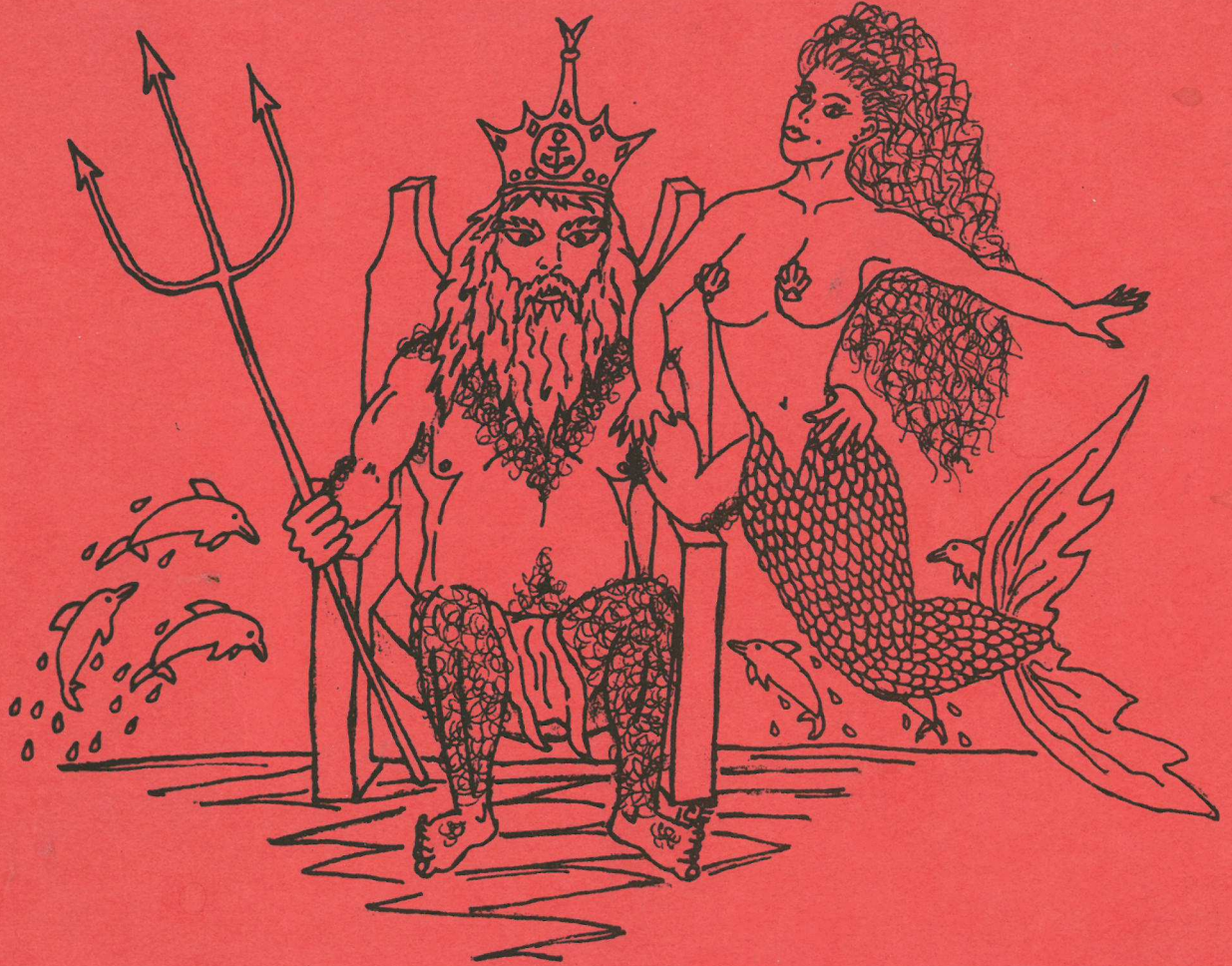


LS RIVET

SOPLOY



CROSS THE LINE!

'91

H M C S Y U K O N

THE HISTORY BEHIND THE "CROSSING THE LINE CEREMONY"

Among the Gods of Greek mythology was one Poseidon. As the books have it, "His domain was of Hercules and he had some authority"- in other words he was God of the Seas and the ancient Greek matelots were accustomed to burning incense and singing "Eternal Father" and other odds and ends to intercede for his good offices. Enter the first member of our cast, Amphitrite, daughter of Oceanus who was large in the Greek system. She became the wife of Poseidon and was to cause him great mental stress later in the story.

Poseidon's reign over the seas came to an end when the all powerful roman element took over from the Greeks and installed Neptunus as their own ruler of the seas. Neptunus twisted the knife a little harder by actually adopting Amphitrite, thus becoming Poseidon's father in law. Poseidon, on hearing this, committed suicide by drowning himself in his own ocean, leaving Neptunus in power supreme.

Although the members of the story are quite well known, the origin of the ceremony is difficult to trace. One source claims that in the seventeenth century, when entering the Straits of Gibraltar, all those who were doing it for the first time had to pay their fee or else pass under the yardarm and be dunked. The ceremony apparently was then transferred to the Tropics and still later to the Equator. Why the Equator was the final choice and not the International Date Line or the Arctic Circle is anyone's guess. Present day scholars say, "Its origin is wrapt (shrouded) in mystery", and, "We can only guess at the actual date of its inception into the maritime services". Some fairly educated guesses have been made though and the dates have been narrowed down to the half century between 1768 and 1818. One Professor Callender, whose opinion could be biased, reckons that the custom was brought into being in the Royal Navy's East Indian Command during Nelson's day. Since most of the navy's most peculiar customs can be traced back to dear old Nelson one way or another this may be considered not a bad guess.

One of the few texts to mention the ceremony is 'Sports and Recreation in the Royal Navy'. The authors of this handbook admit the fact that the origin is obscure but they lead us to think that there is "little doubt that it originated from some form of pagan religious rites".

A lengthy description is given of the ceremony that was held on board HMS NEW ZEALAND, when the ship crossed the equator in 1919 with Viscount Jellicoe on board. The ceremony was conducted to a large extent by the ship's company, while the RCN sees the Wardroom play a more integral part and no distinction is made.

When comparing the two ceremonies, we notice that although the general pattern is unchanged, the text is altogether different. There isn't one line that reads the same.

This illustrates how the script must be adapted to the local scene. The Captain may or may not be a Shellback, the charges against the defaulters must always be original.

It cannot be forgotten that the NEW ZEALAND made a revival of the ceremony, which must have, at that time, been abandoned. The handbook points out; "it is hoped that it (the ceremony and text) may prove helpful to future generations of those who occupy their business in great waters".

Shall we one day have an official text that will be used in all ships? The question is difficult to answer. Through tradition, some of the verses will become part of the ceremony, but the remainder will always remain flexible and adapt itself to the circumstances.

There always seems to be, on the part of the tadpoles, a certain objection to being initiated. The reasons for these fears are well founded, but it should be realized that this ceremony should always be taken in fun, otherwise the whole spirit will die.

The following pages give the ceremony as it happened on board HMCS YUKON in September, 1991 when the ship enroute from Esquimalt to Tahiti, crossed the equator.

The enlightened ceremony takes three phases; First, the Herald of His Oceanic Majesty comes on board the night previous to the actual crossing in order to inspect the ship and decide upon it's worthiness to receive on board, Neptunus Rex in all his glory. His opinion favourable, Neptune himself comes on board the following day with all his court, and presents Orders and Awards to those Shellbacks* who have proven themselves worthy thereof on the quarterdeck. The third and final phase takes place when King Neptune supervises the initiation of the tadpoles**.

NOTE:* A Shellback is one who has been initiated into the Ancient Order of the Mysteries of the Deep. ie: One who crossed the line before.

** A tadpole is one who has not yet had this privilege.

UNCLASSIFIED

PRECEDENCE ACTION PP

DTG: 060030Z SEP 91

FROM THE ROYAL COURT OF THE RAGING MAIN
TO HMCS YUKON

U N C L A S KN 263

SIC CLC

GREETING AND BEWARE!

WHEREAS, THE GOOD SHIP YUKON, BOUND FOR PAPEETE, TAHITI, 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, PARLORDUNNIGANS, PLOW-DESERTERS, PARK-BENCH WARMERS, CORN STARCH COMMANDOES, CHICKEN CHASERS, CHERRY-PLUCKERS, HAY-TOSSERS, SAND-CRABS, FOUR-FLUSHERS, GRANNY GRABBERS, WART-HOGS CROSS-WORD PUZZLE BUGS, NEWFOUNDLANDERS, AND ALL OTHER LIVING CREATURES OF THE LAND, AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, HE-VAMPS, LIBERTY-HOUNDS, PONGO'S, AIRMEN AND DRUG-STORE COWBOYS FALSELY MASQUERADING AS SEAMEN AND MAN-O'-WARSMEN MANY OF WHICH HAVE NEVER APPEARED BEFORE US.

THE ROYAL COURT OF THE RAGING MAIN WILL CONVENE ON BOARD THE GOOD SHIP YUKON 1000 HRS ON THE 15TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1991 AT LONGITUDE 145 DEGREES 00 MINS WEST, LATITUDE 000 DEGREES TO JUDGE AND

INITIATE THIS MOTLEY COLLECTION WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

RELEASING OFFICER

NEPTUNUS REX

UNCLASSIFIED

KING NEPTUNES COURT
CROSSING THE LINE 1991

NEPTUNE- PO1 Griffith
AMPHRITITE- CPO2 Moller
HERALD-MS Spong
SECRETARY- S/LT Mason
DAVEY JONES- PO1 Dunn
SCRIBE- PO1 Doran
JUDGE- PO2 O'Hara
DOCTORS- PO1 McGuire
 - CPO2 Ferguson
BARBERS- PO1 Witteven
 - PO2 Ledoux
TRIDENT STAMPERS- CPO2 Peaker
MERMAID- CPO2 Alford
CHIEF OF POLICE- CPO1 Schwan
NEPTUNES STEWARD- PO2 Dryburgh
HEAD BEAR- PO1 Coveney
BUGLER- OS Reist
COURT POLICE- LS Whitehead
 - PO2 Tomblin
 - LS Coffey
QUEEN BEARERS- PO1 Balough
 - MS Moreland
 - MS Pearson
 - LT Holborn
MERMAID BEARERS- PO1 Tomson
 - PO1 White
 - MS Williams
 - MS Olson

BEARS

LT VanderKrogt
PO2 Markin
LS Simonson
PO2 Broshart
CPO1 Workman
PO2 Sousa
PO2 Smith
PO1 Dubetz
LS Appell
LS Parentau
MS McKay
LS Poulin
LS Ostropolski

POLICE

PO2 Murray
PO2 Thompson
PO2 Gauvin
AB Bateman
LS Cretien
LS Lynds
PO2 Newell
LS Graham
MS Gammie
MS Point
PO2 Neuman
LS Jablonski
CPL Pronevost

By Special Appointment:
Court Photographer- PO2 Clutesi
Ombudsmen to the King- CPO2 Fletcher
- LCDR Eakins



TADPOLE MENU

Shark Roe

Eel Strips

Dolphin Dinks

Whale Ovaries

Garlic Pollywogs

Chilled Clam Piss

THE TADPOLES

(NOT REALLY IN ANY ORDER OF IMPORTANCE)

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| CDR Tremblay | LS Adams KG | LS(R) Adams |
| MS Arsenault | LS Babcock | AB Bagley |
| OS Barnes | SLT Baxter | A/SLT Beaulac |
| AB(R) Beaumont | MS Becker | OS Bernatchez |
| LS Bernier | SGT Berrouard | MCPL Bingus |
| AB(R) Bishop | OS Bonin | LCDR Bracken |
| CPL Brochu | OS Bowler | OS Bussieres |
| OS Cardinal | LT(N) Chiarot | LS(R) Clark |
| OS Clayson | PO2 Commerford | CPL Connoly |
| LS(R) Conners | LS(R) Conrod | A/SLT Craig |
| MCPL Dalke | AB Davenport | OS Davies |
| OS Deman | AB Deploy | LCDR Desnoyers |
| CPL Desrochers | OS Diespecker | LS Dodds |
| CPL Dominie | A/SLT Don | PTE Doyon |
| OS Dueck | A/SLT Dufour | PO1 Duhamel |
| CMDO Duncan | PO1 Dupras | AB(R) Earle |
| LT(N) Ellaschuk | A/SLT Evans | LS Fairfex |
| OS Falkingham | MS Fecteau | MS Fitzmaurice |
| LT(N) Gunning | LS Frelland | PO2 Gale |
| SGT Galey | OS Gall | LS Gaudreau |
| LT(N) Gaudreault | PO2(R) Gentile | AB Germain |
| CPL Gilges | OS Gillard | OS Girard |
| A/SLT Gowigati | Cpl Gray | OS Guthrie |
| LS Hafner | OS Halbot | PO1 Hanousek |
| SLT Heimpel | OS Hogleund | AB(R) Howard |
| PO2 Howlett | OS Hutchinson | MS(R) Illerbrun |
| OS Irvine J | OS Irvine K | OS Jensen |
| SGT Johnston | LT(N) Jorgensen | AB(R) Judge |
| AB(R) Kalanack | A/STL Keenan | OS Kemp |
| A/SLT Kerr | CPL Krienke | OS Labrie |
| PO1 Lacasse | SLT Lafond | SLT Lafontaine |
| OS Lane | PO2(R) Langton | A/SLT Lavalle |
| OS Leask | A/SLT Leblanc | LS Leith |
| AB(R) Lepine | CPL Leseach | OS Lidgett |
| OS Linford | MS Livingston | MS Loeper |
| LT(N) Long | AB(R) Long | PO1 Longhurst |
| LT(N) Loy | OS Macintosh | PO2 Magee |
| LS Mandziak | PTE Martel | LS Martin |
| AB Maville | LT(CIL) Mcaleer | OS McCormick |
| A/SLT McDonald | OS McDonald | CPL McLeod |
| OS McNicol | A/SLT Mitchell | OS Montague |
| LS Morehouse | A/SLT Mountford | LT(N) Murray |
| OS Noel | OS Odland | A/SLT O'Donnell |
| A/SLT Olivier | OS Paquette | PO1 Patterson |
| OS Pelchat | AB Pelletier | OS Pepper |
| OS Picton | OS Priestap | OS Reimann |
| A/SLT Ring | AB(R) Ritchie | LS Rivet |
| PO2 Robillard | WO Ruller | PTE Sahlin |
| MS Sanderson | OS Sands | OS Savoie |

THE TAD'S, CONTINUED

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| CPL Papanicolaou | PTE Scalplock | PO2 Seeboth |
| OS Shiells | AB Skaalrud | OS Sladde |
| OS Slaney | MS Sleeman | OS Smith |
| OS Standish | AB Stauffer | OS Stobbe |
| A/SLT Sullivan | LS Sutherland | OS Tempest |
| CPL Tessier | OS Thauberger | LT(N) Thompson |
| CPL Tomkins | OS Tout | OS Tremblay |
| LS(R) Truen | OS Valcourt | PO1 Valiquette |
| OS Vienneau | OS Waller | PO2 Warren |
| OS Weel | LT(N) Weldon | LS(R) Wiegert |
| PO1 Wiggins | OS Williams | LS Williamson |
| PO1 Witteveen | CP01 Workman | OS Wurm |
| LT(N) Harker | LS(R) Hill | LS(R) Mason |
| AB(R) Perry | AB(R) Wells | A/SLT Long |
| LS Smith | | MS Miller |
| SEACDT Dewis | SEACDT Ferguson | SEACDT Gyman |
| SEACDT Halderson | SEACDT Judson | SEACDT Mckenzie |
| | SEACDT Morgan | |

CROSSING THE LINE

ACT 1:

SCENE 1:

The Bridge. As if by mistake the whole scene is enacted over the Main Broadcast.

Time Around 2015 the night before crossing the line.

O.O.W. (Over the main broadcast) Object bearing dead ahead Sir. Looks like some sort of fish - (short pause) Appears to be surfacing Sir.

CAPTAIN Very good. That will be King Neptune's Herald. We are closing the Equator rapidly. First Lieutenant, Pipe "Clear Lower Decks to the foc'sle, Comm O muster the Honor Guard." Officer of the Watch, stand by to.....(Captain is interrupted by the Lookout)

LOOKOUT Green One Zero sir, a light near.

CAPTAIN Very good, Officer of the Watch alter course toward it.

(The ship will close the alleged light for about five minutes with no further patter to allow the Ship's company to assemble on the foc'sle)

SCENE 2:

(The Captain will speak through the Main Broadcast and the Herald will use a loud hailer - The Captain on the Flying Bridge and the Herald on the foc'sle)

HERALD (From behind the fog spray) SHIP AHOY.

CAPTAIN YUKON.

HERALD I've heard your ships around,
Now tell me Captain wither bound?

CAPTAIN We're sailing to Papeete on the Emerald Isle,
And in our cruise logged many a mile.
Now I've got a lot to do,
So tell me stranger, just who are you?

HERALD I am the Herald of NEPTUNE's court,
My duties I am not one to thwart.
King NEPTUNE ordered me aboard,
In preparation for the Ocean's Lord.

CAPTAIN

For only you I'll stop my ship,
Now get on board and no more lip.

(The Herald accompanied by Davey Jones,
the Royal Scribe, a Mermaid six Bears and
a Bugler advance through the spray whilst
the Bugler sounds the Alert)

Look sharp then sire if you please,
By what right have your to challenge us
on the seas?

HERALD

By the custom of the powers invested right
In King NEPTUNE and Queen AMPHRITITE
Who sent us to your mighty ship
To check and see if you are fit.

(Herald draws his sword, the Bears growl
and the Mermaid titters.....)

CAPTAIN

It is of course without disdain
That I accept your word,
We're crossing into your domain
So sheath that mighty sword.
(Sword of course is a ridiculous looking
affair)

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.

CAPTAIN

I'm only a Tadpole
And I'll pay the price
For some of my men
It won't be nice.
For if you think that some are not hard
Have Davey Jones inspect the Guard.

HERALD

Very well Captain I'll do your will,
Kindly lay aft where I'll sound the still.

O.O W.

(Over the Main Broadcast)

"Clear lower decks to the Quarterdeck"

HERALD

Bugler..The Still..blow it hard,
Davey Jones inspect the Guard.

(Davey Jones and entourage emerge from
the Laundry flat through the spray)

(Bugler complies, and as he does so the Guard Officer presents himself to Davey Jones, who inspects the Guard with a great deal of slapstick and a dead fish which he uses as soap to clean up the Guard, in addition the 3 Mess Shellback choir lament Davey Jones with their rendition of "You Were Born a Tadpole")

DAVEY JONES

So this is the Guard you've mustered for me,
A more horrible sight I never did see,
I've inspected many and I can tell
They're all unclean and they smell like hell.

(Mermaids and Bears, shriek "Unclean, unclean" at the top of their lungs)

HERALD

Keep silence the Bears!!
(Then addressing the crew)

Before this mighty ship of war
Had slipped from her home port
A spy of mine did go aboard
Her complement to sort
He has scanned the names of everyone...
Come forward now, your work is done.

ROYAL SCRIBE

I was the spy who scanned the papers
To learn what I could of numerous capers;
That have been pulled by this ships crew
Now listen closely while I tell you
From this unclean and motley mess
Two hundred persons more or less
Will learn tomorrow of this horrible fate
From the Royal Court of Neptune the Great
And further more I must report
I'll plead no mercy from his court.

(And the Bears once more shriek "Unclean, Unclean")

HERALD

By Ten o'clock from the ships time check
The Court will be held on the Quarterdeck
King Neptune will in state appear
By the ancient laws well stiped in beer
And here he shall with an iron hand
Initiate the Tadpoles of your band

SCRIBE

ALL HAIL KING NEPTUNE!!

-----END ACT 1 SCENE 2-----

The day the ship crosses the Equator a pool of suitable size is rigged. Above one side of the bath a dunking stool and two royal thrones are rigged. To commence the ceremony the Bugler pipes "Clear Lower decks to the Quarterdeck - Dress bathing suits" When all are assembled the Royal Court makes their stately procession from the 'Royal Robing Room' to the bath. The members of the Court shall go to excessive extremes in designing their costumes. While great latitude in costumes is customary Neptunus Rex must have a bushy beard crown and trident. Upon the arrival of the Royal family the personal flag of King Neptune (The Jolly Roger) is broken at the Mast Head and Attention is sounded by the bugler.

ACT 2

SCENE 1:

(Lower decks will be cleared to the Quarter deck and King Neptunes Court will assemble in the Weapons Workshop. The Bears and Police will clear a path in a traditional fashion when the Court itself arrives.)

HERALD

(On entrance) Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Make way for his most glorious Oceanic Majesty Neptunus Rex Ruler of all who sail upon the sea. Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
(Upon arrival of King Neptune and Queen Amphritite, all hail King Neptune)

BEARS AND POLICE

All hail King Neptune!

CAPTAIN

In humblest duty, Sire I bring
To you our oceanic King
That all here onboard my submit
To what in ancient laws is writ

NEPTUNE

Good morning YUKON, you've come a long way
I've waited months for this glorious day
You know full well what I've come to do
For I hear there are Tadpoles among your crew.

HERALD

My barbers are good, and widely renowned
(The barbers step forward
gesticulating sadistically)
Their razors are sharper than has ever
been found
My Doctors are butchers, and as for their
pills
They're better than Exlax for curing your
ills.

CAPTAIN
Ere you punish our crimes with that
terrible fork
I present for your favor, my crew to
your Court.

NEPTUNE
From my Courtly Herald I've heard it told
That there are some in your crew so brave
and so bold
As to warrant my favor.... there may be
some missed
So worthy Herald.....My honor list.

HERALD
Executive Officer (XO mounts the stage)
Before us now with a pate so shiny
Stands the Executive Officer known as Tiny
First Lieutenant is his official rate
But really he's a frustrated Bos'n's Mate

Even during the hours still and silent
Comes his clarion call, loud and violent
From their bunks he drags his weary crew
When they've only been there a minute or
two

So trusty Shellback, take thou heed
Make certain the next time there is the
need
When upon the broadcast you are bleating
That there is a need to stop their
sleeping.

To atone for these wrongs, a promise we
ask
It's really quite simple and hardly a task
An extra beer all round is easily done
To round out this day of traditional fun
What say you XO?

X.O.
It shall be done!

HERALD
Down on your knees oh one so tall
To receive the Order of the Bos'n Call

NEPTUNE
Arise Ye Olde Seadog Fifth Class of the
Venerable Order of the Bos'n Call
Double away smartly and organize the beer

HERALD
Chief Petty Officer Fletcher come ye forth

NEPTUNE
Combat you are a Shellback true
The times we've met more than a few

My Court thinks you are one strange
creature
Why would you want to be a preacher

I know your father and brothers too
Would spread the Word as they ought to do
You have aspired to do unto others
While under your breath you've called them
all Mothers

If that is devine then I'm a true Goat
So clean up your act or get off of this
boat
If you think you've a gift thats Heavenly
sent
You'll need a collar thats all worn and
bent.

HERALD

So down on your prayer bones
And don't you dare holler
While you're awarded the Order
Of the Backwards Collar.

NEPTUNE

Arise you old fart, you old Quaker Faker!

HERALD

Sick Bay Tiffy come forth
For causing discomfort pain and harm
By jabbing your shipmates with glee in
the arm
And because by count these victims are
legion
To him a job in the nether region
(Two Bears approach from behind with an
exagerated hypo)

NEPTUNE

Carry out the sentence!

HERALD

Petty Officer Clutesi..
Thirty years ago you came from outback
From that time forward you've spent in
your rack
You're tall, you're lithe, you're slim as
a willow
It's been noted the times you've needed
a new pillow
To save the Crown a buck or two
The Order of the Wooden Pillow is awarded
to you.

NEPTUNE

I place this pillow upon your bod
So you may return to the land of nod
With this award there is no other
With that much rack time you could
be my brother.

HERALD

Petty Officer Tomblin...
It has been reported by my spy named
Moriety
That you are an articer of some
notoriety
It seems when the Captian rings down
for a speed
That you in the Engine Room pay him
no heed

When the good ship YUKON is sailing for
home
You can hardly wait to get there to roam
And even though the ship wallows and
flounders
You'll set the throttle for more homeward
bounders

NEPTUNE

The crew may like you and think you are
fine
For trying to get them home in good time
But customs don't care what time you get
in
They won't start work till a quarter to
ten.
You are awarded the Order of the Broken
Rev Counter.

HERALD

Chief Petty Officer Schwan...
Cox'n, you have your crew in a dither
They hide when you come and some even
wither
It's always the same old line that you
shout
"Get a name tag sailor, or start scrubbing
out"

NEPTUNE

Cox'n you've got this crew in a quandry
They see you coming, then they soil their
own laundry
Awarded the Order of the Unsewn Nametag.

HERALD

(Addressing His Majesty)
If your Majesty finds it convenient
The time has come to stop being lenient
It's just about time for that big tank
and brine
To make them all Shellbacks for crossing
the Line
And if you will see the defaulters first
We'll save for last the best of the worst

NEPTUNE

So be it.

HERALD

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear ye!
The Circuit Shellback Court of His
Oceanic Majesty, Neptunus Rex
Is now in session
Judge Samuel Seaweed presiding

NEPTUNE

I, King Neptune Lord of the Sea
Welcome you all who ere you be
I'm the Lord of the oceans wide
Lord of the rivers, Lord of the Tide
My laws are strict, but do not fear
If only you will perservere
To keep the freedom of the Seas
As recognized by our degrees
Here are the Bears the Suds and 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

Bears into the pool!!!!

JUDGE

(Rapping his gavel)
First case

SCRIBE

Commander Tremblay
Charged with listening to Town & Country
Music.

HERALD

Commander Tremblay all covered in slime
Your biggest downfall is having no rhyme
It has to be obvious to both you and me
Willy Nelson don't sing Town & Country

Anne Murray a singer of no small renown
Would just look at you and then she would
frown
She'd say to my court to show you no pity
If you think Johnny Cash grew up in the
City
You had as your mentor old Black Jack
Chiounard
For that sin alone you should be feathered
and tarred.

JUDGE

For the heinous crime you must pay a fine
Into the pool bears and dunk him three
times.

SCRIBE Next Case

 Petty Officer Wiggins,
 Petty Officer Longhurst.
 First Charge- Inciting a revolt
 Second Charge- Misuse of paper stock

HERALD These Pollywog Creatures of Stature bold
 Committed a crime that leaves us cold
 A dastardly deed they tried to do
 To start a revolt against the Shellback
 crew
 They used his Highnesses name in vain
 I trust this court spare them no pain

JUDGE A dastardly deed, this revolt you planned
 And from this court you should be banned
 But as a Shellback you wish to become
 Repent this deed which you have done
 Barbers shorten up those hairs
 And dunk them good my trusty bears.

SCRIBE Next Case

 Ordinary Seaman Bonin
 Charged with Old Age

HERALD In the good ship Yukon you're the oldest
 OD
 And that is the reason you stand before
 me.

JUDGE Although old age is hardly a crime
 Bears, dunk him four times to get rid
 of his slime.

SCRIBE Next case.
 Cpl Leseach
 Charged with squatting to Pee.

HERALD Here stands a tadpole small and short
 About to face King Neptunes court
 It has been observed by one and all
 That in the heads he has a ball
 The bowls are way above his winkle
 Making him sit to take a tinkle.

JUDGE With this charge we have to agree
 For only the Airforce may squat to pee
 Guilty as charged, you tadpole scrub
 Bears make it four dips in the Royal tub.

SCRIBE WO Ruller/SGT Johnston
Charged with Ground Pounding

HERALD In front of the court we have two gravel
techs
Who are in Ka Ka Poo right up to their
necks
What seems to us in this court most
astounding
Is to watch these two fools out doing
their ground pounding.

JUDGE This crime is too horrible even to
mention
Dunk em four times and cancel their
pension.

SCRIBE S/LT Mcaleer
Charge with White Slavery

HERALD Macleer you have committed the crime
and for it you'll pay most dearly this
time
Onboard the mighty YUKON some seven young
boys
You bought and gave to the Bos'ns as toys
These poor young things at that
impressionable age
Probably think they have been sold into
Bondage.

JUDGE At QUADRA you may think that you rule
But here at the line King Neptunes no
fool
So into the pool I sentence thee go
And be dipped well under three times
to and fro.

SCRIBE Next case
LT "Mad Dog" Loy
Charged with Negligence as Guard Officer

HERALD Before this court it is your time
To be charged with the most heinous
crime
To pay the price for this motley lot
Composed of Subbies barely out of the
cot
To call this bunch an Honour Guard
Is the worst insult to his Royal Bard
A further matter has been duly noted
By trusty Shellbacks it has been quoted
That you have been heard to murmur true
Encouragement of revolt amongst the crew

JUDGE For these most foul and serious charges
A just reward would be most arduous
But we take pity on this miserable fool
And sentence you to five dips in the pool.

SCRIBE Next case
NAVO
Charged with being noxious and obnoxious.

HERALD Before this court the NavO is brought
For justice is demanded and sought
You have been charged with excessive
flatulation
Which leaves all others in desperation
Gasping for breath the Deck O's been heard
To exclaim "you stink you rotten turd"
As the sound reverberates through the
ship
The Chief ERA thinks the safeties have
tripped

JUDGE This brings us to force a solution
To make you pay dearly for this air
polution
For numerous times blamed are the boiler
room crew
When all of the time it has really been
you
So into the pool I say you must go
And be dunked six times to and fro.

SCRIBE Next case.
Petty Officer Duhamel
Charged with Padding his Retirement Fund

HERALD If at the storefront you should happen
to tarry
You will need more gold than you could
possibly carry
The prices are posted but be on your
mettle
The taxes he'll add will fill a large
kettle

JUDGE This blue eyed Arab has done his best
To see off others to pad his nest
So Bears this man needs your attention
Dunk him five times and then steal his
pension.

SCRIBE

Next case.
Able Seaman Skaalrud
Charged with Laundering of Crossing the
Line Certificates

HERALD

As you stand before me, I've been told
Your papers and visas you've probably
sold
Such heinous actions are hardly a lark
This could win you a swim in his Majesty's
ark.

JUDGE

With the Herald I have to agree
Into the pool and make the dunkings three.

SCRIBE

Next charge.
LCDR Desnoyers
Charged with Crimes too numerous to
mention.

HERALD

Loo Tenant Come Ander Gee Destroy-A
Stand charged before my court this day
It's not all a lark, but I get the jist
The charges as tabled are too long to list

Also I've heard that it's not just a fable
That never you sit with meat on your table
To sup celery soup with a spoon is no
crime.....

Kill a cook with a Bay leaf and you'll do
hard time.

Derelict you are in all respect
Crossing the line in this engineering
defect
Void of all electrical power
Not even lights for Shellbacks to shower

Amongst your department its heard to be
said
There is nothing but L.P. air in your head
Further your jokes more often than not
Are hideous, boring and void of all
thought

JUDGE

A gueyduck I know that you think that you
are
So I'll wrap you in rubber instead of in
tar
The pool and the Bears I know you'll
remember
So dunk him then soundly this day in
September.

JUDGE

(Calling to the Police Chief)
Round up the Tadpoles...the slimy lot
Then fire them all into Neptunes pot

When all or nearly all of the tadpoles have been initiated, the Herald calls attention for King Neptunes fairwell special:

NEPTUNE

King Neptune, I Lord of the Brine
Welcome you all, new subjects of mine
I am the Lord of the Oceans wide
Lord of the rivers...Lord of the tide
My laws are strict, but do not fear
If you will but perseveer
To keep the freedom of the seas
As recognized by our decrees
I command you...go now, you many
Take what you have learned to future days
I go now below my vigils to keep
Farewell YUKON's

(As the King and his Court depart, the way
is cleared by the Court Police and the
Herald)

HERALD

Make way...Make way for his Oceanic
Majesty....Make way.

FINIS

