ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADETS

PHASE ONE

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

SECTION 7

EO C123.04 – RING THE SHIP'S BELL

Total Time: 30 min

PREPARATION

PRE-LESSON INSTRUCTIONS

Resources needed for the delivery of this lesson are listed in the lesson specification located in A-CR-CCP-601/PG-001, *Phase One Qualification Standard and Plan*, Chapter 4. Specific uses for said resources are identified throughout the instructional guide within the TP for which they are required.

Review the lesson content and become familiar with the material prior to delivering the lesson.

PRE-LESSON ASSIGNMENT

Nil.

INTRODUCTION

APPROACH

An interactive lecture was chosen for TP 1 to orient the cadets to the ship's bell.

A demonstration and performance was chosen for TP 2 as it allows the instructor to explain and demonstrate the skill the cadets are expected to acquire while providing an opportunity for the cadets to practice the skill under supervision.

REVIEW

Nil.

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lesson the cadets shall have rung the ship's bell.

IMPORTANCE

The ship's bell, for centuries, has had a significant role in the traditions and customs of a sailor. It has been used to guide the daily rhythm on a ship as its tolling marked the passing of time and indicated the changing of the watches. Although the ship's bell finds limited use in today's Royal Canadian Navy, it is important for sea cadets to become familiar with it as it is used for ceremonies such as Colours and Sunset performed by sea cadet corps'.

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Teaching point 1 **Give a brief history of the ship's bell.**

Time: 5 min Method: Interactive Lecture

The ship's bell bears the name of the ship and the date of her launching. Since a ship's bell is among its most significant artifacts, when a ship decommissions, there is demand from many quarters for this item. Bells may go to naval and civilian museums for safe-keeping and display. In the case of Canadian ships named for towns and cities, the 'home' community sometimes receives the bell, and shows it off at city hall. For example, the city of Miramichi is now in possession of HMCS MIRAMICHI's bell. On occasion, bells end up in unlikely places like retail stores or even in private hands.

BAPTISMS

The baptism of children on board ship is conducted in the wardroom. The ship's bell is mounted in a special holder, which is to be draped with the Canadian Naval Jack. The bell is then used as a font for the baptism. On completion of the ceremony the chaplain pours the water into the sea from an appropriate position on the upper deck of the ship. As the water is being poured overboard the Officer Of the Day (OOD) shall order the quartermaster to pipe the "Side". The child's name and date of the baptism are engraved on the bell in accordance with Maritime Command Orders (MARCORDS).

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 1

QUESTIONS

Q1. What information is contained on all ship's bells?

Q2. When a child is baptized, what is engraved on the ship's bell?

ANTICIPATED ANSWERS

A1. The ship's bell bears the name of the ship and the date of her launching.

A2. The child's name and date of the baptism are engraved on the ship's bell.

Teaching point 2 **Explain, demonstrate and have the cadets ring the ship's bell.**

Time: 20 min Method: Demonstration and Performance

PARTS OF THE SHIP'S BELL

The parts of the bell consist of the bell, bell rope and clapper.



www.vac-acc.gc.ca/content/feature/week99/stlawrence/Images/1109_3.jpg

Figure 1 Ship's Bell

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DEMONSTRATE HOW TO RING THE SHIP'S BELL

The bell is rung with two strokes of the clapper in quick succession, followed by a one second pause between rings. For example, five bells will sound "ding-ding", pause, "ding-ding", pause, "ding". This is done to make it easier to count the number.

On the hour, the bells are rung in even numbers; on the half hour the bells are rung in odd numbers as follows:

- eight bells at 0800,
- one bell at 0830,
- two bells at 0900,
- three bells at 0930,
- four bells at 1000,
- five bells at 1030,
- six bells at 1100,
- seven bells at 1130, and
- eight bells at 1200 at which point the cycle repeats itself.



When demonstrating how to ring the bell for various times during the day, announce what time you are demonstrating. This will reinforce the purpose that the bell serves.

PRACTICE RINGING THE SHIP'S BELL



Allow every cadet a chance to practice ringing the ship's bell. As each cadet takes their turn ringing the bell, give them a specific time to demonstrate and tell them the number of bells they need to ring. It is not required that the cadets memorize the number of bells that are rung for specific times.

CONFIRMATION OF TEACHING POINT 2

The cadets' ringing the ship's bell will serve as the confirmation of this TP.

END OF LESSON CONFIRMATION

The cadets' ringing the ship's bell will serve as the confirmation of this lesson.

CONCLUSION

HOMEWORK/READING/PRACTICE

Nil.

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METHOD OF EVALUATION

Nil.

CLOSING STATEMENT

This lesson gives the cadets an opportunity to participate in a long standing naval tradition, and prepares them to participate in Colours and Sunset ceremonies at the corps.

INSTRUCTOR NOTES/REMARKS

It is important to attempt to get the cadets to participate as much as possible and ensure that every cadet has at least one chance to ring the bell.

REFERENCES

A1-001 – *Veterans Affairs Canada*. (2006). Retrieved 24 March 2006, from www.vac-acc.gc.ca/content/feature/week99/stlawrence/Images/1109_3.jpg.

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C1-003 ISBN 11-770973-5 (1972). *Admiralty Manual of Seamanship 1964 Volume 1*. London, England: Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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