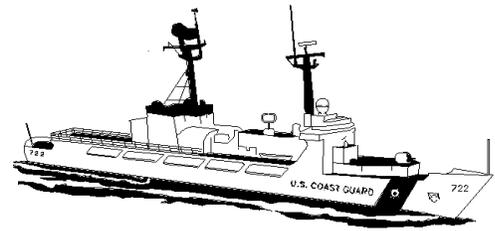


USCGC MORGENTHAU (WHEC 722)

Deployment News, 14 August 2005



Greetings from USCGC MORGENTHAU, underway in the Pacific Ocean! This is the fourth e-mail newsletter of our current deployment. We hope this newsletter keeps you well informed of the great accomplishments and happenings of the Pacific Area's ship of choice – USCGC MORGENTHAU.

From the Bridge: Greetings once again. This has been a very interesting week. We conducted a daylong boarding of a Columbian fishing vessel early in the week. We had numerous members of our crew onboard the vessel assisting our regular boarding team including several engineers that inspected tanks and below deck structures. Although the vessel was very suspicious, we could find no concrete evidence of illegal activity and completed the boarding. We did enjoy several very nice days in Golfito, Costa Rica, which offered everyone a chance to enjoy dry land and the sights and sounds of a foreign port call. It was great to be able to talk to family and friends once again. We're now back out on the playing field, hard at work on our primary mission. You can all sleep soundly knowing that MORGENTHAU is protecting the western flank tonight! Best regards, CAPT M. E. Sullivan.



The Week in Review. This week was a very busy week for the Mighty MORGENTHAU at sea. As the Captain mentioned above, on Monday we spent an entire day boarding a suspect drug vessel. Our two boarding officers, ENS Elizabeth Gillis and BMC Bill Walper, led a large "high-risk" boarding team on a very thorough, meticulous search of the vessel. We launched our helicopter to conduct a search of that vessel's trackline in the event that it jettisoned contraband. We resumed our patrol Monday evening and flew several helo sorties on Tuesday to identify vessels in the area.



A beautiful Costa Rican waterfall near Golfito

Our helicopter suffered a condition known as a "torque split" on its second flight Tuesday and came in for an emergency landing. This condition occurs if there's a significant torque difference between the helo's twin engines and is often indicative of engine failure. We landed the helicopter safely and our aviation detachment mechanics went right to work troubleshooting. Tuesday afternoon our engineers held engineering casualty control drills, and we had a navigation brief that night to prepare for our arrival in Golfito, Costa Rica on Wednesday morning.



A sleepy resort on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica near Golfito

Golfito is a small, sleepy

village on Costa Rica's Pacific coast that thrives in a small fisheries trade as well as banana exports. We arrived for a well-deserved two-day port visit for crew relaxation and recharging. Some of our crew got hotel rooms at the famous Hotel Sierra with its pool bar, while others surfed on Costa Rica's world-famous mile-long left-handed break. Our husbanding agent (the local businessman who coordinates all logistics and services for our stay) also arranged for several tours of the local countryside, which many of our crew took advantage of: horseback riding, hiking through the tropical rain forest, and climbing the hills surrounding beautiful waterfalls.



Most of the wardroom and SA Will Booker hike through a rain forest stream to get to a waterfall

MORGENTHAU sailed from Golfito Friday morning and fully engaged in the battle against drug traffickers. We repaired our helicopter and conducted several test flights, and steamed to a high-threat mission area. We diverted Saturday morning for one specific law enforcement case and conducted a morning helicopter sortie for support. As is tradition, we also had an all-hands field day Saturday



Guest chefs for Saturday's baby back rib feast: AMT3 Scott Jones, AMT1 Gary Billburg, LTJg Clay Clary and LT Barry Miles

morning to clean up the ship; two of our berthing areas tied for the coveted "Best Berthing Area" award that morning: Senior Engineering Berthing and Senior Female Berthing. All residents won a two-hour liberty card for their victory. Saturday afternoon we inducted twenty lucky crewmembers into the "I've been OC Pepper Sprayed Club" as they completed a very critical portion of their law enforcement training and certification process (OC Pepper Spray is similar to Mace). Saturday night our Aviation Detachment cooked an incredible dinner of baby back ribs, and we all thanked LT Barry Miles, LT Clay Clary, AMT1 Gary Billburg, AET3 Jeremy May and AMT3 Scott Jones for the feast. The Morale Committee sponsored an Uno Tournament Saturday night, and after nearly four hours of heated battle, SN David Rabouin emerged the winner! OS3 Kim Hawkins was runner-up with SA Ryan Patwell coming in third place. We had non-denominational religious services Sunday morning along with American Sign Language classes in the afternoon and evening, and fit in two helicopter sorties in the late afternoon and night on Sunday.



The best part of the Hotel Sierra: the pool bar!

Proud Moment of the Week:

Our very own Ombudsman, Mrs. Sarah Dorsey, who is also a First Class Yeoman in the Coast Guard Reserve, won the prestigious title of "Eleventh District Enlisted Person of the Year" award! We are so very proud of you, Sarah, and all send our congratulations. Pictured is Sarah between RDML Eldridge, Commander of the Eleventh Coast Guard District, and the Navy League President.



Our Ombudsmen, Mrs. Sarah Dorsey and Mrs. Soly Holder, report from shore that many MORGENTHAU families enjoyed a terrific luau put on by the Oakland Council, Navy League, on Coast Guard Island this past week. We wish we could have been there with you all. Pictured are (top row) Soly Holder, Nadia Matta-Toledo (spouse of OS3 Brian Soto), Laura Fraisse and Angela Bingham, (bottom row) Sarah Dorsey and kids and Ana Quinones and kids.



We asked our crew what they liked best about our port visit in Golfoito, and they said:

- "Swimming and pool frisbee" SA Amanda Jenkins, Hill Top Lakes, TX
- "Seeing people who are perfectly content living in their condition" ET3 Anthony, McGrath, Smithfield, VA
- "Being able to walk more than 378 feet, and riding in the crazy taxis!" FS3 Elizabeth Roberts, Lilburn, GA
- "The horseback ride through the jungle" ENS Elizabeth Gillis, Grand Rapids, MI
- "The adventure in the rainforest, and jumping off the waterfall" LT Michael Fisher, Columbia, SC
- "Surfing!" ENS Erin Pigors, Hendersonville, NC
- "Surfing!" SN Jonathan Sains, Waimanalo, HI
- "Gathering cattle" SNFS Luis Noriega, East LA, CA
- "Being able to mingle with everyone in a non-work environment" AMT3 Scott Jones, Phoenix, AZ
- "Beautiful scenery" DC3 Andrea Cooper, San Jose, CA
- "Fishing" FS3 David Hubbard, Ontario, CA
- "The pool was great and my burger and fries were excellent" OS3 Pascal Fraisse, Ocean



OS3 Kim Hawkins, YNC Ann Ladd and HSC Rebecca Vinlove kicking back in Golfoito



ENS Mike Hjerstedt jumps from the top of a small waterfall. Others braving the jump: ENS Ernie Saponara, ENS George Hall, LT Mike Fisher, CDR Mark Dietrich

Springs, MS

- "It's always good to stop and use the phone and experience a new culture" BM3 Nathaniel Fraze, Bakersfield, CA
- "Hotel Sierra was pretty cool" BM3 Sarah Morin, Savannah, GA
- "The excellent dinner at King and Bartlett's" CWO2 James Hammond, Petaluma, CA
- "It was a nice break from mess cooking" SA William Booker, Miami Lakes, FL
- "Not standing 1 in 3 watches in the engine room and the plant got to take a rest" CWO Pat Barron, Cottonport, LA



FA Kareem Orio leads SN Sean Bahl toward a soothing bucket of water after being pepper-sprayed

Crew recognition this week:

- MKC John Buckley certified as Engineering Security Watchstander and Boat Engineer
- SN John Clare certified as Helmsman/Lookout
- LTJG Clay Clary reported aboard from Air Station Los Angeles CA
- Cadets 1/C Joseph Coffman, Sarah Morin and Jeremy Yandell returned to the Coast Guard Academy
- LCDR David Ehlers returned to Air Station Los Angeles CA
- SK3 Brynn Healy celebrated a birthday on 13 August
- ENS Mike Hjerstedt certified as an Underway Engineer Officer of the Watch
- SA Amanda Jenkins certified as Dual Point Davit Operator
- ENS Miles Jenkins reported aboard from USCGC MIDGETT, Seattle, WA
- FN Tom Lundberg certified as Boat Engineer
- FN Harry Major reported aboard from Training Center Cape May, NJ
- FN Brent Mansell departed for Damage Controlman "A" School in Yorktown, VA
- SA Daniel Moraga certified as Helmsman/Lookout
- SN Michael Morrill reported aboard from Training Center Cape May, NJ
- SA Jerit Romey certified as Helmsman/Lookout
- SNBM Mary Schlicht certified as Helmsman/Lookout
- BM3 Rachel Spear certified as Dual Point Davit Captain
- FN Mike Williams certified as Engineering Security Watchstander



Just pepper-sprayed, SN Rick Spicer tries to fend off an attacker before the agony sets in

Personal greetings from our crew to our family and friends:



The Aviation Detachment enjoying their meal: LTJG Clay Clary, AMT3 Scott Jones, AMT1 Gary Billburg, AET3 Jeremy May and LT Barry Miles

- OS1 Stephan Aragon sends: "She was a fast machine; She kept her motor clean; She was the best damn woman I had ever seen; She had the sightless eyes; Telling me no lies; Knockin' me out with those American thighs."
- OS3 James Bacon sends: "Crystal, one more week down. I love you babe and can't wait to see you."
- CWO James Bigbie sends: "Hello Khris, Kelsey, and Jamie, I miss you very much I hope you are having a good time. I wish I were going to Hawaii with you. I miss you I love you!"
- OS3 Dustin Bingham sends: "Happy anniversary Sweetheart." "Love ya mom and dad!"



SNFS Luis Noriega having a bad day, having been pepper-sprayed for law enforcement team training

- OS3 Jeremy Borja sends: "Jess & Gabby I love yall and can't wait to see yall. To the rest of my family be safe and take care. Love, Jeremy."
- MK2 Christopher Breuer sends: "Hi Jess XOXOXOXO I love you!"
- LTJG Clay Clary sends: "Hello to Mom, Dad,

Brock and Anna. Brock, I hope you get home soon and safe. Mom and Dad, I'm enjoying the trip. Anna, I miss you and I hope to talk to you soon."

- MK1 Mark Childers sends: "Brittany, good luck at your new school. Sheri my love, Quos amor verus tenuit, tenebit - True love will hold on to those whom it has held. (Seneca) Your love has held me from "that evening". Hang in there. You are doing great. Good luck with the new job. Your loving husband, Mark."



Fierce Uno Tournament: L-R, FSCS Randy Litka, ET3 Dan Nelson, OS2 Brian Clarke, SN Kaleb Kirkpatrick, SK3 Brynn Healy

- CPO Russel Cox sends: "To Candice and James I Love you both and will be home soon and no, "James Daddy did not leave you I am working."
- CDR Mark Dietrich sends: "Hope everybody is enjoying vacation in Colorado!

Happy 9th Birthday, Mary! I love you all and have a good, safe trip back."

- OSC Brian Dorsey sends: "To Sarah, Thank you for being so wonderful. Girls I miss you so much and cant wait to play games with you. To My parents, the Dorseys and the Josts. Thank you for the wonderful birthday e-mails. I miss you all and will be home soon."
- ET2 Mark Edillon sends: "Happy Birthday Joyce, Jay, and belated one to Vince. Big thanks to Jay and crew, Nina, Junior and family, the Littles, Auntie Carol and family for your help while I'm away. Take care!"
- LT Michael Fisher sends: "Dad, I am glad you are feeling better and it was great talking to you the other day. Mom, Kristin and Kelli I hope you are doing



After being pepper-sprayed for law enforcement team training, having your head pushed into a bucket of cold water is actually a good thing

- well. Tell everyone I am doing great and I say hello." Michael
- BM3 Nathaniel Frazee sends: "Strawberry, I miss you like crazy, and I am counting down the days. To Moms and Pops, Happy Birthday Dad, and Mom I miss you guys. I am feigning for some salsa. Tony~ stop touching the goats... Ok never mind, go ahead."
- EMC Alan Gieb sends: "Hi to my mom and dad, love and miss you much. MRG missed you while at the beach, luvs & kisses, AKG. Hello Donna, Hello Patty, Having fun here, you missed a party!"
- ENS Elizabeth Gillis sends: "Mom and Dad, I miss you. Take care. Happy Birthday, Margaret. Have Williams send some cholutas for the boarding team. We could use them."
- ET1 Troy Gracie sends: "Cynthia and Mykaela, I miss you both."
- BM1 Jeff Hamilton sends: "Tiki: Love you, Miss you, can't wait to see you and your new ink. Matilda Jean: Keep up the good work at school try hard. Sit. Stay. NO jumping. Ollie Dog: Sorry about Matilda, (it was your Mother's idea.) you'll get used to her. Play nice. Mom & Dad Hamilton: All's well out on the ocean blue. I'm taking the XO's ASL class, so we'll have something to "talk" about when I come home again. Love you."
- ENS Mike Hjerstedt sends: "Happy Birthday Baby! I Love and Miss You."
- SKC Keith Johnson sends: "Chiquitta, Orrin, Ryan Monique and Omar I miss you all and I'm proud of all your accomplishments. Love You. Keith"

- SNBM Chris Kuhr sends: "Hey Kirst, I miss you soo much babe, I think about you all the time and I wanted to tell you good luck on the upcoming semester, I know you'll do fine! Hey Terri and Chris, I hope all is well with the family! Tell Jerrod thxs for working on the mustang AND especially you guys for helping me out while underway! Love Chris."



Some type of special moment between FN Tom Lundberg and MK2 Brian Meachum. Possibly an engineer thing.

- YNC Ann Ladd sends: "Dad...thank you for the great news, my prayers are with you always. Mom...happy birthday, I love you. Michele...good luck, I know you will do great."
- BM3 Wendy Leiva sends: "Chris, I love you and ultra miss you more than ever."
- FN Thomas Lundberg sends: "Moms and Pops, I love you and will talk to you soon, tell the boy I love him too. Eddie, stay fat...reaaaalll fat!"
- FN Blake Mabry sends: "Hey Baby-Cakes, I love you with all my heart and my Daisy Dogg too, I can't wait to see ya'll!"
- MK3 Charles Malinski sends: "Hope everyone back home is having fun without me, not really. Heinz ketchup is the best!!!!"



BMC Bill Walper (L) coaches FS2 Sean Whitten (R), just pepper-sprayed, in ordering an attacker to the deck

- MK2 Brian Meachum sends: "Marcella-Thanks for mowing the lawn. I Love You."
- ET3 Gregory Meyer sends: "Hey Guys, I can't really think of anything to say. However, I'd feel like I'd let everyone down if I didn't give a shout out. I can't be feeling bad about myself out here can I?"
- SN Michael Morrill sends: "I'd like to give a shout out to my wife Brenda, our parents and family for always believing in me and

supporting me 100%. I love them all and can't wait to see them again!"

- OS1 Wendy Perdue sends: "Paul, thank you for everything you have done for me, you always come through in the end. I could not ask for a better friend in life, see you when I get home."
- ENS Ernie Saponara sends: "I sorely miss you princess! I wish we talked longer while I was in port. I hope everything is going well. Take care of the critters! Just remember all the extraordinary times we have shared and imagine all the wonderful times we have yet to experience! I think about you every day and can't wait to see you!"
- SK3 Michael Simonetti sends: "To my boys in blue, and the one gorilla in silver with sausage fingers. Best of luck to you at your new units, but remember where ever you go, no where is better than the Morgenthau. Romani, Alex, Lange (JT), Kelly (JFF), and Daddy Brown"
- SN Richard Spicer sends: "Jim - Tell TJ that BRUTUS doesn't like salt-water too much!!! Beth - Yeah, I'm rockin' the farmers' tan! Kath - You'll never believe who sent me an email. Dad - Thanks for the skills!!!"
- ENS Kyra Van Echo sends: "To my families in MD,



FS2 Kurt Wilson, SN David Rabouin, SK2 Ben Warholoski and FN Mike Williams kickin' it in a local Golfito establishment



YN3 Laura Smith, BM3 Wendy Leiva, HSC Rebecca Vinlove, OS3 Kim Hawkins battling it out at the Uno Tournament

VA, and CT and my roomie in SC...I love you and miss you all! David and Ally, have fun in school, it's not so bad! Hey Bean, what are you waiting for?"

- FS2 Sean Whitten sends: "Disco Dan and G-Money: How was Buck's Lake and the Treemackers? Meet anybody new? Ha. Wish I could have been there. Do you know where I can find some... corn? Defoe: Hope you get better soon. Get with Garrett and drink some Tabasco. Make sure Dan isn't around, know what I mean? Marco and Claudia: Good to hear back from you two. Tell you Mom I said hi. Talk to you soon. Maps and Paps: How is life with Grandma gone? Is everything back to normal yet? Tell knitheboy to email me once in a while. Miss you both."
- FS2 Kurtis Wilson sends: "Hey K's I love you both, and miss you everyday. Cousin Lori congrats on the news of having your first child. Tell the 'FAM' I say hello."



Uno Poker Faces: CDR Mark Dietrich, FN Patrick Hamer, SK2 Ben Warholoski, SN Sean Bahl

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!

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>

