

Essequibo River

1. Essequibo River is the queen of rivers all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o
 Essequibo River is the queen of rivers all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

Somebody O Johnny, somebody o
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

2. Essequibo cap'n is the king of cap'ns all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

Somebody O Johnny, somebody o
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

3. Essequibo bo'sun is the king of bo'suns all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

4. Essequibo sailors is the chief of sailors all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

5. Essequibo maidens
 is the queen of maidens all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

6. Essequibo Sally's
 is the queen of Sally's all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

7. Essequibo River is the queen of rivers all
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o

Somebody O Johnny, somebody o
Buddy ta-na-na we are somebody o.



Map by Knusser, via Wikimedia.



Essequibo near Rockstone



Essequibo near Potaro-Siparuni

Notes

Halyard shanty.

This version: Jim Mageean, CD: The Capstan Bar.

Hugill, Stan, 1994, *Shanties of the Seven Seas* :

this is a halyard shanty of West Indian or Guiana origin "and needed a Negro shantymen to do it justice, having its full compliment of yells and hitches". t was probably

also used ashore for jobs where pulling was needed.

Most of these West Indian shanties were first used for jobs such as moving or working cargo [ashore] and then later taken to sea by black seamen shipping aboard Yankee, Bluenose (Nova Scotia) or British wind-jammers, on the decks of which the songs would be adapted for work at halyard or capstan..

Essequibo - the largest river in Guyana (see map). Also spelled Esequibo.