



**NOAA Teacher at Sea**  
**Robert Oddo**  
**Onboard NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown***  
**July 11 – August 10, 2009**

**NOAA Teacher at Sea: Robert Oddo**

NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown*

Mission: PIRATA (Prediction and Research Moored Array in the Atlantic)

Geographic Area of Cruise: Tropical Atlantic

Date: July 11, 2009

**Weather Data from the Bridge**

Air Temperature 27.6° C (81.7°)

Relative Humidity 82.6%

Sea Surface Temperature 28.4° C (83.1° F)

Atmospheric Pressure 1014.8

**Science and Technology Log**

The Prediction and Research Moored Array in the Atlantic (PIRATA) is project that is monitoring the upper ocean and near surface atmosphere of the Tropical Atlantic. This is done by the deployment and maintenance of moored buoys and meteorological stations across the Atlantic. One of the purposes of this cruise is to do maintenance work on some



**One of the science labs with equipment ready to be unpacked**



**NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown* docked in Barbados**

of the buoys. The last couple of days have been spent loading equipment onto the ship and preparing the ship for this mission. There is an incredible amount of preparation for a cruise such as this one. Scientific equipment must be packed carefully, shipped to the location where the ship is docked, and then unloaded and set up. If you forget something you might not be able to collect some of the data that you hoped to obtain.

The data collected from this array of buoys will lead to a better understanding of an area of the Atlantic which is the main development region of tropical cyclones that threaten the United States.

**Personal Log**

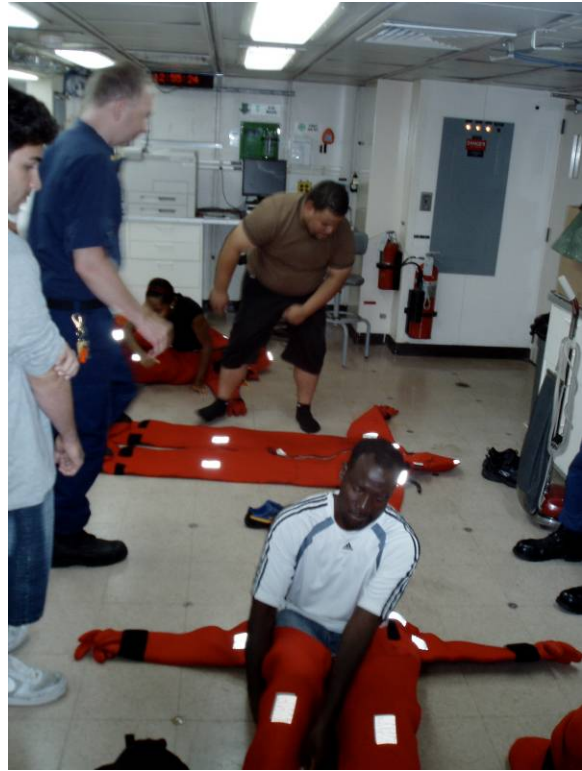
Arrived in Barbados late on the night of July 9<sup>th</sup>. Got to the *R. H. Brown* early on the morning on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Spent most of the

day getting situated and meeting members of the scientific team as well as the crew. Berths are small but comfortable. I was surprised at all the amenities on the ship. There is wireless Internet, a ship store, movies at 5:30pm and 7:30pm, laundry and even an exercise room with free weights, and elliptical and a treadmill.

We attended an orientation session this morning regarding ship procedures, safety and general life onboard the *R. H. Brown*.



Picture of my berth. I have the top bunk.



Practicing getting in and out of immersion suits