



# THE DASHPOT



Issue 70 Newsletter of the Association of Minemen Summer 2010



## FROM THE PRESIDENT Robert Hart

March weather was beautiful in San Diego! The dedication of the new Martin Hall, Mine Warfare Training Center building was a well organized and elaborate affair similar to the commissioning of a new ship, except no bottle of champagne. Many of our members were present to congratulate our most decorated Mineman, Cecil Martin, and were happy for the opportunity to re-acquaint with Cecil, his wife, Kazuko, and their children, Toby and Regina and their families. The guest speaker was RADM Roy F. Hoffmann, USN (Ret) who spoke on the importance of mine warfare in the past, present, and future. At the reception, a plaque depicting the names of minemen who had been awarded combat related medals and ribbons, was presented to the MWTC CO, CDR. J.R. Darlak, and is to be placed in a conspicuous location on or near the quarter deck. Bill Roberts was instrumental in gathering the information for the plaque and having it created. Thanks, Bill.

Thank you, also, to Dick Schommer, Bob Stancik, and Curtis Christian for taking on the task of inventorying the contents of three tri-walls that were residing in Det. 11's storage facilities. Curtis tells me a lot of old, old stuff was there to be identified. Good job, men!

Ed Oyer and John Loonam have our 36th Yorktown/Williamsburg reunion well on its way to completion. A guest speaker has been secured and two of our honorary minemen have expressed the desire to attend the festivities in Williamsburg. If you have not yet made your arrangements for your lodging and the Saturday evening dinner, please do so in a timely manner. The address and phone number of the  
**Continued on Page 3**

## 36TH ANNUAL AOM REUNION YORKTOWN/WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA OCTOBER 15-17, 2010

Plans are working out on the preparations for our reunion October 15 – 17 October 2010. A hospitality room will be open at 1600 on Thursday the 14th for the really early birds. The regular early bird will begin at noon on Friday the 15th. Times for meetings and scheduled events will be available at the early bird.

Ed has visited the renovated hotel on several occasions where the booking planner demonstrated the amenities afforded reunion groups. The hotel is on the local transportation route so bus transportation around the area is available. Tours and historical sites are too numerous to list. Ample brochures are available in the lobby. The Yorktown Beach area has been completely renovated. Many buildings on the Naval Weapons Station (old Mine Depot) have disappeared. The stable and Golf Course are history as well as all the old farm house family quarters.

This issue of The Dashpot has the reservation form. Please take a few moments and fill it out and send it to Curtis so advanced planning can be facilitated. We will need your meal choices for the sit down dinner. One note, Curtis cannot give meal counts without payment. Dining room seating and meals depend on an accurate count days before the events. So look at the  
**Continued on page 3 left.**

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**THE  
ASSOCIATION  
OF  
MINEMEN**



**DEDICATED TO  
SERVING THE  
U.S. NAVY MINE  
FORCE**

The Dashpot,  
published quarterly, is the  
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a 501-C non profit, non  
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knowledge of undersea mine  
warfare and championing its  
necessity as one of  
America's first lines  
of defense.

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## President continued.

hotel are in the Spring edition and this DASH-POT. I would like to see as many of the active and retired minemen as we usually see when we are in Charleston.

This year we will be electing a President, Vice-President, and two of our six Board of Directors officers, Willie Wilson and Bob Stancik are up for relief. If you or someone you know wishes to serve in these offices, please contact me or Ron Swart. Our addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses are in the DASHPOT. I am looking forward to seeing all y'all in October.

Bob

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## Reunion Continued

reservation and dinner deadlines to ensure cancellation refunds. Hotel reservations are your responsibility the phone number is on the form.

The dinner guest speaker will be Mr. Bill O'Donovan, Publisher of the Williamsburg Gazette, the local newspaper. His remarks will be on local Historical interest.

Rather than providing a map we provide the following: GPS folks, 500 Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg, VA. 23185-5319. MapQuest says take exit 238 off I-64 that says Colonial Williamsburg/Camp Peary VA 143. Merge onto VA-143E toward Williamsburg/Jamestown, 1.2 mi, Turn left onto VA-143E/Merrimac TRL continue to follow VA-143 1.1 mi Turn Left onto VA-143/VA162 Merrimac TRL .2 mi Hotel is on right.

Please remember to bring auction items for the Scholarship fund and your wallet so you can out-bid to your heart's content. Our Scholarship Program is one of our greatest accomplishments.

We are seeing lots of e-mail traffic from Minemen looking to meet up with shipmates of years gone by. Understand CDR Jorgen Strange Lorenzen, RDN Ret. Will make the trip across the pond. A WW-2 Danish Freedom Fighter and subsequently the RDN top Mine Officer.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Reunion, Ed Oyer and John Loonam

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## SCHOLARSHIP SCOOP

by Swede Carlsen



Spring is just around the corner and to be honest with you I'm glad it will be here soon. Speaking of spring please remind all possible scholarship applicants to submit their applications by the end of May.

Scholarship application forms can be downloaded from the AOM internet site at <http://minemen.org> or acquired from yours truly by snail mail at 1925 pilgrim ave, Bronx, NY 10461.

After the AOM XMAS stocking was emptied of donations the general scholarship fund was raised to \$13,603.18. The Presidential fund of \$19,596.10 is in a credit union CD drawing interest. Also the AOM has \$825 in a beneficial fund.

If we have as many scholarship applicants in 2010 as the AOM had in 2009 we'll be needing donations from the membership and friends. Remember it's TAX FREE. It's one of the AOM benefits since the AOM is a charitable organization. Let's give our leaders of tomorrow a helping hand!

Please donate to the AOM scholarship funds....

STAND TALL AMERICA!

**LATE BREAKING  
BINNACLE REPORT ON  
CURTIS CHRISTIAN  
SEE PAGE 18**

**NEXT DASHPOT ARTICLE  
DUE DATE  
IS  
1 SEP 2010**



# FROM THE WEBMASTER

by Phil DeChene

Below are recently changed or added e-mails on the AOM WEB Site. There have been several inquiries about e-mail addresses on the AOM WEB Site that are bouncing. If you are listed on the site please check to see if your address is correct. If changes are required or you wish to be listed on the site e-mail me the information at [pdechene@triad.rr.com](mailto:pdechene@triad.rr.com). Phil DeChene AOM WEB Master

## E-mail – Active Duty

03/01/10 - Don Peterson, MNCS; ATG San Diego; donald.peterson@navy.mil  
03/04/10 - Jared M. Snyder MN1 (SW); Recruit Division Commander; Recruit Training Command; Work: 7444x534; Cell: 361-443-3669; mn1snyder@gmail.com

## E-mail – Reservist

## E-mail – Retired

04/05/10 - Dennis Doerr MN2; dmanmn2@comcast.net

## E-mail – Former Minemen

05/25/10 - Vern Struck MN2; gloryb@q.com  
04/14/10 - Joe Beetar MN3; seawolf43@comcast.net  
04/14/10 - L. Mike Scroggins MN3; scrogginslm@bellsouth.net

## E-Mail - Other Nations

03/02/09 - Jorgen Strange Lorenzen CDR; Royal Danish Navy; Roedovre, Denmark; Joergen@strangelorenzen.dk



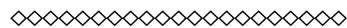
## The Mail Bag

First Boots to go through MN "A" school.

Been trying for several years now to see if anyone had a picture or the names, (think there were about 30) of the "Boots" to come to MN "A" school straight from boot camp. Read the Minemen History book when I was in CA visiting Chipman, MNCS Ret. and also "Mac" McGarry, Charlie Hunt had some of the names, but not all. Surprised this wasn't listed as a article in the History book of the Minemen. There were a lot of Minemen that changed their rating but we were the first group to go through straight from Boot camp. Understand with talks with other MN's there was a picture of the graduation class but all the further back

I could go with my search was 1950, we went through the school April 1948. Maybe a article in the Dashpot would bring some results before all of us are dead. Anything you could do to find some information or pictures would be very much appreciated.  
Your old shipmate

(SKI) A.J. Sikorski



H-Bomb Radiation Exposure Information  
30 April 2010

Bill greetings:

I too was at NAD Hawthorne. I was the bus driver and I recall Don Jones and the service Mk 6 rounds. It was the El Capitan where the "Big" fish were/are. Ah yes, our USN rifle team waxed the Marines.

Now the really important news. I submitted a claim to the VA for radiation exposure conditions from the 1954 H-Bomb test(s) while

embarked on the USS Shea (DM-30). I was denied on all aspects. I filed for an appeal and it was granted.

On April 13th, 2010, I, my son Brian and my brother-in-law were in DC at the Veteran's Board of Appeals, 811 Vermont Ave. NW. Had a 1300 appointment-almost fell over-NO contention at all and was before the judge at 1205 even after the preliminaries. I was finished 2 1/2 hours later-I had a legal briefcase full and was in my blues of 1963. The judge, Howard Terry, was very attentive and asked my son Brian and Bill several times if they had any comments or questions. We feel the time was well worth it. My last closing statement "I am here for all those exposed to radiation, their families and or survivors, it's time to take care of all of them." Even France now automatically compensated their radiation exposed personnel.

Before the judge left the room, he said, "I want to thank you for your service and I want you to go home and review all of your material and, if you find something I need to know, send it to me." I genuinely believe he meant it.

Before I went before the judge as I was reviewing the VA file, a neatly dressed gent, early 40's maybe, came in and said Hi and sat down. He quizzed me on the Navy and saw the good conduct ribbons and said, "Mustang huh?" I knew then he was or is Navy. "I am a Chief Corpsman." I said, "Glad to see there are service members on the staff here"- I asked if he

would be "in the room." "No, I make the tape in another room." I said, "Please listen carefully Chief, I've got a lot of data." We chatted some more Navy and he left.

The new head of the VA, General Shineski has to our minds, cleared the air within the VA.

If nothing else, my personal feelings and my son's are on the record should any genetic symptoms appear in the future like what I have.

I had duty with Bill Houlihan and James Elmore-my generation is fading fast.

I know "Buck" Fowler-was in my "B" class in 1955 (I was there from Hawthorne)-there is no doubt in my mind as to that tale-an epic.

The "Dashpot" is a valuable link-you are to be commended for your great work.

Enjoy the summer-looking forward to October. The ads have been in 5 publications-so far-not including in the 5, Army Times, Air Force Times and Marine Times-Navy Times is one of the five. Local newspapers later.

Warmest regards,  
Ed Oyer

Editor's Note: Ed also sent the CPO advancement lists for 1960 through 1963. I plan to include them in a later issue. Bill

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## Lest We Forget

There are a total of 4 verses to the National Anthem. Though we rarely, if ever, hear them, they are just as meaningful as the first. This is the last stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner.

**O! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!**

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## TAPS



### MN3 James L. "Bebop" Box

Visited Madison, Mississippi to meet MN3 James L. "Bebop" Box's sister & other relatives. Also visited his grave-site. Carol Ann Adams had a digital camera & her picture has been posted on Facebook & Ancestry.com. His last duty station was on the USS Sperry. Got out & became a hairdresser. Died heart attack 1993. He also had duty at NSMW, Yorktown, VA, NAD, Hawthorne, NV, NAVMAG, Subic Bay, RPI, and NAS, Whidbey Island, WA.

Don Jones sends.



### CWO4 Ronald Chapin

Ronald Chapin LADSON - CWO4 Navy (Ret) Ronald Clayton Chapin, 76, of Ladson, died May 21, 2010, at his residence. Born June 3, 1933, in Buffalo, New York, he was the son of the late Melvin Chapin and Mary Powell Chapin. He graduated from high school and went on to enlist in the Navy fighting in both the Vietnam war and Korean conflict. He served our country proudly for over 32 years as part of

the Mobile Mine Assembly Group. In his later years, he was very active with the VFW Post #3433, the American Legion and also the Fleet Reserve. He will be sadly missed by his sons, Michael Chapin of Charleston, WV and Ronald David Jeffery Chapin and his wife, Dotty of Logan, WV; his daughters, Veronica Chapin Catalano and her husband, Steve of Jacksonville, FL, Missy (Brenda) Allport of Martinez, GA, Linda Follett and her husband, Dan of West Palm Beach, FL, and Arlene Phelps and her husband, William of Summerville, SC; his brothers, Paul Chapin and his wife, Sue of Fort Lauderdale, FL, and David Chapin and his wife Peg of Elma, NY; and his sister, Marjorie Schunk and her husband, Art of New Smyrna Beach, FL. The funeral service was held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, May 25, 2010, in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed at Plantation Memorial Gardens. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 5900 Core Rd, Suite 504, North Charleston, SC 29405.



### MN2 Gordon Allen Lee

Gordon Alan Lee, retired MN2 USNR passed away this afternoon in Oklahoma from cancer. He was attached to the old Oklahoma City NR MOMAG which was disestablished in the 90's and consolidated at CDS MOMAG Dallas then to JRB Ft Worth TX MOMAU. All his active duties were performed with MOMAG/MOMAU 8 in Guam.

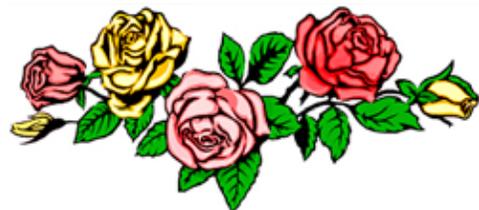
Colleen (Schad) Whipple aka Auntie C YNC Ret, NR MOMAG/MOMAU Admin from 91-02 sends from Edmond OK



### MNC William (Bill) Snyder

In memory of MNC William (Bill) Snyder, who passed away March 29, 2010 In his hometown of Zanesville, Ohio. He was 53. Thought i'd better try to find some of you and let it be known.

Barbara Snyder sends. circleof2@gmail.com





## **THE MINEMAN DECORATION PLAQUE**

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The Mineman Decoration Plaque was presented to MWTC during the dedication of Martin Hall and is mounted on the Quarterdeck there. The plaque lists the decorations received by Minemen as far back as records could be found. The highest decoration awarded to a Mineman is the Navy Cross held by CWO4 Cecil Martin, USN (Ret), shown holding the right side of the plaque in the image above. Included in the image is CDR Joseph Darlak, CO of MWTC and CWO4 Warren Savage, USN (Ret) who functioned as the West Coast point man for all the preparations of the dedication of Martin Hall and the presentation of the Decorations Plaque.

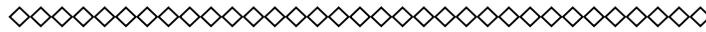
This plaque is the brainchild of CDR William Roberts and he and others worked tirelessly to bring it into being. The amount of time spent researching the details was tremendous. This is a significant new piece of minewarfare memorabilia. It is not a tribute to vanity or a reminder that says "look what I did." No, it is not that at all. It is a log of Mineman Courage, Pride and Professionalism, often in the extreme. It is a shining sliver of history that encourages the new generation of minemen and exhorts them to "Look What You Can Do." It is intended to cause the new generation to reflect upon the strength and breadth of the shoulders upon which they now stand and charge them to reach for even greater heights.

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# DECORATED MINEMAN MNCM JOE GLOWA, USN (RET) (DEC) PURPLE HEART



**By Bill Roberts**



**Anyone having first met Joe Glowa after the late 1950s has probably just keeled over in a dead faint from the shock of even thinking he could have ever been this tender. He told me he had been born a CPO and promoted to Master Chief upon enlistment. (Editor)**

May 1967, Drill Mine Preparation Facility (MOMAT 0301-0306) Commander Mine Force Pacific, Long Beach, California. I relieved CWO4 Al Putnam as OIC. DMPF, Master Chief Mineman, Joe Glowa, was the senior enlisted aboard and would be my Executive Officer and the subject of this paper.

As time went by I found Joe to be no nonsense, extremely knowledgeable and professional individual. He knew and respected his men and they respected him. His attention to detail and through professional knowledge of mines and associated equipment caused us to never miss a mine countermeasures or operational commitment. In addition our two assigned Mobile Mine Assembly Teams 0301 & 0306 were well trained and ready for deployment due to his constant attention.

Joe possessed a good sense of humor, smoked a vintage pipe, enjoyed a beer now and then and was an avid bell collector.

The Master Chief was the proverbial fire house dog, when the bell rang he was ready to go, case in point; January 1968, we received orders to deploy MOMAT 0301, to proceed to NAVMAG Subic Bay, Philippine Islands; to relieve MOMAT 0305, for further duty in support of 7th Fleet South East Asia OPS. Joe was ready to go and said so, needless to say he was rather provoked when I informed him that I was taking the team and he was to stay behind and run DMPF. We were de-

ployed for six months and needless to say Joe did a superb job of managing the shop.

MCMN Glowa's naval career began when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at Detroit Michigan, 20 October 1942. His boot training was at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, in addition to gunnery training. From gunnery school he proceeded to the Naval Schools Mine Warfare Yorktown, Virginia for a period of April 1943 thru July 1944. Little did he know what lay ahead? July 1944 he received orders to proceed to pre-commissioning school for the Destroyer Minelayer U.S.S. Adams DM 27. The following is a summary of the Adams movements from the date of being-laid-down until MN2 Joe Glowa departed sometime in early April 1945.



**USS Adams DM-27**

The third Adams (DM-27) was laid down as DD-739--an Allen M. Sumner class destroyer--on 20 March 1944 at Bath, Maine, by the Bath Iron Works; redesignated a destroyer minelayer, DM-27, on 20 July 1944; launched on 23 July 1944; sponsored by Mrs. Maude Ryan Adams, the widow of Lt. Samuel Adams; and commissioned at Boston, Mass., on 10 October 1944, Comdr. Henry J. Armstrong in command.

After fitting out there, she embarked upon her shakedown voyage on 1 November. That cruise, which took her to Bermuda waters, lasted for the entire month. On the 29th, she headed back toward the United States and arrived at Norfolk, Va., on 3 December. Following post-shakedown availability in the navy yard there, she put to sea on 11 December with sistership Shea (DM-30), bound for New York and a rendezvous with Bennington (CV-20). The two destroyer minelayers departed New York, with the aircraft carrier on 15 December and set a course for the Panama Canal. The three warships transited the canal on 20 December, and on the 22d, headed for the California coast. They arrived at San Diego on the 29th and remained there two days undergoing repairs. On New Year's Day 1945, they got underway again, headed for Oahu, and they arrived in Pearl Harbor six days later.

For almost two months, Adams remained in the Hawaiian operating area. During that time, she acted as plane guard for Bataan (CVL-29) while the carrier conducted carrier landing qualifications for naval aviators. She also carried out gunnery exercises and shore bombardment practice. The warship spent two periods in the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard--once for the installation of VF radar equipment and again to have her main deck plating strengthened. Early in February, she laid mines and tested mine detection equipment on them. Later, the warship conducted mine laying exercises. She finished out her tour of duty in the Hawaii area late in February with another plane guard mission with Bataan.

The destroyer minelayer stood out of Pearl Harbor on 2 March, bound for the western Pacific. She arrived in Ulithi Atoll on 14 March and remained until the 19th, when she put to sea with a task group of the Okinawa invasion force. The warship saw her first combat on 23 March, the day before she arrived off Okinawa. That evening, enemy aircraft attacked her task group. Adams sustained her first casualties when a projectile fired from the after five-inch mount exploded prematurely, killing two sailors and injuring another 13. At dawn the following day, she began minesweeping operations off Okinawa. The destroyer minelayer provided gunfire support and mine destruction services to the wooden-hulled minesweepers (AMs) doing the actual sweeping.

Those operations continued over the next few days in spite of Japanese air resistance. During that time, she was attacked by at least twelve different planes. She knocked six of her tormentors out of the air and claimed probable kills of two others. On the 28th, one of those attackers splashed about 25 feet from her port bow, showering her with debris and gasoline. The damage she sus-

tained in a collision with a salvage vessel forced her into the anchorage at Kerama Retto for emergency repairs. On 1 April, while she was operating to the southeast of Kerama Retto, a badly damaged Japanese plane splashed close aboard her stern; and what must have been two bombs exploded under her fantail, causing severe damage and jamming her rudders at hard right. While she steamed in right-hand circles, two more suicide planes swooped in at her. Adams destroyed one while the other succumbed to the antiaircraft battery of Mullany (DD-528), the ship dispatched to assist Adams. Later, Adams was towed into Kerama Retto to begin temporary repairs alongside Endymion (ARL-9).

Adams departed Kerama Retto on 7 April, bound ultimately for the United States and permanent repairs. She made stops at Guam and Pearl Harbor before arriving at the Mare Island Navy Yard on 7 May. Apparently Joe took a liking to Hawaii and left the ship for duty at Pearl Harbor.

For action in Okinawan waters, the USS Adams received the Navy Unit Commendation.

## **THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY WASHINGTON**

### **The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in commending the UNITED STATES SHIP ADAMS**

**for service as follows:**

**“For outstanding heroism in action while serving as Flagship of Mine Division EIGHT during operations for the seizure of enemy Japanese-held Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, from March 24 to April 1, 1945. Operating in dangerous waters protected by enemy mines and numerous suicide craft, the U.S.S. ADAMS rendered distinctive service in providing effective air cover for our minesweeper groups against hostile attack by air, surface, submarine and shore fire. A natural and frequent target for heavy Japanese aerial attack, she was constantly vigilant and read for battle, fighting her guns valiantly to down seven planes and one probable. Severally damaged by a near miss when three enemy planes attacked on April 1, the U.S.S. ADAMS, by her own aggressiveness and the courage and skill of her officers and men, contributed to the success of the Okinawa invasion, thereby upholding the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”**

**All personnel attached to and serving on board the U.S.S. ADAMS from March 24 to April 1, 1945, are authorized to wear the NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION Ribbon.**

**John L. Sullivan  
Secretary of the Navy**





How, you may ask, did Joe come by a Purple Heart? The answer is simple as delineated in the letter sent to his grandmother who raised him. It was awarded because of a "gunshot wound of the left leg".

Person not the signer of this  
Bureau of Naval Personnel,  
Department, Washington 25, D.C.

To.

P-53230-are  
312 12 88

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



25 May 1945

Mrs. Mary Liachowitz  
637 East Mahanoy  
Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Liachowitz:

Information has just been received in this Bureau that your son, Joseph Glowa, ~~Machinist~~'s Mate second class, United States Naval Reserve, was wounded in action in the service of his country and in the performance of his duty. He sustained a gunshot wound of the left leg on 23 March 1945, while serving in the Asiatic area. His condition at that time was reported to be favorable and he was retained on board ship for treatment.

You may be assured that your son received the best of medical care. It is hoped that he will communicate with you in the near future informing you of his welfare.

By direction of Chief of Naval Personnel.

The Department of Naval Personnel did not deem it necessary to mention the caliber of the gun that shot Joe. It was a 5-inch 38, a gun with a bore of five inches in diameter and a length of almost 16 feet. Joe was injured by a bullet five inches in diameter and about 18 inches long that exploded just after exiting the barrel, or very nearly so, called a short round. That short round killed two men and injured 13 others, of which Joe was one. Being a gunner, Joe was most likely in either the open twin 40 millimeter anti aircraft or fifty caliber open gun tubs on the after deck doing serious battle with Japanese Kamakazi planes when the incident occurred.

Joe reported to the Mine Depot Oahu Territory of Hawaii and then to Mine Augmenting Detail (MAD-4) Tinian Island, preparing mines for Operation Starvation resulting in the following:

In late March **1945** the 504 th Bomb Group of the 313th Bombardment Wing operating from the newly carved out facilities built by the SeaBees on **Tinian** lead-off this highly specialized mission - the aerial mining of Japanese waters from the dangerous altitude of 5000 feet. Each B-29 carried 12,000 pounds of half ton and one ton **mines** to be strategically and accurately placed in Japanese shipping lanes patrolled by Japanese Navy warships. Japanese Navy searchlights and all anti-aircraft weapons were most effective and deadly; much deadlier than their land based counterparts. During a mine run, a B-29 caught in searchlights could take no evasive action – they took everything that was thrown at them by the enemy. Many crews were lost in this operation that was described as “Hell”.

By mid August **1945**, B-29's had dropped more than 12,000 **mines** mostly in Shimonoseki Strait between Honshu and Kyushu . Eighty percent of Japanese shipping used this route. In less than five months these planes flew 1,528 mine laying sorties. This campaign devastated the Japanese merchant fleet. The **Tinian** based B-29's in this mining operation sank half of all the tonnage losses suffered by the Japanese merchant marine in the entire war! The 20th Air force operating from **Tinian** caused the loss of 9 percent of all Japanese ships operating in the war.

Records indicate that there were approximately 171 trained mine personnel on the Island during that period and possibly 150 at the most assembling mines while others assisted in the operation by driving trucks, working magazines and other assigned duties. Looking at the total number of mines that were laid for the period of approximately 122 days, 90 assembled mines per day had to be averaged. That's some doing considering individual components were installed seperately and many modifications of the mines had over one hundred individual spade lug connections on one or more terminal boards that had to be made by hand with a screwdriver.

In the ensuing years Joe served in the following commands: Naval Magazine Saipan, Marianas Islands; Naval Powder Factory, Indian Head Maryland; FASRON 102, Norfolk, Virginia; U.S.S Mid-way (CVA – 41); U.S.S Randolph (CVA – 15); U.S.S Forrestal, (CVA – 59); Naval Examining Center, Great Lakes, Illinois; Harbor Defense Unit, Norfolk, Virginia; U.S.S Howard W. Gilmore (AS-16); Naval Air Facility, Sigonella, Sicily; Drill Mine Preparation Facility (MOMAT 0306) Commander Mine Force Pacific, Long Beach, California; MOMAUPAC, Long Beach, California; MOMAGDET, Long Beach, California.

During his tour of duty at Drill Mine Preparation Facility, he deployed with MOMAT 0306, as Officer –in-Charge, to Southeast Asia in support of 7th Fleet operations. As I said Joe was always ready to go.

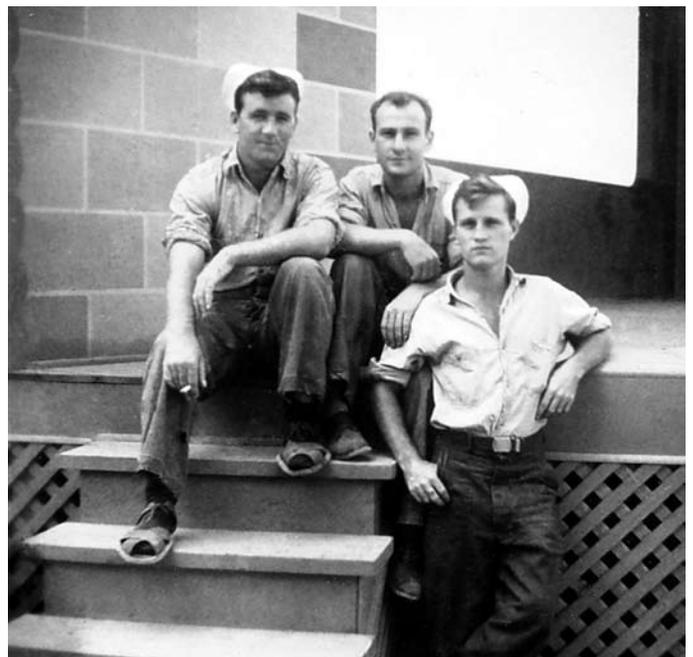
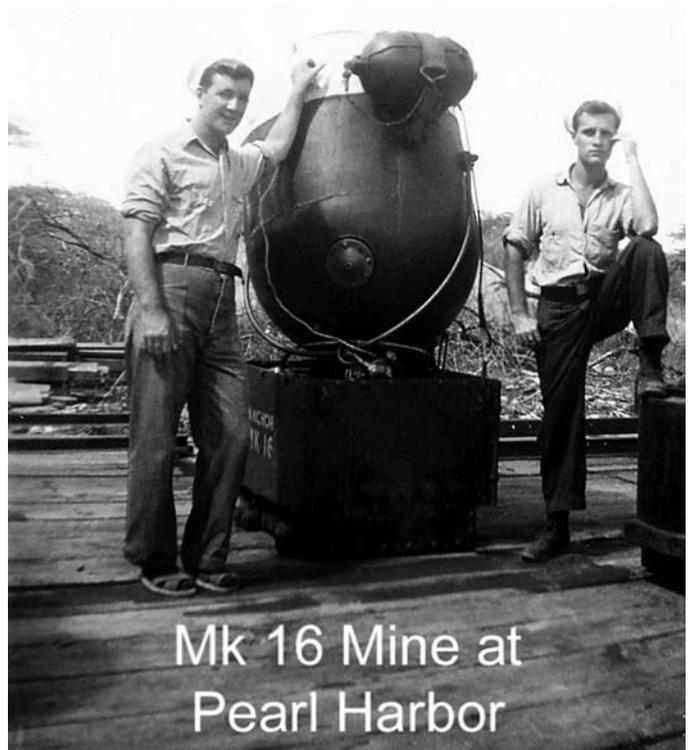
For his many achievements in the United States Navy which include achieving the highest level of enlisted responsibilities, Master Chief Petty Officer, MCMN Glowa, in performing his duties during both peace and war, earned entitlement to the following medals and awards:

**Purple Heart**

**Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon**

**Good Conduct Medal (9th Award)**  
**American Campaign Ribbon**  
**Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Bronze Star**  
**Navy Occupation Service Medal**  
**Victory Medal (WWII)**  
**National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star**  
**Viet Nam Service Medal**  
**Republic Of Vietnam Armed Forces Meritorious Unit Citation**

Joe retired to Rancho Palos Verdes California, 26 Jan 1973, where he passed away 19 December 1989.



Editor's Note: I served with MNCM Glowa while stationed in the USS Howard W. Gilmore AS-16. It was my first real duty station and I confess to being party to an incident that caused him to bite the stem clean off of one of his cherished pipes. I also note with GREAT chagrin that this is the very same man who was all over MY behind like a dirty diaper to "SQUARE THAT DAMN WHITE HAT!" If I had only known... :-)



# *Rogues, Rascals and Renegades...*

## *Typhoons Conditions At NavMag Subic Bay ... And A Nighttime Trip To Mabayo*

by Don Jones

(Background: The Subic Bay Naval Base was reputed to be the only U. S. naval base that had an entire city inside its fences. The Filipina bar girls in Olongapo were periodically tested for STD's. If they tested positive they were kicked off base. Some of the exiled girls cooled their heels in Angeles City, outside Clark AFB, Cavite City, or Manila. A surefire way to make your honey-ko happy was to take her to play Bingo at the EM Club & buy her a 50 cent box of Hi-Ho crackers. The big prize at blackout Bingo was a new Lambretta motor scooter or \$300.)

Quite often at NAVMAG, we were restricted to the base for varying lengths of time when a typhoon was near Luzon. There was a long list of things to do at NAVMAG in preparation for a typhoon. Some tasks made sense and in my opinion some didn't. I remember being told to take Jim "Bebop" Box & "Art" Artelejo (from El Paso, Texas) out to the magazine areas to empty and turn upside down 55-gallon oil drums located at each magazine. Since the barrels contained over 400 pounds of fresh water for firefighting purposes, it seemed to me that it would have made more sense to leave the water just where it was, because without it those empty barrels could get airborne in high winds and do some severe damage.

Not being able to go on liberty in Olongapo where the girls were caused some sailors to do stupid & outlandish things. For example, they caught a young officer swimming butt-naked across Silver River in order to get to town. They said he was holding a bundle of dry clothes wrapped around his shoes on top of his head with one hand, and swimming with the other. The poor guy probably got into a heap of trouble for sneaking off-base.

One Saturday night after having a few beers on-base, a red-headed TM1 from Texas, nicknamed "Hocky John," decided to take a Willys bomb truck off-base & go to the tiny fishing village of Mabayo, West of NAVMAG's ammo pier. Since Mabayo was off-limits and we were restricted to the base, several of us tried to talk the guy out of it. However, it did seem he had a

clever plan, and the adventure of the trip sounded appealing to 19 & 20-year-old sailors. In order to make our story more believable to the Marines at the gates, we shifted into dungarees. We were supposedly a work-detail going to Mabayo to retrieve a Navy item that a fisherman had found floating in the ocean. Our leader, Hocky-John, said he would do all the talking to the Marine guards.

Now, a bomb truck doesn't have a covered cab and has limited safe seating & with all that cool wind whipping by, I got sober & had cold feet at the same time. I could see my 3rd class crew going bye-bye, but how could I bow out gracefully, I wondered. Getting by the Marine guards was easier than I thought it would be. Mabayo didn't have electricity, but we knew warm San Miguel beer, hot gin, & Filipina women would put a self-satisfying fire in our belly. The key thing was we were probably the only sailors off-base at that time and that made all the difference. There weren't many lanterns or fires burning that dark moonless night in Mabayo, but as soon as we arrived the bomb-truck was quickly surrounded by men, women of all ages, curious children, & barking dogs. Some of the younger men were armed with machetes & they weren't very friendly as they eyed the bomb truck closely.

I stayed with the vehicle first and soon struck up a lively conversation with a bright 10-year-old boy who asked if I knew all the months of the year that had 31 days. I admitted that I didn't and he proceeded to show me an easy way by using four knuckles on my hand. He said each knuckle stood for months with 31 days & the valleys between knuckles stood for months that had less than 31. It was so easy & foolproof, I wondered why I hadn't thought of it myself.

Hocky John was the first sailor to return. He looked beat, & sore about something. He made a half-hearted offer to stay with the bomb truck while I went for a warm beer, but I had had enough of odorous Mabayo for the night. Tame carabao, pigs, chickens, & dogs were lounging under & around the nipa huts & they smelled

really bad. And I was antsy about going back through the security gates without something to show the Marines. But the Marine on the outermost gate simply waved us through like it was nothing to see vehicles coming back late at night from Mabayo. I promised myself that one day before I left the P.I. I would return to Mabayo in broad daylight with my movie camera & I did. But that time we walked through the jungle & the 8-mm movie footage shot was a hit with my folks back in Alabama.



Don Jones



Jim Box

Don Jones, MNM USN Retired  
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Also please visit Don Jones from Sherwood, TN, on [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)



**Chipman, Tony Sikorski, his friend Nancy, Frenchie La Fluer, his wife and Mc Garry.  
According to Ski they went to MN school together.**

# NAVY UNIFORM HISTORY

**NAVY COLORS**-- 27 August 1802 the Secretary of the Navy signed an instruction which set a pattern for the dress of the U.S. Navy in Blue and Gold.

**UNIFORM REGULATIONS**-- The first uniform instruction for the U.S. Navy was issued by the Secretary of War on 24 August 1791. It provided a distinctive dress for the officers who would command the ships of the Federal Navy. The instruction did not include a uniform for the enlisted man, although there was a degree of uniformity. The usual dress of a seaman was made up of a short jacket, shirt, vest, long trousers, and a black low crowned hat.

**FOULED ANCHOR**--The fouled anchor as a naval insignia got its start as the seal of the Lord Howard of Effingham. He was the Lord Admiral of England at the time of the defeat of the Spanish Armada in 1588. During this period the personal seal of a great officer of state was adopted as the seal of his office. The fouled anchor still remains the official seal of the Lord High Admiral of Great Britain. When this office became part of the present Board of Admiralty, the seal was retained--on buttons, official seals, and cap badges. The Navy's adoption of this symbol and many other customs can be directly attributed to the influence of British Naval tradition. The fouled anchor is among them.

**KHAKI**--originated in 1845 in India where British soldiers soaked white uniforms in mud, coffee, and curry powder to blend in with the landscape. Khakis made their debut in the U.S. Navy in 1912 when they were worn by naval aviators, and were adopted for submarines in 1931. In 1941 the Navy approved khakis for on- station wear by senior officers, and soon after Pearl Harbor chiefs and officers were authorized to wear khakis ashore on liberty.

**BROWN SHOES**- In 1913 high laced shoes of tan leather first appeared in Uniform Regulations and were authorized for wear by aviators with khaki's. The color changed to russet brown in 1922. Uniforms exclusive to the aviation community were abolished in the 1920's and reinstated in the 1930's. The authorized color of aviators shoes has alternated between brown and black since then.

**PEACOAT**--a cold weather version of the first uniform authorized-- the Pea-Jacket. A warm, heavy coat made from "Pee" cloth or "Pilot" cloth, a course stout kind of twilled blue cloth with a nap on one side.

**BELL BOTTOM TROUSERS**--commonly believed that the trouser were introduced in 1817 to permit men to roll them above the knee when washing down the decks, and to make it easier to remove them in a hurry when forced to abandon ship or when washed overboard. The trousers may be used as a life preserver by knotting the legs.

**THIRTEEN BUTTONS ON TROUSERS**--there is no relationship between the 13 buttons on the trousers and the 13 original colonies. Before 1894, the trousers had only seven buttons and in the early 1800's they had 15 buttons. It wasn't until the broadfall front was enlarged that the 13 buttons were added to the uniform and only then to add symmetry of design.

**WHITE HAT**--In 1852 a white cover was added to the soft visorless blue hat. In 1866 a white senet straw hat was authorized as an additional item. During the 1880's the white "sailors hat" appeared as a low rolled brim high-domed item made of wedge shaped pieces of canvas to replace the straw hat. The canvas was eventually replaced by cotton as a cheaper more comfortable material. Many complaints on the quality and construction led to modifications ending in the currently used white hat.

**OFFICERS STARS**--were first approved on line officers uniforms on 28 January 1864. All regulations since 1873 have specified that one ray would point downward toward the gold stripe on the sleeve. The reason for this is unknown.

**CPO STARS**--were introduced with the creation of SCPO and MCPO. The reasoning for stars pointed one ray down is unknown, however, indications point to following the line officers standard.

JUMPER FLAPS--the collar originated as a protective cover for the jacket to protect it from the grease or powder normally worn by seamen to hold hair in place.

STRIPES AND STARS ON JUMPER UNIFORMS--on 18 January 1876, Rear Admiral Stephen B. Luce recommended a collar with stars and stripes as a substitute for the plain collar used on the frocks of seamen. Three stripes on the collar was proposed for all grades, with the stripes on the cuffs to indicated grade. One stripe for E-1, etc.

DISTINGUISHING MARKS/RATING BADGES--In 1841, insignia called "distinguishing marks" were first prescribed as part of the official uniform. An eagle and anchor emblem, forerunner of the rating badge, was the first distinguishing mark. In 1886 rating badges were established, and some 15 specialty marks were also provided to cover the various ratings.

On 1 April 1893, petty officers were reclassified and the rating of chief petty officer was established. Until 1949 rating badges were worn on the right or left sleeve, depending on whether the person concerned was on the starboard or port watch. Since February 1948, all distinguishing marks have been worn on the left sleeve between the shoulder and elbow.

RIGHT ARM RATES--established in 1841 and disestablished 2 April 1949, originally signified men of the Seaman branch. During WWII these rates included Boatswains Mate, Turret Captain, Signalman, Gunners Mate, Fire Controlman, Quartermaster, Mineman, and Torpedoman's Mate. Other ratings wore rates on the left sleeve.

FLAT HATS--First authorized in 1852 the flat hat was eliminated on 1 April 1963 due to non-available materials. The original hats had unit names on the front, however, unit names were taken off in January 1941.

MEN'S NECKERCHIEF--the black neckerchief or bandanna first appeared as early as the 16th century and was utilized as a sweat band and collar closure. Black was the predominant color as it was practical and did not readily show dirt. There is no truth to the myth that the black neckerchief was designed as a sign of mourning for Admiral Nelson's death.



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## THE FOURTH OF JULY



The Fourth of July is upon us with displays of patriotism and national pride, however, I take exception to those who would wear the flag as clothing. How disrespectful. Most have not earned the right to wear the flag in any manner and flag hats, shirts, pants, swimsuits, even underwear are a sad commentary on the state of true patriotism in this nation. I wonder if any of these people gave even the slightest thought to the fact that the white stripes signify purity and innocence or that the red signifies hardiness and valor. It is also the color of the blood that was shed making this country free. Americans have shed rivers of blood for the precious ideal of freedom and not just American freedom, but the freedom of other nations and peoples. That blood runs just as red and just as freely to this very day. The blue signifies perseverance, vigilance and justice. When we have been slack in those three vital attributes we suffered for it. The red and white stripes signify the 13 new states that were formed by the Constitution of these United States, a timeless document that is the epitome of clarity of thought and purity of purpose. The stars on the blue background enumerate the states currently in this union. Blue is also the color of the heavens above that surround us all and the location of stars in our universe.

I find "patriotism" symbolized by our flag emblazoned on some dolt's backside or some airhead's bosom abhorrent. I will render due honor and faithfulness to the flag and country for which it stands, I will love it, cherish it, protect it and respect it, but I will not wear some shabby replica... ever. I have earned the right to wear the real thing; and I will, for a little while, soon enough.

---William Fortner 2010---

# UPDATE FROM THE MINES PROGRAM OFFICE

by Ron Swart

This has been a busy year for the Mines Program as a result of the increasing interest in understanding and defining our capability. After many years of decline after Navy leadership chose to accept additional risk by not funding further mine development, there is renewed interest at long last. The Naval Mine and Antisubmarine Warfare Command (NMAWC) has provided the leadership and is asking the hard questions, starting with a brief that articulated where our Mine Warfare capabilities currently stand to all of the Fleet Staffs, up through the Pacific Fleet and Fleet Forces Command, to the CNO himself. In response, the CNO has asked his staff for (among other things) a clear policy on mining and a campaign analysis that will help determine future direction for the capability. NMAWC has established a cross-functional team to support their Fleet requirements process, using that forum to stay abreast of current capability while helping to formulate future capabilities. While none of this has produced any funding or new mine systems, it is significant in that it seems to suggest a 180 degree turn-around from the previous Navy position. In the meantime, we'll keep on answering the questions, providing the briefs and fanning the spark in hopes of getting a fire lit under the budget process.

- Quickstrike Mod 3 is now in the fleet proving the first software-driven targeting capability for that family of mines.

- Naval Munitions Command, COMOMAG Division, (Now under the Command of LCDR Dave Lauffenburger- a Mineman LDO) will move to San Diego this June to meet BRAC law. COMOMAG will continue its role of providing management and oversight of our in-service mines and exercise & training assets. The mine shop in Seal Beach, CA will become a Unit of the NMC CONUS West Division (also Seal Beach) at the same time. CONUS West Division is under the Command of Captain Terry Auberry, our senior Mineman LDO. All of the other mine shops: Charleston, Guam, Kadena and Misawa, Japan, are now officially NMC Units.

- Here is a short list of mine warfare stake-holders: Commander Third Fleet is responsible for the Navy's Sea Shield capabilities, which includes Mine Warfare. NMAWC reports to Third Fleet but serves as the "Center of Excellence" for both Mine Warfare and Antisubmarine Warfare. In that role, they support all of the war-fighting numbered fleets, staffs and Component Commands. The Mine Warfare resource sponsor for new development is OPNAV N852. OPNAV N411 is the in-service mines sponsor and they also sponsor most of the Navy in-service ordnance and weapon systems. Resource sponsorship for our MCM training targets (they look a lot like the bad-guy's mines) is being assumed by OPNAV N433 who sponsors funding for Navy ranges and targets. The Mine Warfare Program Office for system development and life-cycle sustainment is NAVSEA PMS-495 who works for the Program Executive Office for Littoral and Mine Warfare (PEO-LMW).

There you have it for this issue. While 'hope' all by itself isn't a good plan, its glimmer suggests that there could be better news ahead. All the best, Ron

## **CURTIS CHRISTIAN NEEDS OUR SUPPORT**

Curtis Christian, our Secretary/Treasurer went in for surgery to his throat this (Wednesday) morning. I just heard from Mary, Curtis' wife, that he had finished surgery and was in Room 778 recuperating, and expecting to be released to go home on Friday. Most of you don't know that Curtis has had several treatments to his throat to fight cancer in the lymph nodes located there. This surgery today was expected to completely remove all the cancerous stuff on his left side. The right side seemed to be okay, but with a few small lesions that they would operate on after this surgery was healed. Mary's report to me is not good. The doctor's reported that when they opened him up, his right side appeared to be as bad, if not worse, as the left side they had prepped and were operating on. They did not want to do any operating there for fear of damaging his voice box. I don't know what the prognosis is, but will learn more when I visit him tomorrow morning. His direct-to-room phone number is 843-876-3778, if anyone wants to give him a buzz. I know he'll appreciate your thoughts and prayers. I'll keep you posted best I can. Toby

# NJROTC NEWS



Greetings to the AOM from the Colleton County H. S. NJROTC Unit,

Once again the Colleton County H. S. (CCHS) NJROTC Corps of Cadets would like to thank the AOM for awarding four cadets with awards. The criteria to receive the award are; "be in good standing - be of high moral character - evidence a high order of loyalty to the NJROTC Unit, school and community - demonstrate exceptional potential for military leadership -be evaluated as the most improved Naval Science I cadet"

This year we had four cadets who met the criteria. All were also advanced to Cadet/Chief Petty Officer (C/CPO) at the Awards Night on 04/29/10. The cadets receiving the award are; C/CPO Glotavia Morris, C/CPO Keoshia Bingley, C/CPO Sylver Bowman and C/CPO Harvey Buckner. Their new positions are as follows; Batt Chaplain, Batt Asst Safety Off/Asst 1st LT, Batt OPS Off and Platoon Mustering CPO respectively.

For the 13th consecutive year the Unit has been awarded either the Distinguished Unit Award (top 25% in the nation) or the Unit Achievement Award (top 40% in the nation).

The teams won over 50 trophies/plaques in 7 drill meets, 3 shoulder to shoulder rifle meets, 5 parades, 5 orienteering meets and many academic and athletic meets. The academic team scored in the top 13% in both the NJROTC Area 6 and National Academic matches. The Freshman Drill Team won 1st place at the Summerville H. S. Freshman Drill Meet.

This summer break we will send approximately 30 cadets to the Basic Leadership Teamwork camp of which 3 1/2 days are spent with the Drill Instructors at Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot, one cadet to the CO/XO school and 4 to the Area 6 Leadership Academy. Last summer CCHS had the number one graduate from Leadership Academy out of 135 cadets from 65 NJROTC Units from NC/SC. This is the 3rd number one graduate we have had in 16 years.

Again thank you for your support of our young cadets.

V/R MNCS Rick Spofford, USN (Ret)



## **COMOMAG SAN DIEGO, CA**

**By MNC(SW) Greer**

It's definitely spring in south Texas with temperatures already in the mid-80s and not a cloud in the sky has it looking like it will be another beautiful summer in Corpus Christi. Sadly though this will be the final spring and beginning of summer that COMOMAG will be spending here. As of July 1st we will be open for business in sunny San Diego, California where we will occupy the first floor of Building 1 that we will be sharing with Naval Mine and ASW Command (NMAWC). All departments have been working tirelessly towards shipping all of our office items and computers to San Diego in order to make the BRAC move a flawless transition for our support to the fleet.

### **Hails:**

MNCM(SW) Alt from MOMAU ONE in Seal Beach, CA  
MNC(SW) Greer from LCS MCM Detachment ONE in San Diego, CA

### **Farewells:**

MNCM(SW) Childers transferred to NMC EAD Unit Okinawa  
MNCS(SW) Cooley retired after 23 years of dedicated service  
MNCS(SW) Bostic transferred to NOSC Corpus Christi awaiting his commission as an Ordnance LDO in April 2011  
MNC(SW) Acox retired after 20 years of dedicated service  
MN1(SW) Myers transferred to MCMCREW BULWARK  
MN1(SS) Mendenhall transferred to USS DEFENDER  
MN1(SW) Reinhart transferred to MCMCREW SWERVE  
CS1 Gonzales transferred to USS PHILIPPINE SEA (CG-58)  
LS2 Duplechan transferred to ECRC San Diego for a GSA tour in Iraq  
LS2 Taylor transferred to USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65)  
MN1(SW) Mundhenke is pursuing a career in the civilian sector  
AG2(AW) Hatchett is pursuing a career in the civilian sector

### **A special farewell goes to the following people:**

MNCM(RET) Wayne "Arnie" Helgerson who served as COMOMAG's Service Mine Readiness lead for 10 years and has been in the mine force for 42 years.

MNC(RET) Jay Burton who served as COMOMAG's Training Lead for 14 years and has been in the mine force for 34 years.

Ms. Brenda Davis who served first with COMINEWARCOM and came to us in 2006 as our Information Technician Specialist and Operational Security Manager.

Your professionalism and insight will be missed. Fair winds and following seas to all of you!

**Awards:**

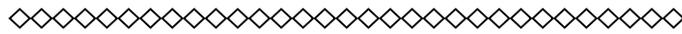
- MNCS(SW) Cooley – Navy Commendation Medal
- MNC(SW) Acox – Navy Commendation Medal
- MN1(SW) Myers – Navy Achievement Medal
- YN1(AW) Wilson – Sailor of the Quarter



MNCS(SW) Cooley being piped ashore.



MNC(SW)Acox being piped ashore.



Editor's Note: In a stunning and incredible lapse of mental aptitude, I, and the entire staff of the Dashpot, inadvertently omitted the spring article from MOMAG UNIT ONE. My deepest and most sincere regrets to you all.



## **MOMAU ONE SEAL BEACH, CA**

by **MN3 Shimonek**

Greetings, from MOMAU ONE in sunny Seal Beach, California. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. As we get back into the swing of things we are looking ahead to our upcoming merger with Navy Munitions Command. On June 1st MOMAU ONE and FIFTEEN will be disestablished and Navy Munitions Command CONUS West Division, Unit Seal Beach will be stood up.

We started the new year off with a bang with seven different exercises, ranging from Louisiana to Hawaii and we are only getting busier. The command took some time off and did an MWR event by being apart of the studio audience at a Hollywood taping of America's Funniest Home Video's. It was a great time had by all.

Our sailors have also had some big career and personal developments. Congratulations to our Sailors of the Year, YN1(SW/AW) Thomas and MN1(SW) Cuellar, and to MN3 Monnin and MN3 Johnson on Junior Sailor of the Quarter and to MN1(SW) Hoekstra and MN1(SW) Lampman on Sailor of the Quarter. Congratulations are also in order to LS2(SW) Nguyen, MN3(SW) Barrett, MN1(SW) Cuellar and YN1(SW/AW) Thomas on being awarded the Navy Achievement Medals. We also welcomed our two newest little members of the command this quarter. Congratulations to MN1(SW) Cuellar and MN3(SW) Palestino on their babies. We wish you all the best.



## **NMC EAD MINE DIVISION KADENA, JAPAN**

It's been an exciting time for all of us stationed here at NMC EAD Okinawa. We'd like to start off this edition by sending out our gratitude to NOSSA's Explosive Safety Inspection team for the recent visit here for our biennial Explosive Safety Inspection (ESI). The inspection was an absolute success and the team left the island thoroughly impressed by the command and raving about our performance!

Also this quarter, we would like to thank our visitors from the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF), who were able to spend a few days with us while stationed in port here in Okinawa. We have worked with the JMSDF on many deployment exercises in the past and look forward to continuing to work with them in the future. It was truly a pleasure to host them while they were here.

During this past quarter MAT Team 2 deployed to Thailand in support of Carat Exercise 2010. Thought tensions are high in Thailand with their current social and political struggles, our team was still able to proceed into theatre and complete their scheduled exercise; and all members made it back safely!

With even more exercises set for the near future, and summer's heat and rain already at our door step, all of us here are continuing to press on in preparations for the coming months, and we look forward to hearing from everyone in next quarter's issue!



AOCM Henry, of NOSSA's ESI team, out briefing the command after our most recent explosive safety inspection.



Mine Deployment Team 2 Crew Members alongside fellow Minemen from Thailand's Royal Thai Navy enjoying some R&R after a recent comrel in Thailand during Carat Exercise 2010.



Members of the NMC EAD team outside of our mine shop with some of our JMSDF brethren.



by MN2(SW) Barrows

Hello and welcome from Misawa, Japan. The weather has finally warmed up and the crew is looking forward to a warm summer.

Congratulations to our newly promoted sailors. AO1(AW) Nistal, LS1(SW) Vermong, MN3 Prewitt and MN3 McCormick.

American Day is around the corner and our command has been very busy planning for the event. This annual event is held in June and is a way for the American community to give back to the Japanese community. The event includes food booths, parades and games. Our command plans to sell food and use the profits for our command holiday party.

We held our first ever NMC Misawa Friendship day with the JMSDF from Hachinohe, Japan. The events included a flag football game, softball game and a barbeque. All of the participants enjoyed their time and plan to hold another event in July.

Our command wasn't able to support our own softball team this year, so we combined with Naval Air Facility Misawa. Our team name? The Navy Ballers. Our goal? Win it all.

Petty Officer Barrows donated over 200 hours of community service in three months when he coached the Edgren High School varsity baseball team. Petty Officer Nistal is a part of the Misawa Jets football team and has donated many hours to his team.

During Green Week in Misawa, our command picked up trash along one of the busiest roads on base. The crew felt good about what they had accomplished in making the base a cleaner place.

#### **DEPARTURES:**

MNC(SW) Baker, David (MCM Crew Fearless)

MN2(SW) Goss, William (Separation)

**ARRIVALS:**  
AO2(AW) Land  
MN3 Abella  
MNSA Hoang

**PROMOTIONS:**  
LS1(SW) Vermong  
AO1(AW) Nistal  
MN3 Prewitt  
MN3 McCormick



Captain Maynard, NMC EAD Commanding Officer speaks to the crew.



MN3 Prewitt being pinned to third class.



Another warm day in Misawa.



## **NMC UNIT CHARLESTON GOOSE CREEK, SC**

**by MNCS(SW) Mike Szostkiewicz, MN1(SW/SS) James  
Morgan, LS1(SW) Thomas Ellison and YNSA Brent Jarvis**

### **TEAM CHARLESTON WARRIORS** **"We work hard... so other's don't have to!"**

Hello and welcome from the world's largest, busiest most productive munitions command! It has been an extremely exciting and busy time here at NMC Unit Charleston. First we bid "Fair Winds and Following Seas" to newly retired and former Commanding Officer, Commander Timothy F. French. Serving as the first Commanding Officer of NMC Unit Charleston, he oversaw the merger and joint alignment of MOMAU 11 and NMC CED DET Charleston into Navy Munitions Command Unit Charleston. His overwhelming success will be honored and remembered. We wish him and his entire family best of luck as he transitions into retirement after 28 years of dedicated, loyal, and faithful service to United States Navy.

We would like to extend a warm "Low Country" welcome to our new Commanding Officer, Commander Marquis Patton. CDR Patton arrived with knowledge in hand. As a former CO of MOMAU 11, he brings seasoned talent, proven leadership and an unsurpassed knowledge of Mine Warfare.

Many thanks to CAPT Bette Bolivar, Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown / Navy Munitions Command CONUS East Division who was the Senior Officer presiding over the retirement / change of command ceremony

and many thanks also to Mr. Tim Harlan for his kind words as the Guest Speaker.

The "Team Charleston Warriors" recently and successfully completed a near flawless upgrade of over 90 mine shapes in preparation for our upcoming MRCI. Many thanks to our Reservist brethren who dedicate their time away from their civilian occupations to train with us side by side. Throughout the upgrade we were able to train and qualify 12 newly arriving personnel as Team Members and six additional Team Leaders. Furthermore, we provided over 300 training target mine shapes, and Mine Assembly Teams in support of 10 Fleet Exercises.

A command wide Lean Six Sigma initiative, led by Mr. Dennis Hiott, trained and qualified over 50 NMC Unit Charleston military and civilian personnel as "Yellow Belts". The proven methods of Lean Sigma Six are being instilled throughout the command in an effort to improve process efficiency and reduce waste. Additionally, in an ongoing effort to maximize productivity, several Quality Assurance Value Stream Analyses were conducted regarding various ammunition movement processes. These events depicted our dedication to refining our ordnance programs, qualification and procedures.

Through a community relations project, 10 of our Sailors volunteer at Marrington Middle School, Naval Weapons Station Charleston in the Munch'n'Mentor program. Our Sailors instill leadership, guidance and friendship to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, providing much needed life skills.

## Maritime Prepositioning Force:

One of our myriad of missions here at NMC Unit Charleston is that of the Maritime Prepositioning Force. Here's an excerpt from:

<http://www.msc.navy.mil/pm3/mpf.asp>

Fifteen Military Sealift Command (MSC) prepositioning ships are especially configured to transport supplies for the U.S. Marine Corps. Known as the Maritime Prepositioning Force (MPF), the ships were built or modified beginning in the mid-1980s and are forward-deployed to the western Pacific Ocean, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The ships contain nearly everything the Marines need for initial military operations -- from tanks and ammunition to food and water and from fuel to spare parts and engine oil.

The ships are organized into three squadrons: MPS Squadron One, usually located in the Mediterranean Sea and eastern Atlantic; MPS Squadron Two, usually located at Diego Garcia; and MPS Squadron Three, normally in the Guam/Saipan area. In addition to Marine Corps designated ships, MPS squadron staffs also oversee all other prepositioning ships in their geographic operating areas.

Each MPS squadron carries sufficient equipment and supplies to sustain about 15,000 Marine Corps Air Ground Task Force personnel for up to 30 days. Each ship can discharge cargo either pierside or while anchored offshore using lighterage carried aboard. This capability gives the Marine Corps the ability to operate in both developed and underdeveloped areas of the world.

Locally, our hard-chargin' civilian ammunition handling force had their hands full this quarter. They received by train the ammunition ISO containers from the USNS 1stLt HARRY MARTIN that will be reworked to meet the current MPF mission. We also completed the work and shipped the ammunition ISO containers assigned to the USNS 1stLt JACK LUMMUS. We moved a total of 6.5 million pounds of ammunition and explosives by rail in support of MPF.

## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

### **NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL:**

IT2 Kuiana Quinn

### **ADVANCEMENT:** (To Current Rank)

MNCS George Kipp (NR MOMAU 4, New York)  
MN1(SW) Robert Lichford  
MN1(SW) Michael Lynch

MN2(SW) Tyler Ruble  
MN2(SW) Donnie Roberts  
MN2 Robin Taylor  
MN3 Christopher Gonzales-bouton  
MN3 Beau Temple  
MN3(SW) Marcus Brown

### **CPO BOARD ELIGIBLE:**

MN1(SW) Jeremy Koski  
MN1(SS) Lance Thomas  
MN1(SW) Hugh Mitchell  
MN1(SW) Eric Gummingsheimer  
MN1(SW) John Pennington  
MN1(SW/SS) James Morgan

### **Sailors of the Quarter 1ST Quarter, 2010:**

Senior SOQ: MN1(SW/SS) James Morgan  
Junior SOQ: MN2(SW) Douglas Reynolds  
Blue Jacket of the Quarter: MN3 Luke Hatton

### **2009 Sailors of the Year:**

Senior SOY: MN1(SW) Hugh Mitchell  
Junior SOY: MN2(SW) Justin Tassey  
Blue Jacket of the Year: MN3 Beau Temple

### **DEPARTURES:**

IT2 Kuiana Quinn

### **ARRIVALS:**

CDR Marquis Patton  
Mr. Mike Vaughn  
Mr. Gene Shoemaker  
MN2(SW) Carlos Espinoza  
MN2(SW) Henry Glenn  
YN3(AW) Jackie Wright  
MNSN Ashley Knight  
MNSN(SW) Charles Gilley  
MNSA Reggie Martinez  
MNSR Michael Thompson



CDR MARQUIS PATTON



# EODMU 1 DEPLOYING UNMANNED UNDERWATER VEHICLE

Provided by Neil Gibbons

ARABIAN GULF (April 22, 2010) - Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 1 embarked aboard the mine countermeasures ship USS Dextrous (MCM 13), prepare to deploy an unmanned underwater vehicle. EODMU-1 and Dextrous are conducting drills in the Arabian Gulf.



MP personnel pictured here in front of the  
Finally, we would like to welcome aboard  
MN1(SW) Taylor, MN1(SW) Gwilt, and LCDR  
McGhee. Remote Minehunting System (RMS)  
Front row: MNC(SW) Eddie Gumin, EN1(SW)  
Nathan Butts, MN1(SW) Ronmithz Lacson, MN2  
Alnesugi Riverafebres, and MN1(SW) Keith  
Boyd; Back row: MN1(SW) Kevin Harris, MN3  
Sammantha Hill, MN1(SW) Chad Hill, MN1(SW)  
Carlos Wood, MN1(SW) Christopher Thompson,  
and MNCS(SW) Shane Caver.

Finally, we would like to welcome aboard  
MN1(SW) Taylor, MN1(SW) Gwilt, and LCDR  
McGhee.



Gutsy French divers prepare to blow in place  
an Iranian mine in the Persian Gulf. The photo  
appeared in France's Cols Bleu magazine in  
1987/88. The Iranian mine's distinctive ID-num-  
bers are barely visible in this image.





# ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN 35TH ANNUAL REUNION YORKTOWN/WILLIAMSBURG, VA AT THE LEXINGTON HOTEL/GEO. WASHINGTON INN 15-17 OCTOBER 2010

Association of Minemen, PO Box 69, Eutawville, SC 29048-0069

Please return the reservation form as soon as possible to the address above to expedite your registration for reunion events. Your tickets will be made available at the Early Bird, General Business Meeting, Dinner and Picnic.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ AOM MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Tickets @ \$32.50 ea. X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Includes tax & gratuity (Not padded).

Prime rib, chicken or swordfish, salad, vegetable, sorbet, iced tea (served)

Meal Choice: Prime rib \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Swordfish \_\_\_\_\_

Picnic Tickets @ \$15.00 ea X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Picnic Tickets @ \$7.00 ea X \_\_\_\_\_ Tickets = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Age 7 to 12 years \$7.00, under 7 - FREE  
Number of children attending picnic age 6 and under: \_\_\_\_\_  
(The picnic will be the usual burgers, franks, beans etc.)

Museum Donation: Tax deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AOM General Fund: Tax deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AOM Scholarship Donation: Tax deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to: Association of Mine men: TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We must guarantee number for dinners not later than morning of OCTOBER 11, 2010. There will be NO REFUNDS after 11 OCTOBER 2010.

Lexington Reservations: (800) 787-4944. Cancellations by phone only 72 hours prior to 15 Oct.

Cutoff date for AOM GROUP rate reservations is 14 September 2010

Room rates are \$79.00 plus 10% tax + \$2 City Tax, single or double. Promo Code MINEMEN. Check-in time is 3:00 PM and checkout time is 12:00 NOON. Parking is free.

AOM Guest Breakfast Included.

Really Early Bird Hospitality Room after 1600, 14 Oct. Regular Early Bird Hospitality Room Noon 15 Oct.

**Association of Minemen  
P.O.Box 69  
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069**

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**NEXT ARTICLE DUE DATE IS | SEP 2010**

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Application fee \$5  
Annual Dues \$15

NOTICE: To maintain membership, dues of \$15.00  
must be paid annually by the month of October.  
The dues expiration date is October in the year  
above your name on your mailing label.

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