

The DASHPOT

Issue 12

Newsletter of the Association of Minemen

WINTER 1995



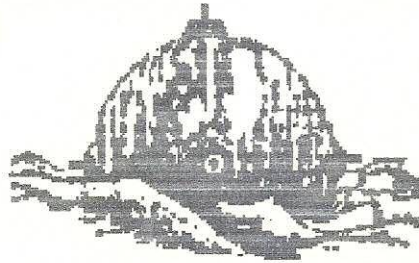
FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we speed into 1996, let me wish one and all "Happy Holidays" and a prosperous and happy year. We are entering 1996 with many new actions affecting the Navy, the Mine Force and the Mineman rating on the near horizon. It should prove to be dynamic, interesting and sometimes full of the unknown.

The Dashpot under the editorial control of **John Loonam** has grown to a publication truly covering activities within the Mine Force. This vehicle has assisted us all in staying abreast of past, current and future events as well as general information. Thank you John for your relentless efforts of pulling many pieces of news items together and select the newsworthy ones to help in keeping members of the AOM and Mine community up-to-date. "A HARD JOB - VERY WELL DONE". Again, many thanks from us all.

With that, I invite anyone with information they feel of interest to please forward it to the Dashpot editor as listed in the Masthead on page 2.

The plans are well underway for our 1996 AOM reunion being held in Panama City, Florida, August 9 - 11, 1996. A Team led by Don Costa and Francis X. Martin are forging ahead to make this event memorable and productive. Initial information shows the early-bird and the dinner (banquet) are in place as well as the loose ends for a golf outing are being finalized



Chief Of Naval Personnel Visits Ingleside

The Foc'sle 15 Sep 95

The Chief of Naval Personnel, VADM Frank L. "Skip" Bowman, took questions at a pierside all-hands assembly here at Ingleside. Of particular interest to Dashpot readers is the following:

Q: An MNSN is very concerned that he is being used as a BM aboard his MCM. Trained as a Mineman, he wants to build mines. He's been to "A" School but has no practical experience in his rating. He has taken the third-class exam and feels defeated. He feels he didn't do well, because he hasn't used any of his training.

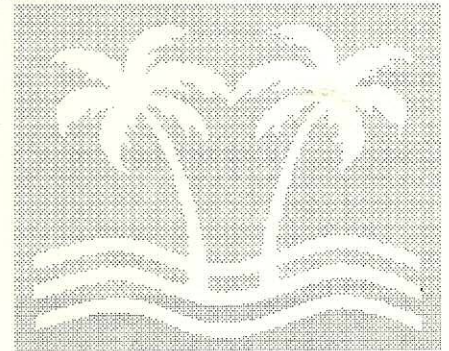
A: The MNSN is currently being used as a BM on board his MCM. Mineman will eventually make up all the topside manning on MCMs. In anticipation, they are carefully integrated into the current manning

Please see Vadm Borman page 2 2

22nd AOM Annual Reunion Panama City, FL Aug 9 - 11 1996

Make vacation plans now for the big Florida blast this summer. The reunion committee reports the basic reunion events are scheduled and reserved. A surf & turf or seafood platter dinner is planned for the banquet.

Hotel: Holiday Lodge also known as the Admiral Benbow Hotel. Panama City Beach, FL 1-800-833-7730 Confirmation No. A-1. Local phone 904-234-2114. Located across the street from NCSS.



Early-Bird at the Fleet Reserve home and Business meeting at the AMVETS home. All within a two mile radius at Panama City Beach. Boat cruise and Navy boat rentals are available.

Contacts:

Don Costa

209 San Gabriel St.
Panama City, FL 32407
(904)234-5221

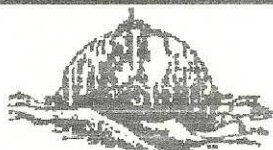
Francis X. Martin

3918 West 21st St.
Panama City, FL 32405-1421
(904)769-1398

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Please see **President** page 2



**ASSOCIATION OF
MINEMEN
DEDICATED TO SERVING
THE
U.S. 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.

PRESIDENT

Warren Savage (95-98)
10331 Settle Road
Santee, CA 92071
(619) 258-1478
FAX (619) 258-0652

VICE PRESIDENT

Joe A. Balderrama (95-98)
Rt. 3, Box 237C Forest Drive
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
(904) 261-7222

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Lyal M. Stryker (95-96)
8517 Deerwood Drive
North Charleston, SC 29406-9713
(803) 553-1450
FAX 803-569-6913

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

William L. Carlson (95-98)
1925 Pilgrim Ave
Bronx, NY 10461
L. R. (Bob) Forbes (93-96)
1 Newark Ave
Goose Creek, SC 29445
John F. Loonam (94-97)
10033 Indian Rd
Gloucester, VA 23061-2830
William A. Roberts (94-97)
687 Aleida Dr.
St. Augustine, FL 32086
Ralph A. Shaw (93-96)
41 Evergreen Ln
Port Hadlock WA 98339
CDR Ron Swart (95-98)
5125 Cavendish Dr.
Corpus Christi, TX 78413

PARLIAMENTARIAN (95-96)

Donald A. Decrona
2320 Wide Horizon Dr.
Reno, NV 89509-5079

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

John Loonam
10033 Indian Rd
Gloucester VA 23061-2830
(804) 693-2094 Phone/FAX
(9AM-11PM)

President. Continued from page 1

and it appears as though the picnic will be held on-board the Navy Base.

Our 1997 AOM Reunion was voted to be held in San Diego, California, August 8 - 10, 1997, and a committee has been established co-chaired by **Jim Miller** and **Jerry Chipman** who have volunteered to make arrangements for our reunion. Volunteers are requested to contact Jim or Jerry to offer assistance as well as ideas.

The Dashpot will be the vehicle to keep all up-to-date on the status of the AOM scholarships, the Mine Museum and the Commemorative History Book as well as many other items of interest. We have a lot happening and much to do. Anyone wishing to volunteer time and effort get in touch with me or Lyal, especially in the areas of reunions, museum, membership and committee participation.

Happy New Year and
Best Wishes

Warren H. Savage

VADM Borman from Page 1

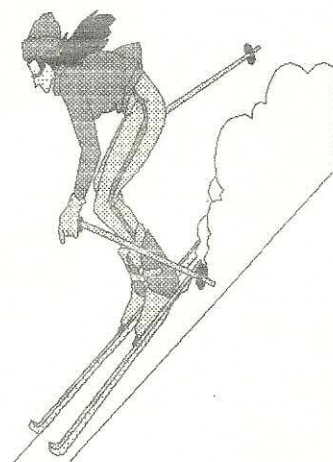
structure. The MN exam is being rewritten to encompass the expanded scope of the MN duties at sea, formerly accomplished by BM, OS and STG rating members. The results of the MN3 exam haven't been released yet. Do not despair until the results are out; you may have done better than you realize. Today's MNs have to know more than just mine building in order to advance. The OJT you are getting in deck operations, coupled with the technical mineman rating training from "A" School, will serve you well in that regard.

**Address changes to the
Secretary/Treasurer
Please provide 9 digit ZIP**

Secretary's Corner



Not a whole lot of news for this issue of the Dashpot. We are experiencing a delay with some of your orders due to problems with our supplier. We hope to have ALL outstanding orders completed by the first of the year. Didn't really appreciate the hard work our ex-quartermaster **Dick Rhoderick** did for us until he left town and I inherited it back, again. Anyone in the Charleston area, including Goose Creek, Hanahan, Ladson, Summerville, etc. that could take this over I would appreciate a call. See phone number inside front page of this issue. A reminder, when you move/change addresses we need to know to keep you up to date. Also, we will definitely purge our mail list one more time on 1 January 1996. Past due members will be notified by first class mail. This way we get it returned if they have moved, etc. Our plan is to purge annually. Remember the Board of Directors a while back approved delinquent members reapplying as a new member with submission of the \$5.00 initiation fee plus the \$10.00 annual dues for a total of \$15.00 which would allow them to keep their original membership number. Also, you can pay dues ahead for a maximum of five years.



The initiation of a MOMAG newsletter comes as a pleasant surprise. Actually, we had discussed submitting an unsolicited proposal to perform the job. I hope we were instrumental in sparking the brainstorm that evolved into a communication tool for all in the community. While the Dashpot remains a social and informative instrument, we will use excerpts from MOMAGGAGINE of interest to AOM members. There can be no better standard of communication than a headquarters newsletter to all Units and Dets including the Reserves. If it gets to "all hands", the wealth of information contained will be food for thought and provide another solid step toward standardization within the community.

The response to some 65 postcards requesting Mineman inputs to our Newsletter were few and far between. Thanks to those that thought enough of their outfits to participate in sharing the news. Please let us know if a Mineman did it and its positive we want to spread the good news around the community.

Appearing in this issue are excerpts from selected articles from three station newspapers where Minemen and Mine Engineering are making history.



1995 Dues were due in August. Use the order blank on page 5 to renew or a new membership application on page 12 to join or re-join. Dues notices are not mailed to members

Who does EOD call when there is a bomb threat at EOD Headquarters??

@#S%&

CORRECTIONS

&%S#@

Editor's apology for the following errors observed by some of our ardent readers:

Issue Summer 1995:

The headline congratulating CDR Ron Swart on selection for Commander (page 1) was intentionally misspelled to see if anyone was reading the Dashpot.

More History (page 5) ended with see history (page 14). no continuation appeared. See it in this issue.

Familiarizer (page 13) last sentence cut off. See it in this issue.

Fall 1995 issue:

Cecil Martin was awarded the Silver Star not the Bronze Star. (He has one of them too) (page 15) (related article this issue)

The correct spelling of the late Mrs. Stryker's first name is Doreen. (page 3)

Letters to the Editor (page 17) Another Longway joins the Fleet was cut off "We welcome Tina to the fleet and wish her great success"

July 22 letter name line cut off. "Ed Oyer, Williamsburg VA"

Next Issue deadline October 10 page 18 should have been December 10.

Note: cut-off and non-continuing articles are caused by last minute squeezing in and correcting printer alignment problems, sorry!

AOM Duties of Officers, Directors and Committees Continued from last issue.

Duties of Board members cont.

4. Preceding the annual business meeting, discuss agenda items, place items of business before the assembly, and form a collective Board recommendation on issues that will be discussed.

5. Be receptive to any member wishing to bring an issue before the Board. Unless it is simple, work with the member to write the issue in the form of a motion that the member would like to have the Board adopt.

STANDING COMMITTEES

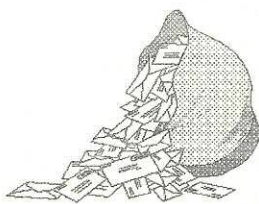
A. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

1. The Membership Committee shall receive all applications for membership and review them for completeness of information, eligibility in accordance with the Association By Laws, and proper payment of membership fee and one time administrative fee. The Membership Committee shall also, at their discretion, have the ability to recognize and/or distinguish any special, senior or distinctive service membership, as approved by the Board of Directors.

2. The Committee shall also receive nominations from any voting member or group of voting members, for an individual to be inducted as an Honorary Member. The Committee shall assure the nominee meets the criteria of the By Laws prior to placement of the nominee's name before the general membership for majority vote.

3. The Committee shall also act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors on any issue involving a recommendation for dismissal or reprimand of any member due to misconduct or behavior considered detrimental to the Association. In

Mailbag



Following are abbreviated notes received from members

when sending in their dues, orders, and Christmas cards, etc.;

Angela Rines wrote to tell us she and **Bob** are still hanging in there in Farmington, NH. Said Bob was still fighting the cancer and thanks every one that has sent cards and letters. She asks that we continue to pray for Bob.

Joe Hernandez said he and **Rose** were sorry to have missed Reno but are planning on making Panama City. Also noted that **Don Costa** and wife had dropped by to visit last year.

Ron Swart now in Corpus Christi Texas enclosed a note with his Christmas card. Said **Masako** had her second corneal transplant 9 December. All went well and he said the good news is that they didn't turn her brown eyes blue! Daughter **Kumi** is living at home while attending Texas A&M. Son **David** lost part of the middle two fingers on his left hand in an accident on the USS Trepang off the coast of Argentina. He was evacuated back to Groton where he is healing well and is expected home for Christmas.

Honorary Mineman **Jorgen Lorenzen** writes from Denmark that all is well with him. He has been traveling a lot this year. First to the states for the WWII victory celebrations in Washington and later throughout Europe.

For Folks Born Before 1940

We are survivors!!! Consider the changes we have witnessed...

We were born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, Frisbees and the Pill.

We were born before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens, before pantyhose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip dry clothes - and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first, and then lived together. HOW QUIANT CAN YOU BE???

In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "Coming Out Of." Bunnies were small rabbits, and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer Jeans were scheming girls named Jean Jeanne, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with our cousins.

We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and Outer Space was the back of the local theater.

We were before House Husbands, Gay Rights, Computer Dating, Dual Careers, and Commuter Marriages. We were before Daycare Centers, Group Therapy and Nursing Homes. We never heard of FM Radios, Tape decks, Electric Typewriters, Artificial hearts, Word Processors, Yogurt and Guys wearing Earrings. For us, Time-sharing meant togetherness - not computers or condominiums; a "Chip" meant a piece of wood; hardware meant Hardware, and software wasn't even a word.

In 1940, "Made in Japan" meant junk, and the term "Making Out" referred to how you did on your exam. Pizzas, "McDonalds" and instant coffee were unheard of.

We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 cent stores, where you bought things for five and ten cents. Ice cream cones sold for a nickel or a dime at the drug store soda fountain. For a nickel, you could ride on a street car, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi or enough stamps to mail one letter and two post cards. You could buy a new Chevy coupe for \$600, but who could afford to buy one; a pity too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass was mowed; COKE was a cold drink, and POT was something you cooked in. ROCK MUSIC was a Grandma's Lullaby, and AIDS were helpers in the Principal's office.

We were certainly not before the differences between the sexes were discovered, but we were surely before the sex change. We made do with what we had. And we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think you needed to have a husband to have a baby.

No wonder we are so confused and there is such a generation gap today.

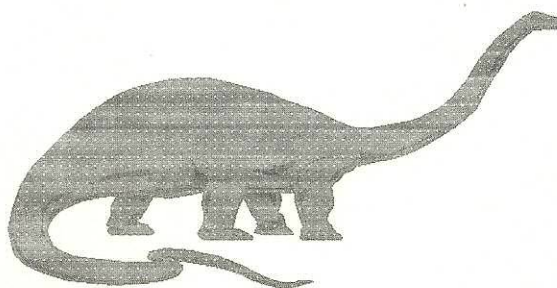
But we survived!!!

Source unknown.

San Diego
AUG 8-10 '97

James Miller
11726 Jonny Ln
San Diego, CA 92126

Jerry Chipman
878 Buen Tiempo Dr
Chula Vista, CA 91910



MINEMAN

Earns Navy Cross

From Troubleshooter 2-69

It is not often that the Navy Cross, the nation's second highest medal for heroism is awarded. When the recipient is a Mineman the occasion is rarer still. Mineman First Class, **Cecil H. Martin** received the honor at the Naval Schools of Minewarfare Charleston, SC on 5 September 1969.

Petty Officer **Martin**, with 11 years of service in the Navy, played an important role as the commander of a two boat patrol with River Division 531 in Vietnam. While in the Mekong Delta on the night of 21 November 1968 **Martin's** patrol came under heavy attack from ambush.

His cover boat was hit by two rockets on the initial assault wounding all men aboard and causing the craft to run aground directly in front of the enemy position.

Finding himself beyond the center of attack, Mineman **Martin** ordered his Coxswain to reverse course to rescue the besieged crew. Re-entering the ambush area under increasing enemy fire, and while directing effective counter-fire, Mineman **Martin** directed his boat to position between the helpless cover boat and the blazing enemy shore batteries.

He then directed rescue operations and at crucial intervals personally manned a machine gun to suppress enemy fire. Boarding the disabled craft, he extinguished a fire and helped transfer the casualties to his boat. While maintaining contact with the Naval Operations Center, and advising of the attack, he directed successfully withdrawal and rendered first aid to the wounded.

In the words of the citation: "His great personal valor in the face of the heavy and sustained enemy fire was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service".

Ed note: Thanks to AOM Secretary **Lyal** for providing the article to the Dashpot.

USS Champion Recognizes Minemen

The Foc'sle 15 Sep 95

MNSA Brad Potts and **MNSA Scott Spray** received Letters of Appreciation for superior performance on board Champion.

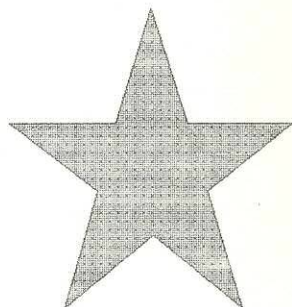
USS Chief (MCM 14) Recognizes Mineman

Foc'sle 29 Sep 95

MNC Kenneth Mohler received the Navy Achievement Medal for outstanding performance.

Chief Promotion

30 Navy Ingelsides sailors advanced to Chief Petty Officer in FY 95. Included was **MNC(SW) Robbie L. Frunz** of the USS *Gladiator*



Duties from Page 3

accordance with Article IV, Section 3 of the By Laws, the Board of Directors shall make the final decision concerning the membership action.

4. The Chairperson of the Membership Committee, or his/her designate, shall make the annual report of membership at the annual general business meeting.

5. The Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of two voting members and the Vice President acting in an ex-officio capacity.

COMMITTEE

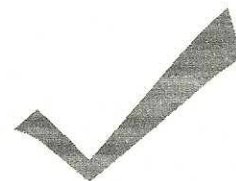
1. The Scholarship Committee shall receive all applications for award of annual Association scholarships and review them for completeness of information and eligibility in accordance with application rules.

2. The Committee will review applicants scholastic and/or academic achievements to determine relative merit, and determine qualification of the participating/designated academic university/agency.

3. The Committee will recommend the amount of scholarship based on qualifying need and/or applicability. Long term continuation scholarship aid awards may also be recommended on a year-by-year basis, based on the candidates commitment and other factors considered. The Committee may also recommend that there be no awards.

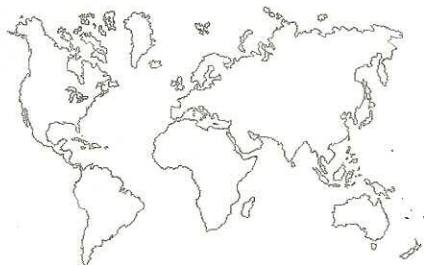
4. The Committee shall be comprised of a Chairperson appointed by the Association President and Board of Directors, and shall have one other voting member. They will present their findings to the Scholarship Selection Board which will consist of the Committee Chairperson, two members of the Board of Directors as appointed by the President, and two Members At Large who are solicited and volunteer for the final selection process. The Selection Board will make final selection(s). Disbursements of award funds shall be made by the Secretary/Treasurer.

Continued next issue



Paid your '95-'96 dues yet?
They were due in August
Please Send your check in
today

FULL FORCE NEWS



COMOMAG

by CDR Ron Swart

Capt. Green New COMOMAG

Capt. Michael Green has relieved CDR Ron Swart as Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group on 22 November 1995. CDR Swart had beneath interim commander after the retirement of Capt. D. J. Powers in July. Capt. Green reported to his new position after a rewarding tour as the Sixth Fleet Exercise Officer. His background is the S-3 Viking ASW community, where as a Naval Flight Officer, he served as the Maintenance Officer with VS-24, as Commanding Officer of VS-28 and as "Air Boss" on USS Constellation. Capt. Green hails from California. He and his wife Gail have two children, Chad and Kelly. Welcome aboard, Captain!

COMOMAG

Opens New Headquarters

It was a beautiful South Texas day on 30 November, when Capt. Mike Green cut the ribbon for his new staff's state-of-the-art facility on NAS Corpus Christi. Building 36 began life as a 1942 vintage barracks and served in several capacities since. After being unused for several years, the forlorn, run down building was ready for the bulldozer. COMOMAG's homeport shift from Charleston to Corpus Christi saved Building 36 from its destined fate. Renovation work began in May 1995 after a year of careful planning. According to CWO-3 Ben Butler (who relieved

CWO-4 Tom Page as the COMOMAG Project Action Officer) "They took the old girl down to bare frame and foundation" replacing electrical, mechanical and plumbing service throughout. The results are spectacular and the outside appearance was carefully preserved in keeping with the buildings original character (a Texas Historical Society requirement). The new COMOMAG HQ will include training and conference space for use by other commands in the Mine Warfare Center of Excellence, eventually including Video Teleconferencing Center. The Mine Search Squadron (formerly COOPMINERON) will be temporary tenants until they can find permanent spaces.

ed. note: CWO-3 Butler reported the mailing address and phone numbers remain unchanged how's that for efficient long range

COMOMAG Enters Desktop Publishing The MOMAG Gazine

selected excerpts

"Welcome to the first edition of the quarterly staff and mine program newsletter. The intent is to further enhance communication between the COMOMAG staff and our active and reserve MOMAG units and detachments." reads the introduction of the fourth quarter 1995 issue of the MOMAG Gazine.

Command Master Chief: MTCM (SW/SS) Ron Gaines

Admin. Off.: LT. Donna Joyal

Div. Off.: YNC William Straker

Ops.: LT. Ed Simmons

N31: LT. Keith Nesmith

MNC Jim Kirsch MN1 Kirby Brown

N32: LTjg Theresa Wright

CWO-2 Frank Slaby MNC Dave

Walker MN1 Jennifer

Lauffenburger

N33: CWO-3 Ben Butler MNC

Kirsch, MNC J. Burton

N34: LT. Carmina Towe MNC Witt

MN2 White

N4: LT. D. B. Krulewich

SKC(SW) Costantini SK3 Allen

N6: Archie Hanna

RM1 Horn

Versatile Exercise Mine (VEMS) MK 74 Mod 1 to undergo first major in-water tests.

LT. John Iwaniec is working with industry experts to utilize an epoxy powder paint system that uses an infra-red drying system.

COMOMAG participated in the first of many afloat FIATs training CV personnel in up-grading Quick Strike mines.

Air Force to Upgrade B-52 Mine Laying Capability

Air Force Magazine

The B-52H Stratofortress fleet is being upgraded to standardize the aircraft so all planes can carry all munitions certified for the B-52 including mines.

50 Years Ago

Associated Press

August 3, 1945. American B-29 Superfortress bombers drop the last loads of sea mines that complete the blockade of ports in Japan and occupied Korea.

MNC Selectees

Navy Times 24 Jul 95

Cornel Dozier

Jeffery Holt

J. Lauffenburger

Robbie Frunz

Thomas Kaiser

Leea Loveland

MOMAG Sites and Specs.

Exercises

Mission in General

contingency final service mine
preparation and surface mine laying
operations.

Minemen participate in the following exercises:
GOMEX, KERNAL BLITZ, BELL THUNDER,
RIMPAC, BELL ORCA, JTFEX, HAWKEX,
STRONG RESOLVE, DAMSEL FAIR,
ALCUDRA, TRIDENTE, OLIVE VERTES,
OLIVE NOIRE, SANDY COAST, TACDEVEX,
COBRA GOLD, TAMDUM THRUST, TEAM
SPIRIT, DUGONG, INDUSIA, MEKAR, FOAL
EAGLE, UNITAS, BRIGHT HORIZON, PURPLE
STAR, UNIFIED SPIRIT, BLUE HARRIER,
DAMSEL FAIR, RESULTE RESPONSE or
SOCEX

Maintain material readiness of
PWR service and stocked Exercise
and Training mines. Provide final
preparation and support services for
MIW training, fleet exercises, then
inspections, and special operations.
Maintain trained personnel for CNO.

Administrative Control

All MOMAG Sites are under the
administrative control of COMOMAG
then COMINSEWARCOM before the
applicable Fleet Commanders to the
CNO.

Activity

MOMAG Unit ONE Seal Beach, CA
MOMAG Unit THREE, Colts Neck, NJ
MOMAG Unit FIVE; Sigonella, ITALY
MOMAG Det. SEVEN; Barbers Point, HI
MOMAG Unit EIGHT; Guam
MOMAG Unit TEN; Okinawa, JAPAN
MOMAG Unit ELEVEN; Charleston, SC
MOMAG Unit TWELVE; Misawa, JAPAN
MOMAG Unit FOURTEEN; Yorktown, VA
MOMAG Unit FIFTEEN, Kingsville, TX

Commanding Officer

LT. Coral L. Mac Intosh
LT. Michael P. Sportelli
CWO-3 Robert J. Reed
CWO-2 Gary W. Riggins
LT. Timothy W. Paton
LT. Michael R. Ledbetter
LT. John E. Iwaniec
LT. Michael G. McAdams
LT. Ronald F. Davis
CWO-4 Joseph R. Harris

Executive Officer

N/A
N/A
N/A
N/A
CWO-3 Raymond J. Ferraro
N/A
LT. John F. Lyman
N/A
CWO-4 Joseph V. Kuhlman
N/A

Senior Enlisted

Mine Maintenance

Budget in Thousands

OPSTAR

		FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996		FY 1994	FY 1995	FY 1996
01	MNCM(SW) Mark H. Zinnel	67.6	75.5	142.1		63	61.6	93.9
03	MNCM John Nolan	71	52	99.1		244	209	186
05	MNCM Clifford A. Bombard	42	40	45.1		42.4	17.1	22
07	MNCS Dwayne Baldwin	23	16.2	31.1		6	7.3	6.8
08	MNCS Charles R. Lewis	48	60	91		37	24.2	59.4
10	MNCM Albert Fross	41	30	51.4		22.5	17.5	33.7
11	MNCM Anthony Gorden	90	120	233.9		199	177.4	310
12	MNCM Harold Denton	46	24.5	45.6		44.5	24.5	44.9
14	MNCS Clinton Chacanaca	30	57.3	60		10	23.7	20
15	MNCS Juan L. Delgado	12	60.8	76.6		74.5	88.7	78.7

Mines Supported

- 01 Laying(L); Mechanical Sweep(MS); Actuation(A); VEMS ;Exploitation (EX);Hunting(H); CV/Shore Handling (HA)
03 MK 56; MK 65; MK 67; DST 36,40; Quick Strike (QS) MK 62,63; Exercise: N/A
05 MK 56; 60; MK 65; MK 67; QS MK 62, MK 63; Exercise: L, A, EX, H
07 MK 65; MK 67 Exercise: L, H
08 MK 56; MK 60; MK 65; MK 67; DST MK 36, MK 40; QS MK 62, MK 63 Exercise: L, H, A, EX, MS,HA
10 MK 60; MK 65; QS MK 62; MK 63; Exercise: L, A, H, EX, MS, HA
11 (L); (MS); A); VEMS ;(EX);(H); (HA) for Carriers, Patrol Squadrons, TACAIR, Submarines
12 MK 56, MK 60, MK 65, MK 67, QS MK 63, MK 63, Exercise: N/A
14 IMA/Depot level maintenance MK 60
15 L, A, VEMS, H, EX, MS, HA (USN & USAF)

Host Activity

Operational Chain of Command

MK 52-MK 55

- 01 NWS Seal Beach, CA CINPACFLT
03 NWS Earle, NJ CINLANTFLT
05 NAS Sigonella, Italy COMSERVFOR SIXTHFLT, COMSIXFLT, CINCUSNAVEUR
07 NAVMAG LuaLuaLei, HI CINPACFLT
08 NS Guam COMLOG WESTPAC, COMSEVENTHFLT, CINCPACFLT
10 Kadena AB, Japan COMLOG WESTPAC, COMSEVENTHFLT, CINCPACFLT
11 NWS Charleston, SC CINLANTFLT
12 NAS Misawa, Japan COMLOG WESTPAC, COMSEVENTHFLT, CINCPACFLT
14 NWS Yorktown, VA CINLANTFLT
15 NAS Kingsville, TX CINLANTFLT

After all that sand-
blasting, scraping
and painting those
Mk 52's and MK
55's appear to have
retired from the
quality care of our
Minemen.

Rotational Crew Bravo Sailors Shine During Exercise

The Foc'sle 22 Nov 95

Mine Countermeasures Rotational Crew Bravo currently embarked on USS Patriot (MCM-7) was an active participant in exercise Foal Eagle '95 with the Republic of Korea. Among the sonar and mine neutralization team were MN1 **Floyd Greer**, MN3 **Shaun Winn** and MN3 **Scott Packe**. The team successfully engaged a moored mine and brought it to the surface using a cutter placed on the mooring cable which when activated severs the mooring cable. A perfect combo influence sweep was rigged by MN3 **Matt O'Connell** and MNSN **Scott Spray**.

NCCS Code 70

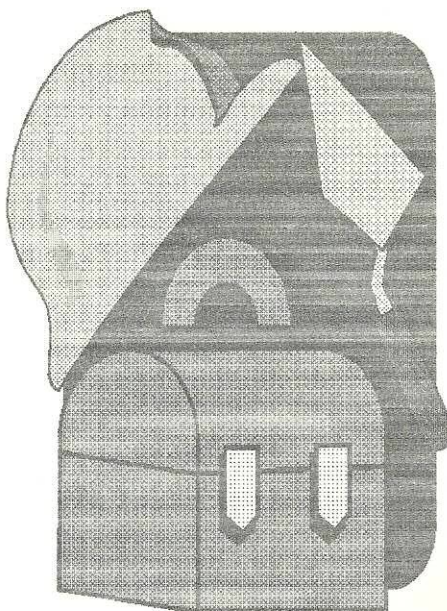
Coastal Courier 20 Oct 95
17 Nov 95

Departures:

Michael A. Bata Gregory Campbell
Richard A. Bishop Jim Braybrand
Phyllis E. Cain Alisa F. Campbell
Teddy D. Chapman June C. Collie
Neal A. Cowan Emma K. Crawford
Eric W. Cruz Stephanie L. Cruz
Arthur R. Dame Glen R. Danks
Brenda S. Dix Robert J. Dix
Karen C. Drewery John W. Dunn
John A. Filo Della J. Garren
Byron C. Gossett Marcella Griffen
Glenda R. Holland Denise Jenkins
Douglas R. Jones Fran Lisciandri
William J. Maisey Mary S. Martin
Waydene McClenney
Charles W. Miller Patricia Murray
Carole E. Neider Nguyen Nguyen
Annie M. Oliver Patricia W. Sutton
Evelyn Thompson
Lawrence Wallace Julia Williams
Jacqueline S. Yang

Promotions:

Fred C. Bergey Douglas R. Jones
Dora V. Yellorday



Mine Warfare Training Center Under Construction

The Foc'sle 27 Oct 95

The MWTC will consist of the Mine Warfare School and Firefighting Training Center will open in March 1996. They will teach both mine countermeasures and mining including the officers classes for surface, air and underwater mine warfare. LCDR **John Ririe**, director, expects from 75 to 100 students at any given time. The MN "A" school will include the conversion course for "new" Minemen expanding into MCM ships duties currently performed by OS, ST, GM and BM ratings. Its really like combining five ratings into one with expertise in mine warfare. This can only help raise the professionalism in the mine warfare community.

MWTC will have a staff of about 80 sailors, currently 16 are on board such as MN1 **Michael Gonzales** was in Charleston for the move from Yorktown, VA, DCC(SW) **Mark Glosson** says the Firefighting Training center will not be functional until March 1997. Until then, training is taking place at Naval reserve Center Corpus Christi.

NMWEA Move Complete

Coastal Courier 1 Dec 95

The Naval Mine Warfare Engineering Activity, or NMWEA, Yorktown, VA, is now Coastal Systems Station Code 70, the Mine Warfare In-Service engineering Department. The last group arrived in mid-October.

As with any transfer of civilian positions some people were unsure of their future. Many were long-time residents of their Virginia communities and their "roots" went deep. the thought of moving their families to Panama City was traumatic for some and worrisome to others.

As the in-service engineering activity for the fleet's mine warfare operations, their consolidation with the mine countermeasures mission of CSS now provides "one stop shopping" for the minewarfare community.

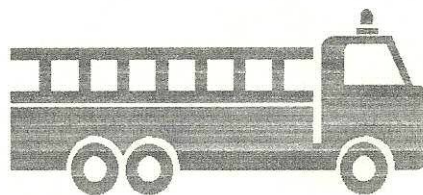
CSS Executive Director, Dr. **David Skinner** said "We are especially happy to have the NMWEA folks with us. The expertise they bring makes us both stronger and truly unique."

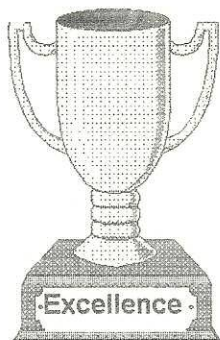
Code 70 is led by **Doug Clark**, who has more than 34 years in mine warfare. Clark supervises a department of four divisions with 15 branch and office functions and more than 100 employees.

Adopt-A-School Program

The Foc'sle 22 Nov 95

MCM Rotational Crew Echo boasts that 25 of the 83 crew member have volunteered to help with the adopt-a school program including MN2 **Mike Szostkiewics** who plans to use his math and computer skills learned in the navy to benefit the children.





MOMAG Unit ONE

by Mrs **Carrie Williams**

Is been quite a hectic couple of months recently. The long hours and hard work the personnel devoted to the command was hard to understand, but the Assist Visit Inspection went tremendously well! Many areas were **OUTSTANDING** and the Inspection Team was really impressed with everything. Its good to have things back to normal for the holidays, then back to the grindstone in preparation for the MRCI the first week in April.

Awards

Sailor Of the Quarter

SK1 Townsend **MN2 Pierce**

MN3 Traynor **MN3 Gibb**

MN3 Merzier

Good Conduct Medal

MNCS Williams **MN2 Walker**

MN3 Hindman

NWS Seal Beach LOA

MN1 Harvey **MN1 Goodman**

MN2 Sedillo **MN2 Thomas**

MN2 Walker **MN3 Borroughs (2)**

MN3 Richardson **MN3 Sedillo**

MN3 Traynor

MOMAG Unit ONE LOA

MNCS Williams (3) **MNC McGinn**

MNC Nahra **MN1 Goodman (2)**

MN1 Harvey (2) **MN1 Nicely (3)**

SK1 Townsend (3) **MN2 Collins (2)**

MN2 Borcharding **MN2 Sedillo**

MN2 USNR Osvart **MN2 Thomas**

MN2 Pierce (2) **MN2 USNR Ruiz**

MN2 Walker **MN2 Whitmore**

YN2 Nicely **MN3 Baney (2)**

MN3 Collins **MN3 Diehl**

MN3 Burroughs **MN3 Gibb**

MN3 Herrington **MN3 Johnson**

MN3 Marcos (5) **MN3 Merzier**

MN3 Morgan **MN3 Poulsen**

MN3 Richardson **MN3 Sedillo (3)**

MN3 Traynor (2) **MNSN Bowerman**

MNSN Pitts **MNSN Johnson**

YNSN Racer

PRT:

MNCS Williams

MNC McGinn **MN1 Harvey**

MN1 Nicely **MN3 Baney**

MN3 Diehl **MN3 Richardson**

MOMAG Unit TWELVE LOA

MNC McGinn

Letter of Recognition:

MNCS Williams

MOMAG Det SEVEN LOA

MN2 Pierce

MOMAG Unit TWELVE LOA

MNC McGinn

Navy & Marine Corps Relief Society
LOA:

SK1 Townsend

Hails:

MN2 Carlton F. Borcharding (WT conversion)

MN2 Kirk E. Veselka (OTM conversion)

MNSA Robert N. Morgan from
FMWTC "A" School

MN2 Marcus P. Respres and

MN2 Lee A Whitmore from **MOMAG Unit TEN**

MN3 Edward S.P. Killip from

MOMAG Unit FIVE

Farewells:

MN1 Rita J. Nicely to Instructor at
MWTC Corpus Christi.

MNSA Dawn R Bayard to separation

Used Stamps Needed

Help hospitalized veterans by
sending used stamps to:
Stamps for Veterans
c/o Bernie Elmore
PO Box 398
Depew, NY 14043-0398

MOMAG Unit FIVE

by **MNCM Cliff Bombard**

First of all we've got a lot of new faces. The Unit is now under the command of Gunner **Bob Reed**, coming to us from Det 7 Hawaii. Other new faces are **MN1 Ed Moriarty** (Unit 14), **MN2 James Doudna**, **MN2 William White**, **MN3 Jeff Wirth** all from Unit 11. **MN3 Eric Hubble**, **MN3 Jason Jenkins**, and **MN3 Francis Paternoster** from Unit 3, and from MN "A" School we have SN's **Kecia Nason** and **Tom Rasmussen**, SA's **Wendy Sims**, **Bert Henry** and **Demetrius Castacio** and SR's **Erik McKnight**, **Demetrius** (yes there are 2 of them) **O'Halloran**, **Jim Sanders** and **Charles Carter**. Departing for greener pastures were **MN2 Dave Swift** (to Unit 11), **MN2 Bob Weatherholt** (rotational crew "Foxtrot") **MN2 Barbara Davies** (Unit 14), **MN3 Martin Clebowicz** (Unit 14), **MN3 Ed Killup** (Det 1), **MN3 Eric Crews** (Unit 11), and **MN3 Tom McKenzie** who is getting out to pursue further education. Getting "short" are **MN2 David Higgs** (to Unit 14), **MNSN Amy Powers** (NWS Yorktown) and **MNSN William Senseney** (Unit 11).

We are still waiting the results of the September advancement exams, but under old business we gained seven stripes off the March cycle. **Kevin Taylor** and **Dave Morrow** made **MN1**, **Leonard Rambo** and **Laura Rodriguez** made **MN2** and **Jonathan Stevens**, **Ed Killup** and **Tom McKenzie** made **MN3**. Most recently, we found out that our skipper has made **CWO-4**. (No lack of experience here in Sig with a **CWO-4** and an **E-9** in the same shop).

Awards recently have gone to the following personnel: Navy Achievement Medals to **MN1 Bonnie Sudman**, **YN1 Georgette Butler** and

Please see Unit 11 Page 8

Unit 5 from Page 9

MN2 David Higgs for outstanding service. Letters of Commendation to MN1 Steve Ciccarello SOQ 2Q95, MN3 Phil Moyers JSOQ 2Q95, MN1 Kevin King SOQ 3Q95 and MN3 Jonathan Stevens JSOQ 3Q95. Special honors, of course, went to the AOM Mineman of the Year, MN1 Bonnie Sudman. Also on the BZ list at the moment are 13 Sailors (fully 1/3 of the crew) who scored "outstanding" on the latest PRT. The command achieved an overall rating of excellent.

Operationally we are still quite busy. Recent trips have been to Rota and Palma Spain and Turkey as well as several "afloat" trips to the USS Theodore Roosevelt and USS America battle groups in support of various operations. On the home front, we are getting a bit of a "face lift" from the Italian contractors. No new structures, just patching up the old but rumor has it we will have "some" working plumbing. Our best to all for the new year.

CIAO

Bomber

NR MOMAG Det 410

Austin, TX

S By MNCS Robert L. Stegge cuttlebutt: (i.e. Know it's going to happen, just not official yet)

NR MOMAG Det 410 Austin Texas and Det 310, Houston, Texas are being reassigned to new MOMAG gaining commands. Det 410 Austin is moving from Unit 8 Guam to Unit 12 Misawa. Det 310 Houston is going to augment Det 7 in Hawaii. This is Det 410's third move since inception. Det 410 began augmenting Unit NINE, Subic Bay when it formed and moved to Unit EIGHT in 1894. Everyone in det 410 is excited about the pending move to Unit TWELVE and are looking forward to meeting everyone there.

Have you visited the "Unofficial Mine Warfare Home Page"? MN3 Paul Calhoun from NRMOMAG Det 410 Austin, Texas has created an Internet World Wide Web home page for those of us that like to "Surf" on the

Internet. He has some pictures of various weapons systems and a few pictures of the entrance of MOMAG Sites. The home page has a nice start but he really needs some historical information and more pictures. If anyone has pictures, information, etc., that they would like to see on the Internet, you can e-mail MN3 Calhoun at:

industry@orion.ae.utexas.edu
or if they aren't connected yet, send the information to:

NRMOMAG Det 410, Austin, Texas
4601 Fairview Drive
Austin, TX 78731-5398

Attn: MN3 Calhoun

If you wish to visit the home page the address is:

<http://www.ae.utexas.edu/industry/minewar.html>

After looking at the home page, please fill out the visitors log and provide him with your comments on your visit. If there's enough interest, a "Contact" board could be set-up where fellow Minemen could post notes or get e-mail addresses of other's interested in Mine Warfare.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

NR MOMAG Det 211

El Paso, TX

I By MN2 Joseph Oszvart
In preparation for the upcoming April 1996 Mine Readiness Certification Inspection (MRCI) at MOMAG Unit EIGHT, Guam MOMAG Det 211 has achieved a Unit IRAD of 97%. The Unit's outstanding work ethic was honored with four members receiving the Navy Achievement Medal; MNCS George Doehne, MNC Jose Lopez, MN2 Ernesto Ruiz and YN2 Ignacio Garcia. The Unit's Commanding Officer, Lt. Allen Kenny was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and a Unit Letter of Commendation for his outstanding leadership of the Unit. MNC Werner Grieb is working in Saudi Arabia and will be drilling with MOMAG Unit FIVE in Sigonella, Sicily. The Unit also had a 100% participation in the El Paso Reserve

Center's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, which contributed over 1300 cans of food to the areas Salvation Army Center.

NR MOMAG Det 119

Long Beach, CA

by CWO-3 Nate Miranda

Roster:

CO: LT. Donald Colvin
XO: CWO-3 Nathan Miranda
MNCM Michael J. Gildersleeve
MNCM Bruce R. Chapman
MNC James H. Mathews
MN1 Craig W. During
MN1 Gilbert Bourgouin
MN1 Raymond C. Allen
MN1 Carrie J. Williams
MN1 Vickie J. Woleader
YN1 Patricia L. Taylor
MN2 Troy J. Burrud
MN2 Michael A. Peters
MN1 Schaffer

MNCM Roy L. Nealy retired 1 Dec 94

MN1 Craig Dearing retired 31 Dec 95

MN2 Mark Randall transferred to the IRR

Awards

Det Mineman of the Year and COMINEWARCOM 1995 Reserve Mineman of the Year: MN2 Michael Peters.

COMINEWARCOM 1994 Reserve Mineman of the Year; MN1 Gilbert Bourgouin.

Naval Reserve Association Outstanding Junior officer o FY95: CWO-3 Nathan Miranda.

N&MCRR, Long Beach Best Small Unit Award 1994.

Readiness Command Region Nineteen best Small Unit Award 1994.

CWO-3 Nate Miranda is an Ex-Mineman

Medals:

Navy Commendation Medal

CWO-3 Nathan Miranda

Navy Achievement Medal

Please see Det 119 Page 11

Det 119 from Page 10

MNCM **Bruce Chapman**
MNCM **Michael Gildersleeve**

Armed Forces Reserve Medal
MN1 **Gilbert Bourgouin**
MN2 **Troy Burrud**

Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal
MN1 **Raymond Allen**
MN2 **Michael Peters**

Navy & Marine Corps Overseas Ribbon
MNCM **Bruce Chapman**

Letters of Commendation

Unit and all Hands for outstanding performance of duty in providing mobilization training 1994

All hands from CO, MOMAG Unit TWELVE for superb performance during Active Duty Training.

MN2 **Peters** received the California Silver Star for his heroic life saving efforts.

Navy Quietly Closes Another Gate

The Post & Courier

Generations of sailors poured through it on their way out to sea, but there was little fanfare Thursday when the Navy closed the Viaduct road gate at the Charleston Naval Base. Also known as Gate 1, it leads into the Naval Station portion of the base. The Navy will pay the City of North Charleston to keep the McMillian Avenue gate open and provide police patrol on the base after the 1 April official closing date for the base. Under the agreement, the Navy will pay for facilities maintenance, roof repairs, lawn care, road repairs and security.

MINEMAN of the Year Selectee Qualifications

Selected excerpts from MN1 **Bonnie Sudman's** nominating letter.

A California native, MN1 **Sudman** enlisted in the Navy in 1977, spent her Recruit training at Orlando Florida, and was the sixth female to enter Mineman "A" school. She graduated 2nd in her class, was assigned to MOMAG Det One, Long Beach where she completed her first hitch and was separated as an MN3. Three years later Petty Officer (**Mosley**) **Sudman** re-enlisted at Aguana, Guam. Hard charging in the Unit Eight moored mine shop, she was nominated as the Jr. Sailor of the Quarter after only three months there. Several letters of appreciation were received for volunteer projects. Nine months back on the job she put on her 2nd class stripe. Her next assignment was to Mine MK 60 and Supervisory and Advanced Technical Training and Mineman Test Set Repair and Maintenance Training at FMWTC Charleston.

She was selected to participate in the Enlisted Educational Advancement Program and started college in 1985. Consistently on the deans list, she graduated with a degree in Business Management with a grade point average of 3.36.

Assigned to Instructor Duty at FMWTC, she quickly completed the Curriculum Development Course and qualified to teach various courses. Within two years Petty Officer **Sudman** was selected as Instructor of the Month, Distinguished Instructor, Master Training Specialist, secured two NECs and FMWTC Instructor of the Year and nominated for the Mineman of the Year. She was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for her efforts in getting the Instructional Calibration Lab certified as a Field Calibration Activity. Currently assigned as the Test Set Calibration Person at MOMAG Unit Five Sigonella, she personally received a Bravo Zulu from the visiting MRCI Team, Petty Officer **Sudman** can be counted upon for superior performance in all

assignments. She volunteers for collateral duties. "Petty Officer **Sudman** has a collection of many different talents and will undertake any assignment with vigor and perseverance to produce only outstanding, effective results." Petty Officer **Sudman** has a record bulging with Letters of Commendation and Appreciation for activities on and off the job.



Author Releases Sub Site

The Post & Courier

After months of holding out, author Olive Cussler released his underwater coordinates of the Confederate submarine Hunley. The release means federal and state agencies can move forward with what likely is the most significant underwater find since the Union ironclad Monitor was discovered off Cape Hatteras, NC in 1973. It also probably keeps Charleston diver Lee Spence from getting to verify his claim that he actually found the sub first in 1970.

The Navy will attempt to prove who might have been first by charting where both say it rests and checking if there is an overlap.

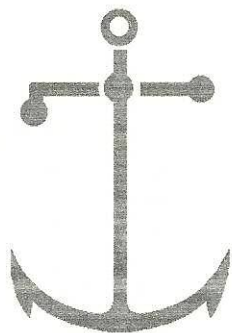
The Hunley became the first warship to sink an enemy warship after ramming a powder-charge into the Union Blockade Ship Housatonic in February 1864. The sub and its crew of nine sank as well.

Several organizations wish to obtain the submarine (once recovered) for display

Submitted by Toby Horn

Excerpts from the book "the Civil War a Narrative Red River to Appomattox" by Shelby Foote. (Pages 251, 253 and 254). Sent in by Bill Roberts

May 17, 1864, the day when news of a greater victory, together with the promise of much heavier reinforcements, was relayed to Lee from Beauregard, twelve days into a campaign that began with every prospect of a Union triumph, south of the James ended quite the other way around. May 5, they learned from downstream lookouts that an amphibious column ten miles long, containing no less than two hundred Union vessels, was steaming up the river toward Richmond. Loaded at Yorktown the day before- while Grant was crossing the Rapidan- the armada had rounded the tip of the York-James peninsula in the night and now, with the morning sun glinting brilliant on the water- and Grant and Lee locked in savage combat, eighty miles to the north- it was proceeding up the broad, shinning reaches of the James.



Five ironclads led the way and other warships were interspersed along the line of transports, a motley array of converted ferries, tugs and coasters, barges and canal boats, whose decks were blue with 30,000 soldiers, all proud to be playing a role in what seemed to one of them "some grand pageant". What was more, they had a commander who knew how to supply the epitomizing gesture. Riding to lead, Major General Ben Butler brought his headquarters boat about, struck a pose on the hurricane deck, and steamed back down the line.

After dropping one division off at City Point, within one miles of

Petersburg, the flotilla proceeded north, past the adjoining mouth of the Appomattox River, and debarked the other five divisions at Bermuda Hundred, a plantation landing eighteen crow-flight miles from the rebel capitol.

Both good news and bad news awaited him, back on Bermuda Neck. The bad was from the navy, which had sent a squadron out the day before to investigate an account by a runaway slave that the Confederates had torpedoes planted thickly in the James, especially in the vicinity of Deep Bottoms, a dozen miles up the winding river from Bermuda Hundred. It was all too true: as the crew of the big double-ended Commodore Jones found out, about 2 o'clock that afternoon. A 2,000-pound torpedo, sunk there some months ago and connected by wires to galvanic batteries on the bank, "exploded directly under the ship with terrible effect, causing her destruction instantly." So her captain later reported from a bed in Norfolk Naval Hospital. "It seemed as if the bottom of the river was torn up and blown through the vessel itself." The Jones was lifted almost entirely clear of the water, and she burst in the air like an exploding firecracker. She was small in pieces when she struck the water again." For days bodies and parts of bodies floated up and were fished out of the James; the death toll was finally put at 69. Just now, though, the problem of how to keep the same thing from happening over and over again was solved by the capture of two men caught lurking in the brush where the batteries were cached. They had triggered the explosion, and what was more they had helped to plant other such charges up ahead. They refused to talk, however, until one of them placed in the bow of the lead vessel and the squadron continued its upstream probe: whereupon, in the words of an interrogator, he signified his willingness to tell all"

That more or less solved the problem to torpedoes (in any case, of the ones already planted; future sowings were of course another matter).

NAVSEA'S Mine Familiarizer by
NMWEA

Continued from Summer 1995 issue

ACCESSORIES AND SAFETY DEVICES (cont. from Summer 1995 issue)

Flight-gear accessories include parachutes, release mechanisms, control units, nose fairings and tail fins.

METHODS OF ACTUATION

An influence firing mechanism triggers a mine actuation when it receives an electrical signal from its detector. A detector, as used with a firing mechanism, may be a search coil, a magnetometer, a hydrophone, or a pressure device. Upon receipt of an electrical signal from the detector, the firing mechanism analyzes the signal to determine whether or not it was generated by a valid target, i.e. an enemy vessel of a given size. If the analysis shows the target to be valid and is operating within the mine's damage zone, the firing mechanism initiates a sequence that detonates the mine. hence, under the proper conditions, the proximity of a ship to a mine is all that is necessary to detonate it. The three classes of influence firing mechanisms are briefly explained in the paragraphs that follow.

Magnetic Mechanisms. Magnetic firing mechanisms employ either one of two types of target detectors: the search coil or the magnetometer. Both detectors provide inputs to their respective firing mechanisms, but their methods of detection are not the same. For example, search coils, as used in standard bottom mines function to sense changes in one axis of the earth's magnetic field as caused by the presence of a moving ship. Functioning in this way search coils are ideal detectors for standard bottom mines since these mines assume an unchanging position on the sea bottom after planting.

See Familiarizer page 15

Farragut from page 10²

wallowed in the waves.

All aboard her must have known that the hurt was mortal, though no one guessed how short her agony would be. Craven and his pilot, for example, standing face to face at the foot of the ladder that led to the only escape hatch, staged a brief, courtly debate. "Go ahead, Captain." "After you, Pilot." So they said; "But there is nothing after me." The pilot later testified. As he put his foot on the top rung of the ladder, Tecumseh and her captain dropped from under him.

Through a sight slit in the turret of Manhattan, next in line, an engineer watched the lead monitor vanish almost too abruptly for belief. "Her stern lifted high in the air with the propeller still revolving, and the ship pitched out of sight like an arrow twanged from the bow." With her went all but a score of her 114 man crew, including four who swam to Mobile Point and were taken captive, while the others who managed to wriggle out before she hit bottom were picked up by a boat from the Hartford's consort, Metacomet.

Farragut sent the boat, though he had problems enough on his hands by then, including the apparent likelihood that such rescue work was about to be required in his own direction. Brooklyn's untimely halt, practically under Morgan's guns, had thrown the wooden column into confusion; for when she topped her bow yawed off to starboard, subtracting her broadside from the pounding the fort was taking, and what was worse she lay nearly athwart the channel, blocking the path of the other ships. Nor was that the end of the trouble she and her captain made. Alarmed by the sudden dive of the Tecumseh ("sunk by a torpedo! Assassination in its worst form!" he would protest in his report) Alden spotted, just under his vessel's prow, "a row of suspicious-looking buoys" which he took to be floats attached to mines. He reacted by ordering Brooklyn's engines reversed, and this brought her bearing down, stern foremost, on

the Hartford. Farragut, who had climbed the mainmast rigging as far as the futtock shrouds for a view above the smoke—he was tied there with a rope passed round his body by a sailor, sent aloft by Drayton, lest a collision or a chance shot bring him crashing to the deck some twenty feet below—angrily hailed the approaching sloop, demanding to know the cause for such behavior, and got the reply: "Torpedoes ahead."



Like the Brooklyn, which took 59 hits in the course of the fight, Hartford was absorbing cruel punishment from the guns on Mobile Point: particularly from those in the water battery, whose fire was pointblank and deadly. Men were falling fast. Their mangled bodies placed in a row on one side of the deck, while the wounded were sent below in numbers too great for the surgeons to handle. A rifled solid tore a gunner's head off; another took both legs off a sailor who threw up his arms as he fell, only to have them carried away by still another. Farragut looked back down the line, where the rest of his stalled vessels were being served in much the same fashion, and saw that it would not do. He had to either go forward or turn back. In his extremity, he said later, he called on God: "Shall I go on?" and received the answer from a commanding voice inside his head: "Go on." Brooklyn blocked the channel on the right, so he asked the pilot, directly above him in the maintop, whether there was enough

water for the Hartford to pass her on the left. The pilot said there was, and the admiral, exultant, shouted down to Frayton on the quarter-deck: "I will take the lead!" Signaling "close order" to the ships astern, he had the Metacomet back her engines and the flagship go all forward. This turned her westward, clear of Brooklyn, which she passed as she moved out. Someone called up a reminder of Alden's warning, but Farragut, lashed to the rigging high above the smoke of battle, with Mobile Bay in full view before him, had no time or mind for caution. "Dam the Torpedoes!" he cried. "Full speed ahead!"

Ahead he went followed by the others, west of where Brooklyn lay until she rejoined the column—and west too of the red buoy marking the eastern limit of the minefield. Though Farragut had been encouraged by the work of his nighttime grapplers, who not only had removed a considerable number of mines in the course of the past two weeks, but also reported a high percentage of duds among them, Tecumseh had just given an only-too-graphic demonstration of what might await him and all his warships, iron or wood, as a result of this sudden departure from his plan to avoid the doom-infested stretch of water the Hartford now was crossing. And sure enough, while she steamed ahead with all the speed her engines could provide, the men on deck—and, even worse, the ones cooped up below—could hear the knock and scrape of torpedo cases against her hull and the snap of primers designed to ignite the charges that would blast her to the bottom.

The battle of Mobile Bay continued, with Farragut the victor, however who knows what the outcome of the battle would have been had the Confederates had reliable mines? (Bill Roberts asks)

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Flight-gear accessories include parachutes, release mechanisms, control units, nose fairings and tail fins.

METHODS OF ACTUATION

An influence firing mechanism triggers a mine actuation when it receives an electrical signal from its detector. A detector, as used with a firing mechanism, may be a search coil, a magnetometer, a hydrophone, or a pressure device. Upon receipt of an electrical signal from the detector, the firing mechanism analyzes the signal to determine whether or not it was generated by a valid target, i.e. an enemy vessel of a given size. If the analysis shows the target to be valid and is operating within the mine's damage zone, the firing mechanism initiates a sequence that detonates the mine. hence, under the proper conditions, the proximity of a ship to a mine is all that is necessary to detonate it. The three classes of influence firing mechanisms are briefly explained in the paragraphs that follow.

Magnetic Mechanisms. Magnetic firing mechanisms employ either one of two types of target detectors: the search coil or the magnetometer. Both detectors provide inputs to their respective firing mechanisms, but their methods of detection are not the same. For example, search coils, as used in standard bottom mines function to sense changes in one axis of the earth's magnetic field as caused by the presence of a moving ship. Functioning in this way search coils are ideal detectors for standard bottom mines since these mines assume an unchanging position on the sea bottom after planting.

See Familiarizer page 15

Familiarizer from Page 14

On the other hand, magnetometers, like search coils, also detect changes in the earth's magnetic field as caused by the presence of a moving ship; but unlike search coils, magnetometers used in moored mines, are three dimensional or total field detectors, a necessary requirement for moored mines which by their nature, are constantly changing their orientation in an unstable environment. It should be pointed out, however, that the use of magnetometers is not restricted to moored mines, since a single-axis version is the primary detector employed in a family of newer-type bottom mines currently in use. In any case, magnetic inputs to the firing mechanisms are converted into small electrical pulses which are amplified and analyzed by the firing mechanism's programmed circuitry. When the analysis determines that the inputs are from a valid target and that the target is operating within the mine's damage zone, a switch within the mechanism is closed which initiates a sequence that causes the mine to detonate, thus the target ship is either damaged or sunk.

A variety of magnetic firing mechanisms are used in mines to meet and satisfy specific operational requirements, with the newer mechanisms containing built-in technology to meet on-going advancements in the state-of-the-art. It should be noted that since the Navy's current stockpile still contains numbers of the older but very reliable mines, it follows that their firing mechanisms reflect the technology of their time. For example, some of these older mechanisms still employ the relatively large and heavyweight search coils as detectors. moreover, the circuitry of some of these mechanisms employ the older electron-tube technology for signal amplification and also use electro-mechanical relays to perform switching functions. On the other hand, the newer magnetic firing mechanisms employ relatively small and lightweight magnetometers as their detectors and use computerized solid-state circuitry to process target data.

Continued next issue

Status of the Navy

Bow Hook 22 Sept. '95

Personnel: 437,300 active duty
100,700 reserves
Aircraft: 4,962
Ships: 373
Underway: 206 ships (55%)
Deployed: 116 ships (31%)
Exercises: 13
Port visits: 9
SSN's Underway: 38 (47%)

(September 11 1995)

Paperless Navy??

Bow Hook 22 Sep 95

The Navy's personnel instructions manuals which once consumed reams of paper, will now be available on CD-ROM, eventually leading to a paperless personnel information system. CD's sent to commands in the SNDL will be replaced quarterly with updates. The CD-ROM technology being introduced in phase two in Oct. 1996 will use "information mapping" technology to make policies and procedures easier to understand, retrieve and implement. Information mapping will enable the user to select a topic and almost instantaneously locate all applicable instructions and notices which will be indexed on the computer screen. This will provide one stop shopping when looking up references on any personnel issues.

Minesweepers for Taiwan

Jane's Defense Weekly 11 Mar 95

The Taiwanese Navy commissioned four ex-U.S. Navy Aggressive Class minesweepers bought last year.

Navy to Merge DP and RM Ratings

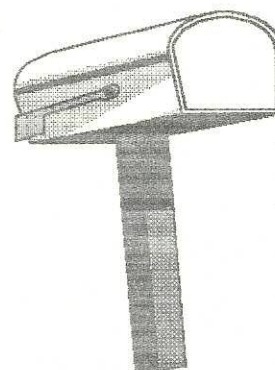
The Bow Hook Sept 22 '95

The Secretary of the Navy approved the merger of DP (data processing) and RM (radioman) surface ratings. The scheduled completion date is 1 Oct. 1998.

The merger is being initiated because of the evolution of the

expertise and skills needed in today's telecommunication information systems. In the 21st Century, the radioman will be a specialist in not only telecommunications, but will also be the Navy's expert in the critical area of computers, system operation, networks and command and control. The Radioman lightning sparks will remain the rating badge.

LETTERS



Parliamentarian **Don Decrona** writes I blew it on NMWEA's first OIC making Captain. 40 years ago. He was not the first OIC nor was he there 40 years

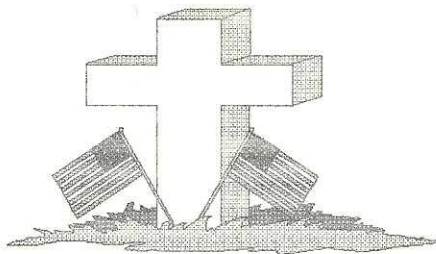
ago. CDR **Jewett** came to NMEF in Dec. 1962 and departed when he made Captain in 1965 making the spread of ascension to Captain from that billet to 30 years.

Don is the second retired LDO commenting on the flood of medals awarded in today's navy. Seems you were hard pressed to even get a letter of appreciation in your record during the 50's, 60's or early 70's



Need more mail from you folks not too busy here.

TAPS



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.

CDR Robert "Bob" Brooks, LDO of cancer 12 Oct 95. A former gunners mate was Ordnance Officer at NAVMAG Subic for 3 years.

Robert Lambert - Lebanon Ohio -
date unknown - we were notified by
his wife July 1995, who noted he
was a Mineman during WWII and
Korea and he too loved the Navy.

MN1 Earnest "Dizzie" Gillespie -
Columbia SC October 1995.

Fidel Gomez - Hawthorne, NV
November 20, 1995. **Joe Hernandez's** brother in law. **Max Chilcott** was a pallbearer.

GILES - United Kingdom October 1995 after a long illness. He was the creator of the famous cartoon we have each year as a door prize and auction one at the picnic. They are highly prized. Thanks to **Millie Reid** for sending us the news clipping.

Sea Story

A new Ensign, fresh out of school, was on his first sea watch while the ship was on patrol. He was given the OK to

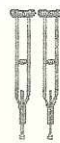
make course changes when required. Wishing to impress those around him, he ordered the Quartermaster to bring up the Sextant, stop watch and books and proceeded to take several shots of the sun. Carefully doing his calculations, he figured and figured, and figured. Finally, he stepped to the voice tube and gave the command to the helmsman. "Come right to course 380". Along silence, then he heard "repeat." Again he said, "come right to course 380." another long silence, then he heard "repeat." Angrily, the Ensign barked down "I said come right to course 380 degrees." The helmsman just as angrily retorted , "Sir, there is no course 380 on the compass." "Dam it", shouted the ensign waving his papers, "don't tell me that. I have it right here in black and white."

John Thomas, USS YMS-398

SPRING
ISSUE

Articles Due March 10

BINNACLE LIST



Cecil Martin reports all went well with his surgery and he was awaiting final results on tests to say he is 100%

clear of his cancer.

Do a Mineman good deed today!

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Master Card

To help avoid mistakes, please fill out and return this order sheet (1-94) with your order. All previous order sheets are void.

T-SHIRTS

50/50 Cotton Polyester

Children's Sizes: 6-8S; 10-12M; 14-16L

Youth/Adult: 34-36S; 38-40M; 42-44L; 46-48XL; 50XXL

Ringer T-Shirts: White w/collar & cuff

colors shown (Insert quantity in size)

Children	S	M	L	
w / Kelly				
w / Navy				
w / Royal				
w / Scarlet				
Adult/Youth	S	M	L	XL
w / Kelly				
w / Navy				
w / Royal				
w / Scarlet				

Basic T-Shirts

Solid colors: Burnt Orange, Cardinal, Columbia Blue, Dark Green, Gold, Kelly, Maroon, Oxford, Navy, Purple, Royal, Scarlet, White

Youth/Adult	S	M	L	XL	XXL

(select color; insert quantity in size)

COACHES SHIRTS

Two button w/pocket

Colors: Cardinal, Columbia Blue, Gold, Eagle Gray, Navy, Royal, Scarlet & White, Kelly

	S	M	L	XL	XXL

(select color; insert quantity in size)

TIE - TACS

Style	Qty
Gold Tone	
Silver Tone	

JACKETS

Lined	S	M	L	XL
Navy Blue				
Red				
Royal Blue				
Gold				
Unlined				
Navy Blue				
Red				

MINE MEDALLIONS

Gold	\$15.00 x _____ = _____
Silver	15.00 x _____ = _____
Bronze	15.00 x _____ = _____
Sub Total \$ _____ (enter sub total below)	

HATS

Adjustable band hats with AOM logo on front are available in Red, Green, Gray, White, Black, Columbia Blue, Orange and Navy Blue. Enter color and your quantity in the form below.

Note: All T-Shirts include large logo on front. All hats include logo on front. All coaches shirts and jackets include small logo on right breast. Large logo on back of jacket and personalization on the jacket (up to 25 characters) per price list below. Print personalization desired on separate paper.

Item	Price	Qty	Extended
Adult T-Shirts	7.50	X	
Children's T-Shirts	7.00	X	
Coaches Shirt	16.50	X	
Unlined Jacket	19.00	X	
Lined Jacket	24.00	X	
Hats (Color:	5.00	X	
Tie Tacs	5.50	X	
Large Logo on Back of Jacket	5.50	X	
Personalization	5.00	X	
Sub Total			
S & H Cost of Items: 10%			
Mine Medallions Sub-Total From Above			
Scholarship Contribution			
Mine Museum Contribution			
Annual Dues (\$10.00 Per Year For Maximum 5 Years)			
TOTAL			

Print Your Name Here



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 Charleston SC 29415

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I wish to join the Association of Minemen and include payment of \$10.00 membership fee (plus \$5.00 initiation fee).

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ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____ TELEPHONE # _____

ELIGIBILITY _____

APPROVED _____

NOTICE !!! To maintain membership, dues of \$10.00 must be paid annually by the month of August.