1.) **CNO: How Can U.S. Navy Prevail in Contest for Maritime Supremacy? / 24 JULY 17** [LINK]
Office of Naval Research Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy has enjoyed uncontested global maritime supremacy for the past 25 years, said Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. John Richardson at the Naval Future Force Science and Technology Expo, held July 20-21 in Washington, D.C.

2.) **CNP Highlights Sailor 2025 and Stresses Mentorship During NNOA Symposium / 26 JULY 17** [LINK]
Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

"Just like the weapons systems we use, we are updating our personnel system to keep pace with a rapidly changing world," Burke said. "Under Sailor 2025, we've instituted several initiatives that are modernizing our personnel management and training systems, empowering our Sailors, and improving the Navy's warfighting readiness."

3.) **Navy Reconvenes Active E-9 Selection Board / 24 JULY 17** [LINK]
Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

The Navy announced Monday that it has reconvened the FY-18 Active-Duty Advancement Selection Board for Master Chief Petty Officers in Millington, Tennessee. The board was suspended April 12, after the Navy received a report that board deliberations may have been compromised.

4.) **Top US General Promises No Changes in Military Transgender Policy for Now / 27 JULY 17** [LINK]
ABC NEWS, Luis Martinez

Gen. Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has issued guidance to military commanders stressing that there will be no change in military policy toward transgender service members until Defense Secretary Jim Mattis receives further direction from the White House.

5.) **21st Century Sailor bi-weekly roll-up:**
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To sign up for the @USNPeople Weekly Wire, email usnpeople.fct@navy.mil, or find it online at www.navy.mil/cnp
Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. John Richardson at the Naval Future Force Science and Technology Expo, held July 20-21 in Washington, D.C.

Unfortunately, the CNO said, those days are over. American naval forces now face a new era of competition from rising and resurgent naval powers—citing recent examples such as a bilateral exercise in the Baltic Sea involving the Russian and Chinese navies, and a Chinese live-fire exercise in the Mediterranean Sea.

"Take the example of a large, dominant company that becomes complacent as it gets bigger," said Richardson. "That makes you vulnerable to disruption. How can we avoid that fate? How can we restore our agility and competitive edge to maintain superiority?"

The answer, Richardson said, lies in three key components, each of which expands current naval strength and readiness:

* More ships: "By increasing the number of naval platforms, you increase naval power."

* More capable ships: "You're seeing this with directed-energy weapons like LaWS [laser weapon system], and the electromagnetic railgun and its high-velocity projectile. Other advances include additive manufacturing, which could revolutionize logistics at sea. Being able to 3D print a part on a ship is more efficient than carrying it in a locker."

* Networked ships: "How do you make all these platforms work together and network everything to everything?"

The biggest and most important challenge, the CNO said, is keeping up with adversaries who are moving quickly to advance their technological capabilities. The pace of technology development and delivery in the Navy and Marine Corps must speed up in order to maintain maritime superiority for U.S. naval warfighters.

"I'm not a scientist or technologist," said Richardson. "I'm here to define a problem for all of you [in attendance]. I want to bring science, technology and industry into the conversation early, so we can come up with the best solutions."

Richardson gave his remarks at the Future Force Expo, which is the premier science and technology event for the Navy and Marine Corps. The Expo is co-sponsored by the Office of Naval Research and the American Society of Naval Engineers and convenes every two years.

At the Expo, Chief of Naval Research Rear Adm. David J. Hahn unveiled his new guidance for the U.S. Navy's research and development establishment. Titled "Naval Research and Development: A Framework for Accelerating to the Navy and Marine Corps after Next," the Framework outlines new ways to accelerate technologies from basic research into finished products, and into Sailor or Marine hands.

Senior naval leaders see the Framework as a new way to bring together all the central players in naval research, including government labs, academia and industry.
Involving innovators in the discussion earlier will increase the likelihood that a business product will make it to the finish line—increasing the chances that research will make it to full-scale production and, ultimately, to Sailors and Marines.


Warren Duffie Jr. is a contractor for ONR Corporate Strategic Communications.


For more news from Office of Naval Research, visit www.navy.mil/local/onr/.

2.) CNP Highlights Sailor 2025 and Stresses Mentorship During NNOA Symposium / 26 JULY 17 [LINK]
Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) -- The Navy's top personnel officer highlighted Sailor 2025 and discussed other recent personnel initiatives during the annual National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) Symposium July 26.

Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Robert Burke spoke to approximately 100 conference attendees and stressed the importance of modernizing the Navy's personnel system.

Burke said that Sailor 2025 is a living, breathing set of approximately 45 initiatives built on a framework of three pillars: a modern personnel system, a career learning continuum and career readiness.

"Just like the weapons systems we use, we are updating our personnel system to keep pace with a rapidly changing world," Burke said. "Under Sailor 2025, we've instituted several initiatives that are modernizing our personnel management and training systems, empowering our Sailors, and improving the Navy's warfighting readiness."

During his remarks, Burke also discussed the Navy's continuing effort to streamline and optimize all of N1's processes.

"We are in the process of modernizing our IT infrastructure in preparation for transition to a modern, cloud-based integrated pay and personnel system," Burke said. "This will allow Sailors to conduct all manner of personnel issues, from pay and leave, to interactions with detailers, via modern, easily-accessible and simple to use programs that work on a personal mobile device."

Burke also challenged the conference attendees to take what they learn at the national symposium and mentor Sailors in their local area.

"Actively being involved in your local chapters and mentoring other Sailors will help produce leaders and teams who achieve their maximum performance, maintain high standards, and are ready for the myriad of complex challenges they will face," Burke said. "We are one Navy Team - a mosaic of America - and our future success is intrinsically linked to our ability to leverage the diverse resources, skills, capabilities, and talents of our people. The strength of our service is our diversity - diversity of thought, of education and background. We need it at every level, in every command, and at every decision table throughout the Fleet and must work every day to build and maintain a workforce that reflects the nation we serve."
NNOA is an annual leadership, professional development and training symposium held in San Diego that brings together junior and senior service members of the Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy. NNOA provides the opportunity to network and encourages the development of leaders through "education, experience and personal development."

As the chief of naval personnel, Burke is responsible for making sure that Sailors are ready for the litany of jobs they will be asked to perform. This includes finding and recruiting talented individuals to serve, executing training pipelines, and implementing policies that remove barriers to having a Navy career and a family.

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


3.) Navy Reconvenes Active E-9 Selection Board / 24 JULY 17 [LINK]

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy announced Monday that it has reconvened the FY-18 Active-Duty Advancement Selection Board for Master Chief Petty Officers in Millington, Tennessee.

The board was suspended April 12, after the Navy received a report that board deliberations may have been compromised.

The eligibility list for the board remains the same and quotas that were released April 3, will be used.

There are a total of 506 quotas, an increase of 32 quotas from last year's board, and opportunity is above the 10-year opportunity average of 13.01 percent for E-8's to advance to E-9.

The full list of Cycle 233 active duty E-9 quotas is available here.


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4.) Top US General Promises No Changes in Military Transgender Policy for Now / 27 JULY 17 [LINK]

ABC NEWS, Luis Martinez

Gen. Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has issued guidance to military commanders stressing that there will be no change in military policy toward transgender service members until Defense Secretary Jim Mattis receives further direction from the White House.

President Trump announced via Twitter on Wednesday what appeared to be a reinstatement of the military's ban on transgender service members.

"I know there are questions about yesterday's announcement on the transgender policy by the president," Dunford said in a written message to military commanders, according to a copy obtained by ABC News.
"There will be no modifications to the current policy until the president's direction has been received by the secretary of defense and the secretary has issued implementation guidance," continued Dunford, the nation's top military commander.

"In the meantime, we will continue to treat all of our personnel with respect," he said. "As importantly, given the current fight and the challenges we face, we will all remain focused on accomplishing our assigned missions."

The Pentagon was caught off guard by Trump’s Twitter announcement. A ban on transgender military service members was lifted by then–Defense Secretary Ash Carter last summer.

General Mark Milley, the Army's chief of staff, said Thursday that he had not known beforehand of the president's announcement.

"I personally did not, but nor would I have expected to," Milley said.

The Pentagon's chief spokesperson issued a statement Thursday that the Pentagon was awaiting further guidance from the White House.

"The Department of Defense is awaiting formal guidance from the White House as a follow-up to the Commander-in-Chief's announcement on military service by transgender personnel," said Dana White. "We will provide detailed guidance to the Department in the near future for how this policy change will be implemented. The Department will continue to focus on our mission of defending our nation and on-going operations against our foes, while ensuring all servicemembers are treated with respect."

Vice Adm. Robert Burke, the Navy's top personnel officer, issued guidance to his commanders Wednesday that no personnel actions should be taken until further guidance is received by the White House and that no ongoing medical treatments for transgender sailors should be ceased, writing, "Currently serving TG [transgender] service members will continue to receive all necessary medical care."

"With regard to implications for those currently serving, OSD [the Office of the Secretary of Defense] is working to quickly discern the president's intent," Burke said in a copy of the guidance obtained by ABC News. "Treating service members with dignity and respect is something we expect from our sailors at all times."

The military does not track the number of transgender military service members through its personnel records, but the armed services have information about service members who have contacted military medical services about a possible transgender transition.

About 160 sailors and fewer than five Marines are undergoing some form of transgender transition through the Navy's medical services, according to a Defense Department official. About 80 Army personnel are in similar transitions. The Air Force does not provide details about how many of its members may be in transition.

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For more information affecting Sailors and their family follow @USNPeople on Twitter.