



# The Cable

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## STs Again Have The Watch

by *OTCM Jack Holdzkom, USN (Ret)*

Under a bright, sunny sky the participants were appropriately adorned with black ribbons for a "memorial funeral service" for the OT rating. CDR Eola Lewis SCOTT, USN, NOPF Dam Neck commanding officer, officiated at the 1 October ceremony held on facility grounds adjacent to the generator building. Her eulogy reviewed the history of the rating, from its birth on 1 September 1970 to its death on 30 September 1997 highlighting significant IUSS events and OTs' contributions to national defense.

Following her comments, members of the gathering shared personal anecdotal experiences, and contributed memorabilia that were placed in a time capsule. These items included OT rating badges, a listing of the original 900 OT plankowners who were converted from ST and ET, a history of IUSS during the OTs' watch, a Venus Unique #2 red pencil, "10"-point dividers, command ball caps from NAVFAC Keflavik and NOPF Ford Island, Sonar Data Recorder stylus and stylus tension gauge, a piece of 5111 sea cable, USH-20 magnetic tape, and a TDP track-ball.

Almost unnoticed during the proceedings, angry looking clouds rolled in. While the time capsule was being buried, two F/A-18 Hornets from NAS Oceana flew overhead at low altitude, as if in a prearranged salute. As the last few shovelfulls of earth were thrown in the grave, the clouds shed a few tears. Rest in peace, Ocean System Technician, Carry On, Sonar Technician!

## 19<sup>th</sup> Annual IUSS Camping Trip

Ed Haven has announced that plans are underway for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual IUSS Camping Trip to be held at Cheatham Annex (near Williamsburg) Virginia on Memorial Day weekend. Interested members, family and friends are invited to contact Ed for details at home phone (757) 427-9826 or via e-mail at [virtas@erols.com](mailto:virtas@erols.com).

## NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

- LCDR Buddy Kreibel assumes duties as CUS Current Ops Officer (2/97)
- End of ATARF & RAINFORM RED reporting (4/30/97)
  - Termination of TDP usage (5/97)
- CFIC, Halifax, N.S. Change of Command (7/97)  
(CDR Tummers relieved by CDR Mofford)
- JMF St. Mawgan Change of Command
- NOPF Dam Neck Change of Command (8/97)  
(CDR Larry Wilcher relieved by CDR Eola Scott)
- CDR Larry Wilcher retires to Arkansas  
(You heard right, Arkansas)
- Commander Undersea Surveillance Change of Command (8/97)  
(CAPT Wagner, USN relieved by CAPT Faber, USN)
- CAPT Leslie Skowronek, USN relieved as Commanding Officer  
NROTC, Ohio State University (8/97)
- CAPT Leslie Skowronek, USN assumed duties as Executive Assistant  
to RADM Riddell, USN Office of the Chief of Naval Operations  
(OP-091) (9/97)
- RADM Peter Marshall, USN relieved as Commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Naval  
Construction Brigade (11/97)
- RADM Peter Marshall, USN assumed duties as Commander, Pacific  
Division. Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii (11/97)
  - OT Rating officially dissolved (10/1/97) - OTs become STGs  
(Has a familiar ring doesn't it)
- ISR Program Directorate, PD 18 (nee IUSS Program Directorate)  
Officially transferred to San Diego, California (9/97)
- TRW, Inc. and Planning Systems, Inc open San Diego Offices in  
support of ISR Project Office (10/97)
  - LCDR Jim Donovan selected for CDR
  - LCDR Ken Gyure retired 26 Nov 97
- LT Cyndi Utterback assumed duties as Operations Officer,  
NOPF Dam Neck (11/97)
- LT Anne MacFarlane assumed duties as Current Ops Officer,  
NOPF Dam Neck (11/97)
  - Les Polk returned to CUS N2 (8/97)
- STG1 Chris Schneider caught a 7lb, 12oz flounder at the Chesapeake  
Bay Bridge