

Navy to shoot down malfunctioning satellite

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

The Navy will shoot down a malfunctioning U.S. spy satellite sometime after Feb. 20, government officials said during a Pentagon news conference today.

Ambassador James F. Jeffrey, assistant to the President and deputy national security advisor, said President Bush decided to bring down the satellite because of the likelihood that the satellite could release hydrazine, a toxic chemical used as a maneuvering fuel.

"The likelihood of the satellite falling in a populated area is small, and the extent and duration of toxic hydrazine in the atmosphere would be limited," Jeffrey said. "Nevertheless, if the satellite did fall in a populated area, there was the possibility of death or injury to human beings beyond that associated with the fall of satellites and other space debris."

The window for shooting down the satellite opens in the next three or four days and remains open for as many as seven or eight days, said Marine Gen. James E. Cartwright, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

NASA Administrator

Michael Griffin said the study group looked carefully at increased risks to the shuttle and International Space Station and decided they are negligible. "We are very comfortable that this is a decision made carefully, objectively and safely," Griffin said.

Still, the Navy will not fire until after the shuttle Atlantis mission ends Feb. 20.

In late January, the U.S. government notified other nations that the satellite was unresponsive and would make an uncontrolled reentry in late February or early March.

The Navy has modified three SM-3 missiles aboard Aegis ships to strike the satellite, Cartwright said. The Navy wants to intercept the satellite at a point just above the atmosphere so there would be a high likelihood of bringing it down in an unpopulated area. An intercept also would rupture the hydrazine tank. The vice chairman would not say exactly where the ships would fire from, only saying it will be from the northern hemisphere and the Pacific Ocean.

Intercepting the satellite at about 130 nautical miles altitude will reduce the risk of debris in space. Once the satellite is hit, officials hope

50 percent of the debris will come to Earth in the first two orbits and the rest shortly thereafter, Cartwright said.

The satellite belongs to the National Reconnaissance Office and was launched Dec. 14, 2006. It weighs roughly 5,000 pounds, and computer models show that roughly 2,800 pounds would survive reentry. "What is different here is the hydrazine," Cartwright said. "In this case, we have some historical background that we can work against for the tank that contains the hydrazine. We had a similar one on Columbia that survived reentry. We have a pretty reasonable understanding that, if the tank is left intact, it would survive the reentry."

The tank is circular with a radius of 20 inches. It holds about 1,000 pounds of the fuel.

While details of the satellite are classified – Department of Defense officials will not release who built it or how much it costs – that had no bearing on the decision to shoot it down, Cartwright said. The temperatures from reentry would burn up any classified system on the satellite, he said.

Hydrazine is similar to chlorine or ammonia in that it affects lung tissue. People

inhaling it would feel a burning sensation. "If you stay close to it and inhale a lot of it, it could be deadly," Cartwright said.

If the military did not shoot down the satellite, the hydrazine would disperse over an area roughly the size of two football fields, the general said. Those who breathed it would need medical attention.

"As we reviewed the data, if we fire at the satellite, the worst that could happen is that we miss," Cartwright said. "Then we have a known situation, which is where we are today."

Grazing the satellite would probably still bring it down quicker and more predictably, he said. "If we hit the hydrazine tank, then we've improved the potential to mitigate that threat," he said. "The regret factor of not acting clearly outweighed the regret factor of acting."

Three Navy ships are slated to take part in shooting down a malfunctioning U.S. spy satellite sometime after Feb. 20. The Navy has modified three SM-3 missiles aboard Aegis ships to strike the satellite. The Navy wants to intercept the satellite at a point just above the atmosphere so there would be a high likelihood of bringing it down in an unpopulated area.

U.S. Navy photo



SDVT-1 hosts Pro Bowl players

MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Sailors assigned to SEAL (sea, air, land) Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1) hosted a visit for Braylon Edwards, wide receiver for the National Football League's (NFL) Cleveland Browns and 2008 American Football Conference Pro Bowl team, on Feb. 6 at their compound on the Pearl City peninsula.

The tour provided an opportunity for Edwards and his family members to experience firsthand, the job of U.S. Navy special warfare operations and Sailors assigned to SDVT-1.

"It's great to have Pro Bowl players come out here," said a SDVT-1 Sailor. "We support them every Sunday and for him to come support us for a couple hours, it's awesome and means the world to us."

The Sailors met with the Pro Bowl family on the docks of Rainbow Bay Marina and were escorted across Pearl Harbor to their compound via rigid hull inflatable boat.

"Riding the boat was a lot of fun," said Edwards. "It was so close to the water, you could really feel it coming up. I felt vulnerable, which was a good feeling."

Upon their arrival to the compound, the guests were given a hands-on chance to



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Braylon Edwards, wide receiver for the National Football League's (NFL) Cleveland Browns and 2008 American Football Conference Pro Bowl team, shoulders an AT4 light anti-tank weapon during a visit to SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team ONE (SDVT-1) on the Pearl City Peninsula. The visit provided an opportunity for Edwards and his family members to experience firsthand, the job of U.S. Navy special warfare operations and Sailors assigned to SDVT-1. Additional photo of Pearl Harbor visit on page A-5.

learn about special warfare tools of the trade such as dive and jump rigs, combat weapons and communications systems.

For Edwards, having an opportunity to see the advanced SEAL delivery system, a dry environmentally controlled submersible, proved to be the highlight of his visit.

"Seeing the tight area that these guys work in and to think about all the things they can do in a tight space was cool," said Edwards.

Edwards was amazed at the connections that his team and the Sailors of SDVT-1 share in their jobs.

"They connect to the offensive side of football," stated Edwards. "Just like in what I do, everyone has a role to play and you need everyone in order to succeed."

The 2008 NFL Pro Bowl between the American Football Conference and the National Football Conference was Feb. 10 at Aloha Stadium in Hawai'i and was the 29th consecutive game taking place at Aloha Stadium.

Sailors assigned to SDVT-1 transport U.S. Navy SEALs and their equipment from an offshore point such as a submarine to points near the shore.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight

Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks to attendees of the 2008 Scientific Operational Naval Acoustic Research Conference on Marine Mammals on Feb. 16. About 100 people, including some of the world's top marine mammal experts, gathered for the conference to discuss concerns and solutions regarding the worldwide effects of sonar on marine mammals.

Navy holds conference on science of acoustic research

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Some of the world's top experts on marine mammals and underwater acoustics gathered in Hawai'i on Feb. 16 for the Navy's Scientific Operational Naval Acoustic Research Conference, an opportunity for Navy fleet operators, scientists and environmental specialists to advance the science and share information.

About 100 people attended the two-day conference, which was chaired by OPNAV N45, the Navy's environmental readiness command, and hosted by Adm. Robert F. Willard, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The conference ended with

agreement to hold continual gatherings to discuss issues ranging from the direction of future research to procedural improvements.

While great progress has been made in recent years, many of the speakers noted that much remains to be learned about how sound behaves underwater and how it affects marine mammals. "We know more about outer space than we do about inner space," said one speaker.

For example, Dr. Jim Finneran of the Navy Marine Mammal Program said hearing thresholds – the faintest sound that a mammal can detect in the water – have been determined for 25 species of marine mammals through painstaking research. Hearing thresholds

for the more than 100 other marine mammal species, including all of the large, baleen whales, have not yet been determined.

The work done by Finneran and his colleagues is part of the Navy's \$14 million-a-year marine mammal research project.

Willard noted that budget will grow to \$18 million in a few years, saying, "We are making a significant investment in the science."

He said lawsuits "with no scientific basis whatsoever are costing the Navy operational flexibility."

Several private organizations have sued the Navy in recent years, alleging that marine mammals are

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NFL players visit USS Los Angeles

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Sailors give guided tour to Moanalua JROTC

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Pro Bowl All-Stars visit Pearl Harbor

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NFL hosts military Appreciation Day

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MCPON outlines expectations of the first class petty officer

MCSC (SW/AW) Bill Houlihan

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Public Affairs

Following up on remarks he made to the Surface Navy Association (SNA) National Symposium on Jan. 15, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr. has specifically outlined the expectations of a Navy first class petty officer.

On Jan. 29, in communication with the Navy's chiefs' mess through his regular newsletter titled, "To the Deckplates," Campa listed those expectations as: First line leadership, rating expertise, professionalism, communication, loyalty and heritage. To view the newsletter, visit www.navy.mil/navydata/mcpon/Expectations_of_the_PO1.pdf.

Over the past several months, Campa stressed the important role played by first class petty officers in his discussions with Sailors around the Navy. At the same time, senior enlisted leaders from the fleet provided their input.

In his remarks to the SNA, Campa emphasized that the Navy doesn't have "a single Sailor to spare," and said that taking greater advantage of the leadership talents of the senior petty officers is critical to Sailor development in the fleet.

"As our Navy moves forward, we must be able to leverage the leadership and talent that lies within our first class community. The increased demands on our maritime forces and non-traditional missions make it

imperative that we strengthen the leadership that we provide our Sailors on the deckplate," said Campa.

Campa said that formalizing the expectations is only the first step. Now it's up to the Navy's first class mess to use that guidance as a means to evaluate their own effectiveness as leaders. Critical to this deckplate initiative will be the involvement of the chiefs' mess.

"None of these concepts are new and I would say the great majority of our first classes are on board already. Defining clear expectations provides a structure our chiefs can train to and our Sailors can strive for," said Campa.

Campa deliberately inserted the phrase "deckplate triad" into the "Expectations of the First Class Petty Officer" and said he expects it to become a reality in the fleet. Under "communication," he stated: "First class petty officers clearly communicate standards to the Sailors they lead, while consistently keeping the chain of command informed. The deckplate triad of division officer, chief petty officer and first class petty officer is only effective with their input and deckplate perspective."

Campa told the SNA audience that the relationship between the chief and the division officer has always been strong and should remain that way.

"But," he added, "consider how much more effective that leadership team could be if it evolves into a triad to include first class petty officers."



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Luciano Marano

Philadelphia Eagles offensive guard Shawn Andrews, Dallas Cowboys linebacker DeMarcus Ware and New England Patriots offensive guard Logan Mankins and other guests take advantage of a photo opportunity after touring the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) on Feb. 6, with chief of the boat, Master Chief Electrician's Mate (SS) Andre Green. The National Football League players took time from their Pro Bowl activities to tour the submarine and visit and sign autographs for Los Angeles Sailors.

NFL players visit USS Los Angeles

MC1 (SW) Cynthia Clark

Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Three players from the National Football League (NFL), in town for the 2008 Pro Bowl, toured the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) on Feb. 6.

Dallas Cowboys' linebacker De Marcus Ware, New England Patriots' offensive guard Logan Mankins and Philadelphia Eagles offensive

guard Shawn Andrews took time from their practices and enjoying the sights of Hawai'i to pay a visit to the "first and finest." "It was so impressive to see these big guys fit on the boat," said USS Los Angeles' chief of the boat, Master Chief Electronics Technician (SS) Andre Green. "It was nice to give my guys the opportunity to see some of their favorite players and to show some appreciation for the job they do."

The players and their guests toured the control, machinery and torpedo

rooms, where they were able to look through the periscope, a popular submarine touring activity. In addition to seeing how the submarine performs its peace-keeping functions, they also toured the messing and berthing areas and even found some time to chat and sign autographs for crew members.

From the start of the tour, the players were very surprised about how the submariners perform their daily tasks in such a limited space.

"I couldn't believe the size

of it, how small everything was - I couldn't do it," said Mankins. "Everyone was so nice, so accommodating, it gives you a great respect for those guys and what they put themselves through to protect our country."

Los Angeles, the fourth ship to be named after the city of Los Angeles, is the lead ship of the 688 class. Launched April 6, 1974 at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in Newport News, Va., Los Angeles was commissioned Nov. 13, 1976.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Joseph R. Schmitt

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class Ronald Tenorio of Sacramento, Calif. directs Sailors from USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) and Carrier Air Wing 5 to scrub the flight deck during a flight deck wash down in the Pacific Ocean on Aug. 27, 2007.

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

MCPON testifies before House subcommittee

MCSC Bill Houlihan

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Public Affairs

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr. testified Feb. 7 before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, which oversees all military construction projects, quality of life and veterans affairs related matters.

Campa appeared with senior enlisted leaders from the Marine Corps, Army and Air Force in the two-hour hearing and told the committee that conversations with Navy families he's had the last 12 months centered around what he referred to as three pillars of support: health care, child care and housing. He added that world events have led to a greater need for more consistent focus on supporting the Navy family.

"Navy families are strong, resilient and proud of their contributions during this critical time in our nation's history. Surge deployments, individual augmentation and duty in places our Navy has never been have resulted in a need for even more family support. The programs we have in place must continue to evolve as the needs of our families change," said Campa.

Campa, making his second appearance before the subcommittee since he took office in July 2006 also addressed care for wounded Sailors, identification and treatment of post traumatic stress disorder, Navy humanitarian relief efforts and the Homeport Ashore program.

He described visits to the fleet and conversations with Sailors that have left him with distinct impressions about the reasons a U.S. Sailor wears the uniform. He told the committee that Sailors are succeeding under challenging circumstances and said that success is due to the belief they have in themselves and in their missions.

"Our total force of active-duty and reserve Sailors continues to rise to the challenge of world events, as they always have," he said. "They do this because they are keenly aware of the trust, confidence and responsibility the American people have in them and because they believe in the rich tradition of our naval service."

The MCPON testifies annually before Congress along with the senior enlisted leaders of the other services. The House Armed Services Committee for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs is primarily focused on quality of life issues affecting service members.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Jennifer A. Villalovos
Sgt. Major of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent, left, and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. appear before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction to answer questions regarding health care, family housing and childcare. Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley and Sgt. Major of the Army Kenneth Preston (not pictured) also appeared before the committee.



Observing President's Day

Karen S. Spangler

Editor

If you are a federal employee government employee, you probably associate the holiday known as Presidents' Day with a day off from work. The holiday is also synonymous with retailers' sales that are heavily advertised.

But how did the Presidents' Day holiday begin and why? It was the first holiday to honor an American citizen. The District of Columbia originally implemented the holiday in 1880, calling it Washington's Birthday. It was celebrated on Feb. 22, George Washington's birthday. Washington was born on Feb. 22, 1732.

The objective of the holiday was to honor the accomplishments of the man who has been known for over two centuries as the "Father of His Country." Feted for his leadership in the founding of our nation, Washington was the electoral college's unanimous choice as our country's first president.

The holiday also is a tribute to General Washington, who created the first military badge of merit for the common soldier. The Purple Heart was revived on the anniversary of Washington's 200th birthday in 1932.

Less than three years after retiring from public office at Mount Vernon, Washington died of a throat infection on Dec. 14, 1799.

In 1976, Congress posthumously promoted Washington to the rank of six-star General of the Armies, assuring that he would continue to outrank all other members of the military, now and in the future.

A draft of the Uniform Holiday Monday Act in 1968 would have renamed the holiday Presidents' Day in honor of both Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. However, when the bill was signed into law on June 28, 1968, it simply moved the Washington's Birthday holiday. As part of the bill on Jan. 1, 1971, the federal observance was shift-

ed to the third Monday in February.

The present day name, Presidents' Day, came into being in the late 1980s as the focus of the holiday was expanded to include President Abraham Lincoln, who was also born in February, and frequently also included other U.S. presidents.

For example, the state of Massachusetts honors the holiday as Washington's Birthday, but an annual President's Day proclamation also fetes other presidents who have come from Massachusetts - John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Calvin Coolidge (Coolidge wasn't born in the state, but spent his entire political career prior to his vice-presidency there) and John F. Kennedy.

In Alabama, the day is observed as Washington and Jefferson Day even though Jefferson's birthday was in April. In Washington's home state, Virginia, the holiday is still observed as George Washington Day.

The state of Connecticut observes Presidents' Day as a federal holiday. However, Abraham Lincoln's birthday is a state holiday and is observed on Feb. 12 regardless of the day.

The holiday is observed with community and historical celebrations, honoring veterans and Purple Heart recipients, and Congressional recognition. Since 1862, it has been a tradition in the U.S. Senate to read George Washington's Farewell Address on or near Washington's Birthday.

Birthday celebrations are held throughout the federal holiday weekend and through Feb. 22 at George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Westmoreland County, Va. and at Mount Vernon in Alexandria, Va.

While you're relaxing from a day at work, shopping or working on Presidents' Day, take a few minutes to reflect upon the great men for whom the holiday is named and the contributions that they made to America.

Tennessee football team scrimmages in Rio de Janeiro



U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph
USS Tennessee (armored cruiser 10) football team forms two scrimmage lines ashore, during her visit to Rio de Janeiro in 1910. (from collection of Harry Gilfillan).

Hawai'i Navy News

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Sailors give guided tour to Moanalua JROTC

MC3 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Fleet Public Affairs Center
Detachment Hawai'i

Sailors from Naval Station Pearl Harbor hosted Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) students from Moanalua High School in Honolulu, Hawai'i on a guided boat tour around the harbor and aboard USS O'Kane (DDG 77) on Feb. 7 to help the students better understand the mission of the Navy and its local history.

The 37 JROTC students, a collection of ninth through 12 graders, were taken by boat to various historical locations around Pearl Harbor, including USS Arizona Memorial, USS Utah Memorial and Hospital Point, by Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class (SW/AW) Kelly Pfaus, a tour guide assigned to USS Arizona Detachment.

"This is a great opportunity for me to help the younger generation understand why we are here and what the military did to make this world a better place for all of us," said Pfaus.

Pfaus gave a detailed account of the history of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, as well as the new renovations that have been added to the base over the last 66 years.

"It's important that the students



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Ensign Dave Schaller, USS O'Kane (DDG 77) main propulsion officer explains how some of the mechanisms of the bridge of a surface ship works to a group of Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) students from Moanalua High School.

understand the meaning of the attack on Pearl Harbor and how it happened," said Pfaus.

After the harbor tour, junior officers aboard USS O'Kane (DDG 77) gave the students a guided tour of the

many compartments used aboard the ship, including the combat information center (CIC), engine room, galley and wardroom.

"Visting the O'Kane gives them a broad exposure to all the things that

the Navy has to offer from submarine to surface ships and an opportunity to see how a Sailor works day-to-day," said Ensign Dave Schaller, O'Kane's main propulsion officer.

The students were in awe of the

high-tech equipment as they strolled through the CIC toward the engine room. During the visit to the engine room, the students met with the crew, asked questions on their day-to-day activities, and received some hands-on demonstrations.

During the tour, U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Kenneth Schubert, JROTC instructor at Moanalua High School, talked about the importance for his students to see Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

"We have had a lot of kids in our JROTC program at Moanalua High School; almost half of our senior class last year enlisted into the Navy after graduation so the faculty decided to bring them to Pearl Harbor to get a feel for what Sailors do, how they live and what the Navy is all about," said Schubert. "Most of the students have never been to Pearl Harbor, or even a military base, so this is an opportunity for them to consider if this is what they would like to do after getting out of high school."

Junior ROTC is an elective high school course taught by military personnel at selected private and public high schools in the United States and its territories. It is also taught abroad through the Department of Defense dependents school system, which primarily serves the children of military personnel stationed overseas.

Career Development Seminar set for Feb. 25-29

Lt. Scott A. Mowery

Navy Personnel Command
Communications Office

Want to learn how to enhance your career, better your chances for advancement, and learn about big Navy changes? Learn more at career development seminars (CDS) at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i Kaneohe on Feb. 25-29.

The CDS team will offer advice on career direction, development and opportunity. Attendees will have the opportunity to negotiate for orders, discuss community

status, and ask questions about career management issues.

Detailers from several communities will accompany the Center for Career Development (CCD) team.

"This is a very good tool for the commands," said CMDMCM (SS) Kenneth A. Holland, command master chief Liaison for CCD. "We give a lot of information to the commands and to the Sailors on what is available in and out of the Navy."

The team will give briefs each day designed to provide information needed to make an informed career decision. Multiple briefs are given to

ensure that all can have a chance to attend.

The leadership brief targets the commanding officer, executive officer, command master chief, department heads and command career counselors. Discussions will include "big Navy" concepts, such as enlisted manpower, retention and the latest policies and programs in place that support the Navy's progress toward its vision of training 21st century leaders.

The Chief Petty Officer Leadership brief is designed to educate these leaders on pay and compensation, retirement issues, and promote effective leadership of junior

Sailors. CPOs will learn how to help junior Sailors with career intentions, development and management.

The First Line Leadership brief will be held for E-5 and E-6 petty officers. This brief is designed to educate the first line leaders on pay and compensation, retirement issues, and promote effective leadership of junior Sailors. The audience is provided with information that can help junior Sailors with career intentions, development and management.

The Junior Enlisted/Junior Officer brief is broken into two parts: one for the junior enlisted, E-4 and below, and

one for junior officers O-4 and below. During each brief, Sailors will receive guidance on career management and will have an opportunity to assess the value of their skills and pay as compared to the civilian job market.

"The individual Sailor can see a comparison between what they make in the Navy, and what's available to them on the outside, so they can compare salaries," said Holland. "They will be provided the information to make an informed decision when it comes time to decide whether to stay Navy or not."

The Selection Board Brief will include detailed informa-

tion regarding advancement and the selection board process, which provides guidance for individual service record review and follow-up on discrepancies.

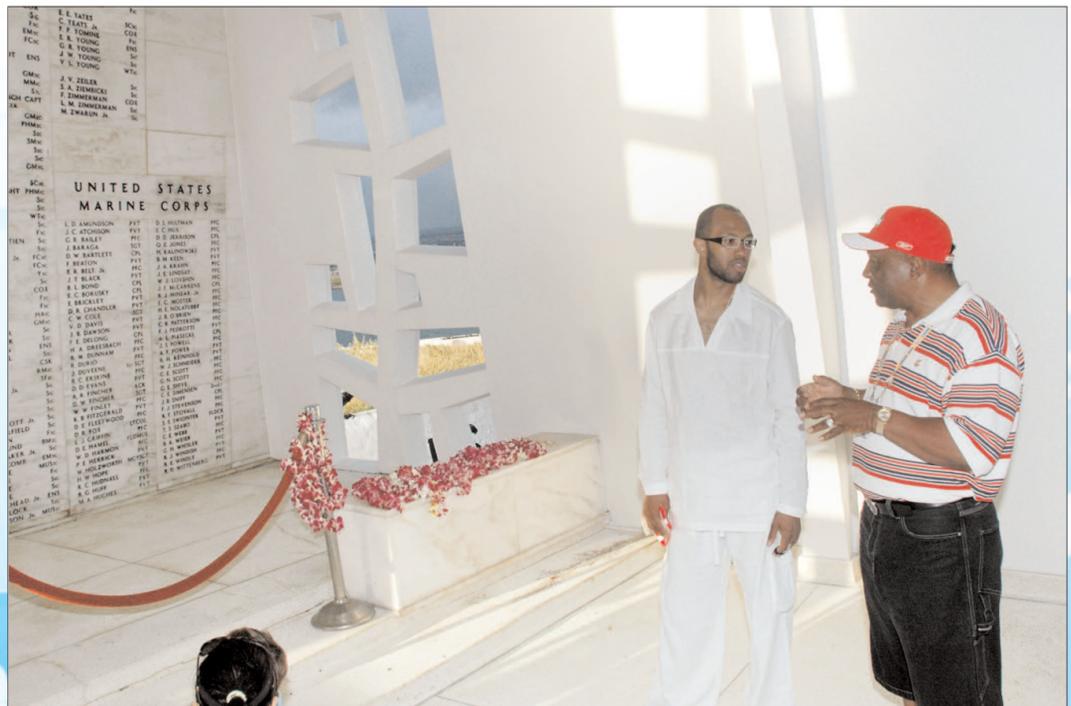
The spouse brief covers spouse employment and a comparison between the Navy and private sector. It also includes information concerning "big Navy" issues that will affect them and their Sailor.

For more information, contact Holland at kenneth.holland@navy.mil or (901) 874-4255 or Lt. Jeff Roney at jeffery.roney@navy.mil or (901) 874-2301.

Pearl Harbor Highlights

(Right) Torry Holt, wide receiver for the National Football League's (NFL) St. Louis Rams and 2008 National Football Conference Pro Bowl team, views the shrine room of USS Arizona Memorial during a tour of historic Pearl Harbor. The tour provided Holt and his friends and family members an opportunity to learn the history of the Navy at Pearl Harbor by visiting sites such as Battleship Row, USS Arizona Memorial and USS Utah Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter



(Below) Yeoman Seaman Peter Canteen, assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor, has a cavity filled by civilian dental assistant Molly Gillan and dentist Christine Kim at the general dentistry department, Makalapa Dental Clinic, Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i. The dental clinic serves a vital roll in maintaining medical readiness for the fleet at Pearl Harbor and treated more than 27,600 patients in 2007.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael O'Day



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael O'Day

Hospitalman Jaci Folven, a patient at Makalapa Dental Clinic, Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i, looks at her reflection in a mirror on the orthopantomograph X-ray machine, during her annual medical exam. The orthopantomograph X-ray machine provides clinic personnel with a panoramic view of the patient's teeth and how they fit in relationship to one another.

Braylon Edwards, wide receiver for the National Football League's (NFL) Cleveland Browns and 2008 American Football Conference Pro Bowl team, holds a Mk 43 machine gun during a visit to SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1) on the Pearl City Peninsula. The visit provided an opportunity for Edwards and his four family members to experience firsthand, the job of U.S. Navy special warfare operation and Sailors assigned to SDVT-1.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron



Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) students from Moanalua High School, Honolulu, Hawai'i board USS O'Kane (DDG 77) for a guided tour. The tour is intended to help the students better understand the mission of the Navy and its local history.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
(Above) Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, participates in the coin toss with the National Football League's 2008 Pro Bowl Referee, Bill Carollo, and players during the National Football League's (NFL) 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium on Feb. 10.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
American rock band, Lifehouse, performs at halftime during the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium on Feb. 10.



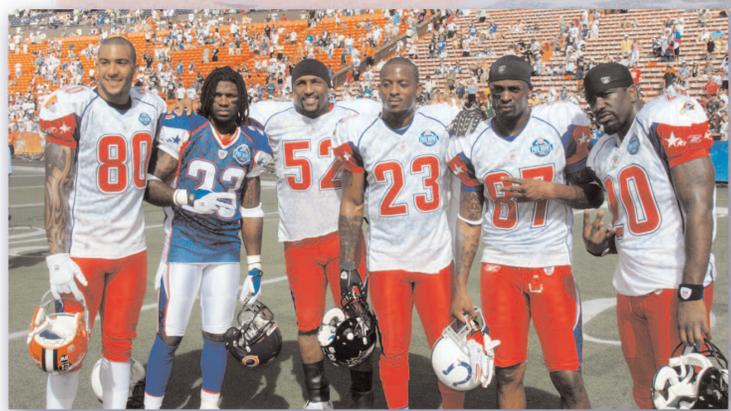
U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
Adrian Peterson, running back for the National Football League's (NFL) Minnesota Vikings and National Football Conference (NFC) 2008 all-star team, waves to fans after being named most valuable player for the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
(Above left clip out) Adrian Peterson, running back for the National Football League's (NFL) Minnesota Vikings and National Football Conference (NFC) 2008 all-star team, takes a hand off from Seattle Seahawks quarterback, Matt Hasselbeck, during the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium.

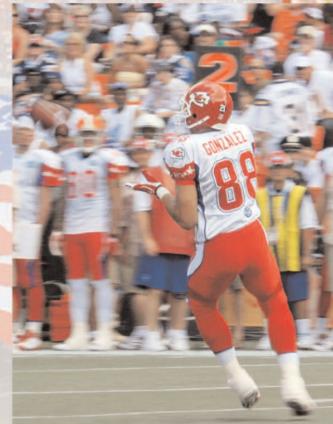


U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron
A cheerleader for the National Football League's (NFL) Jacksonville Jaguars, Fred Taylor, running back for the Jaguars and Jaguars mascot, Jackson De Ville share a moment following the end of the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron
Tony Gonzalez, tight end for the National Football League's (NFL) Kansas City Chiefs and American Football Conference (AFC) all-star team, attempts to catch a pass during the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron
Players for the American Football Conference (AFC) and National Football Conference gather for a photo following the end of the 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium on Feb. 10.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
Hula dancers perform a traditional Hawaiian dance during a pre-game ceremony for the National Football League's (NFL) 2008 Pro Bowl game at Aloha Stadium.



Pro Bowl All-Stars visit Pearl Harbor

Story and photo by
MC2 David Dexter

Navy Region Hawai'i Public
Affairs.

The National Football League's (NFL) 2008 Pro Bowl all-star players and their friends and families were treated to tours of historic Pearl Harbor on Feb. 7 and 8 by Capt. Taylor Skardon, commanding officer, Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor, and the Sailors of USS Arizona Memorial Detachment.

The tours gave NFL players and their guests an opportunity to learn about the rich history of the U.S. Navy at Pearl Harbor and visit the historic sites and memorials.

"I've been looking forward to this since I knew I was coming to Hawai'i," said Rob Bironas, place kicker for the Tennessee Titans and National Football Conference (NFC) 2008 Pro Bowl team. "This is a part of our history, a part of our culture and part of America."

Accompanying Bironas were Torry Holt, wide receiver for the St. Louis Rams and NFC 2008 Pro Bowl team; Aaron Kampman, defensive end for the Green Bay Packers and NFC 2008 Pro Bowl team; Flozell Adams, offensive tackle for the Dallas Cowboys and NFC 2008 Pro Bowl team; and Ken Amato, a long-snapper for the Tennessee Titans.

Departing from Merry Point Landing on board NAVSTA Pearl Harbor via U.S. Navy white boat, the Sailors and players navigated past the historic sites and memorials as Skardon spoke of the Navy's historical events at Pearl Harbor and how they played a role in our nation's history.

Before returning to Merry Point Landing, the players cruised past Battleship Row and USS Utah Memorial. They also visited USS Arizona Memorial and paid their respects to the 1,177 crew members who lost their lives aboard the ship during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

"To see a little bit of histo-

ry, it's really amazing, everything that went on in 1941," said Amato "You kind of lose track of things that happen in the past. It's just nice to get out and see how things happened."

In addition to the players' experience of visiting Pearl Harbor, local Sailors had the opportunity to meet the NFL all-stars.

"I think it's great for [us] to meet the NFL players because it gives us the sense of appreciation," said Airman Adriana Tiradoarreola-Young, assigned to USS Arizona Memorial Detachment. "They took

time out of their busy schedules to come meet Sailors and visit."

According to Skardon, the Pro Bowl is always a nice opportunity to work with the NFL.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our Sailors to meet some of the great NFL players of today," said Skardon "It's also, I think, a better opportunity for these young men and their families to see some of the best that the Navy has to offer and that's what's important."

The 2008 NFL Pro Bowl was held on Feb. 10 at Aloha Stadium in Hawai'i with the

NFC defeating the American Football Conference 42 to 30.

Chad Clifton, offensive tackle for the National Football League's (NFL) Green Bay Packers and 2008 National Football Conference Pro Bowl team, carries his son to the pier as they depart USS Arizona Memorial during a tour of historic Pearl Harbor. The tour provided Clifton and his friends and family members an opportunity to learn the history of the Navy at Pearl Harbor by visiting sites such as Battleship Row, USS Arizona Memorial and USS Utah Memorial.



Hawai'i Marines and Sailors return from Iraq

Marine Corps Base
Hawai'i Kaneohe
Public Affairs

Approximately 100 Marines and Sailors with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment's advanced party arrived at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i Kaneohe on Thursday after completing a seven-month deployment to Iraq in support of the global war on terrorism.

This is the advanced party of Marines and Sailors before the entire battalion's arrival throughout the month of February.

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Astronaut's ashes committed to the sea during ceremony aboard Reagan

MCSN Torrey W. Lee

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) Public Affairs

The ashes of retired Navy Capt. and astronaut Walter M. "Wally" Schirra, along with eight other Navy veterans, were committed to the sea Feb. 11 during a special burial at sea ceremony on board USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

Schirra, a former Navy test pilot who was one of the original seven Mercury astronauts, died at the age of 84 on May 3, 2007. He holds the distinction of being the only astronaut to fly in each of the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs.

Schirra, who also had special ties to Ronald Reagan shipmates, visited the aircraft carrier and signed autographs for the crew in 2005.

In 1962, Schirra became the fifth



Navy Capt. Ret. and astronaut Walter M. "Wally" Schirra

American in space and the third American to orbit the earth, circling the globe six times in a flight that lasted more than nine hours.

Ronald Reagan's command religious

ministries department, along with help from the ship's honor guard, organized the morning ceremony.

"I'm in awe of these people in their commitment to their country, their service and especially their families," said Cmdr. Lee Axtell, Ronald Reagan's command chaplain. "It's Navy tradition to stop for the day and pay tribute."

Fire Controlman 2nd Class Christopher Gronde, a Ronald Reagan Sailor who was previously assigned to the presidential honor guard, said that despite all of the funerals he has taken part in, each one still affects him deeply.

"I get this proud feeling about being up there," said Gronde. "I take a lot of pride in Navy tradition."

With the firing of three symbolic volleys for each of the nine Navy veterans, Ronald Reagan Sailors bid a final farewell to these former shipmates.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Kathleen Gorby

A burial-at-sea participant picks up the cremains of retired U.S. Navy Capt. and astronaut Walter M. (Wally) Schirra during a ceremony held aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). The cremains of nine military veterans were committed to the sea during the ceremony.

Nimitz Carrier Strike Group enters 7th Fleet area of responsibility

USS Nimitz Public Affairs

The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group (CSG) entered the U.S. 7th Fleet's area of responsibility (AOR) on Feb. 8 as part of a regularly scheduled deployment to promote peace, cooperation and stability in the region.

Commanded by Rear Adm. Terry Blake, the Nimitz CSG will be filling the role of USS

Kitty Hawk (CV 63), the Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier, which is undergoing scheduled maintenance in Yokosuka, Japan.

"All nations in the region can be assured of the Navy's continued and robust interaction in the form of mutual training opportunities, professional exchanges and port visits," said Blake. "We are committed to preserving peace

and stability in the Pacific region."

Nimitz returned from a six-month deployment to the Persian Gulf and the Western Pacific in September 2007. Nimitz supported Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, conducted maritime security operations and participated in joint and coalition exercises and operations with many countries and other U.S. military services during that

deployment.

"While operating in the Western Pacific, we will also participate in exercises and coordinate with our partner nations in the region," said Capt. Michael Manazir, Nimitz' commanding officer.

The Nimitz CSG is comprised of CSG 11, the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Nimitz; its embarked air wing, Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 11; embarked Destroyer

Squadron 23; the guided-missile cruiser USS Princeton (CG 59); the guided-missile destroyers USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53), USS Higgins (DDG 76) and USS Chafee (DDG 90); Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 49 "Scorpions," HSL 37 "Easy Riders"; and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 11.

CVW-11's squadrons include the "Tophatters" of Strike

Fighter Squadron (VFA) 14, the "Black Aces" of VFA-41, the "Sunliners" of VFA-81, the "Wallbangers" of Airborne Early Warning Squadron 117, the "Red Devils" of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, the "Black Ravens" of Electronic Warfare Squadron 135, the "Providers" of Carrier Logistics Support Squadron 30 and the "Indians" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Six.



Service members urged to complete COLA survey

From U.S. Pacific Command

All uniformed service members are urged to complete the 2008 Hawai'i Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) Living Pattern Survey (LPS). The deadline to complete the survey is Feb. 29.

The LPS is an online survey that can be completed in approximately 30 minutes. Go to the U.S. PACOM Web site to access the survey at <http://www.pacom.mil/qo/2008cola.shtml>.

For more information, call Mae Ooka at 477-1396.

Waterfront operations rescues snorkeler from reefs

Marine Corps Base Hawaii'i Kaneohe Public Affairs

Personnel from waterfront operations (WFO) at Marine Corps Base Hawaii'i Kaneohe rescued a man in Kaneohe Bay on Jan. 31 after a boat pinned him against a coral reef.

Strong winds pushed a pontoon boat over David Tubberville while he snorkeled next to a reef. "Before I knew it, the boat came over me and it just kept coming," the Washington native said. "Then I felt the propellers hit me."

After the boat slid by Tubberville, he called to other members of his party who stopped the boat and helped him aboard, where they surveyed the extent of his injuries. "From the way my legs were bent, I was totally convinced they were broken," Tubberville said. "Someone called 911 and [WFO] came out."

Around 2:30 p.m., WFO received a call from the Honolulu Fire Department informing them of the acci-



Photo by Cheryl Tubberville

Personnel from waterfront operations (WFO) at Marine Corps Base Hawaii'i Kaneohe rescued a man in Kaneohe Bay on Jan. 31 after a boat pinned him against a coral reef.

dent. Within minutes, they had a rescue boat searching for Tubberville. "We headed

to where the scene was supposed to be only to find they weren't there," said Navy Lt.

Marc Tinaz, officer-in-charge, WFO. "We started to look around and saw someone standing in a boat waving flags at us."

Tinaz, Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Tyler Johnson, and Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Gabriel Rooney were in the first vessel to arrive on scene. "We started assessing his legs, back and vital areas when we got there," Johnson said. "At the time, it felt like he had broken legs. He also had several cuts on his hands, legs, back and feet. As a precautionary measure, we splinted his legs, wrapped his hand, and made sure he was awake and oriented."

Approximately 20 minutes after Tinaz and his crew arrived on scene, the second rescue boat, with Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Shandon Torres arrived to provide further assistance.

"The pain was unbelievable, but I was very comfortable with the way they treated me," Tubberville said. "They were kind, understanding of my pain, and took all the precautions necessary to ensure my safety. I

can't be appreciative enough about what they did. You could tell they were obviously trained in their job."

After properly securing Tubberville, WFO transported him and his family to shore where an ambulance was waiting to take him to Castle Medical Center in Kailua. After he arrived at the hospital, another "miracle" was unveiled.

"When we got to the hospital, they said I had no broken bones," Tubberville said. "Now it's just a matter of healing."

During the ordeal, both parties appreciated the other's attitude in the situation. "Most people tend to act irrational when they're hurt, and for someone to be hurt pretty badly and still be comfortable with the way we treated him speaks volumes of the training we received," Torres said. "He was hit by a propeller and crushed by a boat. Fortunately, he only had some cuts and bruises. With coral injuries, there'll be lots of tissue damage, but he's on the road to healing."

Tubberville and his family

went to WFO on Friday to thank Tinaz and his crew for their efforts. "If a guy gets run over by a boat out here, this is who I'd tell them to call," Tubberville said. "They were very courteous to me. They took charge and I felt very secure." For WFO, this is the first search and rescue mission of the new year, but they're no strangers to these missions.

Last year they had 66 SAR [search and rescue] missions ranging from small trauma to basic rescue. Of those 66 missions, 18 were life-saving specific, meaning lives were saved through their efforts. "This is what we do and why we're here," Torres said. "We have a job to do. All of WFO works hard to keep people safe inside the bay."

Tubberville traveled back to Washington, but said his injuries wouldn't slow him down and in spite of those injuries, there's a reason he still feels safe.

"This wouldn't stop me from going out in the water again," Tubberville said. "I know they're out there doing their jobs for us."

USS Reuben James Sailors visits Honiara Guadalcanal

Ensign Fallon Rossi

USS Reuben James (FFG 57) Public Affairs

More than 65 years after the infamous Battle of Guadalcanal, fought between August 1942 and February 1943, USS Reuben James (FFG 57) moored in Honiara for an opportunity to experience the shared history between the United States and the Solomon Islands.

Upon arrival to the islands, as a tribute to those service members and local Solomon Islanders who lost their lives during the Guadalcanal Campaign, Reuben James con-

ducted several traditional ship-handling maneuvers across Iron Bottom Sound. The sound is named for the many military aircraft, ships and submarines at rest on the ocean floor.

The port visit brought to life an important history lesson, but also afforded the crew an occasion to express gratitude to the local citizens for their support of the United States so many years ago.

At a reception on the flight deck, hosted by the wardroom and chiefs' mess for more than 50 honored guests, Cmdr. Joe Naman, commanding officer, spoke about the significance of the relationship between the

United States and the Solomon Islands.

"The Battle of Guadalcanal was the first significant strategic combined arms victory by allied forces over Japanese forces in the Pacific theatre. Without the help of the people of the Solomon Islands, we would not have seen such victory," said Naman.

After the speech, Naman offered a toast to the people of the Solomon Islands and to the guest of honor, Prime Minister Dr. Derek Sikua. Sikua then offered a toast to the crew of Reuben James and the friendship between the two nations.

Naman made several official calls during the ship's time in

Honiara. The Governor General, Sir Nathaniel Waena, tendered a warm welcome to the captain and voiced the hope that the ship's visit would "freshen the bonds that were established some 60 years ago when we were liberated."

Always cognizant of the importance of community relations and the need to create a lasting, positive image of the United States, crew members of Reuben James volunteered their time to provide assistance at the Red Cross Disability Center and Maeva House, a women and children's refuge.

Together with local citizens,

the volunteers performed yard work at the Red Cross and painted the entryway and kitchen of the refuge center.

Storekeeper 1st Class (SW) Shad Wakefield, a volunteer who never misses a community relations project if he can help it, said, "When we can step away from our training and give back to the communities by offering our support and assistance to the local areas, it makes all of the long hours we spend away from our families worthwhile."

In addition to community relations projects, several Sailors were given the opportunity to re-enlist at the American Memorial, renewing

their military commitment while seeing the battlefields in the distant valley below.

"Re-enlisting in Guadalcanal was amazing," said Electronics Technician 2nd Class Anthony Skillman. "The opportunity to be at such a historic location and speak to some of the veterans was an experience I will never forget."

Senior Chief Electronics Technician (SW/AW) Matthew Anuci agreed. "I postponed my re-enlistment when I learned the ship was going to Guadalcanal. It was an opportunity to honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II," said Anuci.

Conference on science of acoustic research

Continued from A-1

harmled by mid-frequency active sonar – the Navy's primary method of detecting extremely quiet diesel-electric submarines. Several conference participants noted there is no evidence to support many of those allegations.

In a highly publicized March 2000 case in the Bahamas, 16 small whales beached themselves after they were exposed to sonar from a group of foreign and U.S. warships. Six of the whales died.

It's important to note there was no indication of acoustic trauma in any of those animals," said Dr. Darlene Ketten, senior biologist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and a Harvard University Medical School researcher who conducted necropsies on the dead whales.

An investigation of the Bahamas strandings attributed them to sonar used in combination with certain specific physical and oceanographic conditions, including a narrow underwater canyon with no egress, for example. The Navy has since adopted measures to avoid using sonar in such conditions and Navy sonar has not been scientifically linked to any marine mammal deaths since that case.

Willard said, "With a strong scientific foundation, we hope to be able to continue the sonar training that's so vital to protecting our Sailors at sea and become even better at preventing harm to marine mammals.

"We're not sure some of the environmental organizations share our concern about

understanding the science," he added.

Speakers at the conference noted that sonar has been linked scientifically to a few dozen marine mammal deaths worldwide over the past 12 years, while the commercial fishing industry killed millions of marine mammals worldwide over the same period.

Willard said the U.S. Navy has emerged as a worldwide leader in environmental care and self-discipline, with pioneering programs for disposal of plastics, hazardous waste and other pollutants from ships at sea.

"We're good stewards of the environment, much better stewards than many," he said, "and we're making the scientific investment to be even better."

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