



The Cable

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"The Rumors Of My Death Are Greatly Exaggerated"

CAPT Mary Mosier, USN

Last year, some people inside the Beltway and within the IUSS community were sounding our death knoll. Fortunately, Mark Twain's famous quote, "The rumors of my death are greatly exaggerated" seems to describe this past year well. Since the CNO-mandated consolidation was completed last year IUSS has experienced some encouraging progress and many "firsts".

Let me begin with the people in IUSS. They made the past year's successes possible. Officer promotions and XO/CO selections hit record highs. An IUSS officer was even selected early for Commander. With the demise of the General Unrestricted Officer designator, we had to identify a new source of watch officers. A committee of senior IUSS officers decided a combination of Intel Officers (1630) and Limited Duty Officers/Warrant Officers (6120/7120) would best serve the future needs of the system. Our first "intel" watch officer will soon graduate from the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Center, Dam Neck. Because of our enlisted force downsizing and the OT/STG merger, many of our sailors chose early outs, retirement and rating changes. The good news is that many of these people have now changed their minds and canceled their requests.

We reinstated site assessments after a three-year hiatus. The operational, administrative and analytical preparedness at all sites thoroughly impressed the assessment team. Our crowning glory this year was NAVFAC Brawdy's selection as the Atlantic Fleet's Golden Anchor winner.

Last year also saw the continued revamping of the IUSS command structure. We said farewell to NAVFAC Bermuda, NAVFAC Brawdy, and RTF Dam Neck. We celebrated the commissioning of the Canadian Forces IUSS Center, Halifax, NS; the Joint Maritime Facility, St. Mawgan, U.K.; and Commander Undersea Surveillance, Dam Neck, VA. The new sites expand our long-time partnership with Canadian and British ASW forces. With the upcoming decommissioning of NAVFAC Keflavik our infrastructure, sensors and processing equipment will be some of the newest and most technologically advanced in the Navy. Finally, we won a major battle with the Base Closure and Realignment Commission when they came to see the exceptional operational value of NOPF Whidbey Island and didn't recommend any closures.

I wish I could share the operational victories, but although our ASW mission has been declassified, our operational products are still very much classified. I can tell you that we tested a new twin-line array with impressive results and our Low Frequency Active (LA) program is back on track. Our first LFA analysts will be joining the crew of NOPF Whidbey Island soon. We streamlined reporting procedures with the elimination of the Main Evaluation Center (MEC) concept. As a result, our time-lates are now below ten minutes. We obtained funding for two more SURTASS ships is FY 96. Finally, this year ends with a renewed interest in ASW at both the Fleet and Pentagon level. The CNO Executive Board will soon be briefed by the Naval Doctrine Command on proposed ASW enhancements.

These accomplishments should underscore the unassailable fact that IUSS is not only not dying but continues to be dynamically successful. If you visit the Dam Neck or Whidbey Island area please stop by and say hello. We would be honored to show you the new IUSS.

Captain Mosier has had a distinguished career in IUSS and is presently the Chief Staff Officer for Commander, Undersea Surveillance.

16th Annual IUSS/CUSL Memorial Day Weekend Camping Trip

Ed Haven

The 16th annual COSL/IUSS/NOPF/TF/WHATEVER Camping Trip was held during the Memorial Day weekend 1995. Several "old-timers" were there plus several new active duty OTs, RMs, EMs, DPs, ETs and civilians. Doug Simon and Jim Lapp cooked a fantastic roast on Sunday which was enjoyed by all. Fred Schwanz did poorly at golf, losing to Ed Haven and Jim Lapp. Fred didn't even go fishing, but Fred knows boats!!

Ed Smock cooked venison stir fry on Saturday and everyone brought a covered dish. We stuffed ourselves. The weather was ideal except for Sunday when the rain tried, but did not succeed, to interfere with our plans. Smoky (Ed Smock) and his son Keith said the fishing on Cheatham Lake was fabulous. (But they didn't catch very many.) They were probably saving the good ones for next year.

In all we had 42 IUSS friends, family and guests attend the 16th annual camping trip. Our goal is 200 IUSS personnel, friends and relatives to attend the 17th annual trip. For information, contact Ed Haven, (804) 425-1349, Jim Lapp, (804) 420-3024, or Doug Simon, (804) 625-0374.