck on all your endeavours at sea and along side.

Brace for impact because the Mayor of ATHABAKAN has returned. After formally receiving the report on the state of his ship from the CO, LS Gouthro has slid into his usual antics. Returning the credit check to its proper place in this world, look out bum here come fingers. Thankfully he is just ATP here for the year. Next in the line-up is LS Dave “Waldo’s body double” Simpson when not directing the newest additions to the section through drill, he can be found telling MS from staff where to go and how much bus fare they’ll need to get there. That’d boy Dave you are fitting into your daddy pants just fine. LS Hunt successfully completed his EPLQ and rumour has it he is staying on board to fill the FCSup position, well done! Next up is LS “Willy” Williams. No he still will not let you call him by his first name and he still likes his “coffee and a smoke” – Break -. Though most recently we have dubbed him with a few new nicknames, “Training Nazi,” and the, “P90X Willy.” Who has yet to actually completely finish the product, yet knows it inside and out and encourages others to do the fitness program more

than an infomercial spokesman. All we can tell him is yes Willy, it is a super awesome program, but we will stick to ladders and duff for now.

We could not have a NES Op newsletter entry without mentioning our ships fitted equipment, in STBD watches case, LS T.J. "Hambone" Clarke. He remains steadfast in this posting and still has his usual rack (the one with all the head room that everyone wants). Grumpy, salty, and worn out, LS Clarke is starting to resemble the vessel he is so intimately a part of. Although, he still gets weird toward the end of long watches and keeps with his ridiculous antics. Which Willy and Albert like to refer to as "TJ's story time." Heck Nulka is turning into a kiddy corner with nothing but intense faces from all over Ops as the "Hambone" carries on like he is filming an episode of Mr. Roger's Neighbourhood. As a side note, he can often be seen on the flight deck beating up other members of the ships company with a stick (he calls it kendo; justify it as you might, it's still just beating people up with a stick). He teaches this crazy loud martial art and will soon challenge for his Black Belt. Good luck, and keep your stick on the... well the other guy's head I guess.

OS do you want to go cantering with me Rygiel has been fighting to earn a posting billet to our ship, so he doesn't have to go back to FA(A). It's really a lot like one of his stories that he tells so well, but yet go nowhere in the end. OS I'm 19 years old with 2 years of service Perron, whose been trying to get the military to conform to his standard versus him to ours. Hey Kelly does your mom know you ran away and joined the Navy yet, is there a reward for the return of her lost boy. OS what do you mean I have to wear the same uniform longer then 6 hours O'Brien. When he's not whitening his teeth he is busy making his hair perfect, for any situation that might warrant its use. OS Dave Innes our newest member has recently joined the watch after an insurmountable time ashore tending to the newest edition of his family. He brings his skills of diaper changing and bottle feeding to the watch. Unfortunately, he has only himself to apply them to as he learns the ins and outs of above water warfare. It is odd really he can hear a baby cry at home from all the way down the road at the grocery store. Ask him to listen to the EWS behind him while making an external report and what do you get? Diaper change! Don't worry Innes the baby ear will be replaced with Ops ears in due time.

Next on the totem pole is OS Meagan Tanner, a soft-spoken, patient soul, who quietly flits about the Ops Room learning various aspects of the trade, or steadily completing her assignments. It was not until recently that the section found out the true reason she has joined the NES Op trade. When closed up on a STIR she showed all the wussy boys in the Ops room whom the boss is. She can be heard loud and clear not only by the entire Ops room, but I am fairly certain the Galley did not need to know we are shooting down pretend planes. She is going to be one scary fire control operator and we are all the more proud for it. Besides, if you can't beat on those you want to, you might as well shoot the crap out of something. Leading the STBD STUDS OS pack of ruffians is (I'm going to regret this) "OS Dave MacArthur everybody!!!" Well for those who know him what more do I have to say? For those who do not, well as I found out never ask for his duty free. I would say hell had a better chance of freezing over but hell could never get that cold. As much as he won't admit it he is one of the hardest workers up in Ops. Not only does he work hard he also helps out when help is needed. What is the good of working hard if you cannot play hard and that he does. Put your hands together for OS Dave MacArthur everybody.

Last but not least is our faithful AWWO who has recently parted ways. Lt(N) Jason Aitken just couldn't keep up once LS Gouthro got TD to ATHABASKAN. Seriously though, he leaves us for family commitments and CFNOS, but we shall always remember him as "the cool one." Who patiently dealt with the wicked mess us NES Ops love to stir up so much. His replacement shall be welcomed with open arms and evil grins.

In for Lt(N) Aitken's temporary replacement is Lt(N) "east coast navy is the best damn thing that ever happened to me" Desautels. It is true once she saw how the NESOPs on ATHABASKAN get the job done, she has been dreading her return to ALGONQUIN ever since. Who can blame you ma'am once you meet the men that call themselves sailors, on the sandy bottom side you will be begging to come back to us.

The sun sets on the briny horizon concluding yet another great day of gunnery. The Mighty ATHABASKAN is finally making her comeback after disappointing mechanical mis-calibrations. Fortunately after a few weeks of

tweaking, she is back to her old self, splashing vindicators, TLXs and pumping massive holes through hammerheads (much to the disappointment of our providers of the targets HMCS PRESERVER). Of course the gear is just gear without the heart & soul of a true gunner. Old hammer finger himself LS Leigh Gouthro has been on loan from HMCS IROQUOIS to FCSup for a while (for you gals on the CPFs, FCSup is Fire Control Supervisor for those too young to remember when it was actually in the gun drill manuals). LS Quick draw Clarke (T.J.) leads the STDB watch in his debut FCSup performance. So far these trips have only served to prove that the "leafs" should just move down the bench and let the kilicks do all the work, we're fairly sure it greatly improves our kill ratio. Of course where would we be without our triggermen (and woman). From most deadly veteran to the greenest slippy fingers, LS Williams, LS Simpson, OS Tanner, and OS O'Brien. Willy the kid effortlessly splashed a TLX with the 76mm, a truly amazing shot! He went on to show MONTREAL and FREDRICKTON how to hit a moving HSITT. Not only did he hit it, it mysteriously caught on fire...can we say in line on for range? Dead Eye Dave Simpson scrapped an HSITT on Port watch before shredding a TLX to tiny pieces with 220 rounds of CIWS, you can let go of the fire button now. Full Mag Meagan Tanner splashed a manoeuvring vindicator faster than a 280 burns gas. And bringing up the rear was Obi Gold finger O'Brien who pumped a hammerhead so full of lead it stopped dead for few seconds before sputtering to life and continued to close the force. The Fleet should heed our advice when it comes to gunnery; flavour your soup with cordite, polish your boots with gun oil, and always... always do what the 280s do.



HMCS CHARLOTTETOWN

Big hellos from the NESOP gang here at the Charlottetown shore office. A lot has happened since the last time we wrote. The ship has just completed the great lakes trip and a lot of destoring to get the ship ready for the ditch. Probably the most physical labour we have done in a long while!!! We are all starting to feel a bit more comfortable here at D125. It took some of us longer then others with the no soup at 10 and the no noon time naps. The bright spot to our day over here is hotdogs at 10 that are put on by the BOSN.

There has been a lot of movement around here for the NESOPS in the last little while. Let's start at the top and work our way down the rank ladder. PO1 Mike Culligan has left us for the bright lights of CFNOS. But the good news is PO1 John McCarthy joined our crew to fill his spot. He already is knees deep in paper work from the LS and below. PO2 John Garnett has left us to bring some sunshine to everyone in the trainer at CFNOS. PO2 Dave Masters is still here after thinking he was to be posted, there's always next year. I have to be good cause he will be proof reading this when I am done!!! We are anxiously waiting for PO2 Rod Carew to join us again. He should still know his way around from his time on the boat as a Master. MS Lisa Schaefer has left us for a posting at Canada Comm in sunny Ottawa. MS Rob Jensen is off to CFNOS and eagerly awaiting to warp the minds of little OS and AB's. LS Earnie Macdonald is off to Trinity and gracing everyone with the Big Monkey Dog kind of humor!!! LS Karen Duncan is a new mom to a little girl and bids farewell to the Nesop trade to bigger and better things pushing a pen as a clerk. Congrats Karen!!! Newly promoted LS Joe Quigley is due to get married in Aug to Michille. (Poor girl!!!) Joe is still here putting in one request form after another keeping the PO's busy.

As for me LS Nathan Bradbury I just returned from parental leave with my son Cameron. I am also due to get married in Aug to Natasha. (Another poor girl!!!) My time was great on parental but now I am off to the Saint Johns for Fleet Week. As for poor old AB Steve Thompson, he still cant sail, but don't worry he reminds us everyday that he is ok!!! He wanted to remind everyone that he isn't bitter at all. Our fresh meat is OS Mosher. I haven't seen much of him because he has been attached to the Toronto and learning to love CANEWS!!!

Well that pretty much sums up all the fun that has been going here at D125. We hope to see you all back at sea in Aug.



HMCS FREDERICTON

Good day fellers from “The Stalker of the Sea’s”. We have been ramping up for a busy schedule over the next few months, and we finally have a full department, and there are many new faces now in the section. Our new section head, the 2009 # 1 draft pick PO1 Douville replaced PO1 McCarthy who we traded to the Charlottetown. PO2 Long left us to go to the school and it took two PO2s to fill his exalted position, PO2 Kelloway, and PO2 Entwistle. MS Toohey keeps indulging us with his war stories from Noah’s Ark, the ol’ bugger just won’t go away. MS Matchim has made a great addition to 1 Mess, between him and MS Toohey it sounds like a dump-truck driving through a nitro-glycerine plant.

LS Penton makes Lou Ferigno look like Lindsay Lohan, but his teeth are still bigger than his arms. LS MacDonald started his own business making prized red rugs off his back hair which can be seen at the Sunday market at Penhorn Mall. LS Flanagan is still giving the POs a headache with his haircut, which he measures with the 6 inch ruler he carries with him everyday. LS Gallant newly remustered from electrician comes in handy when we need light bulbs changed in OPS. AB Dingle finally stopped reproducing long enough to come back to work. Our three Ordinary Seaman, OS Dickie, OS Wyrozub, and OS Lewis continue to impress us with their hard work and drive; they are an inspiration to us all. If anybody knows of a good place to rent a tux, OS Lewis needs one to take his new girl to Prom.

Finally no Fishpats listed on the upcoming yearly schedule. With WUPS around the corner, it should make for an interesting trip ending with a nice visit to New York for Fleet week. After that we have a missile shoot to content

with in the summer sometime, and then onto our deployment in the fall. From all of us on the Freddy, keep your head up and your stick on the ice.



HMCS MONTREAL

Here I sit with my last project before going on leave for a few weeks, prior to our departure for UNITAS 2009. Although I don't recall exactly when the last letter went out (sometime this past fall), I'll stick to some of our most recent happenings to avoid any redundancy.

To begin, I'd like to welcome our section's newest addition, OS Taylor Bouthat. OS Bouthat came to us just before Christmas, fresh off his QL3 in Victoria. So far he has impressed not only those within his section (myself included) but, several other members of the ship's company, with his eagerness to complete required training. Well done, Taylor! Keep it up! As of yesterday, we're now expecting a new addition from out west. It is undetermined as of yet, when exactly he'll be joining us but, we're certainly looking forward to his arrival.

With every new addition, there is almost always someone leaving, and in this case, we have two confirmed casualties. Recently promoted MS Matchim, is on his way to the HMCS Fredericton, filling a vacant FCS billet, followed by MS Raymond, who is apparently heading for CFNOS. There goes Frank's plan for 19 years of solid sea-time. That would have been an impressive stint (not that 18 years is all that shabby either). Both of these guys have been members of the section longer than I have, and I was glad to have worked for and with both of them for these past few years.

LS Mudge and I are both eagerly awaiting messages to come through for us. Both of us have thoroughly enjoyed our time spent onboard the Montreal however, we're looking forward towards new places. LS Mudge is probably hoping the right person is reading this letter and has saved him a spot in Ottawa at NEWC. He is a charming, happy young fellow looking to get back home to Ontario on the Queen's dollar... can you help? As for my message, well unfortunately I'm looking to move into another world altogether; the world of a commissioned member. I have nothing but good things to say about my time spent as a NESOP but I'm looking for a change in my career direction. Our good man AB Kuffner is still doing what Kuffner does; speaking to us with the gruffness of a seasoned Chief. He is expecting his Leading Seaman's any day now, and we're looking forward to seeing him with his new well-deserved rank. AB McPhee just off his QL4 this past fall is shooting everything in sight when we go to sea. Keep counting your rounds Mr. Phee! I've heard of NESOPs regretting the fact they never kept track. As well, congratulations to McPhee for having just purchased his first home.

AB Price, is just wrapping up his QL4 and should be rejoining us in only a few days. This upcoming sail will be the first time we've deployed with our entire section in quite some time. Shortly, AB Price will be shooting at everything he sees out there as well.

PO1 Saunders is expecting this to be his last, or one of his last deployments with the HMCS Montreal. We're not yet sure where he is going but, he's pretty sure he's on his way somewhere (Ottawa, CFNOS, outer space?). Lastly, congratulations to PO2 Trepanier for the recent birth of his second child, Wyatt, Lee Trepanier. We're glad for you Trapper, and look forward to seeing the little man out for NESOP nights at Jack Astor's.



HMCS ST. JOHN'S

Good day to all our fellow NESOPs at home and around the globe. The past few months on STJ have been busy ones. After a well deserved holiday season we got right back into the thick of things with Weapon Certification and a MRI / OTT process to prepare us for the black missile that was part of TGEX 02/09. Posted in and out of STJ was Lt (N) Jason Healey who joined us for all the preps and firing of the ESSM as part of TGEX, it seems like he plugged the hole long enough. He is off to HMCS HALIFAX to assist with the program over there, good luck with your continuing tour as SWC, welcome to the PO1 world!!

TGEX saw the STJ participate in a black missile firing, a pvst to Bermuda (where we came out almost unscathed) to a black flex provided and administered by ST staff. It was nice for us to finally put all that training into good use by first firing an ESSM against a BQM. Also in the conduct of gunnery where the good ship STJ shot down 2 vindicators and a TDU, nothing felt better for the operators than to see the vindicator burst into flames and splash into the ocean.

We are now involved with HMCS FREDERICTON assisting her with WUPS and also partaking in a SCC (torpex) until end of May. At which time we will be heading for NL and a Change of Command, quick dependents day sail mid June followed by the ship heading into an extended refit.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank members of HMCS IRO, CHA, HAL, TOR and a MS from TTT for making our life easier by sailing with us for a couple trips.

Others are being farmed in and out due to medical reasons or coursing. Once the ship is alongside for our extended refit more changes will be forthcoming.

Welcome back to PO2 Scott Wells who has just returned from a 6 month tour in Afghanistan.

PO1 Bob Burton
Snr NESOP
HMCS ST. JOHN'S

ATTENTION!!

Calling all NES Ops and NCI Ops Golfers,

The first ever NES Op versus NCI Op Golf Challenge will take place at Lost Creek Golf course, Tuesday, 15 Sep 09, 0800 hrs.

Open to all serving and retired NES Ops and NCI Ops. Register soon, space is limited.

Cost:
\$ 37.40

Format:
2 man scramble - 2 NES Ops vs 2 NCI Ops in every foursome
Prizes to be won...

Registration:
Golfers are to be registered NLT 1 Sep 09 to the following MOSID Golf Reps:

NES Op - CPO2 Gerry Doutre, MARLANTHQ N34, 427-0590
NCI Op - CPO2 Doug Hill, MARLANTHQ N34, 427-6685



Newly Minted CPO1's



CPO1 Gooch Dorrington



CPO1 Brent Gillan

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

CPO2 Chris Lee

BOATING MY OARS

To boat the oars – to cease rowing and lay the oars in the boat

For those of you who don't know me, I will understand if you decide to skip this portion of the NESOP Newsletter. For those of you who do know me, again, I will understand if you skip this portion of the Newsletter. For the PO1 who will receive my Chiefs (congratulations Ron), I can feel your gratitude that I have finally decided to 'swallowed the anchor'.

Thirty-three plus years ago, on a very cold day in March, I reported to CFB Cornwallis for recruit training, 7 platoon, course number 7611. Last time I checked, of 90 or so graduates, there were maybe a handful of us left – and when this Newsletter is printed, there will be one less.

I originally signed up to be a Stoker, but with funds running low, and my documents already lost, I was offered the 'brand-new' trade of Electronic Warfare Operator, EW 242. Along with 7 others, I was part of the very first dedicated EW trade course in the Navy. Training was done on the second deck of the admin building in NAD, now long demolished. For those old EWs reading this, I can almost see you smiling (or grimacing) as you remember the RRX tapes, and trying to identify the PRF by the audio tone.

From there it was to the SAGUENAY, also now long gone. They say a sailor always falls in love with his or her first ship. That was the case with me. Living in 1 Mess with the Bosns and a couple RMs, we had one heck of a party mess. More than any other crew I remember the names of all my messmates from my first ship, some of whom are reading this right now so I will refrain from telling stories, (but Danny, I still have the picture of Marc Bourque, JP Morgan and 'Overflo' – Flo's bigger sister from Newfoundland).

Now, I realize that nobody wants to read the whole naval career of Christopher Lee, so I will choose one or two highlights.

Each ship, and more importantly ship's company, was special in its own way, and I have pleasant memories from all of them. TERRA NOVA will always stand out since I went to the first Gulf War in her. There are stories and salty-dits during that trip which will never be published but happened nevertheless, like on Christmas day, at 10 in the morning when a certain inebriated sailor asked a very sober Commodore, "So, why do they call you 'Short and shitty' anyway?"

Shore postings, while usually not as eventful, were also memorable. I think my two tours as an instructor were highlighted when I was temporarily attached to Junior Leadership to fill in for a P1 who was going on course. That month was by far the most rewarding job I have ever done in the military. Not because I got to yell and scream (ok, call that a side benefit) but because I got to see Service personnel, with little or no self-confidence and rudimentary leadership skills develop before my very eyes and at the end of the course parade past the Fleet School Commandant prouder and more confident than before their arrival. I had always wanted to go back to instruct there, but it was not to be so.

I think another highlight of which I am quite proud was receiving my Bachelor of Arts in Military Sciences from the Royal Military College of Canada. For that I thank MS Denis Richard, ret'd, who happened to have the GED

preparation book in Ops one long-mids. Having never graduated high school I decided to look it over. I did the sample exams, said, "What the f***, I might as well try for my high school equivalency diploma." After succeeding in receiving my GED the question was, "What now?" and as fate would have it, RMC started offering correspondence courses to NCMs. Almost eleven years later, November 2008, I received my diploma, (and YES, I bought a ring!!).

Pursuing my education became important as I realized that the people who enter the military these days are much better educated than I was, so if I wanted to present myself to them as a credible superior and get their respect, I had to be on an intellectual par. More importantly, as time has passed NCMs are now bearing considerably more of the burden than when I joined, often replacing officers in positions of authority or as Staff Officers. Just look in Afghanistan where MCpls are making decisions which could lead to international incidents if they are wrong. It is crucial for us to be seen as able to expertly fulfil these roles to our superiors and prove that their trust is not misplaced, and to carry out our duties in highly professional role the Canadian public has come to expect of its military so a broader education and strong basics in communications skills are a must. I strongly encourage every sailor to seek post-secondary education upgrades. (Besides, it looks good on your PER.)

As I finish out my career, people have asked me, "Which was your favourite ship?" Well, it's a toss-up. SAGUENAY, of course deserves serious consideration, serving in her twice, once as an OD / AB and then as a brand new P2, (by the way Brent, the CO still wants to know why you didn't report the submarine that surfaced under our starboard screw). But, I think when all is said and done, it has to be VILLE DE QUEBEC. In my opinion, she is the best kept secret in the Fleet. Having served 3 times in her, once as SWC and twice as Combat Chief, I can't recall a harder working, harder playing, or tighter ship's company. In fact, while many releasing personnel ask for a Canadian flag to be flown from the Peace Tower in Ottawa, I have asked for the Ensign from VILLE DE QUEBEC. As a sailor, I can't think of a more appropriate symbol of my time in the Navy than an Ensign which has been piped up at Colours and then piped down at sunset.

I have spent a very enjoyable, for the most part, 33+ years serving my country. I sincerely believe that there is no greater honour. It will be a sad day for me when I hand my ID card in and walk out of Stadacona a civilian, but life goes on. So, I bid you all a fond farewell (unless I get accepted in the Reserves).

In closing, I trust that you won't mind if I revert to my pre-MORPS Electronic Warfare operator roots - FINEX, FINEX, FINEX – EW 242 – Serial 7611 --- OUT.

Well done on an excellent career Chris and may you enjoy the rest you have truly earned!

Closing Thoughts ...

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

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

* **NCR POC**
 TBA

There you have it – the latest news and highlights on most of the activities of us NESOPs. Some of the news is even recent!

I hope that many of our occupation take interest in the proposed NESOP 25th Anniversary Coin and Pin as proposed by CPO2 Sylvain Jaquemot. An earlier effort by CPO1 Gillan to raise interest in a NESOP ring never got far off the ground, so it would be great if the level of interest in this proposal was much higher and perhaps the price will be lower.

I also hope that CPO2 Paul Steen's opinion submission raises plenty of discussion WRT the way ahead for your Newsletter. The participation level has been down in the sixty percentage area for the last few editions and it would be great to see it regain the interest level it had a few years ago. I look forward to hearing how the discussions go and the intended way ahead.

With a look to the future, the NESOP occupation will celebrate its 25th Anniversary in 2010, the same year as the Naval Centennial. With that in mind, I will be looking to work with some of the current serving members to put together an Anniversary NESOP Mess Dinner in the fall of 2010. Our 20th Anniversary Mess Dinner was a huge success and I'm sure that this one would

be no different.

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 around the October / November 2009 timeframe, 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

