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To: Royal Naval Association Comms <comms@royalnavalassoc.com>
Date: Oct 17, 2022 9:16:57 AM
Subject: **FW: Semaphore Short 17 October**



17 OCTOBER 2022

GREETINGS SHIPMATES - Welcome to this week's Semaphore Short and I hope that this finds you well.

As usual, if anyone has anything that they would like to include in future Shorts, email me or the team at comms@royalnavalassoc.com. Whilst all contributions will be considered, please note that this is a short update newsletter and we can't publish everything. Some content may be passed to Andy for inclusion in the next Circular.

FIRESIDE CHATS The fireside chat for this evening will be given by Gordon Simmonds and will explore signalling in Nelson's navy - one for the bunting tossers!

Next week's chat (Mon Oct 24th) will be presented by David Griggs and is entitled 'SOSUS in the Cold War'. SOSUS is the Sound Surveillance System used to locate Russian submarines, something that the Sun Dodgers will know all about!

Fireside chats, unless promulgated otherwise start at 18:30 each Monday. To access the fireside chats, access zoom [here](#)

Meeting ID is 288 830 5105 Password is Shipmate

LETTER FROM THE KING TO THE CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF The King has recently written to CDS to express his thanks and admiration for the military involvement during Her Late Majesty's State Funeral. Please see below for a copy of the letter.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Chief of the Defence Staff.

I particularly want to convey my most sincere thanks to the many thousands of men and women of the Armed Forces – and the civil servants of the Ministry of Defence – for your exceptional work over recent weeks, culminating in The State Funeral of Her late Majesty The Queen. I know just how much effort and devotion was expended by so many people in order to achieve the faultless results that were witnessed across the nation and the world. The involvement of Armed Forces personnel from many Commonwealth nations was also warmly appreciated.

The Queen had a deep and abiding bond with her Armed Forces, which remained as strong at the end of her life as it was when Her late Majesty took on her first military appointment. My family and I are profoundly grateful for the part played by servicemen and women in honouring The late Queen. At that most solemn of occasions, the training, commitment and high standards of our Service Personnel were on display for all to see. I am enormously proud of you all.

October 2022.

COST OF LIVING GRANTS There are a number of organisations, grant funding bodies and charities that can provide relief to other organisations, communities or individuals. I cannot break these down but branches or individuals may be interested in having a look. Please note that the RNA does not endorse any of these funding routes and this is given for information only. For the full list of grants available, please see [here](#)

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EVERYDAY NEEDS GRANT - The Royal British Legion (RBL) has announced new top-up support for veterans to help them pay their energy bills. The charity has seen an increase in the number of veterans and their families struggling to keep up with the cost of living. Veterans can apply for an emergency grant for energy bills of up to £200 a month as part of the Everyday Needs Grants Programme. For more information, visit the RBL [here](#)

FREE TRAVEL FOR REMEMBRANCE EVENTS - National Rail has announced that it will provide free rail travel on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th November for serving personnel and veterans travelling to London and Sunday 13th only for other destinations - full details [here](#)

TRAFALGAR DAY - Friday sees the 217th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. Many RNA branches have already held or will be holding dinners and other events to commemorate Nelson and all those that fell with him. Enjoy the event and rejoice that you will not be speaking French! The picture below is an original broadsheet print produced on or shortly after November 7th 1805, the day after Lieutenant John Lapenotière, the Captain of HMS Pickle, arrived in London with the Trafalgar Dispatches. This broadsheet sold for over £10,000 in 2005.

Britannia Triumphant

The most decisive and glorious Naval Victory that ever was obtained since the Creation of the World.

THE Victorious British Fleet

Was Commanded by the most RENOWNED, most GALLANT, and ever to be LAMENTED HERO,

Adm. Lord Visc. Nelson

AND THE Vanquished Fleets of France & Spain

BY Admirals Villeneuve and Gravina.

This memorable Action was Fought off Cape *Trafalgar*, near the Entrance of the Streights of *Gibraltar*, on the 21st October last.

The English Fleet consisted of **27** Ships of the Line.

| Ship | Guns | Men | Commander | Status |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Victory | 100 | 1377 | Adm. Lord Visc. Nelson, K. B. | |
| Royal Sovereign | 110 | 1321 | V. Adm. Collingwood, | |
| Britannia | 100 | 1300 | R. Adm. Lord Northesk, | |
| Temeraire | 98 | 1285 | Capt. Eliab Harvey. | |
| Prince | 98 | 1285 | Capt. Grindall | |
| Tonnant | 94 | 1250 | Capt. Tyler, | wounded |
| Belleisle | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Hargood | |
| Revenge | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Moorfoam, | wounded |
| Marr | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Dull, | killed |
| Neptune | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Freemantle | |
| Spartiate | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Sir F. Laforey | |
| Defiance | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Darlism | wounded |
| Conqueror | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Pellew | |
| Defence | 74 | 1000 | Capt. G. Hope | |
| Colossus | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Morris | |
| Leviathan | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Baynton | |
| Achille | 74 | 1000 | Capt. R. King | |
| Bellerophon | 74 | 1000 | Capt. J. Cooke (1st) | killed |
| Minotaur | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Mansfield | |
| Orion | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Codrington | |
| Swiftsure | 74 | 1000 | Capt. Rutherford | |
| Polyphemus | 64 | 800 | Capt. Redmill | |
| Africa | 64 | 800 | Capt. H. Digby | |
| Agamemnon | 64 | 800 | Capt. Sir E. Berry | |
| Dreadnought | 58 | 713 | Capt. Conn | |
| Ajax | 50 | 618 | 1st Lieutenant | |
| Thunderer | 74 | 1000 | 1st Lieutenant | |
| Total | 3,176 | 17,076 | | |

Three marked F are French.
Three marked S are Spanish.

The Combined Fleets of France and Spain consisted of **33** Ships of the Line.

| Ship | Guns | Men | Status |
|---------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Santa Ana Trinidad | 120 | 1300 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Buenosaur | F 84 | 1000 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Rayo | S 100 | 1200 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Principe d'Assurias | S 112 | 1100 | Escaped |
| Indomptable | F 84 | 1000 | Destroyed |
| Fougueux | F 74 | 900 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Achille | F 74 | 900 | Blown-up |
| Santa Anna | S 112 | 1100 | Taken, but got away |
| Moutanc | S 74 | 900 | Escaped |
| Heros | F 74 | 900 | Escaped |
| San Leandro | S 64 | 600 | Demolished but Escaped |
| San Juste | S 72 | 900 | Demolished but Escaped |
| San Rudefoufo | S 74 | 900 | Taken |
| Le Swiftsure | F 74 | 900 | Taken, former English |
| Algeniras | F 74 | 900 | Taken, but got away |
| Phaon | F 74 | 900 | Escaped, much Damaged |
| Neptune | F 84 | 1000 | Escaped |
| Babaux | S 74 | 900 | Taken |
| San Neponoceno | S 74 | 900 | Taken |
| Menarta | S 74 | 900 | Destroyed |
| San Francis d'Alba | S 74 | 900 | Destroyed |
| Neptuno | S 84 | 1000 | Destroyed |
| Argonaute | F 74 | 900 | On Shore at Cadix |
| Le Berwick | F 74 | 900 | Taken and Destroyed, formerly English |
| L'Aigle | F 74 | 900 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Intrepide | F 74 | 900 | Taken and Burnt |
| San Angulin | S 74 | 900 | Taken and Burnt |
| Redoubtable | F 74 | 900 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Argonaute | S 84 | 1000 | Taken and Destroyed |
| Formidable | F 80 | 900 | Escaped, but later taken by British |
| Mont Blanc | F 74 | 900 | Escaped, but later taken by British |
| Scipion | F 74 | 900 | Escaped, but later taken by British |
| Duguay Trouin | F 74 | 900 | Escaped, but later taken by British |
| Total | 3,056 | 25,300 | |

Four Admirals taken, One killed, and Three wounded.

The Combined Fleets superior in Guns 474, in Men 8,124.

And Finally.....

**WHEN I WAS 17..THIS
WAS "MY SAFE PLACE" ..**



**IT WAS FILLED WITH LOUD VULGAR OBNOXIOUS INTOXICATED
SAILORS...WHO I STILL CALL SHIPMATES AND BROTHERS...**

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