

## The Watch

For twenty years  
This sailor has stood the watch

While some of us were in our bunks at night  
This sailor stood the watch

While some of us were in school learning our trade  
This shipmate stood the watch

Yes.. even before some of us were born into this world  
This shipmate stood the watch

In those years when the storm clouds of war were seen brewing on the horizon of  
history  
This shipmate stood the watch

Many times he would cast an eye ashore and see his family standing there  
Needing his guidance and help

Needing that hand to hold during those hard times  
But he still stood the watch

He stood the watch for twenty years  
He stood the watch so that we, our families and  
Our fellow countrymen could sleep soundly in safety, Each and every night  
Knowing that a sailor stood the watch

Today we are here to say  
'Shipmate... the watch stands relieved

Relieved by those You have trained ,Guided, and Lead  
Shipmate you stand relieved.. we have the watch..."

"Boatswain..Standby to pipe the side...Shipmate's going Ashore.."