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**Arctic Patrol  
2015**

**PART TWO**



**ALEX HALEY WORKS  
WITH CANADIAN  
MARITIME FORCES**



**SHELL AND MARITIME  
STEWARDSHIP**



**COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH IN NOME**

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# THE BULLDOG

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OS3 Cameron  
Howells looks upon  
the Arctic Ocean.

# ALEX HALEY Welcomes Our New Executive Officer!

What a great way to introduce myself to the crew and families of ALEX HALEY. I enjoyed reading the ongoings over the last year in previous Bulldog editions. My family and I took a month to make our way from Petaluma, California as we moved up to Kodiak this summer. This is our third tour in Alaska and first impressions are terrific. I don't know too many places that are better to serve in the Coast Guard, especially underway in Alaskan waters.

While aboard, I hope to learn the crew's personal and professional goals. If I start my time as XO with them in mind, I hope we can tie those ambitions into our duties and responsibilities. I am a strong advocate for folks who are ambitious, motivated, and creative. I know there are many reasons within the assignment system that brought each of you to Kodiak. I'll devote every day to helping you get the best of your time here, to striking that vital work-life balance, and when the time comes to leave, you'll have some great memories of our time together.



**LCDR GREG HAAS, ALEX HALEY'S  
NEW "XO"**

## *LDCR Haas*



LCDR Haas has immersed himself in all areas of ALEX HALEY, from morale to training to Operations.

## ALEX HALEY WORKS WITH CANADIAN MARITIME FORCES



ALEX HALEY'S CO and AVDET take a photo with Canadian Maritime Forces.

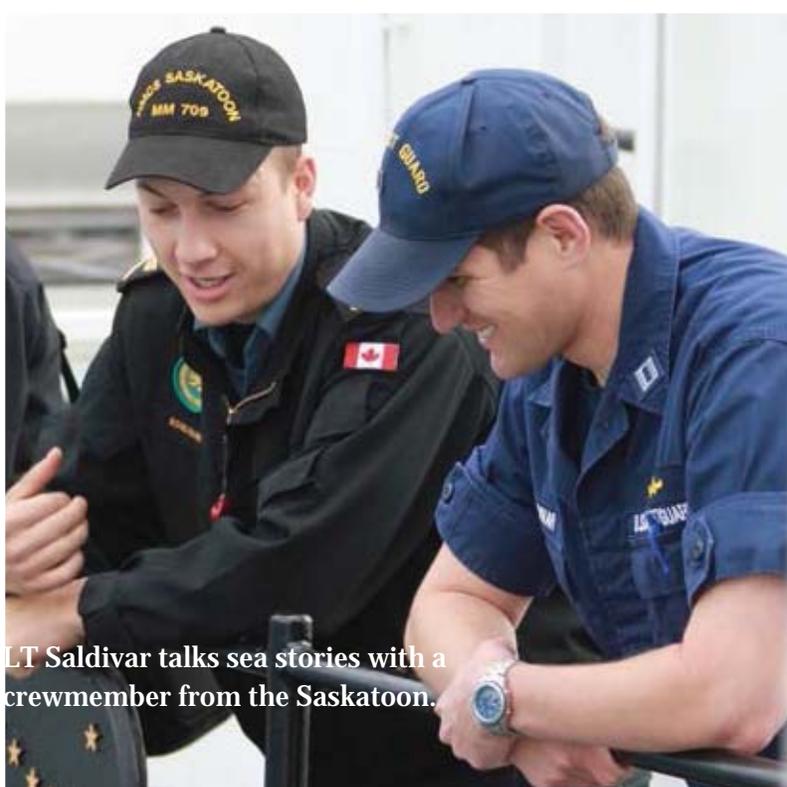


While operating in the Arctic, ALEX HALEY conducted joint operations with two Canadian Minesweepers, the HMS Saskatoon and HMS Nanaimo. In the morning, the vessels swapped crew members for tours, discussion, and operation planning. After a morning of planning, the vessels conducted Rescue and Assistance (R&A) drills in the afternoon. These drills involve a simulated vessel in distress, and an R&A team being deployed to combat the casualty. First, ALEX HALEY simulated a vessel in distress and the Canadian Warships deployed personnel to patch a hole along the waterline. Upon completion, the roles were reversed, and the Canadian ships simulated fishing vessels in distress while ALEX HALEY launched personnel to combat ruptured pipes and flooding in the engine room. Following the successful drills, the ships steamed east in formation through patches of ice in the Arctic Ocean. The next morning, ALEX HALEY launched its embarked helicopter to conduct hoist operations with HMS Saskatoon and HMS Nanaimo. At the conclusion of the helicopter operations, ALEX HALEY turned west to head towards Barrow as the Canadian Minesweepers continued to head east on their mission. This unique operation built partnerships and lasting friendships between the two services.---ENS Andrew Jaeger



**ABOVE: AVIATORS DO HOIST DRILLS WITH CANADIAN MARITIME FORCES**

**BELOW: ALEX HALEY IN FORMATION WITH SASKATOON AND NANAIMO.**



**LT Saldivar talks sea stories with a crewmember from the Saskatoon.**



**Our Canadian friends take a tour of ALEX HALEY.**



**DCC Truelove briefs a drill before it begins.**



**All smiles on a Canadian small boat!**



**CDR Denning exchanges gifts with our guests!**

**Maritime Stewardship /Maritime Safety: SHELL Arctic Drilling Site**



ALEX HALEY spent a good amount of time patrolling the Shell drilling site on this patrol. The mission involves the safety of both mariners and marine life as the company begins its drilling operations in the Arctic.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN NOME

SK1 Mitchell  
and YN1 Fomby



EM1 Campbell

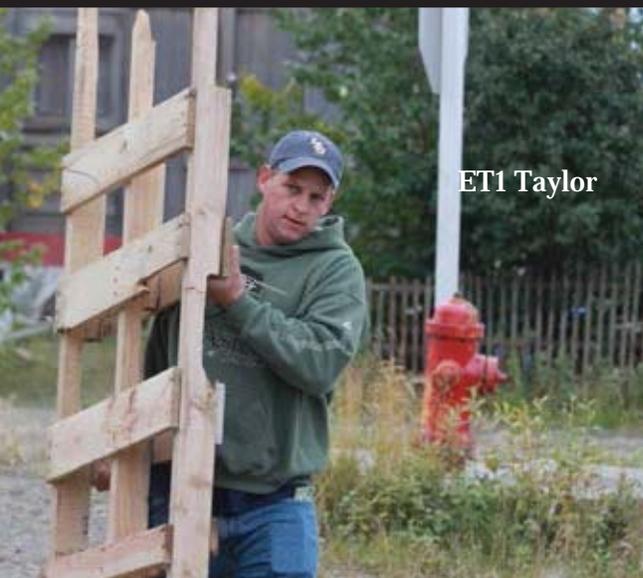
MK1 Brown



Pictured: The first class Petty Officers of ALEX HALEY built a shed and bunk beds for the Children's Center.



MK1 Lirette



ET1 Taylor

One of the many benefits of being a member of the ALEX HALEY's crew is the opportunity to travel to areas which may seem off the beaten path. While up in the Arctic we pulled into Nome, Alaska. Even though Nome is famous for gold and legendary outlaws like Wyatt Earp, it still provides visitors a great chance to explore.

During the Nome port call the crew was able to participate in many awesome and unique opportunities. Some groups crawled around massive abandoned gold dredges from the early 1900s, went on caribou hunts, searched for musk ox, or just explored the town itself. Others participated in local shenanigans like bridge jumping into a river, exploring a haunted orphanage in an abandoned Russian settlement, and relaxing at Pilgrim Hot Springs (which by the way is just a tub filled with the hot earth water. But if you can get past all the algae it actually feels quite nice and the view is great).

The crew also gathered together with the community and played a softball game. Sports in villages like Nome bring people from all ages out to play. ALEX HALEY brought to the field about 20 members while the town had a total of about 50 – 60 kids and adults in attendance. For the kids it was the highlight of the week, if not the month; and for the parents and adults it was a chance to visit with the crew from ALEX HALEY. Nome still remembers when the HALEY came last year. Participating with the community in a relaxed all-ages setting has a positive lasting impression.

Lastly, members of the crew united in a unique community service event. Last year the HALEY participated in a beach cleanup. Yes, this does make the beach look nice, but it does not necessarily have the long lasting cohesive effect desired from a community service event. This year the crew chose to hike out into the tundra and pick berries for elders and senior citizens residing at the local hospital. Not only did this event provide food for the residents, but it also reached out and touched the cultural spirit of giving practiced by the locals.

Overall the Nome port call was a wonderful time to explore, learn, and give back to the community.——ENS Jonathan Jester

# SOFTBALL WITH THE NOME COMMUNITY



A post game photo!

ENS Jester



ENS Palenzuela



OS3 Black



FN Scott



MK3 Sandrelli



ENS Euchler



FN McClintock



MK2 Rivera after hitting a home run!



# PICKING BLUEBERRIES FOR THE SENIOR CENTER!



OS2 Southwell



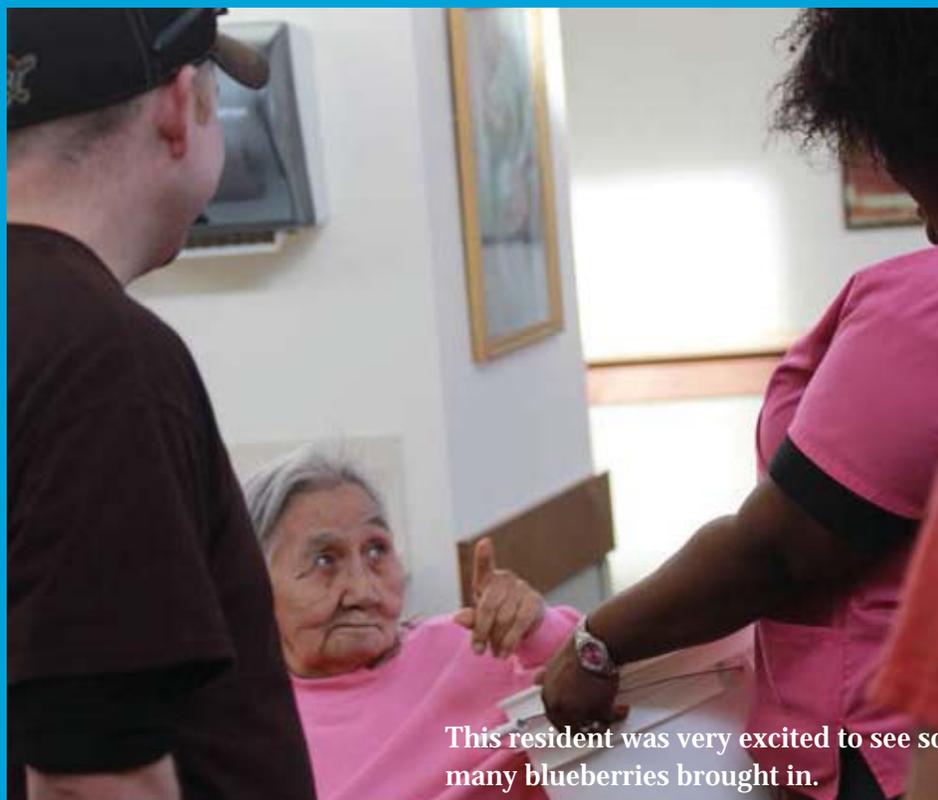
ET2 Montgomery



FS3 Kovac



SN Griggs



This resident was very excited to see so many blueberries brought in.

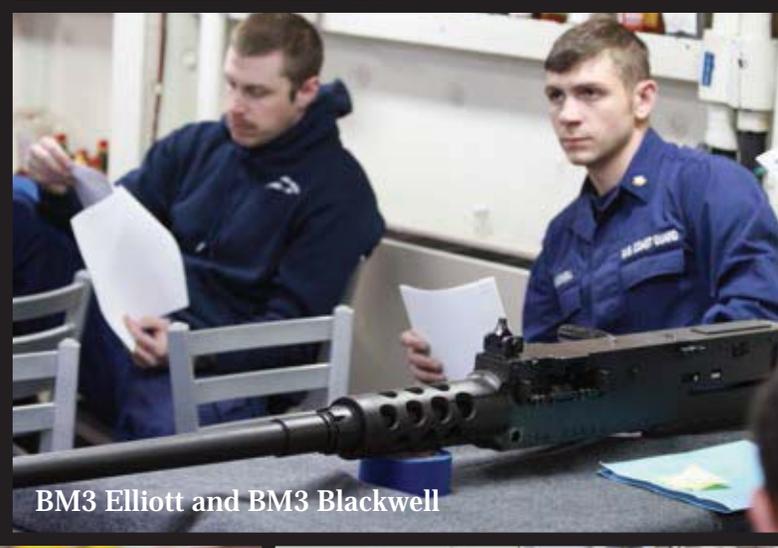


Photo By OS3 Jesse Kristofferson

# GUN CREW AND CPR TRAINING



FS2 Narvaez and ENS Cheney



BM3 Elliott and BM3 Blackwell



GM3 Godie



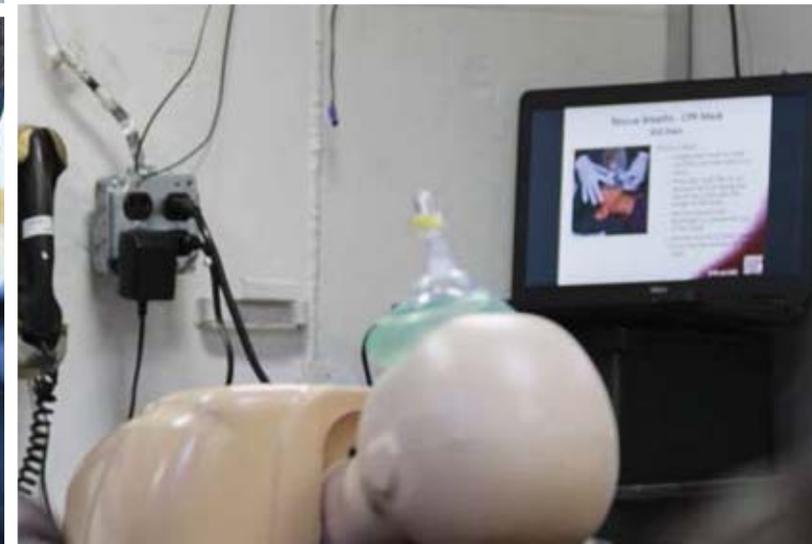
OS2 Southwell and SN Demaree



SN Brown and SK3 Geisert

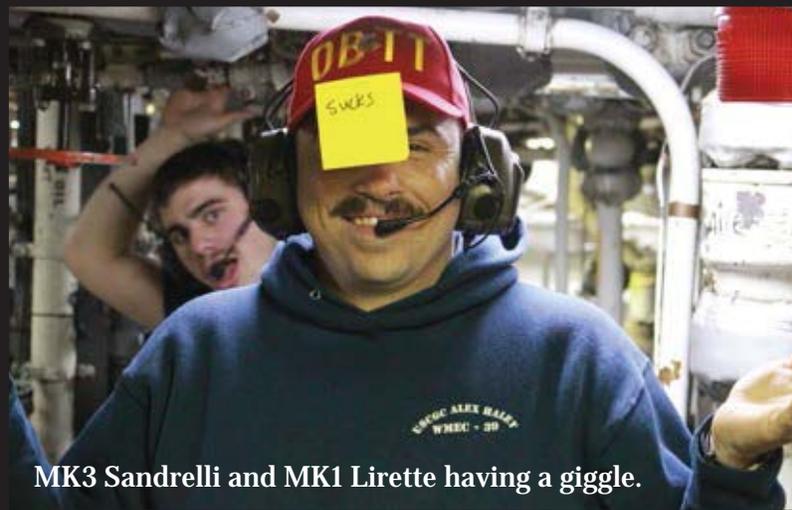


SN Ramirez



FN Millman

# Bulldog Candid!



MK3 Sandrelli and MK1 Lirette having a giggle.



SN Pinckney and SN Vaughn on the helm.



SN Parker keeps it cold, I mean cool, on lookout.



DCC Truelove, MK3 Kline and DC2 Lovelace in a photo that needs no caption.



ABOVE: Engineers work together on a small boat: MK3 Moorer, CWO Locklar, MK3 Nogueira, MKC Grunden, MK2 Girucky and MK1 Brown



Helo Tie Down crew—Coast Guard's version of Charlie's Angels. SK3 Skidmore, SN Neaves, SN Garcia Medina

Photos BY EM3 McCormack,  
OS3 Black and OS3 Kristofferson

# POLAR BEARS!!!

An aerial view of a Polar Bear. Photo By AMT1  
Rich Dahms

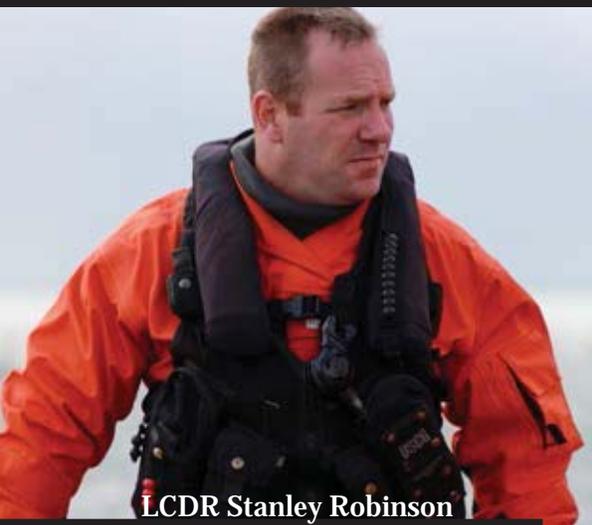


A Polar Bear swims near ALEX HALEY—Photo by SN Juan Carlos Garcia Medina

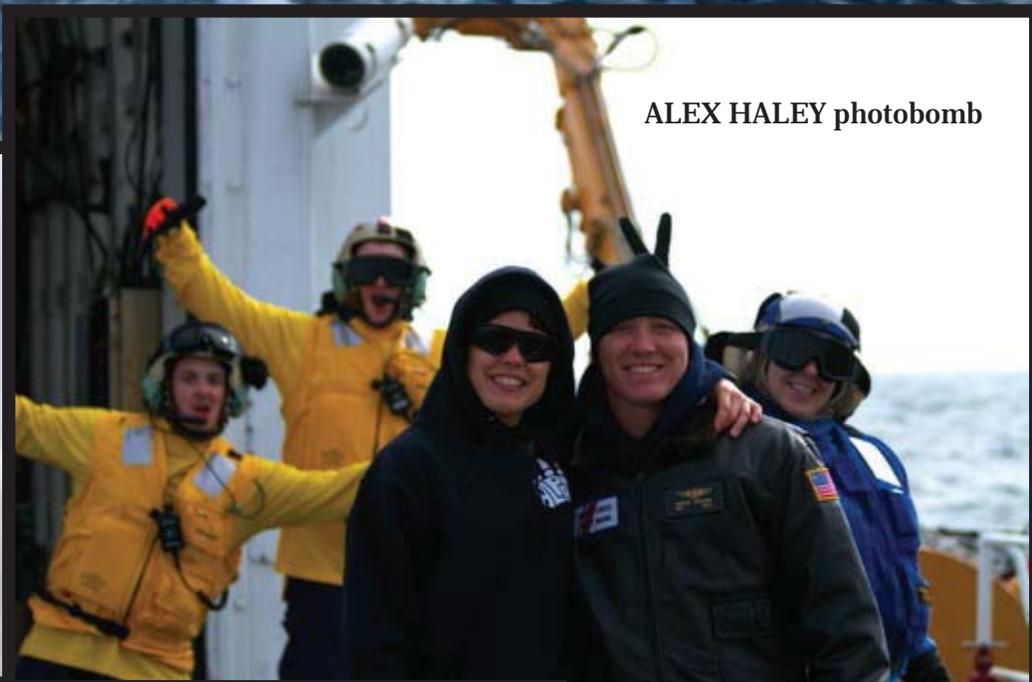


Polar Bear snacking Photo By OS3 Kristofferson

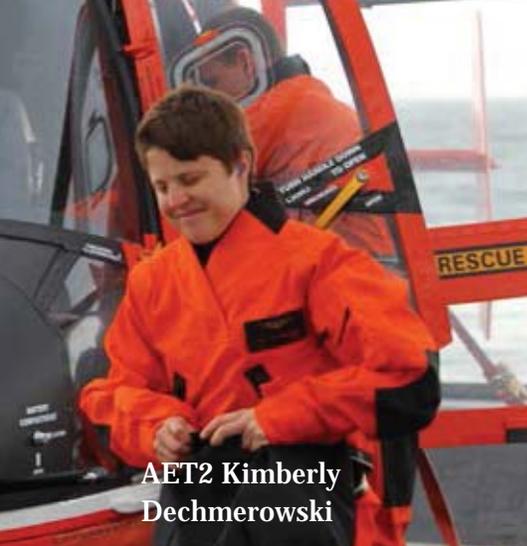
**THANK YOU TO OUR ARCTIC AVIATION DETACHMENT  
FROM AIR STATION SAN FRANCISCO!!!**



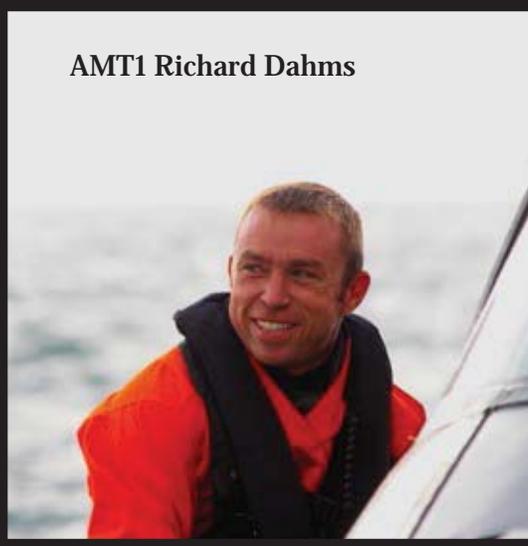
**LCDR Stanley Robinson**



**ALEX HALEY photobomb**



**AET2 Kimberly  
Dechmerowski**



**AMT1 Richard Dahms**



**AMT2 Andrew  
Brennan**



**LT. Beau Belanger**

**OS1 Vowels**

We can't believe a month has past by already. It was just yesterday that we were landing on the ALEX HALEY for the first time and meeting all the new faces. It has been a memorable deployment for everyone on the AVDET as we saw many firsts- Polar Bears, Walrus, August snow, and who can forget the Mighty Bull Dog.? But none of those compare to the friendships we've made with the crew. Though there will be those that don't miss getting roped into our "Ab Ripper" workouts, we will surely miss the great times we had like the Arctic Line Crossing Ceremony, AVDET (and Ensign) Pizza Night, pushing the mighty hangar with Deck Force (shout out), and the great food. As our time in the Arctic comes to an end we just wanted to thank the ALEX HALEY's excellent crew for welcoming us with open arms and treating us as part of the crew. Fair winds and following seas as you continue your journey to Southeast Alaska. **GO BULLDOGS!**

LT Beau Belanger, MH65D Pilot, Air Station San Francisco

## EDITOR'S LETTER

Greetings again, family and friends of ALEX HALEY! As the Arctic leg of our current adventure comes to a close, we all can't help but sit back and appreciate how much we've accomplished in such a short time. We went from total stillness just past the Arctic Circle to howling wind and snow further north to the ice edge, with only ice and walrus surrounding us (at one point ALEX HALEY had to zig zag just to avoid them there were so many). From being on the front lines of the Arctic to serving in small Alaskan communities and even working with our friendly neighbors to the north, the second half of this patrol has been just as eventful as the first, if not even more so.

Please feel free to send us any questions or articles you, the families and friends, would like to see. We plan on including an informative article here and there to further educate the reader on different missions, jobs and even port call activities we at ALEX HALEY engage in while we are away from our homes. In summation, this is not MY newsletter, but OUR newsletter, and I hope to use THE BULLDOG not only as a medium in which to bring an accurate portrayal of ALEX HALEY and its crew, but to open communication between the crew and those reading. Email any and all ALEX HALEY questions to the unit ombudsman or to me personally at [jesse.t.kristofferson@uscg.mil](mailto:jesse.t.kristofferson@uscg.mil) and I will be happy to field any questions to the correct source for our developing "Q&A" section!

Until next time——Fair Winds!



OS3 JESSE T. KRISTOFFERSON



**THANKS FOR READING! OFF TO THE NEXT  
HALF OF THE PATROL!!!**