## THE DASHPOT

Summer 1991

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN

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#### From The President

I am pleased to say that we are getting renewal response from some of our "long time no see" members out there in the "big picture". In each and every case, they say they are anxious to catch up with everyone, and quite a few are heading in the direction of our Long Beach Reunion next month. I will be driving my RV out there as part of a big swing around our vast countryside visiting family and friends. It never ceases to amaze me - the wonderful, different cultures we all come from -the different environments of small towns and large towns - even the changes in the land as the miles go by. This is reflected in each of us, I think - the origins from where we came - and helps make our own organization so interesting - particularly at reunion time. I, for one, am really looking forward to renewing old friendships, making new ones, and catching up on news from all our members coming in from everywhere.

For members planning to attend the reunion, please remember that at our business meeting we will be electing two new officers (Board of Directors) and voting on the reunion site (West) for 1993. All nominations are welcome. Please plan to attend all the planned functions and have a wonderful time. Travel safe -and, I'll see you in Long Beach.

## Reunion Time - Long Beach

#### SECRETARY'S CORNER

This will be short as we do not have too much to report since the last newsletter and we want to get this newsletter out as soon as possible with the reunion registration form. Look for the colored page in this newsletter and return as soon as possible as indicated. We are caught up on all the mail lists ordered, according to our records. If you ordered one and have not received it please let us know. Last year's reunion books were mailed in early August according to the Delmar Company. If any questions call them at 1-800-334-6388 from outside NC and 1-800-558-8948 in NC. Curtis Christian, one of our members here in Charleston and a computer wiz is helping us install a new program in the new computer we are using for the membership records, mail list, etc. We expect it to be up and running shortly and will have our records on a hard disk drive which will speed up processing, etc. At that time, after the bugs are ironed out (if any) we will commence purging our files of people who are not current in their dues as well as people that we can no longer locate. If you are not sure of your dues status look at the label on this newsletter. The top line will look like this: 0697 91 4-166. The first set of numbers is your membership number, 91 indicates your dues are paid through 12/91 and 4-166 tells us you are file 166 on disk 4. If you do not have a membership number or dues date, please contact us so we can correct it. This does not apply to Honorary Minemen, widows or military activities.

#### Civic Affairs

I recently called on the new Commanding Officer of the Fleet and Mine Warfare Training Center, Captain W. H. Sadler, III, USN. I explained to him about the Association of Minemen, who we are, what we do, our mine museum on the USS Yorktown (CV-10) and our current history book project. He was presented with one of our Mk 6 tie tacs and a VIP pass to the USS Yorktown. He admitted he knew very little about mines, but was learning and impressed with the Minemen he had met so

far. Captain Richard J. Fromholtz USN, retired from the Navy on 24 June, 1991 at the Mine Warfare Command here in Charleston. He was the Chief of Staff and previously had been Commanding Officer of the USS Fortify (MSO-446), Flag Secretary at Commander Mine Warfare Command, and Commanding Officer of the Fleet and Mine Warfare Training Center, among many other duty stations. He is Honorary Minemen H-007, which was awarded to him at our reunion in Charleston August 13, 1983. Some of you may remember he was our guest speaker at that reunion and gave a slide presentation showing how they trained new Minemen, including marching to classes, etc. in formation. We all wish him and his family a healthy, happy and prosperous retirement!

> Please Support Your History Book

Biography Deadline Extended

#### **EDITOR'S COLUMN**

This is a short issue this time in order to keep our promise for a last minute update approximately a month before our scheduled reunion. This Summer issue is also the last opportunity I have to ask you to put us on your list for an advanced copy of your Christmas letter as suggested in the February 1991 (Winter) issue (see B. Arnaclebutt's column). In this way, we can pass on some of your news and extend your seasons greetings in the forthcoming Fall issue to be released just before Christmas. Any contribution to the Scholarship Fund in lieu of cards - in recognition of savings for card and mailing costs - will be greatly appreciated some day by a deserving youngster. Remember, I will need to have your letter in hand not later than 15 November if we are to get your news and greetings inserted.



#### ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN

DEDICATED TO SERVING THE U.S. NAVY MINE FORCE

The Dashpot, published quarterly, is the newsletter of the Association of Minemen, a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of South Carolina ....to perpetuate a knowledge of undersea mine warfare, necessary to America's first line of defense.

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#### **COMMITTEE NEWS**

#### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chairman, M.D.(Toby) Horn, 54 Rivers Point Row, Charleston SC 29412

Things are looking up!!! We are getting some good response from some of the "old guard" out there in Retiree Ville regarding membership renewal - some long lost shipmates who we are so happy to welcome back to active status again. I hope that we will be hearing from even more who have seemingly "lost touch". This will be the last newsletter to reach our entire mailing list as it now stands. The next newsletter will be sent only to "members in good standing" as explained in the Spring newsletter edition.

An oversight on my part. I forgot to provide our Welcome Aboard spot in the last membership report, so let me catch up now with a list of our new members since the February 1991 Dashpot report. On behalf of all the membership, I extend a warm welcome to:

Hughey J. Mathews, Donna G. Hammett, Weldon O. Diggs, Ahmed A. ElDifrawi, Rafiah R. Kashmiri, Dave Vaughn, Michael Gildersleeve, Donald K. Kiper, Craig W. During, Einer A. May, Vickie Redding, Nicholas DePalma, Robert A. Lambert, R. E. Flynn, Barry Soles, Herbert R. Johnson, Thomas B. Parks, Patrick L. Reagan, Fred Dane and Francis (Frank) Quick.

We will look forward to a long and continuous friendship and professional association with each of our new members. I hope to see them in person at Long Beach???

#### **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

Chairmen: Bob Forbes, 1 Newark Avenue, Goose Creek SC 29445 Lyal Stryker, 8517 Deerwood Dr., N. Charleston SC 29418 @

#### **REUNION LONG BEACH SEPT 12-15, 1991**

The reunion committee in Long Beach reports that all plans have been made for a super Southern California Reunion this year. YOU WILL FIND A COLORED PAGE IN THIS NEWSLETTER WHICH IS THE RE-UNION REGISTRATION FORM WHICH NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED AND RE-TURNED TO US HERE IN CHARLESTON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We will repeat for you here the hotel and plane reservation information that was in the last newsletter. The hotel is the Clarion Hotel Edgewater in Long Beach, and the phone number is 1-213-434-8451. They accept all major credit cards to guarantee your reservation. Our airline is American Airlines and their toll free number is 1-800-433-1790. Ask for STAR #S-09914D. You can call seven days a week between 7:00 AM and 12: midnight central time. They are offering a Meeting Saver Fare that offers a 40% discount off their

discount off the best deal you can find on American Airlines. Call them now if you have not already. Following are the details on the reunion schedule: Friday evening will be the early bird at the hotel starting at 4:00 PM. Saturday morning will be a tour of Momag Unit Eleven. Starting time and how to get there will be available at the early bird Friday evening as well as Thursday, the arrival day. Saturday afternoon at 2:PM there will be the general membership meeting at the hotel. Saturday evening will be the banquet/dinner meeting. The meal will be the Marina Buffet consisting of tossed mixed greens, assorted dressings, seasoned croutons, grated parmesan cheese, bacon pieces, chopped eggs, chopped nuts, alfalfa sprouts and tomato wedges, vegetable crudites, marinated mushroom salad, cucumber salad, oriental chicken, beef szechwan, chef's selection of potato or rice, fresh seasonal vegetables, rolls and butter, a selection of cakes and tortes, freshly brewed regular and decaffeinated coffee and assorted teas. The guest of honor and speaker has not yet been invited. We are hoping that possibly the new Commander Mine Warfare Command Radm John D. Pearson, who will take over later this month may be able to make it. Sunday afternoon starting at 12 noon there will be a picnic at the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach. The bill of fare will consist of ice cold beer, soft drinks, ribs, chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings to go with them. PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE AUCTION. We appreciate any and all donations and remember that the money is used to support our scholarship fund and the mine museum, so please be generous. In past years many of the items have been hand made one of a kind items which are prized by members families for years. I know that my grandchildren just love the stuffed animals that I have purchased for them. Also remember that this is the one time a year that you have the opportunity to bid on the framed Giles cartoon photograph if you did not win one for the dinner/ picnic door prize. We have arranged for no smoking areas and tables to be reserved for the early bird and dinner. Since this will be the last reunion until the History Book is published we encourage you to bring along any old photos or items of interest to be included in the book. In addition we are hoping to be able to make a tape recorder available to record your sea stories, etc. as well as true stories. Any items for the mine museum and technical library will be accepted during the reunion. Steve Scharschan told us that he is bringing his old plaques to donate to the museum. We will also accept History Book biographies and orders. Cash, checks, Visa and Mastercard accepted. MNCS Raymond at Unit One reports there are a couple of motels within about 9 miles of the reunion hotel and are: Motel 6 at 6266 Westminster Blvd., Westminster, CA and the rate is \$36.95

regular round trip coach fare. In addition a 5%

for two/one bed. Phone 1-714-891-5366 Westminster Motor Inn at 15061 Beach Blvd., Westminster, CA. and the rate is \$32.00 plus tax for two people/one bed. Phone 1-714-893-2474. Also the Navy Inn at 1-800 NAVY INN or commercial 1-213-833-5366. The only available decent RV park is the Shady Acres Mobile Park at 5533 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA. Largest RV they can take is 8 ft by 30 ft and the fee is \$77.50 a week. Phone 1-213-423-0540 DO PLAN ON ATTENDING THE REUNION - IT PROMISES TO BE A GREAT ONE! YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD TIME - GUARANTEED!

#### HISTORY COMMITTEE

Chairman: Lyal Stryker, 8517 Deerwood Dr.,N. Charleston, SC 29418

On Thursday July 25, 1991 we finally moved the material to the USS Yorktown that Ralph Shaw and company sent to Unit Eleven for us. Some real historical items included, our only K Mechanism Test Stand Mk 1 mod 3, a lot of old pubs including some on depth charges. Thanks to Ralph and company and Momag Unit Eleven, particularly Lt. Simmons, C.O., MNCM Leo Smith for arranging the move and most importantly the volunteers who moved the material, MN1 T. Stratton, MN2 P. F. Lowery, MN3 D. Brandenburg and MN3 M. Price. It was a long hot job and they stuck with it to the end! Thanks MINEMEN!! Received a copy of the book "America's Use of Sea Mines"Robert C. Duncan, Ph.D. of the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, White Oak dated January 1962 from Lieutenant Harris at Commander Mobile Mine Assembly Group. His note said he had got it from "One Eye" Willie Williams twelve years ago. We noted on the inside front and back covers something had been blacked out and MN1 Williams written in. Then we found on a page in the book, at the bottom, a stamped "Ship's Library U. S. S. Franklin D. Roosevelt". We appreciate "One Eye" liberating it! Thanks to Lieutenant John Lawton, C.O. Momag Unit Eight Guam for sending us some old troubleshooters and a lot of pictures of people, some of which we will use in the history book. Speaking of the History Book, we are still looking for more of YOUR biographies and old/current photographs. The publisher has granted one more without fail the absolute last ever extension for submission of YOUR biography, photos and orders. THE EXTEN-SION IS TO 31 OCTOBER, 1991 SO GET YOUR MATERIAL AND ORDERS IN NOW. We will have sample books at the reunion in Long Beach for you attendees to look at. They are quality books and we guarantee they will be in demand after printing. The only way to guarantee you will get a copy is to order now. RE-MEMBER - IT IS NOT REQUIRED TO BUY A BOOK so please send us your biography/ photos now! The October 31, 1991 final date will still allow the publisher to complete the

book and mail prior to Christmas. Contributions to the Mine Museum since January 1, 1991 are \$449.70 and we sincerely appreciate all of you that have contributed. Contributions of \$5.00 or more will be acknowledged. Thanks to MNCS Radke at Momag Unit Nine for the letter to Toby Horn with information about the Mt Pinatubo eruption and also included his biography, which he thought was too late for the History Book. It is not and will be included. When he signed off his letter he said to write him if there was anything he could do for the Association. Consider this a letter Senior Chief and please send a couple of photos to go with your biography and we would appreciate if you would encourage your shipmates to do the same. Also, how about a quantity of the Mt Pinatubo ash for display on the USS Yorktown (CV-10) mine museum?? See Toby's comments on the letter in the Mail Bag column in this newsletter.

#### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Lyal Stryker, 8517 Deerwood Drive, N.Charleston, SC 29418

The two applications received are in the final stage of review by the committee members. It is anticipated the review will be completed shortly and the individuals will be notified immediately. The official announcement will be made at the reunion in Long Beach. It appears we will be able to present two \$500.00 scholarship assistance awards this year, one to be named for Lieutenant Mack. Since January 1, 1991 we have received \$387.00 scholarship donations from members plus a contribution from Momag Unit Eleven in memory of Lieutenant Mack. All contributions of \$5.00 or more will be acknowledged. For those of you planning on applying for the 1992 scholarship assistance awards, now is the time to request application forms with the beginning of the new school year here. NOTE that the applications must be submitted prior to May 1, 1992.

#### WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Dick Rhoderick, 30 Forde Row, Charleston SC 29412

#### QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER

More excuses, but I can't help it this time. As it's said in the advertisement, "Blame it on Mother Nature". Our mine models are late arriving from the Philippines due to the Mount Pinatubo eruption. Communication is still sketchy concerning the model shipment and we are trying to track their status. For those of you who have ordered models, please hang in there - we'll get them to you as soon as we can. This is one of those situations where a lotta ash got me in a little trouble - or something like that I heard one time!!! Or was it......hmmmmmm???

#### MAIL BAG



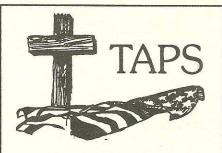
Guess who we heard from??? Good 'ol Harry Coker - one of our founding fathers', so to speak, who had practically dropped out of sight and lost touch by moving here and there around the country side. Harry and wife Nora are now in Youngstown, Florida, Harry with some health problems but doing okay and he wants to get back actively with the association as his health allows (welcome back Harry, and I will get the information to you that I promised)...Moose Wheelock from Chimacum, Washington called in and we were distressed to hear he has had a bout with Lymphoma (spl?), he has been fighting back with good results (whadaya expect from Moose) but doesn't know if he'll be in good enough shape to attend the reunion, wants us to know if he doesn't make Long Beach he'll definitely be in Charleston (Editor's note: I tried a late call to Moose before going to press, but no answer - called our news source in Yorktown, Annette Wilburn, and she said Moose doing much better and great vibes coming from the doctors, Moose may make L.B. after all)... Jack and Terry Shreve of Kensington, Maryland and Rudy and Lois Schuetzler of Davidsonville, Maryland both wrote to report, sadly, the death of John Manon (see TAPS Section), not a member, but a long time associate working in the in-service branch of Mine Warfare at NAVORD/NAVSEA in D.C., a great guy who couldn't do enough to help you research a problem and resolve it...Jack also sent some nice comments about the newsletter, further reported a new granddaughter on the scene and added some information substantiating the last B. Arnacle Butts column comments about the 'ol days and the gal named Cartsie, writing that "Cartsie was indeed a wonderful lady whose real name was Mrs. Mercedes Carts, he didn't know her in BUORD days but in BUWEPS (which was the shotgun marriage of BUORD and BUAIR in 1960) she was in one of the "F" codes (Fleet Support), not the RUME code (for RDT&E) as I related, and says she was a one-woman gang that managed the entire stockpile, knew every nut and bolt in the MK 6, kept the Fleet Mineman happy, funded NMEF, and told us RDT&E types to mind our own business, all without a computer (no wonder)"...Rudy and Lois also reported on their gallivanting around the country and par-

ticipating in photographic conferences, programs and contests, picking up several winners (Editors Note: their photo work is World Class and they have won many national and, I think, some international honors), they are working on their upcoming class reunion and tracking their grandchildren through school and sports programs, asked to be remembered to everyone...Stanley Kosewski of Buena Park,

California wrote and sent in back dues, sends his regards to everyone, plans to attend the Long Beach reunion but has difficulty getting away since he is caring for his 90 year old Mom (hope we can see you there, Stan)...Jorgen Lorenzen from Denmark wrote us again, saying that the Spring Dashpot gave him impetus to get some material to us to support the MN History, which he sent, related to the old days of mine readiness when mines were required to be ready in just a few hours time and how tough it was with the material support from the U.S., said he wrote a letter to [NMEF] Yorktown stating "I know there is something rotten in Denmark - but there is something rotten in the U.S. as well", says he knows Trist McConnel will remember that. He is writing memoirs in "My Time As A Freedom Fighter During The War" for the World Veteran Federation, the Danish section of which is planning to attend the 50th Anniversary of Pearl Harbor this December to mark their appreciation for the U.S. liberation of Denmark so he'll have to miss Long Beach this year, asks to send his greeting to everyone and to say he'll definitely be at the Charleston reunion in 1992...Robert Lambert, a new member from Lebanon, Ohio checked in with some of his past 1943 era mine warfare credentials, recalling the USS Lindsey DM-32, NSMW Yorktown 1943, Aerial Mine Refresher Course at Barber's Point 1950, and FASRON 118 at Guam in 1951 (Editor's note: FASRON 118 was transferred to Naha, Okinawa sometime between 1951 and 1952 and was the location for Mine Detail Augmenting Unit 0301 - subsequestly became a MOMAT, and is now MOMAG DET TEN at Kadena)...received a correction from Thurman Mawyer of Rehobeth Beach, Delaware re the statement quoted from his first letter as it appeared in the last Dashpot, says he mistakenly referred to a Little Creek Mine Warfare School and it should have been the Little Creek Minecraft Training Center, says the mind is the first to go (that isn't the way I heard it, Thurman) and that from an Ol'Salts point of view he really enjoys the newsletter...a nice letter from CDR Tom Shipley, from Virginia Beach, Virginia with congratulations on a first class newsletter, says his 13 years in the mine warfare community are some of the best of his career, provided a great suggestion that the NMWEA Fleet Liaison (FL) Department be asked to provide periodic input to the Active & Reserve News column (we will follow up on this), offered a copy of the 1973 Navy Regs with all changes for the museum, and stated his disappointment and concerns about the ambiguity that NMWEA (and Mine Warfare engineering, in general) would be dissolved to in the forthcoming closure/consolidation [we too, Tom]...and a nice long letter from MNCS Maurice (great name) Radke out in Subic Bay, Philippines. "Ritz", as he prefers to be called, sent in his bio for the MN History Book which will make it on time (see History report) and

gave a harrowing account of all the trials and tribulations our Minemen shipmates went through out there when Mount Pinatubo erupted, writes that over the past 18 months they have endured coup attempts, base labor strikes, base closures, liberty restrictions, bomb threats, travel restrictions, typhoon Ruby, a Baguio earthquake, more liberty restrictions, base negotiations, terrorist acts, POV convoys with armed escort and air cover (to and from San Miguel) and, finally the Mt. Pinatubo eruption which was kinda like all the above rolled into one. He relates that the eruption spewed ash, rock and debris 80,000 feet into the atmosphere, turned daylight into darkness, prompted over 150 quakes registering 1 to 5 and put on one of the most dramatic electrical storms he has ever witnessed. The affected winds circled counterclockwise with the brunt of the ash falling on the Subic area, the initial "mudding" of the base coupled with 20 inches of water-soaked ash causing the collapse of over 200 structures on the naval base alone. MOMAG Unit NINE sustained minimal damage, some cracks in the overheads of structures due to quakes and the weight of the ash (he provided a "volcano factoid": 1 sq.ft. of ash weighs 55 lbs., shed 8 being 107' X 210' had total ash fall of 1,235,850 lbs.), He continued, writing that Clark AFB evacuated 14,000 personnel and dependents to Subic which more than doubled the population there at Subic, and MOMAG personnel opened their homes to AF families, supplies soon ran low, then out, no electricity, no water, long lines when generator power restored to Mini-Mart services. On 20 June the call went out for all non-essential personnel to evacuate by ship to other points (e.g., Guam, Hawaii) and this created much initial confusion which was soon overcome by some of the hardest working professionals he has ever seen working 24 hours a day. He said everyone was in a real daze when they reported to MOMAG for work and saw the seemingly insurmountable task of returning everything to an operational mode. The cleanup started slow due to lack of snow shovels in the Phillipines, but after applying the always present Mineman ingenuity a most incredible thing happened - the shoveling of ash, digging of drainage ditches and tens of jobs likened to a Bayou chain gang commenced - and MOMAGers manually moved what was estimated to be 5 million pounds of ash. It reminded him of human front-end loaders and back-hoes. Ritz singled out MN2 Carman and MN3 Hodgson for their great effort in maintaining all vehicles in an "up-status" throughout the effort, but summed it all up by stating, "after watching what the human spirit can accomplish, especially in a crisis situation, I stand in awe of our sailors and could not be any prouder".

Neither could we be any prouder, Ritz - thanks for your letter.



Since our last newsletter we have learned of the following members and friends that have passed away. The membership of the Association of Minemen wish to express their sympathy to the families of those departed loved ones who now reside with our most Supreme Commander.

MNC John J. Minster - 5/27/90 - Norristown, PA - newsletter returned with note of his passing. No other details.

MNC William H. Marshall - 6/14/91
- Las Vegas, NV - Received a note from his wife, Genevieve. His death was due to cardiac arrest.

John J. Manon - 7/5/91 - Washington, DC - John had retired from NAVSEA about a year ago and had been an engineer with many years of service in the mine warfare office in NAVORD and NAVSEA. He also had a distinguished career in the fields of Explosive Ordnance and Swimmer Weapons. Internment was in Arlington National Cemetary. Thanks to Jack Shreve and Rudy Schuetzler for sending us the information. Jack also attended the funeral.

MNC Robert B. Turner - 7/12/91 - San Diego, CA - received a note from Judy Turner-York. No details other than he retired from the Navy 6/62.

Lieutenant Donald G. Mack, USN -7/20/91 - Scotland. Died as the result of a motorcycle accident near Garelochhead just outside Hellensburgh. He was the Officer in Charge of MOMAG Detachment Four at Glen Douglas, Scotland. Services were held at Monroe, New York. It is tentatively planned to hold a memorial service in Charleston in November during the mine conference following which his ashes will be dispersed at sea. His family will reside in Beaufort, South Carolina. The family requested that contributions be made to the Association of Minemen Scholarship Fund in memory of Lieutenant Mack.

The National Explosive Ordnance Association is soliciting membership from active duty or former U.S. armed forces EOD personnel. Please contact National EOD Association, Inc., P.O. Box 53688, Albuquerque, NM 87153.

## ACTIVE & RESERVE NEWS

Our news this edition is overshadowed by the tragic, accidental death of LT Donald Mack (see TAPS section) while serving as OinC of MOMAG Det 4 in Scotland. Don was a former Mineman of the Year, a model sailor and officer, and a credit to our profession and association. We shall miss him in our ranks.

I must catch up on some news inadvertently left out of our Spring edition; a listing from the 5/91 Bow Hook concerning awards and honors for Fleet and Mine Warfare Training Center (F&MWTC) Mineman personnel. Our congratulations for advancement in rating to MNC Gregory Dearing, MNC Dwayne Baldwin (frocked), and MN1 Keith Taylor; Good Conduct award to MNC Robert McGuire; Distinguished Instructor award to MN1 Harold Williamson; and a Letter of Appreciation for MN2 Richard Bassak. Well done, gang. Perhaps someone there in the F&MWTC could take pen in hand and let me know all your interesting news from time to time.

There was also a report of MNC Rod Nedrow and MN2 Ted Cammark of MOMAG Unit 11, who took the [then] recent two-person horseshoes tournament sponsored by the Naval Station Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department. Congratulations Rod and Ted, but we want to see you in some real stiff competition at our yearly AOM reunion competition. On behalf of our Reno champions, Ralph Padgett and Duke Dawson (Yorktown was rained out), İ throw down the gauntlet for our AOM tournament at Long Beach, or when we are here in Charleston in 1992!!!

Our congratulations go out to the following active duty and reserve Minemen who were selected for Chief Petty Officer: MN1 Williams (Reserve MOMAG 404); MN1s Cantrell, Kirsch, Lee, Vargo and Wildman (FMWTC); MN1 Williams (IPO DET Jabail SA); MN1 Jordan (EODU 6); MN1 McGinnis (CONBRIG Chasn); MN1 Phillips (NAVAIR-PAC); MN1 Snyder (MOMAG Unit 5); MN1s Morris and Perry (MOMAG DET 6); MN1s McGinn and Thornton (MOMAG Det 7); MN1 Baker (MOMAG Unit 8; MN1 Badger (MOMAG Unit 9); MN1s Witt and Worm (MOMAG Det 10); MN1s Edgin, Houston, and Nahra (Momag Unit 11); and MN1 Thanscheidt (MOMAG Unit 12). As Captain Nash, COMOMAG, put it in his congratulatory message, you [and we also] can be proud of your achievement.

The following list also was posted in the 1 July Navy Times for advancement to Mineman First Class Petty Officer. We would like to express our congratulations to Christoph Asaro, Lori Badje, Donald Barton, Richard Bassak, Sidney Coats, Mark Demery, Michael Ellis, David Fritz, Louis Godeaux, David Hartje,

Gordon Harvey, Scott Hawkins, Fred Hoffman, Thomas Kaiser, Kevin King, Donald Kiper, Ronald Powell, Johnny Shelton, Gary Trout, Roy Willey, and Kenn Willingham. You also can be proud of your achievements as you move upward in the ranks to assume both the stature and responsibility of your profession.

News provided by MOMAG for their 2nd quarter 1991 is as follows:

UNIT ONE: MN2 R. Gutierrez was frocked to MN1; MN3 J. Harding received a Certificate of Advancement; MN1 R. Gutierrez, MN3 F. Butts, MN3 D. Soyka and MN3 A. Kreiger received letters of Commendation; SK3 S. Garvin was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; MN1 S. Lopez was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 W. Hemmings was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year; YN1 M. Guest was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year; MN2 D. Epton and MN3s M. Randall, S. Toole, G. Todd, R. Chabot, T. Ward and G. Lyons received Letters of Appreciation from the CO NWS Seal Beach for superior performance while TAD to the NWS in support of Desert Shield operations; Good Conduct Awards were received by MNC D. Dicks (6th), MN1 R. Gutierrez (2nd) and SK2 W. Silvera (1st); MNC H. Shelton re-uped for four more years; and good support was reported for the local Navy Hospital Blood Drive.

DET TWO: SK2 J. Elison was frocked to SK1; MN2 D. Hartje received the Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd); MNCS D. Paul received the Meritorious Unit Commendation (4th) and Humanitarian Service Medal (2nd); MN3 I. Sedillo, MN3 J. Karpenske and MN3 P. Curry received Sailor of the Month Awards for respective months of the quarter; MN1 J. Hill was selected as Sailor of the Quarter; and MN3 J. Karpenske was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

UNIT THREE: MN1 S. Maynard and MN3 S. Farris were advanced to their respective pay grades; MN1 G. Harris was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter (MN1 S. Maynard was runner-up); MN3 P. Moore was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter (MN3 D. Chitwood was runner-up); MN1 G. Harris was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN2 S. Bridgford was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN2 P. Chitwood, MN2 W. McAllister, MN3 D. Chitwood and MN3 B. Odom received Letters of Commendation for superior performance; Good Conduct Medals were presented to MN3 B. Odom (1st) and MN3 C. Dombroski (1st); and CWO2 R. Crocker, MN2 J. Doudna, MN2 J. Bussey, MN1 S. Maynard, MN1 R. Gemmel, MN1 G. Harris, MN1 K. Brown and MNSA J. Marr received Letters of Commendation from the base CO and Director, Navy Family Service Center for participation in the Colts Neck Community Alliance Activity Night at a local school.

DET FOUR: YN1 L. Maahs and MN3 M. Strange (frocked) were advanced in rating; Letters of Commendation were received by

MN1 R. Frunz, YN1 L. Maahs, SK1 A. Weston (from NAD), MN3 M. Strange and MN3 D. Mickens; Letters of Appreciation were received by SK1 A. Weston, MN3 R. Witzigman and MNSN C. Freeman; and shipmates MNCS C. Weber, MN1 R. Frunz and MN2 D. Morrow reenlisted for 4, 4 and 6 years respectively.

UNIT FIVE: All hands were awarded the National Defense Service Medal; MN2 W. Nelson and MN3 E. Smith were advanced (frocked) to their present paygrade; MN1 C. Miller was selected as Sailor of the Year; MN3 B. Streit was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year; MN1 C. Miller was selected as Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 D. Ward was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; a Good Conduct Medal was awarded to MN2 T. Kaiser (2nd); MN3 R. Joyce and MNSN T. Brown received Letters of Appreciation from CO, NAS Sigonella for exemplary performance with the Auxiliary Security Force; MN3 R. Joyce and YN1 D. Evans received Outstanding Sponsor Awards from CO, NAS Sigonella; YN1 D. Evans received a Letter of Appreciation from the OinC Naval Hospital for his participation in the blood donorship program; and Lt. T. Morris and MN1 C. Miller acted as coaches for the Sigonella Youth Athletic Association basketball and baseball leagues.

DET SIX: MN3 C. Gerhke, MN3 P. Haley and MN3 C. Gerhke were selected as Blue Jacket of the Month for each month of the quarter respectively; MN1 F. Perry was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MNSN V. Whitford was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year; MN2 B. Davis was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MNSN V. Whitford was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; MN1 R. Brown received Master Training Specialist designation; MN3 T. Ward received a Letter of Appreciation for outstanding performance of duty; YN1 J. Adams received a Letter of Commendation for outstanding support from the Assistant Chief for Fleet Readiness and Support; Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbons were awarded to MN1 R. Brown (3rd), MN1 R. Morris (6th), MN1 T. Shumway (9th), MNC G. Mason (2nd), and MNSN V. Whitford (2nd).

DET SEVEN: MN1 D. Lauffenburger was advanced to his current paygrade; the Navy Commendation Medal was awarded to MNCS A. Bauer upon his retirement to civilian life in Charleston, SC; MN1 J. Thornton was selected as COMOMAG/COMINEWARCOM Sailor of the Year; MN1 J. Bray was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 K. Myers was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year; MN3 K. Myers participated in the 16th Annual Aloha Run (no results reported); and MN3 Agenbroad participated in the Run For Your Life, Symphony Fun Run and Easter Walk/Run (no results reported).

UNIT EIGHT: No report received from which I can quote promotions and other personnel awards or recognition. I do, how-

ever, have a copy of an invitation indicating a Change of Command which occurred back in April - LT Terry Wayne Auberry was relieved by LT John Comerford Lawton, Jr. We wish both of them good fortune and continuing sucess in their professional careers.

UNIT NINE: MN1 J. Wehrle, YN1 S. Tenney, MN3 D. Sears (frocked) and MN3 M. Mullins (frocked) were advanced to their present paygrades; Humanitarian Service Medals were awarded to MN1 R. Benskin, MN2 L. Badje, MNSN A. Hoog and MNSA C. Lovendale; SK2 M. Sadsad received the Navy Achievement Medal and Good Conduct Medal; YN1 J. Wehrle was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN3 L. Farr was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year: MN2 D. Kirker was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 L. Farr was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; YN1 J. Wehrle received a Letter of Commendation; MN1 R. Gormley received a Letter of Appreciation; MN3 O. Collins received two Letters of Appreciation; shipmates MN2 T. Honshul and MNSN L. Merzier reenlisted for 2 and 3 years respectively; MNCS M. Radke is heavily involved in coaching of the San Miguel Comets Little League baseball team; and MN1 Mack is providing lots of time and effort with the Peninsula Lions Club in Olongapo City. (Editors Note: This report, of course, was sent and received prior to the Mt. Pinatubo eruption. Please see the Mail Bag column for a report from MNCS "Ritz" Radke.

DET TEN: MN3 R. Wagner and MN3 D. Pinney were frocked to their present paygrades; MN1 M. Liggett received a Weapons Safety Mishap Prevention Award from the USAF 313th Air Division; YN1 R. Nailon was selected Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 L. Thetford was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; MN1 C. Dozier and MN3 T. Villarreal received Letters of Appreciation for their support of CFAO/NAFK command Christmas festivities; and the entire command was actively involved in the annual Red Feather Campaign fund drive.

UNIT ELEVEN: MN2 Allston advanced to his present paygrade; MN1 Nahra was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year; MN3 Standley was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year; MN1 Stratton was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 Kowalski was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; Letters of Appreciation from CO Unit ELEVEN were received by MN1 Stratton, MN2 Praytor, MN3 Sullivan and MN3 Alt; MN2 Wisniewski received a Letter of Appreciation from CO Unit EIGHT; and shipmate MN2 Mills reenlisted (term not reported) for continued duty.

UNIT TWELVE: MN1 Ostrom was frocked to his present paygrade; the Navy Achievement Medal was awarded to SK1 Caras; Good Conduct Medals were awarded to MN2 Witmore and MN3 Ostrom; MN1 Thanscheidt was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN3 Hormann was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN1 Thanscheidt was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 Hickman was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; MNCS McClain received a Letter of Appreciation from CO, NAF Misawa for his assistance with the 1990 Navy Day Ball; and MNCS McClain, MNC Wright, MN1 Gatewood, MN1 Thanscheidt, MN1 Ostrom, MN2 Powell, MN2 Shelton, MN2 Witmore, MN3 Hormann, MN3 Hutchings and MNSN Kreidler received Letters of Appreciation for their assistance and support of the MWR Bazaar.

UNIT FOURTEEN: MN1 M. Cobia, MN1 D. Hargett (frocked), MN2 D. Evanoff (frocked) and YN2 C. Currie (frocked) were advanced to their present paygrade; the Navy Achievement Medal was awarded to D. Evanoff; the Good Conduct Medal was awarded to MN2 D. Harriman (2nd); MN1 E. Moriarity was selected as Senior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MN3 A. Morehouse was selected as Junior Sailor of the Year, 1990; MNSN L. Rodriquez was selected as Junior Sailor of the Quarter; MN3 R. Longwell, MNSN L. Rodriquez and MN3 P. Parry were selected as Bluejacket of the Month for each month of the quarter, respectively; MN3 L. Hepperman received a Letter of Appreciation for superior performance of duties; and MN3 D. Carr received an "Atta Boy" from NWS Yorktown Security Officer for exemplary performance while serving on the station Operation Desert Storm Auxiliary Security Force.

The Association sends our congratulations for all the well deserved promotions, and our sincere thanks for your contributions to local community efforts. Well done, shipmates. We will be watching, with a great sense of pride, as you move onward and upward in your Navy career.

#### It's Some of Your Business

The below spaces have been purchased by AOM members or commercial enities to advertise their business venture or to solicit your participation or expertise. A business card size space requires \$10.00 for a single issue of the newsletter or \$30.00 for four issues. Multiples of this size space may be purchased to include a business message or solicitation. The Editor and Publisher reserve the right to refuse or edit material in the interest of good taste.

#### **Editors Note:**

Don Lozen states that he will make a donation to the Minemen Scholarship Fund if you purchase a vehicle from him. You must provide him with your AOM membership number.



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### **ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN**

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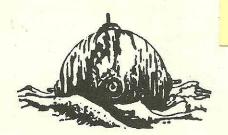
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#### ALERT! ALERT!

This year's reunion business meeting will require replacement of two Board of Directors members (Bob Forbes of Charleston, SC and John Loonam of Gloucester, VA) whose terms expire in accordance with our C&BLs. Bob and John will, of course, be asked to be re-nominated to serve another term. Other nominations will be asked for from the floor. If there are other nominations from members out there in our reading audience who may not be able to get to Long Beach, please let our Secretary know in advance by writing. Written nominations must contain a brief statement as to the nominee's motivation and availability, as well as a signed statement by the nominee indicating his consent to serve. Verbal nominations cannot be accepted except by a member at the business meeting, and these also must be with the consent of the nominee.

# AOM REUNION - LONG BEACH 12 - 15 September 1991 Hosted by MOMAG Unit ONE See details in Publicity Committee Report

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