

THE HAMMERHEAD

December 2010

The Newsletter of CGC RESOLUTE (WMEC 620)

Written by the crew for the friends & families of RESOLUTE

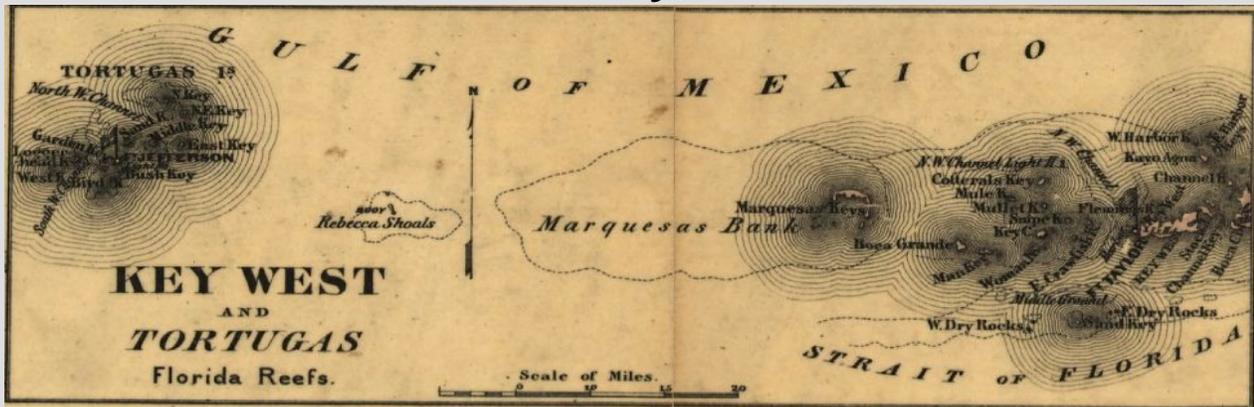


“Any Time, Anywhere, Any Sea”



On the morning of 18 November 2010, the crew of RESOLUTE arrived on board, ready and eager for yet another patrol. They said their farewells to their loved ones; some newlyweds, others new parents. Their focus now was the Southern Caribbean. Both main engines awoke from their in port slumber and filled the engine room with their familiar roar. With the radars energized and rotating, and fuel tanks full, RESOLUTE hauled in her last line and made way for the Skyway Bridge. From there, it was left rudder and full steam ahead due south.

RESOLUTE pulled into Key West, FL the next day for a brief on their patrol. No liberty was granted here, and the crew turned to for meetings and work. A few short hours later RESOLUTE was back underway, southbound.



Officers from the Colombian frigate ARC TOLEDO, Panamanian Lieutenant "Dimas" and RESOLUTE Captain CDR Jordan gather in RESOLUTE's wardroom.

Next, RESOLUTE headed for Panama. We did not pull into port, but we did embark a Panamanian Lieutenant ship rider to assist us with our LE operations, as well as coordinate operations with a Colombian warship.

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA



Locals display some traditional dancing within the Walled City

A few days later RESOLUTE celebrated Thanksgiving. The FS's went above and beyond expectations in preparing a delicious feast, and LTjg Higbie finished off the night with a Thanksgiving Trivia, with "Team Shake Weight" rallying in the last round for a first place finish. True Cinderella Story.

30 November, 2010, RESOLUTE pulled into Cartagena, Colombia and anchored. The crew was eager to get ashore and experience South America. The crew visited the old Walled City and partied throughout the night. On 03 December, with the crew back aboard and rested up, RESOLUTE put Colombia in her wake and headed back out to the Caribbean Sea.



Some crew enjoying a meal



A picture from atop the old Walled City, overlooking Boca Grande, Cartagena

ROATAN, HONDURAS



RESOLUTE moved on, expecting a port call in Costa Rica. However, operations prevented **RESOLUTE** from the visit. It wasn't until 16 December 2010 when the crew finally got some much needed R & R. Anchored outside Roatan, Honduras, the crew was able to get ashore and experience some island-style recuperation.



Top; MK3 Zeni holds his breath while viewing some underwater sites.

FN Pendergraft hangs out with a new buddy.

Left: A beautiful sunset outside Roatan Island.

Right: A local Roatanian

Bottom: A few crewmembers getting ready to zip-line the Roatan jungle.

Sunset Quarters



Finally, after a long 34 day patrol, Resolute was homeward bound. Once again, the FS's prepared a delectable "Final Feast", cooking up a Surf N' Turf delight of steak and crab legs. After the crew had eaten their fill, Sunset Quarters was held. Patrol statistics that were submitted by the crew were read aloud by the CO. the Captain then presented a gift to the crew given to him by the Mayor of Roatan. As the sun set off the port quarter, the crew reminisced about the patrol, and looked forward to the holidays back at home.



Left: Captain addresses the crew.

Right: XO watches as the CO presents a gift to the crew.

Bottom: BM2 True on his way to formation on the flight deck for Sunset Quarters

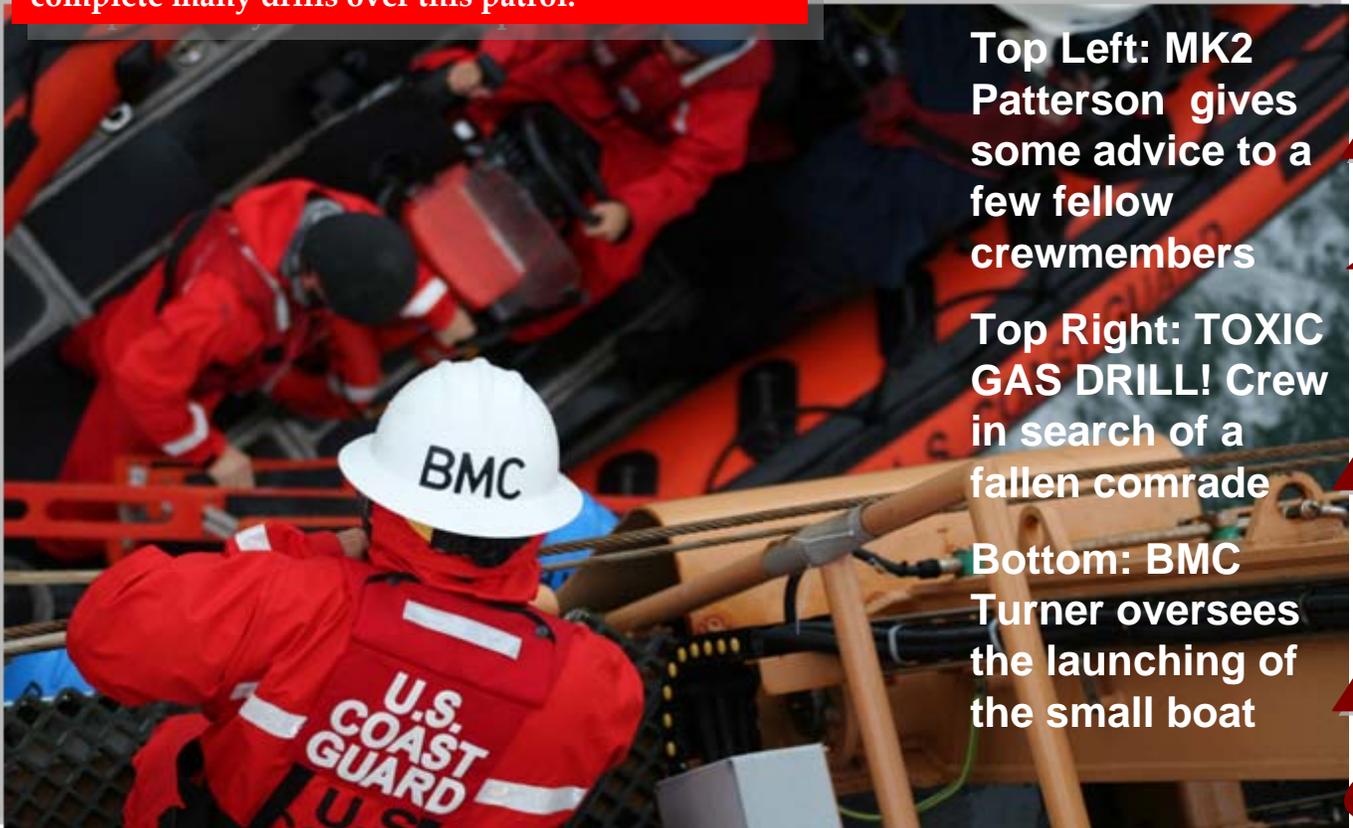


The crew of RESOLUTE can be called upon to act at a moments notice. It is important to train for every possible situation that may occur while underway, be it responding to a Search and Rescue or Law Enforcement case, or a catastrophe aboard RESOLUTE herself! Everyone on board has a specific duty that in important to the evolution at hand. The key to success in all situations is fast response and clear communication. There are training teams in place to conduct each drill and grade it to see if the crew is proficient in its response. When the real thing happens, RESOLUTE will be ready. The crew was called upon to complete many drills over this patrol.



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Top Left: MK2 Patterson gives some advice to a few fellow crewmembers

Top Right: TOXIC GAS DRILL! Crew in search of a fallen comrade

Bottom: BMC Turner oversees the launching of the small boat

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Top: the crew completes a walk-down of the flight deck.

Above: Three helo tie-down members await signals from The Landing Safety Officer.

Bottom Left: The small boat crew rides the sea painter, ready to get hoisted back aboard RESOLUTE

Bottom Right: The crew stands by on the foc'sle while inbound Roatan, Honduras, just in case the anchor needs to be dropped in emergency.



There are many drills that RESOLUTE crew members must complete. There are Damage control drills, as seen on the previous page, as well as Aviation drills, where the crew must be able to land, launch and fuel helicopters. There are also Engineering, Navigational, Seamanship, Force Protection and Medical drills, to mention a few categories.



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Top Left: LTjg Jacobsen and SK2 Rios stand by as RESOLUTE awaits permission to board a vessel.

Top Right: RESOLUTE received some Aerial surveillance assistance from their friends in the sky.

Below: A Boarding Team Member uses his hand as a reference while photographing a deck fitting.

Bottom: RESOLUTE observing a foreign vessel. This vessel had over 50 crew members. The crew would go out in canoes and SCUBA dive for lobster.

GC RESOLUTE embarked on its counter drug deployment from NOV to DEC 2010. As the crews sailed out to sea a lot of members were anxious to get to do the things that they signed up to do: battle drug traffickers.

Some of the boarding team members got their first boarding, congratulations to all of you! The crew did a complete search of the vessel and 100% space accountability was made. The ship was tested for drugs and the crew was questioned. Along with difficult work and late hours, the boarding team had to combat an arch foe, sea sickness. RESOLUTE patrolled the southern Caribbean striking fear into drug traffickers hearts. This patrol gave some crew a taste of what law enforcement is really like.

Written by ME2 Terry



LAW ENFORCEMENT





After a hard fought battle, ET1 Auman shows off his trophy.

FN Estrada enjoying a little break on the fantail.



MK3 Zeni giving a classic pose for the newsletter.



Fish Call

Life aboard RESOLUTE is very busy, between searching for drug runners, patrolling the seas and executing shipboards drills. Sometimes, the bridge team will spot a long sea weed line. With the Captains permission, an announcement will be made. "NOW, DOWN DOWN ALL LINES, UP UP ALL FISH, FISH CALL." The fantail is soon covered with anyone who is not on duty, hoping to be the lucky Coastie with the big catch.



RESOLUTE's Captain, Commander Jordan helps a shipmate filet his catch.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



A few days before RESOLUTE arrived back home in St. Pete, The Morale Committee, spearheaded by LTjg Higbie, held a Christmas Party to help celebrate a safe and successful patrol. Ice cream, pizza and Christmas Cranium filled the mess deck with good food and laughs, as crew members were able to let loose and relax.



Top Left: Team "Shake Weight" gives a valiant effort in Christmas Cranium during a clay challenge

Top Right: DC3 Fialkowski takes a generous helping of ice cream during the celebration.

Bottom Left: LTjg Higbie lays down the law on a debatable ruling in Christmas Cranium.

Bottom Right: DC2 Philpot accurately acts out the Little Drummer Boy, putting his team ahead.



Classifieds/ Shout-outs



As we approach transfer season, many of our shipmates are getting orders to new stations and cutters. Especially in the FS department.. FS3 Scott Proco will become the most senior (time on Resolute) member of the Galley. The last couple of patrols, FSC Steve Jedziniak has been molding FS3 Proco into his "Legacy"... Soon there will be an all new crew in the galley all looking at FS3 and FSC for the answers. I think FS3 has gone above and beyond his call of duty in preparation for this.

When I reported to Resolute as young, inexperienced FS, I looked up to the guys who were already here, and new the ins and outs of life on Resolute and cooking for 80+ people 3 times a day. Now it is FS3 Proco's turn to take the reins and show these new guys the ropes. I have full confidence that he will be able to make it happen. FS3 Proco is an excellent FS, and a great shipmate.

~FS3 Taylor Abell~

Inanimate Object of the Patrol Award

This Award goes to the inanimate object that has done the most for you and your shipmates during this patrol. I couldn't think of any other object more deserving than the Grey Couch in the E5 Berthing Area. It was only built for 5 PO's but can easily fit upwards of 9 PO's, with 1 PO's on the top of the couch. Gray Couch gets only a few hours rest each day between late night watches. During the work day, Grey Couch stays at full capacity, with different PO's taking their turns resting their sea weary legs. Gray Couch has seen its better days with its cracked pleather pulling the hairs on the back of your head, but, we forgive you Gray Couch. Gray Couch's primary function is to provide a platform for Black Ops and movie watching. Gray Couch has seen many a PO's in its day, and is coming close to retirement.... or not, because the CG can squeeze about 10 more years out of this sweet, crumbling beauty. So, if you get a chance head down to E-5 berthing, please, give Gray Couch your thanks. Three Cheers for Grey Couch! Hip Hip Huzzah!!

~DC2 Philpot~



Being in the Military and having a family is a tough thing to juggle. When you are on a Cutter or over seas it makes it even harder. Being away from your loved ones during the holidays, birthdays, big events etc, is difficult to adjust to for both the military member, and for their families. My wife and I just had a baby girl last September. Her name is Peityn Taylor Abell. Since day one she has been the light of our lives. Any thing that was important to us before kind of takes a back seat now.

This is the first time since my Daughter was born that I have had to get underway and leave them. I left thinking to my self, "Eh, just another patrol, no big deal." But I had no idea how hard it was to be away from your newborn daughter. You feel like you are missing out on every thing. Her first smiles, and laughs, tucking her in at night. My wife has become an awesome mother. I know she is working hard every day taking care of the baby, and the house, and her own job and school. I'm sure that doing all that stuff by her self is just as hard if not harder than any job we do here on the cutter. I would just like to thank her for all her efforts, And tell her I love her.

~FS3 Taylor Abell~

Classifieds/ Shout-outs

I would like to give a shout out to the FS's. Since I have been on board the food has been very good. I have eaten at close to 15 different galleys/cafeterias during my time in either the coast guard or the navy, and the past few months onboard Resolute, I can easily say have been the best food of any of them. I just wanted to say thank you to the FS's for doing what they've been doing and making time away from our families, friends, and homes, a little less rough.

-ET3 TOPP



Reenlistment

Congratulations to DC1 Nettles who reenlisted on the mast. LTjg Jacobsen presided over the ceremony

Dear ENS Johnson;

I have received your application for "Bull Ensign." I must say, your credentials are outstanding and you are more than qualified to take on the duties and responsibilities of what many South American countries refer to as "Señor Torro." However, as you know there is a formal board and background check that must be completed, as well as a polygraph test and some other standard procedures. Please be patient as these required examinations are completed. Your cooperation is expected.

Very Respectfully;

LTjg Steve Sharp

Bull Ensign Qualification Panel Master



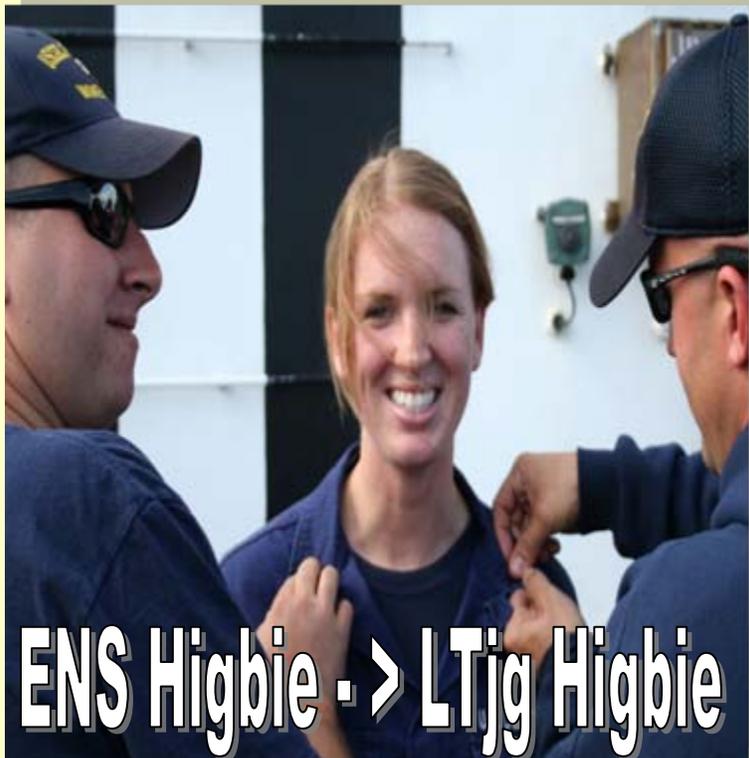
CONGRATULATIONS on your Promotions and Advancements



BULL ENSIGN Sharp -> LTjg Sharp



SA Roginski - > SN Roginski



ENS Higbie - > LTjg Higbie



ENS Jacobsen - > LTjg Jacobsen

CAPTAIN'S



PAGE

Happy Holidays to RESOLUTE's crew, families and friends. As we return from another successful trip, we are proud of what we have accomplished. Over the last 3 deployments since June of this year, we oversaw a portion of the Coast Guard's response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, conducted Counter-Drug and Counter-Migrant Smuggling operations and also completed our annual readiness training in Mayport, Florida.

As the heart-beat of the cutter, the crew has completed their duties superbly this year. Working together as one large team, they proudly carried our flag into foreign waters to represent our homeland, provided compassionate reassurance to our fellow mariners at sea, protected our fellow countrymen from those who wish to do our country harm and prevented damage to our precious environment.

Each and every one of the crew and their families deserve great thanks and admiration. The support they receive from their wives, husbands, parents, siblings and friends is crucial- enabling them to complete their dangerous and exhausting duties safely and professionally.

As we look to 2011, we see another year filled with service to our country, care to our fellow mariners and adventures on the high seas! It is my pleasure to serve as RESOLUTE's Captain and I hope to see or hear from all of RESOLUTE's family in the coming months!

Semper Paratus

Commander Sam Jordan, USCG

The Command Chief Says...



Greetings from our latest JIATF Patrol, there wasn't much in the excitement category this time around, but it still remained an extremely productive patrol. As always the crew answered every challenge and tasking asked of them in typically RESOLUTE style. We were able to see different parts of the world that few have had the opportunity to visit, and for some crewmen, it was their first time outside the United States, just one of the many benefits of being assigned aboard RESOLUTE. A couple of notable mentions in the new qualifications achieved were BM3 White, MK2 Patterson, and ENS Johnson. For BM3 White earning his first Coxswain Letter, a huge accomplishment for every young Boatswains Mate. For ENS Johnson and MK2 Patterson, earning their first Underway

Engineer of the Watch qualification, a enormous achievement in the Student Engineer and Machinery Technician realm of expertise. Being away from all our families and friends over the Holidays is always an unpleasant and stressful time for us onboard, but life still goes on for those left back to manage the households, which is usually more demanding without your spouse and parental partner to help carry the burden. None of us onboard could do our jobs without your support. Going to sea is always rewarding, but it can sometimes cause stress and hardships between families. Thank you for your support and we'll see you home soon enough. Stay Safe.

BMC Chad Turner
Command Chief

