

**Australian Hydrographic Office - Wollongong  
Media Release**

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**SENIOR SAILOR SNOWBALLED!!**

An historic promotion ceremony occurred recently in Australian Antarctic Territory.

POHSM Rob '*Popeye*' Campbell was promoted to CPO on 1 March 2003 at a 'Table' involving naval personnel only. The Table was conducted amongst the artifacts in the Huskie Dog Museum, which reflected the bygone era when huskies were used in Antarctica. A 'Matinee Show' was conducted following requests from the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) expeditioners to witness this historic traditional naval ceremony.

The ceremony was repeated in front of an appreciative audience of AAD expeditioners, as well as a crowd of bemused penguins and Weddell seals. CPOHSM Campbell was deployed to Mawson Station as a member of the Hydrographic Office Deployable Survey Unit (HODSU). At 67(degrees) 36.3 (minutes) South, it is the furthest south anyone of the Royal Australian Navy has been promoted.

On completion of the sombre ceremony the new *Chief* was given the more traditional 'snowballing' associated with these latitudes! On loan from the RAN Hydrographic School, where he is an instructor, CPOHSM Campbell assisted HODSU conduct bathymetric surveys in the approaches to Horseshoe Harbour.

For further information contact: LCDR John Sperring on Mobile 0407-074 154 or Office 02 - 4221 8670.

**Issued under the authority of The Hydrographer of Australia.**