

USCGC MORGENTHAU (WHEC 722)

Deployment News, 27 July 2007



FROM THE BRIDGE:

CAPTAIN KEVIN O'DAY

Greetings Family and Friends,

What a difference a week makes. Well, every ship goes through it's slow times on patrol, including Morgenthau if you can believe it, but that slow time ended somewhat abruptly on the morning of July 7th. On that morning,



our esteemed Public Affairs Officer and Newsletter Editor, Ensign Morris, was standing his OOD watch on the bridge when he called me in the cabin to report a "suspicious looking" vessel on the horizon heading on a northwesterly course. I had Ensign Morris close the contact so we could take a closer look. After arriving on scene and observing some very suspicious behavior on the part of this strange fishing vessel's crew, it became apparent that we intercepted a vessel loaded with migrants. Well, over the next 4-6 hours, the outstanding crew of the Morgenthau flew into action. First, our boarding team got onboard the vessel and helped save an unconscious migrant woman's life by getting her first aide, fresh air and water. We then began the long, arduous process of safely transferring the migrants off of the grossly overloaded and rotting 40 foot wooden fishing vessel to Morgenthau via our small boats.

Once onboard the Morgenthau, the crew continued to demonstrate why they are the "Pride of the Pacific", setting up a processing chain that included identification checks, medical checks, water, showers, toilet issues, disposable coverall issues, blankets and padding followed by a nice hot meal. It was a ton of work for the crew, but they again handled it all superbly. Soon afterwards, the migrants dosed off to sleep inside our covered helicopter hangar and rested very soundly through the night until breakfast the next morning. While this was going on, the command was making arrangements with our Tactical Commander in Alameda for the proper disposition of the migrants. Those arrangements were executed several days later in Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala, where all the migrants were safely handed over to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement reps and Guatemalan officials. Although the migrants only spent several nights aboard Morgenthau, they all rested soundly after receiving their first shower and hot meals probably in weeks. During our Chief Corpsman's medical examinations, it was evident that many of the migrants had chemical burns and blisters covering their bodies, all stemming from wearing clothes, socks and shoes that were drenched in salt water and diesel fuel. This was because the migrant vessel had weeping seams along it's hull and many open fuel containers below decks allowing the fuel to spill out everywhere.

After this case, Morgenthau continued on it's tasking which was to investigate a possible drug case that was developing south of the Galapagos Islands. So, off we went on a week long transit to drop below the equator and into the Realm of the Shellback. Soon after crossing, Morgenthau's lethal counter-drug reputation was again evident as we located a suspected drug smuggling fishing vessel and decided to covertly monitor it over the horizon with our radar. We had a hunch it was up to no good, so we upped the ante and decided to launch our small boat into the pitch black darkness to get a closer look well after sunset on the second night. Well, our hunches were correct, as our small boat team radioed back several hours later that another unknown vessel was signaling and approaching the suspected fishing vessel. Once again, Morgenthau's crew flew into action, and within minutes we had launched our helicopter into the pitch-black early morning sky to identify this unknown approaching vessel.

Well, within seconds of arriving on scene, Morgenthau's ace pilots radioed back that they had been detected and that there was general panic amongst the suspected drug smugglers, as they scurried about the decks in an effort to flee the scene. Morgenthau's helo and small boat stayed with this new vessel, and our hunches were again correct, as both the helo and small boat radioed back a text book description of a go-fast drug smuggling vessel that our boarding team eventually boarded and that we eventually seized, including all 116 bales of cocaine onboard, totaling approximately 2.7 metric tons. What an incredibly exciting case that was a complete and total victory for the good guys and the crew of Morgenthau. We essentially disrupted this drug operation before it could get started and seized all contraband, all evidence and detained all four drug smugglers before they knew what hit them. I can just imagine their shock when our helo and small boat showed up on scene from no-where.

Okay, that's my third newsletter message to you. Thank you all again for all your love and support for this outstanding crew. And as I've said before, you have much to be proud of back at home for the work this crew is doing just as we are of you. And there is still no doubt about it, we absolutely, positively could not do it without you.

Oh yes, we ARE still planning a Tiger Cruise from San Diego to San Francisco at the end of this patrol if you are interested. Dates will be from Friday August 3rd to Sunday August 5th. It should be lots of fun!

"Semper Paratus" – Always Ready "Decus Pacifici" – Pride of the Pacific

Best Regards – Captain Kevin M. O'Day





FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

ENS CHRIS MORRIS

Greetings once again from USCGC MORGENTHAU. This is the fourth e-mail newsletter of our current deployment, coming to you from the Eastern Pacific. As you can see from Captain's message we have been busy as usual. While migrant cases are not the most fun for the crew, they are important and it is reassuring to know that we removed 75 migrants from a very unsafe situation, and will help bring five suspected migrant smugglers to justice. We ended the operational part of the patrol on a high note with a very exciting go-fast bust in the middle of the night! Catching them by surprise, we seized 116 more bales of cocaine weighing an estimated 5,800 lbs (2.65 metric tons), with a street value of approximately \$77 million, detained four more suspected narcotics traffickers, seized automatic and semi-automatic weapons found on board, and sent another go-fast and its 800 horses to the bottom of Davey Jones' locker. Altogether we've been making the world a safer place from all the way out here in the Eastern (and Southern) Pacific. I hope this newsletter provides you with a glimpse of some of the fun we've been having as well as the great accomplishments of the "Pride of the Pacific"- USCGC MORGENTHAU. And thank you for all your support and positive feedback. Stay tuned for our final newsletter of the patrol!



-ENS Chris Morris

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

LCDR BRIAN HIGGINS

"Reflections of a Junior Officer"

-LTJG George Hall, LTJG Vincent Escobedo

George and I are departing the unit soon, transferring to our new offices as we continue our careers. As I have been asked to write an article for this newsletter, I thought that I might leave some parting thoughts in addition to the recent events of our patrol.

I arrived here two years ago, knowing very little about military life underway. I was sent here to learn as much as I could about Engineering, management, and the mission. I've learned from everyone, from the Firemen to the Chiefs. As an

engineer, my journey started in the bilges; in the hot, smothering oven of the engine room. From there I moved up to earn the Engineer of the Watch (EOW) qualification, and had to manage all of the equipment and people in that oven. It took me nearly a year to reach that stage.

It was at that point that my track changed to what the other Engineers would refer to as the Dark Side. I moved out of the engineroom to pursue a qualification as the underway Officer of the Deck (OOD)...And that's where the last newsletter left off: I had earned my OOD letter & would continue to stand watch on the bridge.

After departing Panama & returning to operations, we were assigned to significant cases involving counter drug & migrant operations. Before we could conduct any LE ops, we had to get ready by taking on fuel & flying in some key new people. We stopped for a day in Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala where we completed a painstakingly long 65,000 gallon fuel onload. A day later, CWO Ben Saiz, our new MPA, and ENS Bryan Radik, a freshly minted EOIT from the Coast Guard Academy,



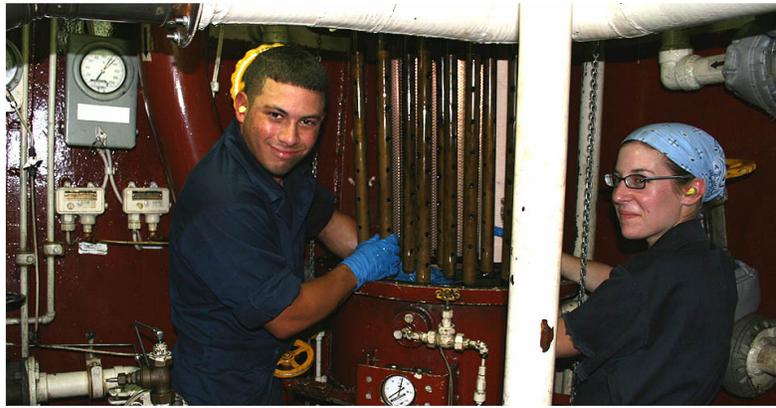
EMC Christopher Knizeski supervises EM2 Theodore Compton on the throttles, as we surpass our 'top speed' of 27 kts.



arrived via helicopter from El Salvador. After that, we were ready to go.

Our new personnel arrived on the same night the Engineers were making pizza for their Morale Night, so as soon as they arrived we put them to work making pizzas. The pizzas received many complements as they were made with extra cheese & thin crusts as per orders from LCDR Brian Higgins, and extra meat thanks to the pizza topping skills of MK2

Ben Denman & FN Kevin Clark. 15 minutes into serving dinner, MORG set the Migrant Interdiction Bill, causing some people to not get pizza until midnight! But cold pizza is sometimes better than warm pizza, and so all was well. After this busy night, we were tasked to go deep south. Our engines performed marvelously as we cruised hundreds of miles south of the Equator, and during a subsequent middle-of-the-night interception of a go-fast vessel, Engineers were busy keeping the plant running & staging teams for possible firefighting or Rescue & Assistance (R&A) operations, again ridiculously early in the morning. Although their efforts in preparing were appreciated, their services thankfully weren't needed. DC3



MK3 Luisney Rodriguez and 1/c Cadet Tenley Barna changing some filters- it's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it!

DCC Russ Cox & EM2 Tim Ieronimo. This team did a 'space accountability' of the vessel; this inspection started at midnight at went on for nearly 7 hours, looking for any space where drugs could be hidden. Unfortunately no drugs were found, but we did all learn about the wonders of ammonia refrigeration, especially how great it smells

when it leaks. After the boarding, we did a modified 16 knots on both MDEs all the way back to Guatemala for more fuel & another long day. But everything was in good hands as MK3 Byron "Trey" Knepp completed his first solo fueling evolution as FOWK, during which 1/c Cadet Brandon Aten provided quick & safe suppression of a fuel leak & FN "Safety Mike" Williams helped fix a gasket to prevent further leakage.

Thanks again to all of our Cadets who have been working hard on special projects & standing watches alongside us in the Engineering Department. Also worthy of mentioning during this time was that CWO Ben Saiz & EM1 Michael Raffino received their EOW qualification. And so it is at this point that I say goodbye to MORGENTHAU's Engineers. I only hope that I can display a fraction of their work ethic, toughness & dedication that they have given to me and the ship. Good luck with the hunt. Fair winds & following seas...

**-Submitted by LTJG George Hall & LTJG Vincent Escobedo
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT NEWS LT CHRISTOPHER MEIK**



Senior A-gang leadership- MK2 William Conable with MK1 Christopher Newling helping the ship stay nice and cool.

Garth Heilman & DC3 Bill Kreutzkamp seemed disappointed; they were looking forward to providing R&A, or at least scuttling a vessel. Following our bust & ensuing transfer, we were reassigned to another case. We conducted a two day turbine run, once again a testament to the hard work of the Main Propulsion Division. We arrived on scene & boarded a large suspect fishing vessel. Engineers on our boarding team were MK2 Eduardo Cabrera, MK3 Alex Maher & FN Travis Webb. These guys embarked the vessel first & cleared it to make sure it was safe. They paved the way for our support team, made up of LTJG George Hall, MKC John Buckley,



When our radars broke down, we couldn't find a Circuit City, but this CG-C130 got the job done with a parts airdrop.

Greetings, family and friends of Operations Department!

Risking an allision (a nautical term for when a vessel rams into something stationary.. kinda like a CO-lision) with the skein of Fate, what's on everyone's mind is that we are Almost Home.

Some of us have witnessed, first-hand, the particular physiological tremens associated with getting recalled back to sea while pulling in at the pier with our families in-sight.

That, indeed, is a special kind of disappointment. So, as to offer a sort of pay-off to Irony, Fate, and All Else that might pop up its head to conspire against us before we have lines over at Alameda and are swimming in hugs and hello's, we're going to say "thank you" to the Cosmos At Large for such a great patrol so far. And maybe throw a pound or two of salt over the shoulder, just for good measure.



MORGENTHAU and her crew performed throughout that evolution, it's comforting to know that there are crews throughout our operating world that are professional, competent and above all else... compassionate. MORGENTHAU, for one, carried herself extremely well, from our diligent bridge crew to our crisp boarding teams to our dedicated CIC watchstanders to the

Our OPS department has really stood tall on its legs these last 2 months. After the many counter-narcotics successes we had right out of the gate, we were blessed with a slight lull that the crew really appreciated. Caffeine and adrenaline both lose their affect after a while, so downshifting every now and then is a good thing. But sure enough, the pendulum swung the other way and the days turned to froth, as they want to do in the Coast Guard.

above-deck personnel assisting the migrants. In AMIO operations, as is the case with pretty much everything that we do, once the boats are cradled and the helo put to bed, the Operations Department continues to roil and turn and process and communicate. AMIO operations, as you can imagine, are a significant part of a cutter's mission envelope, and although they offer different challenges and rewards as compared to a narcotics seizure, the policies that drive the boots on the deck



Morgenthau crewmembers begin removing 75 migrants from an unsafe fishing vessel.

A few weeks ago we came across a boat loaded with Ecuadorian immigrants. It's a very somber experience for many folks to enforce Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations (AMIO) policy. Barring political discussion, many of us can't help but think about our own immigrant forebears and wonder at the situations that inspired them to take risks in their search for a better life for themselves and their families. This is one of the more 'human' of our humanity-oriented missions and it's a reflection of the challenging lifestyle we've chosen to pursue as Coast Guard men and women. Reflecting on how



Operations Department's new Chiefs, BMC Michael Haley and OSC Chris Ramp, being inducted into the realm of the Honorable Shellback.

are critical to the international community. Ecuador, for example, receives an estimated \$1.5 billion from illegal immigrants working in the U.S. Just as serious, and more relevant to us as life savers, though, are the numbers of migrant fatalities.

As sober an evolution as it was, it wasn't without elements of humor, thankfully, as humans are humans the world over. One of our guests was the embodiment of our motto, Semper Paratus (always ready)... he brought his own shampoo and cologne, both of which he applied judiciously once on board.

International relations are, after all, built one first impression at a time. Furthering bonhomie, we even treated our guests to a showing of Spiderman 2 on the flight deck, in Spanish, of course. The curious thing is that even though he wore a mask, you could still tell that Spiderman was dubbed over when he spoke. And they never seem to pick a voice actor that



fits the perspective of the original-language audience. When I was 11 I lived in Honduras. Hearing B.A. Barakis of the TV show “The A Team” dubbed over in Spanish was one of the funniest things I’d ever heard. Mr. T is a... unique... character actor, if nothing else. I’d imagine that Andy Dick doing the voice-overs for a Mexican Luchedor would seem equally funny to an 11 yr old kid from Ecuador. It’s just not what he’d expect El Ocho to sound like.

In the days that followed our AMIO case, we busied ourselves with many flight operations and a lot of secretive machinations in the Combat Information Center. The bridge team continued to drive the boat, the guys in radio continued to process our message traffic, the technicians continued to tweak and torque, and they did it all very well. We even managed to include an integrated training exercise that spotlighted a bit of the verdigris that’s started to accumulate on our Operations Machine. Kinda like a brass frog after that first weekend on the lawn, it’s a little green at the edges and not quite as shiny as it was on the shelf at Walmart a week ago. But better than a simulation (including a simulation of a brass frog) is an actual deployment of our operational resources. MORGENTHAU did her best to position herself for another counter-narcotics success, but the chessboard outplayed itself and we ended up making the best move that

we could. Just one more bust would have been great, but... there’s plenty that our men and women have done this patrol to be proud of. Bravo Zulu, Operations, you’ve done exceptionally well!

For all of you back home, please close one eye in reverent supplication and keep the other on the calendar and the pier... we’ll be home soon, Irony, Karma and Fate notwithstanding.

Cue the admonitory salt-over-the shoulder throw!!

-Submitted by CWO2 Jason Brooks

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT NEWS LTJG JOSIAH STARR

“Now, set flight quarters condition one.” “Now, set the boat lowering detail, starboard side.” “Now, set the go-fast bill...” These words have become all too familiar to the members of the weapons department as they have worked extremely hard, sometimes all night long, to support our operations this patrol. The hard work has definitely paid off, resulting in the recovery of 75 migrants and the seizure of 116 bales of cocaine from a go-fast vessel since our last newsletter. Now as another patrol winds to a close, we are eager to come home to all of you in just a few short days.



The Deck Division has been working tirelessly ensuring an optimal condition of readiness and supporting all aspects of



Two Operations Division Officers, ENS Jantzen and ENS O'Donnell on Nav Eval during Special Sea Detail.



SN John Moisant prepares some pizza- Weapons Department style.

shipboard operations. Congratulations to SN Williams, SN Maldonado, SN Butler, and SN Smith, who recently received orders to their desired "A" schools. They will be missed in the weapons department on MORGENTHAU, but we know they will go on to do great things for the Coast Guard!

The Gunnery Division continues to maintain the weapons systems on MORGENTHAU with diligence and pride. Despite a busy schedule, they found time to put together a morale shoot for the cadets and crew, allowing 40 personnel to pull the trigger on the .50 cal machine gun. Our visiting English teacher, Mr. Sims, had so much fun shooting he went back for a second round!! We are hoping to allow family and friends the same opportunity on the Tiger cruise, so those of you who will be joining us can look forward to that. The Gunnery Division will be saying goodbye to GM3 Weir, who joined us TAD for this patrol, contributing significantly to the success of the division in the absence of several key members.

The Fire Control Division will be losing a valuable member at the end of this patrol. ET2 McGrath will be departing for Portsmouth, VA. His hard work and dedication to the weapons department and MORGENTHAU is greatly appreciated and we wish him fair winds and following seas!

The Weapons Department now boasts quite a few Honorable Shellbacks. The ceremony provided a much needed break from normal operations and will not soon be forgotten by those who participated. Our very own weapons officer was tricked into buying a "golden PFD" which supposedly got him out of the less desirable festivities, but somehow he still found himself in the belly of the whale and attempting to swallow "truth serum."

You can be proud of your family and friends in the Weapons Department who



ET3 Michael Hazzard gets to shoot the .50 cal during a gun exercise put on by the GM's for the crew.

have stood the watch and executed the mission with pride and professionalism this patrol. We look forward to seeing all of you very soon!!!

*-Submitted by ENS Christie
Hawn*

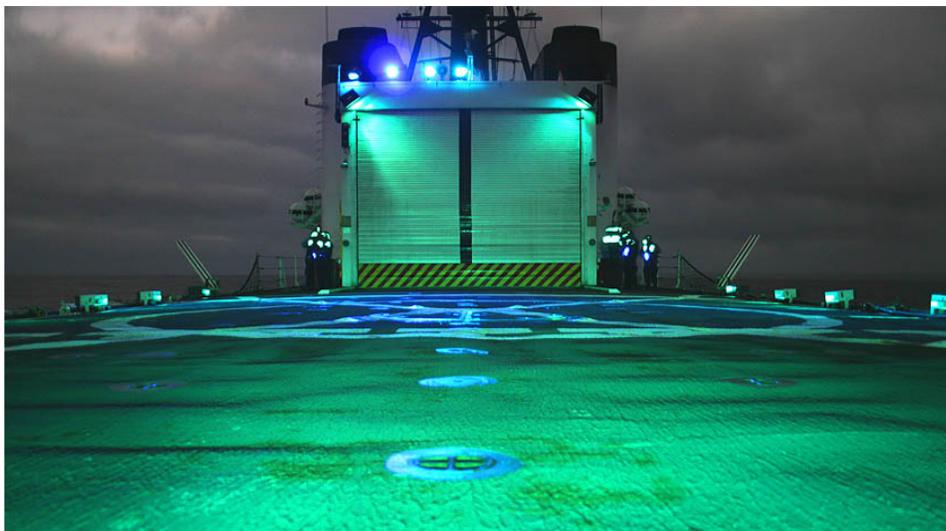
**SUPPLY DEPARTMENT NEWS
CWO2 JAMES O'BRIEN**

Well, the patrol is almost over. In a little more than a week CGC Morgenthau will be back in beautiful Alameda. This is a great time to reflect on the patrol and thank all the people who helped make it a success. The Operations Department, Engineering Department and the Weapons Department all did outstanding jobs this patrol and the Supply Department worked extremely hard providing the services they needed to get the job done. Each of the Supply Divisions wanted to highlight some of the contributions the crew has made helping them to get the

job done, so let's jump right into the HS Division and see what Chief Gipson has to say...

As I stepped aboard MORGENTHAU the morning of 19 May for this South Patrol, I thought, "This should be interesting". I had a rough idea what would be in store for me, but it would be on a different ship, with a different crew, and on a patrol that I had not experienced before....Hmmm. I was welcomed by a wonderful and excited crew and have enjoyed getting to know each and every one of you while underway.

Thanks to the Chief's Mess for all your company, support, laughs, and good times both on and away from the ship. Hold on to that Balboa everyone! Thanks to HS3 Pittman and SN Williams for all the hard work and eagerness to learn. You got those records done ahead of schedule! Great



Tie-down crew awaits the return of our helo after an early evening flight.



HS3 Barry Pittman (R), gets tagged by OS3 Christopher Kiener (L)...some people will do anything to become a shellback!



SN Eigil Bisgaard passing reports for his fellow Wogs during the induction.

job! I know you will both do the Coast Guard proud in your future careers. A great many thanks to the entire crew for allowing me the opportunity to join you on an exciting and unpredictable patrol. Fair winds and following seas till we meet again!

Let me say Doc, it has been our pleasure. We look forward to the day you can give us all a tour of your new cutter, good luck on the CGC BERTHOLF. Ok, now on to Chief James and our fabulous Yeoman Division...

Since our last newsletter, the admin division had many last minute changes due to operations. However, lucky for us one person always has our back. He doesn't get a lot of credit, but without a doubt, he is someone this ship could not do without. Of course, I am speaking about CDR James Hawthorne. The Executive Officer position is not all fortune and glory, more like working late every night until you fall asleep in your chair, then wake up grab a cup of coffee and a large glass of soda and keep working. So thanks XO, you probably don't hear it enough, but every member of the crew really appreciates what you do. Especially your YNs. In the YN office YN2 and YN3 have assisted our members with their

TAD travel claims via TPAX with each claim taking approximately 45 minutes to one hour to complete. Their efforts allowed those members to receive their travel entitlements in a timely fashion. We have also prepared TAD orders, arranged transportation and travel for members going to schools, PCS, or emergency leave. In Short, this patrol has been non stop for us.

Thank you YNC. I must say, I have to agree with that. The XO does not get nearly the credit he deserves. Now, on to the newest member of the Department, Chief Thompson from the SK Division...

The entire SK Division would like to thank ET1 Smiley for not only going above and beyond to make SK's jobs easier during all his transactions ordering supplies for the CMAA, but also because he is always smiling and has a great attitude towards everything he does. He is always willing to help a shipmate. He always has the right information for IRs, CASREPS, PR's, helping out shipments, such as the air drop, coordinating shipments with ESU when we are underway. He is always kind and courteous to every member of the shop and always shows his appreciation of the work we help out with. He makes our job easier by checking up with us on his order status weekly when import. He is very approachable with any questions we have in any situation regarding his orders. He even assisted us with adding all of the OTH parts in to our inventory. So thank you very much ET1 Smiley, you're a great asset to our ship.

That's great, I always like reading about one of our shipmates who sets such a great example day in and day out. Good Job ET1! Last but certainly not least, Senior Chief Sullivan from our Food Service Division...

I would like to give a big thanks to SK2 Healy. She has been taking charge of every morale event since I have arrived. I enjoyed pretending I was a little old lady playing bingo. She has been in charge of Trivia, Limo, and the team building game, whatever the heck that was. The hidden treasure game, Water balloon games ect. But I digress. I believe she did all the shopping for the prizes that were given out and they were



SN Wayne Benson escapes from the Ship's Office to plays some BINGO on the messdeck.

in fact cool prizes, of course, I didn't win any of them but they were still cool.

Well thank you Senior Chief. It has been a pleasure having you on board CGC MORGENTHAU. We will be sorry to see you go when we hit the pier in San Diego. Good luck on your upcoming transfer. I want to end our portion of the newsletter with a big thank you to every member of the Supply Department. I know it's a difficult job, and you all work very hard. It has been a great patrol and we accomplished a lot to be proud of, good job everyone!

-Submitted by CWO2 James O'Brien
SOUTH PAT 2007

CADETS:



Happy summer greetings to all from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy cadets on Morgenthau. We have all been busy the past couple weeks with various operations and training. As far as go-fast vessel action goes, it was like music to our ears as "another one bites the dust." Morgenthau used the camouflage of night, setup a perfectly planned trap, and so the bad guys never knew what hit them. In the end, over one

hundred bales are not reaching the United States due to the execution and flawless performance of Morgenthau. Cadets were also fortunate enough to partake in the .50 caliber gun shoot. Even though a target was not being fired at, I am sure after 2000 rounds were fired one spot was hit twice (though 3/c Sniper Stanek believes all 50 of his rounds hit exactly at the same point). Also, it is important to mention that ol' Davy Jones decided to pay us a visit on Morgenthau. As we transited the seas, we passed the equatorial line and some of us



Last know photograph of 3/c Ann Dolinar as a Slimy Polywog.

were not shellbacks! After waddling down a hallway of shellbacks, being sold to the highest bidding shellback, performing various skits, and having a "fun" session of



These guys never miss a good sunset.

calisthenics and breakfast, we were lucky enough to earn the status of an honorable shellback. Again, with great assistance from the members onboard Morgenthau, more cadets were able to qualify for engineering watch standing positions. 1/c Laura Williams qualified for security watch stander, 3/c Frankie Temple and 3/c Jackie Ramirez qualified for generator watch stander. 1/c Brandon Aten, 1/c Tenley Barna, 3/c Frankie Temple, 3/c Jackie Ramirez, 3/c Chris Grabe, 3/c Doug Neumann, 3/c Daniel Sorby, 3/c Adam Stanek, 3/c Rebecca Gentile, 3/c Kris Lopez, 3/c Tim Olah, and 3/c Ann Dolinar were all able to qualify for basic and advanced DCPQS. As we are destined to leave in San Diego, it is important to note how much we appreciated the help of everyone on Morgenthau during our summer training program. There was not one person who did not bestow important and relevant knowledge to each of us, and for that we are all thankful. We hope everyone has an enjoyable time for the remaining summer. Happy days and safe travels to all.

-Submitted by 1/c Cadet Brandon Aten
SOUTH PAT 2007

FEATURE:

As Captain O'Day has informed you, over the past few weeks the sailors onboard the Morgenthau have been very busy. The missions we embarked on were completed with safety and resulted in great success. Every member onboard has contributed significantly in keeping the CGC Morgenthau truly the Pride of the Pacific. It has not only been the seizure of over \$197 million worth of cocaine and the saving of lives that kept the crew in high spirits. The past few weeks have been riddled with fun and exciting events as well as the most sacred of ceremonies. Everyone has been busy including the lowliest pollywog to the most honorable shellback.



Pizza Night as always is a morale booster and the Weapons Department locked up the guns, greased up the pans, and



Spicy or Barbeque?

made preparations on many pizzas. It is without doubt exciting to see the concoctions different departments will put together and call pizza. The Weapons Department was very precise and accurate while they donned the cook's caps and created some top notch pizza pie. Everyone sure got a full belly that night.

The fun on board doesn't stop with just an exciting dinner here and there. After being underway for over 30 straight days and port calls being delayed due to operations, the morale committee has been quick to create new and exciting events. A silent auction resulted in YN2 Kellehar donning the command afloat pin as Commanding Officer for a day, and FN Ontiveros took on the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Officer for a day. They put together a rigorous Plan

of the Day to include highly intensive training evolutions which at the last minute were canceled for the crew to enjoy a much deserved holiday routine and a relaxing day on steel beach with a view of the JO's fulfilling the duties of trash separation. Truly a good time had by all. BM3 Hewitt won a Blue Tooth for his cellular phone and showed that the Navigation Division really knows their way



Wog Williams (L) with Honorable Shellback Williams (R) during the ceremony. Below, ENS Cuevas is one of Wog William's many victims as he practices the art of drawing blood before reporting to HS "A" school after the patrol.



OS1 Michael "Jackson" Guerrero and SK1 Brian Sorensen recreate the "Thriller" music video...that's their story and they're sticking to it!

around charts by guessing the coordinates of the treasure on the Lost Treasure Game where everyone picked a location on a chart where they thought treasure might be. EM2 Theodore Compton won a brand new iPod in an invigorating game of Bingo. Other great prizes were won in events such as a poker tournament won by ET3 Munkelt, who walked away with a Guitar Hero II for Play Station 2. SK1 Sorensen won't have to worry about getting lost after winning his new handheld GPS as he was spot on with the experts by guessing the exact order of importance of survival gear needed to survive a Helicopter Crash. After so much time underway everyone onboard is excited to reach San Diego and pick up those who will be joining us on the Tiger Cruse.

The Morgenthau had to cross the equator and search the southern hemisphere to find the infamous Davy Jones and ask for passage of the many pollywogs onboard to become Shellbacks. Although we are unable to give you all the details the Honorable Shellbacks aboard stuck with the ancient traditions and properly executed the rigorous ceremonies to induct those pollywogs worthy of being called Shellbacks.

Morgenthau has been successful and has truly lived up to the motto work hard, play hard. We will continue to be productive and safe as we look forward to returning home soon!

-Submitted by ENS Chad Carlough



9 Our pirate take down team- OS3 Lopez, OS2 Borja, and GM2 Kinker prepare to embark on an undercover mission to build a case against a suspect pirate vessel.

CREW RECOGNITION:



- FN Justin Branson qualified Basic DCPQS
- SN Brendant Butler qualified Basic DCPQS
- ENS Chad Carlough qualified Quartermaster of the Watch
- ENS Christie Davis qualified Quartermaster of the Watch
- LTJG Vincent Escobedo received a CG Achievement Medal
- SN Julio Espinal qualified Basic DCPQS
- SN Dustin Ford qualified CB-OTH Boat Crewman
- SN Garrett Green qualified Basic and Advanced DCPQS
- BMC Michael Haley qualified Basic and Advanced DCPQS
- ENS Christie Hawn qualified Underway Officer of the Deck.
- DC3 Garth Heilman qualified On Scene Leader
- Our CG-1109 HITRON crew received a Letter of Appreciation
- SN Jeffrey Judge qualified Basic DCPQS
- SN Erick Kelley qualified Basic DCPQS
- SNBM Brian MacDonald qualified M2HB Machine Gun Operator
- SN Mathew May qualified Boat Davit Operator
- SN Mathew May qualified Davit Boat Captain
- ENS Erin O'Donnell qualified Quartermaster of the Watch
- EM1 Michael Raffino qualified Underway Engineer of the Watch
- CWO2 Benjamin Saiz qualified Underway Engineer of the Watch
- BM3 Jeffrey Sheibels qualified Quartermaster of the Watch
- BM3 Jeffrey Sheibels qualified After Steering Helmsman
- SN Steve Sims qualified Advanced DCPQS
- SN Paul Turner qualified M2HB Machine Gun Operator
- SN Jared Vahl qualified M2HB Machine Gun Operator
- SN Jared Vahl qualified Helicopter Tie Down Team member
- SN Alex Whyte qualified Boat Davit Operator
- SN Alex Whyte qualified Advanced DCPQS



We would like to wish fair winds and following seas to our departing shipmates:

- LTJG Escobedo – Grad School for Mechanical Engineering at the University of Berkeley
- CG-1109 HITRON- LT Phil Pabellon, LTJG Chad Eckhardt, AMT2 Chris Winckel, and AI Stahl

SHOUT-OUTS FROM THE CREW:

- OS2 Dusty Bingham sends: “Angela, thanks for all your support during these last two years, I love you and could not have done it with out you.”
- MK1 Mark W. Childers sends: “Managed to endure a third Equator Crossing. Nothing has changed much down there... Sheri, your weightlifting progress is awesome! You will represent the Coast Guard well at the Armed Forces Open in Sacramento, CA. Keep up the good work, but don’t think you can still take me out! (LOL) "T", Britt, Nat, and Carly, hope you had a great summer. School is right around the corner. Mom, good job dodging those hurricanes so far this year. Love you all, your Salty Sea Daddy, Mark”
- CT11 Micaela Christopher sends: “Isaiah, Elena, Noah, and Billy I love you all so much! Susie thanks for your support and tell the boys I said "Hi"! I'll see you guys really soon!”
- ENS Rick Colby sends: “Lindsey, we should have a pretty awesome time on the tiger cruise. Everyone else, see you shortly thereafter. I miss you all and look forward to catching up with you. Take Care and call anytime after the 5th.”
- ENS Christie Davis sends: “Hi Mom and Dad, hope the recovery is going well and that the trip to MT is safe and quick. Kev and Roommmmmate have fun underway! Miss you all.”
- SK3 Donald Dean sends: “To my wonderful wife, I love you so very much and I will be home soon. To all



Boarding Team undertakes lengthy process of unloading 116 bales from go-fast well into the morning after a very long night.

my family back home thanks for all of the support, I love you and I will be seeing you soon.”

- HSC Rocky Gipson sends: “Hello all! Thanks for all your support. Can't wait to be home for a while. Welcome to the family baby Jonathan! Miss and love you Sherry and Justin. See you soon.”
- ET3 Michael Hazzard sends: “Hey yall! Hope everyone is doing well back home. Happy Birthday MiMi! See you guys soon! Love Mike.”
- DC3 Bill Kreutzkamp sends: “I will be home soon baby. No pink bedroom :) love you cant wait to see you. Hows it going mom and dad see you guys soon.”
- OS3 Chris Lopez sends: “To my family back in Tennessee, in a few weeks I'll be back home to play the Banjo and blow on the jug!!!”
- 3/c Cadet Kris Lopez sends: “Hey all, miss you! See you all in Sarasota REALLY soon!”
- FN Mike Lowe sends: “Whats up chuck fudge hope your ready for some serious sangy times when I get back as well as some camping to the maximus. See you the day we get back . Peace out cubscout.”
- OS1 Michael Guerrero sends: “Hey Shar, we are almost home and before you know it I'll be walking in that front door. Don't be surprised when you hear the sound of someone fiddling with the door with keys. It has been a while and you know that our door gives me a hard time. I can't wait to come home and see you! I miss and love you dearly!”
- BMC Michael Haley sends: “Cyndi, I'm almost home angel. We will be holding each other before you know it, love you. Sean, Daddy misses you little

man, I'll be home soon.”

- OSC Phil Marsh sends: “Hi Amy! I'm looking forward to being home with you and spending as much time as possible. I need to make up for some lost time! See you on the pier in a couple of weeks. Love, Phil”
- OSC Phil Marsh sends: “To Drew: I buddy! I miss you and mommy very much. I hope you had a good birthday, you can tell me all about it when I see you in a couple of weeks. Have fun at camp and keep mommy safe. I love you buddy and I'll see you very soon. Love, Daddy”
- CWO James O'Brien sends: “Happy Birthday my love! Wish I were there with you.”
- CWO James O'Brien sends: “My love, Can't wait to get home and head down to Disney with you and our beautiful daughter. Miss you both a lot. Thank you for everything you do, it makes my job seem easy.”
- CWO James O'Brien sends: “Kev, Look forward to getting you out here on the ship. Hello, Mom, Dad, Lisa, Harry, June, Sean, and Kyle! See everyone soon.”
- CWO James O'Brien sends: “Uncle Bob, Thanks for coming out to see us. I know Gretchen and June really enjoyed having you out here. Hope you can visit again soon, maybe come out for one of our Tiger Cruises.”
- MK2 Crystal Padin sends: “Baby, Nik icuzi! ZER ICUZI??

Nik icuzi zure bustana andia. Zu criston ono za narutan. MAITE ZAITUT! I miss you!!!”

- ET2 Chris Prior sends: “To my girls: I can't wait to be home and see you all again! Happy Birthday Celeste!”
- FN Clarence Rivera sends: “Hi everyone back at home. Miss and love you guys. Getting fat right now. I don't care, still going pig out when I come back. I am in the mood for Gulick Delicatessen



The masterminds of the “Shellback Line Crossing” ceremony, GMC Mark Jacobs, and MKC John Buckley are hard at work terrorizing the Wogs!

and crème filled malasadas. I just gotta train harder to lose all the extra weight. Take care.”

- SeaMAN Jeremiah Schiessel sends: “Hello Kimberly the date is coming up so fast. I am so excited and can't wait to marry you. Hopefully I am not too nervous. I am almost home and can't wait to watch all of the shows you recorded, go to the beach, bowling and go to restaurants. Love Jeremiah.”
- BM2 Rick Spicer sends: “West Coast Crew: I'll come visit soon, say Hi to the pups for me. Dad: Thieving women. My stolen heart and your stolen time. Eh, we'll have a Guinness soon enough. Thin Blue Line: It's not the badge that makes the man, it's the man that makes the badge; I'm proud to have you as my brothers. Sis, what would Mom do? I'm always here for you.”
- LTJG Josiah Starr sends: “This was a blast. We have all earned our tax payer dollars....and then some. Hope to see & hear from everyone soon. Jerry & Nicole, let me know when you hit the left coast. Mama I hope you are enjoying my car. John, I hope all is well. Love JJS.”
- SeaMAN Williams sends: “Hey everybody. I love you and I'll be home soon. Hope you all are ready.”



We'll be safe out here on the high seas – you be safe too at home, and thank you for your support, e-mails and care packages! We're thinking of you all the time.

Best regards,

The Officers, Chiefs, and Crew of
USCGC MORGENTHAU (WHEC 722)
“Decus Pacifici – Pride of the Pacific”

Visit us at: <http://www.uscg.mil/pacarea/MORGENTHAU>

