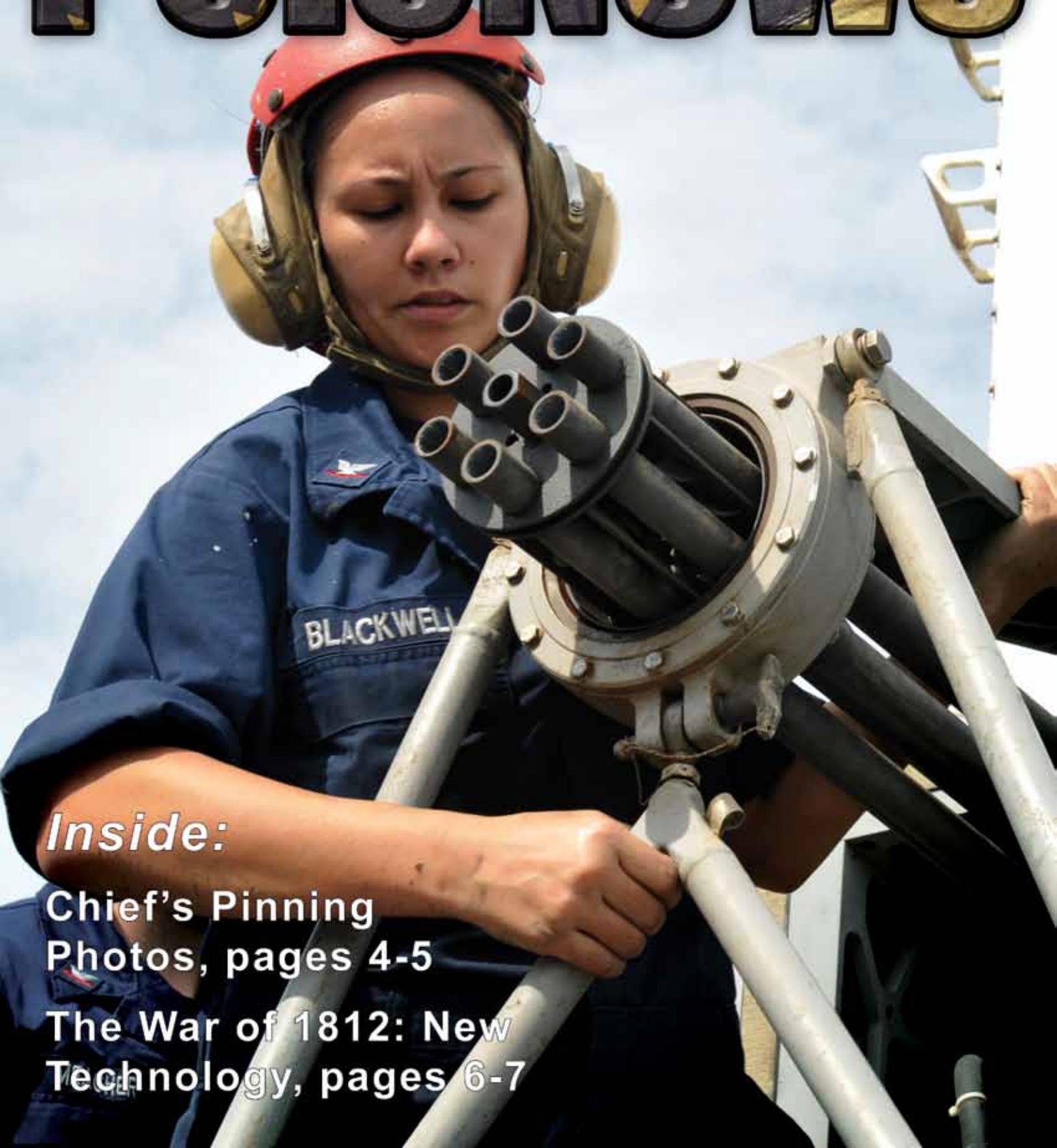


SEPTEMBER 19, 2010

PELIE NEWS



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FROM THE DECK PLATES



By CMDCM
(SW/AW/SS)
Brent Williams

Well as promised, the past week was incredibly busy and productive! We completed the final round of the advancement exams, completed the Induction Season and pinned our 12 newest Chief Petty Officers, celebrated the half way point with a spectacular meal; and commenced another command indoctrination class. Not to mention all the other events and normal operations that are constantly going on. Needless to say, it went by rather quickly.

As we get to the point of the deployment where the routine is getting to be habit, please understand that we need to stay focused and pay attention to every detail. This is not the time to get too comfortable or complacent, especially as it deals with safety! Take a moment and ensure that you are fully prepared for any task that you getting ready for and ensure that you and your shipmates are doing things the right way.

We have also received several new shipmates this past week and to all them, "Welcome Aboard!" it is great to have you here. Be sure to get out and see what the ship is doing and ensure that you learn your way around. You are arriving at a perfect time and will be acclimated to shipboard life and onboard with PELELIU standards

as we start to head home and experience San Diego once again.

The next big task is to start the planning of the Tiger Cruise, which is now in the works. A ton of information will be coming your way, in plenty of time for proper planning for you and your potential Tigers. Again, we have got to be careful on how we start communicating the details, and guidance will be provided on how to do that.

As I close for this week, again now is the time to attack the quals, the preparations for the upcoming inspections, and to focus on getting this ship safely on to the next event; and yes homecoming is one of them. Have a great week and keep the shout outs coming, keep the suggestions rolling in, let's continue to make PELELIU a great ship.

Go Navy, and "Keep Charging PELELIU"



ON THE COVER

PeleNews
Fire Controlman
3rd Class
Michelle
Blackwell
disassembles a
rotating stand
on a close-
in weapons
system
mount aboard
amphibious
assault ship
USS Peleliu

Photo by MC1 (SW/AW) R. David Valdez

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Executive Officer
Capt. James T. Cox
Command Master Chief
CMDCM(SW/AW/SS)
Brent Williams

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MC1(SW/AW) R. David Valdez
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MC2(EXW) Andrew Dunlap
MC2 Eduardo Proaño
MC3 Omar Dominguez
MC3 Foster Bamford
MC3 Ian Campbell
MCSA Destiny Cheek

PELELIU FAMILY READINESS GROUP UPDATE

Greetings from San Diego to all the families holding things together here at home, as well as those of you out there on the Mighty 5, who are anxious to be home. It is hard to believe another week has passed, somehow the time seems to be moving quicker, just breathe; we are getting there!

The FRG board met this week to solidify plans for the upcoming half-way party, which will be held October 2nd from 2-6pm at Torrey Villas Clubhouse at 11100 Vista Sorrento Pkwy San Diego 92130. There will be games for all ages, we have some fun prizes to raffle off, movies for the kiddies, and lots of food! Did someone say pie?

We encourage everyone that is not local to San Diego to get on Skype so you can join the party! Please email us at peleliufrg@gmail.com for details.

On Sunday, the ship had their half way dinner and was able to watch the wonderful halfway slide show/video that was so well put together by

Meagan Townley. Thank you for all your hard work. The video was well received by all and we will be showing it at our half way party, as well as the one the ship made for us.

For those of you that want to Skype in, we will start the ship's video at 4pm PST, then run our video right after.

The deadline to pay for the party is September 27th, and there are three options for payment, we have set up a PayPal account, you could mail us a check, or (and here is my plug for Sunday's meeting) come out to the meeting Sunday and pay in person!

Sunday's meeting will start promptly at 11 a.m.; we will introduce the new board members, as well as all of our committees. If you are interested in being on a committee come at 10:30, we need volunteers for all. The committees are as follows: events/fundraising, hospitality (yes, you too can become a greeter) and homecoming. There will be crafts for the children to keep them occupied.

Next week is Surface Warrior Week and for the first time in San Diego, there is going to be an Enlisted Spouse program and social. It will be held on September 22nd from 6-8 p.m. in the Blue/Gold rooms inside the Waterfront Rec center on base. Child-care and refreshments will be provided at no cost. This is a great opportunity for spouses to get an overview of the detailing process and talk to the detailers and career counselors in an informal setting, as well as a great way to network with each other. Let us know if you would like more information.

Our first fundraiser was a community garage sale that raised \$174, great work to

all that worked and donated for the sale. We will be doing another one in November some time.

Upcoming events include, a pizza night, kid craft day, adults Halloween party, kids Halloween party followed by trick or treating, and we are working on something fun for those of you not going home for Thanksgiving...stay tuned! Please email peleliufrg@gmail.com so we can ensure that you are getting all the information about the events.

As always, we welcome suggestions and ideas. Have a safe and enjoyable week!

FRG President and Vice-President



Chiefs, Arriving



ITC (SW) William B. Loggins
ITC (SW/AW) Kevarees C. Herman
CSC (SW/AW) Jonathan V. Melendez
ENC (SW) Timothy D. Yarrington
FCC (SW/AW) Michael W. Jacobs
ITC (SW/AW) Anthony M. Nixon II
AOC (AW) Donovan S. Gummerus
ITC (SW/AW) Steven D. Hill
AZC (AW) Carol A. Miller
BMC (SW/AW) Nathan D. McQuown
ABFC (AW/SW) Crisanto H. Vento
BMC (EXW) Jed F. May





The War of 1812: New Technology

BY MCI (SW/AW) R. DAVID VALDEZ

In 1812, the United States started a second war with the British Empire. In just 30 years after the Revolutionary War, hostilities started again. The Revolutionary War established our independence from the British crown. The War of 1812 affirmed our rights as a sovereign nation.

In that war, like the war before it and all of the wars since, the U.S. Navy contributed to American victory through innovation and audacity.

During the Age of Sail, ship design wasn't done by committee. Instead, a shipwright would be commissioned to create a ship designed for a specific function. In 1794, the Navy Act commissioned six frigates, ships which combined speed and agility with more firepower and greater endurance than frigates from other navies.

In this case, the designer Joshua Humphreys came up with a few revolutionary ideas, starting with the wood.

Most ships of the day used combinations of oak and pine. Oak was the primary material for the frame and hull of the ship while pine was the material used for decks and masts. White pine, longleaf pine, white oak, and southern live oak were all used in the construction of the ships, but southern live oak was an interesting and uniquely American contribution to warships.

The frames of the six original frigates were made from this incredibly dense wood, which among other things, proved to be resistant to cannon fire, especially in the case of USS Constitution, which was built with a 21-inch thick hull, in comparison to the standard 18 inches. During the ship's battle with HMS Guerriere, Constitution sustained hits from the British vessel's cannons, but the cannonballs bounced off the hull, earning the Constitution her nickname, "Old Ironsides."

The ships were designed to be longer, faster, and more agile. While they were still categorized as frigates, the original six ships built for the U.S. Navy were more like super-frigates, since they could engage with ships of the line in an emergency. However, a fast and durable ship might survive combat, but it's firepower that defeats an opponent.

During the Age of Sail, ships' classifications were based on the number of long guns they were designed to use. A

ship of the line, for example, carried 50 to 60 long guns, or full-sized cannons while a standard frigate would usually have 28 to 38 long guns. However, the original six managed to muster up to 50 or so guns, giving them as much firepower as smaller ships of the line by using a shorter, lighter gun called a carronade.

A carronade was a shorter, lighter version of cannon which was mounted on its own carriage. While it had a shorter range and slower muzzle velocity, the carronade was actually a more effective close-range weapon for a frigate, which wasn't suited to carrying out a slugging match using the newest naval artillery, which used rifled bores. While a faster muzzle velocity allowed ships to fight each other at longer ranges, naval artillery was terribly inaccurate at the time because both the firing platform and target were moving in multiple directions and smooth-bore firearms lose accuracy much faster than rifled guns. The slower muzzle velocity of the carronade provided another distinct advantage over cannon; shot fired from carronade splintered wooden ships much more effectively, increasing personnel casualties and earning the shorter gun its nickname, "the smasher."

With more weapons designed for close range and ships built for speed, the U.S. Navy focused its efforts on defeating a force with superior size and funding by attacking supply lines instead of engaging British forces directly. However, the British Navy had a development of its own which was immortalized in our own national anthem.

The Congreve rocket, named for its designer, was a fairly new weapon at the time. Sir William Congreve designed the rocket after reading reports of rockets used by the Indians during the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mysore Wars between the British East India Company and the kingdom of Mysore.

The rockets were fairly simple, using an iron cylinder filled with a gunpowder mixture for a propellant, and it had a warhead designed to explode on impact. An artilleryman would pull a lanyard, activating a flintlock mechanism, which would set the rocket flying up to two miles away.

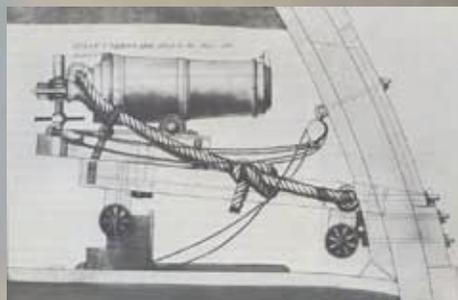
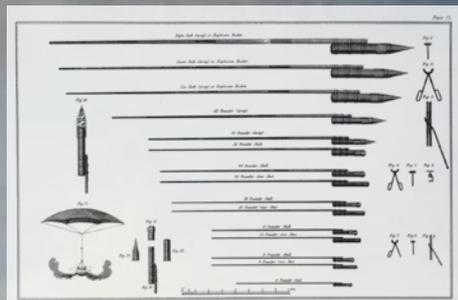
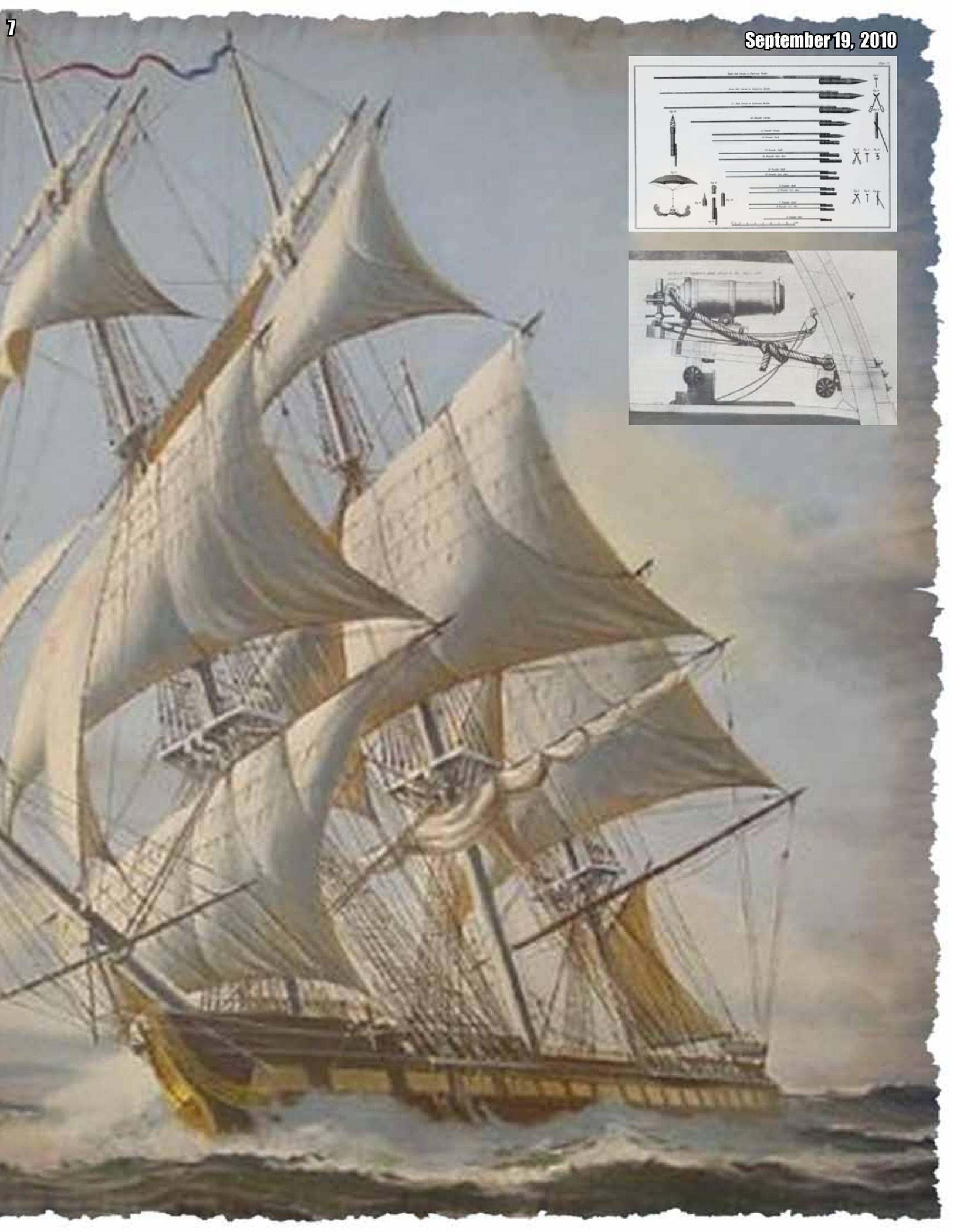
While the rocket was never used without the support of more conventional artillery, it was a fearsome psychological weapon and

quite difficult to control. The British Navy adapted the use of the Congreve Rocket by refitting their ships with scuttles in the skin of their ships. Equipped with explosive, incendiary and shrapnel warheads, the Congreve Rocket allowed the British to employ artillery with a much faster rate of fire than a cannon or a carronade.

However, the Congreve Rocket had its drawbacks. First, the weapon was terribly inaccurate, sometimes flying straight up and landing in the same spot from which it was launched. Second, the propellant and the warhead both used gunpowder. Heat from the fuel would cause the warhead to spontaneously combust, thus providing a fantastic visual display but not actually doing any physical damage.

When the rocket was used correctly, it was a devastating weapon, and it was used to great effect both before and after the War of 1812. The two most notable battles were the battle at Blandesburg, which led to the burning of Washington D.C. and the bombardment of Fort McHenry. It was during this action that Francis Scott Key penned the words about "the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air," which was inspired by the use of Congreve Rockets from the British ships (Key was actually a prisoner on board one of them) firing upon the fort in a failed attempt to control the Chesapeake Bay.

While innovations like the Congreve Rocket, carronades, and the first generation of warships built for the U.S. Navy contributed to the cause of enforcing our sovereignty as a nation, we must remember that history is made by people. Rockets and guns are simply tools, and ships, no matter cleverly built, require people to get underway. It's people, not equipment, that provides inspiration for future generations, and one of the finest movies ever to hit the silver screen.



U.S.S. Peleliu FRG



HALFWAY PARTY

COME JOIN US FOR SOME FUN!!

We've made it halfway, we've got a reason to CELEBRATE!



Who: EVERYONE!! All friends and families are welcome!!

When: October 2nd 2-6 pm

**Where: Torrey Villas Clubhouse!
11110 Vista Sorrento Pkwy
San Diego, CA 92130**

Cost: \$20 per family

*Fun, Food,
Families, and
Friends...what
more could you
ask for!!!*

SEE YOU
THERE!!!



**Activities will include, but not limited to:
Decorating Pillowcases! Nintendo Wii! Coloring
Contest! Tie Dye T-shirts! Assembling Single
Sailor Packages! Swimming! Cakes in a Jar!**

October 2nd, 2010 2pm-6pm

We will be also be viewing the Halfway video sent from the ship!

If you are not local to SD, we will also have computers set up so you can view the video via SKYPE!

