



SAILORS HELPING in FAR AWAY PLACES



& OPERATING with ALLIED FORCES

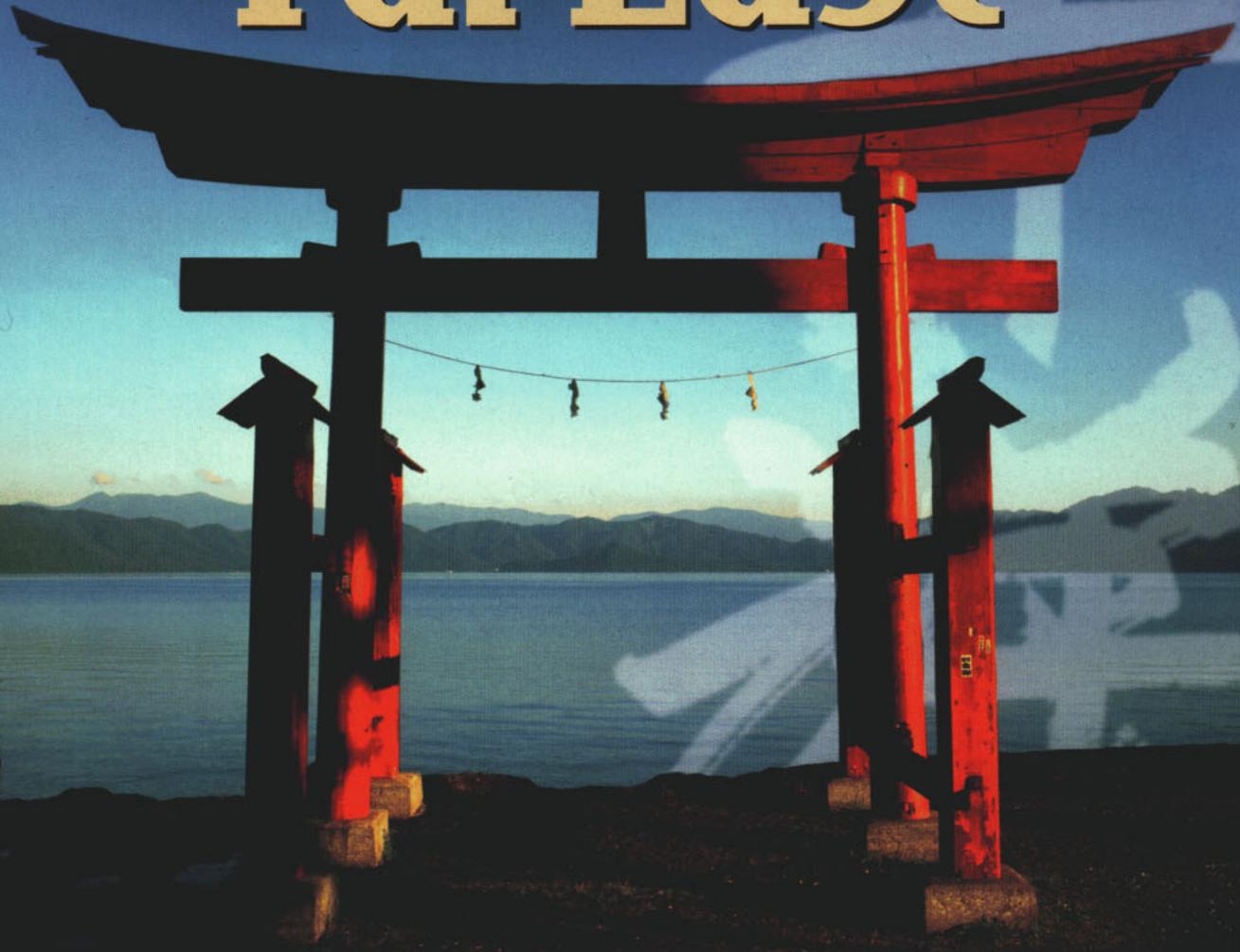
WWW.MEDIA.CEN.NAVY.MIL

# All HANDS

MAGAZINE OF THE U.S. NAVY

DECEMBER 2000

## The Far East



# December

## Features

### 14 CNO Emphasizes New Five-Point Plan

ADM Vern Clark discusses his five priorities of manpower, readiness, future readiness, quality of service and alignment that will enable the Navy to grow and prosper.

### 16 Behind These Walls

Some have small kitchenettes and laundry facilities on every floor, while most offer semi-private rooms and only one roommate. Today's barracks rooms provide a little bit of home to our Sailors.

### 22 The Far East: CARAT 2000 Practice Makes Perfect

*Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2000* promotes interoperability, provides a better understanding of our host country navies and marine corps and exemplifies our forward presence in the Western Pacific.

### 28 Swinging to A Different Beat

Sailors discover that the convenience of stateside living is alive and well in "The Land of the Rising Sun."

### 34 Destination Japan

Whether it's your first, second or last tour in Japan, you'll find plenty to do – just step outside and look around.



Photo by JOC Robert Benson

Secretary of the Navy  
The Honorable Richard Danzig  
Chief of Naval Operations  
ADM Vern Clark  
Chief of Information  
RADM Stephen R. Pietropoli  
Commander, Naval Media Center  
CAPT James M. Kazda  
Publishing Department Head  
CDR Harold Pittman  
Publishing Division Officer  
LT Douglas Spencer  
Print Media Coordinator  
LT Brock DeWalt

**EDITORIAL**

Editor  
Marie G. Johnston  
Managing Editor  
JOCs(AW) Dave Desilets  
Assistant Editor  
JO1 Preston Keres  
Photo Editor  
PH2(AW) Jim Watson  
Editorial Staff  
JO1 Joseph Gunder III  
PH2 Aaron Ansarov  
PH2 Robert Houlihan  
PHAN Saul Ingle

**DISTRIBUTION**

Garland Powell

**WEB DESIGN**

DM1 Rhea Mackenzie

**ART & DESIGN**

Rabil & Bates Communication Design  
Creative Director  
Debra Bates  
Art & Design Director  
Roger O. Selva Jr.  
Graphic Designers  
Jane Farthing  
Jamie Kashetta  
Seth H. Sirbaugh  
Digital Prepress Coordinator  
Lisa J. Smith

*All Hands* (USPS 372-970; ISSN 0002-5577) Number 1004 is published monthly by the Naval Media Center, Publishing Division, 2713 Mitscher Rd. S.W., Anacostia Annex, D.C. 20373-5819. Periodicals postage paid at Anacostia Annex, D.C., and at additional mailing offices.

**Subscriptions:** For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 or call (202) 512-1800. Subscription prices are: \$29 (domestic) /\$36.25 (foreign); \$5.50 (single copy domestic) /\$6.88 (single copy foreign).

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to *All Hands*, Naval Media Center, Publishing Division 2713 Mitscher Rd., S.W., Anacostia Annex, D.C. 20373-5819

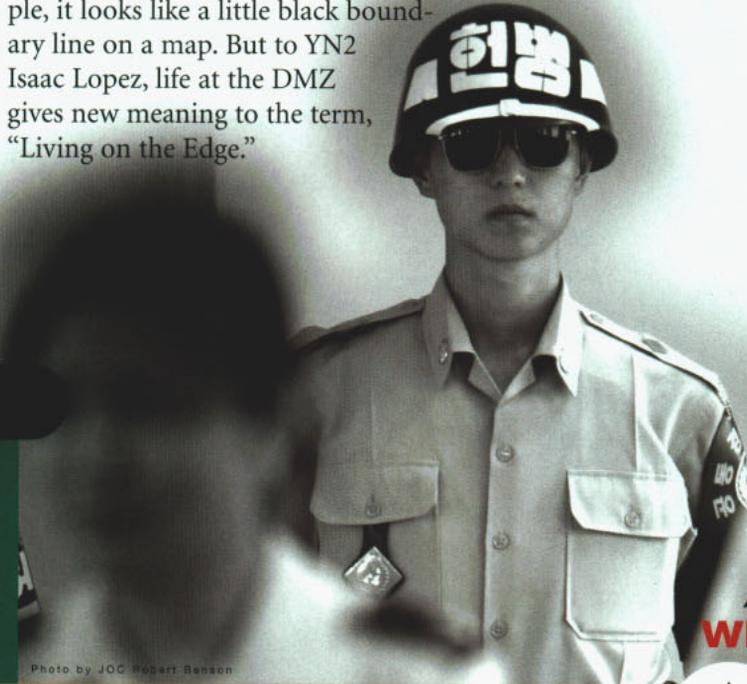
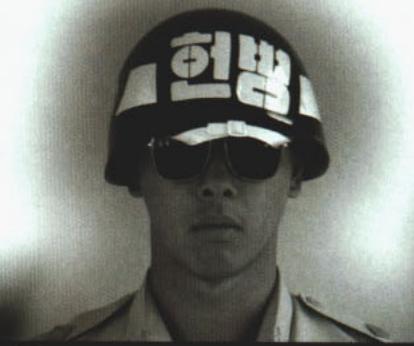
**Editorial Offices:** Send submissions and correspondence to Naval Media Center Publishing Division, ATTN: Editor 2713 Mitscher Rd. S.W., Anacostia Annex, D.C. 20373-5819  
Tel: DSN 288-4171 or (202) 433-4171  
Fax: DSN 288-4747 or (202) 433-4747  
E-Mail: [allhands@mediacen.navy.mil](mailto:allhands@mediacen.navy.mil)  
Message: NAVMEDACEN WASHINGTON DC //32//

**Authorization:** The Secretary of the Navy has determined this publication is necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the Department of the Navy. Funds for printing this publication have been approved by the Navy Publications and Printing Committee.

**38 Foreign Sojourn in Korea**  
From Chinhae and Pohang to Seoul, "The Land of the Morning Calm" offers many things to today's Sailor.

**42 Secret Living in the Shadows**  
One hour north of Seoul, Korea, lies the 38th parallel. To most people, it looks like a little black boundary line on a map. But to YN2 Isaac Lopez, life at the DMZ gives new meaning to the term, "Living on the Edge."

**48 WESTPAC Liberty**  
When the exercises are over and the ships are tied up at their piers, it's "Liberty Call" in the Far East.



## Departments

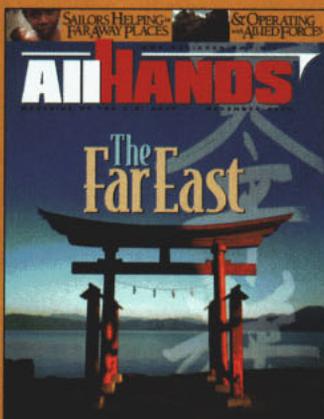
- 6 Around the Fleet
- 52 CyberSailor
- 54 Eye on the Fleet
- 56 The Final Word

Photo by JOC Robert Benson

All Hands  
**WINNER**



**2000**  
Awards of Magazine  
Excellence



**On the Front Cover**  
Tori Gate at Tazawa Lake, Japan.

Photo by Yuhji Kawabe

**Next Month**  
All Hands serves as your Navy Owner's and Operator's Manual for 2001 with rights and benefits information appropriately packaged for the new millennium.

**Check us out Online at:**

[www.mediacen.navy.mil](http://www.mediacen.navy.mil)



# Surf's **Up**



Members of BUDS Class 233 make their way through a wave while participating in the "surf passage" phase of Hell Week in San Diego. The men who finish this week of grueling trials will most likely go on to become Navy SEALs.

Photo by PH2 Aaron Ansarov

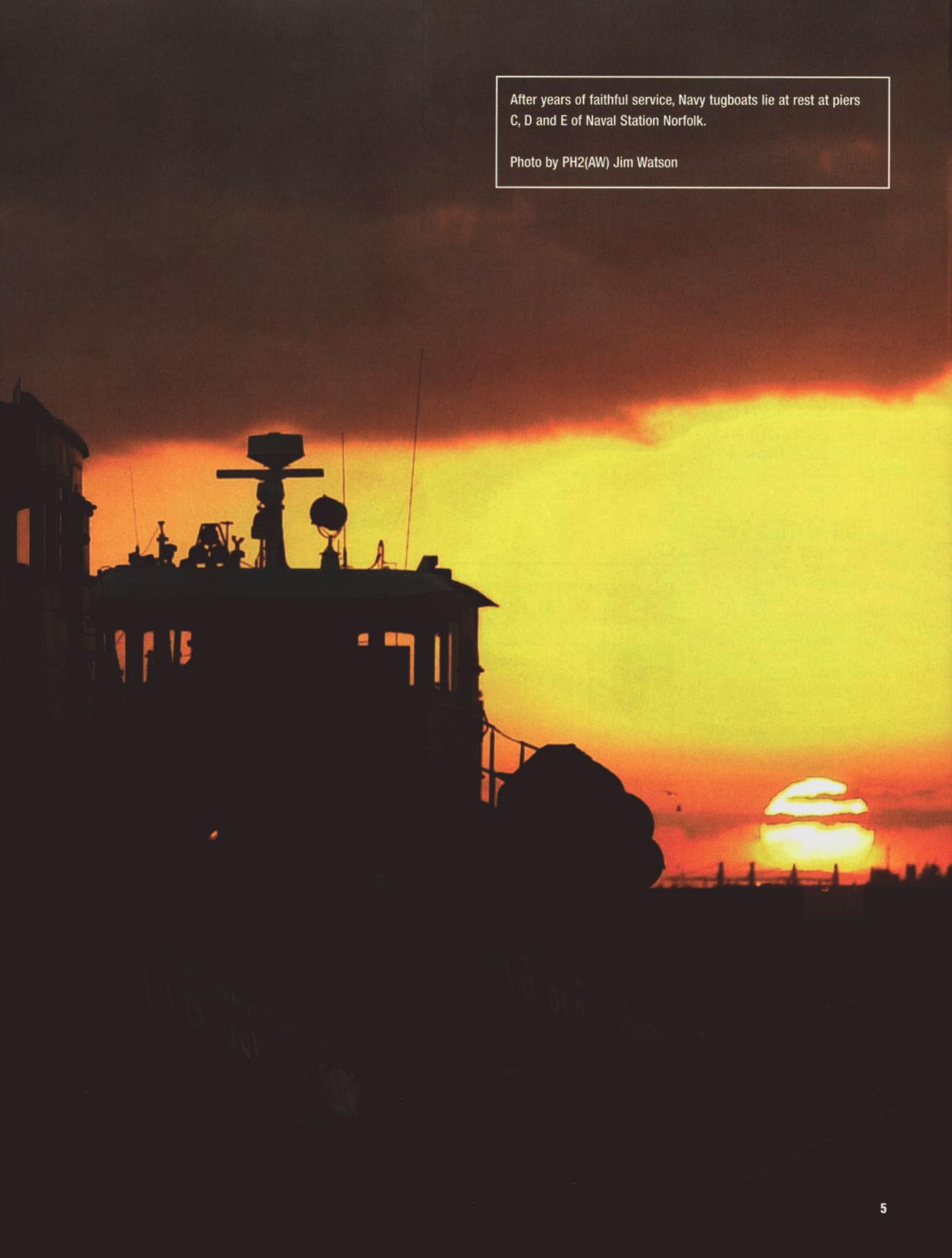


# Final **Farewell**



After years of faithful service, Navy tugboats lie at rest at piers C, D and E of Naval Station Norfolk.

Photo by PH2(AW) Jim Watson



# Around the Fleet

## Editor,

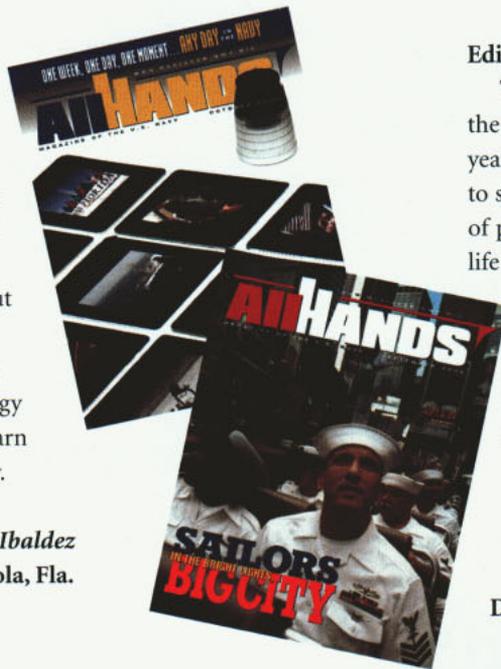
I just finished reading the September issue of *All Hands*, and in my 14 years in the Navy, I read it every chance I get. The articles are written with pride and dedication to uplift morale in the fleet. Keep up the great work and thanks for giving us some positive reading.

**SK2 Raymond D'Aloisio**  
SUP/S-1 DIV  
USS Camden (AOE 2)

## Editor,

I read *All Hands* magazine. It's awesome, HOORAH NAVY!!! I'm glad to be a Sailor. I'm in Pensacola right now, but I'll be graduating soon. I want to read more about the CVNs, CVs, SBBNs and the latest technology and the tactics and strategy during the wartime to learn how we defeat the enemy.

**AN Emerson G. Ibaldez**  
Pensacola, Fla.



## Editor,

The October 2000 issue is the best I have seen in my 24 years in the Navy. Your ability to sort through the thousands of pictures to capture the daily life in the Navy is superb. I

would put the quality of the magazine up against any and all major weekly/monthly publications in this great country.

Thank you,  
**CAPT Craig McDonald**  
Executive Assistant  
Director of the Naval Reserve

## BY THE Numbers

### 1

The number of roommates many Sailors have living in the BEQ today.  
(See story Page 16)

### 99

The percentage of eligible people living in base housing at Misawa, Japan. At Atsugi and Yokosuka it's 75 percent and it's more than 60 percent at Sasebo.  
(See story Page 28)

### 38

The 38<sup>th</sup> parallel divides North and South Korea. Learn what it's like to have duty on the DMZ.  
(See story Page 42)

### 14

The length (in feet) of Charlie, the unofficial mascot at Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, S.C.  
(See story Page 56)

## SHIPMATES



**PHOTOGRAPHER'S MATE 3<sup>RD</sup> CLASS SAM T. SPAIN JR.** was selected as NAMTRAGRU HQ 2000 Junior Sailor Of The Quarter (2nd quarter). Spain, a native of Conway, S.C., was recognized for converting archived film data over to the digital domain. He holds the only photographer's mate billet at the command, and volunteers his time in the Pensacola, Fla., school system, performing Junior Achievement duties and mentoring.



**CRYPTOLOGIC TECHNICIAN (ADMINISTRATIVE) 1ST CLASS RUTH LANGLOIS** was selected as Sailor of the Quarter, 3rd Quarter, for Amphibious Group 3, San Diego. Langlois, a native of Somers Point, N.J., is the Assistant Security Manager and Assistant Security Officer for the staff of Amphibious Group 3. She also chairs the MWR committee and is a member of the Command Training Team.



**STOREKEEPER 2<sup>ND</sup> CLASS (SW) RACHEL SMITH**, a crew member aboard the Sasebo-based USS *Fort McHenry* (LSD 43), was named Junior Sailor of the Quarter for Commander, Amphibious Group 1, in Okinawa and Sasebo, Japan. Smith's work in the Supply/Support Center aboard *Fort McHenry* with Depot Level Repairables (DLRs), contributed to her receiving JSOQ on both the ship and for Amphibious Group 1. She tracked DLRs coming to and going from the ship, and turned in parts in need of replacement, which reduced the cost of expensive parts and saved the Navy money.



**INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS CINDY STEVENSON** from San Antonio, was selected as Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe's (CINCUSNAVEUR) Sailor of the Quarter, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. Stevenson currently supervises the Presentations and Briefing Theater at Headquarters in London.

**Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy  
MMCM (SS/SW/AW) Jim Herdt**

# Speaking with Sailors

## MCPON's Holiday Message to the Fleet

**T**he holiday season is upon us once again, and with the blink of an eye, we have written the first chapter of our Navy's heritage for this century.

It's no surprise that this

newest chapter reads very similar to others of recent past — United States Sailors continue to go wherever their country asks, and serve with dedication and commitment unparalleled throughout navies around the world. Your service on behalf of freedom is the price we must pay to sustain our great country's way of life. The love of God, country and family that leads us to sea today is the same motivation that has taken Sailors to sea for the past 224 years.

Navy families have known and lived constant sacrifices for generations now. As we take time this holiday season to appreciate the blessings we enjoy, it's important to remember not only our past shipmates, but also their families. They too have endured the same continual sacrifices in the name of freedom.

Yes, what you do is extremely important! What you do is not easy, but very necessary for more people than you could possibly fathom. You've all heard the proclamations that our Navy's greatest asset is its people. I'm here to tell you that there is nothing more important to our Navy than you, the Sailor standing

the watch on the bridge; in the engine room; or on guard so our shipmates can sleep safely. As you stand these watches, rest assured that the people leading your Navy are keenly aware of your importance, and your family's importance as well.

I know in the coming year, you will continue to serve with your same unwavering dedication and professionalism. This will once again help our Navy improve upon its well-established and proud heritage.

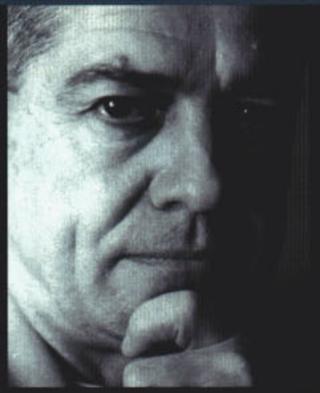
Every Sailor in the Navy should concentrate on meeting two essential elements in their job. The first is how well they accomplish or contribute to their command meeting its mission and the mission of the Navy. The second is how well they provide the opportunity, direction and role modeling necessary to grow and develop Sailors. These are what we, as Sailors, are all about and these are how we must judge our level of success.

I swell with pride every time I visit Sailors around the fleet. I'm proud to call you shipmates; I'm proud of the missions we're accomplishing around the world; and I'm proud to say I serve in the greatest Navy in the history of the world. You continually make my eyes water when I see how you do your jobs with simple, "Aye, aye."

*Happy holidays to you and your families. ☑*

**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.**

Photo by JOC Robert Benson



United States Postal Service  
**Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**

1. Publication Title <b>ALL HANDS MAGAZINE</b>		2. Publication Number <b>0 0 0 2 - 5 5 7 7</b>	3. Filing Date <b>01OCT00</b>
4. Issue Frequency <b>MONTHLY</b>		5. Number of Issues Published Annually <b>12</b>	6. Annual Subscription Price <b>\$29.00</b>
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) <b>COMMANDING OFFICER NAVAL MEDIA CENTER 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b>			
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) <b>NAVAL MEDIA CENTER PUBLICATIONS DIVISION 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b>		Contact Person <b>GARLAND POWELL</b> Telephone <b>(202) 433-4246</b>	
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) <b>COMMANDING OFFICER NAVAL MEDIA CENTER 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b> Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <b>MARIE G. JOHNSTON NAVAL MEDIA CENTER PUBLICATIONS DIVISION 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b> Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) <b>CDR H. R. PITTMAN NAVAL MEDIA CENTER 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b>			
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of all individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)			
Full Name <b>NAVAL MEDIA CENTER</b>		Complete Mailing Address <b>COMMANDING OFFICER NAVAL MEDIA CENTER 2713 MITSCHER ROAD SW ANACOSTIA ANNEX DC 20373-5819</b>	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box.			
Full Name <b>N/A</b>		Complete Mailing Address <b>N/A</b>	
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)			

13. Publication Title <b>ALL HANDS MAGAZINE</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>OCTOBER 2000</b>	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation			
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		<b>87,000</b>	<b>87,000</b>
1. Paid (Requested Outside-Country Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541, check address to print and exchange copies)		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
2. Paid in-Country Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include subscriptions purchased through carrier)		<b>85,450</b>	<b>81,649</b>
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
2. Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		<b>85,450</b>	<b>81,649</b>
d. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
e. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)		<b>1,050</b>	<b>1,050</b>
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		<b>86,500</b>	<b>82,699</b>
g. Copies not Distributed		<b>500</b>	<b>4,301</b>
h. Total (Sum of 15g and f)		<b>87,000</b>	<b>87,000</b>
i. Payment Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g, line 100)		<b>98.79%</b>	<b>98.73%</b>
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership a. Publication of this statement is required by 39 USC 3685. Publication of this statement is required by 39 USC 3685. Publication of this statement is required by 39 USC 3685. Publication of this statement is required by 39 USC 3685.			
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <b>CAPT. H. R. PITTMAN COMMANDING OFFICER NAVAL MEDIA CENTER 01 OCTOBER 2000</b>			
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
<b>Instructions to Publishers</b>			
1. Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.			
2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.			
3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.			
4. Item 15c. Copies not distributed, must include (1) nonreturnable copies originally stated on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher, (2) editorial returns from news agents, and (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled, and all other copies not distributed.			
5. If the publication had periodicity authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.			
6. In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.			
7. Item 17 must be signed.			
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.			

## USS *Ward* Fires First Pacific War Shots

Story by JO2 Frederick C. Busch

**L**ookouts on USS *Ward* (DD 139) noticed a small featherwake at 5 a.m., Dec. 7, 1941, outside the entrance to Pearl Harbor. Moments later, *Ward's* general quarters alarm sounded, sending her crew from their bunks to battle stations. Many of her crew hailed from St. Paul, Minn. *Ward's* Commanding Officer, Lt. William W. Outerbridge, took charge of the ship less than two days before and was sleeping in a make-shift bunk in the chart house. Outerbridge was on the bridge in seconds, pulling a life jacket over his pajamas. He wore a World War I style tin helmet.

The first shots of the Pacific war were fired from *Ward's* No. 1, four-inch mount at 6:45 a.m. They fell harmlessly beyond the Japanese submarine's small conning tower. As *Ward* raced past the submarine at 25 knots, her No. 3 gun, atop the galley deck house amidships, fired shots that went through the conning tower.

Four depth charges were previewed by four blasts of the ship's whistle. Black water was seen in the ship's wake after the bombs exploded, proof the submarine was doomed.

Outerbridge sent a terse action radio report that he had, "sighted and fired upon an unidentified submarine in the defensive sea area" to the Commandant, 14th Naval District Headquarters. He distinguished the attack from the many sightings of local patrol forces.

Confirmation delays and reluctance to heed the warning resulted in the message's slow transmission through communication channels.

Meanwhile, *Ward* echo-ranged for further contacts, found another submarine and dropped more depth charges.

On her way back to the purple and green hills of Oahu, *Ward* spotted a small Japanese fishing boat; a familiar sight in these waters at the time. The fisherman waved a white flag having probably heard the depth-charge attacks. To be safe, *Ward* took the boat in tow and later turned it over to the Coast Guard.

Nearing the harbor, *Ward's* crew heard explosions and gunfire as smoke rolled into the sky over Pearl Harbor. A strafing Japanese *Zero* ensured doubters that a war was going on.

The Japanese concentrated their attacks on the battleships anchored off Ford Island. More than half of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps airplanes on airfields were destroyed, while all but 29 of 361 Japanese airplanes returned to their carriers.

That day, the death toll was 2,403 American servicemen, with another 1,178 were wounded. And it was just the beginning ... ☒

*Busch is a Reservist assigned to NARC, Minneapolis.*

## New Partnerships With Colleges For Navy College Program

**C**oming soon to wherever you are — the latest and greatest enhancement to the Navy College Program — partnerships with colleges to offer degrees through distance learning to Sailors everywhere.

Do you wonder which degree would use the credit that you have already earned for Navy training? Would you like to pursue a degree related to your Navy job? Don't think that you're college material? Your opportunity is here!

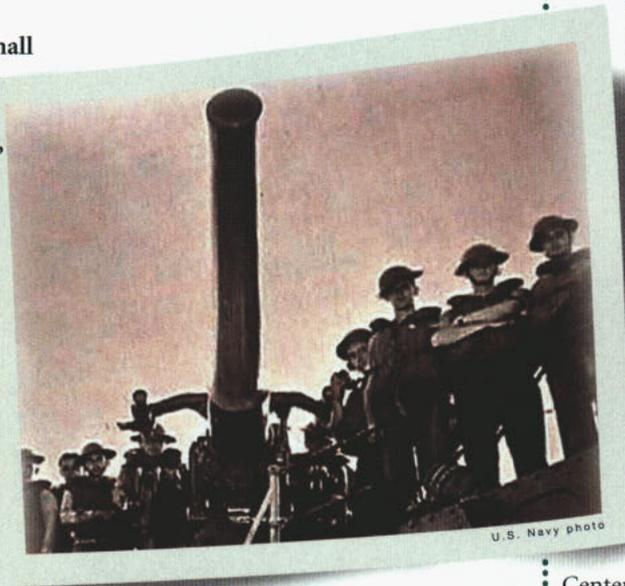
Your local Navy College Office has more information on your rating-related degrees or you can call the Navy College

Center at DSN 922-1828 or 1-877-253-7122. By January 2001, the Navy's newest college partners can be accessed on-line through the Navy College web site [www.navycollege.navy.mil](http://www.navycollege.navy.mil).

The Navy conducted a nationwide search for colleges that offered rating-related degrees, accepted credit for Navy training and offered the remaining courses through distance learning so that Sailors anywhere would have the opportunity to pursue a degree. Sitting in a classroom is no longer the only option for completing college courses.

Partner colleges offer courses in a variety of formats. Sailors will find courses offered on CD-ROM, videotape, and paper or over the Internet. The colleges will also provide a degree path for Sailors from the associate through bachelor's degree.

This is the first step in providing Sailors distance learning



# Onassignment

degree completion opportunities. The Navy College Program isn't finished yet. Although all Navy ratings are paired with at least one degree choice, some ratings need additional options. Stay tuned for more to come. ☒

*Story courtesy of Chief, Naval Education and Training, Pensacola, Fla.*

## Holiday Concert Broadcast 2000

**P**lan now to join the U.S. Navy Band for "Happy Holidays," the 5th annual broadcast by the Naval Media Center of holiday music from D.A.R. Constitution Hall, Washington D.C.

Offering a wide variety of traditional and contemporary holiday music, the superb musicians of the U.S. Navy Band will bring you an outstanding 90 minutes of family entertainment, guaranteed to put you in the holiday spirit. Officer in Charge/Leader CDR Ralph M. Gambone, and all the members of the U.S. Navy Band extend a warm invitation to you and your families to join them for this joyous celebration of the songs and traditions of this wonderful time of the year.

In CONUS, the concert will be broadcast live on Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EST) on dish-NETWORK™ channel-9601. Other CONUS cable systems and television stations that intend to air the program live, or by delayed broadcast, will be listed on the Navy Band's web site at [www.navyband.navy.mil](http://www.navyband.navy.mil).

The Armed Forces Network (AFN) will carry the concert on the SPECTRUM CHANNEL under the following schedule:  
**Dec. 21: 1730 PT/2030 ET**  
**Dec. 22: 0130 GMT/1030 Japan**  
**Dec. 22: 0130 PT/0430 ET**

**Dec. 22: 0930 GMT/1830 Japan**  
**Dec. 22: 0930 PT/1230 ET**  
**/1730 GMT**

## Dec. 23: 0230 Japan

Direct To Sailor (DTS) will also carry the program.

Check electronic programming guide for air dates beginning Dec. 20, 2000. ☒

## New Mine Clearance System Ready for the Fleet

**W**hile serving as flag ship for the U.S. Mine Countermeasures Group during Operation *Desert Storm*, USS *Tripoli* struck a near-surface contact mine in the Persian Gulf. Since that time, researchers have been searching for more effective ways to clear mine fields without putting Sailors and Marines in harm's way.

Thanks to science and technology programs funded by the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the solution may finally be at hand according to Dr. Douglas Todoroff, ONR's Project Officer for the Rapid Airborne Mine Clearance System (RAMICS).

"A recent live-fire demo of RAMICS successfully destroyed a mine moored 15 feet below the waterline," he said.

A demonstration at the Aberdeen Test Center, Md., used a Marine AH-1 helicopter and its M-197 20 mm gun equipped with special supercavitating projectiles and light detection and ranging (LIDAR) targeting and fire control system.

According to Todoroff, the successful demonstration overcame the challenges of integrating the LIDAR targeting, fire control, gun system, and supercavitating projectile technologies into a single lightweight airborne platform.

RAMICS technology will



Photo by: Pfc. Travis Measons

This month we watched as PHAN Saul Ingle documented life in a Navy barracks for the feature story, "Behind These Walls." (See story Page 16)

"It was a good story for me," said Ingle. "I got a chance to leave my room and meet some of the Sailors in my barracks – and I didn't have to take a long trip. It was really cool to see how other Sailors live."

"But seriously, this gave me the opportunity to show how much barracks life has improved. It's definitely not my father's Navy anymore." ☒

*Ingle is a photographer assigned to All Hands.*

## FBE-H: Sailors Go Where No One Has Gone Before

Story by LCDR Stephan Abel and ENS Matt Miller

One does not have to be a fan of “Star Trek” to recognize the challenges of exploring new frontiers. Such new journeys were recently explored by 2nd Fleet Sailors and other joint forces while participating in *Fleet Battle Experiment-Hotel* (FBE-H).

FBE-H was the eighth in a series of CNO-sponsored fleet battle experiments that began in 1997. The experiment focused on advanced concepts and technologies in anti-submarine

warfare (ASW), mine countermeasures (MCM), information operations (IO) and the planning and application of naval and joint firepower

FBE-H explored the Navy’s ability to go “anytime, anywhere” and effectively project power ashore while on station — two tasks that most experts agree will present daunting challenges in the years ahead.

During the experiment, actual and virtual Navy assets were combined to give military leaders an

opportunity to test new processes and collaborative tools in future battle scenarios. But instead of Mr. Spock and LT Uhura working the controls, FBE-H provided Sailors like Operations Specialist 2nd Class Angel Torres and OS2 Rebecca Billups the chance to play an integral part in the success of this high-tech test.

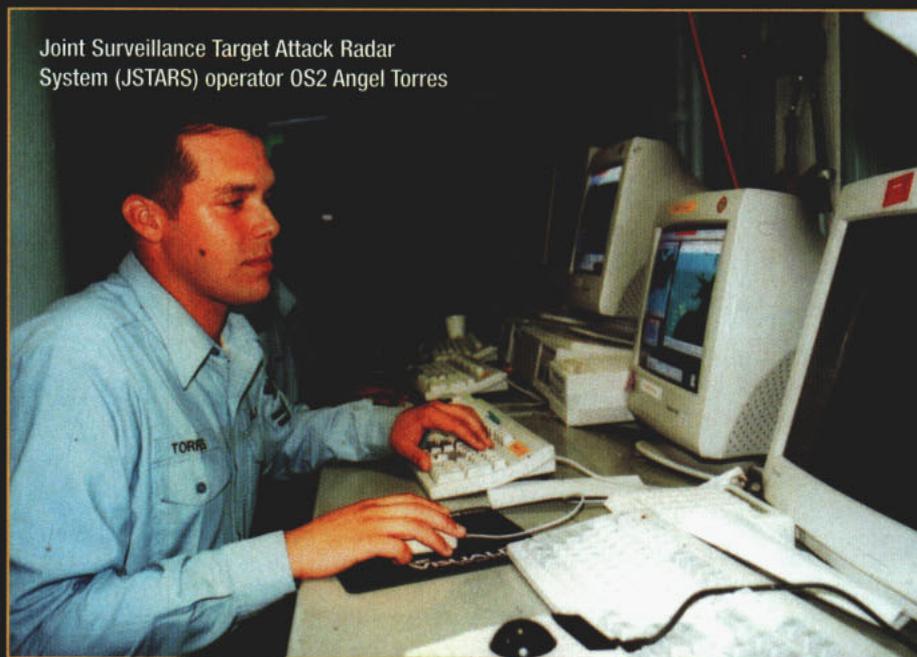
“Hopefully this can be used by other ships to provide adequate intelligence information,” said Torres, a native of Los Angeles. “It’s exciting to work with the intelligence community to identify enemy targets.” As a Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) operator, Torres provided critical information on potential “enemy” targets and troop movements from airborne military aircraft and unmanned vehicles. “Any time you can try something new, ... it makes your job that much more important,” he noted.

Second Fleet Sailors and personnel of the Navy Warfare Development Command used video received from unmanned vehicles and data from global command and control systems to locate and track friendly and enemy forces to improve battle space awareness.

This may sound like the latest

*(Continued on Page 12)*

## INNOVATORS



Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) operator OS2 Angel Torres

provide joint force commanders with the capability to rapidly and effectively neutralize near-surface sea mines avoiding situations like *Tripoli's* experienced during the Gulf War. "The near-term goal of the program is to rapidly move RAMICS into the acquisition phase for installation onboard SH-60s within the next five years," said Todoroff.

Currently, the only means to positively destroy near surface mines requires the use of remotely operated vehicles, or explosive ordnance disposal personnel. ☒

Story by Scott D. Harris, Media Relations, Office of Naval Research.

## Navy Announces NMCI Contract Award

Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig recently awarded a \$6,938,817,954 contract to Electronic Data Systems Corporation (EDS), of Plano, Texas, to build and maintain a department-wide Navy/Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI). The NMCI will make the naval service more efficient, more productive and enhance its readiness by providing data, video and voice communications to link shore units and interface

with the Information Technology for the 21st Century (IT-21) initiative for afloat units.

"NMCI will provide a global network architecture to enhance interoperability with shipboard IT-21 and Marine Corps Tactical Network capabilities," said Danzig. "It enhances and enables our Sailors, Marines and civilians to increase their productivity and access resources that extend throughout the Navy/Marine Corps team and our nation. But substantial as these benefits are, they are dwarfed by the implications of empowering instantaneous information access throughout the whole Department of the Navy."

Chief of Naval Operations ADM Vern Clark echoed that sentiment. "The best thing about NMCI is that we can eliminate the existing stovepipe systems and modernize the way we do business," he said.

"If we tried to do this ourselves," said Commandant of the Marine Corps General James L. Jones, "we would wind up losing pace with technology."

The NMCI is an integrated computer network that will replace the numerous existing shore-based command data networks throughout the

## TIME CAPSULE

This month we look back in the *All Hands* archives to see what was going on in the Navy and the world 50, 25, and 10 years ago. In each issue we see how much technology has advanced and the Navy has changed.

### 50 Years Ago — December 1950

Sailors learned how to protect themselves in the event the enemy used the mysterious new weapon, the atomic bomb. *All Hands* also taught Sailors the effects an atomic blast would have on their ship and what to do in the event of an attack.



### 25 Years Ago — December 1975

*All Hands* visited the Sailors spending their Christmas in the Antarctic during "Operation Deep Freeze". We also tagged along with USS *Oklahoma City* (CLG 5) during their "father-son cruise," and we took a deep look into the world of diving photographers.



### 10 Years Ago — December 1990

This month in the *All Hands* archives, we looked back as the last diesel sub, the USS *Blueback* (SS 581), was decommissioned. We also visited San Diego as three Soviet ships made a port visit during a five day show of friendship.



## Ricky's Tour

By J02 Mike Jones

mikejones43@hotmail.com



## INNOVATORS

(Continued from Page 10)

video game, but its consequences are real. Not only did the experiment offer Billups, a Titusville, Fla., native, the opportunity to develop her high-tech skills, it allowed her to contribute to the concept of how wars will be fought five to 10 years from now. As the Manager of the Common Operation Picture (COP), she managed the total battle picture to exercise participants, giving commanders everything they needed to make accurate strength and weapon assessments.

"What an awesome opportunity," said Billups. "It's pretty cool knowing that you're working with gear and concepts that could literally change the way we fight in the future. ..."

By taking advantage of technology currently used by their civilian counterparts, like virtual meetings, Internet-based chat and simultaneous document writing, the Navy was able to identify special problems associated with applying this new technology to military use — from shipboard bandwidth limitations to allowing access to different levels of information based on security needs.

"Leveraging off of the tremendous technological advancements, the experiment allows us to see how new ideas and concepts will transform war fighting, save lives and optimize our budget," said CAPT Steve Black, of the Navy Warfare

Development Command, Newport, R.I., and director of FBE-H.

"FBEs are designed as genuine experiments, not demonstrations or exercises," added Black. "Unlike a demonstration or exercise, failure is acceptable ... in fact just as much can be learned from failure as from success. The important thing is to test the validity of new concepts and the utility of new technologies in support of those concepts. The results of FBE-H will have a direct influence on future naval force structure and capabilities."

Under Joint Forces Command's overarching experiment, *Millennium Challenge '00*, FBE-H ran concurrently with the Army's *Joint Contingency Force Advanced Warfighting Experiment*, the Air Force's *Joint Contingency Force 2000 Experiment*, and the Marine Corps' *Millennium Dragon*, making it the first all-service experiment. ☒

*Abel and Miller are public affairs officers assigned to Mobile Public Affairs Unit NR Detachment 106, Norfolk.*

---

**Editor's Note:** *The Navy Warfare Development Command's next experiment, FBE-I, will take place in February 2001 with Commander, 3rd Fleet.*

department. The intranet will provide increased security, worldwide accessibility and interoperability with other military services.

The NMCI contract with EDS transitions the department from a government-owned and operated environment to buying a service, much like a utility. NMCI uses recognized information technology (IT) industry expertise to connect the entire department so that our Sailors, Marines and civilians can communicate effectively at a lower budget cost.

Under the five-year contract, EDS will be responsible for meeting security and quality of service requirements, training personnel and maintaining and operating the network infrastructure that will support about 360,000 users.

Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and other elements of the naval aviation community will be the first organizations to implement NMCI, beginning in October. After the first quarter of NMCI implementation, there will be a brief pause to assess how NMCI is meeting the performance goals of the contract.

The scope of NMCI includes communication between users within the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Iceland and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The department plans to have NMCI fully implemented by June 2003.

DON conducted extensive market research and received valuable input from hundreds of private sector corporations before deciding to select a single prime contractor to provide the Navy and Marine Corps' IT support.

Further questions regarding the NMCI contract may be addressed to the Navy Office of Information at (DSN) 227-5342 or (703) 697-5342. ☒

*Story by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)*

I N M E M O R I A M

HT2  
KENNETH EUGENE  
CLODFELTER  
Mechanicsville, Va.

ETC  
RICHARD  
COSTELOW  
Morrisville, Pa.

MSSN  
LAKEINA MONIQUE  
FRANCIS  
Woodleaf, N.C.

ITSN  
TIMOTHY LEE  
GAUNA  
Rice, Texas

SMSN  
CHERONE LOUIS  
GUNN  
Rex, Ga.

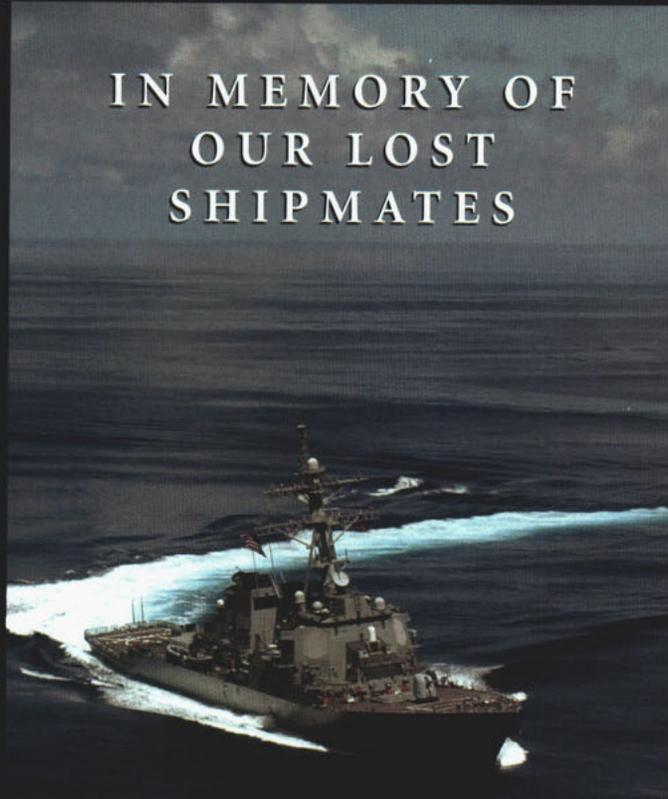
SN  
JAMES RODRICK  
MCDANIELS  
Norfolk, Va.

EN2  
MARC IAN  
NIETO  
Fond du Lac, Wis.

EW2  
RONALD SCOTT  
OWENS  
Vero Beach, Fla.

SN  
LAKIBA NICOLE  
PALMER  
San Diego, Calif.

IN MEMORY OF  
OUR LOST  
SHIPMATES



USS COLE  
(DDG 67)

“DETERMINED  
WARRIOR”

HONOR  
\*  
COURAGE  
\*  
COMMITMENT

ENFN  
JOSHUA LANGDON  
PARLETT  
Churchville, Md.

FN  
PATRICK HOWARD  
ROY  
Cornwall on Hudson,  
N.Y.

EW1  
KEVIN SHAWN  
RUX  
Portland, N.D.

MS3  
RONCHESTER  
MANANGA  
SANTIAGO  
Kingsville, Texas

OS2  
TIMOTHY LAMONT  
SAUNDERS  
Ringgold, Va.

FN  
GARY GRAHAM  
SWENCHONIS  
JR.  
Rockport, Texas

LTJG  
ANDREW  
TRIPLETT  
Macon, Miss.

SN  
CRAIG BRYAN  
WIBBERLEY  
Williamsport, Md.

**“I want to make it clear — leadership counts.”** That was the message Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark conveyed to Sailors during a recent visit to commands in Newport, R.I.

Clark spent the better part of his two-day visit talking with students and staff at several of the schools in Newport, with the emphasis focused on what he calls his “Top Five” priorities: *manpower, current readiness, future readiness, quality of service and alignment.*



The CNO discussed each of the priorities with each group. He stressed that each of the other four are elements of his No. 1 priority: manpower.

As an example, Clark pointed out that leaders often state mission accomplishment as the No. 1 priority while at the same time pledging that people come first. This “message mismatch” can create disillusionment, particularly among first-termers, according

# CNO Visits NWC & Asserts His Priorities

“Manpower is at the top of the list,” he told the students at the Naval War College. “We’ve got to solve the manpower problem ahead of us by creating an environment where our people can grow and prosper.”

Clark said some of the most valuable tools that helped him navigate his own career will help him navigate the challenges facing the Navy of the 21st century.

“We have to make our actions consistent with our policies. That’s the biggest challenge of alignment for a leader,” Clark stated. “We have to walk the talk.”

In addition to inspiring the students at the War College with his candor, he also addressed the Senior Enlisted Academy and prospective commanding and executive officers at the Command Leadership School.



U.S. Navy Photos

to the CNO. Clark explained that mission accomplishment is in fact the No. 1 priority, and that Sailors are the No. 1 resource that enables the Navy to complete its mission.

Clark defined quality of service as a balanced combination of quality of life and quality of work. He commended recent efforts to improve quality of life but said the Navy still has a long way to go in quality of work. For example, he said during recent travels he has seen Sailors working in facilities with leaky roofs and peeling paint falling from the ceiling, forcing them to cover test equipment with plastic.

“What kind of message does this send to our Sailors?” Clark asked. “We tell them they matter, but we let the building fall apart around them.”



“This will change,” said Clark.

The CNO stressed the need to find the proper balance in providing opportunities for our Sailors while also staying focused on the mission.

“Quality of life plus quality of work equals quality of service,” he said.

“We need to start talking about service again. Somehow we got away from it in the ‘90s. We need to create an environment where the young Sailors know they are making a difference ... that they matter. The challenges of the 20th century will pale next to what we face in our Navy in the future.”

**1 Manpower:** “This is the No. 1 item on the list. Manpower is, and will remain, our Navy’s biggest challenge. Nothing is more important to our Navy than retaining the Sailors we have recruited, and to do that, attacking attrition is imperative. We are at war for people. To fight that war, we need the involvement of every leader at every level, from admirals to third class petty officers and seamen who have Sailors working for them. All of you directly affect our success on this issue, both through your own personal actions and through the chain of command. Never underestimate the impact your actions have on your fellow Sailors. The Navy’s success depends on the success of junior people, and they can only be as successful and motivated as the weakest link in the chain.”

**2 Current Readiness:** “This is a major issue. I am very proud of our forward-deployed forces, and overall, the readiness of those units is good. I come from the fleet and I’ve seen this first hand. However, some of our units at home are less ready. The non-deployed side is paying the price so our rotational deployers can be fully ready. My goal is to improve the flow of resources needed so all naval forces are ready, and that includes modernization of our Navy.”

**3 Future Readiness:** “We will continue to plan for the future, and continue to develop and revitalize platforms and systems we will need down the road. That challenge does not belong to forces on the waterfront, but rather, it is primarily a headquarters task. That challenge is being worked, but meanwhile, we must remain focused on the mission at hand. We owe that to our nation, which has entrusted us with supporting their well-being.”

## “TOP 5” Priorities of Chief of Naval Operations ADM Vern Clark

**4 Quality of Service:** “Quality of service is a balanced combination of quality of life and quality of work. Although we are seeing great improvements in quality of life, this has not been the case for quality of work. Quality of work includes everything that makes your workplace a great place to be — from getting the spare parts you need in a timely manner to working spaces that are up to current standards. Quality of service includes having a work environment that contributes to personal and professional growth.”

**5 Alignment:** “This involves a couple of things. First, we must ensure that our organizations, systems and processes are aligned to deliver exactly what they are designed to produce — a combat-capable Navy, ready to sail into harm’s way. Second, alignment involves clear communication, from the recruiter, to the LPO to the CO to the CNO. It’s about communicating realistic expectations and then helping Sailors accomplish realistic goals — in a word, credibility. This type of situation is not conducive to good retention. Together, with commanding officers and senior enlisted leadership, we will work to rid ourselves of message mismatch — saying one thing and meaning something else. My goal is to eliminate message mismatch and align our words, expectations and deeds.”

# Behind The

# Behind These

**T**his is the lap of luxury compared to what *I* had.”

A statement that’s true if you’re Mess Management Specialist 2nd Class Mark Aul, and you lived in the BEQ he did when *he* first entered the Navy.

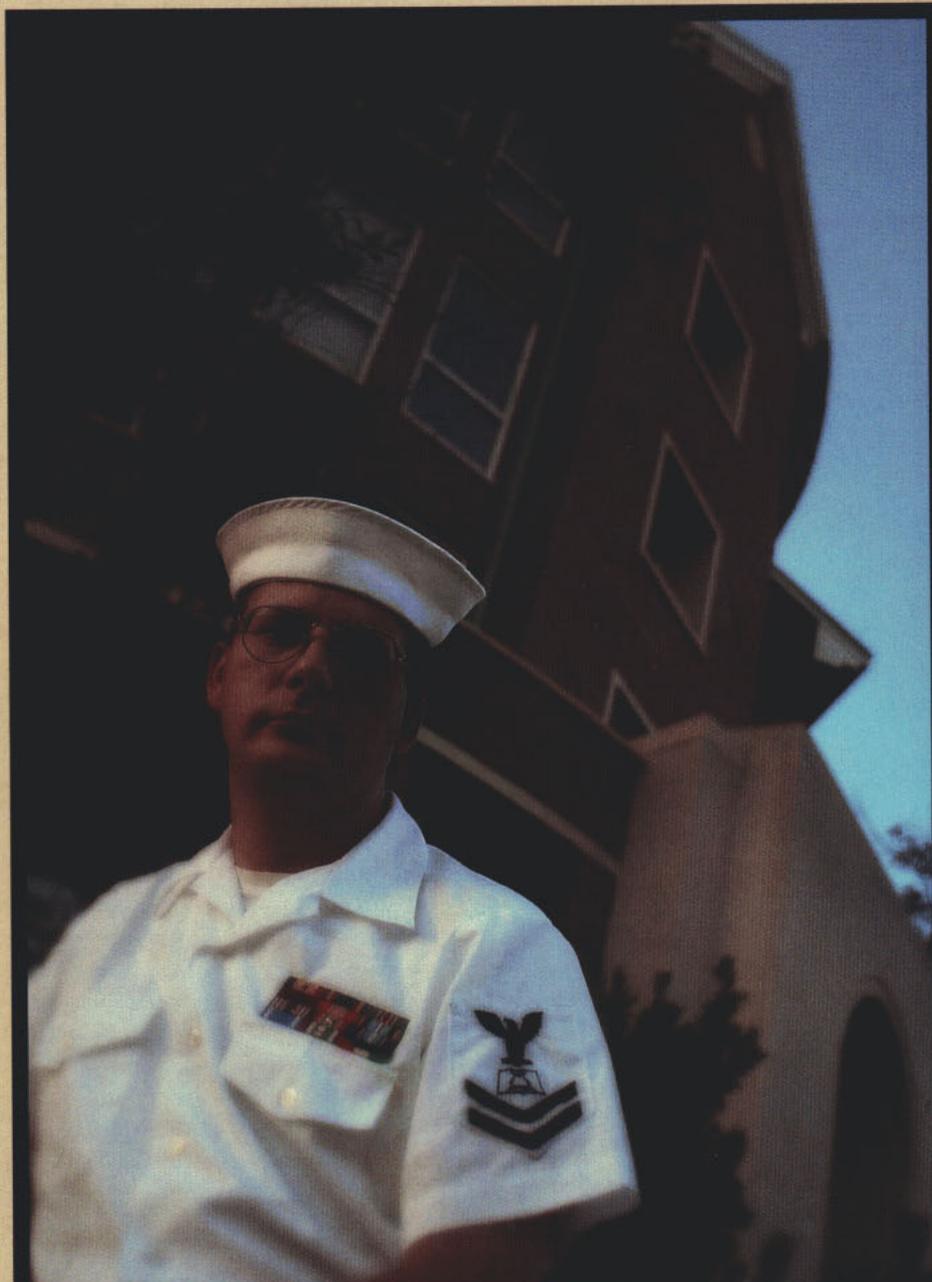
“Let me set the scene for you,” said Aul. “Years ago, on NAS Pensacola, I didn’t have just one roommate, I had 83.”

All 84 junior Sailors were packed like sardines into an open bay, sleeping in steel racks stacked two high — 21 sets per side of the room- with little, if any, personal space.

The weather-worn, World War II design, open-bay barracks left little to make them feel at home. Rather, they were reminded of the place many of them had just left — basic training.

“We had an open head, you know, like the one you used in boot camp,” said Aul. “Where modesty was overrated and personal time was unheard of.”

The heads weren’t the only reminder of boot camp they had. If they weren’t in their racks by



MS2 Mark Aul of St. Augustine, Fla., has seen the transitions of BEQ life from open-bay barracks to the lively rooms given to the enlisted personnel today. Working as a facilities manager at Enterprise Hall has shown him things really are changing for “Quality-of-Life Issues.”

# ese Walls

# Walls

Story and photos by PH2(AW) Jim Watson

## Life Inside Today's BEQs



FA Soraida Ivanés of Carson, Calif., has been in the Navy for less than a year and sees life in the BEQ as an exciting and fun place to be, much like the dorm of a college campus.

**“It’s kinda like living in a dorm room.”**

lights out, then they were locked out. They dealt with the occasional pest or cockroach that occupied the area. And keeping their area clean was no short task in itself. They waxed and buffed the cold floor by hand once a week.

So what do Sailors living in the BEQs around the world have to complain about today?

“Nothing,” said Aul, sitting at the front desk of Enterprise Hall, one of Naval Station Norfolk’s newest Bachelor

Enlisted Quarters. “Like I said, these Sailors are living in luxury.”

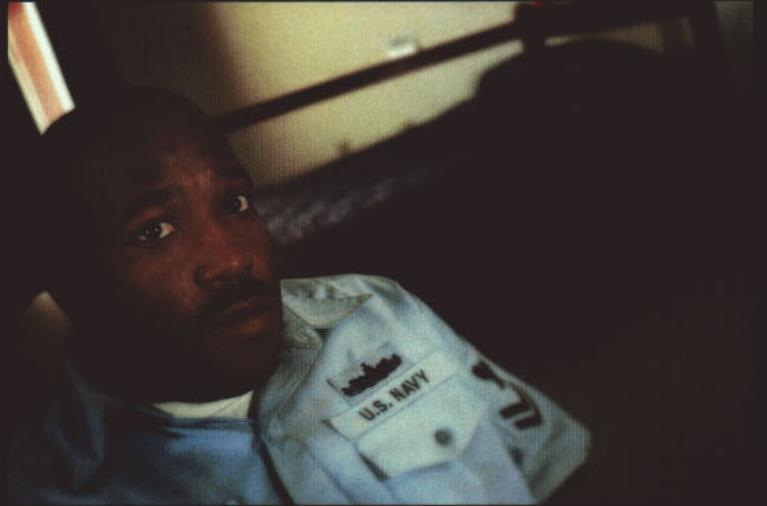
This is a look and feel that many of the Navy’s BEQs are now beginning to take on. While comfort and style have always been an issue with barracks tenants, Sailors like Fireman Apprentice Sorida Ivanés, who is attached to the legal offices of Norfolk Naval Station, find BEQ rooms more than suitable.

“This place is really nice,” said Ivanés talking about Enterprise Hall. “They

keep it really clean here. I have privacy, and my roommate, Amy Lewis, and I get along great.”

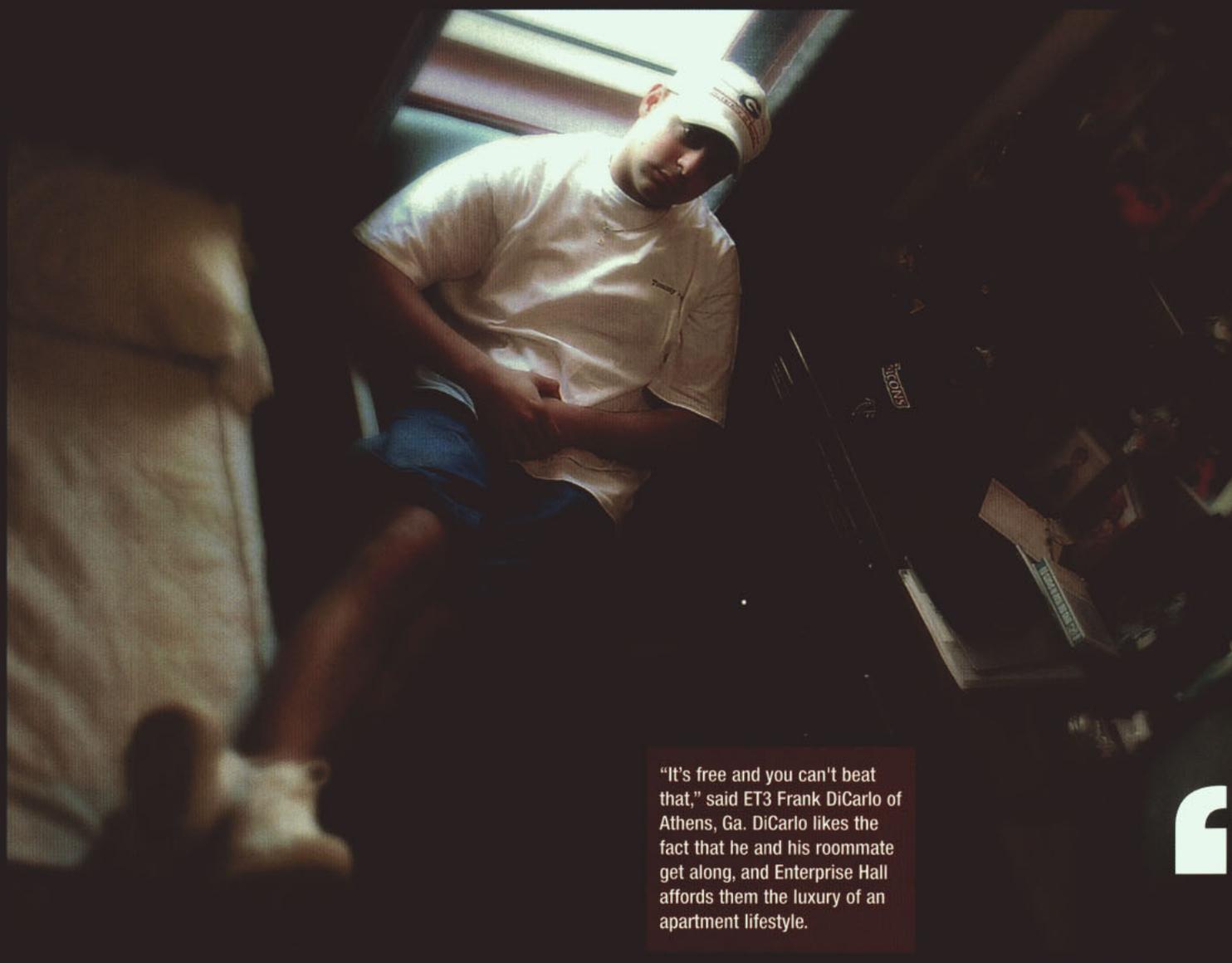
“Only having one roommate is great,” countered Electronics Technician Seaman Amy Lewis, attached to NCTAMSLANT Naval Station Norfolk. “Sorida and I are close, and it makes coming home to my barracks room more agreeable.”

The roommate scenario is not the only thing making these Sailor’s lives



"I just enjoy the peace and quiet," said BM2(SW) Gary Tucker of Washington, D.C. Tucker, who works at the Port Operations Office at Naval Station Norfolk, likes the fact that he is close to his job and doesn't have to fight the traffic he would find out in town.

**“I just enjoy the peace and quiet”**



"It's free and you can't beat that," said ET3 Frank DiCarlo of Athens, Ga. DiCarlo likes the fact that he and his roommate get along, and Enterprise Hall affords them the luxury of an apartment lifestyle.

more enjoyable in the BEQs. Many have kitchenettes to cook small meals and laundry services on every floor.

These vast improvements throughout the Navy are all part of quality of life issues currently being addressed by top Navy officials, like Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SS/SW/AW) Jim Herdt.

"Sailors deserve anything we can do to make quality of life in the barracks better," said MCPON. "As a whole, life in the barracks is better now than it was 30 years ago when I lived in them.

Sailors deserve nice accommodations."

And Sailors around the country and the world are getting those accommodations. The BEQ metamorphosis is apparent on installations all over. This construction is forging a new future in the way our Sailors will be housed.

Like the barracks on Naval Station North Island, San Diego, where Aviation Structural Mechanic (Hydraulics) Airman David Hurst is "living independently."

"It's like my own little apartment," said Hurst. "I have everything I need, like computer hook-up, cable, air

# Behind These Walls

Life Inside Today's BEQs



Photo by PHAN Saul Ingle

ISSN Shawn Morgan of Binghamton, N.Y., finds the privacy her barracks room at Blanchard Barracks, Washington, D.C., to be far better than her BEQ in "A" school.

**"It's free and you can't beat that."**

conditioning and a ceiling fan. A place out in town would probably cost a ton. I have a friend who lives in town and pays close to \$800 for a one-bedroom apartment; that doesn't even include the \$200+ a month for electric and other bills."

It's not only Hurst who feels this way about living in the Navy's BEQs; many of his friends and co-workers are

AMHAN David Hurst of Idaho Falls, Idaho, is stationed with HSL-41 and enjoys his life in the barracks at Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI). "It's like my own little apartment," said Hurst. "I have everything I need, like computer hookup, cable, air conditioning and a ceiling fan. A place out in town costs a ton."

## "I just didn't expect a Navy BEQ to be nice."

taking full advantage of what barracks life can offer them.

"I plan on making the Navy my career, and I have a great opportunity living in the barracks to have time to myself and save money for the future," said Aviation Structural Mechanic (Structural) 3rd Class Patrick Naville, Hurst's roommate. "I get everything I need here without having to live paycheck to paycheck."

"My first thought of this place was, 'wow it's nice,'" said MSSN Maribel Vallina of Miami, Fla. "I just didn't expect a Navy BEQ to be nice." Vallina was pleasantly surprised though and enjoys her room at Enterprise Hall.

Photo by PH2 Aaron Anisarov



# Behind These Walls

Life Inside Today's BEQs

**It's like my own little apartment."**



MASN Thomas Gilberti, a resident of Naval Station Norfolk's Enterprise Hall, loves the privacy he gets having his own bathroom and only one roommate.

So, the next time the cable momentarily goes out, or the phone in your room seems a little fuzzy, and your roommate has been in the bathroom for more than five minutes when you need it, think about how it was then and how it is today. Admit it — you have luxury. Not the kind of luxury that comes with silver spoons, fine china and oriental rugs. But, you could be watching an old black-and-white television with no cable in a stuffy lounge, or be waiting in line for hours to use the one and only pay phone down the hall, or combing your hair for a date while 83 other Sailors are looking over your shoulder.

Now that your environment is more relaxed and your style is less cramped ... getting that date is still up to you. ☒

*Watson is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.*

# CARAT

## Practice Makes Perfect

After working in the hot sunlight all day, Sailors return to USS *Germantown* (LSD 42) by boat. The Sailors volunteered their time to work at an elementary school in Asem Bagus, Indonesia, as part of the community relations projects associated with exercise *CARAT 2000*.

# T 2000

Story by JOC Robert Benson,  
Photos by PH1(NAC) Spike Call



**E**ver really look at an F-14?  
No, really, have you?  
Not on a video, or in pictures or a Discovery Channel special. Have you seen an F-14 up close and personal — near enough to have your innards massaged by the ungodly power of dual afterburners blasting at full power? Jet blast strong enough to toss you overboard like an origami doll in a typhoon? Engine sound that, without hearing protection, can crush ear drums in a heartbeat?

# CARAT 2000

## Practice Makes Perfect

Ever smell the pungent funk of JP5?

An F-14 can kill you before you even see it. It can launch multiple missiles at a target, then, minutes later, fly over that smoldering heap of rubble as an unseen speck in the sky.

Okay, next question: ever see a dozen F-14s launch from a ship in a 15-minute time span alongside ships from different countries, with guns blazing and LCACs and missiles flying?

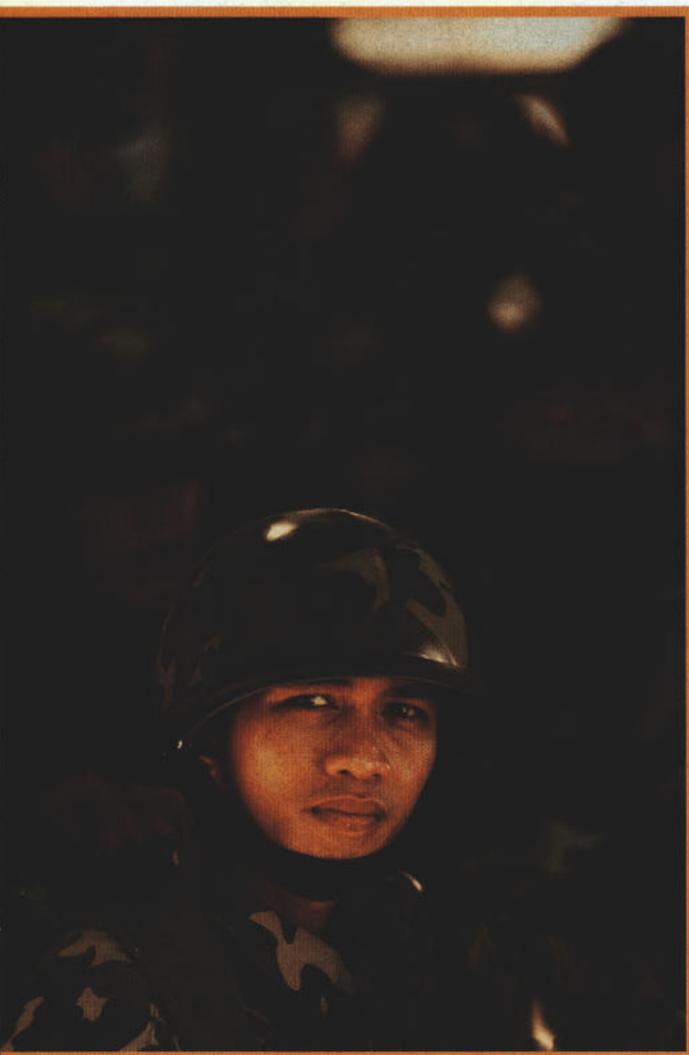
If you have, you've got a good feel for the recently completed CARAT exercises in the Western Pacific.

The Navy maintains, trains and equips combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and securing freedom of the seas.

Images on the next few pages were captured from Exercise CARAT (*Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training*) 2000, a series of bilateral exercises, which took place throughout Southeast Asia. Like other exercises, CARAT promotes interoperability and better understanding of host nation navies and marine corps.

This exercise took place in the 7th Fleet, and with a huge portion of the Pacific theater covered by water, the Navy in the Western Pacific exemplifies forward presence. The explosive

# “The Navy 100 exercises



A young Filipino Marine waits for the start of an amphibious assault exercise at White Beach, Ternate, Republic of the Philippines. Both U.S. and Philippine Marines fought alongside each other in the assault. All of the training is part of *Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2000*, an annual series of bilateral training exercises between the U.S. and Southeast Asian navies designed to promote interoperability.

OSSA Tavish Worden of Friendswood, Texas, mans a sound-powered phone as USS *Reuben James* (FFG 57) gets underway during Exercise CARAT 2000. This is Worden's first deployment, and it will most likely take him to more than a handful of countries.

“I like to travel, and I like meeting people... what better place to do it in than in the Navy?”



# conducts more than per year throughout **Asia**"

"Shoot, Shoot, Shoot!" U.S. Navy Seals from Seal Team 5 practice extraction maneuvers off the coast of Sattahip, Thailand.

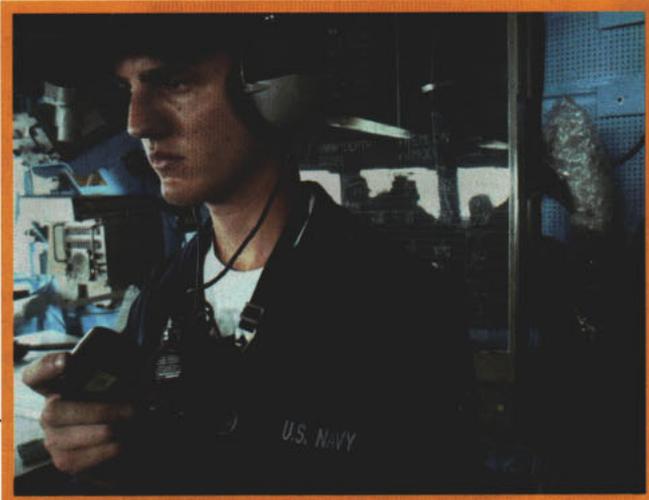
economic potential of the region makes it vital to American trade. Its volatility necessitates vigilance. The 7th Fleet is forward deployed to prevent aggression and to respond, at a moment's notice, when unchecked aggression translates into threats or hostile action.

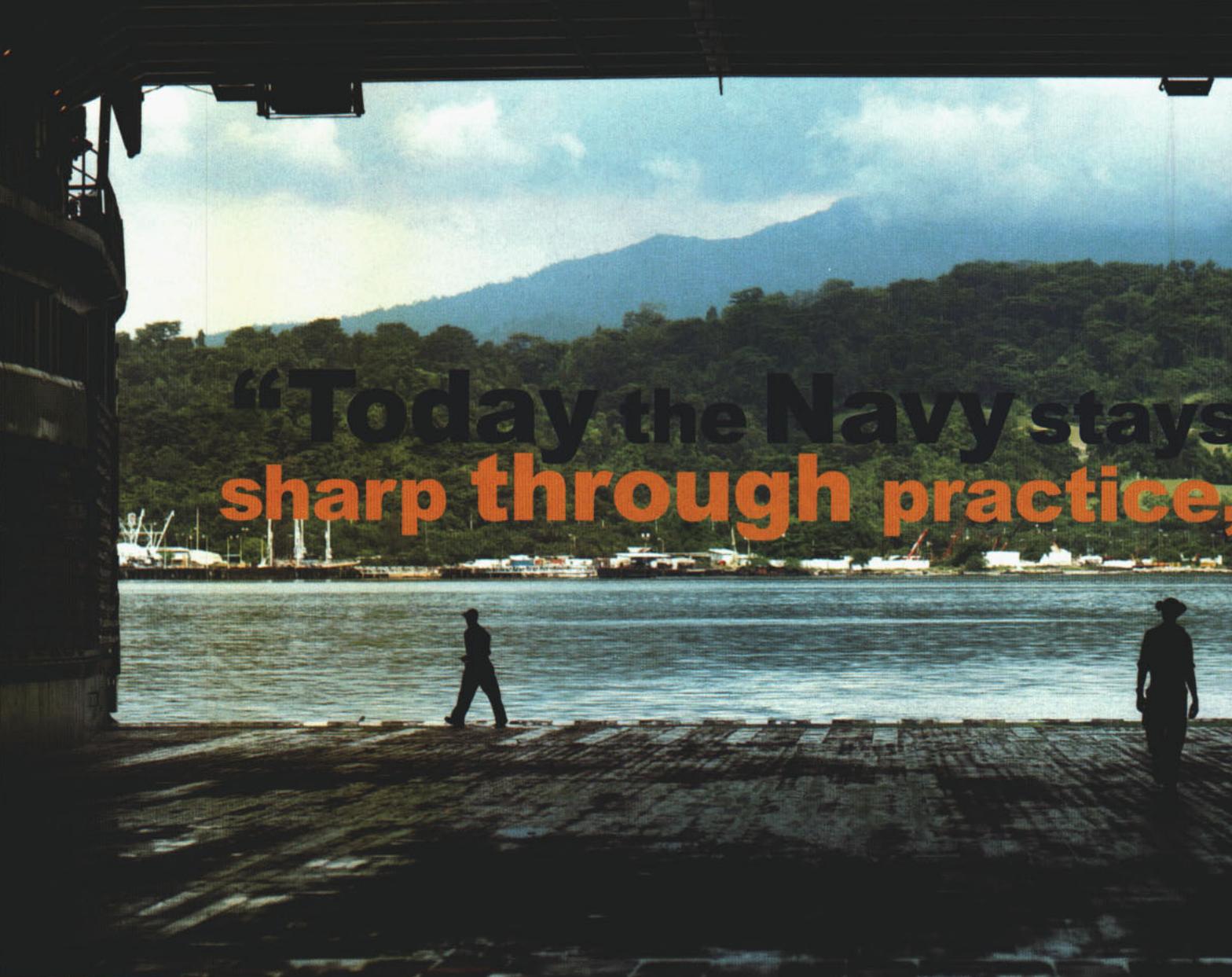
In this area, the afterburners seethe during a variety of 7th Fleet exercises: *Tandem Thrust*, *Valiant Blitz*, *Keen Edge* and *RIMPAC* being some of the larger ones. There are smaller exercises, too, where fewer assets are used, and their names may be just as unique as their goals: *Sea Bat*, *Tricrab*, *Dieselex*, *Shin Kame*, *Lungfish*. ...

The Navy conducts more than 100 exercises per year with nations throughout Asia. These exercises are an essential part of our overall engagement program, and are imperative to building friendships and maintaining interoperability.

Seventh Fleet — the largest deployed fleet — normally has 50 to 60 ships, including carrier battle groups, amphibious ready groups and logistic support ships. Many of these ships are forward deployed to Japan; some operate on USS *Kitty Hawk's* (CV 63) Battle Group or the Amphibious Ready Group.

Historically, 7th Fleet units participated in every major operation of the Korean War, and later, the Vietnam War. The first Navy jet aircraft used in combat was launched from a Task Force 77





**“Today the Navy stays  
sharp through practice.”**

Sailors on board USS *Mount Vernon* (LSD 39) prepare the deck for the onload of amphibious craft while in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, for *CARAT 2000*.

HMC Don Rogers prepares to treat an unwilling child. Rogers and other members of the 3rd Medical Battalion in Okinawa were providing medical service to locals as part of *CARAT*

It's 5:45 a.m., and the Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 are on the job. The detachment is forward deployed from Gulfport, Miss., to Ternate, Republic of the Philippines, for *CARAT 2000*. They worked with their Filipino counterparts to build a canopy for the Paaralang Elementary School in Ternate.



Photo by JOC Robert Benson

# CARAT 2000

## Practice Makes Perfect

carrier July 3, 1950, during the famous amphibious landing at Inchon, Korea.

During Vietnam, 7th Fleet engaged in combat operations against enemy forces through attack carrier air strikes, naval gunfire support, amphibious operations, patrol and reconnaissance operations and mine warfare. After the 1973 cease-fire, the fleet conducted mine countermeasure operations in the coastal waterways of North Vietnam.

Since the end of the Vietnam War, 7th Fleet has responded to numerous crises, operations and exercises throughout its area of responsibility.

Today, the Navy stays sharp by practice, practice, practice. Also known as exercises, exercises, exercises. ... ☒

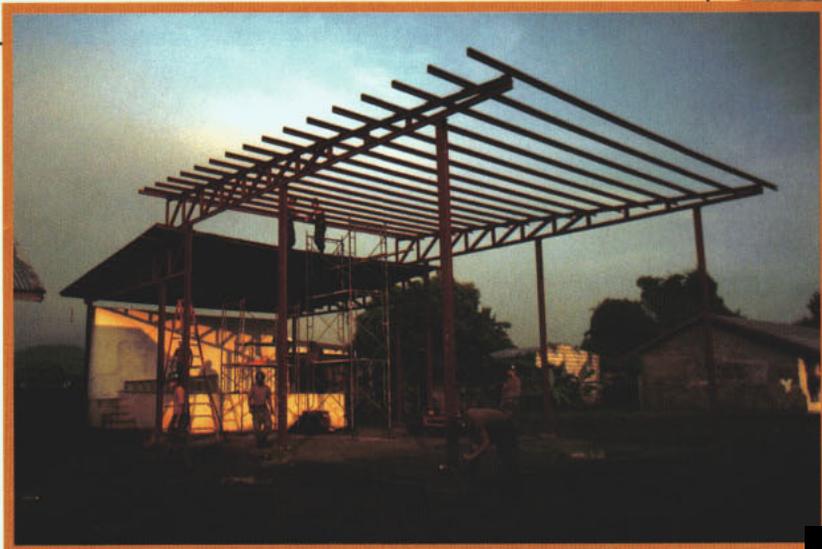
USS *Sides* (FFG 14) steams along with ships attached to the Royal Brunei Navy in support of CARAT.

# practice, practice”

Air slug away! TM3 David Saldana of Rio Grande City, Texas, fires an air slug from a Mark 32 torpedo launcher on board USS *Reuben James* (FFG 57).



Photo by JOC Robert Benson



Story and photos  
by JOC Robert Benson



## Families Discover Duty in "The Land of the Rising Sun"

Zaira Turnley swings to the sky at Yokosuka Naval Base. The swing is located at a giant playground adjacent to the sea wall and near some on-base high rises.

# SWING- ING TO A DIFFERENT BEAT

**R**epat this like the Boy Scout Oath: "The convenience of stateside living is alive and well in Japan."

"The convenience of stateside living is alive and well in Japan."

Just ask Lithographer's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Michael Rivera, the leading petty officer in USS *Kitty Hawk's* (CV 63) print shop. "I'm going to miss this place," said the Long Island, N.Y., native. "We're going to miss being over here, miss the people and miss the environment. I've had fun here, and my daughter was born over here."

Rivera lives in a multi-bedroom home in Negishi Housing. He

sometimes takes a Navy-sponsored bus to the base or drives. He, his wife and his 20-month-old daughter have been to Japanese hot springs and Tokyo's Disneyland, and they even climbed Mt. Fuji one weekend. "It's good for the kids to see another culture. It's better than the states."

Wow! Now that's a powerful statement.

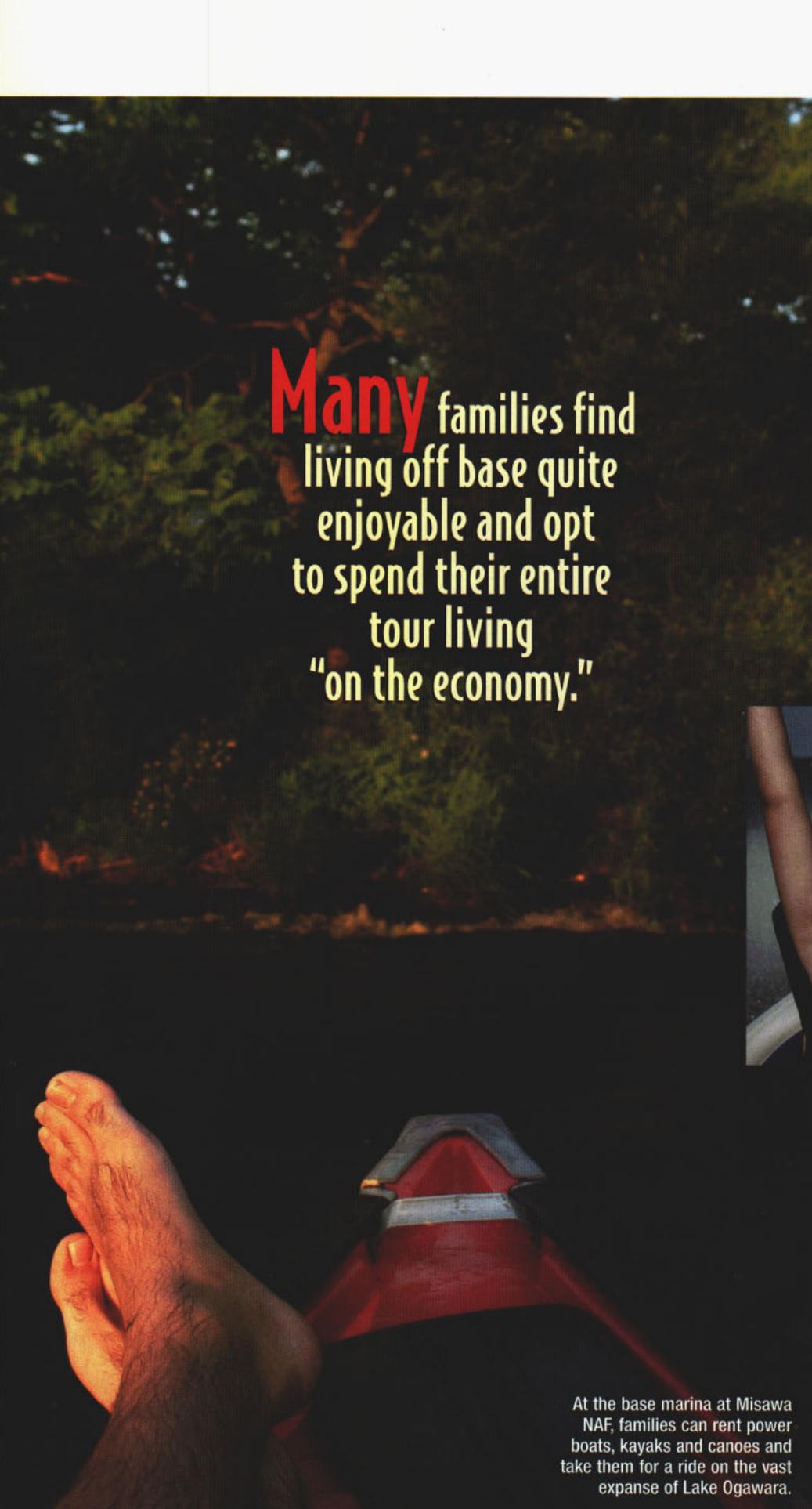
Repeat chorus:

"The convenience of stateside living is alive and well in Japan."

## Housing

Many Sailors who take orders the Far East for the first time cite housing concerns as their





**Many** families find living off base quite enjoyable and opt to spend their entire tour living “on the economy.”

At the base marina at Misawa NAF, families can rent power boats, kayaks and canoes and take them for a ride on the vast expanse of Lake Ogawara.

biggest worry. Officials have found that housing is the No. 1 quality-of-life issue for Japan-based Sailors. Before, the wait to get in base housing was long, but things are much better now, thanks to newly-constructed housing areas. For example, of the people currently assigned at Misawa, 99 percent of those eligible are in on-base housing. At Atsugi and Yokosuka, the percentage is 75. Sasebo is at more than 60 percent, and there are more than 86 people currently assigned on Okinawa in on-base housing. Single Sailors and officers are provided one-plus-one accommodations in BEQs and BOQs.

Of course, many are content with not even attempting to get on-base housing. To fully experience the Japanese culture, some get rental property outside the gate. Most find that communication isn't all that difficult. In fact, many families find



NC1 Teresa Hymer's husband Dave and daughter Amy, 9, enjoy a boat ride on a rented boat at Lake Ogawara on NAF Misawa.

living off base quite enjoyable and opt to spend their entire tour living “on the economy.”

Take, for example, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Marco Guidi. He's fluent in three languages, a business degree holder, and a Sailor onboard USS *Vincennes* (CG 49). He lives in town, a kilometer from Yokosuka's main gate, in a high rise. “It's unbelievably quiet,” he said. “I pay \$1,200 per month, but the Navy covers it all, plus they give me money for utilities.”

Weekends will find Guidi off base. “Last weekend I went up to Tokyo. Next

week, I'm going to an *onsen* (a natural spring bath resort). I'm also going to the mountain resort of Hakone."

Guidi added that he loves being part of the forward-deployed Navy in Japan because the conveniences are just like home.

### On Base Shopping

The commissaries and exchanges are just like the stores at home – perhaps better due to the prices. Fresh produce, dairy products, baked goods and meats of all cuts are always available. Commissary patrons save a significant amount of money on their grocery bills through special sales and coupons offered only to overseas patrons.

### Schools

Nineteen safe, high-quality schools are run by Department of Defense

# SWING- ING TO A DIFFERENT BEAT



College Office. "There are four colleges here, and we also have instructors going to the ships for PACE courses." Check out Yokosuka's educational opportunities online at [www.cfay.navy.mil](http://www.cfay.navy.mil), then follow the link to Naval College Office.

### Lifestyle

Vincenne's Senior Chief Torpedoman's Mate (SW/AW) Roscoe Vaughan, and his family of four didn't have to take orders to Japan, but his 13-year-old son wanted to return, and for him, that was a key factor.

"Sometimes it's hard to get senior enlisted over here," said Vaughan. "When you're senior and settled in, it may not be ideal to pull up roots and come overseas. But once they get here, a lot of chiefs actually homestead.

"My son rides the train by himself," said Vaughan. "Today he came from our



YNSN Michael Stevko has what some consider the nicest barracks room at NAF Misawa. "We have good facilities here," said the Connecticut native. "I go down to Tokyo every now and then. One good thing is that duty here counts as sea duty, and it's only a two-year tour."



Families find it relatively easy to get housing.

Dependant Schools (DODDS). Statistics show that, based on national testing standards, DODDS consistently rank among the top five state school programs. Teachers are well trained; more than 60 percent have master's degrees or higher, and more than 10 years of experience.

Many kids excel in DODDS. They have programs that include the National Honor Society, languages, advanced placement courses, music and art programs, sporting events and field trips. Each school also offers programs that

teach students about the local Japanese culture and language.

If you are ready for a bigger challenge, higher education for Sailors is readily available. You'll have a multitude of choices for associate's, bachelor's and master's programs. On-base universities include Central Texas College, Troy State and University of Maryland. Distance learning programs and PACE courses are also available.

"We fill up every class," said Chuck Jamieson, director of the Yokosuka Navy

off-base house to base, and he's only 13. He changed trains and everything. We wouldn't even think about that in the states. There's little to no crime here, though."

### For the Kids

Child development centers (CDCs) on all Japanese bases are teeming, not only with kids, but also activities. "If we offer more, we get more," said Chris Kitt, director of the Lunney Youth Center in Misawa. "We have programs for 18-



The high golf prices in Japan, averaging up to \$100 per round, cannot be compared to Misawa's \$200 a year membership on the pristine on-base gold course. *Below* – The “Y” on the license plate designates a vehicle owned by a service member. This little import was selling on NAF Misawa's “lemon lot” for \$1,500. Rarely do Sailors bring their own cars to Japan; instead, they buy used vehicles – complete with right-hand steering – at very low prices.

month-olds and up. During the summer, we'll offer 6- to 13- year-olds three activities per day and two field trips per week.”

Some of the CDC's activities, like others on Japan Navy bases, include archery, swimming, cheerleading and dancing.

In the summertime, the bases hire college students from the United States to oversee extra-curricular activities for children. Some of those services offered are Camp Adventure, a summer program for children, and lifeguards for the base pools.

### Medical, Dental

Yokosuka and Okinawa have the two largest naval hospitals overseas. Both hospitals and their branch clinics are modern, well-equipped and well-staffed.

On the dental side, the Naval Dental



Fifteen-year-old Jennifer Dittebrand displays her new braces, which she received at no cost, at the Yokosuka Naval Dental Clinic. Family members receive braces on a space-available basis.

Center Far East has eight facilities in Japan. Because they have been able to keep the dental readiness of our fleet and shore active-duty members so high, family members can receive care in all dental disciplines, including orthodontics.

According to Legalman 1st Class Misty Dittebrand from Yokosuka's trial service office, both her children, Joshua, 14, and Jennifer, 15, got braces at the dental clinic on base. “I knew they did braces before I came here; it's space available only, but we got in very easily.”



Joshua and Jennifer, like other on-base teens, visit the clinic by themselves once a week to get their braces checked. "On the outside this would cost thousands more," their mother added.

### Spouse Employment

Several opportunities for employment are offered to spouses on all the bases, including positions at the commissaries, exchanges and MWR facilities. A very rewarding option, one that will also generate quite a bit of income, is teaching English to the Japanese community.

### People

"Most Japanese speak English pretty well," said Hospitalman Robert Andritz, on board USS *Vincennes* (CG 49). "They'll try hard for hours to say things right. You'll make some good friends here and build strong bonds."

# SWING- ING TO A DIFFERENT BEAT



"I remember when I first came to Japan," recalled Andritz. "My sponsor couldn't meet me at Narita Airport so I had to find the way to the base by myself. Everything was in Japanese, and it was quite a shock. But one Japanese guy walked me through the ticket booths and showed me exactly where to go. I'll never forget that."

During those first days, he also remembered the vending machines that sold hot coffee, the heated toilet seats, the cars that drove on the opposite side of the street and the train stations at every street corner ....

All the conveniences of stateside living — and then some — are alive and well in Japan. ☑



"Japan is very nice," said LI1(SW/AW) Michael Rivera from USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63). "It's good for the kids to see another culture. My wife loves it here, and as long as she's happy, I'm happy."



SN Angie Candamil, a USS *Mobile Bay* (CG 53) Sailor, waits for an on-base bus at a hand-painted bus stop at CFAY Yokosuka.

## Japan Quick Facts



### FORWARD-DEPLOYED FORCES

- 60 ships
- 300 aircraft
- 60,000 Sailors and Marines

### MISAWA

- Home to the forward-deployed P-3 Anti-submarine squadron
- Wanted rates include: ACs, AMs, AWs and ATs

### NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI

- Home to the Western Pacific's Carrier Air Wing 5
- Wanted rates include: ABs, AOs, AZs and AMs

### FLEET ACTIVITIES YOKOSUKA

- Largest naval facility in Japan
- Wanted rates include: DKs, DTs, BMs and PCs

### FLEET ACTIVITIES SASEBO

- Home to USS *Essex* (LHD 2) Amphibious Readiness Group
- Wanted rates include: PCs, PNs, MAs and ETs

### FLEET ACTIVITIES OKINAWA

- Considered the Caribbean of the Western Pacific
- Home to Amphibious & Landing Forces, 7th Fleet
- Wanted rates include: YNs, DKs, SMs and JOs

Photo by PH2 Anthony Pugliani

Kyoto's Kinkakuji temple, or the "Golden Temple" as it is referred to by locals, is symbolic of the Japanese belief that heaven is made of gold.

# DESTINA

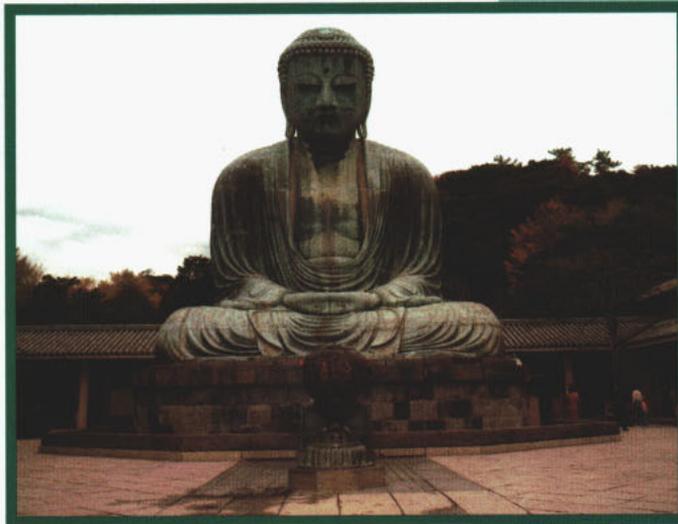




TION

LIVING AMONG JAPAN'S MAJOR CITIES, RURAL TOWNS and villages is akin to experiencing a 1,000-year odyssey. Japan has been able to modernize and advance in technology while continuing to reflect its traditions and cultural values at every turn.

自



U.S. Navy Photo

笑

JAPAN

亭



Photos (bottom row) by JOC Robert Benson

Top – The Daibutsu Buddha in Kamakura is a popular tourist attraction and reenlistment location for Japan-based Sailors. Bottom far left – Row upon row of Hachinohe horses form a long red line while awaiting their final decorations. Bottom center left – The Hachinohe area has been known since the Kamakura period (1185-1333) for its breed of battle horses. These farming horses have supported the lives of commoners and have often been used as the theme for dances and folk tales. Horses played an important role in the people's lives; thus, the art of *Yawata-uma* figurines emerged. These horses are manufactured by hand in a small factory near Misawa NAF. Bottom center right – Supplies used for decorating the Hachinohe horses include ink signature and name stamps. Bottom right – Hachinohe horses are big business. Here, the tiny trinkets are packaged for shipping.

Most Yokosuka-based Sailors know nearby Tokyo best. New York may have the nickname, “the city that never sleeps,” but Tokyo rivals the Big Apple as a place where there are a million things to do at any hour of the night. No short visit can cover all of Japan’s thriving metropolis. There are bustling entertainment districts, cultural attractions and renowned restaurants all over Tokyo.

Leave the big city and you’ll find symbols of history dating back thousands of years. Across the serene countryside, botanical gardens, pagodas, temples, shrines and castles – some dating back to the Heian period from 794-1185 still exist.

Whether stationed at the Pacific hub of the Orient, or just making a port call, Sailors are encouraged to reserve tours at military-discounted rates. Travel arrangements made through the U.S. Forces New Sanno Hotel, in Tokyo, also offer some of the best rates for accommodations.

There are plenty of web sites and other resources to peruse for more information about Japan’s sights and attractions. The Sanno Hotel has a wealth of tourist information for Sailors visiting Japan. The switchboard can be reached at (03) 3440-7871, and also through the Navy base MWR tour facilities.

Another resource is the Japan National Tourist Organization located at [www.jnto.go.jp](http://www.jnto.go.jp). The *Japan Times* online is available at the English-language web site [www.japantimes.co.jp](http://www.japantimes.co.jp).

Whether you are stationed here, making a port visit or just passing through, you’ll always feel safe; the Japanese people are kind and willing to help you take a glimpse into their exotic world. ☑



Photo by JOC Robert Benson



Photo by PH1 Andrew J. Miller



Photo by JOC Robert Benson

**Top** – Kanji, katakana and hiragana signs paint the landscape near Misawa Naval Air Facility. **Middle** – Quarters in Japan may be nice, but they won’t look as good as this structure, the Hirosaki Castle, photographed while the cherry blossoms are in bloom. **Bottom** – A train pulls into a stop near Shinjuku in Tokyo. Wherever you might be stationed in Japan, it’s rarely more than a five-minute walk to a subway or train station.

# DESTINATION JAPAN

白  
笑  
亭



Photo by PH1 Andrew J. Miller



Photo by JOC Robert Benson



Photo by JOC Robert Benson



Photo by JOC Robert Benson

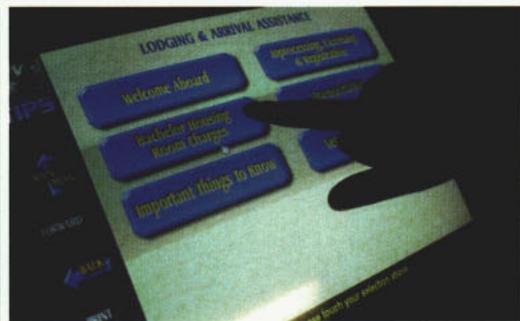
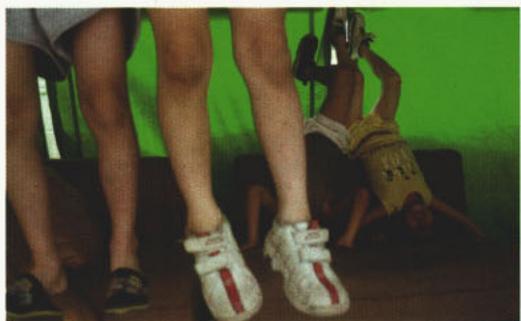


Photo by PH2(AW) James J. Weber

**Top** – The dragon boat race is the highlight of the Annual Kapa Festival held in Misawa, Japan, every July. Sailors from the base join the community in the festival. **Middle Left** – The big screens, “glitter-glamour,” and its proximity to Navy bases makes Shibuya a popular destination for Sailors and their families. **Middle Right** – Raw fish, or sushi, is a delicacy in Japan. Here, tuna, squid, octopus and other sashimi line a brightly colored dish. **Bottom Left** – You may need to acquire a taste for some of the exotic Japanese food, but for most of it, you’ll jump right in. Garlic is used in the preparation of *gyoza*, a meat-filled, deep-fried appetizer. **Bottom Right** – Near NAF Misawa you’ll find waterfalls like this one at Lake Towada in the Aomori Prefecture. The picturesque landscape is world renown, and just minutes away from the base in Northern Japan.



# FOREIGN SOJO



# URN IN

SOMETIMES SHEETS SWALLOWS SLURPY THINGS THAT SWIM.  
No kiddin'— Information Systems Technician 1st Class Willard Sheets downs squid and octopus one night, dried fish and shellfish the next. "You learn to eat things over here that you never thought you would."



# KOREA

Story and photos by  
JOC Robert Benson

*Top* – Outdoor food markets are popular in Korea. Large supermarkets or grocery stores are non-existent off base; instead, everyone shops for a few days worth of food at small stores or markets like this. *Bottom far left* – Kids play like they never have played before when American Sailors visit their orphanage. The Sailors, from CNFK, erected a play area on the grounds of the orphanage one afternoon. *Bottom center left* – Going TAD to Chinhae? Enjoy the stay – quarters are plentiful and accommodations nice. Information on life outside the gate is literally at your fingertips. *Bottom center right* – Fly into Chinhae or Pohang, the two Korean ports Sailors know best, and you'll find small cities swathed in green, nestled in small mountains. *Bottom right* – Base housing offers modern kitchen facilities to Sailors and their families.



He has a Korean girlfriend, he ventures miles out on the local trains, and he stumbles his way through the local language.

Based in Chinhae, Korea, Sheets is going through a transformation called culturization. And he's doing it in a place he loves.

"I had a choice of Guam, Korea or Spain, and I chose Korea," he said. "I love it here. The culture is great." Sheets likes it so much, he requested to extend for another year.

Sheets is a member of a club few Sailors can join — serving in Korea is a rarity for most, as there are only a few billets spread out over three bases: Seoul, Chinhae and Pohang. Almost all of the tours are 24 months if you're married; one year if you're single. "You could do that standing on your head," said Electronics Technician 1st Class Jason Ziemer, also stationed in Seoul.

The ports most Sailors know best, Chinhae and Pohang, are swathed in green, and nestled in the countryside and mountains. Seoul, on the other hand, is a sprawling metropolis. Few cities are aptly named as Seoul, which comes from the Korean "sorabol," meaning the "center of everything." The capital is the nation's heart, and home to 9 million. It ranks in the world's top 10 largest cities.

By contrast, the Navy's presence is small in Korea, but in the minds of the Sailors stationed there, the impact of the country and its people is large.

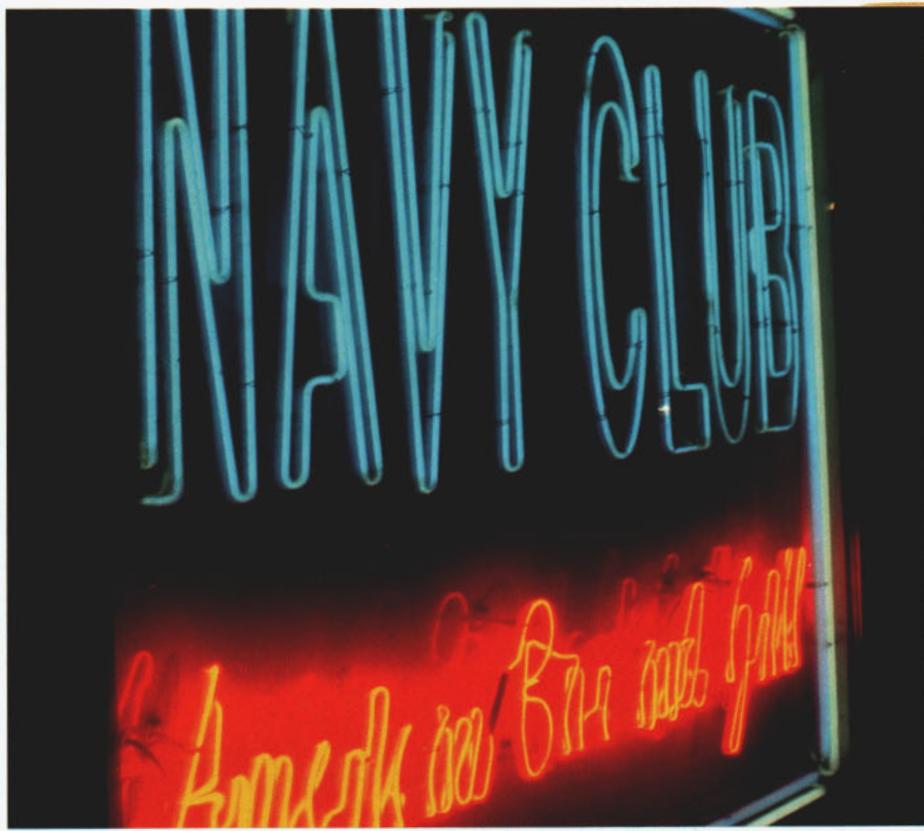
"This is the best duty station in the Navy," claims Chaplain J.L. Precup, from Chinhae. "We're a tight-knit community in a beautiful setting. Getting Chinhae duty is almost a reward. Some folks are hesitant to come over, but many, once they get here, continue to do overseas



*Above* — Myriad Korean signs and cityscape make up the topography near the main gate of Chinhae.  
*Right* — The Navy Club serves up great food and entertainment.



# FOREIGN SOJOURN IN KOREA



*Top* – The world-famous Navy Club on base in Seoul, Korea, is a popular hang out for Koreans and American servicemen and women. Arguably, they serve the best American food in the country.

*Above* – MS2 Nerissa Elliott, a Korean-American stationed in Chinhae, likes the country more than most as she has family there. Elliott was adopted when she was eight years old. For her, getting orders to Chinhae was like a homecoming. “It’s been 20 years since I’ve been here; it’s changed a lot.”

duty because it’s so enjoyable. This is a place where Navy history took place.” (Namely the Korean War).

Others describe Korea duty like one-line movie reviews:

“No complaints, one of the best duty stations I’ve had.” – Senior Chief Mess Management Specialist Roberto Miranda, Chinhae.

“The houses (on base at Chinhae) are fully furnished, and we’re doing a lot renovations. It’s going to be a primo base.” – CDR Bill Cogan, Chinhae base commanding officer.

For some, duty in Korea is even more significant.

MS2 Nerissa Elliott is a Korean-American, who was adopted when she was 8 years old. For her, getting orders to Chinhae was like a homecoming. “It’s been 20 years since I’ve been here,” said Elliott, from her office in the base’s galley. “It’s changed a lot, the country has become more modernized and everything is just booming in Seoul.” Elliott said she likes the Korean people and enjoys the amenities of the base. The Lake City, Mich., native has also lived in La Maddalena and Naples, Italy. Her next assignment is San Diego.

But, how could a country’s appeal be summarized in the space of four magazine pages? With vision perhaps: imagine a seven-day vacation to Beijing, China; Hong Kong; or Thailand for only \$250!

It may seem like a rough transition from Korea, but Chinhae’s MWR office offers these special, low-cost getaways to Korean-based Sailors.

Throw in the eels and dried fish, and you have duty in Korea — a deal the best detailer couldn’t give away quick enough. ☑

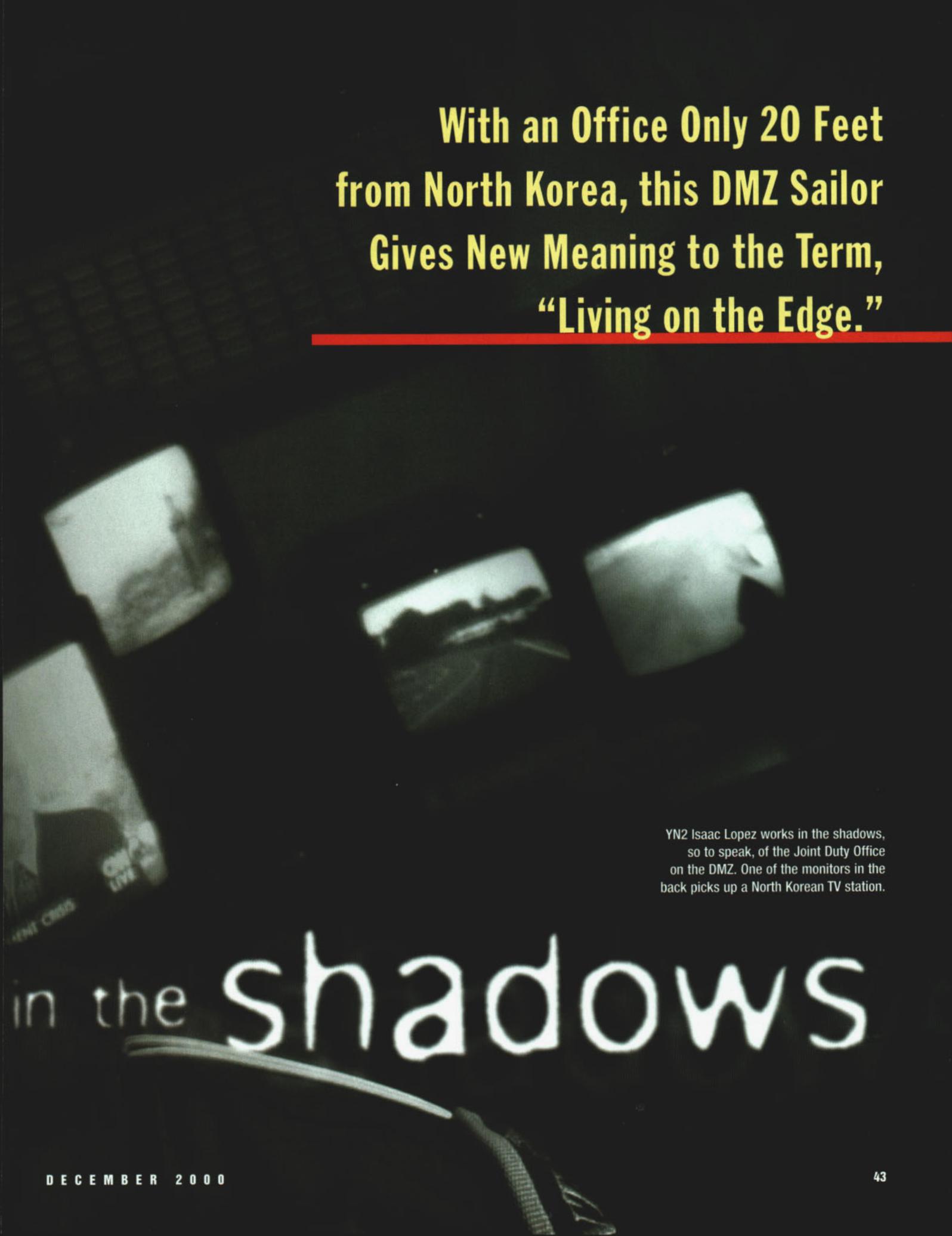
Story and photos by JOC Robert Benson



secret living

**With an Office Only 20 Feet  
from North Korea, this DMZ Sailor  
Gives New Meaning to the Term,  
“Living on the Edge.”**

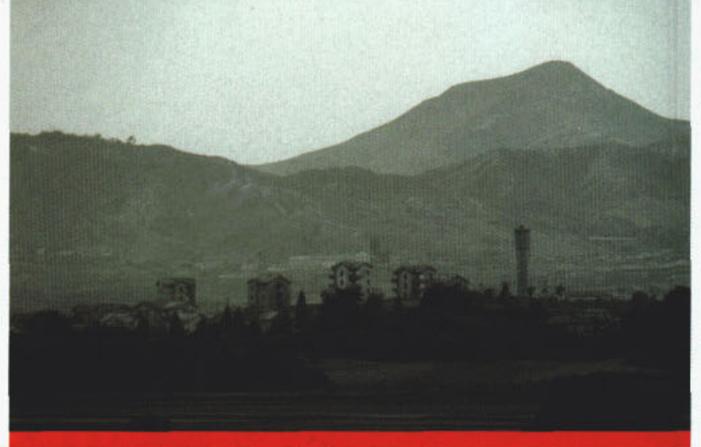
---



YN2 Isaac Lopez works in the shadows, so to speak, of the Joint Duty Office on the DMZ. One of the monitors in the back picks up a North Korean TV station.

in the shadows

**Right** – Nobody lives in this North Korean town. The “city” was erected on the communist side to show onlookers that the country is prosperous. At night, lights come on in the windows; otherwise, it’s lifeless. **Below** – A North Korean soldier observes activity, including the photographer, on the South Korean side of the DMZ. **Opposite Page** – ROK soldiers, 15 feet from the border, stand watches in modified tae-kwon-do stances, partially behind buildings.



After the Korean War, American POWs were returned on this bridge, called the “bridge of no return.” Two American soldiers inspect the North Korean side, where in the gutted shacks at the end of the bridge, North Koreans hide. The soldiers don’t turn their backs when they leave the bridge, they slowly backstep.

Speakers blare North Korean propaganda, uncharted minefields are steps away and a red phone rings as the trembling hand of YN2 Isaac Lopez reaches to answer it.

*“What have I gotten myself into,” he might scribe in a diary that doesn’t exist. “I can see movement in the gray buildings day and night, and they’re armed North Koreans with binoculars. They watch me. They call out my name on the loudspeakers. From the gutted remains of a building at the end of the ‘bridge of no return,’ where even I can’t go, they’re watching.*

*“Across the border, I can see a ghost town. Nobody lives there, but at night, lights come on in the windows ...”*

Once the MCPON visited Lopez and told him he was courageous.

This is a place Lopez knows well. Every week, he leaves the comfort of his barracks room in trendy Seoul, Korea, and travels one hour north. He arrives at the spookiest place on the face of the

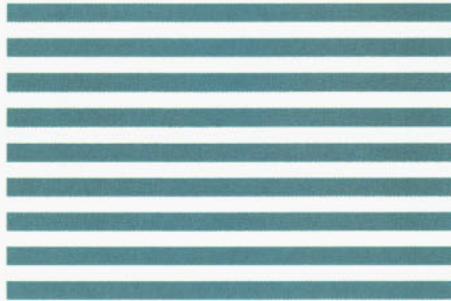
earth: the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea. AKA, the DMZ.

It’s a heavily patrolled area, the only part between the two countries where there’s no fence. The mine fields, hidden tunnels, checkpoints and areas with ominous names like “the bridge of no return,” make up this uninviting landscape.

*“At the ‘bridge of no return,’ we sometimes go looking. We slowly walk halfway across, but no further. There’s gutted out shacks on the other side, with armed North Koreans inside. They watch us. We move*

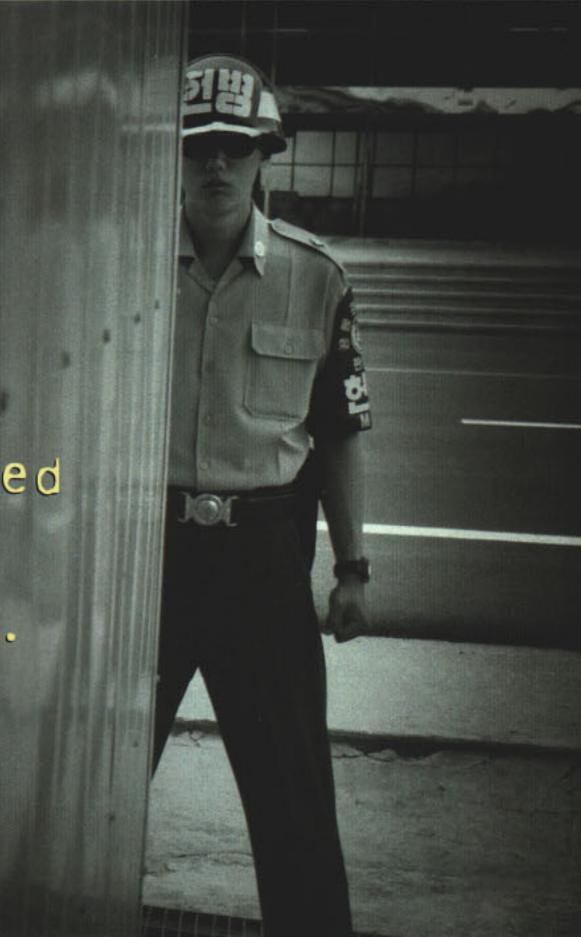
away, but don't turn our backs as we leave the bridge."

In the center of the DMZ, in the hush of the Joint Duty Office (JDO), Lopez quietly monitors communication attempts from communist North Koreans. He keeps an eye on the red hotline. His mission is to initiate action should a summit be needed. He's so close



spooky," recalled Lopez. "It was me, by myself, at night, 20 feet away from the Korean People's Army." Often he hears explosions from the North Korea side, but they became so common he didn't even notice them after a while. He said being on a ship at General Quarters in the worst part of the world has nothing on this — living on the edge,

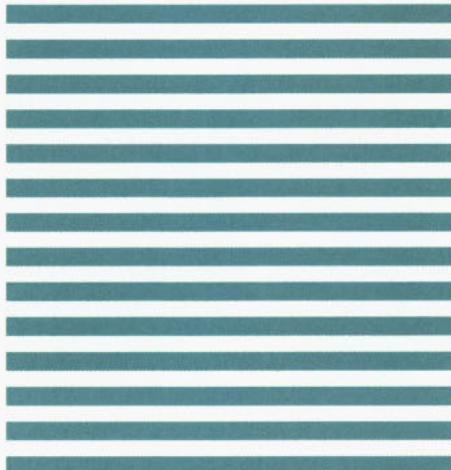
Twenty-four-seven, a contingent of South Korean soldiers wear 'Men in Black' like sunglasses and battle helmets, and stand in a modified tae-kwon-do stance, 15 feet from the actual border between the two countries; observing.



to the North Korean border the fog from his breath is the only thing that safely crosses the zone in the cold early morning. From his little cubical — a nondescript darkened room with TV monitors airing North Korean propaganda, CNN and other news shows, he watches the watchers. Looking through a pair of big eyes at the communist buildings across the line, Lopez often sees a mirror image looking back.

Binoculars, bullhorns, walkie-talkies and armed escorts are forever by his side.

"When I first got here it was pretty



literally, has hardened him.

Villagers near Lopez's compound are forbidden to leave their homes at night. At the JDO, Lopez can never leave the building alone; he always has to travel in with at least one other person. Lopez and other Americans can't even walk from building to building on the compound, he has to drive, no matter how short the commute.

Lopez knows well the history of the DMZ, a 2.5-mile wide buffer that runs across the peninsula along the famed 38<sup>th</sup> Parallel. He knows the zone was created when the Korean War ended in 1953,



**Left** – When the two countries have summits, the sides meet here, in neutral ground. The room dissects the border: half the building lies in North Korea, the other half in South Korea.

**Below** – Look close through Lopez’s binoculars and you’ll see a Korean People’s Army soldier from North Korea looking back.

not with a full peace treaty, but a fragile armistice. He knows that 2 million South Korean soldiers and 37,000 Americans remain vigilant on the line where he works.

But to really understand this place, consider Lopez’s commute from Seoul. During the one-hour drive, city turns to town, and town turns to country.

With each passing mile northward, becomes less and the terrain becomes more barren; and life more militarized. The double barbed wire fence, which separates the two Koreas, parallels the road. Armed South Koreans in towers, and roving dog patrols monitor the line.

Some have actually crossed the border from South to North Korea. It’s a one-way trip though, none have returned. “They’re probably shot immediately,” said one official. As recently as 1984 that happened; a Soviet tour guide defected from the North, came sprinting across the line to

## He arrives at the spookiest place on the

the South, resulting in a 20-minute fire-fight with one South Korean and three North Korean soldiers dead.

Lopez said tensions at the DMZ have eased a bit since this year’s July summit between the two countries; still though, it’s what most call a spooky place. Twenty-four-seven, a contingent of South

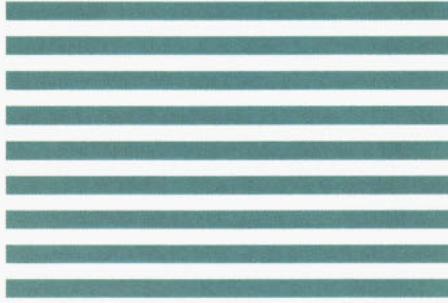
Korean soldiers wear ‘Men in Black’-like sunglasses and battle helmets, and stand in a modified tae-kwon-do stance, 15 feet from the actual border between the two countries; observing. The stance to project power, the sunglasses to intimidate. At the same time, North Koreans are doing the same, watching the watchers, taking notes, blaring obscure Korean-speak on loudspeakers.

The two sides never really speak, though. They just watch, stare and observe, sometimes within arms reach of each other.

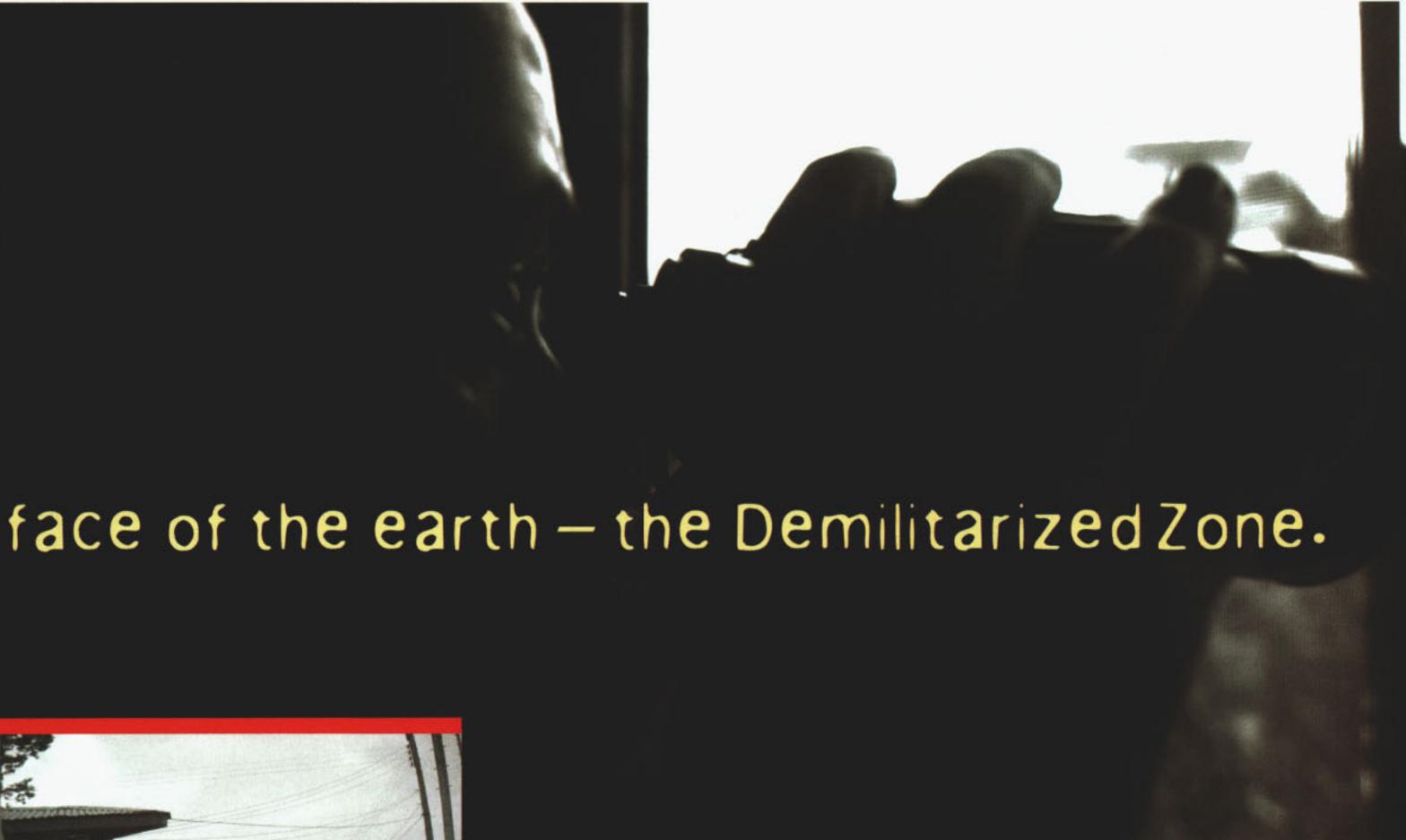
“Sometimes they’ll blare my name

A North Korean soldier, curious about the activity of a photographer and mingling Americans, comes to investigate. Both are careful not to cross a 1-foot-wide line which separates the two countries. The two sides don’t speak. They stare, emotionless, before turning away.





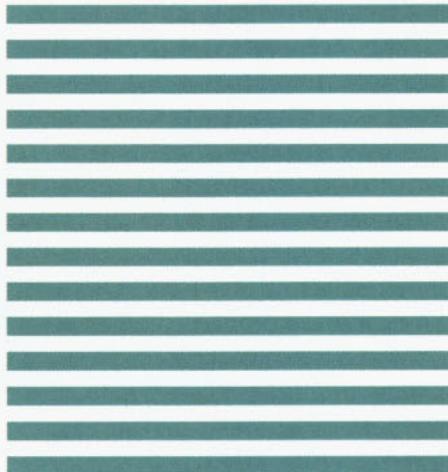
Lopez peers out his window in the Joint Duty Office at North Koreans 20 feet away.



# face of the earth – the Demilitarized Zone.



Lopez (front) and Private 1st Class Stephen Ferree, study the North Korean landscape at the DMZ.



over loudspeakers over and over. They got my name from my nametag, by using binoculars,” Lopez said.

And sometimes, about once a month, a red phone in the JDO office rings, tape recorders roll, Lopez gulps, then answers. The call to that phone, always from the North Koreans, usually means something is up.

“Living up here is way past unique,” said Lopez. “I was never into world politics, but now I’m in the middle of it.” ☒

*Benson is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.*

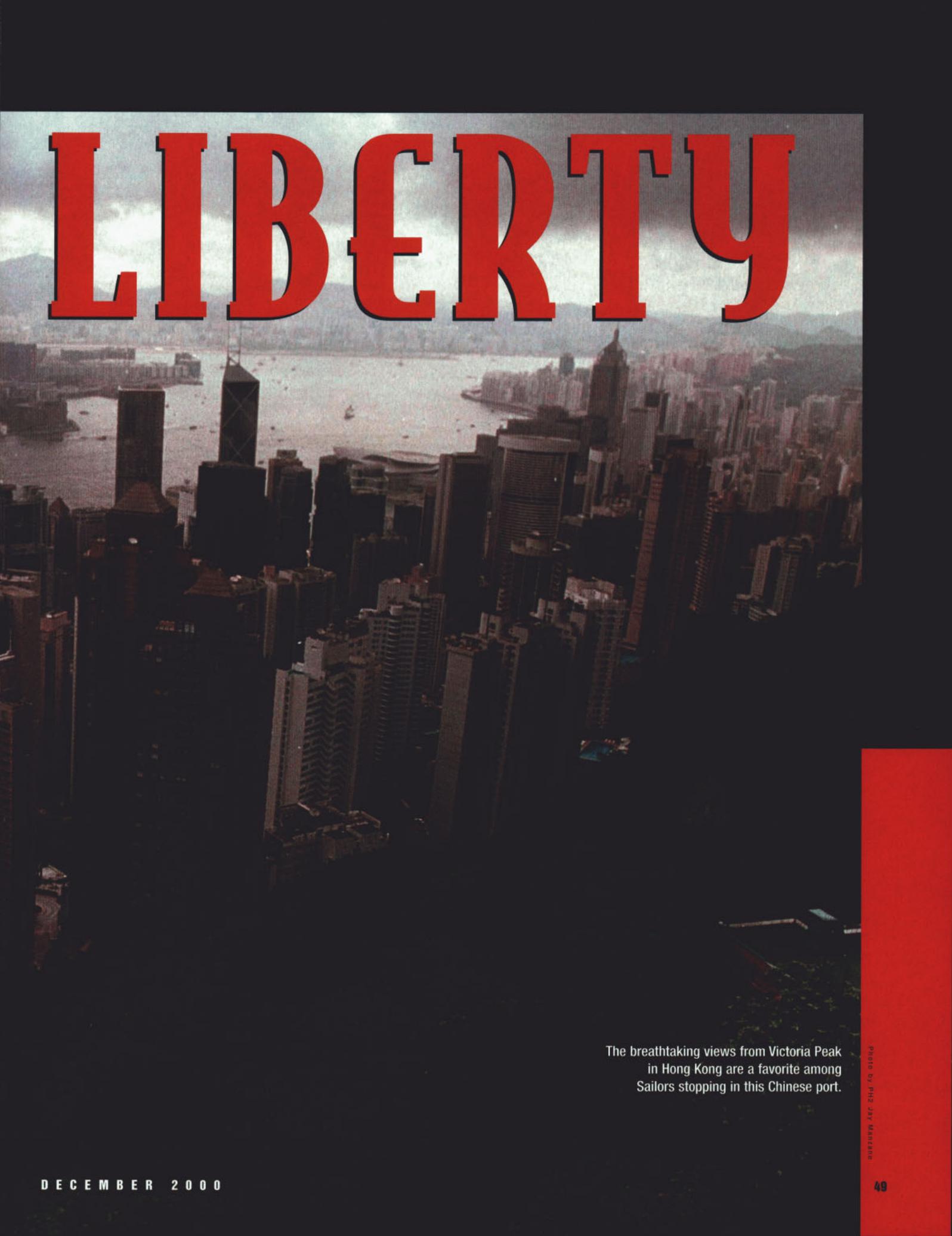


# far East

**T**he Far East – a region shrouded in tradition and mystery. For Sailors on their way to or from a six-month Western Pacific deployment, the Far East means a break from the long hours toiling away at sea.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Saipan, Thailand, China, Japan and South Korea; these ports mean something special to the thousands of Sailors who stop there each year. They are full of memories and friends that will never be forgotten. 🇺🇸

# LIBERTY

An aerial photograph of Hong Kong, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers in the foreground and middle ground, with Victoria Harbour in the background. The sky is overcast and grey. The word 'LIBERTY' is superimposed in large, bold, red, sans-serif capital letters across the top of the image.

The breathtaking views from Victoria Peak  
in Hong Kong are a favorite among  
Sailors stopping in this Chinese port.

Photo by PH3 Eric J. Benson



Photo by PH2 Clinton C. Beard

*Above* – While in Saipan, USS *Blue Ridge's* (LCC 19) rugby team plays a challenge match with the Saipan Rugby Club.

*Above* – A port visit to Hong Kong means being able to soak up foreign culture such as a performance by this Chinese dancer of the Dai Prefecture.

*Right* – A view of the Temple of Dawn on the Chao Phraya River in Pattaya Beach, Thailand, where many U.S. Navy ships make port visits. Pattaya Beach is a popular spot for Sailors on WESTPAC deployments.

*Far Right* – Most Navy ships offer tours during each port visit allowing Sailors to visit sites such as the Nanfeng Pagoda in Xianju, China. The ancient structure stands several stories tall and is kept in mint condition by Buddhist monks.

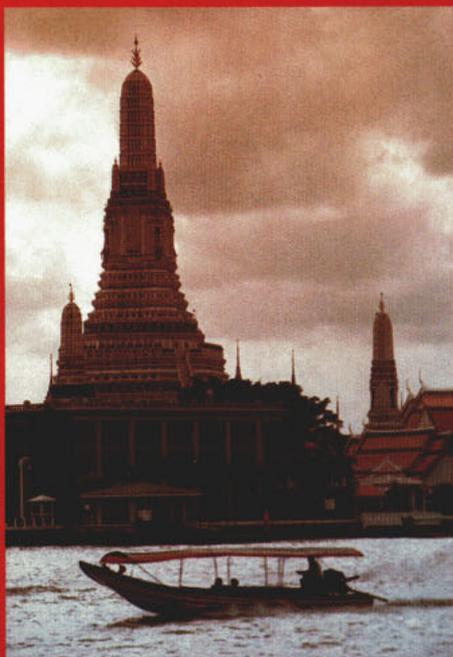


Photo by PH2 Eric J. Benson

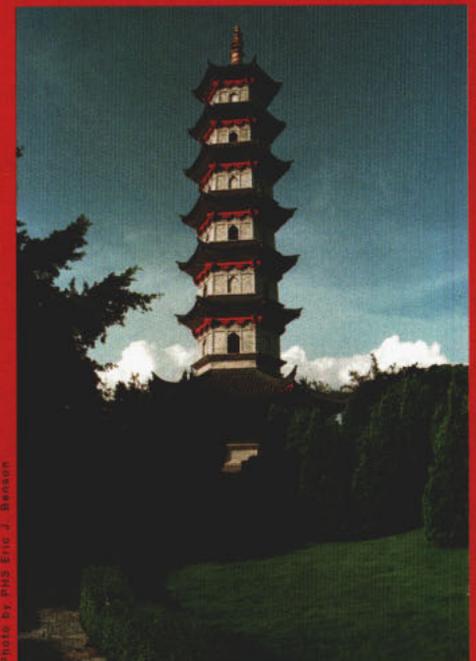


Photo by PH3 Eric J. Benson



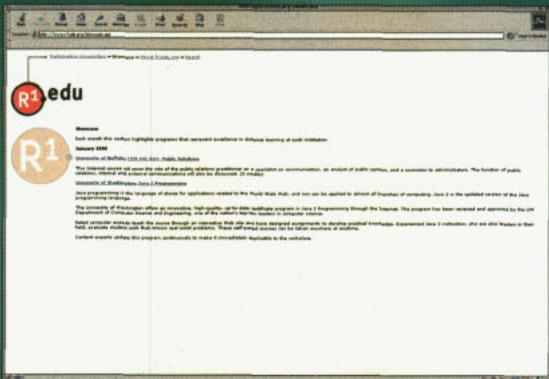
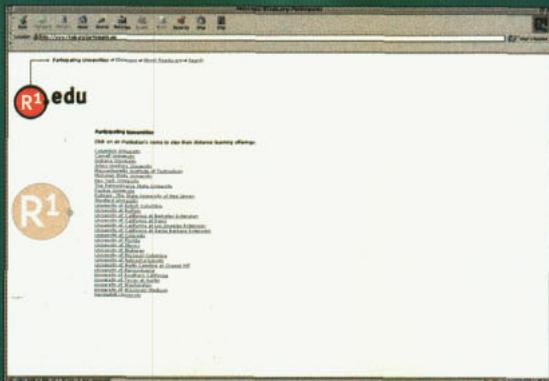
*Below* – Women dressed in traditional Japanese kimonos watch the reenactment of Vice Admiral Perry's signing of the first trade agreement which opened Japan to trade with the United States.



Photo by Phil Russell/Wallpaper

# CyberSailor

## www.r1edu.org The Distance Learning Connection



So, you've talked about going back to college and getting that degree you've wanted for years, but with work, duty, deployments and everything else, there just hasn't been time.

Well, all of your lame excuses have just been tossed out the window. With classes now being offered online at some of the most prestigious universities in the country, there is little or no reason why you can't go for that degree.

Sounds kind of sketchy, you say? Well, what if I told you that colleges like University of Michigan, Penn State, Johns Hopkins and even Harvard offered courses and degrees on the internet?

It's true and it's just a mouse click away.

No longer do you have to be burdened by conforming to everyone else's rigid schedule to earn a college degree. Do it in your time, at your home, on your computer.

All it takes is the time, self-discipline and the dedication to pace yourself and get the work done. But be warned, no

one will be nagging you to turn in assignments or get the reading done. It's all on you.

Having said all that, are you up for the challenge? Are you finally ready to pursue the degree you want? Yes? Well let's go to it!

Your first stop needs to be at [www.r1edu.org](http://www.r1edu.org). It is the best and most comprehensive of the distance learning sites that I have found.

The site [r1edu.org](http://r1edu.org) provides a one-stop portal to the most innovative distance learning programs at some of the most respected schools in North America. The site directs students to participating institutions' distance learning course information.

Such schools in [r1edu.org](http://r1edu.org) are members of the Association of American Universities and are classified as "Research Universities I" by the Carnegie Foundation, which means they offer a full range of baccalaureate programs and give a high priority to research. There are currently 88 public and private universities that

# UR

The appearance of commercial Web sites in All Hands does not imply endorsement by the Departments of the Navy or Defense.

qualify as "R1" institutions.

When you click on one of the schools listed under "participating universities" the site gives a list of each course and program offered by that school. Clicking on the specific course gives you the following information: web address of the course, how the course is delivered (i.e., the web), the scheduled start date, the type of credit (graduate or undergraduate), the subject category, a comprehensive course description and finally, the cost of the course.

You will be amazed at the wide range of courses offered. For those with the green thumb, sign up for Turfgrass Management at the University of British Columbia. Those with dreams of being a power broker might click on Business Administration at Indiana University. And for you pet lovers, there's always Canine Genetics at Cornell

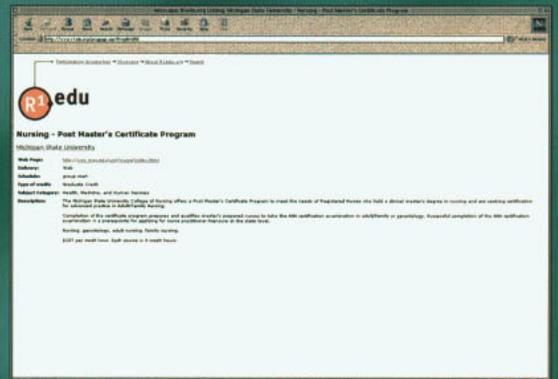
University. There is a course or program at this site for everyone.

Information on admission and registration must be obtained from each institution. Students who wish to take any of the courses listed on the site and transfer the credits to another learning institution, should become familiar with the transfer policies of the receiving school.

A great page to visit on the site is the "showcase." Each month, this section highlights a few schools and their programs that represent excellence in distance learning.

All in all, this site is your one-stop shop for distance learning. With no more excuses left, isn't it time you went out on the web and got that degree?

*Cyber Sailor*



[www.r1.edu.org](http://www.r1.edu.org)

# closer 2 a degree

# 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.

## ELECTRIC BLUE

CWO Steve Young, from Escondido, Calif., stands watch as the Tactical Action Officer in the Combat Direction Center (CDC) aboard USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75).

Photo by PH1 Tina M. Ackerman



## CARAT CROSSDECKERS

A Singaporean naval officer explains to U.S. Sailors attached to the amphibious assault ship USS *Germantown* (LSD 42), the navigational capabilities aboard the Royal Singaporean Navy ship RSS *Couragious* (APV 96). The visit is part of *Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2000*.

Photo by PH1(NAC) Spike Call





## CARRIER CALCULATIONS

QM3 Michael Alvarez, of Los Angeles, uses a sextant for navigational positioning aboard USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), while on a six-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation *Southern Watch*.

Photo by PHAA Mason Cavazos

## SELECTEE PT

Commander, Naval Forces Japan, RADM Robert C. Chaplin (front center), leads the way during an early morning run with the Chief Petty Officer Selectees in Yokosuka, Japan.

Photo by PH3 Lamel J. Hinton



## WESTPAC WELCOME

Sailors aboard USS *Frank Cable* (AS 40) man the rails as they enter Apra Harbor in Guam after completing a routine Western Pacific deployment.

Photo by PH2 Marjorie McNamee

## TO BE CONSIDERED

forward your high resolution (5"x7" at 300dpi) images with full credit and outline 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](mailto:navynewsphoto@hq.navy.mil)

Mail your submissions to:  
NAVY VISUAL INFORMATION DIV.  
NAVAL MEDIA CENTER,  
2713 MITSCHER RD., S.W.  
ANACOSTIA ANNEX, D.C.  
20373-5819

# Southern Hospitality, Gator Style

Photo and story by JO1 Preston Keres

**A**nyone in the mood for gator soup? How about a brand new purse or comfortable pair of gator skin boots?

If so, I would avoid going anywhere near the grounds of Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, S.C.

You see, they've grown pretty attached to an alligator down there by the name of Charlie.

Rumor has it, this 14-foot relic and base celebrity arrived at this South Carolina facility some 40 years ago, but how and when he made his current home in a pond on the south side of the installation is unknown. One story has it that, as a pup,

Charlie was washed through a culvert during the heavy rains of a hurricane and dumped in the heart of what was then an Army post.

Since then, he has become sort of an unofficial mascot and pet for the base and its residents. This legendary alligator's reputation has even reached beyond the gates, to the point that he has become a tourist attraction for the visitors.

As a matter of fact, Charlie isn't the only alligator that has paid a visit. The base frequently receives calls from its residents to report gator sightings anywhere from housing to the golf course and even near the base mini-mart — guess a gator was planning a party and needed to pick up some munchies.

The calls come so often, especially during the summer months, that the base has created a team of active-duty alligator catchers to assist the Natural Resources specialists in capturing and relocating these unwelcome visitors.

Master Chief Master at Arms James Cummings, Chief Yeoman Robert Pickert, YN2 Roy Davis, YN2 Johnny Cook and

Mess Management Specialist 3rd Class William Mayberry are basically the station's alligator Search and Rescue squad. It's their responsibility to take care of the little snappers that find their way out of their natural habitat.

Now before you get too paranoid about that transfer or temporary duty down in South Carolina, you should realize that the small alligators — those measuring five feet or less — feed on crawfish, aquatic insects, small snakes, frogs and turtles, but not humans. Although they have been known to nibble on a pet or two, the only time they interact with people is when they feel threatened and forced to defend themselves.



Charlie, unofficial mascot of Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, S.C.

Now those big 'uns — the males that measure nine feet or longer and weigh upwards of 500 pounds — they'll eat you, your neighbor and your brand new set of golf clubs, and won't even think twice about it.

As a matter of fact, Charlie once felt he could eat whatever he wanted; that was until he took on a

lawn mower. Then he discovered something that could bite back. His encounter left him with a nine-inch scar on his chin and four missing teeth. Ever since, he has learned to leave the employees who groom his territory alone.

Luckily, the rest of Charlie's bigger friends stay away from the locals, but in the event they venture onto the base without showing their ID, the experts are on their tails quicker than a duck on a June bug.

So the next time you're heading down to Charleston for a visit, be sure to leave all those exotic purses, boots and pants at home, and hold "Fido" a little tighter, because Charlie and his friends might get a little riled up. ☑

# 10Xteaser

Using this tool will help open the passageway to a better quality of life. What is it?

Photo by PHAN Saul Ingle

## Last Month's answer:



A card reader used at the Child Development Center to log children in and out of the building and track the amount of hours each child spends at the center. Parents must scan their cards to be able to drop off or pick up their children.

Photo by PH2 Bob Houlihan

Go to our website at [www.mediacen.navy.mil](http://www.mediacen.navy.mil) or wait for next month's inside back cover to learn the answer...

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



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



...are you?

[www.sealchallenge.navy.mil](http://www.sealchallenge.navy.mil)