

DO TO SUCH AN OVERWHELMING RESPONSE I HAD WITH THE INFORMATION ON SPLICE THE MAIN BRACE, LAST NOVEMBER.

I HAVE DECIDED TO DO ANOTHER ARTICLE. THIS ONE ON THE SO-CALLED CHIEF'S PEA COAT. THIS IS AFFECTIONALLY REFERED TO AS A REEFER BY THE, OLD TIMERS, OLD SALTS AND THOSE IN THE KNOW. SHOULD YOU WISH TO PURCHASE A REEFER AT YOUR LOCAL NAVY EXCHANGE ASK THE CLERK FOR A REEFER AND THEY WILL GIVE YOU A WINK AND SAY MEET ME OUT BACK IN FIVE. 'SORRY I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF'. IF YOU SPEAK TO A KNOWLEGABLE CLERK THEY WILL

HAND YOU A PEA COAT AND A PACKAGE OF GOLD BUTTONS. AFTER YOU ATTACH THE BUTTONS IT IS A REEFER. E6 AND BELOW WEAR PEA COATS, CHIRFS, SENIOR CHIEFS AND MASTER CHIEFS WEAR REEFERS. JUST BECAUSE THE NAVY DOESN'T ENDORSE TRADITION, DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD GIVE UP.

THE NAVY IS LOSING ANOTHER IDENTIFIABLE PART OF THEIR UNIFORM AND HERITAGE. THE NAVY IS REMOVING THE PEA COAT FROM SALIORS MANDATORY SEABAG LIST IN 2019. IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR AN ABOUT FACE. THERE IS AN ONLINE PETITION AT SAVETHENAVYPEACOA.COM IT WORKED FOR THE RATING BADGE DEBACLE A WHILE BACK. I WISH THE NAVY WOULD QUIT CHANGING THE UNIFORMS, THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH THEM. I FOR ONE DON'T LIKE OUR SALIORS LOOKING LIKE SOLDERS. THEY ARE SAILORS AND THEY SHOULD LOOK LIKE IT. JUST ONE CHIEF'S OPINION.

BMC(SS) MICHAEL SHORT  
DON'T BE A HATER

#### YOU DON'T KNOW, WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW

The US Navy Peacoat was adopted during the early 20th Century, from Britain's Royal Navy Reefer Jacket. The Royal Navy's first regulations for uniforms for other ranks were issued in 1857, a century after the regulations for officers and this garment was originally used by Midshipmen (Reefers). These crewmen had to climb the rigging and furl and unfurl, or 'reef', the sails of the sailing ships of the era. The jacket was short, to allow ease of movement through the rigging. It had a double-breasted front, which displaced the buttons to each side. This helped reduce the chance of them getting caught on ropes, as the wearer maneuvered the sails. The pockets were often close to vertical, and over the flanks, rather than horizontal and at wrist level. It was made of very heavy wool, in dark Navy blue, with a nap on the face side.