"The Rumors Of My Death Are Greatly Exaggerated"

CAPT Mary Mosier, USN

Last year, some people inside the Beltway and within the IUSS community were sounding our death knoll. Fortunately, Mark Twain's famous quote, "The rumors of my death are greatly exaggerated" seems to describe this past year well. Since the CNO-mandated consolidation was completed last year IUSS has experienced some encouraging progress and many "firsts".

Let me begin with the people in IUSS. They made the past year's successes possible. Officer promotions and XO/CO selections hit record highs. An IUSS officer was even selected early for Commander. With the demise of the General Unrestricted Officer designator, we had to identify a new source of watch officers. A committee of senior IUSS officers decided a combination of Intel Officers (1630) and Limited Duty Officers/Warrant Officers (6120/7120) would best serve the future needs of the system. Our first "intel" watch officer will soon graduate from the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Center, Dam Neck. Because of our enlisted force downsizing and the OT/STG merger, many of our sailors chose early outs, retirement and rating changes. The good news is that many of these people have now changed their minds and canceled their requests.

We reinstituted site assessments after a three-year hiatus. The operational, administrative and analytical preparedness at all sites thoroughly impressed the assessment team. Our crowning glory this year was NAVFAC Brawdy's selection as the Atlantic Fleet's Golden Anchor winner.

Last year also saw the continued revamping of the IUSS command structure. We said farewell to NAVFAC Bermuda, NAVFAC Brawdy, and RTF Dam Neck. We celebrated the commissioning of the Canadian Forces IUSS Center, Halifax, NS; the Joint Maritime Facility, St. Mawgan, U.K.; and Commander Undersea Surveillance, Dam Neck, VA. The new sites expand our long-time partnership with Canadian and British ASW forces. With the upcoming decommissioning of NAVFAC Keflavik our infrastructure, sensors and processing equipment will be some of the newest and most technologically advanced in the Navy. Finally, we won a major battle with the Base Closure and Realignment Commission when they came to see the exceptional operational value of NOPF Whidbey Island and didn't recommend any closures.

I wish I could share the operational victories, but although our ASW mission has been declassified, our operational products are still very much classified. I can tell you that we tested a new twin-line array with impressive results and our Low Frequency Active (LA) program is back on track. Our first LFA analysts will be joining the crew of NOPF Whidbey Island soon. We streamlined reporting procedures with the elimination of the Main Evaluation Center (MEC) concept. As a result, our time-lates are now below ten minutes. We obtained funding for two more SURTASS ships is FY 96. Finally, this year ends with a renewed interest in ASW at both the Fleet and Pentagon level. The CNO Executive Board will soon be briefed by the Naval Doctrine Command on proposed ASW enhancements.

These accomplishments should underscore the unassailable fact that IUSS is not only not dying but continues to be dynamically successful. If you visit the Dam Neck or Whidbey Island area please stop by and say hello. We would be honored to show you the new IUSS.

Captain Mosier has had a distinguished career in IUSS and is presently the Chief Staff Officer for Commander, Undersea Surveillance.

16th Annual IUSS/CUSL Memorial Day Weekend Camping Trip

Ed Haven

The 16th annual COSL/IUSS/NOPF/TF/WHATEVER Camping Trip was held during the Memorial Day weekend 1995. Several "old-timers" were there plus several new active duty OTs, RMs, EMs, DPs, ETs and civilians. Doug Simon and Jim Lapp cooked a fantastic roast on Sunday which was enjoyed by all. Fred Schwanz did poorly at golf, losing to Ed Haven and Jim Lapp. Fred didn't even go fishing, but Fred knows boats!!

Ed Smock cooked venison stir fry on Saturday and everyone brought a covered dish. We stuffed ourselves. The weather was ideal except for Sunday when the rain tried, but did not succeed, to interfere with our plans. Smoky (Ed Smock) and his son Keith said the fishing on Cheatham Lake was fabulous. (But they didn't catch very many.) They were probably saving the good ones for next year.

In all we had 42 IUSS friends, family and guests attend the 16th annual camping trip. Our goal is 200 IUSS personnel, friends and relatives to attend the 17th annual trip. For information, contact Ed Haven, (804) 425-1349, Jim Lapp, (804) 420-3024, or Doug Simon, (804) 625-0374.
From the Director

Ed Dalrymple

Welcome to the Fall, and second, issue of THE CABLE. My apologies for not having published sooner. I do have excuses. My daughter Aimee graduated from the Virginia-Maryland Regional School of Veterinary Medicine in May and was married in June so I must admit my priorities were elsewhere. But Ellis Sutter has me back on track.

The publication of the first issue gave us our first real feel for what our expenses will be. Therefore, based on this data, we will make your $12.00 dues good for a 2-year membership vice 1-year.

In the first issue we promoted a few people because we didn’t have an indication of rank or rate, which is why some of you are addressed as Mr. or Ms. If you would, please send that information to us and we’ll update our membership database. Our intent is to publish an up-to-date membership list in November in order to give you time to update your Holiday mailing list.

The first issue appears to have been a success and I have received some nice comments and enjoyed a number of telephone conversations. Sometime in the future I may update to an on-line capability, but that is a future consideration. I really wish to thank those of you who have contributed articles and information. This is going to be the lifeblood of the newsletter. Send as much as you want and as often as you want. Remember this newsletter’s charter is to provide members with information about each other, i.e. moves, current jobs, hobbies, graduations, sports, awards, births, marriages, travels, etc. It doesn’t hurt to brag a little. Thanks again for your interest and support. Until next time.

EKD

Memories of Barbados

Jerry Frateschi

Barbados was my first permanent duty station after BE&E, Sonar “A” and Ocean Systems “A” Schools. I was verbally told I was going to Argentina, NFLD, but the actual orders read “Naval Facility Barbados, West Indies”. No one at school seemed to know an awful lot about the island, except for one instructor named Howard. He had been stationed there and gave only this advice...”...I’ll let you find out for yourself just how nice the place is; but don’t worry, you won’t be disappointed”. So, in March of 1969, I headed (with much trepidation) to NavFac Barbados.

The Commanding Officer at that time was B.T. Hacker, followed by Baker L. Peebles. Fortunately, I would again serve under Captain Peebles during his twilight tour at NavFac Argentina. He was, without question, my best C.O. Lt. Dalrymple was the XO.

The entire base complement was somewhere between 85 and 100 of the finest shipmates and officers I have ever served with. I know this statement sounds brash, but everyone just genuinely seemed to like each other. Further, they often went out of their way to help you, even when they didn’t have to. Some cases in point: PC3 Wissell would think nothing of opening up the Post Office to give a long overdue letter to some anxious sailor, without making him wait until mail call; and CK2 Bobby Hodges, who would think nothing of leaving the Club to open his safe so you could get a better exchange rate for your money, because you had a hot date waiting in town that night. The one exception would, of course, be Seabee Chief Harding, a Vietnam vet who thought we should boonie trap the base perimeter with live ammo to help in its defense. A BW1 (British West Indian, pronounced “Bee-Wee”) attack? I think not! And how about the time Senior Chief Leubbenhausen (sp?), a T-Building Research Watch Officer, ordered his plotter, Greg “Boot” Hansen, to load a military 45-cal. handgun and shoot Chief Harding dead if he persisted in trying to force his way, unannounced, into the T-Building? Needless to say, the Chief backed off!

The OT rating was not established at that time, and the most revered equipment was SV-DSA. I was told “...Don’t eye integrate SV...if you can’t plainly see it with your naked eye, it’s just not there!” Barbados had some of the finest analysts around, winning the ORI “E” in Research and Supply in fiscal year 1969, coming in an overall second in the System. There were Fred Shwartz (sp?), Bill Haars, Dave Herrick, Dan Roseberry (my first supervisor), H.R. “Willie” Williams, Greg “Boot” Hansen, Dave “Frog” Mann, Al Toftum, Jimmy Becket and Bob Gray (who arrived just as I left), to name a few. I remember PA sheets, the “tunnel”, FULL annotation, Super Reader cartoons from COSL and the old familiar smell of DSA grams. It was GREAT!
Memories of Barbados (continued)

I also remember the good times of playing softball and flag football. A big challenge was made, on one occasion, when the battleship New Jersey pulled into our little Base in flag football. My, did we have some athletes at that time! We sat in the bleachers while they practiced for the game, drinking Banks beer and scouting them. Our goading made them practice harder, then harder and yet harder...they were beating their brains out! By the time we played the actual game, we clobbered them.

Or how about getting newly-arrived personnel to ride the “water buffalo” to sugar cane fires? This required some poor soul to act as brakeman on a tow-behind water tank trailer; standing on a rear platform, holding on to a small railing and pressing a foot pedal to try and prevent the darn thing from fishtailing around corners as Banks carreened through winding streets...only to get bounced like crazy once you hit the furrows of the cane field. All this, to the laughing and howling of the old-timers seated comfortably in the truck cab, trying to hit every bump in the road. Yes, I rode the water buffalo!

I wrote that I arrived in Barbados with much trepidation. Let me say that, after meeting lifelong friends and my wife, Beverly, there, I have memories that will certainly last a lifetime. Bev and I met at the Blue Waters Hotel in February 1970, and were married by that September. This year we will celebrate our 25th wedding anniversary on September 5th. Allow me to finish this article with some words that must surely evoke the memory of old sights and smells to anyone who was stationed there:

tradewinds .... BWI .... NavFac .... no snakes .... tropics .... T-Building .... Paradise Beach .... island fever .... the “Jungle” ... sugar cane .... mongoose .... Banks beer .... Mary's Moustache (burned down) .... cheese cutters .... centipedes .... North Point Surf Resort .... right-hand drive vehicles .... Blue Waters .... Rockley Beach .... BWI hot sauce .... Bajans ... the bars (New Yorker, Western, Hollywood, Zannizbar) .... Nelson Street .... Baxter Road .... Sam Lord’s Castle .... shuffleboard at the Club .... Mount Gay rum .... cane spiders .... the smelly sugar cane factories .... the Flambeau Room (Hilton) .... “ringtoning” .... the Cat's Whiskers .... the Barbados Cannonball drink .... the Islander .... the Pepper Pot .... Pandora’s Box .... Harry's Nieten .... monkeys .... the Abbeville Inn .... the Holiday Inn .... Flaming Limbo and Strong Man dances .... steel drums .... and finally, the NavFac song “O-O-O, we are NavFac Sailors, the raiders of the night...”

San Salvador
What’s it doing now?

submitted by Lars Jorgensen

NAVFac San Salvador closed in 1970 and is now the Bahamian Field Station.

The Bahamian Field Station is a resident, non-profit corporation operated under a cooperative arrangement with the Bahamas Ministry of Education. It is an institution of higher education, focusing on research and studies in archaeology, biology, geology, and the marine sciences. Because of its experience in operating field-type programs, the Bahamian Field Station is ideally suited to offer Elderhostel programs. The Field Station is located on the north end of the island of San Salvador. Its facilities were built forty years ago by the US Seabees as a submarine tracking station. Today these buildings have been redesigned as housing for students and faculty, including a full-service cafeteria, laboratories and classrooms, lecture auditoriums, a library and comparative specimen repository, basketball and volleyball courts, and maintenance facilities. Because of its existence on San Salvador, the Bahamian Field Station has made the island the most studied, both in its ecology and cultural history, of any of the Bahama Islands. San Salvador is one of the “out-islands” of the Bahamas. Historically San Salvador is known as the location of Columbus’ first landfall in the New World. There are 450 residents of the island, with the capital, Cockburn Town, the center of all activities, having the Commissioner’s office, telecommunications station and the government clinic with resident nurse and doctor.

For information on Elderhostel programs or visits to San Salvador contact Lars.

Lars Jorgensen was stationed at NAVFac San Salvador as a Watch Officer and a Research Officer in 1955-56. He is retired from Boeing Corp., resides in Seattle, WA and continues to visit San Sal.

Recent IUSS Events

4 May CFIC Halifax established, CDR Tummers, CF, Commanding Officer

19 June LCDR Gordan Ratliff retired

30 June NAVFac Brawdy ceased operations

5 July NAVFac Brawdy disestablished/decommissioned

30 July Ernie Castillo III retired after 38 years of Federal and System service

August NOPF Dam Neck Change of Command, CDR Joanne Loftin Gilchrist relieved by CDR Larry Wilcher

18 August Joint Maritime Facility, St. Mawgan, UK established, CAPT Pam Mulvenhill, Commanding Officer

1 September CUS Change of Command, CAPT Alfred Ponessa relieved by CAPT Randall Wagner
We have our first group membership: NAVFAC Argentia Reserve Unit in Raleigh, NC. LT Stephen Hersch is the CO. OTAC Bruce Baker (USNR) works with ALCATEL in Raleigh, NC. OTMC Paul Banks resides in Virginia Beach and is employed by Lockheed-Martin as a SURTASS ship rider. Senior Aircraftsman Paul Barrick, RAF is at JMF, St. Mawgan and his wife is stationed at NOPF Whidbey Island. (Paul, you need to send me her name.) James Beckett is a Senior Scientist with EG&G/EM in Las Vegas, his America On-line address is beckettjim@aol.com. OTACS Scott Bouvier, wife Kristi, son William (11) and daughter Katherine (4) are at St. Mawgan. Pete Brendal (Turks ’62/Bermuda ’62-’65 - SOGSN to STG2) is in Whittier, California and owns an infrared optics business. Nanette Brooks and daughter Joanna reside in Mercer Island, WA. She is employed by Texaco Corporation and is working toward an AA degree. Steve Buck continues as a senior systems engineering manager at TRW working with FDS. OTAC (ret) Chuck Cable is in Port St. Lucie, Fla and works at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center. As of a few months ago, LT(?) Jerry Carr was at Brawdy. Cliff Clifton provided some news of Pt. Sur which we will give more ink to in the next issue. CAPT Duane Cox (COSP ’79-’81) is retired in Alexandria, VA and is President, Council for the Environment and Chairman of the Board, Scientific Environmental Research Foundation.

Ken Davis and wife Mitsuyo are in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Roy Brown continues as the TRW Program Manager for the IUSS SE&I support to PD80. LCDR (ret) Amy Doggett resides in Kilmarnock, VA. Fred Dube is in Sterling, VA and is currently pursuing work in sonar acoustic research and digital signal processing. After telling me (as only Big Bird can) for six months that he had sent his application, John Emory found it on his desk and sent it in. John is Technical Director at NOPF Whidbey. John’s internet address is emory@whidbey.net. Tom Eversole recently retired from PSI and in partnership with Bill Broadwell (VP type) has started a consulting firm: E. B. Associates. LCDR George “Chuck” Gannon is the Ops Boss at JMF, St. Mawgan, the most sophisticated and technologically advanced site ever. CAPT Tom Gill (CO Coos Bay ’73-’76) is really retired and lives in Rockville, Md. I have had some enjoyable phone conversations with OTC (ret) Mike Golio. Mike has returned to his hometown of West Frankford, Ill and enjoys bluegill fishing, stamp collecting and spectator sports. CAPT (ret) Eric “Gus” Gustafson is residing in San Diego where he is employed by SAIC. Gregory Gustafson is in Virginia Beach and works for Hughes Aircraft supporting SURTASS. Greg is an OTAC in the Naval Reserve (Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare).

Had a chance to visit with CWO4 (ret) Ed Haney recently. He is the Lockheed-Martin crew manning and ops manager for SURTASS in Little Creek, VA. Kathy Harger and Gary Snyder reside in Herndon, VA with their daughter Nikki (5). Both work for the MITRE Corp. Kathy is a CDR in the Naval Reserve and is XO of her unit. Ed Haven is in Virginia Beach employed by CACI, Inc. (Thanks for the camping article.) Robert Hicks and family are in Millilani, Hawaii and he is employed by ORINCON Corp. OTCM (ret) Jack Holdzkam is in Virginia Beach working for PSI as a site rep at NOPF Dam Neck. CDR (ret) Jim Holland worked with me at TRW for a couple of years, but now is employed by PSI. He resides in Clifton, VA. Lars Jorgensen, who was present at the dawn of the system (BTL ‘54 and San Sal ‘55-‘56) resides in Seattle but visits San Sal regularly. We’ll get him to report on Sal periodically. Rick Kaiser and his family were through Washington, DC recently and we had a chance to visit. (There are some advantages to living here.) Jack Kanneckas continues as a senior engineer in the IUSS project office. Hear regularly from Jack King. He was on San Sal in 1955. He claims the watch “qualification” training was OJT and he was on watch a few hours after arriving. Stan Kloc, WECO rep Emeritus is retired and lives in Virginia Beach.

CAPT Pete Marshall was in London but should have transferred in July. Dallas Meggitt is still associated with IUSS in his job with Alliant Tech Systems in Edmonds, Washington. OTCS (ret) Ed Moody is in Winter Park, Florida.

LCDR (ret) Justin “Bud” O’Hara lives in Springfield, VA and still works in support of IUSS as a system engineer. Arthur Purcell (San Sal ’54-’55 & Hatteras ’55-’56) lives in Montecito, California.
Hopefully Art will share some of his experiences with us in the future. CW04 (ret) Dick Rentner resides in Virginia Beach. CAPT (ret) Bob Richards is dealing with some medical problems. Our prayers and thoughts are with he and Joyce. It was good to hear from Stewart Richards. I relished him as CO of Pt. Sur in 1972 (time does fly.) Stewart is retired from his second career as a librarian and lives in Newport, Oregon. CDR (ret) Charlie Schindler is a Program Manager for AT&T and resides in Virginia Beach. George Smith (Turks ‘61-’63) retired as STSCM(SS), lives in Ellicott City, MD and works for PSI at the Johns Hopkins University, APL. Jack Lachnicht is in San Diego. Mark Otto writes that his oldest son Shawn is a nuclear power Electronics Technician Chief on board the USS Enterprise. Malcolm Pope is in Pass Christian, MS. Jim Smalfelt has moved to Littleton, NC as of 1 September. Ed Smock and Jim Stalter have generously submitted articles and will be in the next issue. Thanks gentlemen. Edward Snyder and wife Sharon reside in Virginia Beach.

OTCM (ret) Ross Tarnow resides in Rosendale, Wisconsin and manages a bar and restaurant. Need to get to and Jerry Russell together. Dewayne and LCDR Norah Taylor-Brown have finally come to Washington. Dewayne is with PSI and Norah is a Division Director in the Project Office. OTA2 Tanglea Torain-Myers was most recently at NAVFAC Brawdy. Just a reminder to Bruce Turner that he was going to send an article on his work. CDR (ret) Mark Wakeman stopped by the office the other day. He resides in San Diego and works for SAIC as a Senior System Engineer in the Advanced Deployable System program. NCC, ex-OTC (ret) Cliff Walz resides in Dimock, South Dakota and works for United Building Centers Truss Plant and repairs and refines antique furniture as a side line. OTCM (ret) George Widener resides in San Diego and is a Corporate Vice President and Deputy Group Manager for SAIC. OTCM (ret) Merrill “Doc” Zecek is in Lake Preston, SD. Doc is the head Custodial Engineer for the Lake Preston School District.

Thanks for everyone’s contributions. Ellis Sutter has given many hours unselfishly to keep this newsletter going. We will provide an up to date membership list by November for your holiday cards. An era has ended. Ernie Castillo III retired 31 July 95 after 38 years of service to IUSS. Until next time. Ed

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Do you remember names like Cape May, San Salvador, Turks, Barbados, Ramey, Midway, San Nic, Nantucket, OU San Francisco, CTG 81.1, CTE 81.1.1.7, SOSEX, THOR, NEPTUNE, AEOUS, CTG 30.4, Stations; George, Mike-Sugar, Item, etc.; King Shallow Water, elbow array, slope site, 21 quad, List 6 armor, knitting machines, 3 X 16’s, 1 X 40’s, LUSC, the HARTWELL REPORT, ten-point dividers, parallel rulers, grease pencils, MB solutions, SLOBs, full annotation, APOJI, CORMSIO, RAYCOR, CODAR, the JEBJEL (Fred Jones, CF) computer, PGDs, BIMAT film, why we keep signature data for 90 days, Yellow Books, DPU - Brooklyn Navy Yard, when the Project Office was located in Main Navy, Jim Boyett/Harry Traduce worked for WECO (AT&T), harmonic charts, Fleet Sonar School Key West, Course 552, the USS TRIGGER, FM-9, FM-10, FM-12, Kolomna 37D, GMV-16, centerline 9, when watch officer classification 33 was a storm/01 was a mership, the RTTP, reason for watch officer classification was 65xx5, the northern and southern telling nets, tellers, one-time tapes, KAC-1, Grid system, birdie sour/birdie sweet, NEDGEF drills, Ernie Castillo as a LT, John “Bird” Emory as an E5 and a BTL analyst, CAPT Kirk Evans as Ops Officer in Antigua, the first women in the system at Eleuthera (LCDR Norah Taylor-Brown remembers well), Charlie “20”, Xray-5, Bravo 33/Mike-7, when we used Lloyds to construct merchant ship signatures, Jez Monster, Commas, manual cal marks, roman numeral time marks, WATCH IN THE SEA, INDMAN WASDHIC/EPO-3/PMW 124, 20-shop, 60-shop, SCAEC, MILS, Pentagon Arrays, range liner, M-boat, first Atlantic system wide drill target (USS MILLS (DER)), the Barbados and Antigua “hot beams”, SPRINGBOARD, when Adak and Kef were new, DPU-18, NAVSTIC, FQO-1, 4-inch lofagram presentations, Leeds-Northrup recorders, C&E Navfac, SPEAR, bearing ladders, NESB, Project COLD, WECO, “Emrie’s Lanes”, SVM, CAPT Joe Kelly, MSS, RDSS, RANEQ, P2Ys, Clyde Woolard at PAFB, COMASWOFORLAN / COMASWOFORPAC, T/E turbine, the F/V FAIRTRY II, Lister-Blackstone engine, Pancake engine, harmonic structure of surface vs submerged FM-10, OTAs were SOOs or STOs (at least to E5 level), an E6 was the senior petty officer in ops, DSA, EDLs/MDLS, “rolling” grams, eye-integration, 3-3-72, 2-2-2-80, a 96, RTF Centerville Beach, railroad tracks at San Salvador, horses at Pt Sur, Quonset huts for T-Buildings, 400-cycle power, tropical hours, soup break, down range, making a “burn run” to the converted MDL shipping container incinerator, oscillator “signatures”, the photo lab, 3-man all non-rated watch sections (and they were good), Ensign ops officers, WECO reps, AJK lines, when brevity was the watchword for Navy messages, off-line ticker encryption, the radio watch would learn to read grams, and we were all younger?

Do you remember when the system was expanding, budgets were growing and the rest of the Navy really wanted our product? Above all do you remember all the good people that you came in contact with during your time in the “system”?
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