

Military

WORLD GAMES



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All HANDS

MAGAZINE OF THE U.S. NAVY

APRIL 2004

EOD THE NAVY'S BOMB SQUAD



14 Military World Games

It's like walking into the United Nations and being engulfed by a kaleidoscope of colors, cultures and sounds. But there is one subtle difference — it's the smiles, the laughter and the camaraderie only found at the Military World Games in Catania, Italy.

Photo by PH3 Antoine Themistocleous

[On the Front Cover]

STS2(EOD) Eric Thompson examines a crate of unexploded ordnance his team discovered during a field exercise at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif.

Photo by JO1(SCW/SS) James Pinsky

[Next Month]

All Hands looks at some of the quality-of-life improvements in Italy and Spain, as well as duty in a few out of the way areas of Europe

April

[Features]



Photo by JO1(SCW/SS) James Pinsky

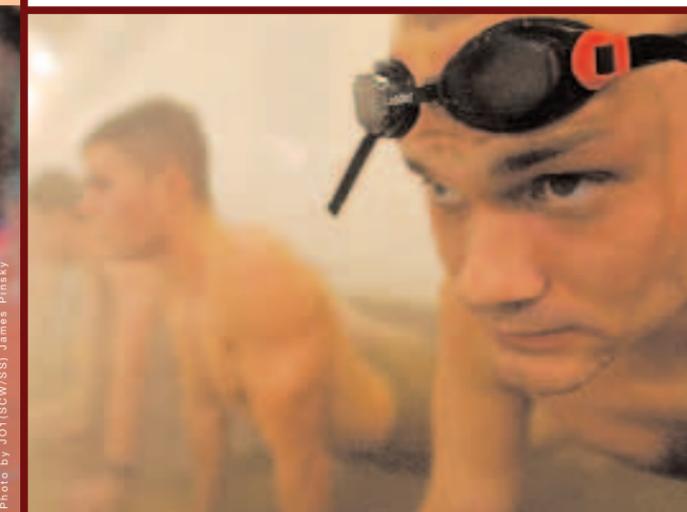
20 "The Bomb Hunters"

The sign at the main gate may say Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif., but for the Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 11, Det. 5, Whidbey Island, Wash., the Navy's 1,800 square mile desert and mountain test range, are Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dive Motivator: Starting off on the right flipper ... 30

Local "A" school graduates, Sailors awaiting class assignment and any Sailor around Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, Ill. who pass one of the special program screening tests are welcome to join the voluntary workouts. The workouts are part of an informal mentorship program called dive motivators and run by Sea, Air and Land (SEAL), Special Warfare Combat-Craft Crewman (SWCC), Diver, Search and Rescue swimmer (SAR) and Explosive Ordnance and Disposal (EOD) instructors assigned to RTC.

Photo by JO1(SCW/SS) James Pinsky



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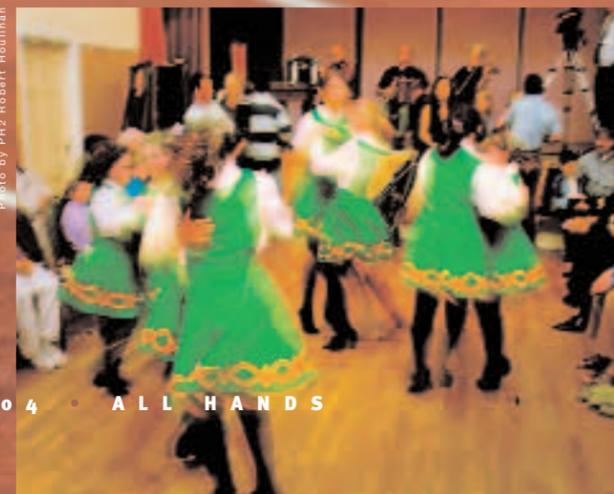


Photo by PH2 Robert Houlihan

38 Putting a face on our past

The crew of USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) join in a memorial celebration of the five Sullivan brothers in Trafrask, Ireland.



Busy Day

Photo by PH1 Brien Aho

An airman from Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 131 performs maintenance on a F/A-18 Hornet during a no-fly day on USS George Washington (CVN 73).



Heave-Ho

Photo by PH3 Mark J. Rebilas

Line handlers receive mooring lines from USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) as the ship arrives at Naval Air Station North Island, Calif. The carrier stopped in San Diego to pick up her air wing personnel before conducting carrier qualifications and training with Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 9 and units assigned to *Vinson's* Carrier Strike Group (CSG).

Speaking with Sailors

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy
MCPON (SS/AW) Terry D. Scott

These questions came from a recent all hands call at Naval Support Activity Naples

Q: How can Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) help me in doing my job, and what about access when my ship is underway?

A: I'm sure that you've all heard a lot of talk about the Navy's revolution in training. And you may have asked yourself, 'How does it affect me and what I do every day?'

One of the tools that you can use right now, and use to mentor other Sailors with, is Navy Knowledge Online. NKO allows you to gather career information relevant to you in a single source. An off-line local version of NKO is being developed for ships, to enable Sailors afloat the same access to information without an Internet connection.

NKO allows us to bring training to you, instead of bringing you to the training. Navy e-Learning, your tool for accessing a variety of Navy-sponsored courses, is now available directly through NKO. And the NetLibrary provides access to a collection of online e-books that include *Cliff's Notes™* and *Study Guides*, computer science, personal finance and many others.

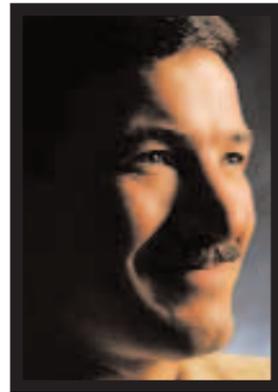


Photo by JO1 Preston Keres

The classified version of NKO was recently launched for those Sailors in the intelligence, cryptology and submarine communities using SIPRNET. Every Sailor can access information on personal finance, education, leadership roles and their personal and career development. You can log on to get your user name and password at nko.navy.mil. ■

Q: What is the latest status of Task Force Uniform?

A: Task Force Uniform (TFU) made its first report to the CNO in October, and as ADM Clark outlined in his Guidance for 2004, the results from the initiatives he approved will be reported by this December.

Among the TFU initiatives to be announced in an upcoming NAVADMIN are the details on the first phase of wear and acceptability testing of a working uniform concept for E-1 through O-10, and a year-round service uniform concept for E-6 and below. We are also reviewing and re-writing outdated sections of the Navy Uniform Regulations and creating an interactive Web-based version for online use.

We want to ensure that Task Force Uniform results are going to be substantive and well thought-out. This comprehensive and global approach is the best way to ensure that this will not be just another round of minor uniform changes. ■

Speaking with Sailors is a monthly column initiated by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy as a way of reaching out to the men and women of the fleet, whether they are stationed just down the road or halfway around the world.

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SECNAV Urges Sailors to Register to Vote

Today, Sailors and Marines are deployed throughout the world, often in harm's way, protecting our nation and supporting the cause of freedom and democracy. In many places, the struggle includes one of the basic but powerful principles of democracy—the right to vote.

In our country, we have that right as a result of past and present sacrifices of U.S. service men and women like you.

Therefore, it is particularly appropriate that you, who protect this right for all of us, also exercise this right for yourself. It's your sacrifice, it's your country, and it's your future. You've earned this right, and your vote counts.

I encourage you to register to vote early this year. Do it now to eliminate potential problems later. Your command's voting assistance officer has the absentee voter registration materials.

Thanks for your untiring service to America and our democratic ideals. God bless you and your families, and God bless America. ■

Special message from Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England

U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command Relocates to Florida

The Navy has decided to relocate U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command (USNAVSO) from Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, to Naval Station Mayport, Fla.

Sept. 30, the President of the United States signed into law the FY04 Defense Appropriations Act. The legislation included language that calls for the Navy to close U.S. Naval Station Roosevelt Roads no later than six months after enactment of the Act. This legislation requires the relocation of tenant commands, including U.S. Naval Forces

Southern Command. Since the Navy must close Naval Station Roosevelt Roads by March 31, relocation of USNAVSO is a high priority.

The relocation of USNAVSO to Mayport, Fla., effectively meets Navy mission requirements, and will ensure Navy personnel assigned to the command continue to enjoy a high quality of life. The Navy studied a number of locations and took into account availability of existing infrastructure, communications capabilities, and anti-terrorism/ force protection support, among other factors.

Initially, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command will be "dual-hatted" with Commander, Naval Surface Group 2, and the two staffs will be consolidated. One flag officer billet and Naval



The Honorable Gordon R. England

Surface Group 2 will be disestablished, creating personnel savings and alignment efficiencies. ■

Story courtesy of DOD

Basic Allowance for Housing Revised for Junior Enlisted Married Sailors

The Navy recently announced good news for junior Sailors married to other junior Sailors: if you are both on sea duty, you can now each receive basic allowance for housing (BAH).

"This benefit clarifies the BAH entitlement policy and is designed to reduce the financial burden on our junior Sailors," said CDR Katharine Reed, head of the pay and allowances section of Navy's Military Compensation Policy Coordination Branch in Washington, D.C. "It also better achieves parity between our junior and senior enlisted afloat dual military families."

Before this change was instituted, dual military couples were only entitled to one joint housing allowance.

To receive the benefit, eligible Sailors must meet all of the following criteria:

- Both are E-5 and below
- Both assigned to sea duty
- Have no other dependents
- Share the same household
- Have declined government quarters

The entitlement authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act is effective Oct. 1, 2003. The Navy has programmed for the estimated \$9.3 million FY04 cost.

This policy change will benefit approximately 1,200 Navy couples.

More information on this policy change is available in NAVADMIN 059/04, which can be found on the Web at www.bupers.navy.mil.

For related news, visit the Chief of Naval Personnel Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cnp ■

Story courtesy of the public affairs office, Chief of Naval Personnel.

USS Vandegrift (FFG 48) Concludes Historic Port Visit to Vietnam

After completing a historic port visit to Vietnam last winter, the guided-missile frigate USS *Vandegrift* (FFG 48) departed with a successful diplomatic achievement in her logbook.

The major event in U.S. and Vietnam relations marked the first time a U.S. Navy ship has visited the country in 30 years.

While in port, the ship hosted hundreds of Vietnamese military, political and foreign business leaders, as well as international diplomatic corps officials for tours and an evening reception.

Ambassador Raymond F. Burghardt accompanied the ship for a four-hour transit from Vung Tao at the entrance of the Saigon River to downtown, and remained aboard for a media availability with CDR Richard Rogers, *Vandegrift's* commanding officer.

International media coverage, including a live CNN broadcast, gave the world a positive glimpse of the Navy's continuing diplomatic role in Vietnam.

Rogers, a native of Moscow, Idaho, remarked that he was deeply honored to command the first ship to visit Vietnam in 30 years.

"Our Vietnamese hosts welcomed us with superb hospitality. Our visit marked an important step in continuing the normalization of relations between our two countries," he said.

The crew had the opportunity to visit a location that very few of their countrymen have seen.

"It was an amazing visit," said Seaman Thomas Dorsett, of Council Bluffs, Iowa. "I never thought I would have the chance to see Vietnam, as my father served there during the war as an Army mechanic. He was proud of me, and it meant a lot for me and all of my

family that I was part of this historic event," he told CNN.

During the port visit, the crew participated in a volleyball tournament with the Vietnamese Navy Technical School, and also lent a hand in three separate community relations projects around the city.

Dozens of enthusiastic volunteers dug a foundation for a new kindergarten in Can Gio, a rural district outside Ho Chi Minh City, while others helped paint a small school. More Sailors helped donate three pallets of toys, sewing machines and medical supplies to an orphanage of 300 children through Project Handclasp.

"I'm happy to see them here," said 14-year-old Mai Thi Kim Loan, as she was presented with a white Frisbee, noting that she had never seen such a toy before.

Deputy director Thi Kim

Thoa also was enthusiastic with the goodwill visit.

"Before 1975, if they came here, the Vietnamese people would be very scared," Thoa said. "This time they come to promote good. You can see the American (Sailors) love the kids. Hopefully, after this visit, relations between the two countries will be built on a more solid foundation."

Ship's Serviceman 3rd Class Michael Linnell, 25, of McLane, Miss., said he always volunteers to participate in community relations projects wherever the ship goes.

"You want to come and give," Linnell said. "We did this in Singapore, and they wanted us to play in the sand box."

Even those who remember the war were glad to see U.S. Navy Sailors back in Vietnam.

"I think this is a good sign to



CDR Richard Rogers, commanding officer of USS Vandegrift (FFG 48), and U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam, Raymond Burghardt, are greeted by Vice Chairman of the People's Committee, Nguyen Thien Nhan after the ship's arrival for a scheduled port call to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The port call provided the crew with an opportunity to sightsee and participate in cultural exchanges. This visit marks the first U.S. Navy ship visit to Vietnam in 30 years. It symbolizes the normalization of relations between the two nations. *Vandegrift* is an *Oliver Hazard Perry*-class, guided-missile frigate and is a part of USS *Kitty Hawk's* (CV 63) Carrier Strike Group, forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

promote the relationship between Vietnam and the U.S.," said Lt.Col. Nguyen Quang Bieu of the Ministry of Defense.

Burghardt echoed Bieu's optimistic view. "The visit is part of both countries' efforts to promote mutual understanding and to put to rest the suspicions lingering from the conflict between our two countries in the past," he said. "This visit shows that old adversaries can become friends."

The visit came just one week after Vietnamese Defense Minister Pham Van Tra visited the Pentagon and met with the U.S. Secretary of Defense to discuss a broad range of bilateral and international security issues.

Vandegrift is forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, as part of the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet and has a complement of approximately 200 Sailors.

For more information about the US 7th Fleet, visit www.c7f.navy.mil. ■

Story by LCDR J.D. Gordon who is assigned to the public affairs office U.S. Pacific Fleet.

DOD Announces Korean Defense Service Medal

DOD announced the creation of the Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM). The KDSM gives special recognition for the sacrifices and contributions made by members of the U.S. Armed Forces who have served or are serving in the Republic of Korea.

Public Law 107-314 legislated the creation of a new medal to recognize military service in the Republic of Korea and the surrounding waters.

Members of the Armed Forces authorized the KDSM must have served in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the Republic of Korea, the contiguous water out to 12 nautical miles and all air spaces above the land and water areas.

The KDSM period of eligibility is July 28, 1954, to a future date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense.

Service members must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in the area of eligibility and have been physically deployed in the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days or meet one of the following criteria:

Be engaged in actual combat during an armed engagement, regardless of the time in the area of eligibility.

Be wounded or injured in the line of duty and require medical evacuation from the area of eligibility.

Be a regularly assigned air crew member flying sorties into, out of, within or over the area of eligibility in support of military operations; each day that one or more sorties are flown in accordance with these criteria shall count as one day toward the 30- or 60-day requirement.

Personnel who serve in operations and exercises conducted in the area of eligibility are considered eligible for the award as long as the basic time criteria is met. Due to the extensive time period for

KDSM eligibility, the nonconsecutive service period for eligibility remains cumulative throughout the entire period.

The KDSM may be awarded posthumously, and only one award of the KDSM is authorized for any individual.

Each military department will prescribe appropriate regulations for administrative processing, awarding and wearing of the KDSM and ribbon for their service members, to include application procedures for veterans, retirees and next of kin.

More than 40,000 members of the U.S. Armed Forces have served in the Republic of Korea or the waters adjacent thereto each year since the signing of the cease-fire agreement in July 1953, which established the Demilitarized Zone. For more than 50 years, U.S. Armed Forces efforts to deter and defend the Korean Peninsula have helped maintain democracy and preserve the indomitable spirit of freedom.

For more DOD News, go to www.defenselink.mil. ■

Story courtesy of DOD

Ricky's Tour

By J02 Mike Jones

www.rickystour.com



Sea Warrior e-Learning: One-stop Shopping

Navy leaders on a road trip promoting the Navy's "Excellence Through Commitment and Education and Learning" initiative, Sea Warrior, made a recent stop in Okinawa, Japan, to give Sailors the scoop on the newest achievement tool—e-Learning—to help their career development.

Sea Warrior is a way for Sailors to use their past accomplishments in the Navy to follow the right career path for their future. As one of the implementing initiatives of the Chief of Naval Operations' Sea Power 21 strategic vision for the 21st century, Sea Warrior will fully develop Sailors "who are highly skilled, powerfully motivated and optimally employed for mission success."

With one click of the mouse while logged on to the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) Web site, Sailors can literally do one-stop shopping, learning about their Navy jobs, how they stack up with other Sailors in the field, what they need to do to help their chances to advance, and much more.

According to Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Mark Hayes of the Center for Naval Leadership located at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado, Calif., one of the driving forces of Sea Warrior's e-learning capability is to revolutionize the way the Navy trains its Sailors.

"With e-learning, we hope to train you when you really need it," Hayes told about 300 Sailors in the Fleet Activities Okinawa area, including deployed Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion

(NMCB) 5. "While we slowly move away from traditional classroom training and do more online training, we need to ask ourselves, 'How do we bring technology online in the way we train you?' In the long run, decreasing the time Sailors spend in classrooms saves the Navy money."

Sea Warrior is based on a five-part "vector" model, or 5VM, as it's commonly known, which focuses on a Sailor's professional development, personal development, professional military education and leadership, certifications and qualifications and performance.

Three Navy job ratings—Culinary Specialist (CS), Information Systems Technician (IT) and Yeoman (YN)—were the first to be implemented by the overseers of Sea Warrior, the Naval Personnel Development Center.

"Based on the job task analysis we did," said Hayes, "we found that these three rates were the most manageable to get up and running using the 5VM."

In the opinion of Builder 3rd Class Leota Phillips, Sea Warrior is an "excellent program to keep you updated on all your information. Instead of relying on someone else who's busy with their own things to get the information for you, it's possible to find out what you need on your own and get done what is necessary.

"It's an excellent research tool, and the e-Learning section is extremely helpful," added Phillips. "While not foolproof, it has a definite advantage in controlling your own career."

"The CNO said the Navy wants to be the employer of choice," added Hayes, "and we want you to be the Navy's employee by choice. These five

Time Capsule

This month we look back in the *All Hands* archive to see what was going on. To view these issues in more detail on the Web, go to www.news.navy.mil/allhands.asp?x=search

58 years ago — April 1946



As island natives were being relocated, we took a trip to the tiny Pacific island of Bikini, the test site for the atom bomb. We also gave our readers a few fundamental facts of nuclear physics. We showed how Navy communications underwent rapid wartime changes that gave us sea-land-air victories, and looked at the new wartime role Waves played as teletype operators in the communications field.

40 Years Ago — July 1964



In this month's edition, we looked at the Navy's daring undersea and Antarctic explorers. The Navy's Deep Submergence Systems Review Group were in the early stages of developing the Navy's first underwater rescue vehicles, two of which could reach 98 percent of the ocean's floor. We also showcased the All-Navy Sports team athletes and the Navy's ceremonial guardsmen.

32 years ago — October 1972



In this issue of *All Hands*, we revisited the years of the early Navy. From the days of John Paul Jones to the Civil War era, we spotlighted the Navy's rich history. We also focused on the Navy's Clean-up Conservation Campaign (CCC). This campaign focused on the environmental needs of the world. Sailors from around the fleet dedicated their time to rid their local areas of litter. We also focused on quality-of-life improvements in Navy housing facilities, youth services, race relations and rehabilitation.

areas of development and performance can help Sailors be all they can be."

From performance evaluations to bidding for job assign-

ment bonuses, a Sailor can literally spend hours e-Learning everything they can to help them help the Navy achieve its goal of having the best people

Shipmates



Storekeeper 1st Class (Surface Warfare) Joss Zolina was recently selected Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers, as FISC San Diego's Sailor of the Year for 2003. As the head of the fleet liaison team for the Logistics Support Center, he and eight other Sailors conduct briefs with Navy Region Southwest (NRSW) for visiting ships in San Diego, which included visiting foreign vessels. He also planned and organized the 5th Annual FISC Supply Expo, subsequently acclaimed as the most successful supply exposition to date, consisting of over 80 vendors with the latest product and logistics technology. In addition to his primary duties, Zolina represents the command as its career counselor, training coordinator, limited duty coordinator, and pass liaison representative

in the right jobs to get its mission accomplished.

For more information about Sea Warrior, go to the Navy Knowledge Online Web site at www.nko.navy.mil.

For related news, visit the Navy Construction Battalion 5 Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nmcb5. ■

Story by JO1(SW) Scott Sutherland, who is assigned to the public affairs office, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5.

Sailors Cautioned Against Scams

Scams seem to be a consistent problem that affect military members more than others, but experts say there is much that service members can do to prevent becoming victims.

In a report titled "In Harm's Way," the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC) has ana-

lyzed the problem and has come up with some solutions.

The report concludes that military members have and will be targets, due to predictable paycheck dates and job security. It also cited the military culture that expects its members to lead orderly, financially stable lives.

Ironically, it is often attempts to keep their finances in order that lead members to make poor decisions and spiral into major financial difficulties. And once an individual gets that far in debt, it is no longer just the individual's problem; it becomes the command's problem, as well.

Some of the most common scams, while not technically illegal, can still separate Sailors from their hard-earned cash. One of the most common is the post-dated check. This takes the form of a loan in the amount of one's paycheck. To get this money, a service member must give the lender a post-dated check that includes the amount of the loan plus interest at a

rate of about 300 percent.

While the paycheck advance is most common, the NCLC found other scams, including loans for car titles and the purchase of nearly worthless catalog coupons. These businesses are often located right outside the gates of military bases.

They hire former military personnel, who are able to relate to the military members they prey on. These businesses all find ways around the on-base solicitation rules by advertising in the military "Times" magazines found in almost every Exchange facility.

According to the NCLC, many members mistakenly assume that these are official publications, but they are not. They are civilian enterprise newspapers, with absolutely no endorsement from DOD.

According to LT Scott Simpson, a legal assistance attorney with Naval Legal Service Office Europe and Southwest Asia, scams target all military members, regardless of rank.

He stressed that the Internet is a popular source for many of today's scams. Simpson recalls one service member who spent \$25,000 on an Internet-based company to arrange a marriage for him with a woman from Russia.

"He worked two part time jobs to save up the money to bring his new bride to America. When this young lady arrived, in a period of two months, she proceeded to max out his credit cards, get pregnant by some other guy, and then vanished into the night—never to be heard from again."

Scams that target the military don't stop when the member retires. Another popular scam includes the selling of veterans retirement benefits, which are usually at horrible

rates for the borrower.

More troubling is that, according to the NCLC, such reassignment of benefits is illegal.

What makes these situations all the more tragic is that there are numerous legitimate service relief societies, which not only offer financial management training, but also give out grants and no-interest loans for people with money problems.

The NCLC has found that the claims of bankruptcy and complaints against the scam companies fell by 80 percent when the local relief society chapter started running advertisements countering the unscrupulous loan agencies.

According to Simpson, an international effort to decrease the likelihood of becoming a scam victim includes an information sharing campaign, as well as international cross-border agreements with the U.S., Canada, U.K. and Australian law enforcement.

But the prevalence of Internet scams (four of the top five scams targeted by U.S. and U.K. law enforcement were Internet-based) make international borders less of a barrier.

Taking shortcuts to acquire money usually leads to long-term problems that keep the individual permanently in debt, or spending more money than they should.

The best defense against a scam is to recognize that if something sounds wrong, or just too easy, it probably is. ■

Story by JO1 Martin Wright, who is assigned to the public affairs office, Naval Forces Europe.



Aviation ordnancemen assemble bombs aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) before they are sent to the aircraft carrier's flight deck for uploading on various aircraft. Roosevelt is deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Imminent Danger Pay, Combat Zone Tax Relief Now Offered to Select Units

Navy personnel who deployed to the eastern Mediterranean Sea in the opening weeks of Operation Iraqi Freedom are now entitled to Imminent Danger Pay (IDP) and Combat Zone Tax Relief (CZTR) benefits.

Through special legislation, DOD retroactively authorized IDP and CZTR benefits from March 19 through Aug. 1, 2003.

"We are absolutely delighted to be able to get this pay into the hands of all those hard-working Sailors who were there during the opening phase of the war," said VADM Gerry Hoewing, Chief of Naval

Personnel. "They were among the first to sail in harm's way, and they certainly deserve this."

The original authorization for IDP and CZTR began April 11, 2003, and did not cover Sailors who deployed to the eastern Mediterranean Sea at the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom in March.

This affected Sailors, most of whom were attached to USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) and USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) carrier strike groups, as well as Commander, Task Force (CTF) 61 units.

Sailors who deployed to the eastern Mediterranean Sea, east of 30 degrees east longitude, in connection with Operation Iraqi Freedom between March 19 and April 11, 2003, and not already entitled to IDP and CZTR benefits for March and/or April, should contact their local disbursing office for

more information or see NAVADMIN 036/04. ■

Story courtesy of the public affairs office Chief of Naval Personnel.

Savings Deposit Program Assists Deployed Service Members

Deployed uniformed service members have the chance to earn a guaranteed 10 percent interest on their savings annually.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), in accordance with DOD, began the Savings Deposit Program in August 1990 for members who were serving in the Persian Gulf Conflict. The Act progressively changed to include troops

assigned to areas of Iraqi Freedom service members assigned to a combat zone or in direct support of a combat zone.

"A service member can contribute up to \$10,000, but interest of 10 percent will not accrue after that amount," said Roger Castillo, program director for the Savings Deposit Program. "A member can participate in the program if they are serving outside the United States or its possessions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and has served at least 30 consecutive days in an area that has been designated as a combat zone or in direct support of a combat zone. Also, members serving on permanent duty assignment outside the United States or its possessions in support of contingency operations and serving on active duty in the designated area for more than 30 days."

To make a deposit into the fund, troops are asked to contact their financial office. Withdrawing the money before leaving the combat zone is not authorized, unless there is an emergency. The last day to make a deposit into the fund is the date of departure from the assignment. But interest will accrue for up to 90 days after return from deployment.

"This is a great opportunity for service members to accrue at a higher interest rate than at an average interest rate of 2 or 3 percent," said Patrick T. Shine, acting director of DFAS. "We are always taking the extra step to assist our troops and their families in any way possible, especially while members are deployed."

DFAS will post the savings deposit balance of active-component members to their Leave and Earnings Statement.

For more about DFAS visit www.dfas.mil. ■

Story courtesy of DFAS.

▼ Army 1st Lt. Chad Senior competes in the Team Modern Pentathlon, and helps win the only gold medal for the United States. Pentathlon competitors had to compete in running, swimming, horseback riding, sharp shooting and fencing.

Photo by PH3 Antoine Themistocleous

Military 2003 World Games



Story and photos by PH1 Shane T. McCoy and PH3 Antoine Themistocleous

WORLD CLASS

The mix of languages pounds your ears until none are separate. It's like walking into the United Nations and being engulfed by a kaleidoscope of colors, cultures and sounds. But there is one subtle difference—it's the smiles, the laughter and the camaraderie. Walking into a hotel filled with athletes for the Military World Games can be exhilarating. Here, you find militaries trained to fight, trained to defeat and even kill, joining as friends to compete in sport in Catania, Italy.

"We had 16 different countries playing men's volleyball, and we were all staying in the same five-star hotel," said Information Systems Technician Seaman John Mills.

"You're living with all these [military athletes] for a few weeks, and you really get a chance to build relationships and friendships. You're more like an ambassador for the United States than an athlete. It's awesome to see the motto of the games, 'Friendship Though Sport,' coming true. [Everyone] competes hard on the court and then goes out to dinner together."

While friendship abounded in Catania, the U.S. Navy did not. In this year's games there were just five Sailors who participated. It was not due to a lack of talent—the Navy has many outstanding athletes. The World Military Games, like the Olympics, are held every four years, and the competition's reputation is not well-known in Navy circles.

"I would have loved to have gone and boxed for the Navy, had I known about the games," said Religious Programs Specialist 2nd Class Nelson Lebron of Naval Special Warfare, Group 2, Little Creek, Va. Lebron, a four-time Virginia State Golden Gloves Boxing Champion, said he knows of five enlisted Navy boxers who are qualified and would be ready to compete for the United States at the drop of a hat.

Mills found out about the games in an e-mail from a friend who was familiar with Navy participation in events like these. "When I came in, I had no clue that there were even any Navy sports teams," said Mills.

The application process is easy, with



Photo by PH1 Shane T. McCoy

◀ The first time that any athletes wore a uniform was during the closing ceremony. The rest of the time warm-ups with the country's name was the norm.

▼ A showcase of events from the 2004 Military World Games in Catania, Italy.



Military 2003 World Games

information available online. Fill out a Navy sports application at www.mwr.navy.mil/mwrprgms/sports.htm. Qualifiers selected for the Navy team in each sport may go on to the next Military World Games to be held in India in 2007. Many other international sports competitions are also held every year.

In addition to qualifying, athletes will also need command support, because training and other preparations require a good deal of time away from military duties. But those who don't look into this opportunity have no chance at all.

"I came into the Navy to serve, thinking that I would be putting a volleyball career to the side, but here I am getting to play again. It's pretty stellar," said Mills. "I get to go to other countries to play volleyball for

the United States. Can it get any better than that?"

The majority of U.S. athletes this year were from the Army and the Air Force which operates the World Class Athletes Program.

"The program is designed to help military athletes prepare for the Olympics," said Army 1st Lt. Chad Senior. "One year out of four, you do your military job, but during the other three, you train in your sport." Senior finished fourth in the Modern Pentathlon, helping his team win the only gold medal awarded to the United States this year.

Talented Navy athletes should not lose hope of competing as a world class athlete in the Navy. Occasionally, when funding and assignments coincide, the Navy sports

program has worked with Sailors who aspire to Olympic-level competition to get them stationed in a location where training opportunities are increased.

If you have a dream to reach the Military World Games or the Olympics, your work is cut out for you. Expect a lot of sweat and maybe some pain, but if you make the cut, in the end, you are "world class," and that is forever. ■

McCoy and Themistocleous are photojournalists assigned to All Hands.

▼ **John Chavez, from Colombia,** sets to start the 800-meter race. He came in 5th with a time of 1:50.38. Aaron Lanzel, from the United States placed 6th with a time of 1:50.78. Joseph Mutua, from Kenya, won the gold with a time of 1:48.84.

▼ **The Chinese competed for the gold medal** in synchronized diving.



Photo by PHS Antoine Themistocleous

◀ **Air Force Airman 1st Class Omolade Akinremi** takes deep breaths after she finished third in the 400 meter race, where she got a bronze medal. She also won the silver medal for the 400 meter hurdles, the only silver medal won by United States.

▼ **In womens high-jump,** the Italian team jumped well but did not place. Russia ended up with the gold and silver bringing their total to 33 gold and 39 silver medals.



▲ **Tudor Bogdan, from Romania,** soars through the air in the long jump competition. He came in 8th over all with a distance of 7.42 meters. Russia won the gold with a 7.81 meter jump by Ruslan Gataulin. The Americans did not compete in this particular event.

Military 2003 World Games

Story and photos by JO1 (SCW/SS) JAMES G. PINSKY

▼ **Land mines are a very real threat** to U.S. forces deployed all over the world, and EOD teams like EODMU 11, Det. 5 train constantly to not only locate the mines but to disarm them as well. Here, the team works through a mine clearing scenario at a mock airfield during a training evaluation at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, Calif., under the watchful eye of EODTEU 1 observers.

THE SIGN AT THE MAIN GATE MAY SAY NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION CHINA LAKE, CALIF., BUT FOR EIGHT TEAMMATES THE NAVY'S 1,800 SQUARE MILE DESERT AND MOUNTAIN TEST RANGE, IS IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN.

EOD Mobile Unit 11 DET Five "Baghdad's bomb squad"

Braving subzero temperatures and howling wind gusts of more than 50 mph to complete the final phase of their five-week team-training period, the team of eight Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 11, Det. 5 deployed from Whidbey Island, Wash., to complete a week-long field exercise prior to deploying in support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*.

Also deployed to China Lake was EODMU 11, Det. 5's exercise enemy, the wily San Diego-based EOD Training and Evaluation Unit (EODTEU) 1. They did everything in their power to trick, harass, confuse and defeat their fellow EOD teammates with innovative booby traps, unexploded ordnance problems, chemical, radiological and biological weapons scenarios and numerous stress-inducing intangibles. The goal is to deploy Det. 5 with no doubt in their minds that they have the training necessary to complete their mission safely and effectively.

"It's life or death for the guys who are training, so we want to put as much effort

into the scenarios as the enemy would," said EODMU 11 Readiness and Training Chief, Chief Electronics Technician (EOD/SW/AW) John Lane. "The enemy isn't playing by the rules so we can't either to properly prepare our troops to complete their missions."

"Over in Iraq, Iraqi resistance fighters are bastardizing a lot of munitions, so we simulate that during the field training these guys go through here at China Lake," said EODTEU 1 instructor, Mineman First Class (EOD) Shane Williams. "What they encounter here is exactly what they will encounter over in Iraq, Afghanistan or any other theater of operations."

During the field exercise, EODMU 11, Det. 5 encountered several real-world scenarios designed to evaluate the level of knowledge and proficiency of the team. The team deployed to a simulated hostile environment where they set up camp in the desert of China Lake's northern range. For the first two days the team operated from their main base camp with two scenarios. The first was an airfield assess-



◀ **The maps may say Southern California,** but the high desert terrain, unforgiving mountains and sand that seemingly blows from all directions makes anyone who trains in China Lake's weapons ranges think they are in Iraq or even Afghanistan. Remote communications, long hikes, nearly landmarkless navigation, and a wide range of temperatures all help make training as real as possible.



▲ **STS1 (EOD/SS/SW) Heath Nettleton** traces detonation cord to a "booby trapped" bunker during an exercise.

► **Whether a plane drops it,** like these cluster munitions, a tank shoots it, a terrorist rigs it or an advancing American force uncovers it, EOD knows how to safely dispose of it.



▼ **To go through a training field exercise** means someone has to conduct it. EODTEU 1 spent hundreds of hours creating, implementing, staging and rehearsing scenarios that closely mimic real-world situations EOD mobile units encounter in Iraq and Afghanistan. Here, EMCS John D. Hammond, a training team member of EODMU 11, reviews EODTEU 1 nuclear weapons training scenario.



"Baghdad's bomb squad"

▼ **As if disarming bombs, land mines, biological weapons, and booby traps aren't enough to worry about, EOD teams still have to defend themselves.**



► **Capturing enemy hide-outs,** facilities and bunkers are every day missions for U.S. forces and once they do, EOD tech's like IS2 (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe, are called into the theater to clear the area of ordnance, weapons caches, booby traps and any other dangers the enemy may have left for occupying troops.



◀ **Highly trained technicians** like STG3 (EOD) Benjamin T. Grosek make a living disarming bombs, ordnance, land mines and grenades so the rest of the American fighting forces can continue their missions.



◀ **Smoke from simulated mortar rounds** cloud the evening skies around IS2 (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe, EODMU 11, Det. 5, as he scales one of the many 8,000-plus foot mountains in the Coso Mountain range during a field exercise.

ment. They were transported by truck to an "enemy" airfield that had been seized by friendly forces. The team had to identify threats at the airfield and make it safe for operations. On the second day the team embarked on its second scenario, hiking about three miles to "B" Mountain laden with 80-pound packs of gear needed for rendering the area safe for occupying forces. At both sites the team executed actual demolitions, a significant part of training that was difficult for EOD teams to access before being allowed to train at China Lake.

"Following the events of Sept. 11th, 2001, EOD had a hard time finding suitable training areas where we could conduct realistic training scenarios and utilize live demolition because so many other military units were maximizing their own weapons training," said EODTEU 1 Assistant Training Officer, LTJG Alan Beaty. "We needed our own dedicated EOD training area so about a year ago, we were able to gain access to the China Lake ranges. China Lake is perfect for us because the desert and mountain ranges mimic today's area of operations for EOD teams, and being able to use live demolition adds a level of

realism that teams need – especially the junior team members – to be as well-trained as possible prior to deploying to the field."

After the first two days of main camp training, the team received orders to deploy some 8,000 feet above sea level to the Coso Mountain Test Range, which borders the Sierra Nevada Mountains. There the team battled a savvy "enemy" in harsh weather conditions and ruggedly steep terrain. Three days of scenarios evaluated the team's skills in addressing nuclear and radiological situations, seizing and rendering safe military infrastructure – bridges, weapons caches, and armored equipment – and an encounter with an eerily realistic chemical and biological weapons facility.

"All of the problems the teams encounter here at China Lake come from after-action reports from Iraq, Afghanistan and other real-world operations," said EODTEU 1 Training Officer LT Tim Bonderharr.

The tests are real, though the threats are simulated to a lesser degree. Instead of a bomb really blowing up if an EOD teammate makes a mistake, a small charge pops to remind the teammate that he just committed an error.

"Baghdad's bomb squad"

► **Like any other Navy evolution,** the key to successful EOD work is teamwork. Here IS2 (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe serves as a lookout for STS1 (EOD/SS/SW) Heath Nettleton who attempts to disarm a trip-wired door on a simulated enemy bomb-building facility.



"It's obvious when we make a mistake," said EODMU 11, Det. 5 teammate Intelligence Specialist Second Class (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe. "The simulation that the training unit uses makes sure we operate, even in a training environment, just like the situation is real. We feel the pressure of working on a real anti-personnel mine or trying to disarm a booby trap because the training unit blows up real demolition at a safe distance if we make a mistake. The explosion is real, and it tells you better than anything else that you just screwed up."

"It's a real attention getter to hear that explosion," said Parachute Rigger First

Class (EOD/AW) Matthew Harrison. "It's a tough thing to swallow when we make mistakes during training, but better to make a mistake here and correct it and still be able to walk away than to make a mistake in the field and really get hurt."

Getting the attention of the team and having them role-play as seriously as possible during the training scenarios is the goal of the training unit.

"Our training is realistic," said Beaty. "We mean to put a fear factor into the problems the teams approach, even though the charge is just enough to scare them. It goes a long way in reminding them of the inherent dangers of making a mistake in

our line of work."

EODTEU 1 does more than just make sure the training is realistic; they update the scenarios every day if necessary to ensure that the teams are skilled in overcoming the latest problems units are facing in the field.

"We are as up to date in implementing lessons learned from the field as quickly as possible. If we got an after-action report last week, it would immediately be duplicated in the training environment so there are no surprises for deployed teams," said Bonderharr. "In the EOD world threats change on a daily basis, and our training has to evolve just as quickly. For example, we now train our guys to be aware of the

"Baghdad's bomb squad"

► **After disarming a trip-wired door** into this bunker, EOD technician STS1 (EOD/SS/SW) Heath Nettleton gathers intelligence about an enemy's bomb-building capabilities.



► **Bombs, booby traps, explosives and of course dynamite,** like the armful IS2 (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe is carrying after his team removed them from a bridge, are many of the dangerous items EOD technicians have to learn to work with.



▲ **Though defensive in nature, EOD mobile units** are still trained in combat skills. Here, aggressors test the combat techniques of EODMU 11, Det. 5 with simulated mortar fire and enemy small arms fire. The pressures placed upon an EOD team can be enormous. Not only can they be called upon to disarm bombs capable of wiping out entire battalions, but they may have to do so with enemy forces trying to kill them.



◀ **PR1 (EOD/AW) Matthew R. Harrison** and **IS2 (EOD/SW) Chad Munroe**, clear an airfield for friendly force occupation during a field training exercise at China Lake.



▲ **To the casual hiker an abandoned shack** demands little more than a glance, but to a well-trained EOD technician with a nose for weapons caches such a shack can hold a bounty of deadly discoveries.

► **No matter what kinds of weapons** terrorists create to try to kill Americans, EOD technicians are trained to handle them. Here STG3 (EOD) Benjamin T. Grosek, EODMU 11, Det. 5, takes area vapor samples prior to his team advancing into a simulated biological weapons facility during a field training exercise.

fact that the Iraqis are trying to bait our EOD teams. They watch how we operate, and they rig booby traps to counter our techniques, so we have to stay at least one step ahead of the enemy.”

According to NAVSEA's EOD Technology Division website, www.naveodtechdiv.navsea.navy.mil, bomb disposal units owe their roots to The British Royal Navy who dismantled and recovered the first German magnetic mine on the mudflats at Shoeburyness in 1939.

Today all United States military EOD candidates receive their initial training at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

There are more than 700 active-duty EOD technicians in the Navy, a small group of men and women who do what

everyone else in the military tries to avoid—seek out bombs, mines, booby traps and other lethal devices and render them harmless.

No other bomb squad style unit is as mobile as the Navy's elite EOD teams. They routinely deploy in direct support of SEAL, Army Special Forces, CIA, Secret Service, Air Force and Marine Corps operations. No matter what the tasking, EOD can meet any unit's standards by being qualified to dive, jump, and hike as far and as fast as the most elite military units in the world.

“One of the things I like most about being in EOD is the constant changing of our missions,” said EODMU 11, Det. 5 leading petty officer, Sonar Technician

First Class (EOD/SS/SW) Heath V. Nettleton. “There's no doubt everyone on my team is an adrenaline junkie. One day we're diving, the next we're parachuting and now we're here in the Mojave Desert humping 80-pound packs up and down the Coso mountain range. Throw in the fact that we're the guys who try to find booby traps, unexploded ordnance, and anything else that can go boom, and you get the idea that we're definitely a different breed of Sailor. Man, I love my job.” ■

Pinsky is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands



▼ **As early as members of EODMU 11, Det. 5 may have risen**, the training guys from EODTEU 1 had to wake up even earlier to stage the scenarios to test the eight-man team. Here, HTCS (EOD/SW) Mark Olsen, EODTEU 1 air operations division officer, sets up ordnance scenarios for EODMU 11, Det 5. Both units were deployed to China Lake's ranges for a field exercise.

▼ **EOD technician's jobs** are never the same from day to day. Sometimes they simply have to safely dispose of recovered ordnance, and on other days they have to find, disarm and dispose of chemical, biological or even nuclear ordnance. “There's no doubt about it,” said EODMU 11, Det. 5 Leading Petty Officer, STS1 (EOD/SS/SW) Heath Nettleton, “EOD techs are adrenaline junkies.”



“Baghdad's bomb squad”

DIVE MOTIVATOR

Starting off
on the right
flipper ...

► **Sea, Air and Land (SEAL)** candidates are pushed far beyond the typical Sailor's physical limits. Here, a SEAL candidate tries to hold the push-up position after completing a 500-meter swim and a three-mile run. The dive motivators kept the candidates in the push-up position for more than four minutes. No one fell out.

Story and photos by JO1(SCW/SS) James G. Pinsky



▲ **BM1(SEAL) David Cassidy** watches potential SEAL candidates during a 4 a.m. workout.

▶ **AN Blake Beabout ascends** to the surface of the secondary combat training pool during a mask and snorkel familiarization exercise. Beabout, an aircrew candidate, thinks the best thing about being at the dive motivator workouts is the mentorship from the instructors. "The dive motivator (instructors) treated me like a real shipmate. I really appreciated their patience," said Beabout.



▼ **Pain is a constant companion** for dive motivator volunteers. Here, SEAL candidates from the neighboring Naval Training Center "A" schools endure group squat exercises during a 4 a.m. workout.



DIVE MOTIVATOR

"It pays to be a winner," shouts Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SEAL) David Cassidy, a dive motivator assigned to Recruit Training Command (RTC), Great Lakes, Ill. "It pays to be a winner."

Like a starting pistol, his words catapulted Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL), Explosive Ordnance and Disposal (EOD), Diver, Search and Rescue swimmer (SAR) and Special Warfare Combat-Craft Crewman (SWCC) candidates into the secondary combat training pool for another lap. It was their tenth lap after what seemed like a

million push-ups, flutter kicks and pull-ups, but not one candidate complained or even flinched as the workout grew more intense. The truth is, they actually liked the grueling exercise, and they should — after all, they volunteered for the workouts.

Workouts are part of an informal mentorship program called Dive Motivator which are run by SEAL, SWCC, Diver, SAR and EOD instructors assigned to RTC. Local "A" school graduates, Sailors awaiting class assignment and any Sailor around RTC who passes one of the special program screening

tests are welcome to join the voluntary workouts.

Officially, the instructors are billeted to RTC to educate recruits during boot camp and administer special program screening tests to candidates. At the same time, the dive motivator instructors saw a need for a more structured physical fitness training following boot camp to help ensure Sailors showed up at schools like Basic Underwater Demolition/SCUBA (BUD/S) or Navy Air Crewman School in the best shape possible.

"If I had been left on my own after "A"

DIVE MOTIVATOR

► To make it through Basic Underwater Demolition/Scuba (BUD/S) school, the typical three-days-a-week physical training program won't cut it. Here, SEAL candidates participate in voluntary workouts prior to reporting to BUD/S. These candidates complete a daily three-mile run and then swim 500 meters before they begin their morning workout sessions.



▲ **Conditioning is the name** of the game at dive motivator.

◀ **Potential SEAL candidates** work their way through two phases of the SEAL screening exam at the Combat Training Pool, Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

school, there's no way I would have been ready for BUDS," said SEAL candidate, Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Taylor King. "I would have been going to the weight room and getting bulky and heavy—the complete opposite of what I need to do to succeed as a SEAL candidate."

The instructors constantly mentor their candidates in every aspect of their lives because they know being physically fit is not enough to make it through the Navy's special programs. According to Dive Motivator Instructor, Chief Journalist (SEAL) Zechariah Carmack, it takes a fit



mind, a will to win and the heart of a champion. Bringing the champion out of each and every one of the candidates' is why they mentor.

The instructors demand their candidates act like champions in every aspect of their lives. And the mentoring works—it shows in their uniforms, their demeanor, how they talk to the instructors and to each other. Because of the leadership the dive motivators introduce the candidates to, candidates change their diets, study harder and develop the will to swim just one more lap when their body says no more pain today.

After a workout, the candidates, every one of them ripped with toned muscle

structure and lungs like a dolphin, thanked Cassidy for letting them workout. As they left the pool, Cassidy reminded them that the next workout would be at 3 p.m.

"Every time we have an intense training session, and I finish it, I look back upon it and say to myself that it wasn't that bad," said King. "What's amazing is every once in a while I look at just how far I've come both mentally and physically, and I'm motivated even more because I know that what the instructors demand from us works—we get stronger, we get faster, we become more cunning. And that's what Dive Motivator is all about. It prepares us for the special programs so we make it through."

Cassidy's words echo throughout the day with the candidates. Much more than just a slogan, the idea that being the very best you can be is drilled into their heads as if their lives depend on it—because it does.

"All of our jobs are inherently dangerous," said Carmack. "We have to demand from each candidate an attitude of always doing their best. In our line of work, a lapse in concentration or a moment of indecision can mean the difference between a mission's success or failure, a Sailor living or dying."

"We know that we have to bring our 'A' game every day," said Dive Motivator Instructor, Chief Aviation Ordnanceman

DIVE MOTIVATOR



▲ **HN Taylor King breaks** the water during a lap of conditioning at the secondary combat training pool at Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

► **Typically, dive motivators** have the secondary pool all to themselves to administer special program qualification tests, and train as they please throughout the day. But, when the primary combat training pool is full or down for maintenance, recruits invade dive motivator territory.

(EOD/SW) Brian Farris. “Most people in our community may look the other way when this billet is offered to them because they’d rather keep diving, jumping and working within their communities. But they should look at this assignment as the most important contribution they can make to their communities because we’re these candidates first impression of the special programs.

“Like the CNO says, we’re their first 72 hours, and how well we represent our communities goes a long way in determining the success or failure of each candidate,” said Farris. “This job should be viewed as the most important billet to the future of each of our communities. I know I consider it an honor to be here, an honor for fresh candidates to meet me as the first representative of the EOD community. What an awesome responsibility.”

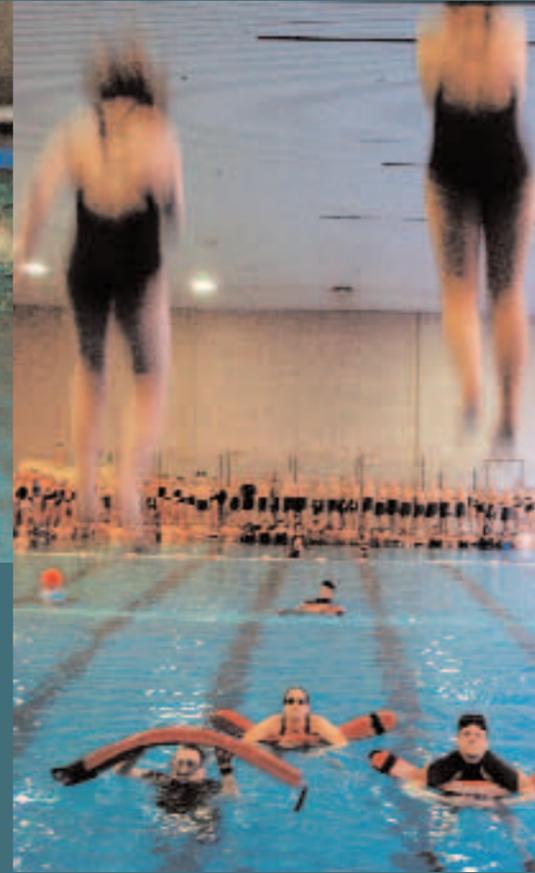
Sometimes the Sailors who show up at the pool aren’t rookie Sailors fresh out of boot camp or “A” school. Sometimes, Sailors midway through their career are

attracted to the zest of being in a special program and petition an instructor for help. Without the slightest hesitation, regardless of the hour in the day, they get the instructor’s very best effort.

Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW/AW) James C. Batti is a classic example.

When he met Dive Motivator Instructor, Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class (AW/NAC) Darrell Olson he was impressed.

“AW2 Olson took me seriously right way,” said the Naval Station Training Center (NSTC) staff member. “I came here with absolutely no swimming skills – nothing more than a desire to be a search and rescue swimmer and Petty Officer Olson never batted an eye. He helped me during working hours and after working hours. And, one thing I noticed right away was that I never saw a sad face here at the dive motivator. Everyone has a positive attitude and that means a lot to a guy like me who is considering making the jump to cross rate.”



Batti like many special programs candidates was first drawn to the challenge because he felt unchallenged by his current life. “I’d already accomplished plenty of things in the Navy as a culinary specialist,” said Batti. “I wanted – no, I needed the challenge of going SAR, so here I am.”

SEAL Candidate King followed a similar path to the Dive Motivator grueling workouts.

“Dive Motivator is definitely making me a better person and challenging me far beyond my comfort zone,” said King. “I think being a SEAL is going to be a lot harder than I thought.”

One of the most important aspects of being a dive motivator instructor is dispelling myths many people have about what it takes to make it through any of the Navy’s special programs.

“We are up front with the candidates as far as what they should expect going into their special programs,” said Senior Chief Boatswain’s Mate (SEAL) Jody McIntyre the dive motivator officer in charge. “We



◀ **The secondary combat training pool** is home to the dive motivators at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.



▲ **BM1(SEAL) David Cassidy mentors** prospective SEAL candidates during a remedial swim stroke lesson at the combat training pool at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

screen the candidates for far more than just being physically fit and mentally sharp, because it takes something much more than that to make it – it takes heart. I’ve seen world-class triathletes fail out of BUD/S, and I’ve seen the tiniest, most unimposing Sailors cruise through the Navy’s toughest training. One thing is for sure with BUD/S having a 70 percent attrition rate, anyone who wants to be a SEAL, DIVER, EOD, SAR or SWCC graduate needs to get it in their heads right now that you’ll have to do far more than the minimum to make it in our communities.”

Dive motivator is a volunteer program open to anyone who passes their respective special program’s entrance tests. Once they meet the minimum standards the real fun begins as daily workouts move each candidate closer to their class-up date for their special program. The dive motivators pull no punches in preparing the candidates for what lies ahead of them in the training pipeline. There are no silver spoons at the dining table of dive motivators.

“Yeah, I’m scared of BUD/S,” said Taylor, “BUD/S isn’t a halfway place. It’s all or nothing, and there will always be the specter of failure, but thanks to dive motivators I know that I’m going there in the very best shape of my life and armed with the support and confidence of Sailors who wear the trident. They think I can do it and I think I can do it.” ■

Pinsky is a photojournalist who is assigned to All Hands.



▶ Although unoccupied or used as sheds, old stone homes can still be seen nestled in the picturesque hills around Castletownbere, Ireland.

Putting a Face On Our Past



The crew of **USS *The Sullivans*** join in a memorial celebration of the five Sullivan brothers in Trafrask, Ireland

Fallen comrades have inspired the building of monuments, naming of ships and declaration of holidays. Yet all too soon, these tributes become simple navigation markers in a trek across town. Names painted across haze-gray hulls become divorced from the deeds of heroic honorees. Even entire days set aside for remembrance quickly become reduced to mere days off from work or sales events at local malls. Sometimes it is only friends and family of those honored who recall the very real fathers and sons, mothers and daughters behind the homage.

▼ **Kelly Ann Sullivan Loughren** unveils the plaque that marks the location of the ancestral home of the Sullivan family.

The Sullivan brothers are one such faded memory of naval history that was recently made clearer for the crew of USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) when they were invited to join in the 400th anniversary celebration of the O'Sullivan-Beara clan in the town of Trafrask, Ireland—birthplace of the five ill-fated men.

On Jan. 3, 1942, George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert Sullivan enthusiastically started a new year by joining the U.S. Navy. Because of their strong fraternal bond, the men joined with the stipulation that they would be allowed to serve together. As such, the brothers were jointly assigned to the light cruiser USS *Juneau* (CL 52). In a tragic twist of fate fit only for the most epochal of war novels, all five brothers were lost at sea only a few months later, when *Juneau* was sunk by a Japanese torpedo in the waters of the South Pacific during the battle of Guadalcanal on November 13, 1942.



▲ With its rolling green hills and picturesque farms, the Beara Peninsula possesses a haunting beauty.

◀ Anchored off Castletownbere, Ireland, USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) arrived as part of a memorial ceremony for the five Sullivan brothers killed in World War II. The Sullivan family hails from County Cork, Ireland, on the Beara Peninsula.



Shortly after the Sullivan brothers' deaths, policy on siblings serving together on a naval vessel changed forever. Never again would one family endure such loss.

Sixty-two years later, the Sailors of *The Sullivans* arrived in the small harbor of Castletownbere, Ireland, to help commemorate the brothers' naval service. Not only did the crew of *The Sullivans* join in the festivities and give tours of their ship to the community, they also helped reunite new and old generations of Sullivans.

Kelly Ann Sullivan Loughren and John Sullivan, grandchildren of Albert, traveled aboard the ship to the event. "This is my first time in Ireland," said Loughren. "Where my ancestors came from is truly

something special, and my family is so proud of our Irish roots. These coastal towns are where everything began for the five Sullivan brothers."

The community's memorial celebration spanned an entire week and invoked tales of not only George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert, but also their entire lineage.

Highlighting the week was a parade from the site of the brothers' ancestral home to a memorial plaque erected in their honor. Three bagpipers led the way, filling the air with their haunting chords as family, friends and Sailors stretched out behind them along the winding, pebble-strewn path and across emerald-colored hills.

When the festivities ended and the crew of *The Sullivans* weighed anchor, Sailors left with a closer connection to their namesakes. "It was an emotional ceremony," said CDR Richard Brown, commanding officer of *The Sullivans*. "This visit is something I will always remember and cherish."

For the crew of *The Sullivans*, the five Sullivan brothers are more than just a memory. They are more than the stone and steel that bears their surname, and they are more than the naval policy they changed—they are family. ■

Darby is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands. Houlihan is now a civilian photojournalist formerly assigned to All Hands.

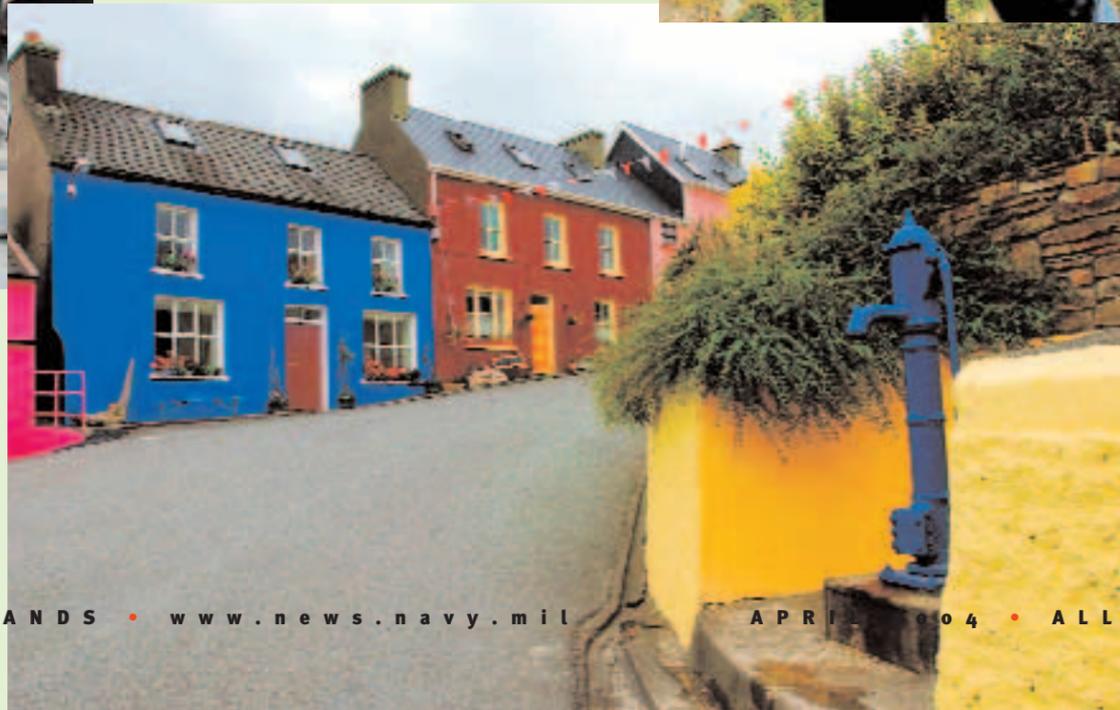


◀ **Kelly Ann Sullivan Loughren** addresses the crowd at a ceremony honoring the five Sullivan brothers killed in World War II. Kelly Ann is the granddaughter of Albert Sullivan and the sponsor of USS *The Sullivans*.

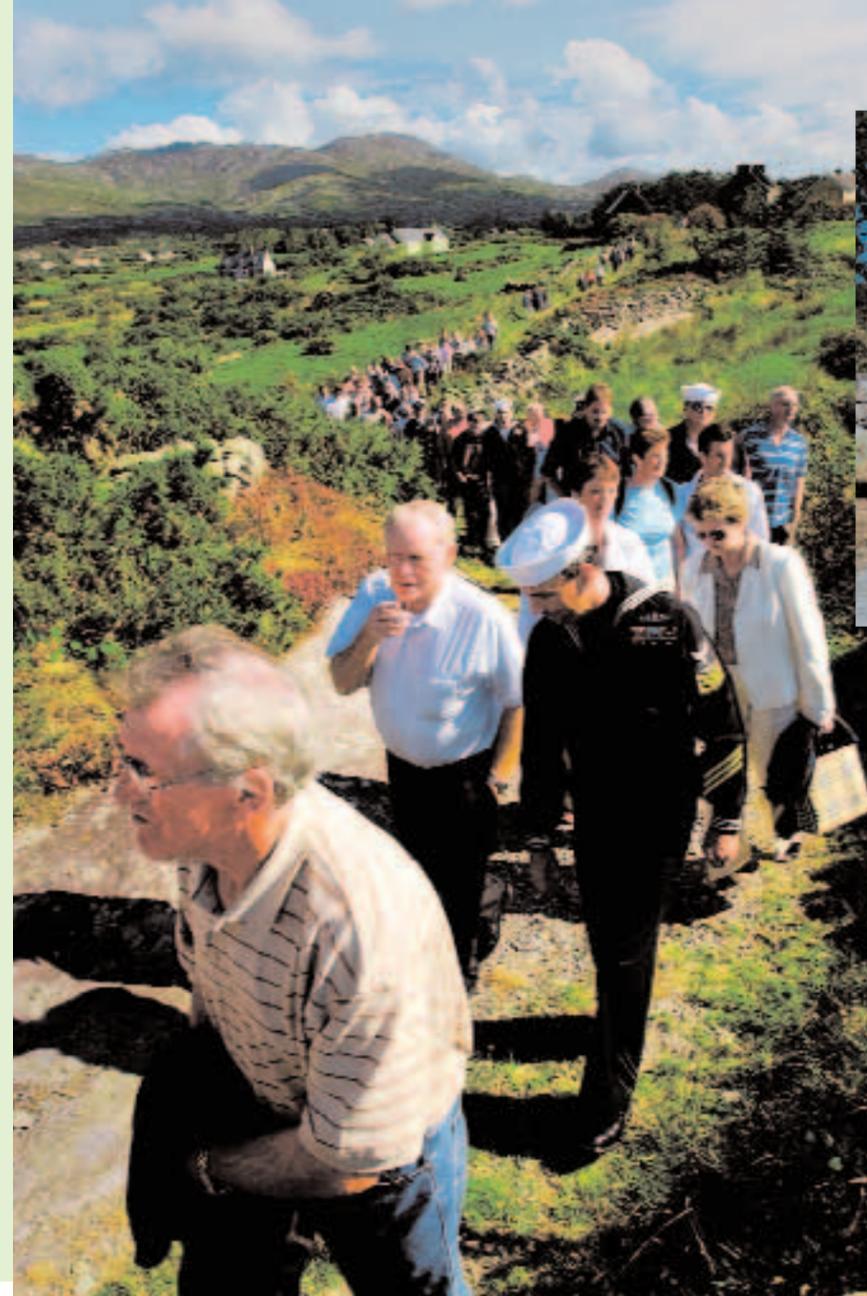


▲ **Though not usually a place** where children play, the missile deck onboard USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) became a makeshift playground during public tours of the ship.

▶ **Hundreds of County Cork locals** and USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) Sailors walk from the Sullivans homestead site to the memorial honoring the five Sullivan brothers killed in action during World War II.



▶ **Towns and villages** that used to be only adorned in shades of grey have in recent years livened up their look with brilliant splashes of color.



▲ **Bagpipers lead a procession** of locals and USS *The Sullivans* (DDG 68) crew members along the shore of Adrigole, Ireland, from the site of the Sullivan family homestead, to a memorial plaque honoring the five brothers killed in World War II.

▼ **Ancient tombstones** dot the landscape reminding visitors of the thousands of people killed during the years of the potato famine of the 1840s.



CREATIVE RESPONSIBILITY

Navy Draftsman teaches Basic Multimedia Illustration Class for the first time at DINFOS.

Draftsmen and illustrators from all branches attend the Basic Multimedia Illustrator course held at the Defense Information School, searching for the necessary techniques to be a proficient and responsible artist in the Armed Forces. The course, which has always been taught by non-Navy personnel, is being taught by a Sailor for the first time.

Chief Draftsman (SW) Michael Fitts is the now filling the instructing position for the Navy. What started as a childhood talent and love of art has blossomed into a satisfying career. "I take a lot of pride in teaching the multimedia class, whether it's drafting or illustration. Knowing that the students' talents will be used for the good of our country is something worth mentioning," said Fitts.

The course shapes military artists so their talents can be well used wherever they are asked to serve.

"There is not an 'A' school set up for draftsmen, so the

course is structured around helping the students be successful in all aspects of art," said Fitts.

"I have been in the Navy for 19 years and was required to submit a portfolio with my request to become a draftsman," said Fitts. "But it's well worth the effort and satisfaction, being able to continue my passion and desire to create art as a job."

Sailors everywhere are able to express themselves creatively for the good of the fleet, and having a professional artist teach the multimedia course only strengthens their capabilities.

"Now I'm able to share my knowledge of art with my students, which is rewarding. I know that the information I share may allow Sailors to better express themselves, and give them the capability to be creatively responsible for their designated branch of service," said Fitts.

Frantom is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

Story and photos by PH3 Todd Frantom

Eye on the Fleet

Eye on the Fleet is a monthly photo feature sponsored by the Chief of Information Navy Visual News Service. We are looking for **high impact**, quality photography from **Sailors** in the fleet to showcase the American Sailor in **action**.

Free Fall ▶

Members of Special Operations Command Pacific, conduct a free-fall parachute training jump from a U.S. Army UH-60L *Black Hawk* helicopter from more than 10,000 feet.

Photo by PH1 Keith W. DeVinney



▼ A Lone Moment

AN Kevin Burns takes a break while participating in a "scrub ex" of the flight deck of USS *George Washington* (CVN 73.)

Photo by PH1 Brien Aho



◀ Moored

Line handlers take up slack on the mooring lines aboard the newly-commissioned, guided-missile destroyer USS *Chafee* (DDG 90) as she arrives in her new home-port of Pearl Harbor.

Photo by PH1 William R. Goodwin



This is a Drill ▶

Stretcher bearers move a patient, from a rickshaw stretcher to a bed, during a mass casualty exercise aboard USNS *Mercy* (T-AH 19).

Photo by PH3 Johansen Laurel



▼ Catch of the Day

QM2 Justin Peel, a search and rescue swimmer, secures an MK-46 exercise torpedo to be hoisted aboard the guided-missile cruiser USS *Vincennes* (CG 49) after a successful torpedo exercise.

Photo by PH2 Brandon A. Teeple



To be considered, forward your **high resolution (5" x 7" at 300 dpi) images** with full credit and cutline information, including **full name, rank and duty station**. Name all identifiable people within the photo and include important information about what is happening, where the photo was taken and the date. Commands with digital photo capability can send attached .jpg files to: navynewsphoto@hq.navy.mil

Mail your submissions to:

Navy Visual News Service • Naval Media Center
2713 Mitscher Rd., S.W., Anacostia Annex, D.C. 20373-5819

For a new **Eye on the Fleet** everyday, click on the **Navy NewsStand's** home page, www.news.navy.mil, for fresh images of your shipmates in action.

Eye on History

Eye on History is a monthly photo feature sponsored by the Naval Historical Center.

For more photos pertaining to naval history, go to www.history.navy.mil.



1973 ▶

The most difficult job after finding the ruptured pipes of the wet environmental trainer is to temporarily stop the gushing water, which always results in soaking Sailors who are already waist deep in water.



◀ 1950

USS *Valley Forge* (CV 45) Sailors drove hard bargains during their visit to the Japanese port city of Sasebo, after having spent many weeks at sea hitting North Koreans from the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan. After their short rest, *Valley Forge* headed right back to enemy waters to again press home air assaults.



◀ 1989

ADM Frank B. Kelso II, Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command/Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, waves from atop the sail of the nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine USS *Tennessee* (SSBN 734) as she nears the pier at her new homeport of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga.



1950 ▶

Ensign E. DeJackson, injured after flying into a wire booby trap across the Korea's Han River, is assisted from his damaged F-9F *Panther* by crash crewmen of USS *Philippine Sea* (CV 47). His eyesight impaired, Jackson's landing was directed by radio rather than the normal visual signals of the landing signals officer.



◀ 1943

A U.S. Navy diver, working in the 26-year-old battleship USS *Arizona* (BB 39), hands up a piece of twisted machinery reclaimed from the interior of the ship. A senior naval officer directs the operation to salvage materials that can be refashioned into new instruments of war to use against the enemy, whose bombs wrecked *Arizona* in the surprise attack of Dec. 7, 1941.

What's in a Name? Plenty

Story by JO2 Charles L. Ludwig

About once a week, I'll gaze up at a street sign and quizzically wonder, "How in the heck did they come up with that name?" Or, "Could that street really be named after something?"

When I was a child, these thoughts entered my head all the time. For instance, the house I grew up in (the same house my parents still live in) was on South Moss Drive in South Louisiana. To this day, I have no clue as to what it was named after. It's more than likely a mossy tree, and, if it is, all I can say is, "What?" I need something better than that. I need something like Kate Moss, or maybe even Randy Moss. A mossy tree isn't going to help me very much when "they" ask.

"They" are my children, all three of them (with another one on the way.) One day, we'll be visiting the grandparents, and they will ask me, "Dad, why Moss?" At that point, I'll be forced to give them my "the-lights-are-on-but-nobody's-home" look until they leave me alone.

Luckily for Navy kids and their parents living in Groton, Conn., the Naval Submarine Base New London (SUBASE) Public Works Department (PWD) is making the street sign subject as easy to understand as first-grade math.

At SUBASE, the home of the Navy's submarine school, among other sub-related commands, a new set of street signs is allowing parents to answer their children's street name queries quickly and with no undue stress on the brain.

The new signs, like the previous ones, feature the names of the lost World War II-era submarines. But PWD made one important addition: just below the street's name, people can now read the date the ship was lost, along with the total number of Sailors lost on each.

These add-ons separate the base's streets from many throughout the country. Hopefully, visitors and residents of the base will recognize through the signs what before may have been overlooked – the genuine meaning behind each thoroughfare's moniker.

"These new signs will have a greater significance than the old signs because now it will give the people a greater appreciation of the history of the different submarines and a little remembrance of the Sailors who were lost," said LTJG R.J. Kline, the SUBASE PWD operations officer. "... We wanted to recognize the Sailors who were lost."

To put it quite simply, it is well-deserved recognition. People know of the perilous situations submariners put themselves in every day. It may be considered cliché, but, on a submarine, there's no going overboard when the boat is in a deadly, downward spiral. Speaking as a former member of the crew of USS *Nassau* (LHA 4), I took solace knowing if something went horribly wrong, I could possibly work my way to a lifeboat. On a submarine, I wouldn't have had that security blanket. On a sub, you put out the fire, you stop the leak or you die. Bottom line. There's nothing I can think of honoring more.

The new signs started popping up around base in mid-November, when PWD began the process of replacing nearly

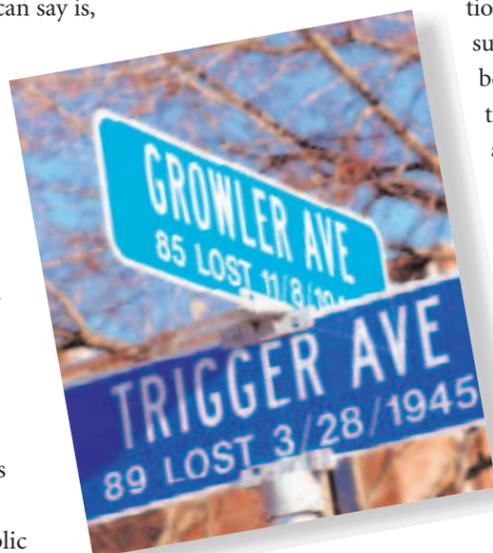
175 signs. Since then, the intended message hasn't been lost on those newest of submariners – the students of the U.S. Navy Submarine School.

"It was a brilliant idea for (PWD) to put up these new signs," said sub school student Seaman Anton Harris. "Before the new signs went up, the names didn't mean anything to me... Now I understand that (some) streets represent submarines that were lost, and I'll think about what happened back then."

So while SUBASE can lay claim to streets by the name of Trigger, Shark and Grenadier, most towns (including the one I grew up in) will have to be content with blah streets like Main, Park or First.

Looks like I better start coming up with a good Moss story soon. I have a lot to compete with.

Ludwig is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.



Relax...

You Now Have An Entire Year

All Hands' photo editors are looking for the year's top photos for the October "Any Day in the Navy" issue. Deadline for submission is July 15, 2004. Send your best shots taken between July 1, 2003 and July 1, 2004 to: anyday@mediacn.navy.mil
For information and submissions:
www.mediacn.navy.mil/still/anyday

ANY DAY IN THE NAVY

his
Recruiter
warned him
it would be **Tough.**



But, he's up to the challenge of being a...



... are you?