

THE BULLDOG

TSTA HONOLULU 2016



ALEX HALEY
PULLS INTO
HONOLULU FOR
TSTA

Photo By OS3
Jesse Kristofferson

EDITOR'S LETTER

Hello to families, friends and all readers of The Bulldog! There are so many things that have transpired since the last issue that I'm finding it difficult where to begin. First and foremost, we traveled from the Bering Sea all the way down to Honolulu, HI and upon completing TSTA we returned from whence we came. This totaled us at over 10,000 Nautical miles of travel. On our transit back, we hit the roughest seas of many of our careers; seas reached highs of 36-45 feet and we charged toward the eye, and finally home, on time.

As for TSTA, we "swept" it, which actually means we accomplished everything we set out to for TSTA. Our training paid off, and you will see this reflected in the scores we have posted in this issue of The Bulldog.

We also got in some flight operations with Air Station Barber's Point and visited Pearl Harbor, paying respects as we passed. Many of us didn't really want to leave Honolulu at the end of this patrol; it was definitely good to us. But back to Alaska, and now dockside we go.

Regarding dockside, ALEX HALEY is going to be receiving some much due TLC while dockside; there will be repairs and improvements being done over the next few months so that ALEX HALEY will be able to not only continue but expand upon its operational excellence of late. On the way down to Seattle, we got to stop in Victoria, BC, which was awesome!

On that note, THE BULLDOG NEWSLETTER will be going on a hiatus during this dockside period. During this time, I do hope to get things moving as far as new platforms for our Public Affairs program (meaning that public affairs will be experiencing a bit of a dockside of its own), and will be releasing the next newsletter upon completion of our next patrol. Thank you all for continuing to read and support your family members who are aboard ALEX HALEY; hopefully many of you will be able to hear from them very often during dockside before we get underway again.

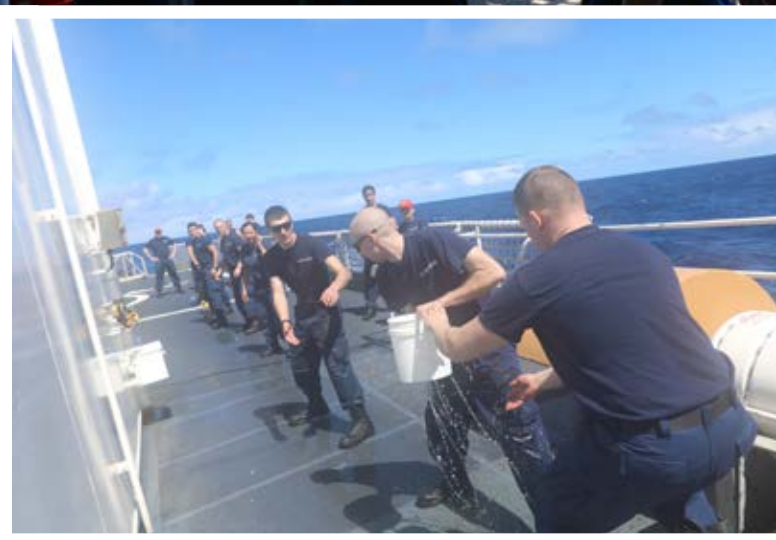
Till next time!



OS3 Jesse T. Kristofferson



DC COMBINE: TRAINING
DURING TRANSIT





PIPE PATCHING LIVE



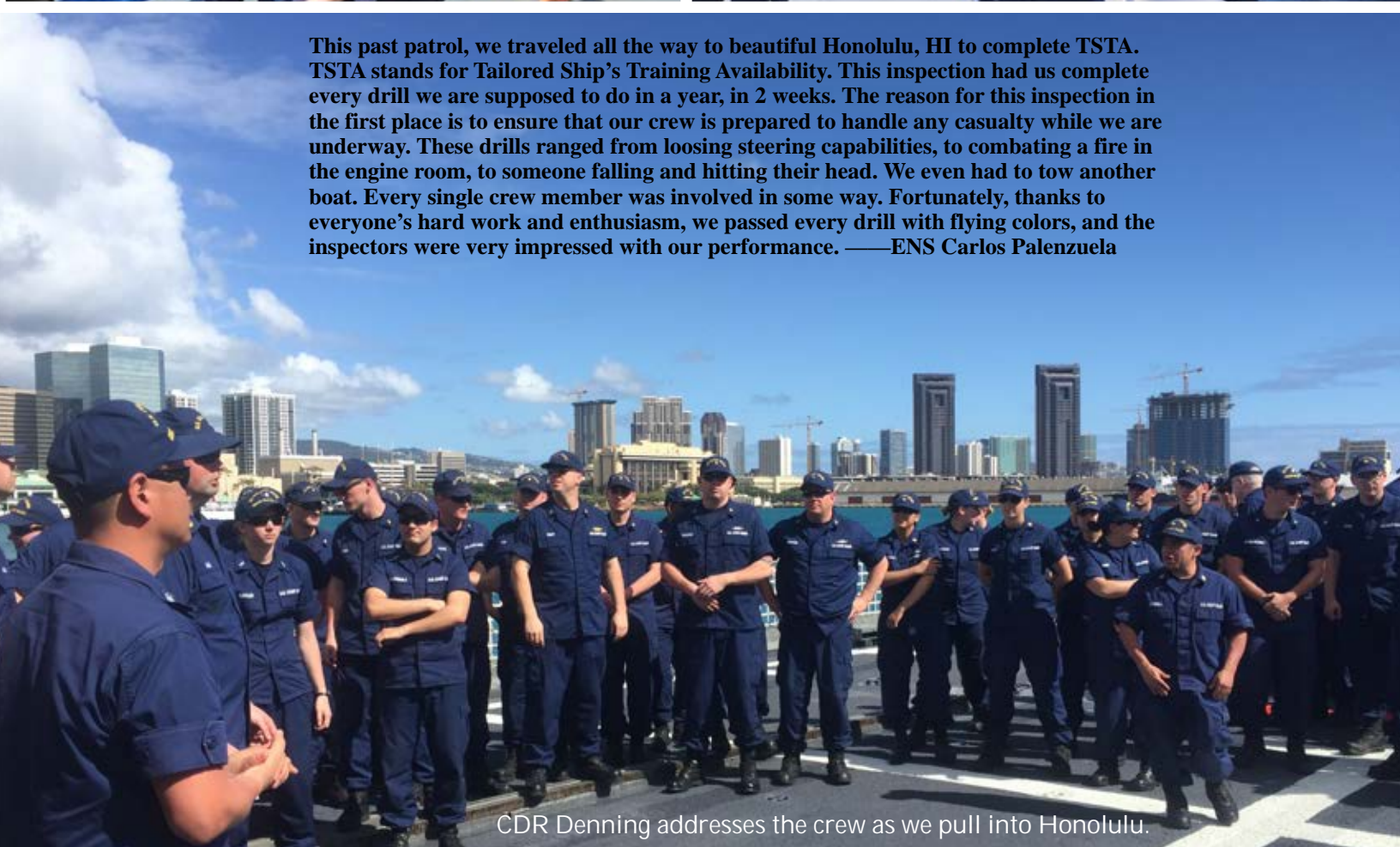
MK1 Lirette

FN McKeen



SN Staff, ENS Hardey and SN Griggs

This past patrol, we traveled all the way to beautiful Honolulu, HI to complete TSTA. TSTA stands for Tailored Ship's Training Availability. This inspection had us complete every drill we are supposed to do in a year, in 2 weeks. The reason for this inspection in the first place is to ensure that our crew is prepared to handle any casualty while we are underway. These drills ranged from losing steering capabilities, to combating a fire in the engine room, to someone falling and hitting their head. We even had to tow another boat. Every single crew member was involved in some way. Fortunately, thanks to everyone's hard work and enthusiasm, we passed every drill with flying colors, and the inspectors were very impressed with our performance. —ENS Carlos Palenzuela



CDR Denning addresses the crew as we pull into Honolulu.

ALEX HALEY TSTA SCORES

Command and Control: 98.93%

Engineering: 99.17%

Damage Control: 98.10%

Seamanship: 97.28%

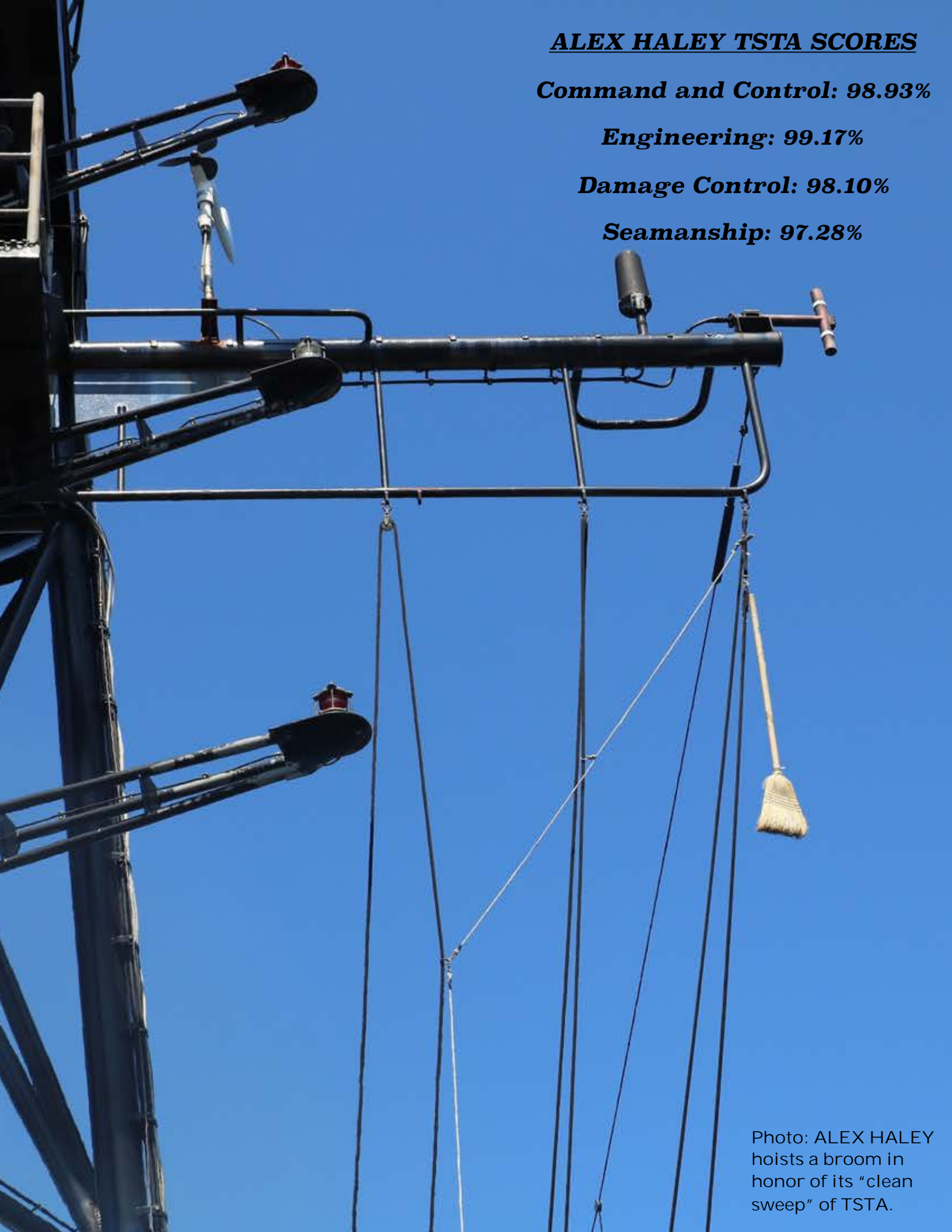


Photo: ALEX HALEY
hoists a broom in
honor of its "clean
sweep" of TSTA.

TSTA SNAPSHOTS

Photos By OS3 Jesse Kristofferson, SN Taylor Staff, and AG3 Zach Kloetzer



A Night Time "Man Overboard" Drill





Fire School hose technique. Photo By SN Staff

ALEX HALEY PAYS RESPECTS AT PEARL HARBOR

Photos By ENS Dayra Nazario



HELO OPS WITH AIR STATION BARBER'S POINT



Above/Below: SN Garcia Medina and SN Willoughby perform a "VERT REP" with a Dolphin from Airsta Barber's point.



SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR TSTA "MVP" STATUS

SN Willoughby

DC3 Zylawy and DC3 Matthews



FN Millman



SK3 Skidmore and MK3 Kline



MK1 Duffy



MK1 Brown



ETC Hernandez makes sure you know how good of a job ET3 Galan did while he was here with us.



GM3 Godie



BULLDOG



SN Stonecipher kicks and sprints in a liberty hours kickball game in Honolulu

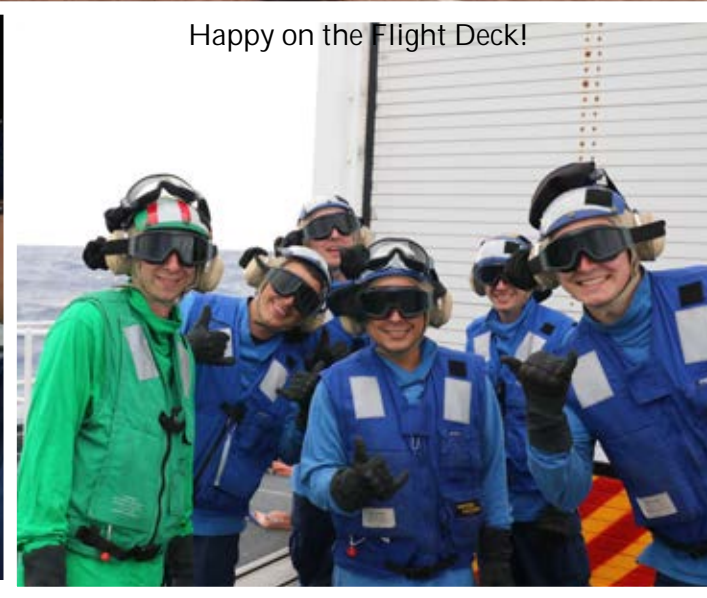
CANDIDS



SN Jessen was Captain for a day! We survived!



Happy on the Flight Deck!



SMOOTH CHILLIN'



I think this is a football reference?



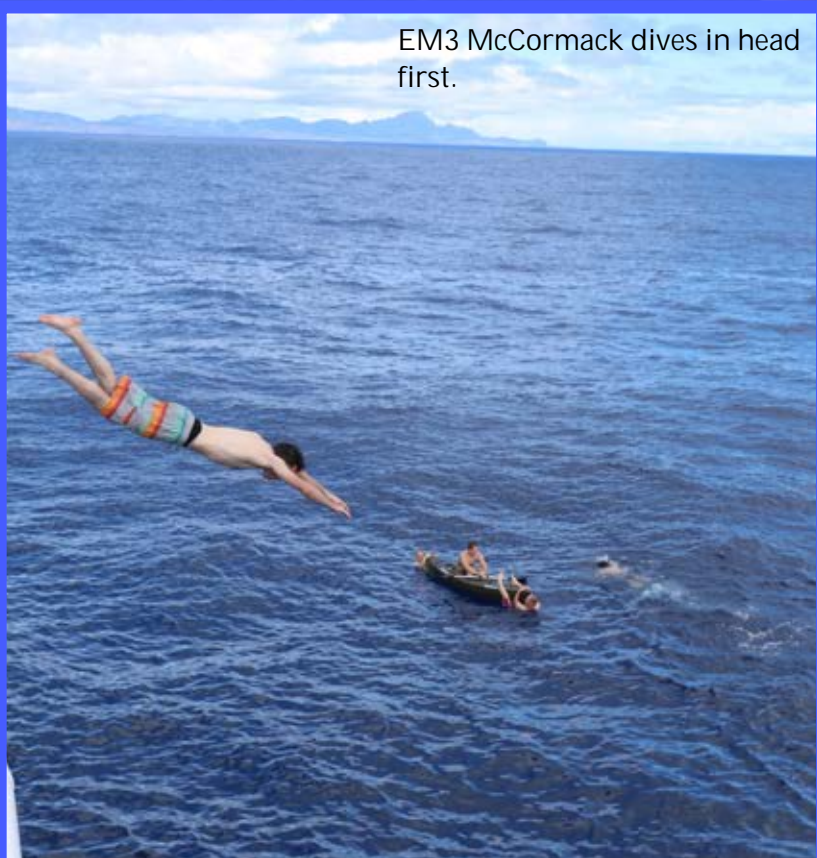
NOW, SWIM CALL!!!

MK3 Sandrelli leaps into the pacific Ocean near the end of ALEX HALEY'S transit from Alaska to Hawaii.



Photos By OS3 Jesse Kristofferson

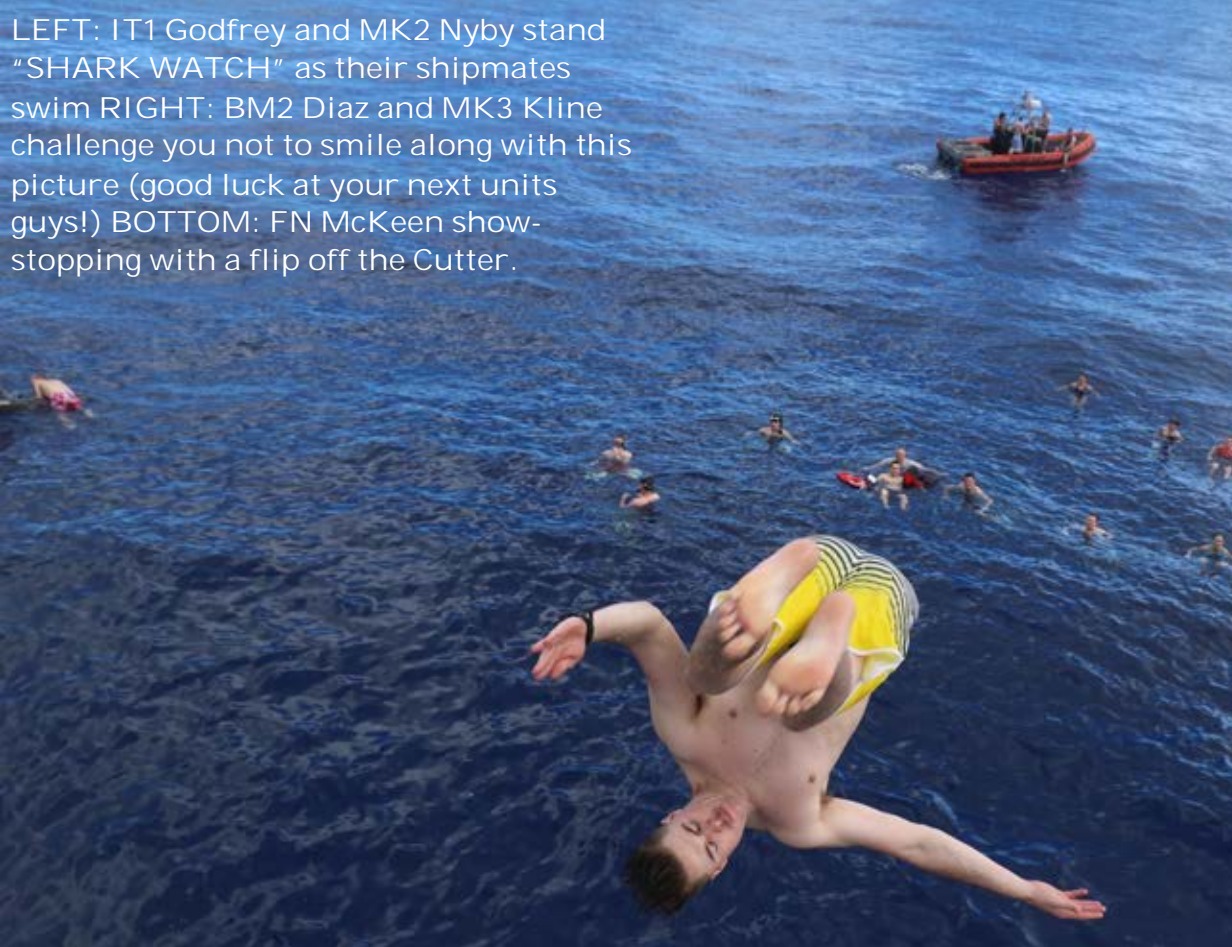
EM3 McCormack dives in head first.



LTJG Euchler ; Tarzan of the Seas!



LEFT: IT1 Godfrey and MK2 Nyby stand "SHARK WATCH" as their shipmates swim RIGHT: BM2 Diaz and MK3 Kline challenge you not to smile along with this picture (good luck at your next units guys!) BOTTOM: FN McKeen show-stopping with a flip off the Cutter.



THANK YOU CUTTER FORCES FOR THE CONGRATULATIONS GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FOR ALEX HALEY!!!!

“CG-751 collected several cases of Girl Scout cookies from local troops and our local DC Girl Scout council and your unit was selected to receive a care package. We are sure you and your crew worked hard during your recent D17 patrol and are still giving their all during your current TSTA cycle in Honolulu and will enjoy the treats” —BOSN3 Bill Hantzmon



Photo By OS3 Kristofferson

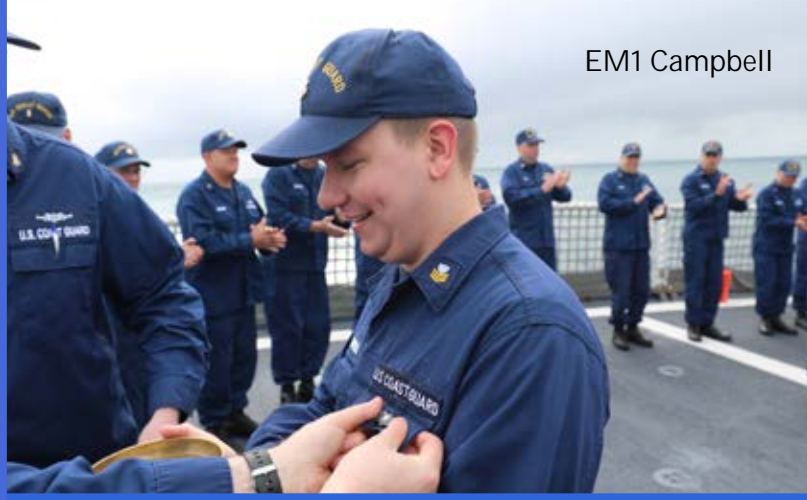


L to R: FS1 Vernon, IT1 Godfrey, FN Millman, LT Smude SN Staff and DC3 Zylawy have a flight deck jam session. Photo By SN Alex Mutchler

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALEX HALEY'S NEW CUTTERMEN!!!



FS2 Condulle



EM1 Campbell



MK1 Brown



LTJG Hill



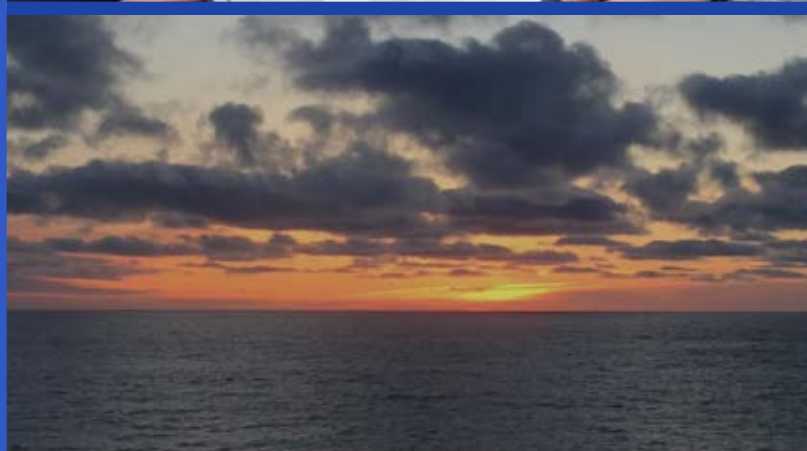
SK1 Mitchell



EM2 Fadeley



SN Garcia Medina receives his "Temporary Cutterman's Pin"



ALEX HALEY Permanent Cutterman

With a splash of North Pacific seawater, the officers and crew came together to honor CGC ALEX HALEY's newly minted permanent Cuttermen.

LTJG Hill, FS2 Condulle, EM1 Campbell, SK1 Mitchell, MK1 Brown, and EM2 Fadeley formally requested recognition as permanent Cuttermen. In many respects, the oral board is intended to recognize the camaraderie of their efforts. Each shipmate responded to a spectrum of questions: spanning the Revenue Cutter Service to ALEX HALEY's own history and missions. When these questions might have proven too challenging, each had the choice for song. There is nothing better than a lively rendition of Semper Paratus to show our pride.

For these 6 crew members, this represents their commitment to excellence. Each has devoted a major portion of their career to serving afloat. On this list we have career cooks, electricians, mechanics, and a deck watch officer. They each spent a tour learning the skills and adaptability to succeed. Then they asked to do it again! For many, this is their second or third ship. With each assignment, their level of responsibility and impact to the unit and crew grew. They are leaders.

Each crew member can now add the Cutterman pin to their uniforms. The design is a combination of three basic parts. Each is representative of a Cutterman's special qualities. The wheel and the waves represent the heritage of the sea. The five point star represents five years of sea duty and the center, the shield, represents the Coast Guard and its seagoing tradition.

The ceremony itself was also an opportunity to welcome these new permanent Cutterman and inspire the next generation of sailors. The CO acknowledged our living tradition and paused reflecting on the grand sum of more than 177 combined years of sea time. With each handshake and dash of salt water, our tradition continues, we celebrate welcome these crew members.—LCDR Greg Haas

Ombudsman Appreciation Day



L to R: Emily Campbell, Wendy Lirette, CDR Denning

On 08 April 2016, CDR Denning held an Ombudsman recognition ceremony for Wendy Lirette and Emily Campbell, ALEX HALEY's two Ombudsmen. Emily and Wendy stepped up to assume the role of Ombudsman in July 2015. Since then, they helped many families make the transfer to Kodiak. The long distances and remote location mean house hold goods can sometimes take weeks to show up. Emily and Wendy are always ready to help with full sets of pots and pans and other items which they freely loan out to help families get by. Once the ALEX HALEY sets out for sea, Emily and Wendy provide critical communication between the cutter and families. They're instrumental in coordinating mail deliveries to the cutter, facilitating the delivery of letters and care packages. The Ombudsman duo also keep families informed of ALEX HALEY's schedule including changes in times and dates of return to home port. This year CDR Denning wanted to specially recognize Emily and Wendy in front of the crew. During a small ceremony, CDR Denning told the crew about the special role of the Ombudsman in the Coast Guard and Cutter community. Emily and Wendy were presented with flowers by their husbands and ate lunch with the crew, where they made themselves available to answer questions.—ENS Kyle Cheney

DOCKSIDE!



Photo By ET3 Craig Burch



NOW, TIME TO GET TO WORK. SEE YOU NEXT TIME!