



@USNPEOPLE WEEKLY WIRE

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Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

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- Sailors Experience Effects of Simulated Intoxication [\[LINK\]](#)
- 'Recruit Reboot' War Game Includes Fleet Sailors in Recruit Training Process [\[LINK\]](#)
- NDW Observes Alcohol Awareness Month [\[LINK\]](#)

To sign up for the @USNPeople Weekly Wire, email usnpeople@gmail.com,
or find it online at www.navy.mil/cnp

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MC2 Burleson: Welcome, I'm here with MCPON Stevens to discuss SAPR, and ways to encourage more Sailors to take a stand and to intervene to help prevent sexual assaults. MCPON, thank you for being here today.

MCPON: Thank you Petty Officer Burleson; good to see you again.

MC2 Burleson: What is the message you would like to get out to Sailors as we continue throughout this month?

MCPON: You know the thing I'd like to share with our Sailors primarily is this, there's a lot of training that we have done and that we're doing, and I'm confident we will continue to do, in our effort to combat sexual assault. The one thing I think we all need to be mindful of, what's most important, is that we remember to treat each other with dignity and respect. If we treated each other with the dignity and respect that we and others deserve, then in many ways this problem, this significant challenge we have with sexual assault, just goes away. So let's remember to treat each other with dignity and respect.

MC2 Burleson: Right, so you have a young Sailor out there, he sees something, he knows something, but he's hesitant to say something. Who should he talk to? How should he go about that?

MCPON: Well I would say that every Sailor that observes anything, whether it's sexual assault or anything that is being done that is inappropriate, has not just the responsibility, but also the duty to ensure that the information is passed to the right people. And there are a number of people we can communicate that with. You can talk with your immediate supervisor; you can talk with your chief petty officer, your division officer, all the way up. No one should turn you away if you're bringing something that's being done inappropriately to their attention. Then of course we have our victim advocates that are trained in this area that they can speak to, and all the others that are involved in the prevention of sexual assault. So again, regardless of what it is, make sure that it is brought to someone's attention, and no one should turn you away. Don't feel like if the person you want to talk to is not there that you can't go to somebody else. Because doing it in a timely fashion is just as important.

MC2 Burleson: One of CNO's five initiatives is to educate Sailors on alcohol abuse. How does alcohol in your opinion factor in to sexual assaults?

MCPON: Well it should be something that everybody is aware of. We shouldn't be strangers to this. But when a person drinks alcohol, especially when they drink it to excess, it impairs their judgment. I've seen some of the best Sailors with the best intentions that have indulged in alcohol more than they should, make decisions that they otherwise would never have made. So I know that people go into an environment or situation oftentimes and they say to themselves that I'm not going to do this, but soon as they have one or more drinks then they should, then that facility, that ability to make those rational decisions just goes away. So the best thing to do is to abstain from alcohol completely if you don't have the ability to control how much you drink, or to recognize that your tolerance level is one or two drinks. Then you just kind of stop at that point because once you go beyond that, you lose those facilities to make those rational judgments.

MC2 Burleson: Talking all these things in our work centers, why is it important to talk about SAPR in an open forum in our work centers openly with others?

MCPON: SAPR is a subject that should not be taboo. It's not something we should be ashamed to talk about, fearful to talk about, or shy away from. The more that we talk about it, the more comfortable we become with this conversation and this discussion, the more likely we are able to head off sexual assault before it ever occurs. If you're open and honest about it, you may encourage someone else to talk about it. They might have something to bring to the conversation that's extremely important in either preventing sexual assault, or talking about something they know that has occurred. I would encourage every one of all pay grades to feel comfortable talking about sexual assault, and again we shouldn't treat it as taboo.

MC2 Burlison: Sexual assault awareness and prevention month is only this month. Looking forward, how do we continue to reduce the numbers?

MCPON: Maybe sexual assault awareness month is technically and officially one month out of the year, but the truth of the matter is sexual assault prevention month is every month; every day; every hour; every minute; every second of the year. Let's not feel like this is a fire and forget evolution that we are dealing with here. This is a fire for effect, on target, all the time, every day.

MC2 Burlison: MCPON that's all I have for you. Thank you for joining me, and thank you all for watching. Be sure to check out the SAAPM toolkit at SAPR.NAVY.MIL, which will help you prepare for sexual assault prevention at your command.

2.) Slimming the Seabag / 24 APRIL 16

NAVY TIMES, Mark Faram

After six years in the fleet and some controversy, the blue-and-gray cammies could be headed for Davy Jones' seabag.

The digital blue Navy Working Uniforms were a fleet mainstay until 2013 after they were found to be unsafe to wear while fighting a fire. One plan is ditching these blue Navy working uniforms in favor of their green cousin. The service could potentially save millions by switching to the woodland cammies already worn by Seabees and master-at-arms. The green-and-tans are also not flame-resistant but would be the standard for ashore wear; flame-resistant coveralls and flight suits are mainstays for at-sea wear.

Dumping the digital blues, also known as the NWU Type I, is a move that's been quietly discussed by leadership in recent years.

"I think that there are a lot of folks who wouldn't be sad, I guess, if Navy working uniform Type I went away," Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson said in the interview.

He's heard sailor's complaints that the heaviness of the fabric makes it hot from shoulders to boots. Sailors have told him it's "very uncomfortable," he said.

Sure, the blue NWUs have been popular with those who like the battle dress-styling. But its camouflage is an open joke. Sailors have called it their "blueberries" and gaged that their foremost value is concealing spilled paint. Even the Navy secretary has mocked it, saying three years ago that "the great camouflage it gives is if you fall overboard."

Richardson, who signs off on all uniform decisions, wants to make sailors' uniforms more functional and to achieve the aim of many previous CNOs: slimming down the seabag, a move that will save the service millions. Another option to accomplish that is to dump the poly-cotton utility coveralls; like the NWU, these uniforms will

melt in a fire but are still issued to every sailor. There's a possibility that the service could make a custom seabag for different types of duty or add a flame resistant uniform to the seabag.

"Let's take a look at the whole sea bag and see if we can't make it a little bit more sensical, where the elements of that sea bag are more suited to their mission," he said. "They are comfortable, they are effective, we can wear them more broadly so that we don't have people having to change in their workspace before they have to drive home."

The future of fleet uniforms is also up in the air. Fleet sailors are testing two prototypes of flame-resistant uniforms: one a traditional coverall design and the other a blue flightsuit style. In addition, Navy officials have blueprinted a hybrid of the coverall and flight suit.

Walking away from aquaflage in favor of the woodland pattern NWU type IIIs is a tough decision and won't be easy to execute, but it is being discussed.

"In terms of NWU Type I, NWU Type III, [and] the coverall: All of those things are being considered," he said. "Those things I think would allow us to look each other in the eye and say, 'This makes a lot more sense than some of the schemes that we have now.'"

What's Next?

It could be a good time to dump the blueberries. Congress is pressing for cost-savings by consolidating the explosion of service-specific camouflage to what conceals best.

The Navy has spent \$224 million just to develop and initially field the NWU Type I's, according to a 2010 Government Accountability Office report.

Then There's The Logistics.

Currently the Navy stockpiles more than a year's supply of the NWUs with the Defense Logistics Agency, spending \$15.4 million in fiscal 2015 to buy 200,059 trousers and 224,232 blouses; plans as of mid-2015 called for the spending even more in fiscal 2016.

Another issue is modifying or breaking the existing contracts through DLA. In 2015, DLA told Navy Times that two contracts that govern the purchase of NWU Type I trousers and blouses. That agreement will expire in 2018. A separate contract for the polycotton coveralls, which can't be worn in the fleet, will expire in 2019.

The good news is that these "indefinite-delivery indefinite-quantity" contracts give the Navy some flexibility to draw down its stocks, but the Navy must still purchase a minimum amount.

The NWUs were envisioned as the service's everyday uniform, to be worn in classrooms, at shore-based commands and in ships and squadrons. Accessories like the fleece and parka were offered to make it wearable in cold and wet weather. But the uniform has since been ruled unfit for wear aboard ships at sea after revelations it would melt and burn up in a fire, and officials are asking whether it should continue to be a seabag item.

Declining sales and lack of use underway prompted the service to cut the seabag requirement from four pairs to three last year. At the time, officials hinted that move would start a gradual phase out. Even so, the service has spent money developing lightweight blue NWUs.

Slimming the seabag is easier said than done. Many before have tried to tackle it. Few have succeeded.

Beyond saying that nearly everything is on the table, CNO didn't say which way he is leaning.

"These are important decisions and so you want to do them thoughtfully," he said. "I would say that in the next few months we might be ready to come out with our next step forward."

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The Navy encourages commands to embrace this year's national theme "Walk Together, Embrace Differences, Build Legacies."

This year's three imperatives serve to promote equal representation and to remove barriers in developing diverse leaders, acknowledging the challenges that still exist today.

Today, there are 24,500 Asian American and Pacific Islander Sailors serving in the Navy, including eight admirals and 235 master chief and senior chief petty officers. These Sailors represent more than 56 ethnic groups, speaking over 100 languages from Asia and the Pacific Islands, living in the United States.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders of various nationalities and ancestry have been serving in the Navy since the early 19th century. The rich history of these cultures, their struggles against adversity to achieve equality, significant contributions to the American experience, and the opportunity to build the foundation for a bright future are made reality by some great leaders who share the same heritage.

Senior leaders serving in the Navy today, who are Asian American and Pacific Islanders, are:

Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander, U.S. Pacific Command, was previously commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Born in Japan and raised in Tennessee and Florida, he became a P-3 Orion navigator after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978.

Adm. Raquel C. Bono is the director of the Defense Health Agency. She is a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery. Of Filipino descent, her brother, Anatolio B. Cruz III, was also an admiral in the Navy until he retired in 2013.

Rear Adm. Peter A. Gumataotao, a native of Guam, is the deputy chief of staff, Strategic Plans and Policy, NATO Supreme Allied Command Transformation in Norfolk.

Rear Adm. Jonathan A. Yuen is commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 47th chief of Supply Corps. He is a member of the Acquisition Professional Community.

Another Sailor of Asian American descent is Capt. Sunita L. Williams, currently serving as an astronaut for NASA. She served as the flight engineer for the Expedition-14 crew and science officer at the International Space Station in 2007. In 2012, she served as a flight engineer on Expedition-32 and then commander of Expedition-33. Her seven space walks set records for women.

The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute provides printable posters, presentations, guidance for organizing observance, and educational facts on their website, <http://www.deomi.org/> under the section "Special Observances."

For more information about the history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and their numerous contributions to the Navy, visit <http://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/diversity/asians-and-pacific-islanders-in-the-navy.html>

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/cnp/>.

4.) The Chief's Mess Just Caught A Break This Year. Here's How / 26 APRIL 16

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This year, chiefs can breathe a little easier.

The personnel brass have decided not to convene a force-retire board for chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs this year, which typically screens thousands of records for conduct problems and diminishing performance.

The fiscal 2017 senior enlisted continuation board, slated for August, was nixed because officials had too little time since last year's panel, held in December. The decision was made by Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Bill Moran, who conferred with Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (AW/NAC) Mike Stevens.

"It really doesn't hurt anything to wait a year, so this was a situation where common sense prevailed," Fleet Master Chief (AW/SW) April Beldo told Navy Times. "These sailors all just got a good look and not much, if anything, would change in their records before this board would have convened."

Still, she said, the service is not walking away from the enlisted continuation board process, which has no quotas and is seen as a pure "quality cut" to ensure retirement-eligible chiefs are performing up to the standard.

"The board will be back in August of 2017 as the fiscal 2018 board," she said.

The cancellation is the final domino coming out of the four-month postponement of the fiscal 2016 board. Originally slated for last August, the board was put off until December after officials discovered names of the scheduled board members had been inadvertently released.

By Navy rules, the release of board members' names before the board begins its session compromises the panel. The extra months were required to identify a new panel and get them to Millington, Tennessee.

It will be only the second year since the board was created in 2010 that it hasn't been held. The fiscal 2014 board was cancelled and not rescheduled for similar reasons.

The extra time could become a good thing for retirement eligible chiefs with any questionable material in their records.

Each year it has been held, the board looks at all E-7 and above sailors with more than 19 years of qualifying service towards retirement — who already have three years of time in their current paygrade.

Past boards have told the panel to look for specific "indicators" of an issue like misconduct or failing performance in the past five years. If that's found, the board deliberates on whether that chief stays or goes.

So the extra year's time will aid any chiefs will problem evaluations and put distance between themselves and adversarial material in their service jackets.

The board has typically reviewed over 7,000 chiefs' records, of whom two to three percent have been forced into retirement.

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