

PETER'S NAUTICAL TERMS DICTIONARY & GLOSSARY for BLUEWATER SAILING

T 'Tango' in phonetic alphabet. Designated in International Code by square flag divided into three equal vertical bands running red, white and blue from Jack to Fly. Hoisted in isolation it means: 'do not pass ahead of me'.

t Abbreviation for Meridian Angle = Angular Distance East or West of the Local (Observer's) Celestial Meridian and Hour Circle of a Celestial Body

TAB Offsets tendency of outboard engine Prop to walk sideways slightly at some trim positions.

TABERNACLE Case, often of metal, for Foot of Mast, set on Centerline of Vessel and secured for strength to Deck Beams rather than to roof of Deck house. Pair of bolts prevents Mast from coming out.

TABS Extra Canvas, wood or metal triangular or square reinforcements at corners of Sails or along edges.

TACHOMETER Instrument that indicates and engine's revolutions per minute.

TACK 1) Either bottom corner of square Sail. 2) Forward or leading lower or bottom corner of Fore and Aft Sail such as Mainsail, Jib or Mizzen. Where Luff and Foot meet or lower Windward corner of Spinnaker. AKA Weather Clew. 3) Generic term for Coming About or Jibing, but often and incorrectly used only to describe Coming About. Change course by Heading Up and passing Bow or Falling Off and passing Stern through Eye of Wind with Sails then swinging across Boat. 4) Each leg of zigzag course sailed to Windward or Downwind where Vessel is making progress against wind and wind strikes one side of Bows and then other. Any course or Heading in relation to wind or which wind comes over either side of Boat. 5) Rope attached to Tack of Sail and used to work it. 6) Food of any kind. See Hardtack and On the Right or Wrong Tack.

TACK DOWN Secure the Sail's Tack.

TACK, FAVORED Tack along which, you make most progress towards desired destination. Opposite of Unfavored Tack.

TACKING Sailing maneuver in which the direction of Boat is changed, often with rigging adjustments, thereby changing wind from one side of ship to other by Coming About or Jibing.

TACKLE 1) Mechanical system, arrangement or combination of one or more Lines along with Blocks and Tackle or Purchase. Used to give or obtain mechanical advantage and increase Hauling power. AKA taykle. 2) Anchor gear. 3) Fishing gear.

TACK RAG Slightly sticky cloth used to pick up dust and dirt from brightwork before varnishing.

TACK, UNFAVORED Tack, along which, you make least progress towards desired destination. Opposite of Favored Tack.

TADPOLE Young frog which has big head and small tail or more specifically toad head. From 'tade', toad and 'pol', head. See Polliwog and Tadpole.

TAFFRAIL Stern most railing on Vessel. Upper part of Sship's stern, usually ornamented with carved work or molding.

TAIL 1) Pull on a Sheet or Halyard behind a Winch. 2) Section of the Sheet or Halyard behind the Winch or Cleat.

TAILHOOK Hook on aircraft carrier borne aircraft which catch the Arresting Gear Wires.

TAINTING Damage to Cargo when other Cargo is wetted by sea water in heavy weather. Also caused by odors from other Cargo stowed in the same hold.

TAKE ABOARD Comprehend. See By The Board.

TAKE DOWN A PEG 1) Ship's colors were raised and lowered by system of pegs; the higher the peg, the higher the honor. Moving flag down from one flag Halyard secured with pegs to lower peg. Done when senior Admiral handed over his command to junior whose flag would have to be flown in subordinate position. 2) Blunt somebody's pride, humble someone or lower them in their own or everyone else's eyes. AKA Take Down a Peg or Two.

TAKE IN SAILS Reduce Sail area by Reefing or Striking some of the Sails. AKA Reduce Sail.

TAKEN ABACK 1) Said of Vessel's Sails when caught suddenly or unexpectedly by wind in such a way as to press Sails Aft, against Mast, or so as to impart tendency to stop forward motion progress or force Ship Astern. From days when ship's sails suddenly billow out in

reverse direction and wind is pressing sails backward against mast through shift in wind, mechanical failure or careless steering by helmsman. Ship could then be suddenly dismasted, capsized or both. AKA Backwinded.

2) Suddenly stopped mentally or physically in whatever you were thinking or doing; momentarily helpless, unable to act and possibly in great danger. To be astounded, taken by surprise or surprised by circumstances or sudden turn of events.

TAKE THE GILT OFF THE GINGERBREAD

The British Admiralty's spoilt attraction to Gingerbread when it was discovered that it was more expensive to decorate a ship than equip her with cannon. See Gingerbread.

TAKE THE WIND OUT YOUR SAILS

1) Tactic of a sailing ship passing to Windward of another thus blanketing Downwind Vessel, robbing its sails of wind and causing her to slow or stop dead in water. Used in warfare, by pirate ships and yacht racing. 2) Slow down, bring to standstill or curtail another's forward momentum.

TAKU WIND Strong, gusty, East-Northeast wind, occurring in vicinity of Juneau, Alaska, between October and March near mouth of Taku River.

TALLBOY Very light nylon Staysail set behind Spinnaker to increase sail thrust and lessen pitching motion resulting from Running before wind.

TANG 1) Metal strap on the Mast to which a Stay or Block is Secured. 2) Something you can drink at sea with orange flavor.

TANGENT (TAN) Trigonometric function expressing the length of the opposite side divided by the length of the adjacent side of a right triangle. $Tan\ gent = \frac{Y (vertical)}{X (horizontal)} = \frac{Opposite}{Adjacent}$

TAN⁻¹ Arctangent = Tan^{-1} = $1 / Tan$

TAPS 1) Tat-too is signal given for soldiers to extinguish lights, retire to their barracks or quarters, to put out their fire and candle and go to bed. Public houses are at same time, to shut their doors, and sell no more liquor that night. 2) Custom of sounding taps at funerals. Bugle call possibly composed by General Daniel Butterfield, commander of a brigade in Army of the Potomac, in July 1862. From Dutch 'taptoe', time to close up all taps and taverns in garrisoned towns.

TAP THE ADMIRAL The order given when the shipboard supply of brandy is down to the last keg in order to have more.

See Nelson's Blood.

TAR 1) Distillation of wood or coal employed from earliest times to waterproof wood, textiles and yarns of Ropes. 2) Nickname, term of affectionate regard or slang term for any sailor. From seafarer's custom of treating clothing with this as protection against elements. See Jack, Jack Tar, Old Tar, Tar, Jack Tar, Tarpaulin.

TARE Refers to the empty weight of the shipping container without any contents. See Gross and Net.

TARGET Radar echo from object about which information is being sought. See Contact.

TARIFF 1) A bribe or 'contribution' paid with cargo to Moors or pirates in the port of Tari'fa to allow ships to pass unmolested through the Straits of Gibraltar. 2) List of all charges or duties for moving freight from one point to another or paid on imports and exports. 3) List of prices and charges.

TARPAULIN 1) Sheet of canvas or covering coated with tar to make it waterproof. 2) Sea bred captain after he was appointed to man of war. Later shortened to 'tar'. See Tar. 3) Broad brimmed hat made of tar impregnated cloth worn by sailors. See Jack Tar.

TATTOO Skin decoration produced by the injection of colored dye or pigments. Introduced to western world by Captain Cook who described it as 'tattowing' after visit to Tahiti. From the Tahitian word, 'tatua', to prick.

TAUT Tight.

TEAM Collective or plural name for ducks in flight. See Paddling.

TEATOTALER Total abstainer from alcoholic drink. Borrowed from sea but with obscure nautical origins.

TEHUANTEPECER Violent Squally wind from North or North-Northeast in Gulf of Tehuantepec South of southern Mexico in winter. Originates in Gulf of Mexico as Norther which crosses Isthmus and blows through gap between Mexican and Guatamalan mountains. Can be felt up to 100 miles out to sea. See Papagayo.

TELL IT TO THE MARINES (THE SAILORS WON'T BELIEVE IT)

1) Statement or expression of cynical disbelief. 'Come on now, I just cannot believe it!' Off duty sailors would amuse themselves by telling far fetched stories. Disbelieving sailor, not able to swallow one of these tall tales would utter the phrase aimed insultingly at marines who were assigned to warships to keep order and not well liked. They were generally considered by sailors as less intelligent, more gullible and less well informed. See Marines.

2) Submitting a doubtful statement to wise and experienced marine for them to pass judgement upon.

TELL TALE (S) Pieces or Yarn, audio cassette tape, ribbon or other lightweight material attached, tied or mounted to parts of boat, Shrouds, Rigging, Mast or sewn to Sails. Used to determine, help judge or indicate Wind direction angle and help Trim or Steer.

TEMPERATURE Amount of heat present in a substance, commonly measured in degrees Fahrenheit or Celsius.

TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT Make big fuss over a trifle. AKA storm in a wash basin and storm n a cream bowl.

TENDER 1) Small boat used by itself or accompanying a Yacht or other pleasure Vessel and employed to go back and forth to the Shore from a larger Vessel, transporting or ferrying persons, Gear and Supplies. AKA Dinghy. 2) Vessel with a small Metacentric Height and Righting Arm is small. Vessel Heels easily or relatively quickly, is sluggish and rolls slowly. Vessel is said to be this if it is relatively unstable. 3) What you should be to your significant other.

TENDING THE SIDE Piping as ceremony with Side Boys is custom evolving from days when visitors were hoisted aboard by use of Boatswain's Chair. Pipe was used for commands "hoist away" and "avast heaving." Members of crew of host ship did hoisting. It is from the aid they rendered in Tending The Side that custom originated of having a certain number of men or SideBoys present. In time it became a courtesy for high ranking officers and diplomatic officials to honored by sideboys and piping ceremony.

TENSILE STRENGTH Load, in pounds of pull, at which a Rope, Chain or other item would break.

TERRESTRIAL POLE North and South Poles.

TERRITORIAL SEAS Waters in a belt three nautical miles wide, that is adjacent to the coast and seaward of territorial sea baseline.

TEST (Radio) Testing of radio-telephone equipment.

TETHER Line attached between a person's safety harness and a secure part of the boat.

T FLAG Transportation flag, signal flag Hoisted as a signal requesting a Tender or launch service.

THALWIND Pleasant valley breeze in Germany.

THAT IS CORRECT RT Prowords for correct.

THAT WON'T HOLD WATER 1) Vessel which leaks.
2) Argument that is wrong.

THE LEAD See Lead Line.

THERE'S A DEAD CAT ON THE LINE Something suspicious or wrong. From fishing for catfish and checking the trotlines with its many hooks.

THERMOGRAPH Instrument which measures and records air temperature.

THERMOMETER Instrument used to measure the degree of heat.

THEODOLITE Telescopic instrument for following rising objects in the air. Measures horizontal and vertical angles, to provide data to compute direction and speed of upper winds.

THIEFING Determine the amount of water in a petroleum cargo tank.

THIMBLE Round or heart shaped metal Fitting, iron or wooden ring or plastic eye, with deep score or grooved on outside surface, around which fiber, synthetic or wire rope is Nipped and spliced to make a hard Eye. Used in Rigging or for a Rope Grommet forming a reinforced place of attachment. Worked into an Eye Splice to protect eye, Line or wire against wear on eye splice of Rope or Chafe and destructive effects of link or Shackle Pin passing through Eye.

THIS IS RT Prowords for from.

THOLES Pegs fitted to Gunwales of open boats to serve as Rowlocks.

THREE FOLD PURCHASE Tackle made up of two triple Sheave Blocks.

THREE MILE LIMIT Traditional distance offshore of a country's territorial border based on the ability to defend such waters by the range of a shore based smooth bore cannon. Not to be confused with Three Mile Island.

THREE ROWS OF TAPE Used collar of British bluejacket's jumper was authorized in 1857. Originally, it was suggested two rows of white, but for no reason Admiralty decided on three. Idea of commemorating Nelson's three victories was never mentioned at the time. Therefore, three lines on the collar of a bluejacket's blouse are selected for decorative effect and have no special significance

THREE SHEETS TO THE WIND 1) Refers to primary lines used to control sails. When Sheets (main sheet and two jib sheets) are cast to wind, let go or running free out of control, it would cause sails to lose their wind, flap and flutter. Sailing ships would then shudder and stagger out of control thereby pushing ship wherever wind takes it. Resulting track would be same as that of a drunken Sailor, out of control. If ship was caught with Sheets in Wind as she goes from one tack to another, sails would flap and ship would wallow and stagger like a drunk. 2) Intoxicated state or drunk person who can barely navigate or control themselves. From analogy of drunken sailor staggering about compared to Sheets which are not Secured, loosened or allowed to run free and thus Sails are flapping or flying free and fluttering in wind without restraint and Ship reels and staggers like drunken person. Even if drunken sailor was given Three Sheets, he still could not steady or control himself on a regular Course. 3) On land, windmills have four sails which are covered with sheets of fabric. Windmill turns at full speed with four 'sheets' (sails) exposed to wind but will work more efficiently in brisk winds with only two 'sheets'. If you put up only three sheets to the wind the windmill will be unstable, wobbling on its axis like a drunken sailor. At sea, sheets should never be confused with sails. See One Sheet To The Wind. See Shaking a Cloth In The Wind and Being Over The Bay.

THREE STRAND TURK'S HEAD Type of woven knot make by working one or more pieces of small Line around a cylindrical object like a Stanchion or handrail.

Used as finishing trim or as a grip Knot on a manrope and is designated according to the number of its Strands which are worked over and under each other.

THROAT 1) Forward upper corner of four sided Fore and Aft Sail or part immediately behind Jaws of Gaff, point where Throat Halyard attaches.

THROUGH STRAKES Strakes running through in a continuous line from the Stem to the Stern. See Drop Strakes and Stealer Plate.

THROW COLD WATER ON (SOMETHING), TO Discourage plan or practice. See Cold Pig and Hydrotherapy.

THRUMMING Working mass of tarred Yarn on Sail cloth round Hull of Vessel and Securing it by Chains or Ropes to cover leak and to prevent water from entering Vessel.

THRUST Propulsion or push exerted by a propeller.

THRUST BEARING Bearing through which the thrust of the Propeller is transmitted to the Hull.

THRUST BLOCK Solid casting with rings that fit between rings on one section of the propeller shaft that are designed to absorb the forward thrust or pressure in a forward direction resulting from the forward action of the propeller.

THUNDERSTORM Heavy massive cloud (Cumulonimbus) with towering development, often spreading out in an anvil shape at the top. Cloud contains strong updrafts / downdrafts and is accompanied by heavy Showers, frequent Hail, lightning and thunder.

THWART Athwartshp's or crossways plank, seat or brace running laterally in boat and set just below Gunwale. Used as seat and usually contributing to structural strength, keeping sides apart in rowboat or other small open boat.

TICKET Certificate of competence awarded to Ship's officer with required practical experience in terms of service and theoretical knowledge proved by examination.

TIDAL BORE Abrupt, churning, foaming wall or water or high wave that travels up an Estuary or occurs in certain rivers at certain times of the year. Caused by the

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crest of an ocean's flood Tide wave whose Depth and/or width is restricted by narrows it must pass through.

TIDAL CURRENT Horizontal inflow and outflow of water or regular Current that is caused by and accompanies rise and fall of Tide. Occur in three different types; a) Reversing, b) Rotary, c) Hydraulic.

TIDAL DATUM Level from which charted Depths and elevations are measured.

TIDAL RANGE Difference in depth of water between high and low Tide.

TIDAL WAVE Improper, inaccurate, incorrect and wrong description of a Tsunami.

TIDE (S) Periodic, alternate and vertical rise and fall of sea or ocean water level and waters affected by ocean due to or caused by moon's and sun's gravitational forces or pull. From Old English 'tid', meaning time or extent of time. Originally a synonym for time. See Apogean, Current, Equatorial, Highest Astronomical, Lowest Astronomical, Mean High Water Neap, Mean High Water Spring, Mean Low Water Neap, Mean Low Water Spring, Neap, Perigean, Spring, Tropic.

TIDE, HEIGHT OF Vertical distance from chart sounding or Tidal Datum to water surface at any stage of Tide.

TIDE OVER 1) Method of working tides. Anchoring while awaiting outgoing tide since some ships might make little or no progress against incoming tidal stream and prevailing wind. Wait for next opportunity to make progress on flowing tide. AKA tide it out during a lull. 2) Rest up, bide time and let difficulties sort themselves out.

TIDE, RANGE OF Difference in height between consecutive high and low waters.

TIDE RIP Line of rough water where a fast moving Tidal Current meets stationary or contrary moving water.

TIDE, RISE OF Vertical distance from chart sounding datum to higher water datum.

TIDE RODE Vessel is this when it is at anchor and Stemming the Current.

TIDE TABLES Set of data giving the times and heights of high and low tides for one or more locations.

TIDY Well arranged and methodical as associated with tides which are predictable and ordered.

TIE See Ties, Sail and Stop.

TIED IN REEF Reef secured by tying Cringles to the Boom as against Roller Reef. AKA Jiffy Reef or Slab Reef.

TIE IT OFF 1) To quit work for the day. 2) To let something remain as it is.

TIER Hollow space in coil of rope.

TIES, SAIL Lengths of rope, webbing, etc. used to Secure Sails when furled, often along Boom. AKA Sail Gaskets.

TIGHT LEECH Leech pulled down so hard that it forms a straight line between the Head and the Clew.

TILLER Wooden or metal arm, handle, bar, lever or steering instrument, attached to top of Rudder or Rudder Post or inserted in Head of Rudder. It controls position of or turns Rudder or outboard motor, allows it to be turned side to side and so steers craft. Works manually or mechanically to impart necessary angle to Rudder which will enable Vessel to Sail her desired Course.

TILLER EXTENSION Device attached to the end of the Tiller that enables a person to sit farther Outboard while steering.

TIMBER (S) Various members employed in building wooden Vessel, with particular reference to Ribs.

TIMBERHEAD Mooring Bitt.

TIMBER HITCH Knot employed to Secure Rope to upright. Useful when towing Spars or where quick fastening is needed to lift timber, casing, pipe, rails or to temporarily secure a line to Spar.

TIME RT Proword for what follows is the time or a date-time group.

TIME AND TIDE WATETH FOR NO MAN Seize the day.

TIME DIFFERENCE (TD) Difference in time of arrival (measured in microseconds) of two Loran signals, one from the master transmitting station and the other from one of the secondary transmitting stations.

TIME ZONES Earth is divided into 24 hourly Time Zones, each having a width of 15° of Longitude, starting at 0° Longitude at Greenwich or Prime Meridian. Time Zones are numbered as Zone Descriptions.

TIN CANS Nickname for American destroyers because they were the smallest, thinnest armored fleet Vessels.

TINKER Young mackerel. AKA Blinker or Spike.

TIPS 1) Bribes paid to local officials and thugs for protecting cargo and logged in the ship's manifest as 'To Insure Perfect Service'. 2) Money for services performed, a gratuity to those serving us. Please note: there is only one 't' in this word.

TIPPING CENTER See Longitudinal Center of Flotation (LCF)

TLT Temporary Light.

TO RT Proword for action addressee.

TOADY Totally subservient person. From 'toad eaters' or a medicine man's fawning assistants who ate toads and were 'cured' by worthless tonic in front of amazed audiences.

TOE RAIL Low Bulwark on a small, Decked boat. See Gunwale.

TOE THE LINE Space between each pair of deck planks in wooden ship was filled with a packing material called "oakum" and then sealed with mixture of pitch and tar. Result was series of parallel lines half-foot or so apart, running length of Deck. Once a week, usually on Sunday, warship's crew was ordered to fall in at quarters. Each group would line up in formation on given area of Deck. To insure neat alignment of each row, sailors were directed to stand with toes just touching particular seam. Another use seams was punitive. Youngsters, ship's boys or student officers might be required to stand with toes just touching designated seam for length of time as punishment for minor infraction of discipline, such as talking or fidgeting at wrong time.

Tough captain might require miscreant to stand there, not talking, in fair weather or foul, for hours at a time. Hopefully, they would learn it was easier and more pleasant to conduct themselves in required manner than suffer punishment. From these uses of deck seams comes our caution to obstreperous youngsters to "toe the line."

TOGGLE Metal or wood Fitting fixed crosswise through a Line or wire, or through an Eye or a Bight drawn through an Eye. Often inserted between a Stay and the Mast or Turnbuckle, or the Turnbuckle and the Chain Plate, to keep the Turnbuckle from bending.

TOGGLE AND BECKET Length of thin Rope with loop or Becket at one end and wooden pin or Toggle at other. Used for temporary lashings on Sails, Standing Rigging, Tiller, etc.

TON 1) Unit used in measuring weight or the carrying capacity or burden of a ship. Ships were measured and assessed according to the number of 'tuns' they could carry. Space occupied by a Ton (formerly spelled 'tun' from the French word 'tonneau') was 252 old wine gallons, eventually standardized at 2,240 pounds (long ton), then 2,000 pounds (short ton). 2) Its amount of cargo or freight. See Gross Tonnage and Net Tonnage.

TONGUE Metal attachment extension on boat trailer.

TONGUE JACK 1) Lifting device that allows raising and lowering Tongue to fit easily on hitch ball. 2) Nickname for a very popular sailor.

TONNAGE Measure of capacity or displacement of Vessel. See Gross Tonnage and Net Tonnage.

TOOK THE WIND OUT OF HIS SAILS Often we use this term to describe getting best of opponent in argument. Originally it described battle maneuver of sailing ships. One ship would pass close to its adversary and on its Windward side. Ship and sails would block wind from second vessel, causing it to lose Headway. Losing motion meant losing maneuverability and ability to carry on fight.

TOOTHPICK Elongated marlinspike or long tapered pin used to prevent the ratchet, link or wires from turning or rotating as you tighten them.

TOP Part of Masts from Hounds upward. See Fighting Top. Semicircular platform which rests upon Crosstrees at Head of lower Mast. It serves to spread Topmast shrouds, so as to form greater angle to mast and

support it better. Tops are named after Mast to which they belong, e.g. foretop, maintop, mizzenmast.

TOP DRAWER Ship's documents and important papers were always kept in the top drawer.

TOPGALLANT Square sail extended above Topsails in same manner as Topsails are extended above lower Yards.

TOPGALLANT MAST Third section of Mast from Deck upward, between Topmast and Royals. Giving its name to all Rigging, Sails, Yards, etc.

TOPGALLANT SAILS Sails carried from Topgallant Mast.

TOP HAMPER Collectively, all gear carried above Decks by Vessel; Masts, Rigging, Yards, Sails, etc.

TOPESS LADIES Bare breasted women are which are traditionally said to calm stormy seas. I figure it can't hurt to ask even when at Beaufort Zero. Either we are in a storm or a storm is coming. See Figurehead.

TOPMAST Second section of Mast from Deck upward qualified by Mast from which it rises; Fore, Main, Mizzen. Next Spar above Lower Mast and below Topgallant Mast.

TOPOGRAPHY Physical features, shapes and contours of land surfaces.

TOPPING LIFT 1) Running Rigging Line or wire rope from Mast to take up weight and hold, lift up or control Boom, Derrick, Spinnaker Pole or Spar up and off Deck when not in use, controlling its height. Enables these items to be 'topped' (raised on one end) to the desired angle. AKA Boom Lift.

TOPSAILS On Square Rigged Ships, Sails carried on Topmasts immediately above courses and which take their name from Mast on which they were set; Fore, Main, Mizzen. Sometimes because of their size they were divided into Upper and Middle or Lower Topsails.

TOPSAIL, GAFF Topsail set on Gaff.

TOPSAIL, JACK Triangular Sail set on Yard called Jack which is hoisted close to Mast and extends above it.

TOPSAIL, JIB Jib set on Topmast Forestay.

TOPSAIL, JIB HEADED Triangular Topsail.

TOPSAIL, MAIN On Fore And Aft Rigged Vessels, they are set immediately above Mainsail.

TOPSAILS, UPPER See Topsails.

TOPSIDE On or above weather Deck as opposed to below Deck. Dead works or that part of Hull above Waterline.

TOPSIDES Outer sides/surface of Vessel or portion of Vessel's shell plating above Waterline or between Waterline and Deck.

TOP, TO Raise one end of Yard as near vertical as possible in relation to plane of Deck to allow it to traverse without interruption by stays. Accomplishing by Topping Lift.

TORNADO Most violent of all storms. Rapidly whirling intense circulation of low pressure air, usually funnel-shaped, accompanied by lightning, considerable noise, and destructive winds. See Waterspout.

TORPEDO 1) Electric ray or torpedo fish. From Latin, 'torpere', to be stiff or numb. 2) Stationary explosive mine. 3) Name of self propelled mines because they resembled actions of electric ray, stunning all that came into contact.

TORPEDO JUICE Potent drink from alcohol drained from Navy torpedoes.

TOSS OARS Raise Oars of boat and hold them vertical in air, with blades parallel with Keel of Boat.

TOUCH AND GO 1) Running two person barge which was unable to Sound depth of water into side of a river or channel until it 'Touched' the bottom, then promptly Tacking. Usually momentum was sufficient to ensure they kept going but would sometimes go Aground. 2) Rounding ship very narrowly to escape rocks, etc. or when she rubs against ground with Keel. 3) Ship that makes very short stay in Port while en route to final destination. 4) Said of anything within an ace of ruin. Highly uncertain, 'iffy' or precarious situation. Element of risk is implicit when using the phrase. 5) Briefing landing, then immediately taking off from an aircraft carrier.

- TOUCHING BOTTOM** Aground.
- TOUCH IT WITH A 10 FOOT POLE** To keep at a distance. From 10 foot long bare poles that river boatmen used to push their craft along in shallow water or to fend off things..
- TOWBOAT** Specialized Vessel specifically designed for Towing barges in sheltered waters such as canal and rivers by pushing ahead and can usually only tow other Vessels astern with great difficulty. See Tugboat.
- TOWING** Pulling a Vessel through the water, as a Tow boat pulls a barge or a Yacht club Tender pulls one or more racing Sailboats. Also an assistance or rescue maneuver.
- TOXIC** Poisonous.
- TRACK (TRK)** 1) Metal or plastic Rigging Fitting, used to control Spars, Blocks and other Rigging parts. 2) Intended horizontal direction of travel or Course on earth a boat travels over the ground that considers known or predicted offsetting effects such as Current, Wind and seas. Path, normally shown on a Chart, between one position and another, such as a Dead Reckoning Track. 3) Your direction of travel relative to a ground position (same as COG). 4) Something that a train, and hopefully not your boat, rides on.
- TRADE WINDS** Tropical belt of regular, easterly winds extending from equatorial regions to approximately 25⁰ - 35⁰ N/S Latitude (depending upon the season) in both hemispheres.
- TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME (TSS)** Plan, generally internationally agreed on, by which Vessels in congested areas use one way lanes to lessen the danger of collisions. Shipping corridors established by the International Maritime Organization and marked by Buoys which separate incoming from outgoing vessels. Incorrectly called sea lanes.
- TRAFFIC SEPARATION ZONE** Area between opposite flowing shipping Lanes restricted to most Navigation.
- TRAMONTANA** Northeasterly or Northerly winder wind off West Coast of Italy. Fresh wind of fine weather Mistral type.
- TRAILERABLE** Capable of being towed behind a car on a trailer. AKA Trailable.
- TRAMP** Cargo ship that carries any freight and goes anywhere that is profitable. Ship that is not restricted to a regular run or to one type of Cargo.
- TRANSOM (S)** 1) Athwartship portion of Hull at Stern or Stern facing of Hull , Athwartships running surface, outer side or Transverse part at Stern. Stern cross section or squared off section of Stern. 2) Crossbeams attached to Sternpost.
- TRANSOM KNEES** Connects Transoms to sides of Vessel.
- TRANSOMS, DECK** Highest Transoms which has Deck Planking recessed into it.
- TRANSOMS, HELM** Transom above Wing Transom.
- TRANSOMS, WING** Lowest Transoms.
- TRAP** An arrested carrier landing.
- TRAPEZE** Wire hanging from a racing Dinghy's Mast, from which a crew member wears a harness with a hook and is suspended or attached in order to add righting moment to counteract Heeling forces.
- TRAVELER** 1) Rings made of wood, metal or other materials used to Bend Sails or Stays or Spars along which they travel by means of hooks, catches or slides. 2) Side to side or Athwartships running track which contains sliding car or fitting to which Mainsheet is attached by Blocks. By adjusting location of car, crew can change Mainsail's Angle of Attack to Wind or keep Boom in same place as it is moved in and out. AKA Horse.
- TRAVERSE** Wing Yards of Square Rigged Ship round Axis of Mast by Bracing them.
- TRAVERSE BOARD** Navigation instrument used to Chart speed and direction of wind. Measurement is taken every thirty minutes while on Watch.
- TREENAIL** Wooden bolt used to connect Planking of wooden Vessel with her Timbers.
- TRESTLETREES** On Square Rigged Ships with Masts made of more than one section, they are two pieces of Timber running Fore And Aft supported by Hounds of lower Mast and supporting Crosstrees. Foot of Upper Mast

passed between them and was secured by Fid which passed through both.

TRIANGULAR TRADE Ships carried New England rum to Africa on first passage, traded from for slaves which were transported to West Indies on Middle Passage and then molasses and sugar were brought back to New England.

TRIATIC STAY Stay from Mainmast to Foremast Head in Schooner, Ketch or Yawl.

TRICE Draw up Rope or Sail by means of Tricing Lines.

TRICING LINES See Trice.

TRICK Period during which person is on duty at Wheel or elsewhere. AKA Spell of duty.

TRIM, TRIMMED 1) Set, pull in, ease or adjust Sails by means of Sheets and certain other Rigging Lines such as pulling in Sheet. 2) Position or Set of Sails relative to Wind. 3) Difference between Vessel's Draft Forward and Draft Aft as seen by comparing Draft Markings. Fore And Aft deviation of Vessel from designed waterline at given Draft. Condition of ship with reference to longitudinal position in water. Way in which Vessel Floats; on an even Keel or Trimmed by Head (Bow) or Stern, Fore And Aft angle or Bow down / Bow up attitude of ship when she's at rest and not moving, similar to Heel. Adjustable by shifting Ballast. 4) Dispose Boats load, Masts and Sails so that Centers Of Gravity and of Buoyancy are in same vertical plane and Ship is stable and answers Helm.

TRIM, OUT OF Vessel with permanent Heel.

TRIMARAN Multihull boat with three Hulls.

TRIMS HIS SAILS 1) Sailor taking advantage of prevailing winds. 2) Opportunist in everyday life, one who is skillful in shifting their principles with prevailing winds, without regard to anyone else.

TRIM THE SAILS Brace yards and Sheet Sails so that they take full advantage of wind and produce best performance of which Vessel is capable in those conditions.

TRIP Break loose.

TRIP LINE 1) Line attached or made fast to Crown of an Anchor and used to free it in event Anchor becomes fouled. It is means of which Anchor can be hauled out when dug too deeply or fouled. 2) Similar Line used on Sea Anchor to bring it Aboard.

TRIPPING 1) Raising Topmast with with tripping lines so that Fid may be removed when Mast is struck. 2) Tug towed sideways or capsized by the momentum of her tow. AKA Girding.

TRISAIL See Trysail.

TRLB Abbreviation for 'Temporarily replaced by lighted Buoy'.

TROLL Winch. From Middle French, 'troller', to go in quest of game.

TROLLEY LINE Line which hauls a Breeches Buoy back and forth.

TROLLING Fish or angle with running Line (originally run on Troll), or to trail baited line behind Boat.

TROPICAL STORM Cyclonic Storm with winds between 35 and 64 knots.

TROPICS Portion of earth situated between Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, spanning Equator.

TROPIC TIDE Diurnal Tides that occur when the moon is at its maximum declination, either north or south. Opposite of Equatorial Tides.

TROPICAL CYCLONE Non-frontal, warm-core, low pressure system of synoptic scale, developing over tropical or subtropical waters with definite organized convection (thunderstorms) and a well defined surface wind circulation.

TROPICAL DEPRESSION Tropical Cyclone with one or more closed isobars and one minute max sustained surface wind of less than 34 knots (39 mph).

TROPICAL STORM Tropical Cyclone with closed isobars and a one minute max sustained surface wind of 34 knots (39 mph) to 63 knots (73 mph).

TROUGH 1) Depression, hollow or low part between Crests of two waves or seas. 2) Line or elongated area of relatively low pressure usually extending out from center of low pressure and separating areas of

high pressure. It is typically associated with cyclonic wind shift. Opposite of Ridge. Fronts are located in Troughs.

TRUB Acronym for 'Temporarily replaced by an unlighted Buoy'.

TRUCK (S) 1) Circular disk or flattened metal or wooden cap fixed over upper end of mast at masthead and with pair of holes in it through which Halyards are Rove. 2) Hard wooden beads extending from ends of Jaws or Gaff or Boom so that together they encircle Mast. 3) Short strings of these were held vertically between Ribs or narrow Battens secured to Yard so as to embrace Mast.

TRUDGEN STROKE First successful swimming action with above water arm strokes. Name after John Trudgen.

TRUE Relative to true North as opposed to Magnetic.

TRUE BLUE 1) Sailor's term for honest, hearty sailor true to their uniform and uniformly true, referring either to color of deep blue sea or that of a naval uniform. 2) Honest, loyal or staunch.

TRUE COLORS Showing your correct national flag. See Show His True Colors.

TRUE COURSE (Cn) Vessel's Course, as expressed in Degrees or Points (0° - 360° True), relative to the direction of the earth's geographic North Pole. Course corrected for Variation and Deviation, one that is referenced to geographic North. See Initial Course.

TRUE NORTH Geographic North. Direction of North Pole from current position. Magnetic compasses are slightly incorrect due to effects of the Earth's magnetic field. GPS units correct for magnetic influences. See Magnetic North and Variation.

TRUE NORTH POLE North end of earth's axis. AKA North Geographic Pole. Direction indicated by 000° (or 360°) on true Compass Rose.

TRUE WIND Wind's actual direction from which wind is blowing and strength or force felt by a stationary object. See Apparent Wind.

TRUNK 1) Vertical shaft or duct for the passage of pipes, wires or other devices. 2) Large

enclosed passageway through any Deck or Bulkhead of a Vessel.

TRYSAIL 1) Small Storm Sail bent on Square Riggers to Trysail Mast, Spar abaft Foremast and Mainmast. 2) In Fore And Aft rigs, it is Gaff Sail without Boom.

TSUNAMI Fast moving sea wave caused by submarine or underwater earthquake or volcanic eruption. From Japanese for 'overflowing wave' or 'storm wave'. Erroneously called tidal waves.

TUB 1) Temporary unlighted Buoy. 2) Old, decrepit and small boat.

TUFA Porous rocky deposit sometimes formed in strams and in the ocean near the mouths of rivers.

TUG Short for Tugboat.

TUGBOAT Vessel primarily designed for Hawer or Astern towing. See Towboat.

TUMBLE HOME Upward and inward curve, slope or curvature (instead of vertical or almost vertical) of a some, but not all, vessel's sides, hull or topsides above waterline. Common on early vessels because the curvature made it too difficult for pirates to board. Opposite of flare.

TUNE, TUNING Adjustment of a boat's Riggig, Sails and Hull to the proper balance to assure the best sailing performance, efficiency and a straight Mast if desired. Term is also used for engine adjustments.

TUNNEL Watertight Tnnels are used in shipbuilding to house Sahft of screw, electric wiring, etc.

TUNNEL HULL Hull with tunnel shaped for the Propeller to reduce Draft.

TURBINE Type of marine engine that consiste of large rotor covered with blades onto which steam is directed, causing rotor to turn, whihc then turns propeller by means of a shaft.

TURBULENCE Unsettled, agitated state of motion as relates to rising vertical currents of air.

TURN (TRN) 1) One loop of Rope around item such as Cleat. 2) Degrees which must be

added to or subtracted from current heading to reach course to intended waypoint, usually indicated by GPS.

TURN A BLIND EYE Ignore intentionally, possibly to warnings. From Admiral Nelson who deliberately placed his telescope to his blind eye during Battle of Copenhagen so he could not see order to break off action with enemy. He ignored the order and achieved stunning victory.

TURNBUCKLE Threaded, adjustable, link, adjuster or Rigging Fitting that pulls two Eyes together and tightens rigging. Used for setting up Standing Rigging, tension Stays, Shrouds, Lifelines and adjust a Stay's length or sometimes other Rigging. AKA Rigging Screw.

TURN IN Turn end of Rope back upon itself, forming loop or Eye.

TURNING BLOCK Horizontally mounted Blocks used to redirect a Line on Deck.

TURNING CIRCLE Course followed by a ship's center of gravity when it is turning. The smallest possible circle when the Rudder is hard over.

TURNING ROOM Circumference in which Vessel can revolve its center being Anchor, when latter has been dropped. It will depend upon length of Anchor Cable and depth of water over Ground.

TURN OF THE BILGE Part of exterior between Bottom and the Topsides. See Bilge.

TURN TURTLE See Turtle.

TURTLE 1) Capsized ship position where the Mast is sticking straight down. You probably want to avoid this situation. From observation of Caribbean natives who would capture huge sea turtles by turning them over, thereby rendering them helpless. 2) Bag used to Stow a Spinnaker prior to hoisting.

'TWEEN DECKS Any Deck below the upper Deck and above the Lowest Deck.

TWENTY ONE GUN SALUTE Mark of respect reserved for heads of states. Firing salute indicated that saluter had disarmed themselves. Twenty one guns was the number found on one side of larger ships of line and firing all of them became highest mark of respect with smaller number of guns fired in salutes to people of lesser

importance. Only odd numbers are used, reflecting seagoing superstition against event numbers.

TWINE Small stuff, light Line used for Whippings or Servings. Sail Twine is used for Sewing.

TWIST Amount that the Leech sags off relative to the imaginary straight line between the Clew and Head or the amount the Angle of Attack changes as you look up the sail, from bottom to top.

TWO BLOCK (ED) Raise all the way or fully closed up or raised as far as the Gear permits, as when both Blocks in a Purchase are drawn completely and tightly together so they cannot move any closer. Jammed or locked together. See Chock-a-Block.

TWO BOWLINES Safe, slip proof and convenient way of bending two hawsers together.

TOW FOLD PURCHASE Tackle made up of two double Sheave Blocks.

TWO HALF HITCHES Useful Knot, in which the Hitches are made upon the Standing part of the Line and then drawn up or tightened.

TWO SIX HEAVE The action of Hauling a gun back through its port in preparation for firing after it had been loaded. Performed by gun crew personnel # 2 and believe it or not, # 6.

TYPHOON Tropical revolving storm of high intensity in the Pacific. Force 12 on the Beaufort Scale. Tropical Cyclone with closed contours, a strong and very pronounced circulation, and one minute maximum sustained surface winds of 64 knots (74 mph) or greater. Same as a Hurricane, except located in Pacific west of International Dateline. See Cyclone and Hurricane.