



Letter From the Editor

By: CDR Marshall Crockett
Chief, Dept of Public Relations

Last month I mentioned how with the extra daylight here in Nevada I would likely work on my golf game; well, I'm here to report that my drives went straight, my approaches not so much, my chips were fair and putts were close. All in all, my last round was an 84 and, all things considered, could have been much worse. I guess I won't be invited to the British Open this year!

Thank you to all who made contributions to not only this newsletter but also our special Klingon Edition, "Blood Red Alert" two weeks ago. This was a crazy time for the PR department with three newsletters in a 6-week timeframe; none of which could have been accomplished without your support. I offer my thanks.

Did you know that you can offer your feedback on our newsletter? If you have comments, questions or ideas, please feel free to PM either LCDR Yu'wanna or myself with your suggestions. We're always looking to make a better product for the base and appreciate your readership. Well, sit back, relax and grab a Raktajino as we transport you to yet another world of wonder in this edition of the Blue Alert. ❖

Captains: Edward Jellico

Why Jellico Wasn't a Good Captain for the Enterprise

By: LCDR Yu'wanna
Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer

The episode Chain of Command from TNG series brings a new captain to the Enterprise- Edward Jellico- whose personality and style of command is very different from Picard's. This episode has made me think about what it actually means to be in command. Jellico was supposed to be one of the most efficient and respected captains in Starfleet. Why didn't he manage to fit in?

For one thing, Enterprise has always been Picard's ship and the crew was trained to work for Picard. The change was too sudden and totally unexpected and the crew find it difficult to adapt so quickly.

But in fact, it's much more than that. Jellico proved to be a very inflexible captain. He expected the crew to adapt to his style on the spot, but he didn't even try to the same. And this was, in my humble opinion, his first mistake. An unwritten ethical law of command is: be an example yourself and never ask your people to do something you are not capable or willing to do yourself.

At first sight, being a commanding officer is something very cool: whose ego wouldn't like to stay in the big chair and just give orders: "Do this! Do that! Get it done! etc". But the fact is it's not just about giving orders. You must have the capacity to adapt to the crew you're working with. The difficulty does not lie in giving the orders, but rather in the manner you do it. In other words, you have to learn how to make your people give the best of them most of the time, at least. And that requires a lot of empathy and flexibility- two character traits Jellico seemed to lack.

Another difference between Picard and Jellico is that

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Officer Profile

CDR Richard A. Boudreau, OSB Evaluations Officer

By: LCDR Yu'wanna

Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer



Name: Richard A. Boudreau

Age: 32

Position on the Starbase: Starbase Evaluations Officer

Location: Dartmouth, Nova Scotia; Canada

Hobbies: Star Trek, Star Wars, Video Games, Movies, Star Wars Collectibles

Enjoys: Good Food, Movies, Guitar Hero

Hates: Working For A Living, LOLI, Snow.

Guilty Pleasures: Cheesecake, Rich Italian Food

First Encountered Star Trek: In 1993, I was flipping through channels at my friend's house when I stumbled upon TNG and started watching.

Which is the most valuable thing you have learned from Star Trek?

A: I have learned to be more accepting when it comes to people, because people are different and being different is what made Star Trek great.

What is your favorite Star Trek race and why?

A: My favorite race would probably be Klingon. The Klingons are a very proud race that put honor over everything else, they remind me of ancient Japan and how they are similar in many ways to Klingons.

Which is your favorite ST character and why?

A: My favorite ST character would have to be James T. Kirk, Captain Kirk did not take any guff from anybody, he has saved the universe time and time again and was the cornerstone of the Star Trek Genre.

Any plans for the future you wish to share with us?

A: Right now I am at a crossroads career wise, my last

job did not pan out like I wanted it to, now I have to decide what I really want to do with my life.

How long have you been on the OSB? On what circumstances did you join the Starbase?

A: I joined OSB in December 2008, I was browsing the net looking for Star Trek chat rooms and forums, I stumbled upon OSB and from that day I was hooked.

The things you like and dislike most about yourself and about other people?

A: Probably the thing I dislike about myself would have to be that I lose motivation, due to my lack of self esteem. What I like the least about people are how some people think they are better than others just because of their "Social Status", or how much money they make.

What do you like most about Online Starbase?

A: As I have said on numerous occasions, I feel like the people of OSB are more than just my fellow officers, they are my friends as well.

As Evaluations Officer, what are some of your most critical responsibilities and what challenges have you faced so far?

A: As the Eval Officer of OSB, I have to ensure that overall operations are running smoothly and by the book. Some of the challenges I have had to face would have to be trying to make new officers feel that they are welcome and they will make a difference, that is the most challenging part of OSB.

What future plans do you have for the Starbase?

A: I want to continue to make OSB challenging, but fun for everybody here, and to possibly create training programs to keep all of the Officers well informed about Star Trek and OSB

What words of wisdom do you have for new members to OSB that would help them get integrated?

A: All I can say is make the most of your time here on OSB, and do not be afraid of Senior Staff. Everyone here is very approachable so any questions, do not hesitate to ask.

If there is anything else you wish to add?

A: Enjoy your time here at OSB, it is worth it. ❖

Across the Base

By: CDR Marshall Crockett

Chief, Dept of Public Relations

PHOENIX SIMM WANTS YOU!!

For the past few months Captain Joel has been leading the USS Phoenix SIMM here at OSB and of late it has fallen on hard times. While the base itself is not based upon a SIMM as some sites are, the Phoenix is one of the Recreation Department's highlights that I hope many of you will embrace. With more than 150 posts read over 1,300 times encompassing 6 pages it has developed quite nicely and the changes that have been made recently make it much more organized. Check it out!

TWEET, TWEET!

Lieutenant Commander Kal-EI has spearheaded a new page on Twitter to aid in recruitment for OSB. This has been a six month endeavor for OSB/PR and was Kal-EI's brainchild from the beginning. It is our sincere pleasure to announce it's completion. Not only is this a real breakthrough for OSB Public Relations but it is one that could drastically enhance membership from activation. Go to: http://twitter.com/online_starbase.

TRIVIA IN HYPERDRIVE

Lieutenant Commander Boudreau has taken the lead to develop and manage a weekly "Sci-Fi Trivia Challenge" for OSB. This trivia challenge will not be based solely on Star Trek but rather taking into account a broader science fiction environment. Stop on by and watch out for the wookiee!

IT WAS A GOOD WEEK TO BE KLINGON

The entire base went Klingon over April Fool's Day and the following week was a huge success. It is my, and most certainly the entire command staff's, hope that you all enjoyed it thoroughly. I see that even to this day there is a member who just can't let go of his Klingon moniker. I know I look forward to whatever theme is next and you can bet it will draw favor amongst all on duty! ❖

History of the Federation

Part III: A New Peace and New Enemies

By: LCDR Matt Foard

History Section Leader

After the Khitomer Accords were signed in 2293, the Federation entered its longest ever state of peace. The Klingon Empire honored its agreement (shocking I know) and Science and exploration was the main purpose of Starfleet.

This peace was nearly ended in 2311 during the Tomed Incident. Many thousands of Federation personnel lost their lives and this led to the Treaty of Algeron being signed, re-establishing borders between the UFP and Romulan star Empire.

In 2344 the Romulans were causing problems again when they attacked the Klingon outpost at Narendra III, the USS Enterprise(C) saved the base at a loss of all hands and because of this sacrifice it strengthened the alliance between this two powers to an all time high (the Romulans then went into silence for 20 years).

2347 -2367 The bloody Cardassian war raged across space with many casualties on both sides, this dark conflict was never truly resolved and this stalemate of two super powers would cause friction for a long time to come.(the conflict was mainly over by the late 2350's but skirmishes went on till the 2360's) Many Federation colonies were caught up in the border re-alignments and this would cause cracks and divides in this sector of space between the colonists and the UFP.(more on that later)

On the whole the period between 2293 - 2366 saw the UFP expand and flourish in a period of never seen before but the greatest challenges to the Federation was coming...❖



CONGRATULATIONS

Hip, Hip HOORAY to all OSB Promotees (eff. 25 Mar 10):

Foard to LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

Khan Noonien Singh to LIEUTENANT

S.F. Warp to LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON

Only a few officers have earned the Commander's Commendation Medal and the most recent recipient is:

Lieutenant Commander Kal-EI

Awarded for meritorious service as previous Trivia Leader, Security Shift Leader and History Section Leader (only 3-dept officer in OSB history) and currently excelling as the Deputy Chief of Public Relations. Congrats! Well Deserved!

OTHER AWARDS:

I'm sure many of you have noted that there is a new award under some of our more experienced officers' profile, the Posting Award. This award is afforded to officers who have made at least 1,000 posts on OSB. Remember that OSB is not a community where promotions are based on post count but it is, nonetheless, an online community where active participation usually is directly related to your posting prowess. Congrats to all who have earned this award and now have some 'candy' under your profile!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ARTICLE SUBMISSION FOR BLUE ALERT NEWSLETTER

PLACE: PM TO CDR CROCKETT

TIME: 8 MAY 2010, 2359 OST

Anyone who wants to get published in our next newsletter must have their articles submitted by the 8th of every month.

Picard himself didn't care to check everything in detail. He was used to dealing with the most important issues only, and put faith in his crew. He trusted his first officer, who also trusted the senior staff and so on. Picard knew his officers can do their jobs extremely well if allowed to, and given some amount of freedom.

Jellico, on the other hand, wanted to check on everything, seemed to trust no one and put a lot of pressure on the crew. The result: a stressed crew for a stressed captain.

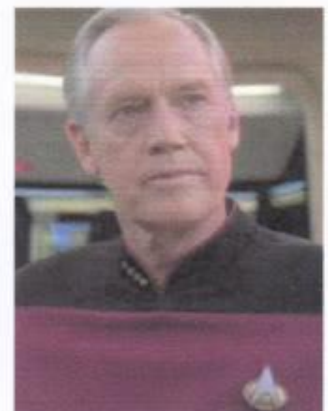
There is no wonder Riker didn't manage to work with Jellico, since Riker had a totally different style of command:

"JELLICO: Let's drop the ranks for a moment. I don't like you. I think you're insubordinate, arrogant, willful, and I don't think you're a particularly good first officer.

RIKER: Well, now that the ranks are dropped, Captain, I don't like you, either. You are arrogant and closed-minded. You need to control everything and everyone. You don't provide an atmosphere of trust, and you don't inspire these people to go out of their way for you. You've got everybody wound up so tight there's no joy in anything. I don't think you're a particularly good Captain."

I personally agree with Riker's opinion and attitude. And I also believe that the first thing Jellico had to do was temper his ego and learn such phrases as "please", "thank you" and "well done!" as well as have the courage to admit when he was wrong.

By the end of the episode, Jellico may have obtained the obedience of the crew (except for Riker's), but he had never gained their respect. At least not the respect they paid to Picard. ❖



Trek Tech: Transporters

By: LT James T. Kirk
Senior Correspondent

The transporter is a subspace device capable of instantaneously moving an object from one location to another. Transporters are able to dematerialize, transmit and reassemble an object. The act of transporting is often referred to as "beaming."

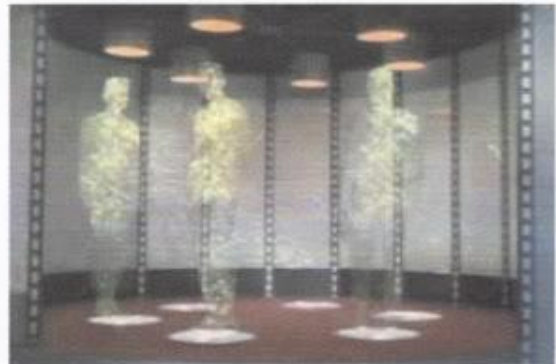
Transporters have been used by many civilizations throughout history but the first human made transporter was invented by Emory Erickson sometime prior to 2121 with the first operable transporter being developed before 2139. When the transporter was in infancy there was much controversy surrounding its safety and reliability within united Earth. The debates ranged from health issues and even to metaphysical debates over whether or not the person transported was the same person or instead a copy of the original.

The Enterprise NX-01 was one of the first Starfleet Starships to be equipped with a transporter authorized for transporting biological objects. Initially, however it was utilized on sparingly due to a general distrust of the technology held by the enterprise crew. These early transporters were not very reliable and even after Enterprise's mission; most were authorized for non-biological transports only.

By the 24th century most civilizations of the Alpha and Beta Quadrant, employed transporter technology for short range transports of personal and equipment. Furthermore, emergency transport armbands, transponders and com-badges could be programmed to remotely activate a transporter. Normally, remote transporter activation was limited to emergencies or when the crew of a vessel was not on board. As with most Starfleet technology, the transporter had its own set of safety features protocols and procedures. Except in cases of extreme emergency, protocols prohibited transporting objects while traveling at warp speed. The most commonly used transporter was the personal transporter, designed primarily for personnel. Portable transporters were self contained units capable of site to site transport without using a fixed transporter pad. While having the capability to be moved from one place to another, they were known to be rather large and bulky. Emergency transporters

were a special type that had a low power requirement; in case of a ship-wide power failure, the crew could use these transporters for emergency evacuation.

Although beaming was quick, it had its limits. A person could not stay within the matter stream too long. If this happened, his or her molecular pattern would degrade and the transporter signal would be lost. This signal had to stay above fifty percent to be able to re-materialize the person. A time-frame of around ninety seconds was about the maximum before that fifty percent signal loss was reached. ❖



Transporters From ST:TOS



Transporters From ST:TNG

Editor's note: LT Kirk has been writing the "Trek Tech" Series for the Blue Alert for the past two issues. If you have a technology that you are interested in having him research and write on, please let the PR dept know. We're always looking to make each issue better!

Star Trek Down Under

By: LT Logan
Correspondent

I have tried to research for this article but have come up with not much information at all but I will tell you what I do know.

Star Trek first screened in Australia in 1966 back when they had problems with NBC over in the States. I do know that Star Trek: The Next Generation and Star Trek: Deep Space Nine was shown on one of the Channels on the Australian Free To Air Network in the 90's Followed by Star Trek: Voyager which was shown on the same channel, I know this because I remember watching DS9 and TNG on that Channel even though it was shown late at night.

In the last 8 years or so Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager and Star Trek: Enterprise is being shown on the Australian Subscription Television Network and is Currently being shown exclusively on the Sci-Fi Channel on that Network, Where they have the running on the complete series of one of the Series of Star Trek from the start to the finish, Mostly they run TNG or Voyager in that format having one or two episodes on a day. They also have what they call the "Star Trek Weekends" which run two times over that weekend running episodes of Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, Star Trek: Voyager and Star Trek: Enterprise.

I do know that they do run the Star Trek Movies on both Subscription and Free to Air Networks from time to time.

In relations to Star Trek Conventions they do run them in the Capital Cities but I am not sure of the frequency on when they hold the Conventions.

In Closing I do believe that there is a lot of interest in Star Trek down here in Australia especially Star Trek: The Next Generation and Star Trek: Voyager as they are the ones mostly aired on the Sci-Fi Channel. ♦

Editor's Note: LT Logan is one of the many non-US members of OSB. If any of you have a story on how ST is viewed in your country...please submit to PR.

OSB Writing Contest

By: CDR Marshall Crockett
Chief, Dept of Public Relations

The Public Relations Department is always looking for creative writers. Contest Submission Guidelines are:

Length: 725 words maximum

Deadline: 8th of the following month, 2359 OST; PM CDR Crockett

Topic: Finish the starter at the bottom of this section

Genre: Any Star Trek genre is acceptable

Don'ts: Don't kill off any main characters, have relations between any characters beyond the ones established in ST canon, use foul language, overt sexual innuendo or verbiage, or any other distasteful item not covered here but would make you go, "What? Seriously?"

APR TOPIC: Starfleet Headquarters was immediately placed on Red Alert and Admiral Hollister, Chief of Starfleet Operations, ran through the hall at breakneck speed. His Intelligence Chief, Commander Krill, waited nervously for his arrival. "It's not good, sir. See for yourself," Krill said. "It's heading toward..."

WINNER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!!



Ensign Johnson suddenly comes to the alarming realization that he is the only red-shirt in the landing party.

March Writing Contest Winner

"Element 82"

By: LTJG S.F. Warp

The away team consisted of the chief engineer, two security personnel and the captain. As they materialized in the great chamber they came face to face with more than fifty armed guards. "Please lower your weapons," one of them said.

"Tricorders down, gentlemen," the captain said firmly. Hands came down. To the speaker, "These aren't weapons. They're sensing devices. Our weapons are secured. I'm Captain Sam Draco of the Federation Starship Kepler. These are Commander Sean Ireland, chief engineer, Lieutenants Briggs and Renault, of security. Our intentions are peaceful. Your weapons aren't necessary."

The one who spoke turned and nodded. He and fifty-four guards secured weapons. "I am Prefect Gab Rephal of the municipal police. Why are you here?"

"We are scientists and explorers, seekers of knowledge," Draco replied. "As we neared your planet, our systems began malfunctioning. We were fortunate to be able to establish an unstable orbit before our engines quit entirely. Some force on your planet disabled our ship. Our scanners detected an anomalous energy reading and traced it to this general vicinity. We came down to investigate."

"That agrees with my findings, Captain," Rephal confirmed. "All our systems have been disrupted as well. Conveyances also. Our detectors pointed in this direction. I suggest we continue on."

The great chamber was a natural formation, long, high and narrow. A great door stood at one end. Entrances to three tunnels stood at the other. Beyond those entrances lay a mysterious energy source.

Rephal spoke. "I know these halls. I will take two squads this way." He pointed to the left tunnel. "Four squads are at your disposal. First one to find anything will send runners for the others."

Draco replied, "Agreed! Briggs, you and Renault take two squads and search the right tunnel! Irish, the rest of us will search the middle tunnel. Any questions? Good! Let's go!"

Before long, Draco's team entered a dimly lit chamber. A pivoted turret with eight barrels pointing in as many directions

was casting blue-white thermal dots onto the walls, melting the lead that comprised them. On the floor were eight small cars on ball-rollers vacuuming the liquid that flowed freely down the walls. They, in turn, through flexible tubing, were directing the melt into a larger main tube. The main tube passed through a window like opening in one small section of wall, near the floor, at Draco's two-o'clock. Liquid lead was literally being sucked out of the chamber. A lone individual monitoring the activity drew a weapon as Draco approached.

Draco sent for the others, then spoke. "Before you shoot all 20 of us, please, tell us what you're doing here."

The individual, standing no more than four and a half feet high, answered in a trembling voice. "A wandering star is nearing my world. Its rare form of radiation can destroy our atmosphere and annihilate our people. Your walls are pure element 82. We can emulsify and suspend it high above our planet and protect our atmosphere. There is more than enough for our needs here."

"Irish, got a fix on the cause of the disruptions yet?"

"It's not the extraction process, Sam," he said as he read from his tricorder. "That little aperture there with the big hose going through it is a spatial rift, a hole in space. That's where all the pesky energy's comin' from."

When the other teams arrived, Draco briefed Gab Rephal. Rephal spoke. "Please lower your weapon. You can't shoot us all." He introduced himself, then asked, "Who are you?"

The individual holstered his weapon and answered. "I am Glinn. I am a geological engineer. My world is at your mercy, gentlemen." His voice trembled less.

"How much longer do you need," Rephal asked.

Glinn replied, "About six turns of your planet will do, but I would like to have eight for a margin of surety."

Draco and Gab Rephal conferred. Draco spoke. "Can you either close your spatial aperture around that hose, or turn off whatever generates it for a few hours? I need to stabilize my ship and these people need to organize their various systems for safety's sake."

"I can't reduce the size of the aperture so I'll have to turn it off for a time. I ask for two hours at most."

Rephal nodded to Draco in affirmation. Then Draco said to Glinn, "Make it happen!" ❖

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The Command Department

By: CDR Richard Boudreau
OSB Evaluations Officer

As we have entered a new month for 2010, I have been thinking about my time here on Online Starbase and how I immensely enjoy it. All is well here on the Starbase, we have welcomed a great amount of new officers here in the past few weeks; bringing the total Starbase Complement to 242.

All of the Officers here are working together very well, I have noticed that there is a special rapport that they all share. Each of the Department Website are up and running and are available to view for any new officers that have an interest in joining a department. Each of the Website offer a wide array of information and are a testament to the hard work that the Department Chiefs put into these websites in order to keep all of the officers here at Online Starbase very well informed.

The Command Department as always is working very hard to welcome new officers and to answer any questions they may have about Policies & Procedures, Chain Of Command, FAQ's, etc. Under the leadership of Admiral Ryan W. Dean, this site has become a staple to many hardcore Star Trek Fans.

Now, as we proceed onward through 2010, we continue to make Online Starbase the best in the universe, and with the help of all of the Staff, as well as every single officer here. It will definitely happen. ❖

ATTENTION ALL OFFICERS!!!!

If you were a staff officer in OSB's past, please contact LCDR Foard with your office, dates and historical recollections.

The Blue Alert is a publication created and distributed for the entertainment, education and informational use of its members. All statements and articles herein are the opinions of the author and in no way are to be considered official statements of the Online Starbase command staff or the OSB commander.