NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA
(AUGUSTA BAY)
FLEET MOORING UNDERWATER INSPECTION REPORT

NOVEMBER 1983

OCEAN ENGINEERING
AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECT OFFICE
CHESAPEAKE DIVISION
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20374

FPO-1-83 (45)
This report contains the results of the inspection of the fleet mooring located in Augusta Bay, Sicily. A CHESNAVFACENGCOM-assigned Engineer-in-Charge and divers from Underwater Construction Team One conducted the inspection from 27-29 September 1983. (Con't)
This mooring was found to be in satisfactory condition for continued use as a class CC fleet mooring. Specific comments concerning the current condition of the mooring are contained herein.
ABSTRACT

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NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA
AUGUSTA BAY
FLEET MOORING UNDERWATER INSPECTION REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background. Under the COMNAVFACENGCOM Fleet Mooring Maintenance (FMM) Program, CHESNAVFACENGCOM has been assigned the responsibility to plan for and conduct periodic diver inspections of fleet moorings worldwide. In carrying out this responsibility, CHESNAVFACENGCOM designated an Engineer-in-Charge (EIC) to provide inspection planning and onsite technical direction for the underwater inspection of the fleet mooring located in Augusta Bay, Sicily. The actual underwater portion of the inspection was performed by the EIC and divers of Underwater Construction Team One (UCT ONE). The inspection of this mooring was conducted during the period 27-29 September 1983.

1.2 General Mooring Description. NAS Sigonella currently operates and maintains a single CC class mooring. The geographical location of Sigonella and Augusta are shown in Figure 1, while the location of the fleet mooring (number A-3) in Augusta Bay is depicted in Figure 2.

The mooring was installed in about 85 feet of water and was last overhauled in October 1980. Figure 3 is a schematic drawing of the mooring design while Figure 4 depicts the latest known as-built configuration of the mooring. In April of 1981, a Yugoslavian freighter struck the buoy while maneuvering to leave port and damaged it below the water line. Italian Navy personnel repaired the damage. There are no available maintenance records and verbal reports indicate that the mooring has not been used during the past two years. The Italian Navy provided two boats with crews for use by the inspection team as diving platforms. The Italian Navy also placed their recompression chamber on standby in event of a diving casualty.

2.0 INSPECTION PROCEDURES

2.1 General. The purpose of the mooring inspection was to determine the general physical condition of the buoy and chain assemblies and to verify or update existing as-built and maintenance records. Divers inspected only a portion of the submerged buoy hull and chain assemblies in order to compile a general description of the mooring's condition. The existence of fairly consistent measurements during this inspection provides a good indication of the mooring's overall condition. It should be kept in mind that periodic underwater inspections are intended as an expedient and relatively inexpensive supplement to accurate maintenance records. As such, they cannot fully substitute for a complete inspection involving recovery of the mooring and the measurement and evaluation of each component.

Chain wire diameter measurements are used to evaluate the condition of a mooring. After cleaning to bare metal, a selective sampling of the wire diameter of chain links and connecting hardware was taken in order to determine the amount of deterioration due to corrosion and wear. "Single link" measurements are taken where chain is slack to detect corrosion loss. "Double link" measurements are taken where two links connect under tension to detect the combined effects of corrosion and wear. Since only the vertical riser assembly was visible, only double link measurements were taken during this inspection. Chain links
FIGURE 1. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF SIGONELLA AND AUGUSTA
FIGURE 2. LOCATION OF AUGUSTA BAY FLEET MOORING A-3
**MOORING SCHEMATIC**

**NOT TO SCALE**

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**DESIGN CRITERIA**

**SITE CONDITIONS (MAX)**

- **Wind**: 65 knots
- **Wave**: 2 feet
- **Tide**: 1 foot
- **Bottom**: Soft clayey silt 12 meters deep above a layer of sandy clay
- **Water Depth**: 75 feet

**DESIGN ASSUMPTION**

The mooring was designed to accommodate a tender (point ahead at 30°) with a CCM moored alongside.

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**SPECIAL NOTE**

The 3½" square cross-section rectangular link chain and the associated joining thimbles furnished from surplus are not of American manufacture because enough detailed information was not available. An accurate determination of the exact dimensions of these two items was not possible. However, comparison of the cross-sectional areas of the square link chain with a 2½" die-forged chain (the standard ground chain for a Class C11 mooring) indicates that adequate strength is available.

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**FIGURE 3. MOORING A-3 SCHEMATIC**
TWO OPEN LINKS 4\" (WORN TO 3\" AT BENDS)

PIN SHACKLE 6\" Ø

NO WEAR PAINTED

END LINK 4\½" Ø

HEAVY MARINE GROWTH
ENTIRE LENGTH

COULD NOT LOCATE SWIVEL

4\" A-LINK

30\'

OPEN LINK

PEAR LINK

56\'

SOLID IRON "SPROCKET TYPE"
JOINING LINK

PEAR LINK

OPEN LINKS

BALDWIN DETACHABLE
OPEN END LINKS
ON EITHER SIDE

84\'

80\'

CHAIN VERTICALLY ENTERS MUD

90\'

NOTE: GROUND RING/GROUND LEGS BURIED

MOORING A-3 RISER AS-BUILT

FIGURE 4. MOORING A-3 AS-BUILT CONFIGURATION
and other components which measure 90 percent or greater of original wire
diameter are considered to be in "good" condition; a measurement between 80 and
90 percent of original diameter is considered "fair" condition and is cause for
the mooring to be downgraded in classification; any measurement less than 80
percent is considered "poor" and is cause for the mooring to be declared un-
satisfactory for fleet use.

Standard underwater inspection procedures do not call for the inspection
of any part of the mooring which has been buried. The riser was observed only
to the point at which it became buried; no attempt was made to locate and inspect
the ground legs, anchors, or other mooring materials which were not visible.

2.2 Buoy

2.2.1 Buoy Topside. The buoy was inspected to determine its general condition.
The buoy markings were checked for conformance to those noted in applicable
charts. The diameter and freeboard of the buoy were recorded.

The buoy's fenders were checked for integrity and secure connection to the
buoy. Buoy top jewelry was measured with calipers to find the overall outside
dimensions and areas of most severe reduction in wire size.

2.2.2 Buoy Lower Portion. Divers inspected the buoy below the waterline. The
thickness of marine growth was recorded, 1-foot-square areas were selected and
cleared of growth without damaging the paint and the condition of the paint was
noted.

2.3 Riser. In order to check for corrosion and wear, double link measurements
were taken near the top of the riser, close to the mudline, and about halfway
in between.

2.4 Ground Ring. Not visible for inspection.

2.5 Ground Legs. Not visible for inspection.

2.6 Anchors. Not visible for inspection.

3.0 INSPECTION SUMMARY

Detailed information concerning the inspection results is contained in
Annex A. Annex B contains reference material including a copy of the prelimi-
nary report of the results of the inspection.

The data gathered during the inspection indicates the following:

- There is no record of mooring usage since 1981.
- The riser consists of various sizes of oversized chain and accessories
  which indicates that available vice designed mooring material components
  were used during the installation of the mooring. All measurements were
  greater than 90 percent of the original wire diameter.
- The ground ring, ground legs, and anchors are buried in the bottom and
  their condition could not be ascertained.
4.0 COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Due to lack of usage, the requirement to operate and maintain this mooring should be reviewed.

- The mooring is in satisfactory condition for continued use as a class CC mooring.
ANNEX A

INSPECTION RESULTS
MOORING A-3
INSPECTION RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Buoy

This is a 7-foot diameter, 13-foot long cylindrical-type buoy with a hawsepip. The buoy is painted and shows no sign of damage. The top jewelry is painted and shows no evidence of usage. The fenders are in good condition.

Riser

The riser is heavily encrusted with marine growth. Several areas were cleaned and double link measurements taken. The riser consists of various sizes of chain and accessories all of which were larger than the 3 1/2 inches required for a class CC mooring. Sizes ranged from 3 5/8 inches to 4 1/8 inches and all measurements were greater than 90 percent of the links' original wire diameter. The riser swivel was not located but could be hidden beneath the heavy mussel growth. The riser drops vertically into the bottom.

Ground Ring/Ground Legs/Anchors

None visible for inspection.

Comments/Recommendations

On the basis of the good condition of the buoy and riser chain, this mooring is considered to be in satisfactory condition for continued use as a CC class mooring.
**MOODING NO.** A-3  **CLASS** CC  **LOCATION** AUGUSTA BAY
**WATER DEPTH:** 84'  **ANCHOR SIZE/TYPE:** NI  **BUOY TYPE:** BUOY WITH HAWSPIPE

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<tr>
<th>BOTTOM TYPE</th>
<th>☑ MUD</th>
<th>☐ CLAY</th>
<th>☐ CORAL</th>
<th>☐ ROCK</th>
<th>Visibility</th>
<th>D = depth</th>
<th>Ni = not inspected, inaccessible</th>
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<td>5'</td>
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**COMPONENTS**  | **NI** | **NEW** | 90+ | 80+ | 80- | 90+ | 80+ | 80- | **CONDITION** | **COMMENT** |
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<td>7' DIAMETER/13' LONG CYLINDER TYPE</td>
<td>BUOY WITH HAWSPIPE: GOOD CONDITION</td>
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<td>SHACKLE</td>
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<td>4&quot;</td>
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<td>TOP JEWELRY PAINTED: GOOD CONDITION</td>
<td>LITTLE WEAR</td>
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<td>OPEN LINK</td>
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<td>10' HEAVY MARINE GROWTH ON RISER. SEVERAL</td>
<td>5'6 DIFFERENT SIZES OF CHAIN AND CONNECTING LINKS, ALL GREATER THAN 3 1/2&quot; CHAIN.</td>
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<td>DUE GROWTH, SWIVEL NOT LOCATED. GROUND RING/GROUND LEGS BURIED</td>
<td>IN BOTTOM, NO ANCHORS VISIBLE</td>
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**NOTE:** LAT/LONG DETERMINED FROM SIGHTINGS ON THREE FIXED LOCATIONS

**DATE:** 29 SEPT 83  **ENGINEER IN CHARGE:** LORR G. SELTZER  **DIVERS:** SELTZER/PEACOCK/DEEN/HILNTRIK/OWICZ

CHESNAVFACENGCOM FPO-1-83(45) “NAS SIGONELLA FM INSPECTION REPORT”
SUBJ: FLEET MOORING INSPECTION, AUGUSTA BAY, IT

1. AS DISCUSSED IN A MEETING BETWEEN LCDR TERRY (NAS APWO) AND LCDR SELTZER (CHESNAVFACENGCOM) ON 29 SEP 83, A CHESNAVFACENGCOM/UCT-ONE UNDERWATER INSPECTION OF THE A-3 MOORING AT AUGUSTA BAY WAS CONDUCTED ON 28-29 SEP 83. THIS IS A PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE INSPECTION RESULTS TO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS.

A. MOORING A-3: OVERSIZED CHAIN FOUND TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION. BUOY IN GOOD CONDITION. BUOY LOCATED IN EXACT POSITION INDICATED ON DMA CHART 53201.
B. PORT LIASON OFFICER REPORTED THAT MOORING HAS NO RECORD OF USAGE SINCE 1981. RECOMMEND REVIEW REQUIREMENT.

2. ANTICIPATE DISTRIBUTION OF DETAILED INSPECTION REPORT IN DECEMBER 1983.

17 APR
FM COMAIR AUGUSTA
TO HAF CACCIARIELLA
INFO
MARIUTA
MARIUSICILIA
CONFAMARE AUGUSTA
BT
UNCLAS 01/5526
NAVAL MIDSHIP
AUGUSTA PORT AUTHORITY HAS REPORTED THAT ON 17 APRIL 81 AT 0100 THE JUGOSLAVIAI
SHIP KUOEVAC HAS STRUCK AGAINST ALPHA BUOY WHILE MANOUVERING TO LEAVE
THE HARBOR. FROM A SURVEY PERFORMED BY ITALIAN NAVY DIVERS IT HAS BEEN
ASCERTAINED A 60 CENTIMETERS CUT BELOW THE WATER LINE OF SUBJECT BUOY.
A SMALL BUOY WITH CABLE HAS BEEN ATTACHED TO MARK THE POSITION OF THE
ALPHA BUOY IN CASE IT SINKS. PORT AUTHORITY HAS ARRANGED TO SECURE
A DEPOSIT BUOY NOT USABLE.
FROM ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS OFFICER
WAP SIGONELLA, SICILY
TO TELEX 0534-53634 WEPIA G
ATTENTION: MR ECCLESTON AND MR KING

IN REPLY TO YOUR TELEX OF 17 JUNE,

REPAIRS TO THE A-3 BOUY POSITIONED AT AUGUSTA PAY ARE REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY, ALL REPAIRS ARE TO BE PERFORMED UNDER YOUR CARE AND GUIDANCE. IF YOU AGAIN FAIL TO COMMENCE REPAIR OF THE BOUY AS PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED IN OUR 20 MAY LETTER AND AGAIN IN OUR 15 JUNE TELEX, WE WILL DIRECT THE HARBORMASTER TO EFFECT REPAIRS WITH OWNED FUNDS CURRENTLY HELD BY HIS OFFICE.

IT SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO YOUR ATTENTION THAT THE CONDITION OF THE BOUY HAS DETERIORATED AND IS IN DANGER OF SINKING AND FURTHER DELAY IN REPAIRING THE BOUY WILL SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE REPAIR COST. YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IN AUGUSTA HAS BEEN INFORMED OF ACTIONS.

53634 WEPIA G
G. M. C. WAPSIG IV
5/55
FROM: ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS OFFICER
HAS SICCELLA SICILY

TO: CAPT NICOLI PAT I
POTER I
AUGUSTA

PFF; ALPH A 3 MOOKING BUOY DAMAGED BY MV PUSREVAC

1. SUBJECT BUOY HAS BEEN RESTORED AND RELOCATED IN ITS PREVIOUS POSITION. REQUEST YOU SURVEY, IN BEHALF OF U.S. NAVY, SAID BUOY AND ADVISE RESULTS OF YOUR INSPECTION. REGRET UNABLE TO HAVE U.S. NAVY REPRESENTATIVE ON SITE. VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR ASSISTANCE EFFORTS OVER THE LAST YEAR.

REGARO, LORD PIZZANO

SINCERELY, SUSAN JONES

970117 POWER I
970112 HASSEIG LOYO
9024