

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

M 'Mike' in phonetic alphabet.
Designated in International Code by square flag bearing white saltire or St. Andrew's cross on blue ground. Hoisted in isolation it means "I have a doctor on board."

m Abbreviation for Meridional Parts which are number of Minutes required to compensate for expanded Latitude difference on Mercator Charts.

MACHINERY SPACE Space including trunk, alleyway, stairway, or duct to such a space that contains: a) propulsion machinery of any type; b) steam or internal combustion machinery; c) oil transfer equipment; d) electrical motors of more than 10 hp; e) refrigeration equipment; f) one or more oil-fired boilers or heaters; or f) electrical generating equipment.

MACRAME Decorative Rope work.

MADREPORE Stony Coral which often forms an important building material for Reefs.

MAESTRO Northwesterly wind with fine weather which blows, especially in summer, in the Adriatic. Most frequent on western shore. Wind also found on coasts of Corsica and Sardinia.

MAELSTROM 1) Norwegian word for famous whirlpool of their coast. From Dutch, 'malen' to grind or whirl around and 'strom', stream. From legend where two millstones onboard sailing vessel ground out so much salt that Ship Foundered, but millstones continued to grind away underwater. 2) Any violent upheaval, situation or emotion that is turbulent or widespread turmoil. AKA Malstrom.

MAE WEST 1) Slang term for lifejacket that bulges prominently. From having two very large flotation containers in the front of the chest very much like . . . , well you get the idea. 2) Bulging tank.

MAGAZINE Shipboard storage location for ammunition.

MAGNETIC Relative to Magnetic North, as against true.

MAGNETIC COURSE Course of a Vessel in relation to Magnetic North.

MAGNETIC MERIDIAN Line of force along which the needle of a Magnetic Compass settles.

MAGNETIC NORTH Direction Compass needle points when there are no local disturbing influences (Deviation). Direction of north magnetic pole from observer's position.

MAGNETIC VARIATION Errors in magnetic compass readings caused by variance in earth's magnetic field at different

locations on planet. Navigational charts list the variation and yearly level of change. See Variation

MAIDEN VOYAGE 1) First trip made by a ship after launching. Ships are ladies. New and unused ships are maiden. 2) Virgin woman traveling at sea.

MAIL BUOY Special type of nautical Buoy which transmits news from home to ships at sea and searched for by young Lookouts at the request of more experienced and perhaps more cruel sailors.

MAIN COURSE Mainsail on square rigged Ships.

MAIN DECK Highest Deck extending continuously from Stem to Stern. AKA uppermost continuous Deck.

MAINMAST Principal, central or tallest Mast of a sailboat. On three masted Vessels it is central and highest Mast. On two masted Vessels, position of Mast varies with type of vessel: on Brigs and Schooners, it is Sternmost Mast, while on Ketches and Yawls it is Foremost Mast.

MAINSAIL Sail carried on Mainmast. Largest, regular sail on modern sailboat and Hoisted on Aft side of Mainmast. Aft most Sail on boat with only one Mast, normally attached to Mast along its front edge. AKA 'mains'l'. See Main Course.

MAINSHEET Line for controlling the main Boom.

MAINSTAY 1) Principal line or Stay in Ship's Rigging that holds mainmast positioned, usually Forward. From chief shipboard Mast that it supports. 2) Chief support or reliance.

MAIN TRANSVERSE WATERTIGHT BULKHEAD Transverse Bulkhead that must be maintained watertight in order for the Vessel to meet the damage stability requirements.

MAJOR AID TO NAVIGATION Aid of considerable intensity, reliability and range exhibited from a fixed structure or a marine site. Major Aids are classified as primary or secondary and are usually manned or remotely monitored.

MAJOR CONVERSION 1) Substantially changes the dimensions or carrying capacity of Vessel. 2) Changes the type of Vessel. 3) Substantially prolongs the life of the Vessel. 4) Otherwise so changes the Vessel that it is essentially a new Vessel.

MAKE Increase or grow. Vessel Makes Sail. Spur of land Makes out from the coast. Leaking ships Makes water. Tide Makes.

MAKE A CLEAN SWEEP 1) The sea was clearing everything movable from the deck and washing it overboard. 2) Start anew in a project or improving one's self.

MAKE FAST Action of attaching a Line.

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MAKE HEADWAY Get on, struggle effectively against something, as a ship makes this against a tide or current.

MAKE ONE'S NUMBER 1) Flag signal hoisted when entering port indicating ship's official number. Also hoisted when meeting ships of the same fleet at sea. 2) Introduce oneself.

MAKE WATER 1) Take in water from a leak or Hull damage. From French, 'faire d'eau'. 2) Go # 1.

MAKING A ROD FOR YOUR OWN BACK 1) To fashion an instrument of punishment. Men awaiting flogging had to make their own Cat O' Nine Tails. If the work was unsatisfactory, they would be give extra lashes. 2) A self imposed difficulty.

MAKING BOTH ENDS MEET Live within one's income. From practice of splicing rope together to save money.

MAKING BOTH ENDS MEET 1) Common practice of splicing ends of rope together to cut shipboard operating expenses. 2) Make do with what is at hand, no matter how meager.

MAKING (HEAD) WAY 1) Ship's movement or motion en route through the water, usually forward. Particularly important for old, large sailing Vessels who had difficulty trying to Tack in light winds. See Underway. 2) Make progress.

MALAKOFF Reformed drunkard. From drunken Russian sailor who set up liquor store on hill which became a major battle in Crimean War.

MANGER Perforated and elevated bottom of a chain locker that prevents the Chains from toughing the main locker bottom and allows seepage water to flow to the drains.

MANIFEST 1) Master document of a ship for regulatory purposes; listing of Cargo. Passengers, etc., with appropriate details. From Latin, 'manifestare', declaration. 2) What female sailors may look forward to.

MANILA Natural fiber rope, largely supplanted by synthetics.

MAN FRIDAY OR GIRL FRIDAY Name of Robinson Crusoe's harworking helper or servant. 2) Handyman, factotum.

MANNING THE RAILS Custom evolved from centuries old practice of 'manning the Yards'. People aboard sailing ships stood evenly spaced on all Yards and gave three cheers to honor distinguished person. Now people are stationed along rails of ship but do not salute when honors are rendered to dignitaries. Navy ships do this when entering Port, or when returning to Ship's homeport at end of deployment.

MAN OR WOMAN DOESN'T GET HIS HANDS OUT OF THE TAR BY BECOMING SECOND MATE, A Responsibilities don't end with promotion. From age of sail when only first Mate was exempted from dirty work of sticking hands into tar bucket used for tarring Rigging.

MAN OR WOMAN FOR ALL WATERS Jack or Jill of all trades. Well rounded person.

MANROPE (S) 1) General name for ropes, often wire or hemp covered with Canvas, used as safety lines on Decks, Hatchways or as hand rails on variety of over the side boarding Ladders. Used for support when working on Yards, etc. 3) Also refers to ropes which hang down Vessel's side or lifeboat davit span to aid in climbing, ascending, descending or to prevent falling. Can also be used by women without prior permission from Captain.

MANVALEINS 1) Food or fragments of food stolen from ship's Galley. From 'manavel', to steal. 2) Odds and ends of leftovers mixed up by cook and alleged to be dessert.

MAP Only 'boat drivers' and 'landlubbers' use this term to describe a Nautical Chart.

MARBLE BOAT Legendary sailboat used by St. James.

MARCONI Tall Mast used with a Jib headed Rig.

MARCONI RIG Another name for Sloop.

MARIN Sirocco type (opposite of Mistral) wind blowing strongly from southeast in Gulf of lions and neighboring shorelines of southeast France.

MARINA Human made area with Berths and facilities for maintaining and storing Yachts. Essentially modern Harbor, boat basin or Dock area, where yachts, recreational or pleasure craft are kept. Usually Floats or Piers, as well as service facilities, stores, moorings, slipway, maintenance and repair facilities are available.

MARINE 1) Sea-going soldiers or infantry. Used to maintain order aboard ship, provide additional firepower or sharpshooters and for assaulting coastlines from the sea. 2) Sailors term for empty bottles. See Tell It To The Marines.

MARINE GEAR Gear box connected to the main propulsion engine(s) that allows the propeller to be operated in Ahead or Astern. Definately not to be confused with 'transmission' which is an automotive term used by uninformed Sunday sailors often called 'boat drivers'.

MARINE RAILWAY Railway used to haul out boats in a Marina or boat yard.

MARINE UTILITY STATION 1) Station in maritime mobile service consisting of one or more handheld

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radiotelephone units licensed under single authorization. Each unit can be operated while being hand carried. Station operates under rules that apply to Ship Stations when unit is aboard Vessel, and under rules applicable to private Coast Stations when unit is on land. 2) Latrine for sea-going soldiers.

MARITIME LAW Body of law which regulates seafaring and seafarers. It is characterized by being essentially case law, by its close interconnection of public with private law and by its uniformity throughout the world.

MARITIME MOBILE SERVICE Mobile service between Coast Stations and Ship Stations, or between Ship Stations, or between associated on-board communication stations. Survival craft stations and EPIRB stations also participate in this service.

MARITIME RADIODETERMINATION SERVICE Service for determining the position, velocity, and/or other characteristics of an object, or obtaining related information by using radio waves.

MARK 1) International term that indicates Buoy or Beacon. AKA Navigation Mark. 2) Buoy used in race course.

MARKS AND DEEPS Divisions used in marking hand-held lead line at second, third, fifth, seventh, tenth, thirteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth and twentieth fathoms, each designated by bits of leather are called Marks. Intermediate Fathoms, estimated by leadsman, are called Deeps.

MARK TWAIN Slurred mispronunciation of 'mark on the twin, six fathoms', called out when riverboat Leadsman sounds with weighted twine.

MARK YOUR HEAD 1) Report the ship's Heading from the compass (gyro or magnetic) 2) Put a sign on the toilet.

MARL Curmbling, earthy deposit, particularly one of clay mixed with sand, lime, decomposed shells, etc. Layer of Marl may become quite compact.

MARLINE General purpose, usually tarred but sometimes untarred, light or small, two Stranded Line with left hand Lay, formerly made from hemp. It is used for lacing, Whippings, Parceling, Seizings, Servings and for securing Bolt Ropes of large Sails. AKA 'marlin'.

MARLINE HITCH Used to secure Parceling on Standing Rigging because it lies more smoothly and is firmer than Half Hitches.

MARLIN SPIKE 1) Pointed tool, iron pin or instrument, usually steel but can be wood or metal. It is long, furnished with round head and often found on sailor's, rigger's or seaman's knife. Tool used for line work especially to pry open, separate, unpick or take apart tight Knots, Strands of Rope, splicing Lines, starting holes in wood. It also is used as lever or

to accomplish other odd jobs such as put on seizing, marling, etc.. AKA Marling Spike or Marlin spike. 2) Something for stabbing a marlin.

MAROON 1) Runaway slaves or Indians in Spanish colonies. From word 'cimarron' which means wild or unruly. 2) Punishment consisting of setting mutineers, unwanted men or prisoners down on an island or inhospitable shore, sometimes naked and with little or no provisions. From 'cimarron' cheap labor deserted by their masters and left to starve to death but with some rescued by Captain Drake. Performed especially by pirates and done in particular locations where there was no Club Med.

MARRY 1) Tie two lines together. 2) Something you may or may not want to avoid.

MARRIED TO THE GUNNER'S DAUGHTER. Tying men to be flogged over a gun barrel. See Over a Barrel

MARTHA'S VINEYARD Possibly discovered by Leif Ericson but named in confusion after a neighboring island.

MARTINETS AKA Martnets.

MARTINGALE Rope running from end of Jib Boom to Dolphin Striker, staying former just as Bobstay supports Bowsprit. AKA Dolphin Striker.

MARU Japanese merchant ship.

MAST 1) Wooden or aluminum vertical, upright Spar or pole set upright, supported by Standing Rigging from which is carried Yards or booms and from which Sails are set. It is either fashioned from single piece or number of pieces joined together. Main support of Sailing rig in Sailboats and used for Radio antennas, cargo derricks, navigational equipment and signal flags in both Sail and Power boats. See Cap, Foremast, Heel, Mainmast, Mizzenmast, Royal Mast, Partners, Shrouds, Stays, Step, Topmast, Top Gallant, Trestle Trees, Yoke. 2) Religious ritual often used before setting sail.

MAST CASE Encloses Mast below Decks.

MASTER Individual having command of the Vessel and who holds a valid license that authorizes the individual to serve as Master of a Small Passenger Vessel.

MASTER-AT-ARMS Shipboard policeman or sheriffs of sea. In early days they were charged with keeping swords, pistols, carbines and muskets in good working order, as well as ensuring that bandoliers were filled with fresh powder before combat. Besides being chiefs of police at sea, had to be qualified in close order fighting under arms and able to train seamen in hand-to-hand combat. Thus they were truly 'masters at arms'. AKA sea corporals.

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MASTHEAD 1) Top of the mast. 2) Length of Mast from Hounds to Cap.

MASTHEAD FLY Wind direction indicator at the Masthead.

MASTHEAD LIGHT White Light illuminated when powering at night, located about two thirds of the way up the Mast, at or near the Masthead but not at the top of the Mast. Arc of visibility is from Dead Ahead to 22.5 degrees Aft the Beam on both sides and range of visibility varying with the size of the Vessel. Used with Sidelights underway by a Vessel under power at night. See Anchor Light.

MAST STEP The support for the bottom (Heel or Butt) of the Mast.

MATANUSKA WIND Strong, gusty, northeast wind which occasionally occurs during winter in vicinity of Palmer, Alaska.

MATE Two who break bread or share meat together. From the French 'matelot' or sailor or from the Teutonic 'gamatoan-ga' a conjunction plus 'mat' for meat.

MATHEW WALKER A stopper knot used on the standing end of a lanyard.

MATTE Dense, twisted growth of a sea plant such as grass.

MAYDAY Radiotelephone (RT) Proword for international spoken or voice radio distress signal for ships or vessels in serious trouble. It has highest priority and also has priority over Pan or Securite messages. From French 'm'aidez' meaning help me. See SOS, CQD.

MAYFLOWER Former wine ship that carried colonists to New England and named for blossom of hawthorn tree.

MAYFLOWER COMPACT Document agreeing to choose leaders and abide by majority rule, the beginning of American democracy.

MAYONNAISE Coined by the French Duc de Richelieu after a successful 1756 naval attack on Port Mahon, Minorca. Victors improvised meal out of eggs and all leftovers in the kitchen, naming it after their victory, 'mahonnaise'.

MEAN DRAFT Sum of a Vessel's draft readings taken Forward and Aft, and divided by two.

MEAN HIGH WATER (MHW) Average height of all High Waters taken over a 19 year period. Elevations are calculated from this Datum.

MEAN HIGH WATER NEAP (MHWN) Average level of the High Waters that occur at the times of Neap Tides.

MEAN HIGH WATER SPRING (MHWS) Average level of the High Waters that occur at the times of Spring Tides.

MEAN LOW WATER (MLW) Average height of all Low Waters.

MEAN LOW WATER NEAPS (MLWN) Average level of the Low Waters that occur at the times of Neap Tides.

MEAN LOW WATER SPRINGS Average level of the Low Waters that occur at the times of Spring Tides.

MEAN LOWER LOW WATER (MLLW) Average height of the lower of two Low waters. Now used as the Tidal Datum on most Charts of U.S. waters.

MEAN LOWER LOW WATER SPRINGS Average level of the lower of two Low Waters on the days of Spring Tides.

MEAN SEA LEVEL (MSL) 1) Average height or level of the ocean's surface at all stages of the tide as measured over 19 year period. 2) Angry sea coming up over your shoes.

MEANS OF ESCAPE Continuous and unobstructed way of exit travel from any point in a Vessel to an Embarkation Station. Can be both vertical and horizontal and includes doorways, passageways, stairways, straits and public spaces.

MECLIZINE Medical drug and principal ingredient in Bonine tablets which combat sea sickness and, hopefully, makes you feel better. Not to be confused Mescaline which has a somewhat different effect on making you feel different if not better.

MEDITERRANEAN SEA From Latin, 'medi', middle and 'terraneus', earth; thus the sea in the middle of the earth.

MEET HER 1) Check but do not stop the swing of the ship. 2) Done at the beginning of a date.

MEETING A MINISTER Good luck if meeting but bad luck if passing minister going in same direction

MEETING A WOMAN Good luck if her bucket were full but bad luck if her bucket were empty.

MERCATOR Gerhard Mercator, Flemish cartographer.

MERCATOR CHART Chart on the Mercator Projection. AKA Equatorial cylindrical orthomorphic chart.

MERCATOR PROJECTION Conformal, cylindrical Chart projection resulting from projecting the earth's spheroidal surface onto a cylinder, tangent along the Equator. Meridians appear as equally spaced vertical lines and parallels as horizontal lines drawn farther apart as the Latitude increases, such that the

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correct relationship between Latitude and Longitude scales at any point is maintained.

MERIDIAN North-South reference line, specifically a Great Circle passing through geographical poles of Earth and intersecting Equator at right angles and known as Longitude. See Prime Meridian.

MERIDIAN ANGLE (t) Angular distance 0° - 180° East or West of the local (observer's) Celestial Meridian and Hour Circle of a Celestial body, measured from observer to body. See Local Hour Angle.

MERIDIAN, GRID One of grid lines extending in grid north south direction.

MERIDIAN, OBLIQUE Great Circle perpendicular to Oblique Equator.

MERIDIAN, PRIME FICTITIOUS Reference meridian used as origin for measurement of Fictitious Longitude.

MERIDIANS OF LONGITUDE See Meridian.

MERIDIAN, TRANSVERSE Great circle perpendicular to Transverse Equator.

MERIDONAL PARTS (m) Number of Minutes required to compensate for expanded Latitude difference on Mercator Charts.

MERMAID Beautiful creature 'seen' by sailors of all ages, with half body of woman and half fish. From Latin, 'mer', sea. In Greek mythology, fifty daughters of Nereus, a god of Sea, were beautiful Mermaids who rode waves on backs of dolphins. Could foretell future, give three wishes to anyone who catches them or protect favored sailor and punish anyone who harms him. In some stories, they fall in love with lusty Mariner and live with him until betrayed or entice him to reside with her in Davy Jones's Locker. From actual creature dugong; large, marine mammal that often stands upright in water cradling its young in flippers that look like arms from distance.

MERMAID'S GLOVE British sponge whose branches resemble human fingers.

MERMAID'S PURSES Popular name for horny skate (and you thought you were the only one), ray and shark egg cases often washed up on beach by wave action.

MESS 1) Space on ship where people ate and slept. From Spanish 'mesa' and Anglo Saxon 'mese' both meaning table. 2) Muddle, confusion.

MESSAGE FOLLOWS RT Prowords for a message that requires recording is about to follow.

MESSENGER Light Line, small Rope or Heaving Line made fast to heavier line and used to carry or Haul another

Line such as Halyard, Cable or large Hawser from Ship to Shore or to another Vessel across intervening space or when other Line is too large for Capstan drum. Messenger is thrown by hand or fired from line gun, then heavier line is attached and hauled across.

METACENTER (M) Determined by drawing two vertical lines of force that represent the upward force of buoyance, on an even Keel and another when the Vessel is inclined or Heeled.

METACENTRIC HEIGHT (GM) Distance from the Center of Gravity (G) to the Metacenter (M).

METACENTRIC RADIUS (BM) Distance from the Center of Buoyance to the Metacenter (M). See Stiff and Tender.

METEOROLOGICAL VISIBILITY Greatest distance a black object of suitable size can be seen and recognized against the sky on the horizon during the day.

METEOROLOGY 1) Science or study of weather and atmospheric phenomena. 2) Sometimes considered an occult art.

METER Unit of linear measurement equal to 100 centimeters or 39.370079 Inches.

MF Medium Frequency.

MHW Mean High Water, a tidal datum for heights.

MHZ Megahertz, unit of radio frequency, one thousand KHZ or one million Hertz.

MICKY FINN Drink with sedative in it. Used to drug sailor in order to Shanghai them.

MICKY MOUSE RULES Naval expression for petty rules.

MICROBAROGRAPH Highly sensitive Barograph.

MICROSECOND One millionth of a second.

MID CHANNEL CONTROLLING DEPTH It is controlling Depth of only middle half of Channel. See Controlling Depth.

MID OR MIDDLE WATCH 0000 - 0400 watch at sea, which follows First Watch. See Afternoon Watch, Dogwatch, First Night Watch Morning Watch, Forenoon Watch.

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MIDDLE PASSAGE Worst and most inhuman of three legs of Triangular Trade.

MID-LATITUDE (LM) Mean of Latitude of Departure (L1) and Latitude of Destination (L2).

MIDSHIPMAN 1) Boy serving an apprenticeship to become an officer. 2) AKA Middy, which is also a woman's garment styled after the midshipman's uniform. 3) Male or female officer in training.

MIDSHIPMAN FISH Fish with golden spots on each side like brass buttons on midshipman's coat. AKA talking fish, grunter, grunt and singing fish.

MIDSHIP (S) Location near the center of a vessel measured either from side to side or fore and aft. Approximately in location equally distant from bow and stern.

MILE Statute mile on land equaling 5,280 feet. See Nautical Mile.

MILLIBAR (Mb) Unit of atmospheric pressure, with 1 Mb equal to 0.03 Inches of mercury.

MILEAGE NUMBER Number assigned to an Aid to Navigation that indicates its distance in sailing miles along a river from a known reference point.

MIND YOUR P'S AND Q'S 1) Sailor had to keep track of his pints (P's) and quarts (Q's) of ale in pub such that they could accurately pay their bill. To ensure an accurate count by unscrupulous saloon keepers on chalkboard behind bar, Sailors had to keep their wits and remain somewhat sober. Sobriety usually ensured good behavior. 2) Warning from sailor's spouse to ensure that they did not stain their Pea Jacket from tar or grease on their Queues or pigtails. 3) Behave our best or mind your manners.

MIND YOUR RUDDER OR MIND YOUR HELM 1) Steer more carefully. 2) Stand by for an order to the wheel.

MINOR AID TO NAVIGATION Unmanned, unmonitored light on a fixed structure showing low to moderate intensity and generally fitted with light characteristics and the dayboards according to its Lateral significance in the waterway.

MINUTE 1) Angular measurement with 60 of them in one Degree. 2) Timely measurement with 60 of them in one hour.

MISS THE BOAT 1) Miss liberty boat which carried sailors returning from shore leave out to their ships, sometimes after not Minding Their P's and Q's. 2) To arrive too late for any occasion. 3) To miss or lost opportunity .

MISSING Floating Aid to Navigation which is not on station and whose whereabouts unknown or lost.

MISS STAYS (TO) Fail in going about from one Tack to other. As a result, ship gets its Head to wind, comes to stand, and begins to fall off on same Tack.

MISTRAL Cold, dry wind blowing from North over Northwest coast of Mediterranean Sea, particularly over Gulf of Lions. AKA Cierzo. See Fall Wind.

MIZZEN 1) Small, aftermost Sail set or located on a smaller, Aft mounted Mizzenmast on a Ketch or Yawl. 2) Abbreviation for Mizzen Mast. 3) What an object is when you can't find it.

MIZZEN MAST Aftermost Mast of three Masted Ship, Third Mast from Bow to Stern of four and five Masted Ships and Shorter, aftermost Mast Aft on two Masted Yawl or Ketch on which Mizzen Sail is Set. Mast set Aft of Main Mast. AKA Mizzen. It is not aftermost Mast on two Masted Brigs and Schooners.

MIXED TIDE Tide that is usually Semidiurnal but, on occasion, becomes Diurnal.

MLLW Mean lower low water, a tidal datum for depths.

MLW Mean low water, a tidal datum for depths.

MOBY DICK Famous book by Herman Melville. From a real 110' whale, 'mocha dick' sighted near conical peak of Chile's Mocha Island and which sank the Essex and terrorized whalers and from 1819-1859.

MODERATE Gale is said to do this when it begins to die down.

MODERATE AIR Wind of about 9 - 15 Knots.

MOLD 1) Make drawing of parts of given Vessel in their actual size for the builder. 2) Something the cook is familiar with.

MOLDED DEPTH Vertical distance from the top of Keel to top of upper Deck beams at side of Vessel.

MONITOR AND MERRIMACK First Sea battle between ironclads.

MONKEY 1) Anything small and included such items as wooden casks, small part or bracket, pumps, blocks, even children. See Powder Monkeys. 2) Small trading coaster Vessel. 3) A hairy coconut.

MONKEY BRIDGE See Catwalk

MONKEY FIST Special and fancy ball-like Knot, used to weight the end of a Heaving Line. Usually worked over a small weight like a heavy nut or sandbag to give it more directional control and distance when thrown. From the old days

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when the Knot actually was formed over a real (dead) monkey's paw.

MONKEY JACKET Coats which were cut shorter to allow the legs freedom to climb in the rigging were called this..

MONKEY SIZED Anything small aboard a sailing vessel was known as this.

MONEY FOR OLD ROPE Easy money shared amongst the crew who did not have to work for it. Generated by ships selling old and redundant ropes to shoreside traders.

MONKEY (S) 1) Nautically anything diminutive on board; wooden casks, blocks, engines or small coastal trading vessel. 2) Any small bracket or part aboard ship. 3) Metal trays used to stack cannon balls. See Cold Enough to Freeze The Balls Off a Brass Monkey. 4) Diminutive term for child. 5) Play foolish or mischievous tricks.

MONKEY JACKET Thick, close fitting reffer coat of navy blue serge which reached just below waist. Cut short and popular amongst seamen because it left the legs free for climbing Aloft.

MONKEY PUMP 1) Straw or quill inserted through hold bored in cask of wine or spirits. 2) Straw for sucking up liquid. 3) Drinking from bottle.

MONKEY'S FIST Weighted ball-like Knot attached to the end of a Heaving line to achieve greater accuracy and range.

MONOHULL Boat with one hull.

MONSOON Seasonal wind that blows from the sea to the continent during the summer and from the continent to the sea during the winter.

MOON CUSSERS Lured merchant ships to shore on dark nights by waving lanterns that were mistaken for lights of other vessels. When ships were destroyed on rocks, Cargo was collected as Salvage. They cussed the moon because the light robbed them of their livelihood.

MOONRAKER Square Sails occasionally set above Sky Sails. Highest square sail in the ship. See Skyscraper.

MOOR (ED) Hold Ship in fixed position in Harbor or Anchorage by one or more devices designed to prevent wind or tide from moving Ship. It may occur by dropping one or more Anchors, shackling Anchor Cable to Buoy, btting Cable or Hawsers either to Bollards or to Mooring rings set in quayside or to another ship which is already moored or by Making Fast to a Pier, Wharf, etc.

MOORING (S) 1) Permannntly emplaced, Anchored Buoy, heavy Anchor or weight permanently in position, often with pendant, and with Buoy to which a boat may be Secured or tied. Buoy or Deadhead to which ship ties or ground over which

seh lies at Anchor. See Berth. 2) Arrangement for securing boat to Mooring Buoy or Pier.

MOORING ALONGSIDE Occurs if ship is Mooored sideways to Quay or to other ship.

MOORING BUOY Buoy secured to permanent Anchor sunk deeply into Bottom, fitted with ring and used for Mooring boat.

MOORING LINE Line used to tie a Vessel to another Vessel or to a Wharf.

MOORING PENDANT Small chain or cable fastended to a Mooring Buoy.

MOORING RING Metal ring set in quayside to which vessel secures her Hawser.

MORNING WATCH 0400 - 0800 Watch at sea.

MORSE CODE 1) Communication code invented by American Samuel Morse, uses dots and dsashes for leters, numerals and a few special signs. 2) Light in which appearances of light of two clearly different durations are grouped to represent a character or characters in the Morse Code.

MOTHER CAREY'S CHICKEN Stormy Petrel. Possible corruption of Latin, mata cara', dear mother , another name for Virgin Mary.

MOTION Degree of instability of a boat's Deck while she Sails in Waves.

MOTORBOAT Boat propelled by an internal combustion engine. U.S. Motor Boat Act divides these into four classes.

MOTORBOATING 1) Rapid Luffing of Sails Leach which causes wear and odd noise. Stopped by use of Leach Line. 2) Something you never want to happen.

MOTOR SAILERS Auxiliary Sailbaot with an especially large engine and spacious accommodations.

MOTU Small Polynesian Island or Islet with some vegetable growth situated on Reef.

MOUNTAIN BREEZE Cool, drainage-type wind flowing off cooled mountain slopes into valley basins.

MOUSE, MOUSING Turns of Twine or lashings, taken or placed across a Hook, to prevent accidental unhooking or prevent a shackle or ohter fittings from slipping off..

MSD Marine Sanitation Device.

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MUD 1) General term applied to mixtures of sediments in water. See Clay, Rock, Sand, Silt and Stones. 2) Something fun to wrestle in.

MUD BERTH Berth where Vessel rests on Bottom at low water.

MUD FLAT Tidal flat composed of mud.

MUD PILOT Person who pilots a Vessel by visually observing changes in color of the water as Depth of water increases or decreases.

MUG UP Mug or cup of hot coffee or tea aboard ship.

MULTIHULL Any of several boat designs with more than one hull such as the two Hull Catamaran or three Hull Trimaran or one Hull and an outrigger.

MULTIPATH ERROR Error caused when signal reaches receiver antenna by more than one path. Usually caused by one or more paths being bounced or reflected.

MULTIPLEXING CHANNEL GPS receiver channel that can track a variety of satellite signals in sequential order.

MURMANSK RUN Dangerous Sea Voyage during World War II to ice free Russian port.

MUSHROOM ANCHOR Generally a Mooring type of Anchor desirable because it will not snag an Anchor Line or Chain. Small ones are also used for Fishing Anchors or for prams and Dinghies.

MUSSEL Originally muscle. From Latin, 'musculus', little mouse, since body muscles appeared and disappeared resembling tiny mice doing the same thing.

MUTINEY

N 'November' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square flag checked red blue and white with 16 squares, upper line of them running blue, white, blue, white to Fly. Hoisted in isolation it means: 'no or negative'.

NADIR Point on the Celestial Sphere vertically below observer. 180° or opposite from Zenith.

NAIAD Nymphs of Greek Mythology who swim in rivers, lakes and springs. Offspring of Oceanus and Tethys.

NAIL YOUR COLORS TO THE MAST See Colors.

NAKED TRUTH, THE From Roman fable where truth went swimming in river and falsehood stole her cloths. True went naked rather than put on falsehood's clothes.

NAKED WOMEN Something, according to legend, approved by the Sea. See Topless Ladies.

NANOSECOND One billionth of a second.

NANTUCKET SLEIGH RIDE A fast and dangerous ride in a whale boat after harpooning a whale as it desperately tried to rid itself of the harpoon, the boat and the crew.

NAPIER CARD, NAPIER DIAGRAM Graphic plot of Compass Deviation values.

NARWHAL White, arctic whale with long, single tusk. Unicorn of the Sea. From Scandinavian, 'nar', ghost or corpse.

NASHI Northeast wind which occurs in winter on Iranian coast of Persian Gulf, especially near entrance and also on Makran coast. Probably associated with outflow from central Asiatic anticyclone which extends over high land of Iran. Similar in character but less severe than Bora. AKA N'aschi.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS) Provides marine weather forecasts and warnings.

NAUMACHIA Roman flooded amphitheater where emperors held sea battles on land.

NAUSEA 1) Seasickness. From Greek word 'naus' for ship. Roman satirist, Junvenal, stated that wives are always seasick but that a mistress remains healthy and good tempered during the whole voyage. 2) Miserable sensation in pit of stomach.

NAUTICAL Art of seamanship and navigation. From Latin 'nauticus', sailor.

NAUTICAL ALMANAC Annual publication issued jointly by U.S. Naval Observatory and H.M Nautical Almanac Office at Greenwich, England, containing tables of the positions and movements of celestial bodies.

NAUTICAL MILE One minute of latitude. Standard unit of geographical distance used for marine navigation and work on salt water charts equaling 1,852 Meters exactly (an international standard) or 6,076.12 Feet. See Knot and Mile.

NAVAL ARCHITECTS Architects specializing in marine design.

NAVIGATION Art or science of guiding or conducting Vessel from one place or point to another safely and efficiently. See Celestial Navigation, Coastal Navigation, Piloting and Radio Navigation. Act of determining course or heading of movement. which could be for plane, ship, automobile, person on foot, or any other similar means.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

- NAVIGATIONAL AID** Instrument, device, Chart or method intended to assist in navigation of a craft. See aid to navigation.
- NAVIGATION (AL) LIGHTS** Lights shown by a Vessel that indicate Course, position and status such as fishing or Towing. AKA NavLights.
- NAVIGATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS** Safety communications pertaining to the maneuvering of Vessels or directing Vessel movements. Such communications are primarily to exchange information between Ship Stations and secondarily between Ship Stations and Coast Stations.
- NAVIGATIONAL TRIANGLE** Spherical triangle solved in computing Altitude and Azimuth and Great Circle sailing problems
- NAVIGATION RULES** Complete set of published rules or regulations governing Navigation. Rules of the Road governing movement of vessels in relation to each other, Navigation Lights, rules for Vessels meeting or passing, sound signals, and distress signals. Rules for International and U.S. or Inland waters only differ in a few, small details. Sometimes called steering and sailing rules.
- NAVIGATION TABLE** See Chart Table.
- NAVIGATOR** Person who, hopefully, knows where you are.
- NAVIGATOR'S BALLS** Slang for Quadrantal Spheres.
- NAVY "BIRTHDAY"** U.S. Navy traces its origins back to 13 October 1775, date Continental Congress ordered construction of ships for fledgling U.S. Navy. Navy Department was established as a separate department on 30 April 1798 (it was previously part of War Department).
- NAVY BLUE** From 1745 Act of Parliament requiring English sailors to wear identical official uniforms with blue jacket with white facings. King George II selected colors from riding habit of First Lord of Admiralty's wife. AKA Navy.
- NAVY COLORS** Official Navy colors are blue and gold.
- NAVY HYMN** "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"
- NAVY MOTTO** There is no official motto for U.S. Navy. "Non sibi sed patriae", 'Not self but country', is often cited as Navy's motto.
- NAVY MARCH** "Anchors Aweigh" was written in 1906 as march for Naval Academy Class of 1907. Music composed by Lt. Charles A. Zimmerman, bandmaster of Naval Academy with lyrics were written by Midshipman Alfred H. Miles. While there is proposal to include protocol for performing "Anchors Aweigh" in Navy Regulations and to designate it official song of U.S. Navy, it remains an unofficial service song. There are numerous variations in the words.
- NEAP TIDE (S)** Occurring at quarter moon Periods when moon and sun are at 90° angles to each other. Occur at quarter and three quarter moons when sun and moon are furthest from being in line. Tides have least or minimal Range of rise, with lower High Tides and higher Low Tides. Opposite of Spring Tide.
- NEAR COASTAL** Regulatory term meaning "within 200 miles of shore".
- NECKERCHIEF, BLACK SILK** Originally a sweat rag. Black didn't show dirt. It was worn around forehead and neck. Some used it in days when pigtailed were fashionable to protect their jackets. Black neckerchiefs were used long before Nelson's death
- NEGATIVE ALTITUDE** Angular distance below Horizon. Opposite of Altitude. AKA Depression.
- NEGATIVE SLIP** Actual Advance is more than theoretical which may be caused by a Following Sea. See Positive Slip and Slip.
- NELSON'S BLOOD** Brandy or rum. From substance used to preserve or Pickle British Admiral Horatio Nelson after his death at Trafalgar while being transported to St. Paul's Cathedral for burial. See Tap the Admiral.
- NEPTUNE** Roman god of water, ruler and king of sea. Carries Trident and rides Hippocampus. AKA Poseidon. Married to Amphitrite with son Triton. See also Doris, Nereus, Oceanids, Oceanus and Portunus.
- NEREID (S)** Fifty Nymphs of the Sea in Greek Mythology. Daughters of Nereus and Doris.
- NEREUS** Has seaweed green hair and lives with wife, Doris at bottom of Mediterranean. Father of 50 Nereids or daughters of Nereus. See Neptune, Oceanids, Oceanus and Portunus.
- NET** Refers to the weight of the contents only. See Gross and Tare.
- NET TONNAGE** Capacity or internal volume of a Vessel, found or determined by measuring the Hull interior in units of 100 cubic feet as well as the volume engine rooms, crew's quarters, stores, navigation space and other equipment or subtracting the above from Gross Tonnage. See Displacement, Displacement Tonnage and Gross Tonnage.
- NEW** Term may be used in lieu of forecast track position of High or Low Pressure center when center is expected to form by specific time. For example, surface analysis

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may depict 24-hour position of a new Low Pressure center with an "X" at 24-hour position followed by term 'New', date and time in UTC which indicates low is expected to form by 24 hours.

NEW EDITION Chart New Edition is made when, at the time of printing, the corrections are too numerous or too extensive to be reported effectively in Notice to Mariners. It makes previous printings obsolete. Date and edition number of latest edition appears in the lower left hand corner of the Chart or another prominent location and is the date of the latest Notice to Mariners to which the Chart has been corrected. See First Edition, Revised Print, and Reprint.

NEW VESSEL Initial construction began on or after March 11, 1996.

NIMBOOR NIMBUS 1) A prefix on a cloud name indicating rain; i.e. 'Nimbostratus' would indicate rain bearing Stratus Clouds. 2) Something that you may want on board that is an insatiable . . . , no that's nympho and something else entirely.

NINTH WAVE Old nautical superstition holds that waves become progressively higher until this wave (or is it the tenth?) and then progression begins all over again.

NIP Short turn or part of rope caught and jammed. To seize.

NIPPED Ice forcibly squeezing Hull. See Beset.

NIPPER(s) 1) While weighing Anchor, it was required to bind or nip heavy Anchor Cable to lighter line called Messenger which ran around Capstan or Winch. Anchor warp (cables) were too large to bend around capstan. Young, small boys at sea would 'nip' in smaller, short lines running from Capstan to Hawser or Halyards. They were used to heave the cables and prevent anchor line from slipping while it was being hauled up. 2) Any young boy or general reference to small children. AKA Little Nipper. See Half Pint.

NIPPERKIN Measure of half pint or less that was used for spirits.

NIPPING LINES Smaller, endless lines led from the very large anchor lines which were too large to bend around the main Capstan. Termed because they nipped the lines against the side of the cable and no awkward knots were required.

NOAA National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, a government agency whose duties include distribution of nautical charts and weather broadcasts. It is responsible for production of navigational charts and for monitoring and informing mariners of weather conditions.

NOAH'S ARK Famous shipwreck not covered by insurance. All unicorns on board lost in disaster.

NOAH'S BRIG Tiny rockbound island in Hudson River. From a Captain Noah who mistook the rock for a ship or Brig and thought the strees were Masts with sails set. Thinking he had the right of way, he stubbornly held his course until collision.

NOCK Upper corner at Luff of Gaff Sail.

NODAL PERIOD 19 year period of time over which a complete range of tidal observations occur.

NO MAN'S LAND 1) Situation of being neither on Starboard or Larboard side of ship nor in Waist or Forecastle but being situated in middle part of both places. Term is at least 250 years old. 2) Neither here nor there.

NOMINAL RANGE Maximum distance a light may be seen in clear weather with the Meteorological Visibility of 10 Nautical Miles without considering the curvature of the earth, your Height of Eye or the height of the Light. Nominal Range in Nautical Miles appears in the Light List for all federal lighted Aids to Navigation except range lights and directional lights. See Range, Nominal.

NON COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL Any material approved in accordance with 46 CFR 164.009.

NON SELF PROPELLED VESSEL Vessel that does not have an installed means of propulsion, including propulsive machinery, masts, spars or sails.

NON SLIP Anti skid.

NON - TIDAL CURRENT Refers to any current not caused by tidal movement. Examples include permanent currents in the oceans, wind driven currents caused by onshore or offshore winds, and currents caused by storms.

NORMAN'S WOE Large submerged rock off coast of Gloucester, MA. See Wreck Of The Hesperus.

NO ROOM TO SWING A CAT 1) Little room on ships to swing hammock or 'cat'. 2) No room to swing Cat O Nine Tails below Decks and thus punishment was carried out outside on Main Deck. 3) During punishment all hands were called on Deck to bear witness. In case of ship with full complement it could be very crowded. Deck could be so crowded that a cat o' nine tails could not be used without hitting the observers. AKA Not Enough Room To Swing A Cat. AKA No Room To Swing A Dead Cat.

NORTE Strong cold Northeasterly wind which blow in Mexico and on shores of Gulf of Mexico. Results from outbreak of cold air from North. Mexican extension of Norther.

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NORTH ATLANTIC TRACKS Season routes used since 1891 by agreement among principal steamship companies for safety reasons; avoid collision, ice and Grand Banks fishing boats. Separated east and west bound tracks as well as special tracks for ice conditions. Tracks were altered after Titanic.

NORTHEASTER Wind which blows from moderate to strong from northeast over New England coastal regions.

NORTHER Strong, cold, north winds of the northern hemisphere associated with a strong penetration by a cold air mass into sub-tropical regions.

NORTHERN LIGHTS See Aurora.

NORTH POLE (Pn) See North Terrestrial Pole.

NORTH TERRESTRIAL POLE Northern rotational pole of the Earth. = Pn

NORTHWESTER Moderate to strong wind from northwest used to describe cool or cold wind which blows from northwest over North America east of the Rockies.

NOS National Ocean Service, printer of U.S. Charts and Coast Pilots.

NO SAIL ZONE Zone where a sailboat can't sail; about 90 degrees wide, with the center point being directly toward the true wind direction.

NOSEY PARKER Busybody or unduly inquisitive person. From Richard Parker, leader of Sheerness mutiny who poked his nose so deeply into what military thought was its exclusive bailiwick that they hanged him from Yarkarm.

NOT ENOUGH ROOM TO SWING A CAT 1) Not enough room on board below decks (5.5' height) to properly twirl the rawhide 'cat-o'-nine-tails', an instrument used for flogging. Also in below deck area, only a handful of the crew could stand witness. AKA No Room To Swing A Cat. 2) Cramped confines between decks of sailing vessels afforded very little room for sailor to swing hammock or cot, corrupted to 'cat'. 3) Inability of sailing Cat (AKA collier) to swing at anchor (not enough room) due to minuteness or close quarters of small Port or anchorage. AKA No Room To Swing A Cat. 4) Cramped spaces.

NOTICE TO MARINERS (NM) Official advisories from the Defence Mapping Agency Hydrographic Center concerning navigational safety items for ocean-going ships such as changes in Channels and Navigation Aids. Usefully vital for updating Charts and technical publications. See Local Notice to Mariners.

NOTUS Greek God of the South winds. AKA Auster in Latin. Offspring of Aeolus, King of Aeolian Islands and Eos or Aurora, Dawn.

NOW THE'S TALKING 1) The distinctive sound of waves dancing and rattling against the wooden hull of a sailing Vessel as she moves quickly through the water. Especially noticeable in a sailing ship where no machinery noises would mask or interfere with the sound. 2) Pleasant and welcome sounds connected with speech.

NUGGET Rookie Navy pilot.

NUMBERING Federally mandated licensing of boats in the U.S., usually by the states, except in Alaska, where the coast Guard registers boats.

NUN 1) Type of cylindrical Buoy with a conical top or tapering toward the top. Found on the Starboard hand on entering a channel, painted red and numbered evenly in North America. See IALA. 2) Someone you might wish to spiritually consult before departing on a long, overseas Voyage.

NUTATION Irregularities in the precessional motion of the equinoxes due chiefly to regression of the nodes.

NWS National Weather Service

NYLON Polyamide synthetic material with a long chain molecule. Fibers are used for rope and some sailcloth, when elasticity is desirable. Hard Nylon is used for some Rigging parts, such as Sheaves.

NYLON LETDOWN Ejection and subsequent parachute ride for Navy pilot.

NYMPHS Beautiful maidens of Greek Mythology who were lesser divinities of nature. See Nereid.

O 'Oscar' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square flag divided diagonally, upper half being red, lower half yellow with division running downward from Jack to Fly. Hoisted in isolation it means: 'crew overboard.'

OAK LEAVES IN INSIGNIA Oak leaves have been used as insignia by various corps and ranks of U.S. Navy since earliest days. Decorative device was probably adopted originally as symbol of excellent oaken ships of United States. In days of wooden ships, government preserved its live oak logs for shipbuilding by placing oak timbers under water at Navy Yards, often for decades.

OAKUM Fibers, caulking material or pickings of tarred hemp or manila fiber Rope. Used to Caulk or waterproof Seams in timbers, wooden Decks or sides of Ships or between Strakes of Planking to make them watertight. It is a mass of strong, pliable tarred rope fibers obtained from scrap rope, which swell when wet. Fibers are soaked in pine tar and loosely bundled together. Sailors and prisoners were once forced to slowly and tediously unravel condemned old, tarred, Rope and pick apart or unpick its Fiber with their bare hands as punishment.

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OAR 1) Device used to propel a water craft. 2) Something quite different in England with a Cockney accent.

OARLOCK U shaped or sometimes O shaped pivoting device in which Oars are set when rowing. See Rowlock.

OBSERVER'S HORIZON See Horizon.

OBSTRUCTION Buoy, Vessel, Shoal, or other object requiring a course alteration to pass safely to one side.

OCEAN RACER Boat with minimal accommodations used for racing overnight or long distances.

OCCLUDED FRONT Boundary zone between two coolest air masses when one front overtakes another. Usually occurs when a Cold Front overtakes a Warm Front. Union of two fronts, formed as a cold front overtakes a warm front or quasi-stationary front refers to a cold front occlusion. When a warm front overtakes a cold front or quasi-stationary front the process is termed a warm front occlusion. These processes lead to the dissipation of the front in which there is no gradient in temperature and moisture.

OCCULI Eyes on a Figurehead indicating that the vessel herself could always be on the lookout for danger and, perhaps, avoid it unaided. Without the occuli or Figurehead, the Vessel would be forced to go blind despite the lookout.

OCCULTING Refers to the light found on an Aid to Navigation where light is eclipsed or cut off at regular intervals. Total duration of light in Period is longer than total duration of darkness. Period light is visible is always greater than period of darkness. Usually intervals of darkness or eclipses are usually of equal duration. Note: this has nothing to do with forces of Satan or Characteristics of Black Light.

OCEAN'S ROUTE Route that is more than 20 nautical miles offshore.

OCEANIDS Daughters of Oceanus and Tethys in Greek mythology.

OCEANUS God of the Ocean and father of Oceanids.

O'DONOHUE'S WHITE HORSES Foaming waves on a windy day. From legend of Irish chieftain O'Donohue who returns every seven years on May Day to Lakes of Killarney riding his great white steed, gliding over waters.

OCMI Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection.

OE Localized type of whirlwind which occurs off coast of Faeroe Islands in northeast Atlantic.

OFF AND ON 1) A ship tacking toward and away from land, waiting for daylight or the tide to enter port. Standing Off and

On eager to get ashore. Head out to sea for a safer 'Offing, then turn around and stand 'On' towards the shore. 2) Indicates something of an intermittent or frustrating nature. 3) A situation in which progress is made, then lost. 4) Repeated fun at night between two people.

OFFING 1) Distance ship is 'Off' Shore. 2) Out at Sea or safe distance from shore clear of all rocks and danger, where there is deep water and no need for a pilot to conduct the ship. 3) Ship had good 'Offing' when she had cleared land but was still in sight. 4) Visible or portion of sea just beyond Anchoring ground. See In The Offing. 5) Near at hand in time or space or likely to happen in near future. 6) Getting rid of a particularly annoying crew member when far out a sea.

OFFSHORE 1) Away from the Shore or out of sight of land. 2) From the land toward the water.

OFFSHORE BOW LINE Line leading from the Bow forward onto the dock and passing through the offshore Chocks at the Bow of the Vessel.

OFFSHORE STERN LINE Any line leading from the quarter Chocks on the outboard side of the Vessel Astern and onto the Dock.

OFFSHORE TOWERS Manned or unmanned monitored light stations built on exposed marine sites to replace lightships.

OFFSHORE WATERS That portion of oceans, gulfs, and seas beyond Coastal waters extending to a specified distance from the coastline, to a specified depth contour, or covering an area defined by a specific latitude and longitude points

OFF SOUNDS Vessel is this if it is in water too deep to use a long or deep sea Lead Line. See Soundings.

OFF STATION Floating aid that is not in its assigned and charted position.

OFF THE WIND Sailing downwind, Reaching or Running or before the Wind.

O GRAB ME U.S. Embargo Act of 1807 restricted American ship departures to prevent hostilities on Seas. But it hurt British and French less than American shipowners who complained by describing the Act in this manner (inverse of 'embargo').

OH-DARK THIRTY Any time between midnight and sunrise.

OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS Spreading oil to calm the waves. Placing vegetable or fish oil to windward is frequently done in rescue or salvage work in order to modify the seas and reduce the risk of accidents.

OILSKINS Waterproofed or plastic clothing worn by seamen when on Deck in wet or rough weather. From

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fact that such protective clothing was originally produced by steeping garments in linseed oil.

OLD GLORY American flag named by Captain Driver of Brig Charles Doggett who started tradition in 1831.

OLD IRONSIDES Nickname for American's oldest warship with long, honorable Career. AKA USS Constitution.

OLD MAN (, THE) The Captain.

OLD SALT An accomplished sailor.

OLD STICK IN THE MUD Person of little or no account. From gruesome time when pirates were hung and buried or stuck into the mud along tidewaters of the river.

OLD TAR A Sailor. See Jack and Jack Tar.

OLD WHALE Old and obsolete expression describing a sailor.

OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM Old, global Radionavigation system, now discontinued.

ON AN EVEN KEEL 1) Ship is said to be in proper trim when she floats on water on even Keel, neither down by Head or by Stern. 2) Smooth sailing or person is this when steady and well balanced in life. See Keel Over.

ON BOARD On a boat.

ON BOARD COMMUNICATION STATION Low powered mobile station in maritime mobile service intended for use for internal communications (i.e., intercom) on board ship, or between ship and its lifeboats and liferafts during drills or operations, or for communication within group of Vessels being towed or pushed, as well as for line handling and mooring instructions.

ONCE IN A BLUE MOON Something that seldom happens. From Admiralty report of a rare event caused by certain atmospheric conditions.

ONE DESIGN Racing boat, usually a daysailer, designed and built to the same specifications as all other boats in her class.

ONE SHEET TO THE WIND Slightly drunk. See Three Sheets To The Wind.

ON EVEN KEEL Not Heeling.

ONSHORE From the water toward the land.

ON SOUNDINGS Usually inside the 100 Fathom line. See Off Sounds.

ON THE BEACH 1) A seaman without ship or employment. Associated with a Beached Ship. 2) Out of work, unemployed.

ON THE BEAM Abeam.

ON THE BOW To one side of the Bow. AKA Off the Bow.

ON THE FLAKES 1) Flakes are frames use to split and lay salted fish out to dry. 2) Now means dead or laid out.

ON THE MAKE 1) A Sea growing rougher. 2) A Sailor on the prowl for companionship.

ON THE RIGHT OR WRONG TACK If on wrong Tack and taking wrong approach to situation or issue, your course of action must be altered.

ON THE ROCKS 1) Ship grounded on rocky Coast battered by waves and ready to sink. Fairly serious condition since ship's are rarely saved once impaled. See Founder. 2) Ruin or impending disaster. 3) Stone broke or bereft of sanity. 4) Wrecked marriage and about to be sunk unless saved at last minute. 5) Allusion to danger or impending crack-up. 6) Ice in your drink.

ON THE STERN To one side of the Stern. AKA Off the Stern.

ON THE STOCKS 1) A ship that has passed the planning stage and is actually under construction. See Stocks. 2) Something new or in preparation.

ON THE WIND Sailing Close Hauled.

ON THE WRONG TRACK 1) A Vessel's course after staying on one Tack longer than necessary and passed the critical point of change when sailing upwind and Tacking towards a specific destination. See Favored and Unfavored Tack. 2) Wrong policy or action. Wrong approach to a situation.

ON YOUR OWN HOOK Be on your own. From fisherman who were paid according to what they caught individually on own hooks and lines.

OOZE Soft, slimy, organic sediment composed principally of shells or other hard parts of tiny organisms.

OPEN BOAT Boat without a Deck. Vessel not protected from entry of water by means of a complete weathertight Deck, or by a combination of a partial weathertight Deck and superstructure that is structurally suitable for the waters the Vessel operates on.

OPEN DECK Deck that is permanently open to the Weather on one or more sides and, if covered, any spot on the Overhead is less than 15 feet from the nearest opening to the weather.

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OPEN TO THE ATMOSPHERE Compartment that has at least 15 square inches of open area directly exposes to the atmosphere for each cubic foot of net compartment volume.

OPERATING STATION Principal steering station on the Vessel from which the individual on duty normally navigates the Vessel.

OPPORTUNE 1) From Roman feast of Portunus (17 August), god who protected Ports and Harbors with name derived from Latin word 'portus' meaning harbor or port and word 'ob' meaning before. Thus 'before the port'. 2) When ship is at Harbor mouth, it is an opportune moment or a happy, fitting and suitable time.

ORLOP 1) Deck at waterline of ship. 2) Lower but temporary deck in ship of war, whereon cables are usually coiled, sails deposited, and which contain several officers' storerooms.

ORLOP DECK Lowest Deck.

ORNAMENTAL SLEEVE BUTTONS Decorative buttons sewn on many suit jackets, sports coats and blazers began as effort by Lord Nelson to keep young Midshipmen and Cabinboys from wiping noses on their sleeves. Many, particularly on first voyages, would become homesick, tearfully tending to duties in their fancy gentlemen's uniform. That uniform had no pockets for handkerchief, so young boys would wipe their noses on their sleeves. To break them of this ungentlemanly habit, Lord Nelson had large brass buttons sewn on sleeves of all Midshipmen and Cabinboy uniforms. Decorative value of buttons were soon realized, and in short order, London tailors were adding decorative buttons to frocks, coats, and dinner jackets. Though the buttons have become less gaudy, practice continues.

ORTHOMORPHIC CHART See Conformal Chart.

OSTRACISM Banish socially. From Greek, 'ostrakon', oyster shell. Vote of banishment in ancient Greece was made on recycled pieces of tile which resembled oyster shells rather than scarce paper or papyrus.

OTHER FISH TO FRY I'm busy; I can't do anything else right now.

OUT RT Proword for end of transmission and no response is expected or required.

OUTBOARD 1) Away from Centerline of boat or out toward side or beyond Rail or sides. Outside or away from Vessel's Hull. Toward or beyond boat's sides. Opposite of Inboard. 2) Mounted on Stern. 3) Non permanent, removable or detachable propulsion unit, engine, engine and drive system mounted or attached at Stern or Transom and includes motor, driveshaft and propeller. Fuel tank and battery may be integral or could be installed separately in Boat.

OUTBOARD MOTOR Engine whose driving shaft does not pass through any part of Vessel's Hull.

OUTCAST 1) Casting a person away. See Castaway. 2) Person rejected by society.

OUTDRIVE Propulsion system for boats, with Inboard engine or motor operating an exterior drive, with driveshaft, gears and propeller. AKA Stern Drive and Inboard / Outboard.

OUTFIT Gear or equipment required for a ship being mad ready or 'Fit' for sea. See Fitting Out.

OUTHHAUL Sail control Line, Tackle or geared mechanism system that tightens, adjusts tension and exerts force along the Foot. It pulls the Mainsail away from the Mast, tightens the Foot of the Sail along the Boom, Secures and pulls the Clew away from the Tack on a Boomed Sail.

OUT OF THE BLUE Totally unexpected. Short for 'out of a clear blue sky'. A sudden change in the weather from a good breeze under cloud dappled blue sky to a demon squall wreaking havoc on the ship.

OVER RT Proword for end of my transmission and a response or reply is necessary.

OVER A BARREL 1) Harsh discipline at sea. Tying men to be flogged over gun barrel or 'gunner's daughter'. See Married to the Gunner's Daughter. 2) Near drowning victim 3) In was draped face down in this fashion, then rolled back and forth in attempt of revive victim by draining water from lungs. near helpless situation. Being placed or placing someone else in a predicament from which there is no escape or where person is at someone else's mercy or in their powers. AKA Have Someone Over a Barrel.

OVERALL LENGTH See Length Overall (LOA).

OVERBEARING To come close to another ship after Bearing Down.

OVERBOARD Over side or out of boat.

OVERBOARD, GO 1) Fall off Vessel. 2) Something exciting. See By The Board.

OVERCAST State of sky when it is completely covered with clouds.

OVERHANG Distance the Bow and Stern extend beyond the Waterline.

OVERHAUL 1) Separate Blocks of Tackle by hauling through entire Falls or line by feeding slack Rope back through set of pulley blocks. Preparing it for further use so you can start again after hauling Block and Tackle until Chockablock. 2) Crew were sent aloft to Overhaul Buntlines or else they would hang in great loops and Chafe against sail. 3) Tighten a Lazy

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Line or the Tail of a Line in use in order to check that Lead is fair and there is no Chafe. 4) Loosen or slack off Line to give it clear passage through Block 5) Inspection and repair of any part of Rigging. 6) Examine thoroughly with view toward repair or renewal. Take apart, thoroughly examine, and repair. Inspection and complete repair of all the ship's Gear. 7) Overtake another Vessel.

OVERHEAD Roof of ship's room or what landlubbers might call a Ceiling.

OVERLAPPING Alongside of such as on Overlapping Jib extends Aft of the Luff of the Mainsail and an Overlapping boat has her Bow or Stern alongside another Boat's Stern or Bow.

OVERNIGHT Two or three days.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS (SPACE) Space for use by passengers or by crew members, which has one or more berths, including beds or bunks, for passengers or crew members to rest for extended periods, usually Staterooms, Cabins and Berthing Areas.

OVERPOWERED Heeling too far and difficult to Steer.

OVERREACH 1) Vessel trying to reach an upwind destination but which has held one tack too long. It has taken her past her destination and will have to retrace her steps. 2) Fail by being too clever.

OVERRIDING Tow overtakes a Tug. AKA overrunning.

OVERRIGGED Having too much Sail area. AKA Overcanvassed.

OVERSTAND To Lay or Fetch a Buoy or Shoal with room to spare.

OVERTAKING Coming up from Astern and about to pass.

OVERWHELM (ED) 1) Vessel is this when she has capsized or turned upside down in water. 2) Be completely overcome by something. AKA but stronger than Whelm. From Early English 'whelmen', to turn over or turn upside down..

OXTER PLATE

OYS Chart abbreviation for oyster bar.

OYSTERS ROCKEFELLER Bivalves broiled with puree of spinach, other vegetables and seasonings on bed of rock salt which is 'as rich as Rockefeller'.

center. Hoisted in isolation it means" (in harbor) 'all persons are to repair on board as Vessel is about to proceed to Sea' or (at sea) 'your lights are out or burning badly'.

p Departure = Linear Distance (Nm) Between Meridians (Varies with Latitude) = $Dlo * \cos(\text{latitude})$

PA Abbreviation on Nautical Chart meaning 'position approximate'.

PACIFIC OCEAN Largest of four oceans, containing 46% of earth's water, 70 million square miles. Larger than all land in the world and larger than the surface area of Mars. Half of equator's length lies in the Pacific. Deepest point is 36,198 feet.

PADDLE YOUR OWN CANOE Be independent.

PADDLING Collective or plural name for ducks in the water.

PADEYE General term that refers to a half round metal loop or relatively strong piece of metal plate that has a circular or semi-circular ring hole or eye forged, welded or cut into it and used to Secure Blocks, Shackles or a Line to some part of the boat. Padeyes are looped shaped fittings commonly fitted or welded to Decks, Bulwarks, sides of a Deck house or other surfaces to accept hooks and Shackles, for Deck lashings, lifting, Securing, etc.

PAINTER 1) Dinghy Bow Line or short piece of Rope Secured or attached to Bow or Stern of small or open boat . It is used for tying, Mooring or making her Fast to Dock, Buoy, towing, etc. From Latin 'pendere', to hang. 2) Someone who coats your boat.

PALAUVER 1) From the Portugues word 'palavra' meaning speech or word and used by their navigators to describe parleys with natives in West Africa. 2) Talk, especially idle chatter.

PALM 1) Broad tip of an Anchor Fluke. AKA Fluke. 2) Device, usually leather, worn on hand and used somewhat like thimble to protect thumb and palm of hand when sewing on Canvas, for Whipping Lines when driving needle through Canvas.

PAMPERO Violent squall which attends cold front as they sweep from southwest to northeast in pampas of Argentina and Uruguay.

PAN 1) RT Proword for an urgent safety message concerned with the safety of a person such as a medical problem or crew overboard. This urgent signal is second in priority only to distress or Mayday calls and has priority over routine messages and safety messages or Securita signals. 2) Common abbreviation for 'private aid to navigation' used in the Local Notice to Mariners.

P 'Papa' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square blue flag with white oblong in

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

PANIC PARTIES Men who intentionally, deceptively and immediately abandoned Q-Boats when they were fired upon.

PANTHALASSA All encompassing sea ('all sea') which encircled Pangea, the super continent.

PANTING Alternate bulging in and out of a Vessel's plating caused by wave pressure. Occurs primarily at the Bow as the Vessel pitches in a head sea.

PAPAGAYO 1) Violent North or Northeasterly fall wind on Pacific coast of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Guatemala. Consists of cold air mass of Norte which has overridden mountains of Central America. See Tehuantepecer. 2) Popular bar in St. Martin.

PARADISE 1) Sailing. 2) Two dice.

PARALLAX ERROR Error in reading an instrument such as a Compass or gauge resulting from the distance between the needle or pointer and the numerical scale.

PARALLEL CHANNEL RECEIVER Receiver employing multiple receiver circuits, each dedicated to receiving and processing the signal from single satellite.

PARALLEL RULE (RS , S) Navigation device or tool, used in chartwork that enables a person plotting a course to work from a plotted line on a Chart to a Compass Rose, and vice versa, to determine the direction of the line, plot a Bearing, etc. Consists of two straight edged slats or rulers of equal length, connected by two hinges or crosspieces of equal length, movable about the joints so it keeps the rulers parallel to each other even when moved across a Chart.

PARALLEL (S) OF ALTITUDE Circle of Celestial Sphere parallel to horizon, connecting all pints of equal Altitude. See Equal Altitudes.

PARALLEL (S) OF LATITUDE Latitude is parallel to the Equator. Often incorrectly called Latitude line.

PARCEL (ING) Wrap tape, narrow strips of tarred Canvas or other small stuff spirally around wire, fiber Rope or Wormed Rope, following Lay of Line with each turn overlapping preceding turn. Used to prevent chafe. Usually used with Worming that fills in spaces between twisted Strands of Rope. See Serving.

PARR Young Salmon. SKA Smolt or Grilse.

PARREL 1) Short rope span that attaches Yard or jaws of Gaff, etc. to Mast. Bond of rope, chain, or iron collar by which the middle of Yard is fastened to Mast. 2) Length of Rope on which are strung Trucks. It enables Gaff or Boom to traverse freely without excessive friction on Mast. See Rig And Truck Parrels.

PART 1) To break. 2) One of the Sections of Line in a Tackle.

PART BRASS RINGS To break up a friendship or falling out between friends. Originally from a sailor's habit of sharing a personal cleaning gear or brass polishing rag with his best friend on board ship. If they had falling out, they no longer shared rags and other gear necessary to polish brass and metal trim.

PARTIALLY ENCLOSED SPACE Compartment that is neither open to the atmosphere nor an enclosed space.

PARTIALLY PROTECTED WATERS Waters not more than 20 nautical miles from the mouth of a Harbor of Safe Refuge.

PARTITION Non structural wall. See Bulkhead.

PARTNERS Deck opening, tout casing and support for Mast as it emerges from Deck.

PASSAGE 1) Channel for navigating boat through Reef. 2) Sea journey between specific points. More than 6 hours spent underway or one leg of Voyage or a journey.

PASSENGER 46 CFR 2101(21) (A) Means an individual carried on the Vessel except: (i) the owner or an individual representative of the owner or in the case of Vessel under charter, an individual charterer or individual representative of the charter; (ii) the Master or; (iii) a member of the crew engaged in the business of the Vessel who has not contributed consideration for carriage and who is paid for on board services. (B) On a sailing school Vessel, means an individual carried on the Vessel except: (i) an individual included in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph; (ii) an employee of the owner of the Vessel engaged in the business of thw owner, except when the Vessel is operating under a demise charter; (iii) an employee of the demise charter of the Vessel engaged in the business of the demise charterer, or; (iv) a sailing school instructor or sailing school student.

PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION SPACE Accommodation space designated for the use of Passengers.

PASSENGER CARRYING VESSEL Any ship transporting more than six Passengers For Hire.

PASSENGER FOR HIRE Passenger for who consideration is contributed as a condition of carriage on the Vessel, whether directly or indirectly flowing to the owner, charterer, operator. Agent, or any other person having an interest in the Vessel. From the French word 'passager'. See Safe Passage.

PASSENGER SHIP Carries of is licensed or certificated to carry more than twelve passengers.

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PASSENGER VESSEL 46 CFR Subchapter H Section 2101(22) Vessel over 100 Gross Tons which; 1) Carries more than 12 passengers, including at least one passenger for hire. 2) Chartered and carrying more than 12 passengers. 3) That is a submersible Vessel carrying at least one passenger for hire.

PASSING GAS Aerial fuel tanking between Navy aircraft.

PASSING HONORS Ordered by ships and boats when vessels, embarked officials, or embarked officers pass (or are passed) close aboard - 600 yards for ships, 400 yards for boats. Such honors are exchanged between ships of U.S. Navy, between ships of Navy and Coast Guard, and between U.S. and most foreign navy ships passing close aboard. "Attention" is sounded, and the hand salute is rendered by all persons in view on deck (not in ranks).

PASSING LIGHT Term refers to a low candlepower light mounted on a light structure. May use the Passing Light when you pass out of the main light beam, as when you change course near a Range Light, but still need to keep the structure in sight.

PASSION KILLERS Unstylish black knickers, panties or underwear worn during World War II by Wrens.

PASS ON OPPOSITE TACKS Two Vessels pass close to one another on parallel but opposite courses.

PASSING ON THE LEE SIDE An enlisted man should pass an officer on the officer's lee side. From days of sail when Jack Tar could not enjoy fresh water bath for weeks at time. This ensured that at least some of the aroma was carried out over the Sea.

PATENT LOG Device, including rotor on a Towline and counter, for measuring distance, run and speed.

PAWL Metal stop, catch or short piece of steel, hinged at one end, used on a Winch or Capstan that drops by gravity into cogs on rack wheel or Pawl rim of Capstan or Winch as they revolve. Acts as catch or brake to prevent any backward motion when power is removed.

PAY 1) Repacking a seam with Oakum and Pitch or tar to prevent it from leaking. From French word "poix", meaning pitch, 2) Loosen or slack off.

PAY SEAMS Pitch the seams.

PAY AWAY For Cable, same meaning as Pay Out.

PAY OFF 1) Pay the crew their wages at the end of a voyage. Amounts were large after long voyages and paid just before going on Leave thereby yielding a holiday atmosphere. 2) Large sum of money, a handsome return, a reward but with criminal undertones. 3) Turn the Bow away from the Wind.

PAY OUT To Ease, loose, slacken, let out or release Line, Anchor Rode, Cable, Rope (See Pay Away), etc. in controlled manner, letting it go slowly, bit by bit.

PEA JACKET Sailor's heavy jacket designed to keep him warm when no one else would. From dutch, 'pijkket', short double-breasted coat.

PEACEMAKER, THE Famous naval gun on USS Princeton which exploded in 1844 while being demonstrated to President Tyler, Secretary of State and Secretary of the Navy, latter two being killed.

PEA COAT Sailors who have to endure pea-soup weather often don these coats but name isn't derived from weather. Heavy, short, double breasted topcoat worn in cold, miserable weather by seafaring men was once tailored from pilot cloth; heavy, coarse, stout kind of twilled blue cloth with nap on one side. Cloth was sometimes called P-cloth for initial letter of "pilot" and garment made from it was called p-jacket; later, Pea Coat or from Dutch, 'pijkket', sailor's jacket. AKA Reefer.

PEAK 1) Upper after corner of square Fore and Aft Gaff Sail and upper end of Gaff. 2) Upper end of triangular Bermuda Sail to which Halyard is stitched. AKA Head. 3) Compartment in either extreme end of vessel, Bow or Stern, referred to as Forepeak or Afterpeak.

PEAK A YARD, TO Raise one of Yard above horizontal.

PEDESTAL Base upon which is mounted the Wheel or Helm.

PELICAN Seagoing bird whose bill will hold more than his bellycan. From Greek, 'pelekys' ax beak since the ancients incorrectly thought that it pecked wood like a woodpecker.

PELICAN HOOK Quick release type hook used on boat gripes, cargo gear load binders or wherever rapid release of a line, chain or wire rope under tension is desired. Hinged hook held together by a ring or bridgepiece. When ring is slipped or knocked off, hook swings open.

PENDANT Short length of wire or Line used as an extender on a Sail, Halyard or Anchor Rode. AKA 'pennant'.

PELORUS Sighting device, without a Compass, used to determine relative bearings.

PENDANT See Pennant.

PENGUIN Flightless Antarctic bird, always ready fro a formal event. From Welsh, 'pen', white head and 'gwyn', white. Original name of great auk but whose name was somehow transferred to current species of birds.

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PENINSULA Piece of land that is surrounded on most but not all sides by water. From Latin 'paene' for almost and 'insulae' for island. See Cape.

PENNANT 1) Small, three sided flag, typically a signal flag. 2) Short length of Line or cable between Mooring Chain and boat. Line by which boat is made fast to Mooring Buoy. AKA Pendant.

PERIGEAN TIDE Tides that occur when the moon is at point in its orbit closest to earth. See Apogean Tides.

PERIOD Interval of time that elapses between the start of the identical aspect or same phase of two successive cycles of a rhythmic light.

PERISCOPE Viewing device for a submarine. From Greek, 'peri', near and 'scope', an instrument for upserving. See Feather and Up Periscope.

PERMIT TO PROCEED Special permit issued when Vessel, for some reason, does not comply with its Certificate of Inspection or fails to comply with a regulation. OCMi may permit the Vessel to proceed to another Port for repair if the trip can be completed safely.

PERPENDICULAR (S) Vertical or upright lines used as the basis for measurement, 90° away from the horizontal.

PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD) See PFD.

PETER BOAT Fishing boat. From Saint Peter.

PETERMAN Fisherman. From Saint Peter.

PETRELS Sea skimming birds who sometimes look like they are walking on water. From Saint Peter. AKA Mother Carey's Chickens or Stormy Petrel.

P.F.D. Personal Flotation Device. Official U.S. governmental term for what most people would call 'life jacket', life preserver or any of several buoyant devices or articles such as buoyant cushions and vests or coats, Horsehoes or life preserver rings. See Life Preserver.

PGC Per gyrocompass.

PHAROS Synonym for lighthouse. Originally one of seven wonders of world, lighthouse built on Pharos island, Alexandria, Egypt.

PHONETIC ALPHABET Universally accepted group of words corresponding to the letters of the alphabet and used in radio transmissions to avoid confusing similar sounding letters.

PIDGIN Simplified language form used by islands in conversing with people speaking other languages.

PIECES OF EIGHT Famous Spanish silver coins.

PIER Platform or structure on posts that extends at an angle from shore into water or sticks out from Shore, usually constructed of wood or masonry and used as loading / landing place or platform for boats and ships.

PIER-HEADED LEAP Wild jump that a deserter makes as the ship approaches the dock.

PIGEONHOLE 1) Pigeon nesting location in ship's Capstan. 2) Small open compartmental storage for keeping documents in desk or cabinet.

PIKE Fish. From its pike or pointed head.

PIKE POLE Long pole with a combination hook and spike on one end. Used to retrieve a Line or wire that is out of reach. AKA Boat Hook.

PILE Wood, metal or concrete pole driven into bottom. Craft may be made fast to a pile; it may be used to support a pier or float. See Piling.

PILING Vertical wooden, concrete or metal pole, driven into the bottom. It may be a support for wharves, piers or floats, etc. and also used for Mooring. Constructed of piles.

PILE UP 1) Ship which has piled up on top of rocks. 2) A multi vehicle accident for navigators on four wheels.

PILOT 1) Originally, officer embarked on board Ship to take charge of Helm and be responsible for steering on both Coasting Voyages and ocean Passages. 2) Officer with first rate local knowledge of Ports, rivers, Canals, Straits and Shoals needed to take Vessels in and out from land.

PILOT CHARTS Charts issued by the Defense Mapping Agency which give information concerning monthly averages for winds, currents, percentage of gales, calms, for, the presence of ice and derelicts, isobaric and isothermic lines, lines of equal Variation. Radio and signal stations, Vessel routing, etc.

PILOTHOUSE CONTROL Controls to start and stop the engines and control the direction and speed of the propeller of the Vessel and are located at the operating station.

PILOTING Navigation involving frequent determination of position, often within sight of land using visual reference points such as Aids to Navigation, Landmarks, etc and water depths. Navigation by use of visible references, depth of water, etc. See Coastal Navigation.

PILOT LADDER Flexible sided ladder of suitable length used by Pilot to transfer from a ship to his pilot boat.

PIN Axle of a Block.

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PINCH, PINCHING 1) Sail too close or so close to the Wind, thus allowing the Sails to begin Luffing. Steering slightly closer to the wind than a close hauled course but not yet in irons with the sails fully Luffing. Opposite of Footing. 2) What Sailing instructors may do to good looking male and female students or small mammals.

PINNACE 1) Little, light, usually two Masted sailing Vessel, generally made of pine. From Latin, 'pinus', pine tree. 2) Resembles Barge, but is never rowing more than eight oars, whereas Barge never rows less than ten. It is for accommodation of lieutenants etc. 3) Not to be confused with the male member.

PINRACK Stout frame Securely fixed to Deck around or Forward of each Mast of Sailing Vessel and designed to take strain of greater part of Running rigging of each Mast by which it was qualified; Fore Pinrack, etc.

PINTLE Bolt of metal or pin secured to forward edge of Rudder and fitted into Gudgeon or Stern or Rudderpost, thereby giving swinging pivot support to Rudder.

PIPE DOWN 1) Dismissal of men from Main Deck after duty or task had been accomplished or formation had ended. Command often transmitted by Bosun's Pipe or Whistle. Call denoting completion of all hands evolution, and that you can go below. 2) Last pipe of day or last call at night and is order for unwanted lights to be switched out, unnecessary noise and activity to stop so that people preparing for night watches can sleep. 3) Be or keep quiet, stop talking, shut up or stop making nuisance or noise. 'Down' is either reduced volume or quieter on Deck or an assumption that crew could be heard less when they were below decks.

PIPING Boatswains have been in charge of Deck force since days of sail. Setting sails, heaving lines, and hosting anchors required coordinated team effort and Boatswains used whistle signals to order coordinated actions. When visitors were hoisted aboard or over side, Pipe was used to order "Hoist Away" or "Avast heaving." In time, piping became naval honor on shore as well as at Sea.

PIRATE (S) Sea raiders who operate without any authorization except that of their own greed and need. See Privateers.

PIROGUE Dugout canoe. From Carib, 'piraguas'.

PITCH (TO) 1) Motion, alternative rise and fall or dipping of Vessel's Bow and Stern moving up and down in vertical plane and in opposite directions while proceeding through waves. Plunge with alternate fall and rise of Bow and Stern, when ship passes over waves and into hollow of sea. 2) Theoretical distance advanced in still water by propeller in one revolution without slippage. 3) Tar and resin used for Caulking between planks of wooden Vessel.

PITCH POLE (ING) Motion of boat which, through force of breaking sea, is thrown end over end, flipped Stern over Bow or vice versa in a somersault motion, usually in rough seas. A very, very bad thing to happen to your Vessel.

PIXEL Single display element of an LCD screen. The more pixels, the higher the resolution and definition.

PLACE FOR EVERYTHING AND EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE Motto of a well kept ship.

PLAIN SAILING 1) Easy progress over straight, unobstructed course. See Plane. 2) Uncomplicated or straightforward.

PLANE 1) Old sailing charts were drawn on assumption that earth was flat. These charts were referred to as 'plane', from Latin, 'planum', flat surface. Plane was also spelled as Plain. 2) Skip up and across the bow Wave at high speed.

PLANE SAILING Method of navigation and determining ship's position which assumes, that over short distances, the Earth is flat and ship is on plane. It is a simple, straightforward method of computing distances. Thus the difference of Longitude between two positions is the same as the Departure or actual mileage, thereby making computations simpler. Referred to workings on Plane charts which confidently knew the Earth was flat. See It's All Plain Sailing and Plane.

PLANE WHIPPING Lashings placing on the end of a Line. See Whipping.

PLANING BOAT Light boat that planes in fresh winds at speeds exceeding her theoretical Hull Speed. Dynamic lift starts to play and gradually takes over from simple buoyant reaction.

PLANING HULL Hull shaped to glide easily across water at high speed. It is designed so that forward speed creates water lift, reducing friction and increasing speed.

PLANE Skim along the water's surface.

PLANING Boat is said to be doing this when it is essentially moving over top of water rather than through water.

PLANING HULL Hull designed to lift near surface, decreasing drag and increasing speed.

PLANKING / PLATING Lengths of wood, boards or metal sheets used for the external skin, covering the framework on the bottom and sides of a Vessel or Vessel's Deck.

PLANKSHEER Outermost Deck Plank, the Plank running along Side of Vessel.

PLAY 1) Trim a Sheet assiduously. 2) Loose fit.

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PLEASURE VESSEL LICENSE Form of USCG documentation that does not allow commercial use. Exactly what type of pleasure is not very clear.

PLIMSOLL MARK Load line or mark which indicates limit to which ship may be loaded. Located amidships on both sides, it is a circle with horizontal line drawn through it showing water level at maximum permitted loading. From Samuel Plimsoll, 'sailor's friend', who promoted law requiring the marks. Markings AKA guards. See Loaded To The Guards.

PLOT Draw a boat's course and position on a Chart.

PLUG Stopper for hole cut in bottom of open boat to allow any water shipped to drain out when Boat is beached or Hauled Out. AKA Bung.

PLUMBOW Hull with vertical Bow shape.

PLUMBER A bad sailor or bad pilot. See Farmer.

PLUM DUFF Standard article of food with or without plums. From misspelling of plum dough. See Strike Me Blind Pudding.

PLYING TO WINDWARD AKA Reaching.

Pn North Pole

POCKETING Contact of the liquid with the top of the tank or compartment or exposure of the bottom of the compartment thereby reducing Free Surface Effect.

POD Collective or plural name for seals or whales. See Gam or School.

POINT 1) Sail or Head close to the Wind. 2) Angular measurement equaling 1/32 of a circle or 11.25°, such as '2 Points on the Starboard Bow'. Each of the 32 points on a Compass Card has its own name. 3) Tapering piece of land generally less prominent than a Cape or a small Cape.

POINTS OF COMPASS There are 32, starting at north and going clockwise back to north with each Point equaling 11° 15'.

POINT OF DEPARTURE Last Fix obtained by an outward bound Vessel. Marked on the Chart as the beginning of the Track until the next Fix or Estimated Position.

POINTS OF SAIL (ING) Different courses followed by any sailing craft when compared to direction of wind. Named according to angle between direction of wind and Fore-and-Aft line of vessel. Modern: Close Hauled, Reaching and Running. Traditional: When angle is near 180 degrees ship is said to be sailing with wind aft, or before the wind. When it is about 135 degrees it is sailing with wind on the quarter, or quartering; when about 90 degrees it is running free. When the angle is less than

90 degrees a square-rigged ship is said to be close-hauled, on the wind or by the wind.

POLE LIFT See Topping Lift.

POLLYWOG 1) Young frog. From 'pol', head' and 'wiglen', to wiggle. See Tadpole and Toady. 2) Sailor who has not crossed the Equator by Sea. AKA Polliwog.

POLYCONIC Consisting of or related to many cones.

POLYCONIC CHART Chart on the Polyconic map projection.

POLYCONIC MAP PROJECTION Conic map projection in which the surface of a sphere or spheroid, such as the earth, is conceived as developed on a series of tangent cones, which are then spread out to form a plane. Separate cone is used for each small zone. Projection is widely used for maps but seldom used for charts, except for survey purposes. It is not Conformal.

POLYESTER 1) Synthetic material used for fibers for rope and sailcloth. It is stronger and has less elasticity than nylon. 2) Possible material for making a fashion statement in your nautically orange leisure suit.

POLYNYA Non Linear shaped area of water enclosed by ice. May contain brash ice and/or be covered with new ice, nilas or young ice.

POLYPROPYLENE Lightweight synthetic material used for Cordage fibers, for Dinghy Painters and other uses where Flotation is desirable. It is not as strong as other synthetics and the fibers are sometimes combined with others for special purposes.

POLYZOA Very small marine animals which reproduce by budding (doesn't sound like much fun). Many generations often are permanently connected by branchlike structures.

POND Relatively small body of water, usually surrounded on all sides by land. See Lake and Pool.

PONENTE Westerly wind over Mediterranean, particularly as refreshing sea breeze on western Italian coast line.

PONGO Huge and terrible sea monster that devastated Sicily that was cross between tiger and sea-shark.

PONTOON Floats. From Pontus. Pontoon bridge, floating structure, pontoon hull, pontoon lifeboat or pontoons on seaplanes.

PONTUS Greek god of the Sea.

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POOL 1) Small body of water, usually smaller than a Pond, especially one that is quite deep. See Tide Pool. 2) Small and comparatively still, deep part of a larger body of water such as river or harbor.

POOP 1) Short enclosed structure or Deck at Stern of Vessel, extending from side to side, often aftermost Deck above quarterdeck. 2) After part of Vessel. From Latin 'puppis', Stern or aftermost part of vessel. 3) Highest and aftermost Deck of Ship.

POOP DECK 1) Stern or raised Deck structure at Stern. 2) Covers of Poop.

POOPED 1) Devastating effect of shipping or being smothered by sea or huge wave breaking over and smashing Stern or Poop Deck, many times occurring when Vessel is Running before big and Following Sea. It may result in Broach. 2) Condition of boat or unfortunate sailor standing on Aft or Poop deck when boat was Running before wind and heavy sea broke, crashed aboard or washed over Stern. 3) Worn out feeling, crushed, exhausted. tired or satiated. Someone who has taken a beating and is overwhelmed by exhaustion. See All Pooped. AKA To Be Pooped.

POOP RAIL Surrounds the Poop.

PORCUPINE Fraying of a wire rope.

PORT 1) Commercial Harbor or general area of a shore establishment having facilities for landing and maintaining Vessels. 2) Left side of Vessel when facing or looking Forward or toward Bow. Can be side or direction. Side at which you tied up to in Port. From Viking ships which tied up to Dock in home Port on left side to protect right side Steering Board. See Starboard. From fact that gangplank, to shore or "port", is usually lowered on lefthand side of ship where Cargo was loaded. Term replaced Larboard. 3) Small, round window opening for light and / or ventilation in a Vessel's side. See Airport and Porthole. 4) Any opening in Ship's side such as gun port.

PORTABLE SHIP STATION Ship Station which includes a single transmitter intended for use upon two or more ships.

PORTRHOLE (S) Small, round window or openings on ship to provide light and fresh air, regardless of whether they are on Port or Starboard side. Closed by thick glass lights in solid brass rims with screws to shut them tight and often metal Deadlight for safety during rough weather. Originally, there were only Port Holes for guns which protected cannon from weather and were opened when cannon were used. From French "port" or door. See Gun Ports. AKA Port or Port Hole(s).

PORTLIGHT Round, hinged, glass window in a ship's cabin, side or deckhouse, generally circular and used for light and ventilation. See Airport and Deadlight.

PORT OF ENTRY Port where officials of country examine vessel and grant entry of goods and people to that country.

PORT OPERATIONS COMMUNICATIONS

Communications in or near Port, in locks or in waterways between coast stations and Ship Stations or between Ship Stations, which relate to the operational handling, movement and safety of ships and, in an emergency, to the safety of persons. Messages of a 'public correspondence' nature such as personal telephone calls are not allowed on radio channels dedicated to Port Operations. VHF Channels 12, 14, 20, 65A, 66A, 73 and 74 are reserved for port operations.

PORT SIDE Left handed.

PORT TACK Sailboat course with Boom and Sails trimmed on Starboard side and, except when Running dead downwind, Wind coming over Port side of Vessel. Vessel normally does not have right of way when meeting a Vessel on a Starboard Tack.

PORTUGUESE MAN OF WAR Colony of highly specialized polyps with tentacles up to fifty feet long which discharge toxic substance that has painfully stung, paralyzed and even killed swimmers. Jelly with red, sail-like crest resembling a ship was derisively named by English based on declining Portuguese Navy.

PORTUNUS Mythological protector of Harbors. See Neptune, Nereids, Oceanids and Oceanus.

POSEIDON See King Neptune.

POSH (P.O.S.H.) 1) Acronym for Port Outward, Starboard Home or Homeward. Preferred method of travel for wealthy between England and India for travelers seeking shadiest, coolest and best accommodations aboard ship. Port side received less sun on way out and Starboard least on way home. 2) Contraction of polished or polish. 3) Anything luxurious, classy and elegant. 4) Dandy, corruption of slang term 'pot', person of importance or Scottish 'tosh', neat and trim.

POSITIVE SLIP Actual Advance is less than theoretical. See Slip and Negative Slip.

POSITION Geographic location on earth, commonly measured in latitude and longitude.

POSITION FINDING Navigation process of determining the position of a Vessel on a Chart or in the water.

POSITION FIX GPS receiver's computed position coordinates.

POSITION FORMAT Way in which GPS receiver's position will be displayed on screen. Commonly displayed as degrees and minutes, with options for degrees, minutes, and seconds, degrees only, or one of several grid formats.

POSITION PLOTTING SHEETS Blank chart, usually on the Mercator projection, showing only the graticule and a compass rose. Meridians are usually unlabeled by the publisher so that they can be appropriately labeled when the Chart is used in any Longitude. Designed and intended for use in conjunction with the standard nautical Chart.

POUND Smash down heavily on Waves.

POUR (ING) OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS 1) Done during extremely foul weather to help prevent waves from breaking or crashing over Vessel. Previously poured whale oil, fish oil or holy oil on waters. 2) Have a calming or soothing effect on a situation. Peacemaker's actions to settle quarrel or difference

POWDER MONKEY (S) Children who carried powder from powder magazine to the gun station. See Monkey.

POWER DRIVEN VESSEL Any Vessel propelled by machinery. See Sailing Vessel and Vessel.

PPI Plan Position Indicator, a type of radar display.

PRACTIQUE See Pratique.

PRAM Small boat used as Tender, Dinghy or Ship's boat, usually with squared off Bow. It is driven by Oars, Sail or outboard motor. From small Dinghy of Norwegian origin.

PRANG Crash, bend or break a Ship or aircraft.

PRATIQUE Release from Quarantine and permission granted for vessel to enter country after determining that vessel has clean bill of health. Permission for persons to land from or board Vessel arriving from foreign Port after Vessel has complied with Quarantine regulations and presented clean bill of health. AKA Pratique.

PRECESSION Change in the direction of the axis of rotation of a spinning body, as a gyroscope, when acted upon by a torque. The direction of motion of the axis is such that it causes the direction of spin of the gyroscope to tend to coincide with that of the impressed torque. The horizontal component of precession is called drift, and the vertical component is called topple. Also called INDUCED PRECESSION, REAL PRECESSION. See also APPARENT PRECESSION, PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOXES.

PRECESSION IN DECLINATION Component of general precession along a celestial meridian, amounting to about 20.0" per year.

PRECESSION IN RIGHT ASCENSION Component of general precession along the celestial equator, amounting to about 46.1" per year.

PRECESSION OF THE EQUINOXES Conical motion of the earth's axis about the vertical to the plane of the ecliptic,

caused by the attractive force of the sun, moon, and other planets on the equatorial protuberance of the earth. The effect of the sun and moon, called lunisolar precession, is to produce a westward motion of the equinoxes along the ecliptic. The effect of other planets, called planetary precession, tends to produce a much smaller motion eastward along the ecliptic. The resultant motion, called general precession, is westward along the ecliptic at the rate of about 50.3" per year. The component of general precession along the celestial equator, called precession in right ascension, is about 46.1" per year and the component along a celestial meridian, called precession in declination, is about 20.0" per year.

PRECIPITATION 1) Produced when enough water vapor in the air condenses to fall to earth. 2) Fancy word for rain, snow or hail.

PREFERRED CHANNEL BUOY Red and green horizontally banded junction or Bifurcation Buoy whose top band indicates the preferred channel by its color.

PRESSED OR PRESSED FULL Tank completely full of liquid, without any Loose Water or Free Surface.

PRESS GANG (S) Hired thugs who Impressed seamen for service aboard British ships. See Impressment.

PRESS ON; PRESS AHEAD 1) Under a full Press of sail with the wind pressing against the sails. 2) Progress.

PRESSURE, AIR Force resulting from the weight of a column of air reaching from the earth's surface to the top of the atmosphere over any given area.

PREVAILING Process which occurs most often, or for a greater part of the time.

PREVAILING WINDS Average direction of the Wind.

PREVENTER 1) Line, often Boom Vang, used to restrain or hold Boom in place while Reaching or Running, preventing an accidental Jibe or uncontrolled Boom swing. 2) Auxiliary line, extra rope, bolt, stay, tackle or contrivance that supports something or supports another line when an unusual strain is expected. Used for reinforcement or as standby in case of an accident.

PREVENTER BACKSTAY One of a pair of additional backstays set up temporarily leading from Head of Mast to ship's side where it is set up with Tackle, and carried in strong winds or when under a press of sail.

PREVENTER BRACE See Preventer.

PREVENTER SHEET See Preventer.

PRIDE OF THE MORNING Early morning mist before a lovely day.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

PRIMARY LIGHT Major Aid To Navigation established for the purpose of making landfall and Coastwise passages from headland to headland or for marking dangerous areas.

PRIMARY SWELL DIRECTION Prevailing direction of Swell propagation.

PRIME MERIDIAN Primary or starting meridian passing through Greenwich, England at 0° Longitude. AKA Greenwich Meridian or 0° Longitude.

PRIMING TIDE (S) Occurs when the tidal effects caused by the sun come shortly before those caused by the moon and result in earlier tides than usual. Occurs when the moon is between new and first quarter and between full and third quarter. See Lagging Tide.

PRISMATIC COEFFICIENT Ratio of immersed hull volume to area of midships section multiplied by waterline length. It gives indication of longitudinal distribution of displacement.

PRISON HULK OR PRISON SHIP Ship, usually old, decrepited and ill equipped, used to hold prisoners or prisoners of war.

PRIVATE COAST STATION Coast Station (i.e., station on land) not open for Public Correspondence, which serves the operational, maritime-control and business needs of ships.

PRIVATEER (S) Privately owned Vessels and sailors that were licensed under Letter of Marque and Reprisal from government. Granted permission to raid and capture enemy ships in time of war. Operated with consent of a government, usually their own. Ship Captain with such authorization would not be charged with Piracy. Often, the difference between Pirate and Privateer was merely question of who had signed Letter of Marque. See Buccaneer.

PRIVILEGED VESSEL Discontinued term for Stand On Vessel. Vessel which, according to the previously applicable Navigation Rule, has right-of-way (this term has been superseded by the term "stand-on").

PROLONGED BLAST 1) Whistle blast of four to six seconds duration. See Short Blast. 2) Lengthy party.

PROP Abbreviation for Propeller.

PROPELLER Rotating device, with two or more blades that acts as screw in Propelling Vessel, pushing Boat through water via mechanical power.

PROP WALK Sideward force created by a spinning Propellor.

PROTECTED WATERS Sheltered waters presenting no special hazards such as most rivers, harbors and lakes and waters that

are not determined to be Exposed Waters or Partially Protected Waters.

PROTRACTOR Navigation device used in chartwork to measure and lay down angles.

PROW Bow and forward part of the Vessel above the Waterline.

PROWORD (S) Procedure word(s) are words and phrases that help to speed the transmission of messages by radiotelephone. They are commonly used in the maritime mobile service and differ significantly from the language or used by police officers or truckers on citizens band radios.

PRUDONCE (Radio) Use that frequency only for restricted working communications.

PSC Per Steering or Standard Compass.

PSYCHROMETER Weather instrument usually two hygrometers, one dry and one with a wet bulb, to measure the moisture or humidity in the air and determine the Dew Point.

PT BOAT 1) Used by rum runners because they could outspeed Coast Guard cutters. 2) Converted to Patrol Torpedo boats during World War II. AKA mosquito boats.

PTEROPOD Small marine animal with or without a shell and two thin, winglike feet. Animals are often so numerous they cover the surface of the sea for miles. In some areas, their shells cover the Bottom.

PUBLIC COAST STATION Coast Station that offers Radio Communication Common Carrier services to ship radio stations.

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE Any telecommunication which offices and stations must, by reason of their being at the disposal of the public, accept for transmission.

PUDDENING Ring or wreath of rope or Oakum set round Mast to Support Yard, or round some piece of rigging particularly subject to friction to prevent wear.

PUFF Quick, local increase in Wind velocity.

PUKE BOATS Term used by oldtime fishermen to describe party boats specially designed and rigged to take day parties out deep sea fishing.

PULL AT ONE'S OAR Do one's share in cooperative effort.

PULPIT Stainless steel guardrail or forward railing structure around the Bow or Stern.

PUMICE Cooled volcanic glass with a great number of minute cavities caused by the expulsion of water vapor at high temperature, resulting in a very light material.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

PUMP OUT Action of pumping out waste tank.

PUP Young seal or sea lion.

PURCHASE 1) Any power or mechanical advantage gained by using a mechanical aid to raise, move or apply stress to a heavy object. 2) Mechanical means, device or method for lifting or pulling by which such mechanical advantage is obtained such as lever, screw, gears or axles found in winches, windlasses or capstans. On shipboard, the term is used specifically for a Block and Tackle system that gives mechanical advantage. AKA Purchase System.

PURCHASE, TO Raise a weight.

PURGA Another name for dreaded Burarn of tundra regions in northern Siberia in winter.

PUSH KNEES Strengthened steel brackets welded on the Bow of Towboats.

PUSH THE BOAT OUT 1) Pay for a round of drinks. 2) Celebrate and not trouble about expense.

PUT THROUGH THE HOOP 1) Check to evaluate the tightness of each person's rolled hammock by seeing if it would pass through a regulation sized hoop before being brought up on deck and tied to the netting along ship's rails where it would protect against musket fire and splinters as well as serving as life preservers. There would be trouble for the person whose hammock did not pass the test. 2) Trouble.

Q 'Quebec' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square yellow flag. Hoisted in isolation it means: 'my Vessel is healthy and I request free pratique.'

Q BOATS British warships disguised as merchants to lure out and destroy German U-Boats with concealed. From Latin, 'quaere', inquire. AKA hush-hush ships and mystery ships. See Panic Parties.

Q FLAG Yellow quarantine flag. International Signal code for "My Vessel is healthy and I request free Pratique.

QUADRANT Instrument having the form of graduated quarter circle used for making angular measurements, especially for taking altitudes in navigation. From Latin, 'quadrant', fourth part or quarter.

QUADRANTAL SPHERE (S) Globular masses of soft iron on magnetic compasses on steel Vessels that compensate for quadrantal deviation. AKA Navigator's Balls.

QUAHOG Clam. From Indian wampum beads used in commerce. See Venus Mercenaria.

QUAKER GUNS Dummy guns on ships. From quakers opposition to war and killing.

QUARANTINE 1) System of laws governing medical inspection, fumigation and isolation of Vessel arriving in Port with actual or suspected contagious disease among the persons or animals on board. 2) Time ships with infectious disease were held offshore. From Italian 'quaranta' or 'quarantina', meaning forty (days). Based on forty days that Noah's Ark had to wait before opening up doors. 3) Secluded berth in Port where ship infected with contagious disease is kept for certain length of time. 4) Process of isolating vessel until it is determined that it is healthy vessel and can be granted Pratique. 5) Fixed period of enforced isolation of persons, ships or goods exposed to or infected with contagious disease.

QUARTER 1) After sections of the Rails and Topsides, area, corner or portion of boat or vessel's sides aft of amidships, near stern, from 45 degrees on either side of stern, both Port and Starboard or the Vessel's sides from Amidships to the Stern. 2) Term is also used to identify Dock lines such as 'Fasten the Quarter Spring'. 3) What you should not give in a water balloon fight between two boats. 4) What you might pay to a fire ship.

QUARTERDECK 1) That part of full rigged ship Aft of Mainmast on spar Deck. 2) Raised Deck running from Stern of Sailing Vessel to Mizzenmast, raised above level of Main Deck, housing officer's accommodation. 3) Afterpart of upper Deck. 4) Usually part of Main Deck adjacent to Starboard Gangway where distinguished visitors are received on ship or reserved for use of officers

QUARTERING SEA Sea coming on a boat's Quarter.

QUARTERMASTER Rating promoted from Able Bodied Seaman. Duties include steering the ship, navigation, maintenance and signalling.

QUARTERS 1) Part of the ship where officers' accommodations were situated. 2) Portions of Vessel's sides midway between Stern and Beam. 3) Military lodging or billets.

QUARTERING SEA Sea or waves coming from Quarter or Aft of Amidships.

QUAY Stone, masonry structure or Wharf at water's edge and built parallel to Shoreline to accommodate ships on one side only, where Vessels can tie up, moor, load, transfer and unload Cargo. Opposite side of Quay is attached to Shore.

QUEUE Sailor's hair arranged in a braided pigtail and kept in place by tar.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

- QUICK** Light in which flashes are repeated at a rate of not less than 50 flashes per minute but less than 80 flashes per minute.
- QUICK STOP METHOD** Crew overboard rescue technique developed by the U.S. Naval Academy in which you instantly stop the boat as close to the victim as possible.
- QUICK WORKS** Part of Vessel's Hull immersed in water when she is fully loaded.
- QUODDY BOAT** Double ended Keelboats with Gaff Mainsail and sometimes Jib set on detachable Bowsprit. Used for lobstering and fishing along Maine coast. From Pasamaquoddy Bay between New Brunswick, Canada and Maine.
-
- R** 'Romeo' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square flag with yellow cross on red ground. Hoisted in isolation it means: 'the way is off my ship; you may feel your way past me.'
- R2D2** Nickname for Navy 'back seat' aviators such as F-14 Radio-Intercept Officer or A-6 Bombardier / Navigator.
- RA** See Right Ascension.
- RABBET** 1) Triangular grooving cut in one piece of timber to receive edge of another piece of timber. 2) Not to be confused with something soft and furry.
- RACE** 1) Especially strong, turbulent Current. 2) Organized competition between boats. 3) Engine increasing its speed while losing its thrust. AKA overspeed.
- RACER CRUISER** Boat comfortable enough for cruising and fast enough for racing.
- RACON** Radionavigation aid or Radar Beacon which, when triggered by pulses from a Vessel's radar, transmits a coded reply signal which is displayed on a Vessel's radar scope (PPI) and allows you to identify the beacon and determine its range and bearing.
- RADAR** Electronic system using and designed to transmit super high frequency radio energy waves and receive reflected images of those signals from a target or object at a distance. When reflected they show on a screen the bearing, position, size and distance of an object or target. Used at night and in bad visibility for both collision avoidance and navigation. Acronym standing for "radio detecting and ranging."
- RADAR ARCH** Supporting structure for Radar that is shaped as an arch. See Gallows.
- RADAR (RESPONDER) BEACON (RACON)** Receiver transmitter which, when triggered by a radar pulse, automatically returns a distinctive signal which appears on the display scope (i.e., PPI_ of the triggering radar and provides range, bearing and identification information.
- RADAR REFLECTOR** Special fixture fitted to or incorporated in the design of certain Aids to Navigation to improve their ability to reflect Radar energy and thereby improve the usefulness of these aids by Vessels equipped with Radar. Most Buoys now have flat Radar Reflector surfaces on their upper sections.
- RADIATION** Heat energy which is given out in the form of rays.
- RADIATION FOG** Fog over land caused by condensation of vapor in the air above cooled ground.
- RADIO BEARING** Direction determined by Radio.
- RADIOBEACON** Transmitter, at a fixed and known location, used by Vessels with appropriate electronic equipment to determine their position. See Radio Direction Finder.
- RADIO COMMUNICATION COMMON CARRIER** Person or company in the business of sending or receiving messages for a fee, at uniform rates available to all persons.
- RADIO DIRECTION FINDER (RDF)** Electronic device or Radio receiver with special antenna and circuitry used to determine the direction to a source of Radio waves.
- RADIOLARIA** Minute sea animals with a siliceous outer shell. Skeletons of these animals are very numerous, especially in the tropics.
- RADIO NAVIGATION** Technical term utilized when various electronic devices and systems, used in conjunction with transmitters in order to determine Vessel's position, Course and Speed. AKA Electronic Piloting. See Navigation.
- RADIO NAVIGATIONAL AIDS** Defense Mapping Agency publishes a list of selected radio stations including U.S. and foreign commercial and government operated stations whose operation directly concerns maritime commerce.
- RADIOSONDE** Radio transmitting weather instrument attached to a large balloon which measures and transmits temperature, pressure, and humidity information observed in the upper air.
- RAFTING, RAFTED** Mooring procedure for two or more Vessels, tied up side by side at a Dock or on an Anchor.
- RAIL** 1) Protective outer edge of or on the Deck. 2) Solid bar on supports, similar to a Lifeline.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

RAILINGS Run round edge of Main Deck and of any open upper or lower Decks of Vessels. They may form solid metal or wooden parapet or be composed of Stanchions.

RAIN Precipitation in the form of waterdrops at least 0.02 inches in diameter. (Aren't you glad someone has figured this out?) See Drizzle.

RAISED DECK Deck level arranged to be arranged to be higher than the actual Gunwale.

RAKE 1) Tilt, angle or slant Fore and Aft of a ship's Mast from vertical. 2) Any line of Vessel which is not perpendicular such as Rake of Stem or slant of a ship's funnels, Bow or Stern.

RAM Intricate docking maneuver sometimes used by experienced skippers.

RANGE (S) 1) Two charted objects or pair of Aids To Navigation with lighted or unlighted Beacons that, when aligned, indicate Channel, help you maintain safe course or course of another Vessel. When in line, Range can provide Line of Position or provide Compass Error on that Heading. 2) Difference in water level height between consecutive High and Low Water Tides. 3) Full extent of a Light's visibility. 4) Distance boat can travel using fuel it can store and without replenishing fuel supplies. AKA Cruising Range. 5) Lay out Cable before dropping Anchor to ensure that it runs freely or lay out all Ropes prepared for use.

RANGE, GEOGRAPHIC Maximum distance at which a light can be seen dependent upon your height of eye and the elevation of the light. Beyond this distance the curvature of the earth blocks the line of sight.

RANGE, LUMINOUS Maximum distance at which a light can be seen under atmospheric conditions of the existing visibility.

RANGE, NOMINAL Maximum distance at which a light can be seen under atmospheric conditions of 10 mile visibility.

RAPIDLY INTENSIFYING Indicates an expected rapid intensification of Cyclone with surface pressure expected to drop by at least 24 millibar (mb) within 24 hours.

RATCHET BLOCK Block that turns freely when you pull the line but doesn't turn at all in the other direction.

RATED Done for insurance purposes when Vessel is judged impartially on fixed criteria by expert who pronounces on technical efficiency and degree of confidence which may be reposed in her seaworthiness.

RAT GUARD 1) Metal disk designed to fit over a Hawser to prevent rodents from boarding a Vessel. 2) Armed vermin protecting their food.

RATINGS Rate yachts for racing purposes based on different formulae to produce handicaps for different events.

RATLINE (S) 1) Lengths of tarred Rope, or occasionally metal bars, fixed horizontally, traversing Shrouds at short intervals to form ladder enabling Seamen to go aloft with great speed. 2) Similar to Seizing Stuff but larger sizes from 12 to 24 thread are common.

RAT RACE What you may be in if you are not sailing enough. Don't forget that even if you are winning the race, you may still have to put up with a great many rats.

RATS FROM A SINKING SHIP 1) Sight of rats coming out of ship's holds was seen by sailors as portent of disaster. Rats frequently inhabited the Bilge which was the place to flood should Vessel be Foundering. 2) Deserters abandoning a cause that seems doomed to failure..

RDF See Radio Direction Finder.

REACH (ING) 1) Sail across Wind with Wind Free, Beam Wind or wind on but slightly ahead of Beam. Any Heading between Close Hauled and Running. 2) Vessel which overtakes another is said to Reach past her. 3) Channel between mainland and an island. 3) Straight stretch of river.

REACHING, BROAD Angle of wind to vessel's course is Broad. See Broad Reach.

REACHING, CLOSE Angle of wind to Vessel's course is between Broad Reaching and Close Hauled.

READ BACK RT Proword for repeat entire message exactly as received.

READY ABOUT Command given to prepare for Coming About.

REAL MCCOY 1) From Nova Scotian prohibition era boatbuilder and smuggler, Bill McCoy who was a man of integrity. He never defrauded customers, stayed independent from gangsters or organized crime, never actually entered U.S. waters and never sold an unguenuine, blemished or adulterated product. His product was always pure and of highest quality. 2) Authentic, bona fide and of the highest quality.

REBUILT Fixed aid, previously destroyed, which is restored to service.

RECEIVED Receipt of a radio distress message

RECIPROCAL Direction precisely opposite another, differing by 180 Degrees.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

RECIPROCATING ENGINE Steam driven engine which has large pistons that are driven up and down by high pressure steam which then turns propeller by means of crankshaft.

RED HERRING 1) Strong smelling red (in color) herring that had been cured were used by escaping criminals. They would drag the Red Herring across trail to make bloodhounds lose human scent they had been following. 2) Evading an issue by dragging in something irrelevant.

RED SEA From Roman, 'mare rubrum', but no one knows why.

REDUCE SAIL Reduce Sail area by Reefing or Striking some of Sails. AKA Take In Sail.

REEF (ING) 1) Reduce, take in, decrease or shorten size or portion of Sail area. Reduce area exposed by rolling Sail on Boom or tying in Reef Points. See Jiffy Reefing and Roller Reefing. 2) Underwater shoal or barrier composed of rocks or coral which is hazard to navigation. It may or may not be above water. See Shoal

REEF BAND (S) Strips of Canvas stitched across Bunt of Sail for reinforcement. See Reef Eyes, Reef Points.

REEF CRINGLE Grommet through which passes Reef Lines. Usually pairs on Luff and Leech.

REEF EYES Holes in Sails used to attach Reef Points.

REEFER 1) Sea going refrigerator. 2) AKA Peacoat because its length makes it convenient to wear Aloft while reefing or taking in sails. 3) What you hope your Navigator and Officer of the Deck are not smoking.

REEF GAFF SAILS These Sails are Reefed at Foot. See Reef Lateen and Reef Square Sails.

REEF KNOT Knot used to tie in Reef. Also useful for tying around an object but not as good for Fastening two lines together. AKA Square Knot.

REEF LATEEN SAILS These sails are reefed to Yard. See Reef Gaff Sails and Reef Square Sails.

REEF LINES Lines passing through Reef Cringles on Tack (Tack Reef Line) and Leech (Clew Reef Line) of Sail used to Reef Sail. Used to create new Tack and new Clew while Reefing. AKA Reef Pendants.

REEF PENDANTS AKA Reef Lines.

REEF POINT (S) 1) Lines or short lengths of Rope, placed at intervals horizontally on Sail along with reinforced holes built into Sail, used to facility Reefing and reduce Sail area when they are tied around Sail. See Bunt, Reef Eyes. 2)

Book of vital information at the U.S. Naval Academy, useful to defend against potential heavy Weather.

REEF SQUARE SAILS These Sails are reefed at Head by gathering Sails up under Yard.

REEL OFF 1) Keep certain lines on reels where they could be released without delay or hazard while preventing twists and kinks which occur in ropes at the most inauspicious time. 2) Anyone who spoke fluently or was especially adept at quoting facts and figures.

REEMING IRON 1) AKA Reeving Iron. 2) That sounds painful.

REEVE, REEVING 1) Lead, thread or pass line through any opening, hole or aperture such as Block, Fairlead, Ring or Cringle as in setting up a Purchase or Rigging a Halyard. 2) Opening seams of wooden Vessel for Caulking which is done with Reeving Iron or Reeving Beetle.

REEVING BEETLE Largest wooden mallet or Caulking Iron used to Pay seams.

REEVING IRON Used to Caulk seams of wooden Vessel.

REFLOAT Free Vessel from Bottom on which she has Grounded.

REGATTA Boat race or series of races in which cumulative scores are kept. From the Italian word 'regata' meaning just that and which came for the word 'riga' meaning line or the place boats would begin their race. Also from Venetian dialect word for strife or contention or struggling for mastery.

REGATTING Older, discontinued word for having Regattas.

REGISTER, REGISTRATION Numbering or licensing of boat which may include certificate of seaworthiness which allows them to operate.

RELATIVE BEARING Direction or bearing of an object in relation to the boats Heading, Centerline or Fore and Aft line of a Vessel, expressed in Degrees clockwise 0 - 360° from the Bow.

RELATIVE BEARING GREASE Special type of grease used to lubricate Relative Bearings, often searched for by new sailors at the request of more experienced and perhaps more cruel sailors who enjoy semi-practical jokes.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY Ratio expressed in percent of the amount of water vapor actually present in the air compared to the maximum amount of water vapor the air could hold at a certain temperature.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

- RELAY TO** RT Proword for transmit this message to all addresses or to the addressee designated.
- RELIGHTED** Extinguished Aid returned to its advertised light characteristics as shown in the Light List.
- RELOCATED** Authorized movement of an Aid from one position to another in the immediate vicinity.
- REMAIN SEATED WHILE DRINKING TOAST TO KING OR QUEEN** Originally all hands were required to stand while drinking toast to royalty. This was changed when King Charles II stood up to drink a toast onboard ship and bumped his head on a low beam, whereupon he rescinded the rule with good grace.
- REMORA** 1) Attaches self to undersides of sharks, whales, swordfish and tuna by suction disk. Hitches free ride and gets free food. Acts as cleaner fish to remove parasites from host. 2) From Roman sailors that it also fastened itself to sailing Vessels, thus slowing them down; 'remora', delayer.
- RENDER** Run easily through a Block.
- RENDERING HONORS** Originally, one who saluted first rendered himself or his ship powerless for time it took to render honors. In Henry VII's period average time to fire a gun was twice in an hour. Under sail, passing ships lowered topsails. Point of sword on ground at finish of Sword salute rendered saluter powerless for the time being. Salute executed today by 'present arms' originally meant to present for taking. See Gun Salute, Sword Salute.
- REPEATABLE ACCURACY** Measure of your ability, by using a navigation system such as GPS or Loran, to return to the same position where you were before and whose exact location you previously noted.
- REPLACED** Aid previously reported off station, Adrift or missing that is restored by another Aid of the same type and characteristics.
- REPLACED (temporarily)** Aid previously off station, Adrift or missing restored by another Aid of different type and/or characteristic. Type and characteristic of the new Aid is reported in the Local Notice to Mariners.
- REPRINT** Chart reprinted as the result of a low stock situation with limited number of corrections from the Notice to Mariners and Magnetic Variation data is updated to the latest epoch at the time of printing. See First Edition, New Edition and Revised Print.
- REQUIEM SHARK** Name for tiger sharks and other tropical sharks. From French, 'requin', shark.
- RESERVE BUOYANCY** Volume of that watertight portion of the Vessel above the Waterline.
- RESET** Floating Aid previously off station, Adrift or missing that is returned to its assigned position or station.
- RESHABAR** Strong wind which blows from northwest over Caucasus Mountain range between Black and Caspian seas.
- RESIDUAL MAGNETISM** Magnetism that remains after removing the magnetizing force.
- REST (TO) ON ONE'S OARS** Suspend efforts.
- RETIRE** 1) Remove Yacht from race . 2) Put new wheels on your boat trailer.
- RETREAD** Older waterfront lady of easy virtue after visiting beauty parlor. From similar process with automobile tires.
- REVERSE SHEER** Sheer the reverse of normal. Sheerline rises above the straight line from Stem to Stern instead of curving below.
- REVERSING CURRENT** Tidal Current found in rivers and straits that alternately reverses its direction of flow since its movement is physically restricted by a Channel or river banks. Current Ebbs and floods in apporimately opposite directions with a brief period of Slack Water in between.
- REVISED PRINT** Chart published by the National Ocean Service which may contain corrections which have been published in Notice to Mariners but does not supersede a current edition. See First edition, New Edition, and Reprint.
- RHUMB LINE** 1) Straight line Compass Course between two points on a Mercator Chart. It is the easiest to plot and steer and provides an adequate course over short distances. It intersects all Meridians at the same angle. However it is not the shortest course over long distances. See Great Circle. 2) Two or more crew members waiting for a drink.
- RIB (S)** 1) Timbers which shape Hull. Same as but generally smaller than Frame, composed of several pieces called Futtocks. 2) Rigid inflatable boat.
- RIB AND TRUCK PARRELS** System used to Traverse Yards.
- RIDE** Lie at Anchor.
- RIDING LIGHTS** AKA Anchor Lights.
- RIDE THE STORM** 1) When it is impossible to go forward or run befor a storm, the ship lowers or shortens her sail and rides the waves until the storm abates. A ship also 'rides' to her anchor. 2) To survive by patience and fortitude.

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

- RIDGE** Line or elongated area of relatively high pressure separating areas of low pressure. It is typically associated with a anticyclonic wind shift. Opposite of Trough.
- RIDING CHOCK** Part of a vessel's Anchoring system near the point where the Anchor chain passes through the hawsepipe.
- RIDING LIGHT** See Anchor Light.
- RIG (S)** 1) Particular arrangement of Masts, stays, Sails, stays or rigging is known as Vessel's Rig and it is by this that she is recognized. From Middle English 'rig' to bind or wrap.
2) In general, Boat's upper works especially Spars, Masts, Standing Rigging and Sails. It is this particular arrangement of Masts and sails which differentiates types of vessels, not Hull design
3) Preparing Sailboat for use or getting it ready for sailing by setting up Spars as well as Standing and Running Rigging.
4) Prepare Sail or piece of Gear for use.
5) Word to describe clothes sailor was wearing. Seamen wore 'Square Rig' with bell bottom trousers while officers wore 'Fore and Aft rig'.
5) General description of dress.
6) Oil derrick Mast.
- RIGGERS VISE** Tool used to hold wire rope for splicing.
- RIGGING** Collective or general term for all Gear, wire Rope, natural and manmade fiber, rods, Lines, hardware, Stays, Shrouds, Halyards and other equipment used to support Vessel's Masts, Yards and Booms. Also used to control, operate and adjust the Sails, Spars and movable parts, generally found above Deck on a Vessel. See Running Rigging and Standing Rigging.
- RIGGING, LOWER** Cordage of lower Masts.
- RIGGING SCREW** Metal device used to tighten Standing Rigging as desired. It replaced use of Deadeyes comprises hollow cylindrical metal body, threaded at both ends into which two bolts screw. Bolts with left and right hand threads to match ends of central body, have rings on ends. By turning body in one direction or other, length of whole can be altered. AKA Turnbuckle.
- RIGGING, UPPER** Cordage of Topmasts.
- RIGHT ASCENSION** Angular Distance East of the Vernal Equinox from 0° - 360°. Opposite of Sidereal Hour Angle (SHA).
- RIGHT (OR LEFT) 5, 10, 15, ETC. DEGREES RUDDER** with this command, helms person turns the wheel in the direction ordered until the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder angle ordered.
- RIGHT HAND LAY** 1) Commonly used stranded Rope made with the twist to the right. AKA 'z twist'. Most rope is Right Hand Lay.
2) Your bed partner who is right handed.
- RIGHTING ARM OR MOMENT(GZ)** Leverage provided by crew weight or ballast that inhibits Heeling.
- RIGHT OF WAY** Legal authority to stay on present Course. In both normal boat operation and racing, certain boats (Stand-On) have priority in crossing or overtaking situations or at turns in races. Other Vessel (Give-Way) must yield to the boat that has the Right of Way in each particular situation.
- RIGHT (OR LEFT) RUDDER, HARD OVER** Command given to develop a swing and when this is accomplished, the wheel or helm is Eased to control the swing.
- RIGID INFLATABLE** Inflatable boat with a rigid bottom.
- RILE, TO** 1) Muddy water by stirring it up or disturbing it. From Old French, 'roiller', to roll or flow like a stream.
2) To annoy or make angry.
- RIME ICE** White, opaque, granular ice formed when fog or drizzle freezes on objects or surfaces.
- RINGLEADER** Instigator. See Round Robin.
- RING TAIL** See Studding Sails, Studsail.
- RIVERS** Route on any of following waters: a) river or; b) canal.
- RIVET** Metal pin clenched at both ends and used when hot to join plates of steel Ship.
- RKY** Chart abbreviation for rocky.
- R MONTHS** Incorrect but long term rumor that oysters are only safe to eat during months containing an 'R'.
- ROACH** 1) Curve in Foot and sides of square sail.
2) Concave curved edge in Leech of Fore and Aft Sail making up Sail area Aft or outward of an imaginary straight line running between the Head and the Clew.
3) What you want to keep off your boat.
- ROADSTEAD** Area of water where craft, especially large ships, are normally anchored. An open anchorage generally protected by shoals.
- ROARING FORTIES** Area of oceans between 40 and 50 degrees south latitude where day after day prevailing westerly winds exceeding 40 to 50 miles / hour blow from west over oceanic areas.
- ROBBANDS** Fastenings that lace square sail's head to Yard.
- ROCKET APPARATUS** Equipment, ranging from hand held pistol to mortar, which projects to or from ship / shore,

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rocket which is attached to light Line acting as Messenger to heavier Rope.

RODE All of Anchor gear between Boat and her Anchor. Anchor line and/or chain which may be line, chain or wire Rope and that Secures Anchor to Boat.

RODING Old fashioned word for anchor. From roadstead.

ROGER 1) RT Proword for I have received your last transmission satisfactorily. 2) Possibly the name of the person at the other end of the radio.

ROGUE'S YARN Colored yarn in the center of a rope used for identification.

ROLL (ING) Repeated inclination or alternating motion of Vessel from side to side in lateral plane, alternately Port and Starboard. Motion of a boat about its Fore and Aft axis.

ROLLER (S) Succession of long, heavy swelling waves caused by recent gale or distant storm.

ROLLER FURLING System, way or method to stow or reef Sails by winding or rolling them up, usually at their Luff on a Stay. Also used for some Mainsails on cruising boats.

ROLLER REEF (ING) Reef Secured or reduction of Sail area by rolling the bottom of or winding the Sail around the rotating Boom.

ROLLING Motion of a ship swinging from side to side caused by the pressure of the waves on the side of the ship.

ROLLING CHOCK (S) Fin or line of timbers or plating attached perpendicularly to the outside of a Vessel's shell plating or hull along the Turn of the Bilge on each side. AKA Bilge Keels.

ROLLING HITCH Knot useful for attaching or bending a Line to another Line or to a Spar. Particularly useful when shifting the line along the Spar without removing it. AKA Stopper Hitch

ROLLING PERIOD Time it takes Vessel to make a complete roll; from Port to Starboard and back to Port again.

ROPE Cordage, Lines made of fiber or steel, usually cordage more than one inch in circumference. It may be braided or formed with twisted Strands. It can be made with natural fibers, metal or synthetic fibers. Term uses when purchased at store. When in use aboard Ship it is generally called Line. In general, it is Cordage as it is purchased at the store. When it comes aboard Vessel and is put to use, it becomes Line.

ROPE CLUTCH See Jammer.

ROPE GUARD Ring of oil impregnated rope or rags which prevents water from seeping into tunnel where Propeller shaft extrudes from Stern of Vessel.

ROSE BOX Bilge pump's suction point in the Bilges. Bell shaped strainer of larger diameter than the bilge suction pipe is usually fitted on the end of the pipe (or hose) to prevent the bilge pump from picking up damaging debris or solid objects. Strainer is set inside a screened box that can be easily cleaned.

ROSTRUM Speaker's platform. From Latin 'rostra', bronze beak or ram on early war Vessels. 'Rostra' of captured Vessels from 338 BC battle of Actium were taken to Rome and displayed as trophies in front of speaker's stage in Forum with the whole stage and entire assemblage becoming known as the rostra.

ROTARY CURRENT Offshore Tidal current that flows in a constantly changing direction through all points of the Compass, usually clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and counterclockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. Occurs mainly offshore where its direction of flow is not restricted by any barriers.

ROUND-DOWN Very back end of aircraft carrier flight deck. It is rounded off.

ROUNDHOUSE Cabin roof emerging above Deck and neither so long nor so broad as Deck from which it emerges.

ROUNDLINE Three Strands with right handed Lay.

ROUND ROBIN 1) Request, petition or complaint registered by seamen or mutineers with each signature radiating from center in circle like spokes of wheel. Thus, order of signing was disguised and no one person could be singled out as Ringleader and punished. 2) Also utilized by complaining officers of French Government who wrote names on sash or ribbon worn with their tunics, then attached to documents in circular form. From French 'rond', round and robin from 'ruban' or 'rouban', ribbon. 3) Sporting contest, tournament or type of elimination system in competition in which every entrant plays or is matched with every other.

ROUND TURN Turn of Line around an object or Line. Part of a Knot.

ROUND TURN AND TWO HALF HITCHES Similar to two half hitches and widely used method of securing a line to a ring, Spar or other object.

ROUSTABOUT 1) A deck hand on a river steamer. 2) More generally a laborer, especially a circus hand.

ROUGH IT 1) A seaman who was suffering hardships. 2) A rugged, outdoor life.

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- ROVE** Past tense of Reeve.
- ROVER** Person who wanders such as a pirate or pirate ship.
- ROWLOCK** Open fixture, metal forks or pins mounted on or set in Gunwale that holds an oar on a small boat. They act as fulcrums for Oars which propel rowing Boat. AKA Oarlock.
- ROYAL MAST** Uppermost of four pieces or Masts which compose Mast of Full Square Rigged Shipped. It is qualified by its position; Fore Main Royal Mast, Mizzen Royal Mast, etc.
- ROYALS** Small square sails, carried next above main topgallant sail, and used only in light winds because their masts are poorly supported and their position is such that they set with long leverage and have tendency to bury ship and retard her progress in heavier winds.
- ROYAL SAILS** Sails carried from Royal Mast.
- RPM** Revolutions per minute.
- RT** Radiotelephone or radio.
- RUB RAIL** Outer member on the side of a Vessel's Hull, designed to absorb friction and pounding from contact with Pilings, Docks, etc. AKA Strake or guard.
- RUB (BING) SALT IN A WOUND** 1) Salt was often the only antiseptic available and therefore used frequently to induce healing of wounds generally caused by Flogging with Cat -O-Nine-Tails. 2) Despite its healing qualities, salt produced additional pain and so expression grew to mean adding another insult to injury. AKA Rub Salt In The Wound.
- RUBBER STRAKE** AKA Wale, Outer.
- RUB (BING) STRAKE** See Wales.
- RUB SALT IN THE WOUND** Roman sailors were paid a quantity of salt as part of their salary or "salarium" (from the Latin sal meaning salt). These sailors did not take kindly to losing part of their salary when having to rub salt into wounds after battles.
- RUDDER** Underwater control surface, fin, flat vertical plate, board or shaped flap, usually Aft, fitted on Sternpost by Pintles and Gudgeons. It is adjusted by Helm (either tiller or wheel) to Steer boat, pivoting on Rudder post.
- RUDDER AMIDSHIPS** Order to place the rudder on Centerline so there is no Rudder angle.
- RUDDER CHAINS** Ropes of Chains which transmit movements of vessel's Helm or Wheel to Rudder, causing blade to move in required direction.
- RUDDERLESS** 1) Absence without ship's rudder. 2) Without guidance or control. See Who Won't Be Ruled by the Rudder Must Be Ruled by the Rock
- RUDDER PALM (S)** Horizontal flat surface where the upper stock joins the rudder.
- RUDDER PINTLES** Pins attached to Stern of Vessel and to Rudder which engage Gudgeons with which each is provided and enable Rudder to run freely. See Pintles.
- RUDDER POST** Shaft that carries the Rudder and to which the Tiller or Wheel is connected.
- RULES OF THE ROAD** General term for the laws and regulations governing Vessels that, when observed, prevent collisions. Rules vary slightly Inland and in International waters but are generally similar. AKA more properly but less commonly as Navigation Rules.
- RUMMAGE** 1) Method of cargo stowage and later the cargo itself. From French word 'arrumer' meaning to pack closely. Hold of ship was called 'rum'. Used to describe confusion and disorderly state of goods being stowed in rum. 2) To poke about, search through items, ransack, turn over roughly or jumble. 3) Miscellaneous articles or odds and ends.
- RUMMAGE SALE** 1) Any damaged goods or special sale of damaged Cargo. From French, 'arrimage', loading cargo ship or 'arrimage', pack or stow Cargo aboard ship. Sometimes Cargo from 'arrimage' was damaged during voyage and warehouses held special 'arrimage'/ rummage sales of these damaged items. 2) Any goods low in quality, including used clothing and other items sold at charity sales. 3) Sale of cast off goods.
- RUMMAGING** Ransacking or searching through jumble of objects.
- RUN** 1) Course or Point of Sail with Wind Aft, Aft of the Beam or Astern. Downwind leg, usually sailed with main and jib on opposite sides of mast. AKA Wing On Wing. 2) Distance covered or traveled during given period of time. 3) Uninterrupted motion through water. 4) Said of Vessel when she is attempting to reach safety or Port or other refuge from storms or other dangers. 5) Allow a line to feed freely.
- RUN HER WAY OFF** Time and distance between the stopping of a ship's engines and the stopping of the ship herself due to inertia.
- RUNNER** Consists of a single Block but movable rather than fixed. One end of the rope is secured to the support with the weight attached to the block. See Single Whip.
- RUNNING** Course steering when wind is behind you.
- RUNNING BEFORE THE WIND** AKA Running.

RUNNING BLOCK Block / pulley attached to the object to be raised or moved.

RUNNING BOWLINE Special Knot which resists tension but is easily united when that tension is relaxed.

RUNNING FIX Navigation fix obtained by using or crossing two or more Lines of Position that were not taken at the same time; i.e., Line of Position (LOP) taken at or near the current time together with another earlier LOP that has been advanced for the movement of the Vessel between these two times.

RUNNING LIGHTS Slang term for combined, required navigation lights that Vessel shows illuminated at night from sun down to sun up or in poor visibility. Used to indicate position, Course and status, particularly on Starboard and Port Sides and on Stern. AKA Navigation Lights. AKA more properly called Side Lights and Stern Light.

RUNNING RIGGING Continuously adjustable lines movable within Fairleads and Blocks. All fiber rope, wire rope, chain, line and certain hardware items such as pulleys and Sail controls including Sheets and Halyards and their Blocks as well as Outhaul and Boom Vang. Used to adjust, raise, lower, make, take in, Hoist, Douse, Strike, Trim, adjust, brace or Reef Sails and by which the Spars and Sails are controlled. See Rigging.

RUNNING SPRING LINE Spring Line which is adjusted from onboard the boat and used to position it on the way out of a Slip or Mooring.

RUN (NING) THE GAUNTLET 1) Military punishment first recorded in Sweden where offender was stripped naked and ran between narrow path of facing ranks of comrades or soldiers who would beat him with whip, switch, flat of sword or their leather belts. Doesn't sound like much fun. From Swedish 'gatlopp' or 'gattloppe' ('gata', gate, 'gat', narrow path and 'lopp', running). Adopted by the Royal Navy as a punishment for stealing. Confused and corrupted with French word 'gauntlet', glove. 2) Assailed from all sides.

RUST BUCKET Any old ship.
