

CROSSING THE LINE CEREMONY

HMCS COLUMBIA

19 FEB 63



THE HISTORY BEHIND THE CROSSING THE LINE CEREMONY

According to Greek Mythology, the original God of the Seas was a certain deity called Poseidon. During his reign, Greek sailors were accustomed to burning incense and singing such appropriate odes as "Eternal Father" to intercede for his good offices and therefore bring on smooth sailing.

Poseidon's wife, Amphitrite, was the daughter of Oceanus, a very powerful Greek God in his own right.

When the Romans ousted the Greeks and became the primary power in the area, they installed Neptunus as their ruler of the Seas. Adding insult to injury, Neptunus adopted Amphitrite, thus becoming Poseidon's father-in-law. Poseidon was so depressed by this event that he committed suicide by drowning himself in his own ocean leaving Neptunus as King of all the Seas with the right to extoll fees or homage from all who enter his domain.

The origins of the ceremony have been difficult to trace. One source of information claims that during the 17th century when entering the Straits of Gibraltar, all those who were entering for the first time had to pay their fee or else be dunked from the yardarm. The enactment of this ceremony was transferred to the Tropics, and, eventually, to the Equator. Why the Equator was the final choice and not the International Date Line or the Arctic Circle is anyone's guess.

Another source of information has it that the ceremony was initiated in the Royal Navy's East Indian Fleet during the tenure of Admiral Horatio Nelson. Since most of our more peculiar customs seem to be dear old Horatio's fault, this source may very well be true.

The ceremony is mentioned in an old B.R. called "Sports and Recreation in the Royal Navy." The authors admit that the ceremony's origin is obscure, but they have no doubt that it originated from some form of "pagan religious rite."

A lengthly description is given of the ceremony held by the crew of H.M.S. NEW ZEALAND when she crossed the Equator in 1919 with Viscount Jellicoe aboard. This was a revival of a ceremony which had obviously been abandoned. We are, however, indebted to them for their contribution to the handbook which points out "it is hoped that the ceremony and text may prove helpful to future generations of those who occupy their business in great waters."

When comparing the two ceremonies mentioned in the B.R., we notice that although the general pattern is unchanged, the text is altogether different. This illustrates how the script must be adapted to the local scene: that is, the Captain may or may not be a SHELLBACK, and all charges made against the defaulters must be original.

There has always been a great reluctance on the part of the TADPOLES to being initiated--and their fears are well founded!--however, it must be realized that this ceremony should

be taken in fun, otherwisw the whole spirit will diw.

Note: SHELLBACK - one who has been initiated into the Realm.

(-the good guys!)

TADPOLE - uninitiated, UNCLEAN!

The following pages contain the script for the "Crossin the Line" ceremony as enacted by the "COLUMBIA PLAYERS" on the occasion of their passage from Esquimalt, B.C., to Suva, Fiji, at Longitude 166'W, Latitude 000, on the 19th of February, 1968.

The ceremony is broken down into three phases:

The first phase begins the previous night when the Herald of His Oceanic Majesty comes aboard in order to inspect H.M.C.S. COLUMBIA and decide upone her worthiness to receive on board NEPTUNUS REX, in all his glory.

The second phase begins when NEPTUNE, after receiving a favorable report from his Herald, arrives on board the following day, accompanied by all of his court. His first act is to present Orders and Awards to Trusty Shellbacks, and to see any defaulters that have incurred his wrath.

The third and final phase takes place when KING NEPTUNE supervises the initiation of the TADPOLES...

THE PLAYERS

King Neptune	C1 Gouldie
Queen Amphitrite	C2 Zabrick
Herald	C2 Fisher
Scribe	Pl Sutton
Davey Jones	Pl Lawley
Judge	LS Lothian
Doctors	Pl Haukaas
	LS Thomas
	LS Skaalrud
Barbers - P2 Amos, LS Silcox, LS Crumly	
Trident Stamper - LS Flynn	
Mermaids - P2 Jcnes, P2 Kostek	
Chief of Police - Pl Beech	
Head Bear - P2 White	
Bugler - LS Hesselgrave	

- - Police - -

Cdr Okros	P2 Forgie	LS Regnier	LS Sims
Lt Braithwaite	P2 Welch	LS Murray (WS)	LS Duhamel
LS Wiley	LS Aylesworth	LS collins	C2 Jackson
P2 Stennes	LS Campbell	LS holmes	

- - Bears - -

Lt McRae	Pl Banwell	L SER Carter	L SWU Carter
Pl McCullach	Pl Bemister	Pl Sailor	Pl Peppar
P2 Davies	LS Hill	F2 Prill	C1 Senger
LS Kupitz	Pl Seip	Pl Moore	Pl Lynch

Pl Pacquette	LS Giles	Pl Cuthbert	Lt Mustard
LS Freelove	LS Fielding	Pl Prokopow	LS Van Somer
LS Stuebner	LS Jerome		

- - Court Police - -

LS Weatherby	C2 Ebner	LS McKay	LS Hansen
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- - Queen Bearers - -

P2 Edwards	Lt Hahn	LS Robinson	C2 Wade
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- - Mermaid Bearers - -

Lt Yans	S/Lt McClean	P2 Carver	P2 Pearson
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LS Martin	LS Clark	LS Cameron	LSLT Murray
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ACT I

-by "The Columbia Players" ltd.

18th February 1968 time 2000

(The following dialogue is heard over the Ship's Broadcast--someone left a 'mike' open--with Sonar transmissions heard in the background.)

SCR "Command - SCR, unidentified contact bearing red 45. Range 2000 yards. Classified non-sub. Appears to be surfacing, Sir."

OPS "Command - OPS, now contact bearing red 45, one mile."

OOW "Roger - report."

OFS "Command - OPS, contact red 45 stationary by plot."

CAPT "Very good - that will probably be King Neptune's Herald. Alter course towards and clear lower decks to the Focs'le."

BOSN MATE "Clear lower deck to the Focs'le. Cadet Guard to muster on the Focs'le."

(The ship alters toward the alleged contact and nothing further is heard until the Ship's Company is assembled on the Focs'le. Both the Captain and Herald speak through Loud Hailers; Captain on the bridge, Herald on the Focs'le.)

1. On spray.

2. On lights.

HERALD (from behind spray) "Ship Ahoy!"

CAPT "COLUMBIA."

HERALD "I've heard the word you were around.
Now tell me, Skipper--whither bound?"

CAPT "We're steaming for the Fiji Isles,
Altering course every thirty miles.
Now, I've got a lot to do,
So tell me, stranger, who are you?"

HERALD (stepping through the spray, and waving his sword menacingly) "No stranger! I've the right
To board your ship this balmy night--
As King Neptune's Herald, and I mean
To find out if your ship is clean."

CAPT "I've stopped my engines, please come on board.
Your guard of honour is starboard forward.
They're Venture Cadets, near perfection,
And await Davey Jones' inspection."

HERALD "Of your courtesy I've taken note;
My attendant shall record it.
And when King Neptune boards your boat,
I'm sure he will reward it."

CAPT "It is of course without disdain
That I'll accept your word
We're crossing into your domain,
So sheath that mighty sword."

HERALD "King Neptune will be glad, I'm sure,
To have you cross his border:
If you're a Shellback...let us hope
Your papers are in order!"
(Herald flourishes sword over his head)

CAPT "A hardier Shellback never lived,
Nor walked the ocean floor,
So tell King Neptune that I've crossed
His Bloody Line before!
And if you think I'm not **that** hard,
Have Davey Jones inspect the guard."

HERALD "Very well, Captain (he sheaths his sword) I'll do your
will.
Faithful bugler - sound the 'Still'
Davey Jones - inspect the guard."

(**Davey** Jones, with a cortege of a Bugler and four bears, advances through the spray. Bugler sounds a very off-key alert. Davey Jones receives the report of the Guard Officer and then procedes with the inspection, using lots of slapstick with a dead fish, i.e. Haircut! Shoes!...etc.)

Davy Jones (After the inspection-)

"So this is the guard you've mustered for me;
A scalier sight I never did see!
I've inspected many, and I can tell...
They look unclean--and they smell like hell!"

Bears (in their loudest voices) "UNCLEAN! UNCLEAN!"

Herald "Keep silence!

While at Pearl this great ship did lie,
A messenger of Neptune's was sent here to spy.
He scanned the records and papers galore
To find the number who'd been here before.
To our great surprise, not our sorrow,
Many a tadpole becomes a SHELLBACK tomorrow."

Bears "BLOOD! BLOOD! BLOOD!" (--frantically!!!)

Herald (to the bears) "Keep silence!"

(towards the ship's company)

"Loyal and trusty Scribe!"

(Scribe steps from among the assemblage with a ridiculous looking scroll which he tenders to the Herald)

Scribe "I was the spy who scanned the papers
 To learn all I could of numerous capers
 That have been pulled by this ship's crew.
 Now listen closely while I tell you:
 From this unclean rabble--this motley mess!--
 One hundred thirty more or less
 Will learn ~~tomorrow~~ of their horrible fate,
 From the Royal Court of Neptune the Great;
 And furthermore, I must report,
 They plead no mercy from this Court."

Bears "UNCLEAN!"

Herald "By thirteen hundred, from the ship's time check,
 The Court will ~~convene~~ on the Quarterdeck.
 King Neptune will in state appear,
 By the ancient laws well steeped in beer,
 And here he shall with iron hand
 Initiate the Tadpoles of you band."

Scribe "All Hail King Neptune!"

Bears (in a fit of frantic fervour--SHRIEK!)
 "BLOOD! BLOOD! BLOOD!"

Captain "KEEP SILENCE!
 We shall be ready for your King,
 And glad to meet his Queen...
 And to give our boys a little cheer,
 Will she bring her fair daughters here?"

10.

(Bears whistle and emit wold calls)

Herald "It cannot be; a mermaid's nymph-like form
Would take each sailor's heart by storm.
Our good Queen spares them from such woes,
Because they haven't any clothes."

(More wolf calls from the Bears. The Company starts
to retire through the spray, the Herald goes last, and
pauses to say in a loud clear voice:)

"I command you all to rest with sorrow--
The fittest only--will survive tomorrow!"

(Exit through spray, lights go out, hideous laughter is
heard followed by coloured pyro display of four or
five rockets. Off spray)

PHASE II

1300, 19th February, 1968, Longitude 166'W, Lat. 000'

(Lower Decks have been cleared to the Quarterdeck.
King Neptune's Court have assembled in full regalia
in the torpedo parting space. The Bugler sounds
an off-key fanfare which is the cue for the Bears
and Police to clear a way for the Royal Procession.
Hands are fallen in clear of the mortar well cover.
King Neptune walks out preceeded by his Herald. The
Queen and Mermaids are carried out in succession and

11.

are followed by the remainder of the Court. The procession is down the port side and around the after end of the mortar well covers and back up the starboard side to mount the throne platform.)

Herald "Hear ye! Hear ye! Make way for His Most Glorious Oceanic Majesty, Neptunus Rex, Ruler of all who sail the oceans upon their lawful or unlawful occasions.
Hear Ye! Hear Ye!"
(repeatedly)

Bears & Police "All Hail King Neptune!"
(repeatedly)

Herald (When Court is seated and order is restored by Police if necessary)
"Captain, call your crew to attention for the Oceanic Anthem."

Captain "Columbians...HO!"
(Led by the Herald, the complete ensemble of Shellbacks singing dolorous tones, to the tune of "All Hail Methusalem.")

"All Hail His Majesty
The Ruler of the Raging Sea
All Hail Amphitrite
Her glorious beauty--what a sight!"

(The Captain has the ship's company close in on the mortar well covers and bids them pay attention.)

12.

Captain "In humblest duty Sire, I bring,
To you, our Oceanic King,
All here on board. May they submit
To what in 'Ancient Laws' is writ."

King Neptune "Good afternoon, Columbians. You've come a long
way,

And I've waited months for this glorious day.
You all know full well what I've come to do...

For I hear there are TADPOLES among your crew!
My barbers are good and widely renowned--

(Barbers step forward and brandish the tools of their
trade)

Their razors are sharper than any ground.
My doctors are butchers, and as for their pills,
They are better than Ex-lax for curing your ills!

Captain "Before you punish our crimes with that deadly fork,
I present for your favour, my crew, to your Court."

Neptune "From my Scribe I've heard it told
That there are some in your crew so brave and bold
As to warrant my favour. There may be some missed...
Scribe! Bring forward my Honours List."

Scribe (reading from long, long scroll)

"Captain Okros!"

(The Captain comes forward and kneels at the foot of
the King.)

Neptune "For steaming Columbia from the Vancouver Isles,
The faces of your crew are wreathed in smiles,
To Mazatlan, Ganges, Hawaii, and all,
You have driven this ship a distance not small,
And for bringing the "Gem", you are to get,
The Venerable Order of the Flying Fish Net!
(The Captain is awarded the net and dubbed with the
Trident)

I also command you, as King of the Seas,
To pay further tribute while still on your knees.
This token to be an extra beer all around--
Or I'll capture your ship and run her aground!"

Captain "It shall be done."

Herald "Arise, Ancient Sea Dog Fifth Class of the Venerable
Order of The Flying Fish Net!"
(The Captain retires)

Scribe "Engineer Officer!"
(Lt. Hahn comes forward and kneels)

Neptune "Now it is said without presumption
That you are King of Fuel Consumption;
With graph and slide out every day,
A barrel to save--if you may.
But in these waters the sun is hot,
And bothers Neptune's eyes a lot.
For the shade you produce when you over-stoke,
We award you the Order of the Big Black Smoke!"

Herald "Arise, Knight--holder of the Order of the Big Black
Smoke!"

(Lt Hahn retires)

Scribe "Petty Officer Lawley!"
(Petty Officer Lawley comes forward and kneels)

Neptune "Although on the Parade you did suffer,
No job is harder than being Buffer,
For performing your chores as XO's Wheel,
And keeping the ship clean from her truck to her keel,
I decree that you, because of this caper,
Be awarded the Order of Paint Brush and Scraper!"

Herald "Arise, Old Sea Dog Sixth Class of the Ancient Order
of Paint Brush and Scraper!"

(Petty Officer Lawley retires)

Scribe "Leading Seaman Aylesworth!"
(Leading Seaman Aylesworth comes forward but does not
kneel)

Herald "Now here's a man with a likely fable,
Claims to have crossed in a floating pool table!
Now there was a flurry for his record to check.
Scribe was amazed to find three by heck
For this is a chap we found we couldn't censure,
Having crossed in "O", Beacon Hill, and Bonadventure!"

Neptune "You've steamed four times across our ocean;
Seems like you've been in perpetual motion!"

Surely for this you'll need an impeller
Accept with our graces this new propeller!"

(Leading Seaman **Aylesworth retires**)

Scribe "Leading Seaman Campbell!"

(Leading Seaman Campbell comes forward but does not kneel)

Herald "Sire, I present a Shellback first rate;
He keepeth the keys for the rifle gate
It was heard that in a fight with a jar,
He lost the right to drive his car."

Neptune "Now this is unfortunate for one of the exalted,
But I always thought the Tudor served malted.
To ensure in the morning that you are not late,
We give you oil for your roller skate."

(Leading Seaman Campbell retires)

(On completion of the awards, the Bears and Police move in)

Herald "Sire, if Your Majesty finds it convenient,
We've had time enough to be lenient.
It's just about time for that big tank of brine
To make new Shellbacks for "crossing the line."

(King Neptune stands, Bugler sounds the 'Alert',
and the Herald calls for silence.)

Herald "Silence! Silence!"

Neptune "I, King Neptune, Lord of the Sea
Welcome you all who e're you be
I am Lord of the oceans wide
Lord of the rivers...Lord of the Tide
My laws are strict, but do not fear
If you will only persevere
To keep the freedom of the seas
As recognized by our decrees
Here are the Bears, the suds, the bath
They are the only certain path
For all who wish to cross the line
And be enrolled as sons of mine
In order then as we command
Before us let each Tadpole stand
Who has his freedom yet to win
Enough! My trusty men, begin..."

Herald "If you will see defaulters first,
We'll save till last the best...and worst."

Neptune "So be it!"

Herald "Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye!
The Local Shellback Court of His Oceanic Majesty,
Neptunus Rex is now is session. Judge Samuel T.
Seaweed presiding."

Judge (rapping gavel) "First case!"
(The defaulters are held a regular intervals, not

17.

necessarily in the following order but with the following culprits.)

Herald "Lcdr Whyte!

(No. 1 is hustled forward by a couple of burly bears!)

This is the chap who is our Number One;

Therefore, we feel he should lead the fun.

Now many a year he's bided his time
And sailed up north avoiding the line.

When we left Squibbly the other day,

The X.O. put his razor away,

The result was a horrible grey culture

That made him look like the 'dirty black vulture'!"

Judge "It's obvious to me that with this hair
A disguise it was to escape this lair.

For this I order a tribute from you
A make and mend for all will do.

And now, for you, welcome to the zero line.

We'll make you swim in this tank of brine.

In deference to your exalted rank--

You can be first to test out tank!"

Bears "DROWN HIM!"

Scribe "Chief Petty Officer Dixon!

(Brought by Police)

We have before us an old sea dog
Who, it seems, is a Pollywog!

We know that he charges in the Weapon Shop
For leaving heads like a pusser's mop
I ask the Court what they think
Of committing this dog to Neptune's drink?"

Judge "King Neptune's barbers don't agree
On Pollywogs who charge a fee,
So you may learn to operate
Let our barbers demonstrate
When your certificate you do obtain
Your shearing and clipping may start again.
Barbers, proceed!"

Scribe "Petty Officer Sears!"
(brought by Police)

Herald "A loyal Shellback he claims to be!
(For shame! For shame!" by Bears and Police)
And is free to sail upon the sea.
This privilege which he has abused
Has this Court completely confused
This time he's caught, while he does roam,
He left his bloody certificate at home!"

Bears and Police "The tank! The tank!"

Scribe "OS Cuddeford!"
(brought forward by Police)

Herald "Ordinary Seaman Cuddeford, Sir,
At Divisions one day created a stir.

It is said that this miserable clot
refused to haul the Ensign taut!"

Judge "For this behavior, is his claim,
The wind and halyards were to blame.
Excuses like this will not do...
My trusty Bears, I give him to you!"

Bears "Give him to us!"

Scribe "OS Alexander, Cadet Inwood!"
(Brought forward by Police)

Herald "Here stand two Tadpoles, small and short,
about to face King Neptune's Court.
It has been observed by one and all
That in the 'heads' they're not too tall.
The bowls are past their ruddy knee--
So squat they must, therefore, to pee
Before we hear their moans and lament
I offer them to the Court, for punishment."

Judge "You are small and you are short;
But remember, as Judge of this Court,
With the charge I must agree...
You're just not allowed to squat to pee!
Guilty as charged, you Tadpole scrubs,
I order you into the Royal Tub!"

Herald "Able Seaman Reeder!"
(Able Seaman Reeder brought forward by Police)

Herald "This young man, here as a defaulter,
Claims to have played with many a girls' halter,
But to sum it up for this occasion--
None have submitted to his persuasion.
So he--the very thought leaves me cold!--
Is still a virgin, of this I've been told."

Judge "On this day you have no plea
So the Doctors you'll have to see.
Until the Doctors' reports I've seen,
I cannot report you to the Court as clean
So, my Bears! sit him on a stool,
And dunk him thrice in the pool!"

Herald "S/Lt. Collinson!"
(Brought forward by Police)
Before this Court you see the worst.
A shame it was that he wasn't first!
On the 11th Feb in a northern clime,
Down the sick-bay sink, with little emotion,
He poured eight tots of that wonderful potion!
Through the ship were screams of anguish,
As the Sheriff watched the bubbly vanish.

Judge "A dastardly deed that leaves us cold!
How a Tad like you could be so bold?
It's now quite clear, we know your aim,
Twas to leave the Cox'n in harrowing pain.

21.

I can't dismiss it, I'll go by the rule,
Dunk him, ~~you Bear~~, four times in the pool!"

Herald "Lt Roberts!

(brought forward by Police)

Behold!..the purveyor of the half-dead germ--
Now's our chance to make him squirm!
Needles, pills, enemas, and such--
For this past month, we've taken much!"

Judge "With needles bent and tips so dull

You have done your jabbing;
But now the tables are reversed--
We'll do the stabbing!

So, be prepared to suffer greatly
As we're about to pay you back.

There is no help in sight;
You're on your own now, you QUACK!"

Bears "Stab him, jab him, into the pool!"

Scribe "Petty Officer Nordstrom!"

(brought forward by Police)

Herald "A particularly bad one, Your Honour,
A 'public nuisance charge'..." !

Judge (reading particulars of the charge)

"Connivance! Contrivance! Continual yammering
In futile attempt to evade our hammering,
This frail little body he strove to protect--
Let it now be rendered into a wreck!"

Bears "A wreck! A wreck!" (They swing him aloft, and
carry him away--screaming!)

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Priority

From: The Royal High Court of the Raging Main

To : Warship COLUMBIA

GREETINGS AND BEWARE

WHEREAS, the good ship COLUMBIA, bound for Suva, Fiji, is about to enter our domain, and the aforesaid ship carries a large and slimy cargo of land-lubbers, beachcombers, cargo-rats, sea-lawyers, lounge-lizards, parlor-dunnigans, plow-deserters, park-bench warmers, chicken-chasers, cherry-pluckers, hay-tossers, sand-crabs, four-flushers, cross-word puzzle bugs, and all other living creatures of the land, and last but not least, he-vamps, liberty-hounds and drug-store cowboys falsely masquerading as Seamen and Men-o'-warsmen, of which you are a member, having never appeared before us; and

WHEREAS, The Royal High Court of the Raging Main will convene on board the good ship COLUMBIA on the 19th day of February, 1968, at Longitude 166°W, Latitude 000'; and

INASMUCH as an inspection of our Royal High Roster shows that it is high time your sad and wandering souls appeared before the High Tribunal of Neptune;

THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, That we hereby summons and command the following TADPOLES to appear before the Royal High Court and Our August Presence on the aforesaid date at such time as may best suit our pleasure, and to accept most heartily and with a good grace the pains and penalties of the awful tortures that will be inflicted upon you for daring to enter our aqueous and equinoctial regions without due and submissive ceremony to be examined as to fitness to become one of our TRUSTY SHELLBACKS, and a worthy Son of the Sea.

Read in three columns:

Whyte Lcdr	Falk AB	Tuele Pl
Murrell Lt	Walker OS	McLean
Arnold Lt	Burr OS	Shergold LS
Archbold S/Lt	Corbin LS	Hall AB
Collinson S/Lt	Frankenfield C2	Cuddeford AB
Hare Padre	Bresnahan P2	Kelly AB
Dixon C2	Turpin LS	Nicholson AB
Larson LS	Louth LS	Sorsdahl P2
Lascelle LS	Orr LS	Heck AB
Vandale AB	Reeder AB	Wright AB
Alexander OS	Bonsteel AB	Smith Pl
Carr LS	Herzog AB	Abercrombie
Rowland LS	Meszaros OS	Leaman AB
Lightburn LS	Wardrop OS	McAllister P2
Murray LS	Jans OS	McInnes AB

Logan O/C	Day LS	Zerr AB
Wetherill LS	Wahlund AB	Ternowsky AB
Lambert AB	Turner AB	Holenchuk C2
Aitken Pl	Archambault O/C	Ramsey P2
Rigby P2	Williams LS	Wood LS
Edgeworth LS	Edwards LS	Broughton LS
Grant LS	Willis LS	Innes LS
White LS	Watt LS	Orchiston OS
Atkins OS	Misisco OS	Johnson OS
Planidin OS	Smith OS	Langton OS
Reece AB	Berridge AB	McGregor AB
Caldarone AB	Clark AB	Valentine AB
Tetrault AB	Smith AB	Clark AB
Christopher AB	Berry AB	Colls O/C
Mitchell LS	MacGillivray LS	Broadwood AB
Gibbon AB	McEwan AB	Brososky AB
Sterling AB	Wocks P2	Lambert LS
Mattson LS	Penhallurick AB	Savage OS
Doorten O/C	Aquin LS	Theriault LS
Chutter AB	Nordstrom P2	Cartwright AB
Carlson AB	Haynes AB	Henkelman AB
Job AB	Ellerton AB	Woodworth AB
Graham AB	Sears P2	Smith LS
Makarowski LS	Duncan AB	Compton AB
Beaulieu AB	Nichols AB	Roberts Lt

Thompson Lt	Delemere S/Lt	Dickey S/Lt
Oldale O/C	McVey O/C	Munro O/C
Kirkham O/C	Inwood O/C	Ingram O/C
Grady O/C	Decarlo O/C	

If we have erred, and have included any Trusty Shellbacks in the aforementioned "roster of the UNCLEAN", said Shellbacks may arrange to have their names stricken from this roster by our liason Officer in Cabin 5 (BRING DOCUMENTED PROOF!)

Disobey this summons under pain of our swift and terrible displeasure. Our vigilance is ever wakeful, our vengeance is just and sure!

Given under our hand and seal,
Attest, for the King;
Davey Jones, Scribe.

NEPTUNUS REX



SUBPOENA AND SUMMONS EXTRAORDINARY

The Royal High Court of the Raging Main

County of Equatis,

Vale of Phoenix

Domain of Neptunus Rex

To whom may come these presents:

- - Greetings and beware -

Whereas, the good ship _____ bound for
_____ is about to enter our domain, and the afore-
said ship harbours unlawfully -- a number of _____
among her crew, of which you are a member, having never appear-
ed before us; and

Whereas, the Royal High Court of the Raging Main
will convene on board the good ship _____ on the
____ day of _____, 19____, at Longitude _____, and
Latitude _____, and an inspection of our Royal High Roster
does not reveal your name;

Therefore, be it known, that we hereby summons and
command you _____ to appear before the Royal High
Court and Our August Presence on the aforesaid date.

Charges: 1. Has hitherto wilfully and maliciously failed to
show reverence and allegiance to our Royal
Person,

2. _____

Given under our hand and seal,

Attest, for the King,

Davey Jones, Scribe.

NEPTUNUS REX

SUBPOENA AND SUMMONS

EXTRAORDINARY

THE TRUSTY SHELLBACKS
VERSUS

ROYAL HIGH COURT

of the
RAGING MAIN

County of Equatris
Vale of Phoenix
Domain of Neptunus Rex

Action on case -
check

Ordinary
Serious
To be confined
Awaiting action
Double irons, awaiting
action
Straight jacket
Double marked

Bailiff

James Jones, Jr.