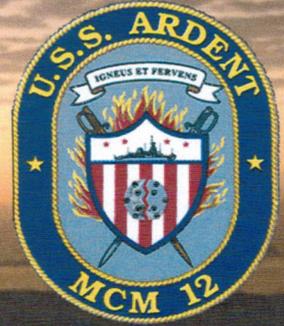




CONFLICT CHRONICLE

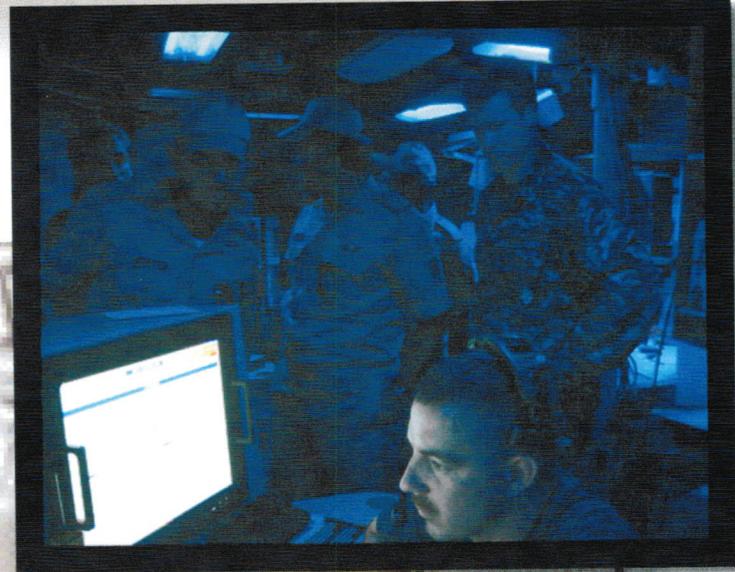
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MCM CREW CONFLICT
"PEACE ALWAYS FOLLOWS CONFLICT"
MAY 2011



ARDENT PARTICIPATES IN MULTI-NATIONAL EXERCISE NAUTICAL UNION

By MN2 (SW) Watson

MCM CREW CONFLICT had the esteemed privilege to operate with the Royal Saudi Arabian Naval Forces (RSNF) during Nautical Union held at the end of May and beginning of June. While in port Saudi Arabia, several CONFLICT Sailors participated in various sporting events, namely bowling, pool, and soccer, and completed numerous ship tours with the RSNF ships. While underway, members of the RSNF SHAQRA, a Saudi Arabian Minesweeper, cross decked to ARDENT to observe mine hunting, clearance, and neutralization processes. At the same time, we sent a few CONFLICT Sailors to the RSNF SHAQRA to view their Mine Warfare operations. CONFLICT and SHAQRA Sailors joined forces after ARDENT sailed over several fishing nets, fouling our propellers, and required assistance from SHAQRA divers to cut the lines free in order to restore maximum propulsion capability.



MEMBERS OF ROYAL SAUDI NAVAL FORCES SHAQRA OBSERVE SONAR OPERATIONS FROM ARDENT'S COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER WHILE ENSIGN SIBLEY NOTES THE SHIPHANDLING SKILLS OF THE EVALUATOR, MNC (SW) CANTU.



IC2 (SW) ARONHALT, CREW CONFLICT'S SEARCH AND RESCUE SWIMMER, ASSISTS SAUDI ARABIAN DIVERS IN CLEANING FISHING NETS FROM ARDENT'S PORT AND STARBOARD SHAFTS.

NEW ESWS QUALIFIERS

By MN2 (SW) Watson



IC2 (SW) ARONHALT & MN3 (SW) HENRY SHORTLY AFTER THEIR ENLISTED SURFACE WARFARE SPECIALIST PINNING CEREMONY.

Only two months into deployment and CONFLICT has qualified its first two Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists. Congratulations to MN3 (SW) Henry and IC2 (SW) Aronhalt who recently completed the qualification process and are now authorized to wear the ESWS breast insignia. To qualify ESWS, both MN3 (SW) Henry and IC2 (SW) Aronhalt spent countless hours obtaining signatures for their ship specific and common core Personal Qualification Standards (PQS), successfully passed a written exam consisting of 100 multiple choice questions, completed a space walkthrough of every area on the ship, and lastly, survived an oral examination board with the Chief Petty Officers Mess. Their qualification has already sparked interest with other members in the crew to complete their ESWS. CONFLICT hopes to see every Sailor return home with their ESWS pin.

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT STAYS BUSY WITH NAUTICAL UNION

By MN2 (SW) Watson

As with any Mine Warfare Exercise, the Operations Department is in charge of ensuring all requirements are met to successfully execute the tasking assigned. During Nautical Union, the Combat Information Center Team ran a 24 hour watch for all administrative messages, instructions, and communications with all ships involved. Additionally, the SQQ-32 and Mine Neutralization Vehicle technicians and operators continuously hunted and deployed the vehicle in support of the round-the-clock mine warfare operations. Working hand and hand with the CIC Team were the watch standers in Radio. The ET's and IT's, led by their newly reported Leading Petty Officer, IT1 (SW) Smith, diligently maintained operable communications throughout the entire exercise, ensuring all CIC watch standers could reach other participating ships through the internet, email, message traffic, and voice circuits. On the Deck Department side, the Sailors worked long hours in 110 degrees Fahrenheit temperatures deploying training mineshapes and conducting numerous hours of small boat operations. Overall, Nautical Union was successful due to the hard work and team cohesiveness exhibited by the Operations Department.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT COMPLETES ITS FIRST PRE- INSURV READINESS ASSESSMENT TEAM VISIT

By MN2 (SW) Watson

After long days of preparation, the Engineering Department survived its first Pre-INSURV Assessment Visit in Mid-May. A team of retired INSURV Inspectors spent one week on board assessing all aspects of main propulsion, auxiliaries, damage control, and electrical throughout the plant. Although many discrepancies were identified, the Engineers were motivated and proactive in their completion of material checks. With the upcoming maintenance period ARDENT is entering for the remainder of June and the month of July, the Engineering Department will be very busy correcting material hits, conducting maintenance, and completing preservation in their spaces.

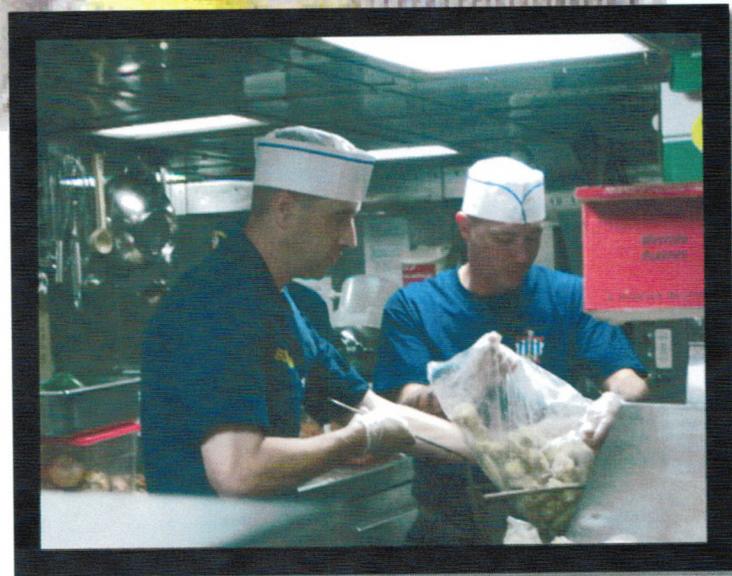
SUPPLY DEPARTMENT, CPO MESS, AND MWR HOST "WINGS AND O'DOULS NIGHT"

By MN2 (SW) Watson

Because the crew was not allowed off-ship liberty while visiting Saudi Arabia, the Supply Department, Chief Petty Officers' Mess, and the ship's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Committee hosted an evening of wings and O'Douls for the crew on the messdecks. The Chiefs personally prepared the wings, which ranged from mild to wild in flavor and spice. It's not everyday you see the Chiefs in the galley cooking for the crew, so their contribution made the event an even better treat. Overall, the "Wings and O'Douls Night" provided an excellent opportunity for the crew to relax and enjoy some non-work related time with fellow shipmates.



EN2 (SW) KOENNING "BONDING" WITH MNSN GABILONDO IN THE ENGINEERING MAIN MACHINERY ROOM WHILE PREPARING FOR THE PRE-INSURV VISIT.



AWRCS (SW/AW/NAC) BOWLER, COMMAND SENIOR CHIEF, AND MNC (SW) CAMPBELL, DECK DIVISION LEADING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER, PREPARE FOR THE CREW'S WINGS AND O'DOULS NIGHT.

NAV/ADMIN NAVIGATES IN NEW WATERS

By MN2 (SW) Watson

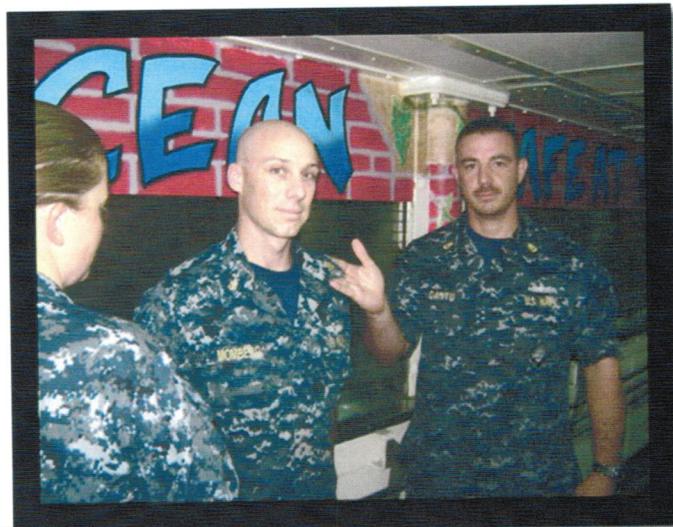
The quartermasters had their work cut out for them this month. ARDENT's trip to Saudi Arabia for Nautical Union was the first ever for our current Navigation Division. All the QM's worked diligently preparing charts, plotting the ship's transit from Bahrain, and ensuring we safely sailed in the coastal waters of Saudi Arabia. It provided an excellent learning opportunity for the junior Sailors who had never prepared for a transit and will most likely have to conduct another one on the next deployment. In the Admin Office, PSC Zdrojowy and YN1 Brown are working hard to ensure the crew's per diem is being correctly processed in preparations for the ship's galley being closed during the upcoming maintenance period. Additionally, they continue to prepare for INSURV by updating the ship's instructions and notices.



QM1 (SW) GUERRERO DILIGENTLY STANDING QUARTMASTER OF THE WATCH WHILE UNDERWAY.

CONFLICT PROMOTES A NEW SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER

By MN2 (SW) Watson



MNC (SW) CANTU AND LCDR MINETREE, COMMANDING OFFICER, PIN ON LSCS MOMBERG'S SENIOR CHIEF ANCHORS.

CREW CONFLICT recently had the distinct pleasure of promoting one of our Chief Petty Officers to Senior Chief Petty Officer. After 17 years in the Navy, LSC (SW/AW) Momberg was advanced to LSCS. As the Leading Chief Petty Officer for the Supply Department, Senior Chief Momberg manages several millions of dollars of parts each year, ensures his personnel are properly mentored, and maintains a functional and productive Galley. A natural leader, Senior Chief Momberg possesses the innate ability to perceive which leadership style and motivational strategy work best with each individual and then apply the appropriate method. The consistent accolades received by the Supply Department are a direct reflection of Senior Chief Momberg's dedication to his people and ability to get results despite the severity of the challenge.

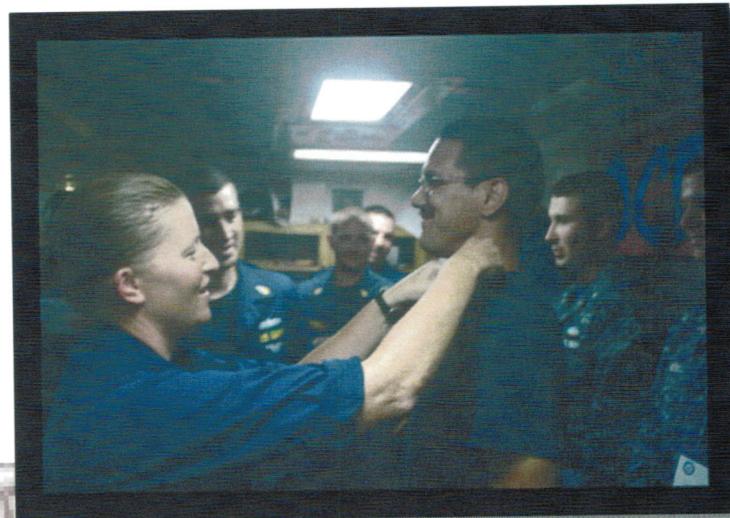
SAILORS PROMOTED TO SECOND AND THIRD CLASS PETTY OFFICERS THROUGH LATEST ADVANCEMENT EXAM

By MN2 (SW) Watson

The results are out! Congratulations to MN2 (SW) Goddard, ET2 Mitchell, MN3 Fields, MN3 Islas, MN3 Donnelly, and MN3 Steed for advancing to the next highest paygrade. After countless hours of studying, their hard work was rewarded in a ceremony held on the messdecks in which the Commanding Officer presented the newly advanced second and third class petty officers with their appointment letters. Every Sailor advanced is an exceptional performer and has a very successful future ahead of him.

SAILOR ADVANCED TO SECOND CLASS PETTY OFFICER THROUGH THE COMMAND ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

By MN2 (SW) Watson



COMMANDING OFFICER PINS SECOND CLASS PETTY OFFICER CROWS ON MN2 CHAMBERS AFTER BEING PROMOTED THROUGH THE COMMAND ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM.

Every year, under the Command Advancement Program (CAP), the Commanding Officer is given the right to automatically promote a Sailor who, in every aspect, has met the milestones needed to succeed in the next paygrade but has been unable to achieve a high enough multiple score from the exam to officially advance to the next level. This year, the recipient of a CAP promotion was MN2 Chambers. MN2 is one of the crew's best Sailors, exhibiting great leadership ability as Deck Department's Work Center Supervisor, outstanding technical knowledge in his rating, and an unwavering drive to succeed in any endeavor assigned to him. A true team player, MN2 Chambers is a vital member of nearly every special evolution performed on board and gladly helps his junior Sailors in completing their damage



ET2 MITCHELL (LEFT) AND MN2 (SW) GODDARD (RIGHT) RECEIVING CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER ON THEIR ADVANCEMENT TO SECOND CLASS PETTY OFFICERS.



MN3 ISLAS (TOP LEFT), MN3 STEED (TOP RIGHT), MN3 DONNELLY (BOTTOM LEFT) AND MN3 FIELDS (BOTTOM RIGHT) RECEIVING CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER ON THEIR ADVANCEMENT TO THIRD CLASS PETTY OFFICER.

control and 3M qualifications.
Congratulations MN2 on your
advancement!

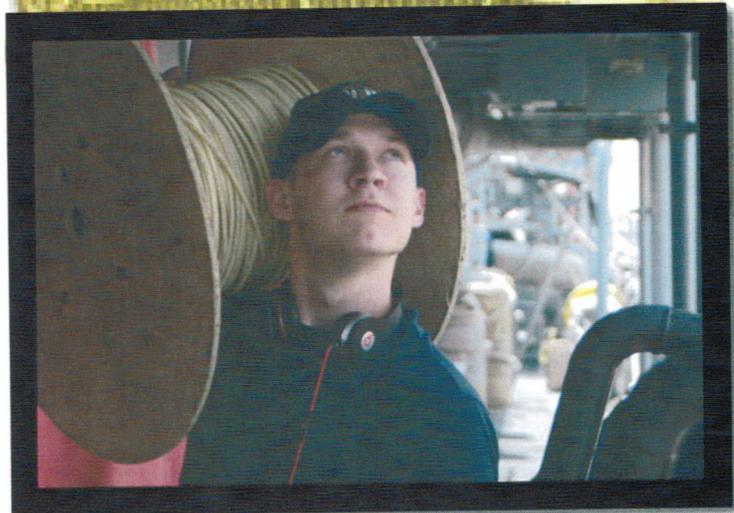
AROUND THE SHIP PHOTOS



IT2 (SW) BROWN, ET2 HENRY, ET2 MITCHELL, DC3
RAULERSON, AND LTJG GEORGE PLAYING A GAME OF CARDS
WHILE IN PORT SAUDI ARABIA.



MN3 ANDREWZYSKI WATCHES OVER THE SIDE AS ARDENT
DEPLOYS A MINESHAPES FOR TRAINING DURING NAUTICAL
UNION.



EM3 LEICHER OFFLOADING GEAR IN SUPPORT OF A MAGNETIC
OFFLOAD FOR NAUTICAL UNION.

For questions or suggestions, please
contact MN2 (SW) Watson, the Public
Affairs Officer, at PAO@mcm12.navy.mil.