

E's Becoming O's • New Daddy Boots

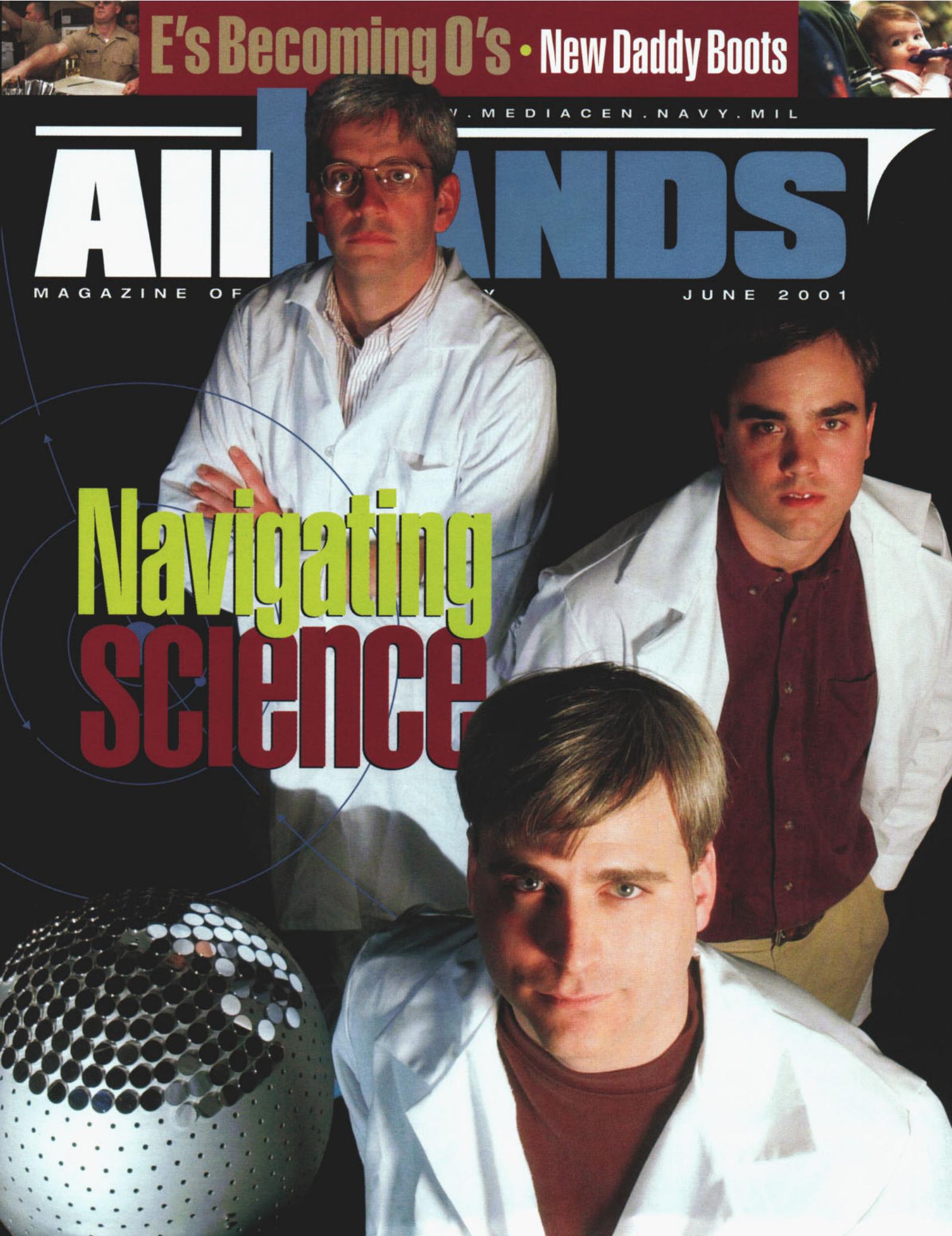
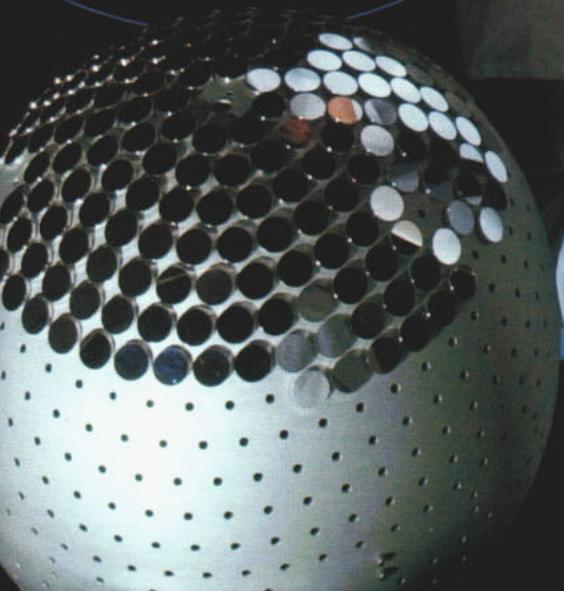
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ALL HANDS

MAGAZINE OF

JUNE 2001

NAVIGATING
SCIENCE



June

Features

14 **Linked to the Fence**

All Hands pays a visit to the Navy's space surveillance petty officer – the Sailor who knows all about space “traffic,” including where the International Space Station is located.

20 **A Blur of Science**

Just inside of Washington, D.C., on the banks of the Anacostia River, teams of Navy scientists at the Naval Research Laboratory are hard at work on a multitude of projects, including two of the newest satellites that will soon be orbiting the Earth.

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White Sands, N.M., offers Sailors the opportunity to serve aboard the Navy's land-locked “ship,” *Desert Ship* – a ship that never gets underway, never needs a dry-dock and rarely needs to be repainted.

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They've been there and done that and sometimes they go back and do it again. See some prior-enlisted Sailors go back to school – this time to earn a commission as an ensign.

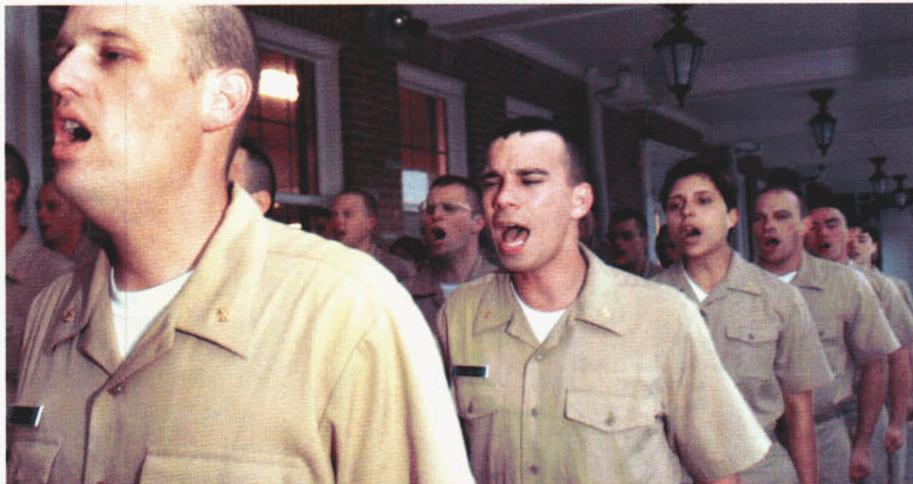


Photo by PH2(AW) Jim Watson

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38 Baby Boot Camp

You can read a book on babies and even help your wife in the delivery room, yet what does a new dad really know? Not too much sometimes, but Boot Camp for New Dads fixes that and more.

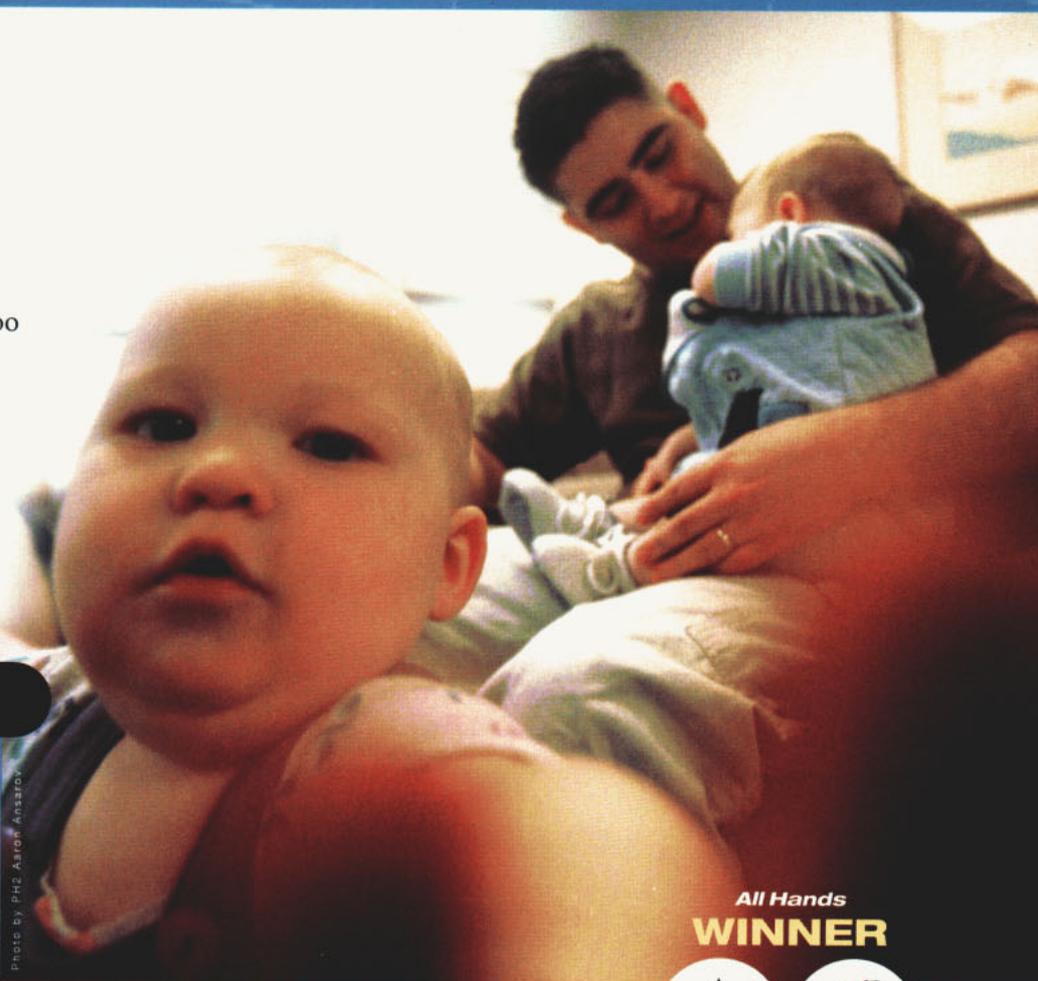


Photo by PH2 Astor/Anastov

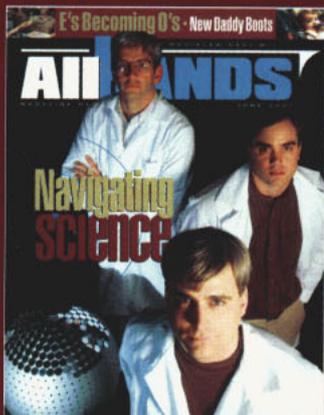
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All Hands
WINNER



2000
Awards of Magazine
Excellence



On the Front Cover

Windsat Principal Investigator Peter Gaiser (top), *Windsat* Mechanical Engineer Matthew Gallelli (middle) and *Star Shine* Project Manager William Braun are just three of the many talented civilians working at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., who make Sailors' lives just a little bit easier.

Photo by PH2(AW) Jim Watson

Next Month

Get an insight on what Navy medical personnel are doing in Guatemala and find out how a dual military couple manages Navy recruits and family life without missing a beat.



Check us out Online at:

www.mediacen.navy.mil

Bombs **Away**



AOAN Richard Russell and AOAN Targan Wehye insert fuzes into MK 76 practice bombs aboard USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71).

Photo by PHAA Stacy Hines



BOMB PRACTICE 75 LB
MK 76 MOD 3
30003-2193779
NSN: 1325-01-071
MFG: 5M24
LOT NO.

BOMB PRACTICE 75 LB
MK 76
30003-2193779
NSN: 1325-01-071
MFG: 5M24
LOT NO.

BOMB PRACTICE 75 LB
MK 76
30003-2193779
NSN: 1325-01-071
MFG: 5M24
LOT NO.

Ceremonial

Line-Up





Members of the U. S. Navy Ceremonial Guard make final adjustments to their routine in preparation for their command commissioning. The Ceremonial Guard, established in 1801, recently stood up as a command during a ceremony held at Washington Navy Yard, March 20, 2001.

Photo by PH3 Saul Ingle

Around the Fleet

Editor,

First, let me say that I am very impressed with the quality of today's *All Hands* magazine — it is light-years ahead of where the magazine was when I first joined the Navy. A "well done" to you and your staff.

I particularly enjoy the annual edition that summarizes the U. S. Navy. For someone posted overseas and away from the mainstream Navy, the mag-

azine is invaluable. The CD-ROM "Rights and Responsibilities," is most innovative and useful.

However, I was concerned with one omission from the list of ships. The U.S. Navy's most famous ship (and still in commission), "Old Ironsides."

What made the omission particularly stark (and from my personal experience, painful) is that in the same week, I received a copy of Britain's Royal Navy "Broadsheet," which provides a useful summary of the Royal Navy endorsed by the First Sea Lord. Attached was a pull-out sheet of all of the ships

in the RN and Royal Fleet Auxiliary. In the most prominent position was HMS *Victory*, many years older than USS *Constitution*, still in commission (as is Old Ironsides) but given full visibility alongside the modern fleet honoring her

status and heritage.

Old Ironsides omission can't be for want of knowledge. Indeed, the June 1997 edition of *All Hands* provided great coverage of Old Ironsides — as a warm up to the historic sail in July 1997, and there have



BY THE Numbers

30

The percentage of prior-enlisted Sailors who are usually part of an Officer Candidate School class. (See story, Page 32)

100

The number of locations where "Boot Camp for New Dads" is offered. (See story, Page 38)

4,000

The number of square miles that make up White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. (See story, Page 26)

160,000

The number of Earth orbiting objects observed per day by Naval Space Command. (See story, Page 14)

SHIPMATES



INTELLIGENCE SPECIALIST 3RD CLASS CARINA B. GHARTEY was selected as the 2000 Junior Enlisted Person of the Year for U.S. Southern Command, Miami, Fla. Gharthey is currently assigned as an administrative assistant for the USSOUTHCOM chief of staff. During her off-duty time, she participates in the Partners in Education program as a math tutor, mentoring students at a local elementary school.



HULL TECHNICIAN 1ST CLASS (SW/AW) SHAYNE P. BALDWIN was selected as USS *Bataan's* (LHD 5) Sailor of the Year. The Wallace, W.Va., native is the assistant quality assurance officer and also serves as an in-port and at-sea fire marshal, a damage control training team member and as a ballast console operator. Baldwin also heads up damage control tiger teams and does random inspections throughout the ship for damage control discrepancies.



MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS (SW/AW) MICHAEL J. LANDRY has been selected Sailor of the Year 2000 for both the Naval Technical Training Center Detachment and San Antonio Regional District. Landry is currently an instructor at the Navy and Air Force Consolidated Food Service School.



YEOMAN 1ST CLASS JANET GRIFFIN was selected as Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans Sailor of the Year 2000. The Slidell, La., native currently fills a chief's billet in the station's administrative department serving more than 1,500 active-duty and Selected Reserve Sailors.

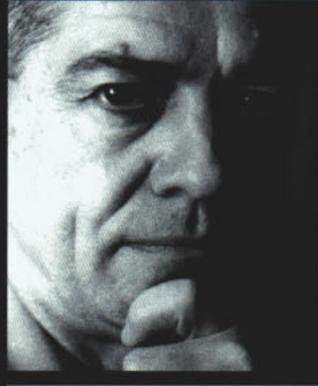


Photo by JCC Robert Benson

Speaking with Sailors

This question is from a recent MCPON all hands call in Hawaii:

Q: What is the latest with the Navy's new recruiting campaign?

A: Our advertising campaign is still relatively new (it started in mid-March), but initial feedback has been mostly positive.

The new advertising slogan, "Accelerate Your Life," is designed to appeal to the prospective Sailors our recruiters are looking to bring into our Navy, and each of you currently writing our proud history.

I like the approach we're taking. We're capitalizing on a theme that strikes the mind and the heart; the mind of those we are trying to recruit and the heart of those already serving. The new campaign stresses that young people can be part of an institution where they really make a difference.

It also emphasizes a primary fact of a Navy career: the opportunity for young people to move ahead in their lives at an accelerated rate while gaining work experience and responsibility far faster than in the civilian sector.

While I'm confident the advertising campaign will be a shot in the arm for the great job our recruiters are already doing, we as a Navy can't forget our responsibility to also help recruiters.

I'm talking about retention and attrition numbers. Everyone in leadership positions should know by now how vital it is for us as a Navy to continue to increase retention while we decrease attrition numbers.

Usually, as soon as I mention lowering our attrition numbers, Sailors think I'm talking about lowering our

standards—to keep substandard Sailors. This is NOT the case at all.

We can improve our attrition levels by becoming more proactive, influential leaders in our Sailors' careers. We shouldn't make the path to success easier, but we should do a better job at showing our Sailors how to get down that path. We should all take a little extra time to show a shipmate that his or her success in the Navy is also important to us.

Our detailers, the Center for Career Development (CCD) and everyone at Navy Personnel Command are working hard to get the tools into the fleet to continue improving retention. As these changes begin to take hold, one of the best practices we can start at the deck-plate level is to help shipmates realize how good the Navy life of service really is.

I'll be the first to admit that the Navy isn't the right career choice for everyone. However, there are far too many Sailors leaving the Navy who could and should continue a successful Navy career. Again, a little personal intervention into our shipmates' careers can go a long way in helping them appreciate service in the Navy on a daily basis. Increasing retention, lowering attrition and maintaining speed on the recruiting front will sustain us as the greatest Navy in the history of the world. ☑

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

been smaller articles about this naval icon since. But surely isn't it possible to include her alongside the rest of the U.S. Navy's ships? She is in commission, noted as such in the register of U.S. Navy ships, has won more battle honors than the vast majority of the ships listed, is adored by the American public — and since the Navy increasingly makes much of naval heritage — there shouldn't be any objection to listing her. What finer way to teach an important part of our Navy's history?

As an interesting side note: Old Ironsides received only two formal congratulations on her 200th birthday — one from our MCPON, and the other from HMS *Victory*.

**CDR Christopher Melhuish
65th to command
USS *Constitution***

Editor's note: In compiling our list of active U.S. Navy ships, we neglected the fact that *Constitution*, while inactive, is indeed still in commission. We will correct this in the upcoming January 2002 Owner's & Operator's Manual.

Editor,

Great article in *All Hands* about religious program specialists (RPs) and Chaplain and Religious Program Specialist Expeditionary Skills Training training we receive. Our rating is probably one of the most obscure in the Navy. It was good to see us portrayed in the context of our operational/tactical mission.

Next? How about doing a story on the Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation? Your magazine is always a pleasure to read.

**RP1(FMF) Joe Compton
San Diego**

Thrift Savings Plan Opens to Military

Service members can begin to sign up for the Thrift Savings Plan beginning October 9, 2001, according to DOD officials.

The Thrift Savings Plan is a retirement and investment plan that has been available to civilian government workers since 1987. Congress extended the plan to include service members in 2000.

"It's in addition to your regular retirement," said Army Lt. Col. Tom Emswiler, a tax expert with DOD's Office of Military Compensation. "It's an optional program."

The open season for signing up will run from October 9 to December 8. Deductions start in January 2002. In 2002, service members can contribute up to 7 percent of their basic pay. The maximum amount service members can contribute from basic pay will change. The current limit of 7 percent of basic pay will rise to 10 percent by 2005 and become unlimited in 2006.

Unlike civilians, who cannot make lump-sum payments into the program, service members may also contribute all or a percentage of any special pay, incentive pay or bonus pay they receive.

"You can contribute from 1 percent to 100 percent of your special pays, incentives and bonuses into the thrift plan," Emswiler said.

The total amount generally cannot exceed \$10,500 for the year. Contributions from pay earned in a combat zone do not count against the \$10,500 ceiling. Combat zone contributions are subject to a different limitation, however, 25 percent of pay or \$35,000, whichever is less.

Like civilian employees in the program, service members must choose how they want their money invested. Right now, there are three funds to choose from. The funds run the gamut of safe — the G Fund invests in special government bonds — to riskier investments — the C Fund tied to the stock market. There is also an F Fund for investing in commercial bonds.

TSP will unveil the new S and I funds in May. S Fund investments go to a stock index fund that paces small businesses. I Fund investors will track international companies the same way.

Service members will be able to start, change or reallocate their TSP contributions during two open seasons held each year. These are November to January and May to July.

"Because bonuses are hard to predict, if you are already participating in the plan and contributing from basic pay and you receive, for example, a re-enlistment bonus, you can elect to contribute at any time," Emswiler said.

Contributions to the plan come from "pre-tax" dollars. Service members pay no federal or state income taxes on contributions or earnings until they're withdrawn.

The services will have teams visiting members to explain the program. Until then, see the www.tsp.gov/uniserv/ for more information. ☐

Service members may take part in the Thrift Savings Plan beginning October 9, 2001.



Sailors can do both," explained CDR Brian Looney, head, Education Programs Division.

"We will reinforce this message during recruitment, in our schoolhouses during initial accession training, by contacting Sailors through their commands and through 64 Navy College Offices (NCOs) both home and abroad."

Included under the new umbrella are programs such as the Navy College program (NCP), Navy College program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE), Tuition Assistance (TA), the United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) and several graduate education programs. Through NCOs, the Navy College Center (NCC), and the World Wide Web, military members can explore higher education options, including completing an undergraduate or graduate degree, or preparing for college entrance examinations.

Much of the professional training available to Sailors and Marines through Navy training commands is accredited. The Education Programs staff works closely with both the Enlisted Training and Education and Officer Training and Education divisions at CNET to track course accreditation and ensure curriculum changes are taken into account. The new division will also work with the American Council on Education (ACE) to have more Navy training curricula evaluated for recommended college credit.

In December 2000, 16 colleges and universities partnered with the Navy to provide college degrees corresponding to

CNET Stands Up Education Programs Division

The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) has established a new office that will consolidate and provide oversight for all Navy voluntary education (VOLED) and serve as the focal point for direction and evaluation of Naval

Education and Training Command (NAVEDTRACOM) education programs.

The newly formed Education Programs Division will be a link between the Chief of Naval Operations' office of the Director of Naval Training and Education (N79), in charge of establishing VOLED policies, and the Naval Education and Training Professional

Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC), at Saufley Field in Pensacola, Fla., which is responsible for executing Navywide VOLED programs.

"The Navy strives to field a strong, well-trained, well-educated fighting force. It is important to inform as many Sailors as we can that it's not a matter of choice between joining the Navy or going to college.

Story by Jim Garamone, a journalist for American Forces Press Service

Onassignment

a Sailor's rating or job specialty. The list of these colleges and universities can be found on the NCP web site.

"Each school has developed a degree program tailor made for the Navy rate training, taking into consideration their formal military technical training and their on-the-job experience," said Don Phillips, deputy head of the new division. "These degree programs are even available through distance learning."

The Education Programs Division will continue to develop new relationships with the colleges and universities, ensuring the programs support the educational needs of the Sailors serving around the world. Word is quickly spreading about NCP. In fiscal 2000, the NCC at NETPDTC had more than 57,000 calls to their customer service center. The center's web site registered more than 634,000 visits and received more than 478,000 requests for their Sailor/Marine ACE Registry Transcript (SMART).

"This is an important first step," explained Phillips, "We encourage everyone to find out how much college credit they have already earned in their Naval career. "Visit the web site, call us at DSN 922-1828 or (877) 253-7122, e-mail us at ncc@cnet.navy.mil or visit your nearest Navy College Office to see how you can realize your college education goals."

In 1994, the first two Navy College Learning Centers (NLCs) were opened at the Little Creek Amphibious Base in Little Creek, Va., and the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., both in major fleet concentration areas.

"The initiative proved very successful," explained Looney. "Today, there are 27 Navy College Learning Centers around the world, providing academic foundation studies in communications, mathematics

(including calculus), science, social studies and life skills, to active-duty Sailors and Marines and their adult family members ashore. These foundation studies help prepare them to take college admission examinations, to retake the Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery to qualify for a different career field, and even to prepare for graduate-level education opportunities. In FY00, more than 10,500 people took advantage of the services provided by the learning centers."

According to a recent Center for Naval Analysis study, there is a positive statistical correlation

between a Sailor's level of education and their likelihood of reenlisting.

"There is also a link between education and promotion rates," said Looney. "Motivated Sailors seek educational opportunities to enhance promotion chances. This is the focus of the Education Programs Division; to help Sailors succeed in their personal and professional life. It's a win for the them, and a win for the Navy."

For more information about the Education Programs Division and the many educational programs available, visit the Navy College

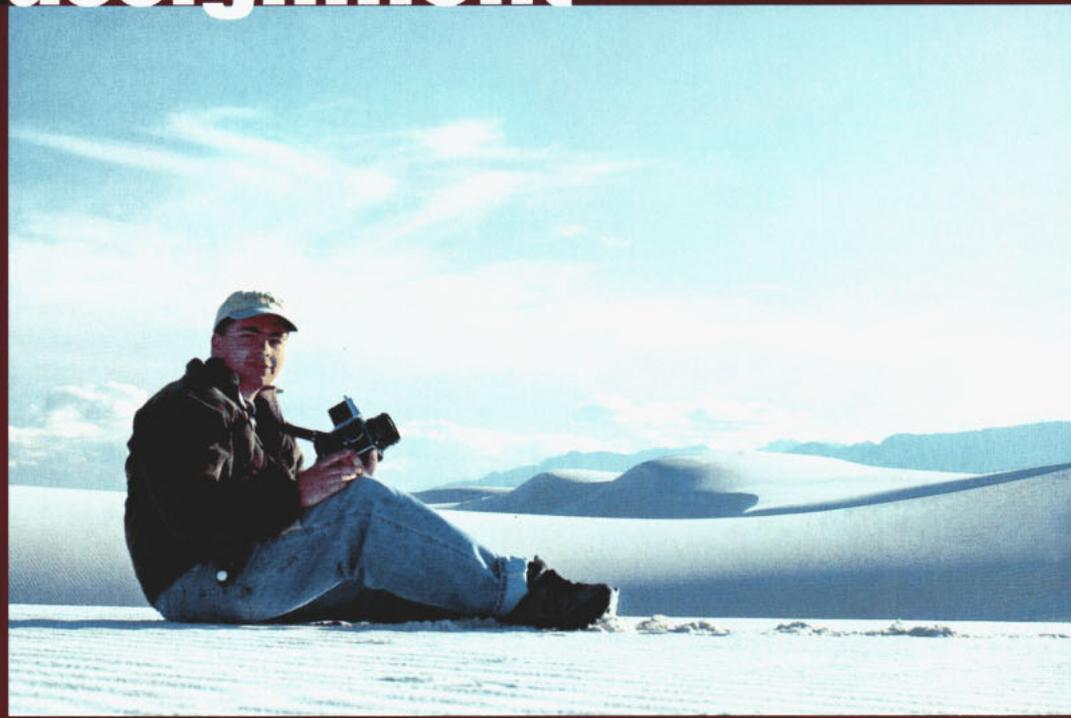


Photo by PH2 Aaron Ansarov

"Since I've been working for *All Hands* magazine, I've had tons of opportunities to see and shoot a wide variety of what's out there in the Navy," said PH2 Aaron Ansarov, our San Diego-based photojournalist. "Being able to meet people and cover stories for the Navy, as well as see sights like White Sands National Monument is something I've worked really hard for in my Navy career."

Look for Ansarov's latest stories in this issue, on weapons testing at the Navy's *Desert Ship*, White Sands, N.M., on Page 26, and the lighter side of Navy life in his Baby Boot Camp for New Dads story on Page 38. ☒

Ansarov is a San Diego-based photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

Program web site at www.navycollege.navy.mil ☒

Story courtesy of CNET Public Affairs

NAF Misawa Bachelor Housing Wins Zumwalt

Naval Air Facility (NAF) Misawa's Combined Bachelor Housing (CBH) recently won the Navy's top barracks award for 2000. The Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt Award recognizes Misawa's CBH as a 5-star accredited lodging facility.

The CBH had to go through several steps to be accredited.

Around the Fleet

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.



50 Years Ago – June 1951

In this issue, we covered the joint training exercise "Attack on Alaska" near Kodiak Naval Base. Army, Marine Corps and Navy personnel repelled a mock aggressor from the north. We also showed the role LSTs played in the Korean War in our story, "One Year of Korea," and we followed Sailors on liberty in Plymouth, England.



25 Years Ago – June 1976

All Hands advertised the fleet in New York City for the upcoming International Naval Review (INR), when Sailors from 94 countries around the globe will converge on the "Big Apple" for the event. We also "watched" USS *Lexington* (CV 2) during the filming of the motion picture, "Midway."



10 Years Ago – June 1991

We covered the return of the POWs of the Gulf War in the story, "A Hero's Welcome." We also followed up on the efforts in the Gulf and how the Navy's presence continues to maintain peace.

The first step involved an evaluation by Naval Forces Japan with recommendations sent to the U.S. Pacific Fleet. The next step brought CINCPACFLT inspectors to Misawa to determine if the CBH was qualified for accreditation. The final step included a review and inspection of the facilities by Naval Facilities Engineering Command to determine what accreditation level to bestow on the CBH.

"At this level, the CBH will receive at least a 3-star accreditation," said Mess Management

Specialist 1st Class Nida L. Anderson, NAF Misawa's CBH administrative petty officer. NAF Misawa received the highest accreditation for their bachelor housing.

Once a Navy bachelor housing facility wins the Zumwalt Award, the CBH does not compete the next year as the 5-star accreditation lasts for two years. This isn't the first time Misawa has won this coveted award.

"We have now won the Zumwalt three times in a row," said MS2 Christopher L. Hill,

the supply manager for the CBH.

The CBH made several improvements to help their chances of winning the 2000 Zumwalt Award. On top of the list were ground renovations.

"We built three new gazebos," said Kenichi Kamata, NAF Misawa's housing manager. He added that a new flower bed was constructed with approximately 2,000 assorted flowers and the Torii gate sign in front of the main CBH building was replaced.

Other improvements included changing the key locks to an electronic locking system, replacing furniture in three of the buildings, and adding new gym equipment to NAF Misawa's permanent party barracks.

"The big (improvement) is the constant daily upkeep by the people who work here both the Japanese employees and Sailors alike," said MS2 Class Gunar D. Swenson, maintenance supervisor for the CBH. "Everybody works together to make it happen. We won this three years in a row; because, we don't stop doing that." ☑

Story by JO1 Donald P. Rule, who is assigned to the public affairs office, Naval Air Facility Misawa, Japan

Submarine School Staff Make a Difference in a Different School

The energy level is palpable. Three hundred fifty plus children, pre-kindergarten through fifth grade – it's like visiting an imagination factory working overtime. And as many and as varied as the children are at Pleasant Valley School in Groton, Conn., so, too, are their needs and interests.

"Children today," notes Dr.

Dottie Hoyts, Pleasant Valley's principal, "are bombarded by influences that didn't even exist when their parents were in school. But, if today's schools are different from what we attended, and they are, our society's expectations of what school should be accomplishing is also different from the 'way we were.'"

Today's schools and teaching staffs welcome helping hands wherever they may be found, and for Pleasant Valley that means instructors from Naval Submarine School (SubScol).

An informal partnership that stretches back for more than a decade, many of the units at the submarine base have adopted schools in the local Groton area.

"Pleasant Valley has been fortunate," explains Barbara Jones, educator, "in being able to draw on patrons from both the Naval Ambulatory Care Clinic as well as Sub School." Jones thinks the uniformed Sailors serve as valuable role models.

"When we first met at the beginning of the year," she remembers, "we asked Sailors where they wanted to volunteer and were pleasantly surprised when so many said, 'in the classroom.' Sailors are an excellent resource for teachers because they are adults who care, and that caring is evident to a child."

For FT2(SS) Scott Deranleau, who helps out in the reading library inside a classroom full of small people with more energy than any room can hold, coming to Pleasant Valley is a like a tonic. "No matter what kind of a day I've had instructing, I can come over here and these kids put a smile on my face. Any day with this much joy at things like having chocolate milk is a great day."

FT2(SS) Richard Okrasinski, who began volunteering in October, strives to work as a math tutor at least twice a week. "I work really hard to squeeze a

third visit whenever I can," he said. "Last week, one of the children I work with mastered the 'Three Times' table in multiplication. I'd almost forgotten how great it feels when you learn something new. When her face lit up, I suddenly remembered!"

And for the program coordinator, Machinist's Mate 1st Class (SS) Andrew Cheremsak, volunteers get as much from working in the schools as the children get from having them in the classroom.

"I have volunteers here at Pleasant Valley who have children in the school and volunteers who don't. Each has a different reason for helping out, but all have a common desire to not just make a difference, but to be the difference."

And as Barbara Jones offers, "Volunteers are afforded an opportunity through their work to be part of their new community, the one they've become a part of as a result of their military service. It gives them a reward for their own generosity." ❑

Story by Naval Submarine School Public Affairs, Groton, Conn.

Navy Reenlistment Rates Improving

In recent testimony to the Senate Armed Services committee, VADM Norb Ryan, Chief of Naval Personnel, indicated that the Navy is making progress in winning the "war for talent."

According to Ryan, more Sailors are making the decision to "Stay Navy" as a result of "positive and personalized leadership, mentoring of juniors, and a variety of other targeted initiatives and programs." These successes are evident in recent statistics showing significant increases in the numbers of Sailors reenlisting and fewer separating at the end of obligated service.

So far in FY01, Navy reenlistment rates across all terms of service are up 6.4 percent from the same time last year. ❑

Story by CNP Public Affairs.

Don't Let Ecstasy Be Your Agony

In the Navy, a lack of situational awareness can be deadly. Some over-the-counter medicines (cough

medicines, painkillers) can decrease the edge military personnel need to tread the line between life and death. A drowsy hull technician working on a metal press could have a finger or two crushed. A boatswain's mate on a ship's forecandle might not be paying attention to the color of the anchor chain paying out of the locker, or turn the friction brake in the wrong direction, with disastrous results.

You get the idea. If an over-the-counter medication could perhaps lead to these kinds of situations, imagine what a mind-altering drug like ecstasy could lead to. It has no accepted medicinal use for treatment in the United States. And it's illegal.

Ecstasy is a synthetic amphetamine drug, related chemically to methamphetamine compounds. It's also known by the street names "E," "X," and "XTC." It is often referred to as a "club drug" because it has been sold in nightclubs and rave parties. It's misperceived as a "safe drug" without the side effects of other rave drugs such as LSD, methamphetamines, heroin or PCP.

Ecstasy comes in pill form, about the size of an aspirin, or may occur as a capsule or sold as a powder.

Immediate effects include a sense of euphoria, energy and altered sensory perception.

Then there are the side effects.

Current medical literature lists depression and panic disorders as some of the long-term effects. Acute short-term effects include water loss from sweating, high body temperature and loss of motor skills and judgment.

But drinking large amounts of water isn't a solution to the water loss problem caused by ecstasy abuse. A large intake of water to replace water loss from sweating and a higher body temperature can lead to a salt imbalance, and a trip to the emergency room.

This is a huge risk to one's health and safety for a drug "high." Why risk your health and safety, as well as the safety of others around you, to a drug that the Food and Drug Administration said has no medical treatment value, especially one that was produced in someone's basement?

No one in the Navy would

Ricky's Tour

By J02 Mike Jones

mikejones43@hotmail.com



Chips Ahoy: Innovative Tool Helps Keep Environment Clean

Story by JO1 Scott Sutherland

Members of Naval Base San Diego's Port Operations Department have designed and developed what could be the first Navywide reinforced vinyl laminated fabric canvas paint chip collector to keep paint chips from falling into San Diego Bay. The unique "catch-all" is being used with man-lift baskets when Sailors chip paint on ships.

"This is an example of the Naval Station taking proactive steps to be good stewards of the environment," said CDR Cliff Maurer, the station's public works officer and a native of Orefield, Pa. "We need to continue to keep the fleet mission ready and ships need this

about one minute to attach it."

According to Maurer, the aluminum prototype was heavy and bulky, which led to its review last December. Members of PWC and Port Operations got together and decided to design and develop a new model – the canvas prototype. Chief Warrant Officer Scott Sinclair of Temple City, Calif., the liquid cargo site manager for Port Ops, offered to take on the task.

One of the designers of the lightweight canvas chip collector, Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Glenn Landers of Sanger, Calif., the hazardous material (HAZMAT) coordinator for

INNOVATORS

kind of maintenance. But that doesn't mean we give up our environmental responsibility to the bay."

The initial concept of a "paint chip collector" first came to fruition last August after a Regional Water Quality Control Regulator met with Naval Base Commanding Officer CAPT Len Hering. The regulator noticed that work over the side posed an immediate risk and probably should be addressed. Hering directed members of the Public Works Center (PWC) and Port Operations Departments team to design and develop a paint chip catch-all to help support the station's environmental program and address the regulators concern.

Maurer asked PWC Technical Services Division put the idea together and construct a basket that could be suspended beneath the man-lift baskets. With plans and designs in hand, Steve Healy, a PWC model maker from Glendale, Calif., went to work designing an aluminum prototype pan.

The pan took about a week to build, said Healy. After the work was completed, it was delivered to USS *Comstock* (LSD 45), which was the test platform for the chip collector.

"Man-lift baskets come in different sizes," said Healy, "and we designed the first one according to *Comstock's* specifications. After we got to the ship, three Sailors were waiting for us to hook it up to their basket. It took

Port Operations, said the canvas catch-all comes in two parts – a slip and a pan. The slip, he said, covers the front part of the man-lift basket, and helps reduce the spilling of debris into the water. The pan has a plywood bottom that extends to the ship.

"Magnets attach the canvas to the side of the ship," said Landers. "Canvas is durable and lightweight, and it's working out much better."

The other canvas prototype designer from Port Ops, San Francisco native BM2(SW) Paul Elkins, said the prototype cost about \$400. "But, subsequent ones should cost about \$300 each," he said.

"Having magnets on the canvas chip collector helps it adhere to the angles and curves of a ship," added Elkins.

Sinclair said the canvas-style catchall is a "good thing," and it's going to help out in the long run. "It's doable, it's working and it takes about a minute to put on" he added.

"This is absolutely the right and responsible thing to do," said Hering. "We have a duty to find ways to protect the environment while we maintain these ships and ensure our Navy's operational readiness." ☒

trust their lives to somebody who wasn't at 100 percent efficiency because of some party drug. Everyone's job is too important to be compromised by drug abuse. When it comes to safety, staying away from ecstasy is a no-brainer.

DOD has been testing for "designer amphetamines" since 1997, and every sample that passes through the military testing laboratories gets screened for these types of drugs. More than 400 Navy and Marine Corps personnel were identified for ecstasy abuse in FY00.

The Navy and Marine Corps team has a "zero tolerance" policy for illegal drug use, and that includes ecstasy. Don't let it turn into your agony. If you're doing it, stop. If someone else is doing it, report the individual. Don't risk detection, punishment, or discharge under dishonorable or other than honorable conditions.

But don't just avoid it for those reasons, think of yourself and your shipmates. It's a matter of safety ... their lives could be in your hands. ☒

Story by JO1 Joseph Gunder, editor of *Navy Wire Service*

TRICARE Eliminates Prime Co-Pays For Family Members

The 2001 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) contains great news for active-duty uniformed services members and their families. One new provision is the elimination of co-payments for active-duty family members (ADFM) enrolled in TRICARE Prime.

ADFMs enrolled in TRICARE Prime will no longer have to make co-payments for the care they receive from their

civilian providers. Currently, ADFMs in pay grades E-1 to E-4 and pay grades E-5 and above pay \$6 and \$12, respectively, for such visits. In addition, family members' \$11 per day civilian inpatient charge is being eliminated, as is the \$11.45 per day family member rate for enrollees admitted to a military treatment facility.

Legislation included in the 2001 NDAA, such as the elimination of co-payments, is giving recruiters something to cheer about. As an employee benefit, TRICARE is quickly becoming what military leaders hoped it would: The world's best health care for the world's best military.

ADFM's will still have to make pharmacy co-payments for the National Mail Order Pharmacy program and at network retail stores, but these charges are nominal. In addition, military treatment facilities continue to provide prescription drugs free of charge — a huge cost saving available to all uniformed services beneficiaries.

To obtain the elimination of co-payments for care received from their civilian providers TRICARE Prime enrollees must follow certain TRICARE Prime rules.

For example, TRICARE Prime enrollees must normally obtain authorization from their primary care manager before seeking care from civilian providers. While they retain the right to seek civilian care without authorization from their primary care manager, the TRICARE Prime point-of-service charges will apply.

Family members who use the point-of-service option are responsible for paying the annual deductible of \$300 per member or \$600 per family, and 50 percent of the TRICARE allowable charge once the

deductible is met. Family members also are responsible for any additional charges billed by the non-network provider, up to 15 percent above the TRICARE allowable charge (balance billing rule).

Members are encouraged to consult with a health benefits adviser (HBA) or beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator (BCAC) prior to using the point-of-service option. The elimination of co-payments for ADFMs who see civilian providers is not only about cost. It's also about making the TRICARE benefit equal for those who see civilian versus military providers.

In response to feedback from beneficiaries, TRICARE Prime is being re-designed to take the irritants out of the program. Cost is a big concern for beneficiaries, and the elimination of co-payments for ADFMs enrolled in Prime is a plus for customer satisfaction. For more information go to www.tricare.osd.mil. ☒

TRICARE News Release

Scientists-to-Sea Ride with USS *Bataan* During Brief Underway

Three civilian mechanical engineers from the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division in Patuxent River, Md., recently embarked USS *Bataan* (LHD 5) as part of the Navy's Scientists-to-Sea program. This program is a Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, initiative that provides opportunities for Navy research and development and DOD personnel to go to sea and gain first-hand insight into operational factors that affect system design and performance. The three engineers, Darrell Grant, Christopher Crow and Richard



Darrell Grant talks with CAPT John B. Strott, commanding officer USS *Bataan* (LHD 5) on the bridge of the 844-foot long multi-purpose, amphibious assault ship. Grant, a mechanical engineer from Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Patuxent River, Md., was part of the Navy's Scientists-to-Sea program.

Johnson, recently got underway with *Bataan* for a 36-hour shakedown cruise. During their stay, they walked through many of the ship's spaces and talked with several officers and crewmembers about their jobs, equipment and ship's systems. "We asked a lot of questions and observed equipment and systems aboard *Bataan*," said Grant.

Some of the spaces the engineers visited were in Engineering and Air Department. They also took a walk on the freshly resurfaced flight deck and toured the bridge where they talked with *Bataan* Commanding Officer CAPT John B. Strott. Another person they talked at length with was the ship's Air Boss, CDR Thomas Dargan.

"Unfortunately, we did not conduct any flight operations during the underway, said Dargan. "However, we were able to show them our facilities and discuss our aircraft as well as flight ops to the degree they were interested."

"We all enjoyed our short time aboard and were treated extremely well," remarked Richard Johnson. "From what

we saw, we were aboard a fine ship with a very knowledgeable and professional crew. We were given good, honest answers to our questions and hopefully what we take back to Pax River will help in new system research and design."

Crow reiterated what Johnson said. "This is not only mine but also Darrell's and Richard's first time underway on a Navy ship," he noted. "It was a short cruise. We had hoped to be here for flight ops, but are very happy with the time we did spend aboard the ship and all that we saw and learned."

Crow, like his co-workers, said although he was most interested in seeing the day-to-day aircraft operations aboard the ship, he was happy seeing the ship's engineering spaces. "Seeing all that I did see aboard *Bataan* was quite a highlight for me." ☒

Story by JO1 Todd E. Hansen assigned to the public affairs office, USS Bataan (LHD 5)

Linked to the Fence

Ever wonder where the International Space Station (ISS) is? And I don't mean, "Isn't it in outer space?"

I'm talking about its exact coordinates. Well, he knows.

How about where that handy telephone satellite is that allows

you to talk to a friend halfway across the country? He knows that too.

And if that isn't enough, how about the whereabouts of a wrench that an astronaut lost during construction of the ISS? Didn't hear about that one? He knows where that is, too. Who is this omnipresent wealth of information? Electronics Warfare Technician 1st Class (SW) Eric Laursen, or as his peers know him at the U.S. Naval Space Command, Dahlgren, Va., the Space Surveillance Petty Officer.



Linked to the fence

Right now, as you read this, more than 10,000 objects are orbiting Earth, but that's not really the fascinating part. What's so intriguing is that Laursen knows where all 10,000 of those objects are, and he makes more than 160,000 observations a day as they pass through the *Fence*.

Naval Space Command stands a "space watch" around the clock to track satellites in orbit, operating a surveillance network of nine field stations across the southern United States. The field stations emit bi-static radar signals, much like a microwave oven. They point straight up into space and produce a fence of electromagnetic energy that can detect objects in orbit around the Earth out to an effective range of 15,000 nautical miles.

"If NORAD [Northern Radar Air Defense] goes down, I direct the entire space surveillance network and track all the U.S.-interest space objects," says Laursen, resting behind a computer console connected to the only system in the known universe with this ability. "It's pretty cool when I think about it. I can make a call and track any object in space and I know when the space shuttle is up, where it is, what it's doing. What can I say, other than it's cool?"

This 24-hour watch for operational space support to the Navy and various other customers around the world is coordinated through the Naval Space Operations Center (NAVSPOC), the hub of the command. Laursen and others provide space-related operational intelligence to deployed Navy and Marine Corps forces through a number of tactical communications channels which can let them know when a spy satellite is overhead or what the weather is like at a beach landing. The space reports and analyses are activated on request and are tailored to a deploying unit's operations

and geographic area of movement. It provides the user with tactical assessments of space system capabilities and vulnerabilities to potentially hostile space sensors.

"In other words, we can tell you when the bad guys are watching, among other stuff," says Laursen, in the hush-hush tone of an undercover operative with the inside top-secret knowledge others only read about in Tom Clancy novels. "That's exactly what an operations specialist who had been stationed here before told me when I found out I had orders here."

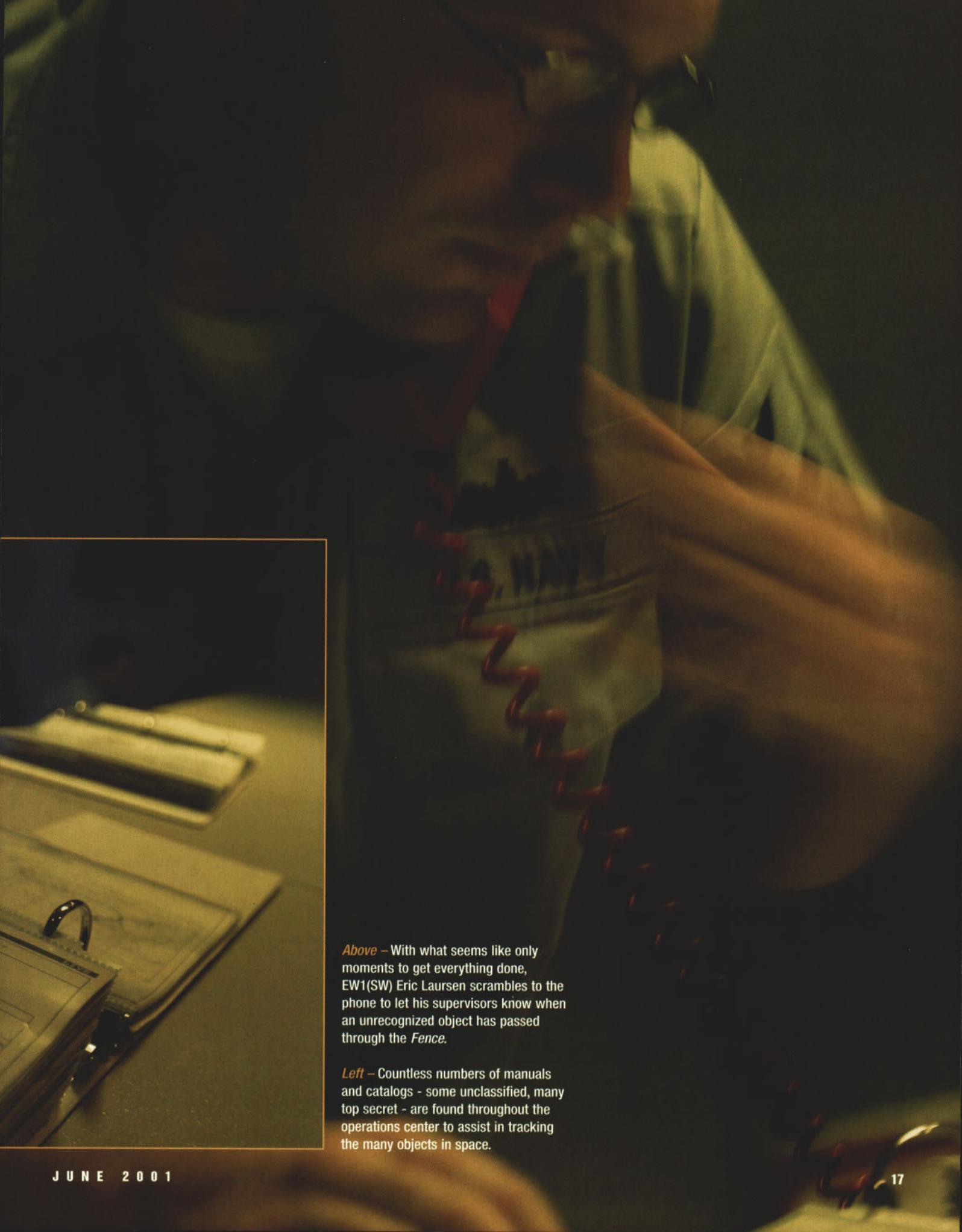
The Navy's growing dependence on space is what prompted the creation of

the command. Naval Space Command was commissioned in 1983 in a decisive move to provide a central focal point for naval space matters and more effectively guide future operational uses of space.

More than 1 million satellite detections, or observations, are collected by the *Fence* each month. Data gathered is transmitted to a computer center, where it's used to constantly update a database of spacecraft orbital elements and then reported to the fleet.

"It really hit me standing my first watch, how vitally important this really is," says Laursen, sitting in a chair that just a year and half ago was an officer





Above – With what seems like only moments to get everything done, EW1(SW) Eric Laursen scrambles to the phone to let his supervisors know when an unrecognized object has passed through the *Fence*.

Left – Countless numbers of manuals and catalogs - some unclassified, many top secret - are found throughout the operations center to assist in tracking the many objects in space.

Linked to the fence

billet. With manning constraints, it was opened up to enlisted Sailors. "Looking at what appeared to be a blue marble with thousands of little dots around it, I began to realize how big the scope of my job was going to be."

The Space Command uses a catalog, which has all 10,000 items entered into it, and is updated daily as space debris breaks up in the intense vacuum of space. Staring at the huge screens in front of the op center as the space surveillance officer, Laursen watches as those satellites surround the Earth in a cloud of microchips, steel and aluminum.

While Laursen and the Sailors stationed with him don't actually "watch" the *Fence* (a responsibility held by trained civilians with decades of experience), they do get all the readings from it. At times, as you can imagine, this can be hectic — picking up the phone, while balancing a pencil and pad in the other hand and writing down the information racing across his screen.

Laursen just doesn't perspire, he sweats, and sometimes it's in buckets. If something orbits through the *Fence*, and it's unrecognized, it becomes a race to find out what it is. Not just because of a threat to the Navy back here on Earth, but because something as small as a quarter flying around the planet at speeds in the thousands of miles-per-hour can shatter the windshield on the space shuttle or penetrate one of the many multi-million dollar satellites providing communications.

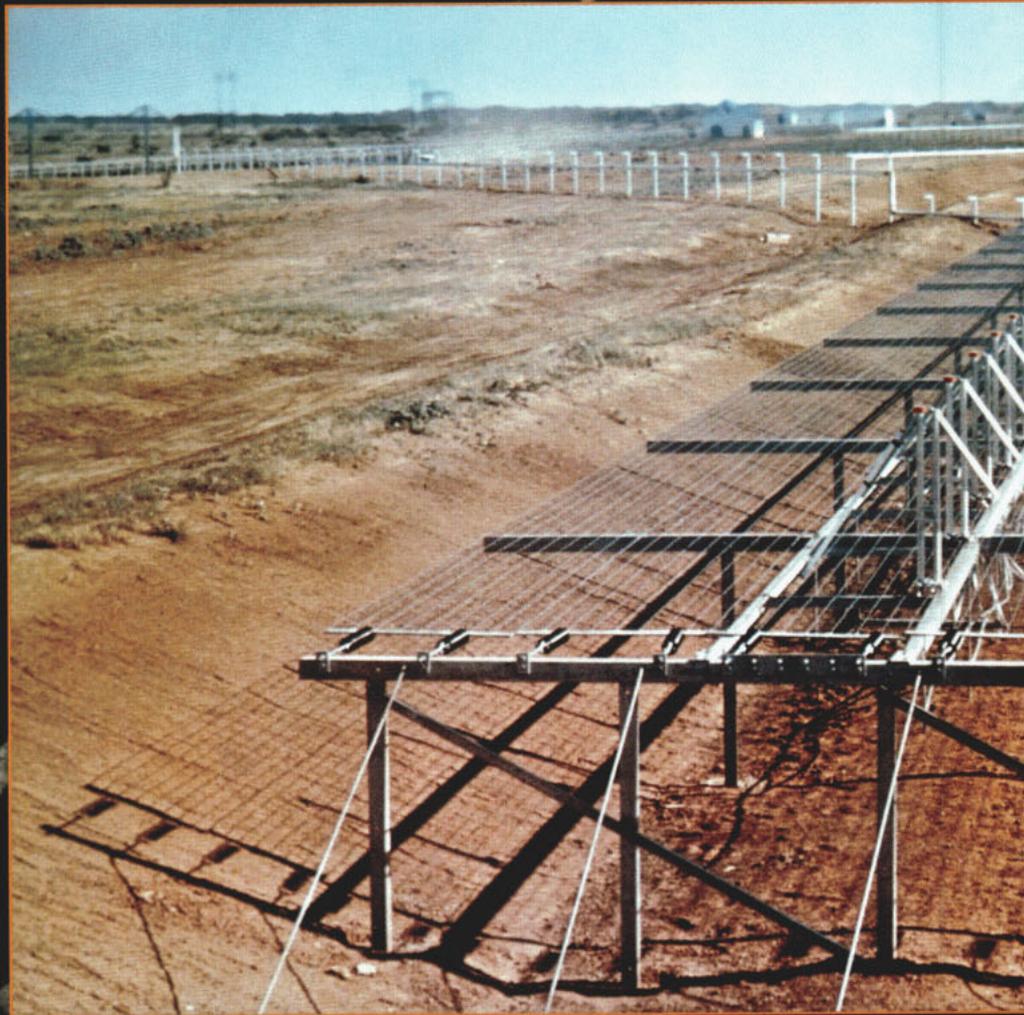
"I don't think a lot of people really understand what we do here," said Master Chief Missile Technician (SS) Alan Steiner, command master chief for Naval Space Command. "There are Sailors all over world using our products from space and really don't know where they are coming from."

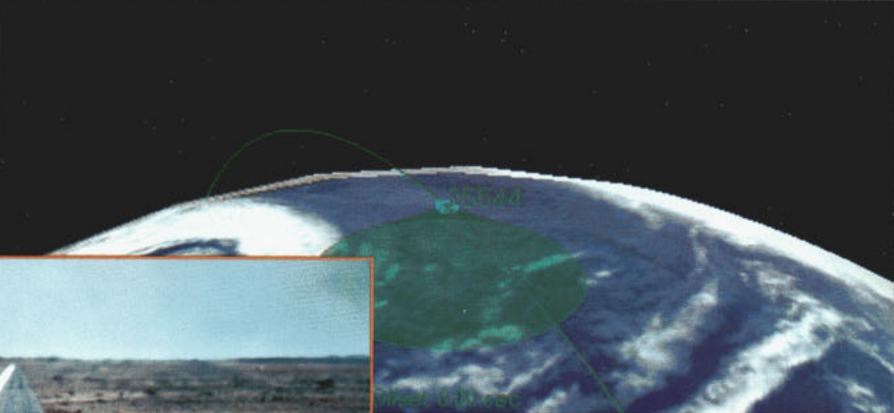
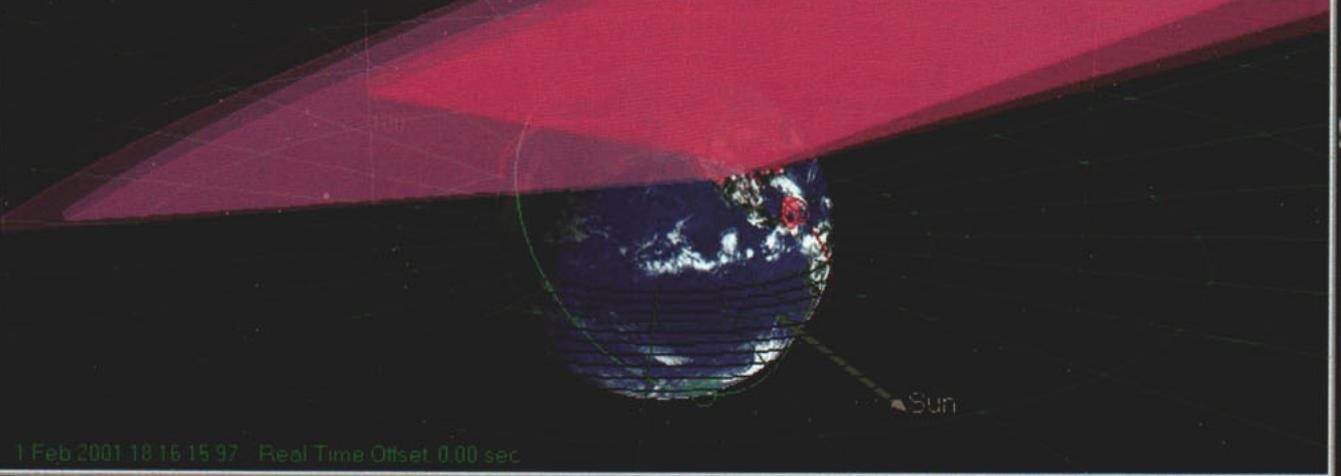
But soon, at least a thousand school children and some scientists at University of California-Berkeley will know after the *Star Shine II* satellite, a follow-on to *Star Shine I*, is released later this year.

Star Shine II, a small orb no bigger than a large beach ball, will be making its journey around the planet to help calibrate monitoring of the *Fence*. It will also allow the youngsters from various schools to see one of the brightest objects in the sky next to the ISS and the moon. Covered in mirrors polished by the students, *Star Shine II* will reflect the light of millions of stars, the closest being the sun.

Star Shine II will help the Sailors of Space Command do their job better. It will improve the integrity of the *Fence*, and you can bet, Laursen will know where it is too. ☒

Watson is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.





25544 LLA Position	
Time (UTCG):	1 Feb 2001 18:16:15.97
Lat (deg):	-47.098
Lon (deg):	-115.125
Alt (km):	381.438426
16609 LLA Position	
Time (UTCG):	1 Feb 2001 18:16:15.97
Lat (deg):	18.707
Lon (deg):	-86.660
Alt (km):	302.093695



Above – A view of Earth shows what the *Fence* looks like on its journey from the ground in the United States to the outer reaches of space.

Left – A two-mile array used to create part of the *Fence*, with similar areas located throughout the southern United States.

Below – The thousands of tiny dots represent the 10,000 catalogued space objects orbiting the Earth that Naval Space Command monitors passing through the *Fence* every day up 160,000 times.

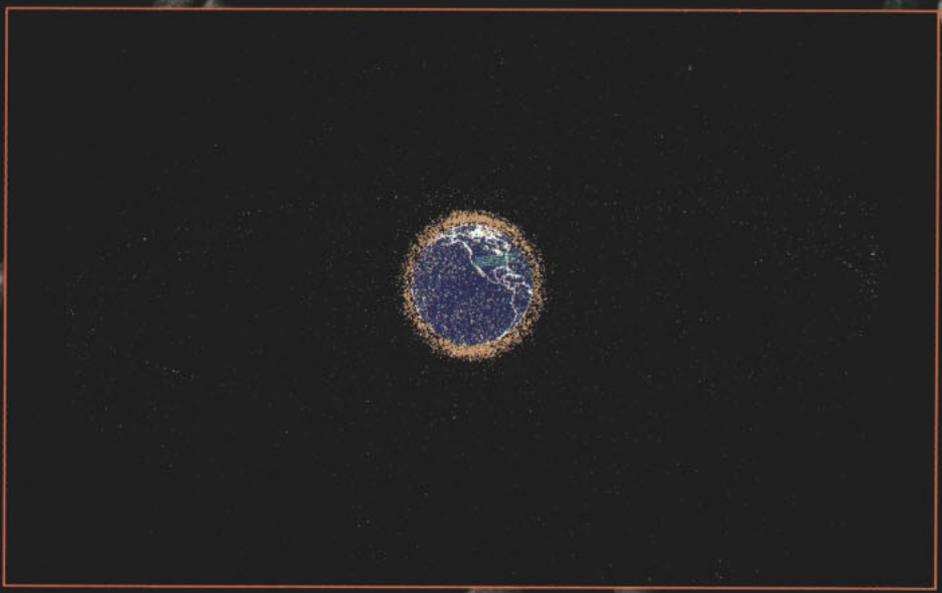


Photo courtesy of ONR

When it comes to understanding atmospheric density models, friction prediction problems and

a blur of science

the confusing language of algorithms, most people develop those little wrinkles above their eyebrows as their mind begins to feel like an engine with a wrench stuck in the gears. They get that puzzled look on their face and nod to whoever is talking, all the while thinking in the back of their minds, "Huh?"



Robert Haynes, a test engineer for the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., performs dynamic balancing on the *Windsat* engineering development model to ensure it stays in perfect orbit once deployed into space.

Photo by PH2(AW) Jim Watson



Barely larger than a beach ball and dwarfed by the bulk of the space shuttle, *Star Shine I* became one of the brightest objects in the night sky after being released during mission STS-96.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NASA

Right – The Naval Research Laboratory’s space division houses a huge thermal vacuum chamber where *Clementine* (shown here) and satellites like *Windsat* experience the harsh conditions of space.

Below – Graphic of *Windsat* depicts the various components of the satellite.

Thankfully, there are people out there who do understand the language of science and know how to use it to better benefit society — and the Navy.

Just inside Washington, D.C., lies a huge plot of land on the banks of the Anacostia River. When driving by, you’d never imagine all the interesting stuff they do there. The sign reads “Welcome to the Naval Research Laboratory” (NRL), and you might logically conclude they are probably making a new weapon or designing a better ship model, but that’s not even close to the whole picture.

While weapon and ship design may not be far from the truth, NRL does much more than you might think. They have a broad-based, multidisciplinary program of scientific research and advanced technological development directed toward maritime applications of new and improved materials, techniques, equipment and systems, and ocean, atmospheric and space sciences

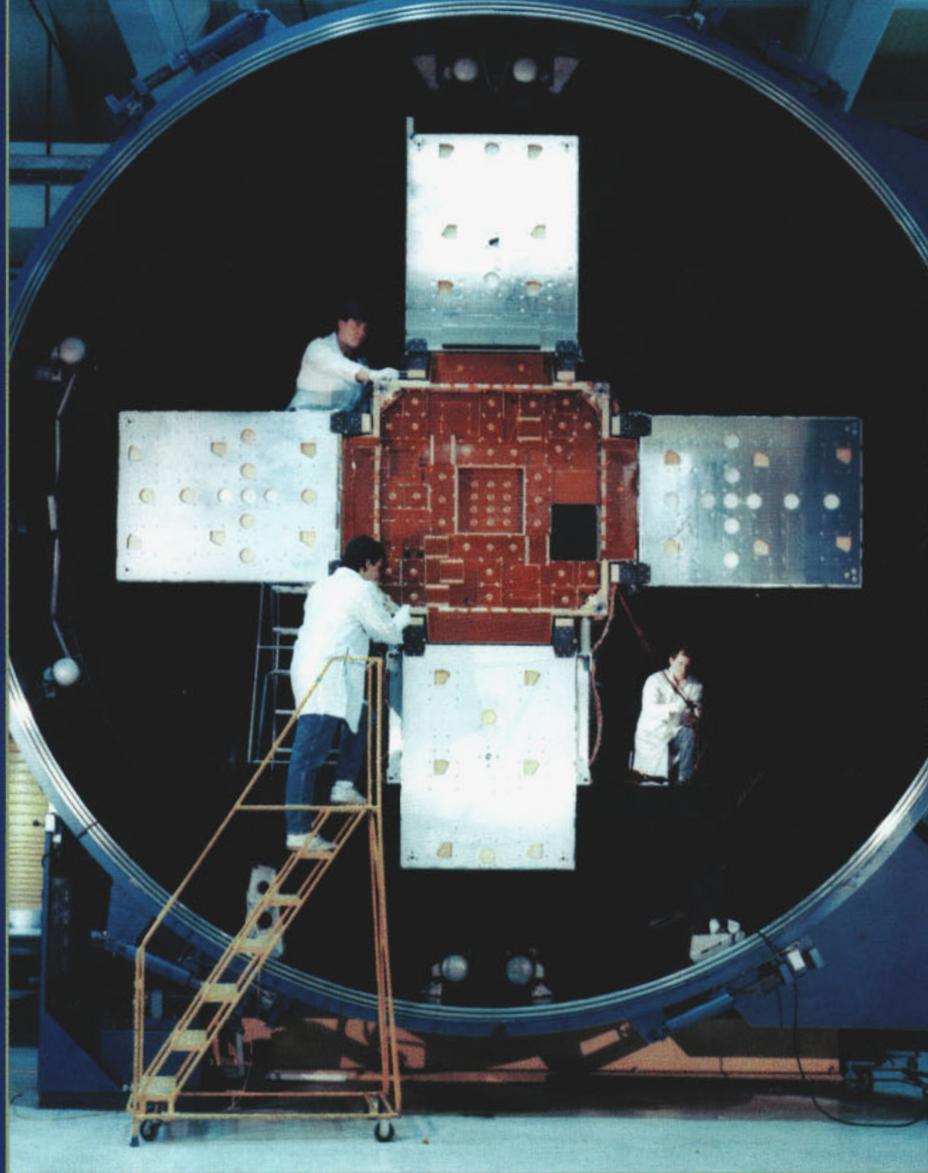


Photo courtesy of ONR

Science and Technology Division, where they are building two of the newest satellites that will soon be orbiting the

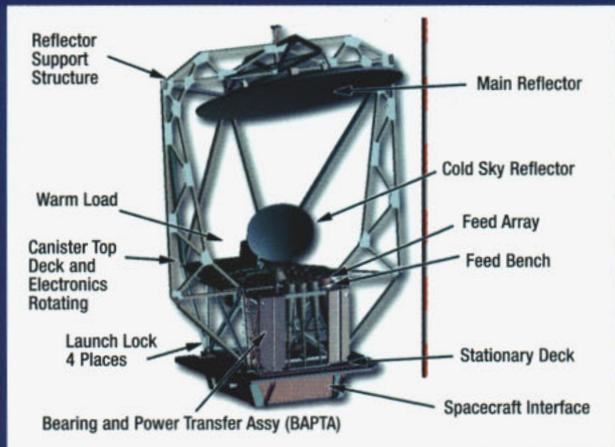
Earth and advancing our maritime theater operations through various means of communications. This is where *Windsat* comes in, a new polar metric microwave radiometer managed by the Office of Naval Research and funded by the Navy, DOD Space Test Program and the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS) Integrated Program Office (IPO).

Windsat will measure ocean surface

wind speed and direction. This provides deployed naval units with information on how and where the weather affects at-sea operations — carrier aircraft launches, where the captain is looking for the best wind; beach landings, where weather and waves can be brutal; and various other helpful calculations that will enhance the Navy’s know-how anywhere in the world.

Windsat is still in the testing phase at NRL, where just last February, it was tested for balance.

“Balance in a satellite is a very important feature,” said Robert Haynes, a test engineer for NRL. “If you could imagine a satellite only being a fraction out of balance, the spin may be small next to the satellite in space, but down on Earth it would be covering an area a mile wide,



Graphic courtesy of ONR

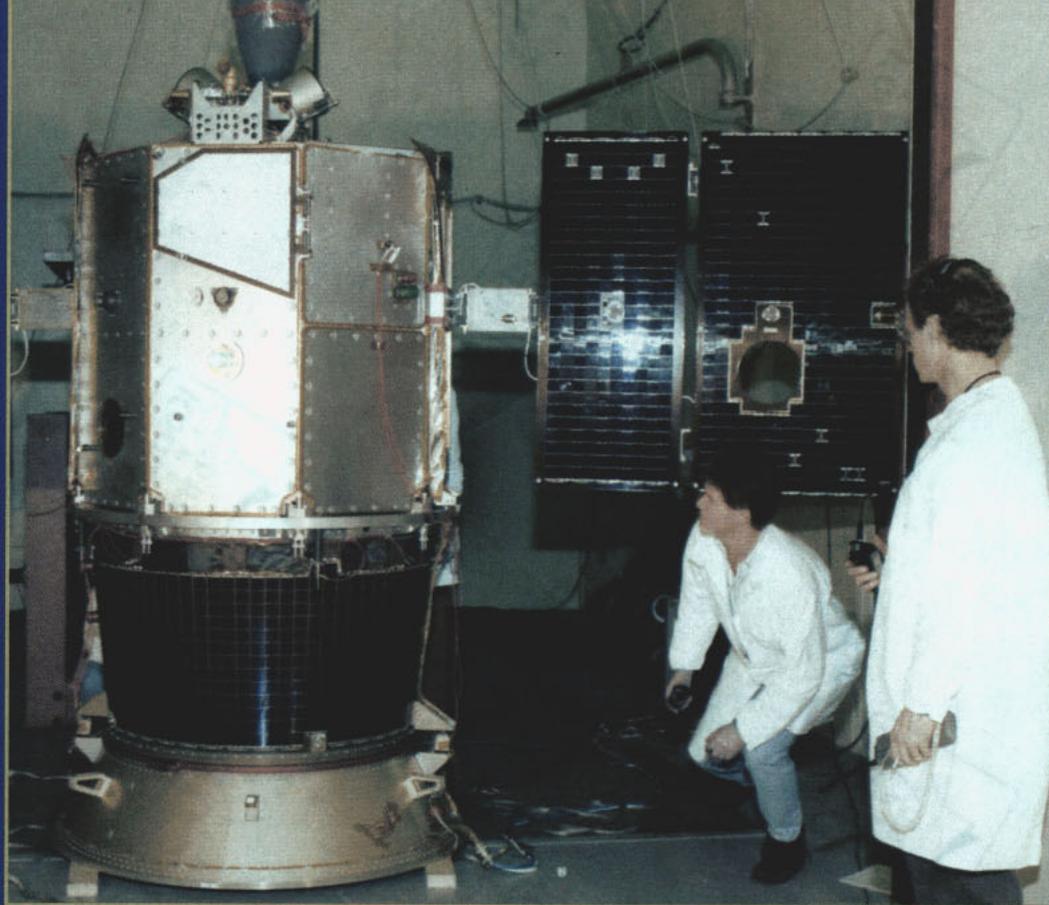
and related technologies. Or in layman’s terms, they do some really cool stuff.

Located within NRL is the Naval Space

Star Shine II, to be released later this year as a calibration tool for the *Fence*, was constructed at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., where each mirror of its unique design was placed on one at a time.



Photo courtesy of NRL



Left – The *Windsat* and *Starshine* satellites will both go through vigorous testing before entering space. One of the tests will include going through an acoustic chamber that will simulate the noise vibrations the satellites will experience during launch. The satellite pictured here is *Clementine*, famous for discovering ice on the moon.

Below – Graphic of *Windsat* depicting data link capability direct to ship as well as other shore-based users.

rather than pointing straight down.”

NRL is also working on *Star Shine II*, a satellite that will launch later this year to help calibrate the *Fence* (See story, Page 14). “The problem with the *Fence* today is the technology is just too outdated,” said Dr. Shannon Coffey, a research scientist at NRL. “Once the *Fence* has been upgraded to today’s technology, we

objects in space and help us determine exactly where all those objects are.”

The small satellite looks much like a disco ball, only slightly larger. Students from across the country polished its mirrors to perfection. These mirrors will be the real keys to helping scientists find the true position of *Star Shine II* as it orbits the planet. Lasers will be able to

bounce off the mirrors, relaying position information to Naval Space Command in Dahlgren, Va. From there, the data will be compared against the position the *Fence* has determined, and then will be used to calibrate all the known objects in space.

Star Shine II’s mirrors will also make it visible to the naked eye for a six-

month stretch during twilight hours

between 60 degrees north and 60 degrees south latitude, which students and educators from 16 countries will use in conjunction with their studies to calcu-

late its orbit as it repeatedly circles Earth. NRL’s creations not only save time and money, they provide more accurate information to our naval forces forward deployed around the world and assist in space management and surveillance. While the orbit around Earth today may not look like a rush-hour traffic jam, as more objects are placed in orbit, it could very well make those of us on the highways happy that we aren’t driving in space. Our earthly traffic jams will be nothing compared to surveying the sky, making sure thousands of unmanned objects are not banging into each other.

But that’s a job for the scientists and engineers at NRL — the people who know the language of science, and understand what it takes to keep satellites in orbit with no stop lights in the distance — keeping space a smooth, flowing blue around the planet. ☒

Watson is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.



Graphic courtesy of ONR

expect to have more than 50,000 objects cataloged that orbit the Earth. *Star Shine II* will allow us to have a fixed point to calibrate the *Fence*, the radar space surveillance system used to monitor all

month stretch during twilight hours between 60 degrees north and 60 degrees south latitude, which students and educators from 16 countries will use in conjunction with their studies to calcu-



It's eerily quiet. The moon is full against a starlit sky. The only sound heard is the occasional howl of a coyote in the distance. Suddenly, a siren's ear-shattering scream pierces the night air, and in the blink of an eye, a *Standard Missile 2 MK IV* emerges from a Vertical Launch System (VLS) and disappears into the night.

Welcome to White Sands Missile Range, N.M., homeport to the land-locked ship,

Being A DESERTS

Desert Ship. This "ship" never gets underway, never needs a dry-dock and rarely needs to be repainted. "I believe it's pretty much like performing work-ups on any other ship in the Navy. The only two differences are that the work-ups never end, and you don't have to worry about when you'll be getting home from deployment," said Fire Controlman 1st Class (SW) Eric Paschal of *Desert Ship*.

Story & photos by PH2 Aaron Ansarov

ailor

Above – FC1(SW) Jim Haug frequently inspects the series of underground tunnels that run throughout the *Desert Ship* compound. These tunnels hold all the wiring from the ship to the various launching areas and make good nesting areas for wildlife at White Sands, N.M. He inspects the tunnels for water leaks and frayed wires as a result of the occasional rodent chewing on them.

Far Left – Members of *Desert Ship* prepare to install another VLS like those installed in a guided-missile destroyer.



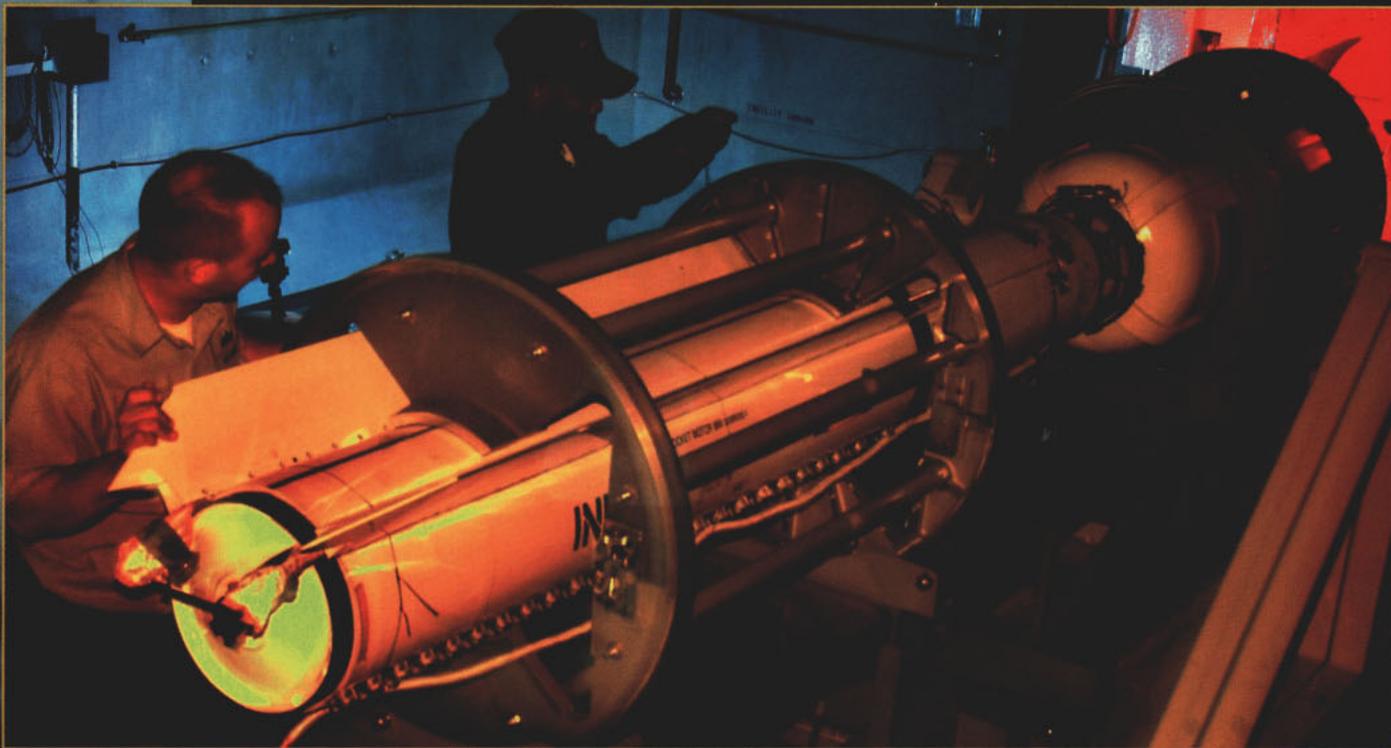
Above – FC1(SW) Eric Paschal and FC2 Brian Dodd make routine checks in the E area. This is the room where the fire control system computers and program launch radar are located and monitored during missile firings.

Center – A SM-2 Block IV missile is launched from the *Desert Ship* facility.

Far Right – GM2(SW) Jeffery Reichstein and GM2 Ronald Roberts prepare to put the fins on an MK IV missile.



Being A Desert Sailor



The Navy has been part of the test community at White Sands since the late 1940s, when Naval Activity White Sands was established to participate in the research and testing of captured German V-2 rockets. Today, the mission of Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division-White Sands includes land-based testing of naval surface weapon systems and launch operations for sub-orbital space systems and research rockets.

Desert Ship serves as a primary live-fire test bed for today's latest and greatest surface-to-air missile systems, including

the latest NATO *Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile (ESSM)*.

According to Master Chief Data Systems Technician (SW) Al Abbott, the command master chief of *Desert Ship*, "We can successfully integrate any form of weapons test into existing Navy systems here at America's range. Our specialty is surface-to-air missile systems, but we've also done work with the Extended-Range Guided Munitions gun program."

Desert Ship is continually being upgraded to meet live-fire testing

requirements for all versions of *Standard Missiles (SM)*, including *Land Attack Standard Missiles (LASM)* and *Aegis* variants of SM-1 and SM-2, *Sea Sparrow*, *Sea Lance* and *Vertical Launched Antisubmarine Rocket (VL ASROC)*. Also part of the Navy contingent at White Sands is the *Missile Assembly Facility (MAF)*. This is where many of the missiles are put together. Parts are brought in and a crew of eight gunner's mates builds these marvels of firepower.

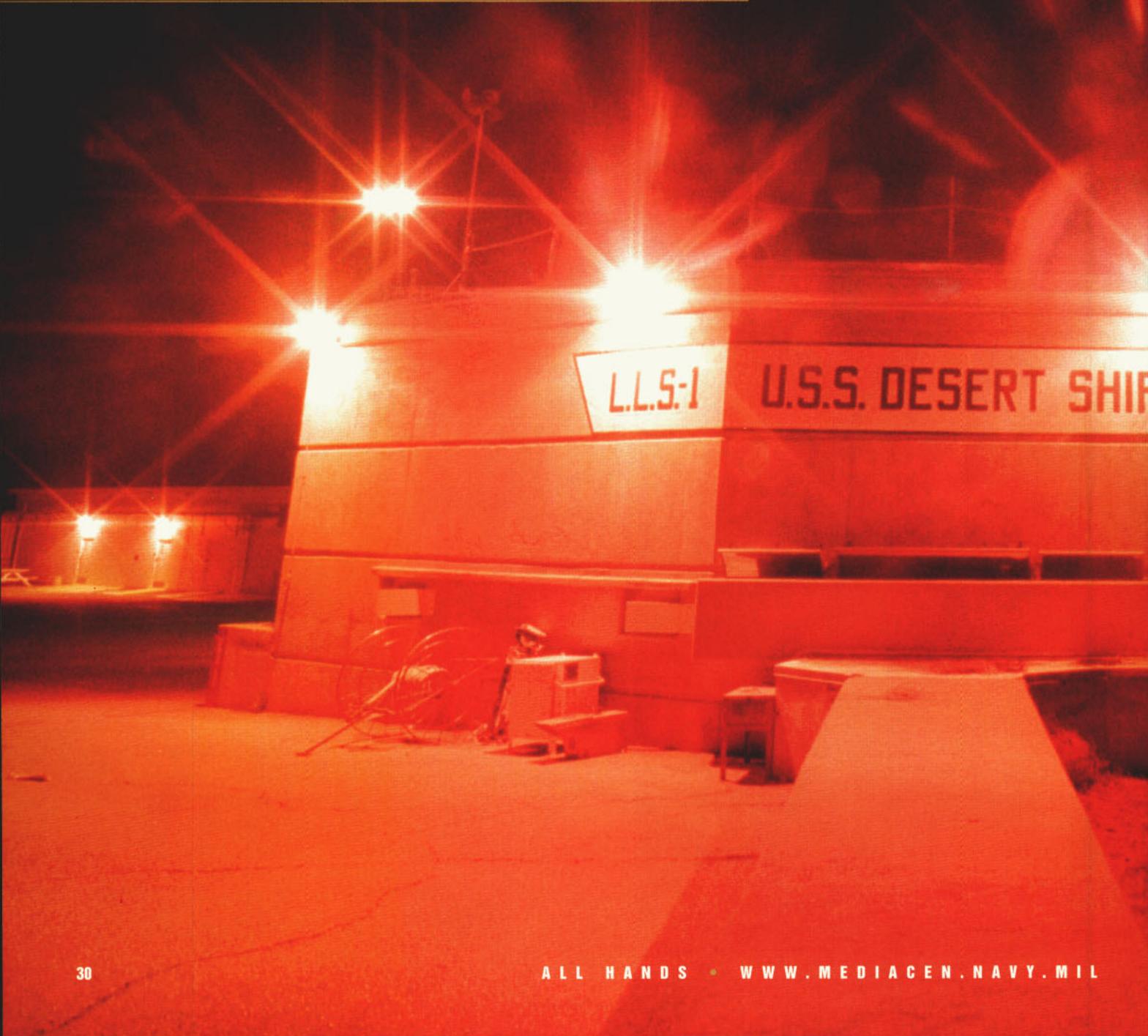
According to Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Ronald Roberts, a member of the MAF



Left – This large hangar is one of two missile assembly facilities used to test and build missiles to be fired from *Desert Ship*.

Center – The seclusion *Desert Ship* has from the rest of the world reminds us of any other naval ship at sea.

Far Right – GM2 Ronald Roberts consults a tech manual as two members of his team deftly guide a missile onto its rails.



Being A Desert Sailor

team, gunner's mates who work at the Missile Assembly Facility have a unique opportunity to learn and do things they might not be able to do anywhere else in the Navy.

There are a number of factors that keep the Navy in the desert of White Sands. First is location. White Sands is approximately 100 miles long and 40 miles wide, which provides for better safety and security. Second, is that everything needed for on-site assembly, integration and testing is all right there.

Third, is the wide variety of targets and scenarios with which to test. And last but not least, it's easier to locate a test and evaluation missile in the desert than to search for it on the ocean floor to determine further research and develop-



ment requirements.

"Our job is the test and evaluation of various missile systems in the most stringent environment to make sure it can withstand worst-case scenarios it could possibly see in the fleet," said Paschal.

For the men and women who work on *Desert Ship*, the "ocean" is brown and dry,

their "ship" is not sleek and it will never leave "port." Its armament, however, is state of the art, ensuring fleet readiness now and in the future. ☒

Ansarov is a San Diego-based photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

“YES, SIR,” echoes off the old brick walls followed promptly by, “No, Sir,” and “Aye, Sir!”

“Are you prior enlisted?” growls the candidate officer, staring right into the officer candidate’s eyes, just inches from his face and in a tone that could make anyone cringe and wonder what in the world made them think they could do this for 13 weeks.

Eyeing him with the curiosity of a three-year-old and wondering what is the best response to this, he sucks it in and says, “Sir?”

“Never mind. Continue,” shouts the candidate officer and the whole line of new officer candidates explodes into repetitions once again.

“Yes, Sir! No, Sir! No excuse, Sir! This indoctrination candidate does not have an answer, Sir,” pounds through the hall and catches the ears of the other officer candidates who have already been there for weeks, reminding them of days gone and thought to be behind them.



While at OCS, an officer candidate will soon forget the initial fear the drill instructor's wrath brought them. Ultimately, they will look at him as a mentor whose main goal is to ensure officer candidates develop attention to detail in everything they do and graduate as top-notch naval officers.



Physical training is paramount while at OCS where candidates run many miles a day for exercise and for company infractions such as lack of teamwork.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

“Their experience and confidence brings a valuable team-building spirit and example to those candidates with no prior military service.

“[Prior-enlisted Sailors] show those without the benefit of military experience that the demands of the course can be met. They also demonstrate that individual performance and teamwork are key to success in the military,” Kallio added.

“As the training progresses, priors often take on added responsibilities in the applied leadership phase, where they actually run the day-to-day operations of the seven to 10 concurrent classes comprising the regiment,” said Kallio. “Prior enlisted candidates help make OCS a cost-effective program by greatly accelerating the learning curve of all candidates. It’s synergy in action.”

This synergy is felt across the board and is evident in the way the officer candidates look to their prior-enlisted room-



mates and peers.

“Eric (Candidate Officer Sears) always maintained a calm disposition despite all of the stress. His evenness definitely rubbed off on me, and he always coordinated and led our study groups,” said Candidate Officer Jared Kennedy. “When we would go through the questions and answers in preparation for a test, Eric

Top Right – The scream is heard throughout the dining hall as officer candidates file in for chow. Each of the candidates sound off by number telling the chow hall how many will be eating and when the last candidate has entered the facility.

Middle Right – The robotic movements of officer candidates and their “thousand-mile stare” become second nature as they make their way through functions around school.

Bottom Right – Prior enlisted CTT1(SG) Eric Sears shows his roommate how to properly fold his socks for an upcoming locker inspection.

OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL (OCS) is a frenzy of information, where everything is new and taught from scratch — Navy terminology, military customs and traditions, even “Anchors Aweigh” and the “Navy Hymn” are sung so many times they become hard to forget. It’s a part of the Navy most people never see.

For the prior-enlisted Sailors who make up a significant portion of each incoming class, the intensity level and professionalism of the training comes as no surprise. They, along with civilians from all walks of life, have been flocking to Pensacola, Fla., where OCS is located aboard the Naval Air Station.

“About 30 percent of the typical OCS class consists of candidates with prior military service,” said CDR Bob Kallio, director of Officer Candidate School.

would explain the answers drawing from his eight years of Navy experience.”

The help Kennedy received is not uncommon throughout OCS. More and more prior-enlisted Sailors like Candidate Officer Eric Sears, a prior Cryptologic Technician 1st Class (SW), are progressing to the officer ranks and helping out other candidates on the way.

Things like Navy jargon, the rank structure and proper uniform etiquette may seem simple enough to the average Sailor, but for someone off the street, it's a whole new world that must be taken in quickly to succeed. This opportunity can be all too frightening if there isn't someone there to lend a helping hand.

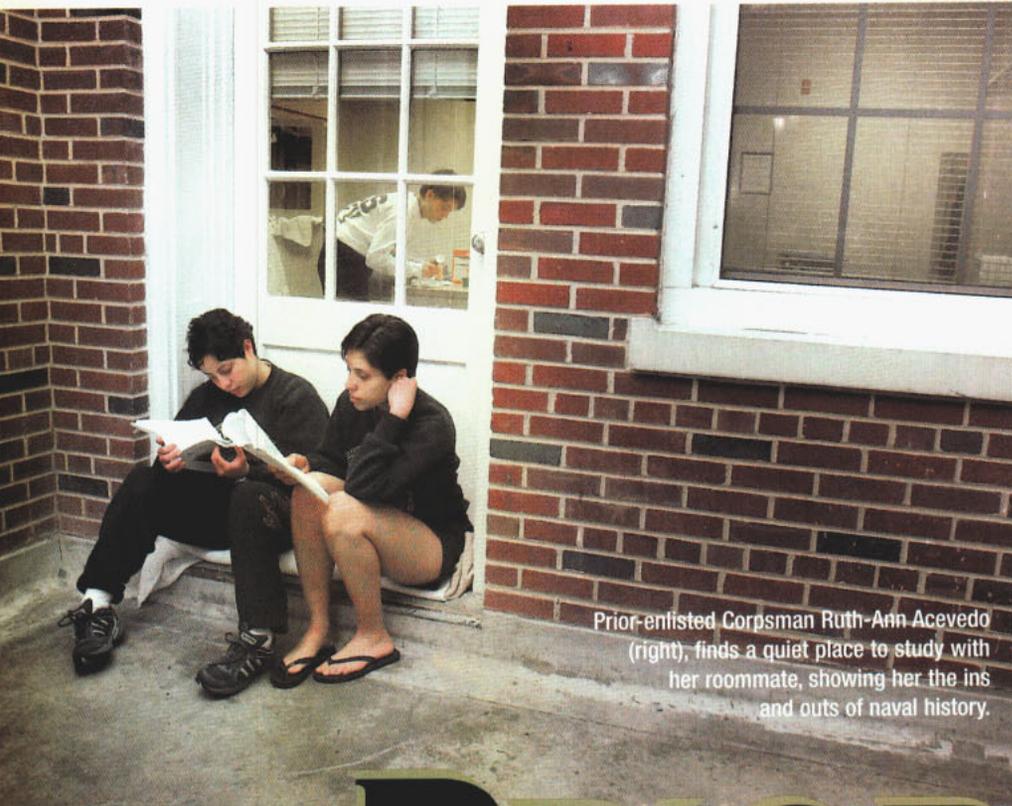
“The easiest thing here is that you already know how things work,” said Sears, who received his appointment to OCS after completing a bachelors of science degree in business administration. “The hardest thing is structuring your



time. Boot camp did that for me. Here, it's pretty much up to me to decide when I am going to shower, study or prepare for an inspection. You just can't let yourself get lazy.”

OCS is not unlike enlisted boot camp. It still requires individuals to learn about the Navy in a short amount of time, take on new responsibilities and perform





Prior-enlisted Corpsman Ruth-Ann Acevedo (right), finds a quiet place to study with her roommate, showing her the ins and outs of naval history.

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

After I got it, and had been here for a few weeks, I saw that there is really no way to prepare for this. Mentally you tell yourself that this will all be over soon.” One drawback to being prior enlisted is that the OCS staff naturally looks to those candidates, and expects them to be on top of everything.

“I remember going home for Christmas break and my husband had to ask me to slow down,” said Acevedo. “Your just in the mind frame of getting everything accomplished quickly. Using time management is crucial while here at OCS.”

“OCS is really fast-paced, but Acevedo took the time to explain things to me,” said Candidate Officer Laura Lopez. “She really helped me understand the rank structure and how to wear the uniform. Most importantly, she encouraged me to find the strength inside of myself to face my fears and overcome them. I saw her strength and I knew I could do it, too.”

Along with the studying comes the introduction and familiarization with military service customs courtesy of the infamous Marine Corps drill instructor (DI). This is the individual that Hollywood has painted a fearful face on and made many a candidate swear they made the wrong choice. That is until they get here and see that he, like everyone else at OCS, is here to help them and mold them into naval officers.

“I have seen several outstanding

Top Right – No one is allowed to sit down until the whole class has gotten their food and arrived at the table for chow. They use their spare time reviewing notes for tests or memorizing policy and standards for the school.

Middle Right – Prior enlisted CTT1(SG) Eric Sears, pushes his way through an afternoon PT session. Officer candidates are given a time limit in which to get their push-ups and sit-ups completed as a team.

Bottom Right – The first salute is a time-honored tradition for the new officers graduating from OCS. As new officers receive their first salutes, they give their drill instructor and company chief petty officer a silver dollar signifying their right of passage is complete.

under immense stress, just like the Great Lakes experience. This is what the prior-enlisted Sailor has over the college graduate off the street — the Sailor has already had similar training and through consistent, top-notch performance has earned the right to attend OCS.

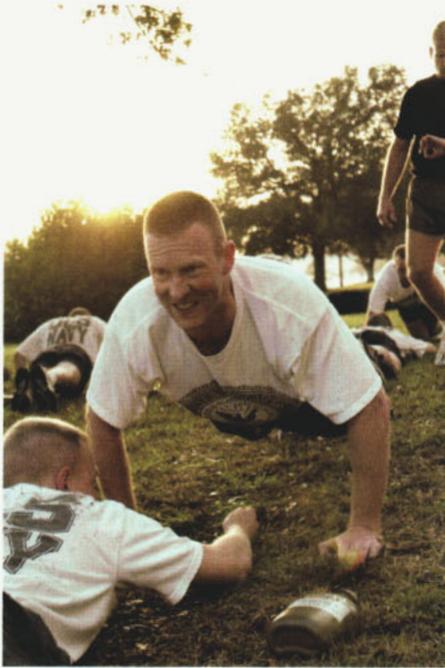
The 13-week OCS course has been designed by Navy officers and educators to give an individual a basic working knowledge of the high-tech naval establishment afloat and ashore, to prepare that individual to assume the responsibilities of a naval officer and begin developing them to their full potential.

“This place is a lot tougher than I thought it was going to be,” said former Hospital Corpsman Ruth-Ann Acevedo, a candidate officer in her ninth week of training. “I came in with a degree in biology and then decided to try for OCS.



[prior-enlisted Sailors] come through OCS who have greatly contributed to the overall success of their class,” said Gunnery Sgt. Donovan White, a drill instructor at OCS. “In my observation, most [prior-enlisted Sailors] are here to serve and to make a positive impact in their Navy. I have seen some report here with an incredible amount of organizational insight and exceptional leadership skills. These qualities are vital to developing cohesion and teamwork within the class.”

Military training includes room and uniform inspections. Candidates also spend approximately 98 hours learning



and practicing drill movements.

Even those hours spent learning to “march” ultimately play a key role in graduation, which begins with the ceremonial parade, or “Pass in Review.” This carefully planned and executed evolution is the culmination of 13 weeks at OCS and the beginning of many new careers — and a career extension for a few proud priors. Want to be one? Talk to your career counselor or check out www.navyjobs.com. ☒

Watson is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

Baby Boot Camp

“Eight ... Nine ... 10 ...
OK. Now breathe! You’re
doing so good, Honey,”

he says to his wife in the delivery
room at Balboa Naval Medical
Center. “SHUT UP!” she screams in
reply as she tries to push out their
8-pound, 14-ounce baby boy.

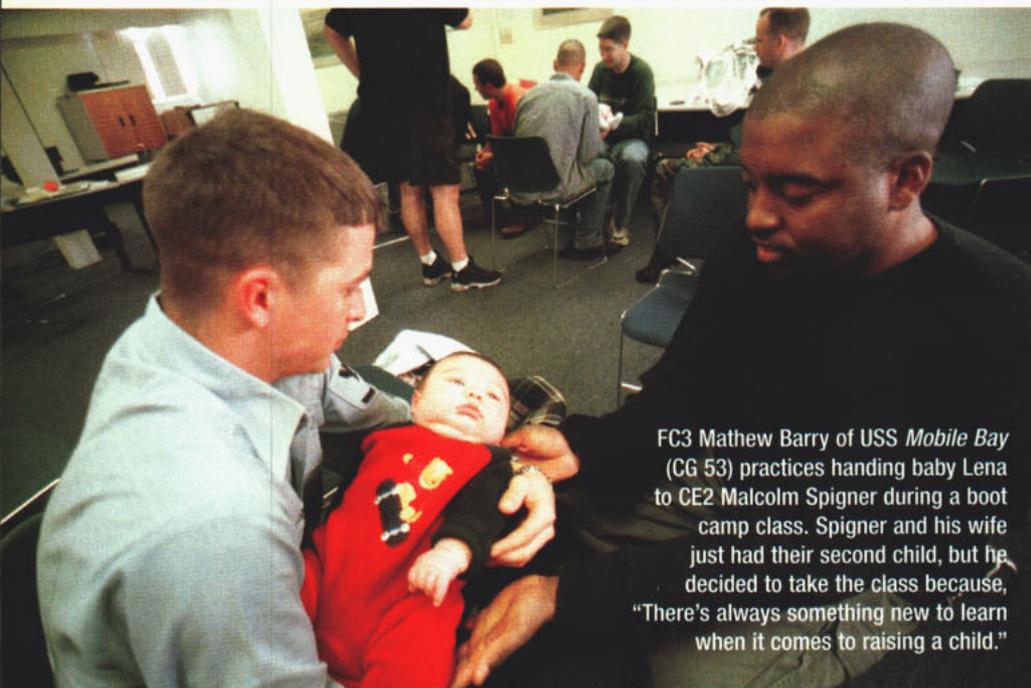
for New Dads



Five-month-old Elizabeth Lewis, daughter of LTJG Matt Lewis, of USS *Kinkaid* (DD 965), enjoys her teething ring as dads-to-be discuss what will be happening to them in the next few months – fatherhood.

Baby Boot Camp

for New Dads



FC3 Mathew Barry of USS *Mobile Bay* (CG 53) practices handing baby Lena to CE2 Malcolm Spigner during a boot camp class. Spigner and his wife just had their second child, but he decided to take the class because, "There's always something new to learn when it comes to raising a child."

He has it easy. Just count to 10 for her while she holds her breath and pushes during contractions. Maybe he'll give a few words of kindness and confidence every now and then to show her he cares about her pain; the whole ordeal will be over before they know it – if he's lucky.

But that's just the delivery. Now comes the real fun.

He is about to enter the next level in his life – parenthood. But where's the instruction manual? Where's the 1-800 help line? Where are the answers to all the questions a new dad has about raising a baby?

New moms seem to get their advice from everyone – friends and relatives, nurses and doctors, even strangers on the street who pass along their little tidbits of

info. But for new dads, they are left pretty high and dry.

They browse the Internet, watch TV, even sneak behind the wife's back to read books such as, "What to Expect When

Expecting," but there's still something missing.

"I've been reading a ton of books," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Earnald Ongsioco of San Diego Naval Base. "The books help a little, but as far as babies are concerned, it's hands-on that works best."

Maybe it's a guy thing, maybe not, but it's kind of difficult and embarrassing to ask your wife why green stuff is dripping down the little one's leg, or better yet, how to put that new fandangled outfit on the baby – just how many holes and snaps can one baby suit have?

That's when the "Boot Camp for New Dads" comes in. No, it's not a bunch of scared men being dropped to do push-ups if they don't get the diaper on right. Nor do the dads-to-be get cycled out for not getting perfect creases in the baby's one-piece. It's a growing program at more than 100 sites in 34 states, dedicated to helping rookie fathers get together with veteran dads and discuss issues and concerns about the strange

Top – Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Edwin O. Cotto, assigned to Camp Pendleton, Calif., holds a baby for the first time at the baby boot camp. This program is a very "hands-on" environment for dads-to-be. Here, they find out what holding a baby is like before they actually hold their own child.

Right – One of the basic safety tools discussed at the boot camp is the use of a simple toilet paper roll. "If anything you find laying around the house will fit through this tube, then it will fit in a child's mouth and cause that child to choke," said BMC Harold Heatley, the father of four boys and a class instructor.



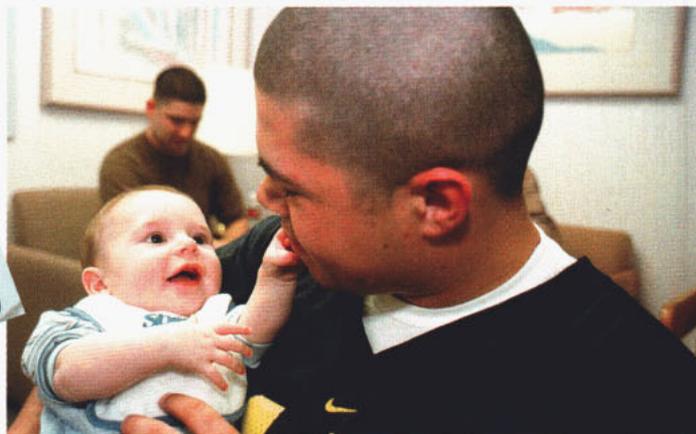
A high-angle photograph of a baby sitting in a white bouncer on a grey carpet. The baby is wearing a light blue jumpsuit with a pocket and white sneakers. The bouncer is surrounded by the legs and feet of several people sitting on chairs or the floor. The scene is lit from above, creating a bright spot on the carpet around the baby. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

New moms seem to get their **advice from everyone** — friends and relatives, nurses and doctors, even strangers on the street who pass along their little tidbits of info. **But for new dads**, they are left **pretty high and dry.**

Baby James Edward Kekoa Scherer waits patiently as the class decides who's going to volunteer to change the dreaded dirty diaper.

Baby Boot Camp

for New Dads



new world of parenthood.

Veteran dads bring their babies into classrooms at various fleet family service centers for a three-hour focus group on being the best dad possible. "There's no topic we won't discuss here," said Chief Boatswain's Mate Harold Heatley, an instructor for the class. "I've attended four classes and instructed two, and I wish I had this class back when I had my first kids."

The floor is open at the boot camp. Any question a father-to-be would want to ask can be answered here. All kinds of advice from preparing for the in-laws to getting enough sleep at night.

This class gives a feel for what is about to change or has changed at home, and all in an effort to keep everything at a man-to-man level. There are no uniforms to distinguish rank, and there are no females allowed (except for the ones in diapers).

Most new fathers have never held a baby before let alone changed a diaper, yet here they are about to start doing it at least several times a day for the next couple of years. On top of that, studies show that the first six weeks of a baby's life are the most trying for parents. It can be a very stressful and embarrassing time for some men.

For some, being a father comes very naturally. They've grown up with younger siblings or have been around babies enough to know what's expected. Other men don't have it as easy. Work-related stress, a broken-down car combined with the added expense of diapers, sleepless

Web Sites of Interest to Expectant & New Dads...

www.newdads.com

The official Boot Camp for New Dads web site.

www.cpsc.gov

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission – Recalls and information on all consumer products. It also has a special infant and child product section.

www.aap.org

American Academy of Pediatrics. Health and Safety.

www.safekids.org

National SAFE KIDS Campaign site. The National SAFE KIDS Campaign is the first and only organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional childhood injury – the No. 1 killer of children ages 14 and under.

www.daads.com

The Dads at a Distance web site has been designed to help fathers who are business travelers, military men, non-custodial fathers, etc., to maintain and strengthen the relationships they have with their children while they are away.

www.fathersfirst.org

Fathering for the new millennium. Mission is to provide parenting, relationship and fathering solutions to all fathers – whether married, single, divorced or widowed.

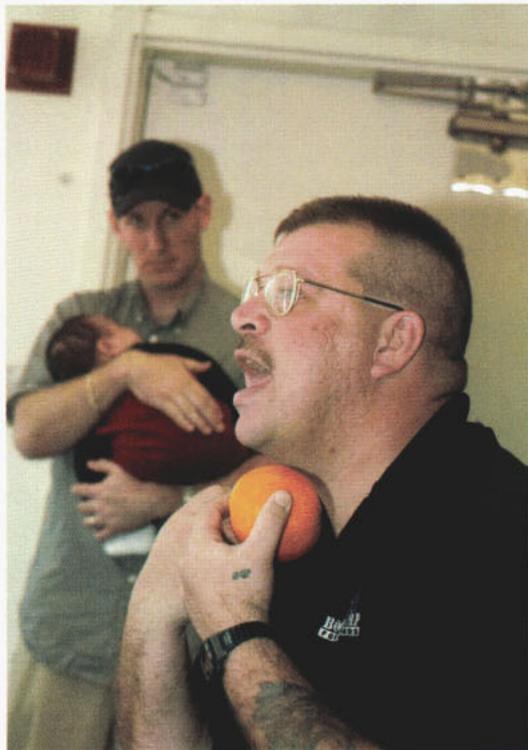
www.ymcacrs.org

YMCA Child Resource Service. Assisting families in finding quality child care, educating parents as consumers of child care services, assisting income-eligible families with child care costs.

www.thebabycorner.com

Find info on everything from how to trim your baby's fingernails to child development to reports on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and product recalls.

Most new fathers have never held a baby before let alone changed a diaper, and yet here they are about to start doing it at least several times a day for the next couple of years.



Top Left – Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Damian Lawrence, from Camp Pendleton, Calif., gets a warm “hello” from baby James Scherrer, son of HM1(SW) Brian Scherrer, from Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego.

Above – Elizabeth Lewis, the 5-month-old daughter of LTJG Matt Lewis assigned to USS *Kinkaid* (DD 965), becomes an example for dads-to-be on how to properly change a diaper.

Left – BMC Harold Heatley, from Chief Master at Arms at Naval Air Station North Island talks to dads-to-be about choking hazards and the danger to babies. More than 90 percent of deaths from choking are in the pediatric age bracket (younger than 5), and 65 percent of those are among infants.

nights, a post-partum wife and a sick baby – can all add up to a dysfunctional situation. One of the major points discussed at the boot camp is how to deal with these frustrations, and how to not bring them home to your new family.

No matter what happens, being a parent is not something that will come and go. It is a change for life, and every father should take appropriate steps to make it the best time for his child and his family – even if it means going back to boot camp. ☒

Ansarov is a San Diego-based journalist for All Hands.

KEEPING UNINTERRUPTED

Story and Photo by JO1 Preston Keres

They liken their responsibilities to that of the local cable company, Internet server, telephone service and every other communication system in modern-day society. As a matter of fact, all of the services that we take for granted at home much of the time are all handled by one command.

The Sailors at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Stations (NCTAMS) are responsible for providing continuous global and universal communication services to fleet units, shore activities and joint forces. And just like at home, if these services aren't provided 24 hours a day, every day of the year, there are some unhappy customers in the fleet.

There are three NCTAMS commands with various detachments, each of which is responsible for, but not limited to, one-third of the Navy's communications systems every minute of the day. And if one of these commands should suffer a catastrophe, the others are capable of picking up the slack to ensure continuous service.

It's young Sailors like Information Systems Technician 3rd

Class Samary Benaberodriquez, from Luquillo, Puerto Rico, whose duties as a work center supervisor at NCTAMS Atlantic, in Norfolk, make her, and the others assigned to the command, responsible for manning the center 24/7 and keeping us – the customers – happy with the service we get.

“The Navy operates around the world all hours of the day, so it's important to provide the mission critical message traffic and communications to ensure fleet readiness,” said Benaberodriquez. “We're like the spinal cord to the Navy in the Atlantic. Without us, the rest of the Navy won't get the messages to function properly when they need them.”

Whether the fleet is deployed or pierside, they don't slow down. And just like the local civilian communication services upon which we have come to depend, the services of NCTAMS, are equally important to the U. S. Navy, and are expected to be available at the push of a button. ☒

Keres is a photojournalist assigned to All Hands.

A woman with glasses and a dark uniform stands in a room filled with electronic equipment. The uniform features a crest with an eagle and a shield. The background is filled with racks of electronic devices, some with labels like '167' and '77'.

UNITED COMMS

Eye on the Fleet

EYE ON THE FLEET

is a monthly photo feature sponsored by

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in the fleet to showcase the American Sailor in **ACTION.**



FIRE AND WATER

UT2 Martin J. Stacy uses a Broco underwater cutting torch to cut through a steel reinforcing bar during the reconstruction of a pier piling in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Photo by PH1 Eric J. Tilford

SINKING SHIP

LT Marc Demanigold, attached to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 3, secures the detonation line to explosives for the sinking of a junked boat 12 miles off the coast of San Diego. The EOD SINKEX evolution is designed to assist the San Diego Harbor Police clean up and rid the harbor of junk ships and wrecks.

Photo by PH3 Jennifer A. Smith





KNIGHT'S LANDING

ABH3 Adam Lewis and ABH3 Janice Cain direct the landing of a CH-46D *Sea Knight* helicopter on the flight deck of USS *Essex* (LHD 2) for Deck Landing Qualifications during Blue-Green work-ups in preparation for the 56th Iwo Jima Commemoration.

Photo by PH3 James Davis



A PRIME COMMISSIONING

Andrew Brow, of Bowie, Md., studies the commissioning book of USS *Winston S. Churchill* (DDG 81) while he and his father wait for the ship's commissioning ceremony to begin. "I can't wait to go aboard," he said, excited to be at his first ship commissioning. The ceremony was held at Town Point Park, Norfolk. *Winston S. Churchill* is the fifth ship in U.S. history to honor the name of a foreign dignitary and the first to honor Sir Winston Churchill, former Prime Minister of Great Britain.

Photo by PHC Dolores L. Parlato



CAPT IN A HAT

"The Cat in the Hat;" Jean Bankos, president of the Virginia Education Association; and CAPT David R. Bryant, commanding officer of USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) spend time with 700 local school children reading *Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss. "Read Across America Day" is a day dedicated to teaching children that reading is fun.

Photo by PH1 Eric A. Clement

TO BE CONSIDERED

forward your high resolution (5"x7" at 300 dpi) 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.

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Belay My Last

By JOCS(AW) Dave Desilets

How do we communicate with today's most junior Sailors? I suppose I should know. I mean, our target audience here at *All Hands* magazine is the 18-to-24 year-old first-term enlisted Sailor. And we make every effort to appeal to our newest shipmates.

But what is their real language? I raise this, as a senior chief and department LCPO, because I often talk to my junior people, and I recently told one of them that the generation gap seems more and more apparent as the days and years go by. Granted, the salt in my veins is growing older and harder by the minute.

So what is the lingo of this new generation, Generation Y – those folks born between 1978 and 1995, according to *American Demographics* (Oct. 2000)? I was listening to a local morning radio show, which addressed this same subject, and they actually said, “cool” is making a comeback; one word down, cool. What are some others?

According to the same radio show and confirmed on the web at www.slangsite.com, right up there in describing something really cool is “rushmore,” the one perfect thing. Junior Sailors should be raving about their Navy experience in terms of it being a total rushmore.

Even before Generation Y Sailors enter the Navy, they hear about our great sea service from a recruiter. So, I thought whom better to tell me how to connect with today's youth than a Navy recruiter. In talking to BM1(SW) Brian Cissell, of Navy Recruiting Station Tacoma Mall in Washington State, he said it's all about listening and respect.

“You have to listen to them and show them respect first,” said Cissell, recognized as the nation's most improved Navy recruiter and a three-year veteran at the difficult job. Known in the Tacoma-area high schools as “Boats,” he added, “They just

want to talk and be heard.”

But according to Boats, Gen Yers don't necessarily want to be talked to at length, nor do they want you to know their lingo. He said if you start lecturing or preaching you get the hand sign – mimicking a talking mouth as to say, “yak, yak, yak.”

Cissell stated that today's youth are very guarded about their subculture. While he says some of the slang he hears is reminiscent of the 70s, hence cool, they keep much of their language to themselves. “When I approach a group, they'll say, ‘keep it on the down low,’ to protect their slang from outsiders.” He said it's much easier to know what isn't in, noting that “dis” and “phat” are definitely out and that the “L” on the forehead is yesterday's gesture. “If you do that, you are a loser.”

Cissell asked some of his DEPers, who are scheduled to enter boot camp under the buddy system on the 29th of this month, to share a sample of their somewhat esoteric language. Prospective Airmen Damita Moorehead and Danielle Davis and prospective Seaman Charlene

Slaton offered the above tidbits of valuable Y communiqué.

Of course, non-Gen Yers can't really use this with any kind of authority. “You can't fake it. You have to be genuine,” remarked Cissell, who said you have to earn their acceptance the hard way – over time.

I guess that brings us back to the beginning – that there is no easy route or short answer to bridge the generation gap between our sharp young Sailors and old salts like me. At least, in the Navy, we have a common bond of communication through the use of sea jargon that originates from the days of John Paul Jones ... “Ahoy,” “avast matey” and “heave out and lash up.”

But then again, how often do you hear that any more? ☒

Desilets is the LCPO and managing editor for All Hands.

Y Speak

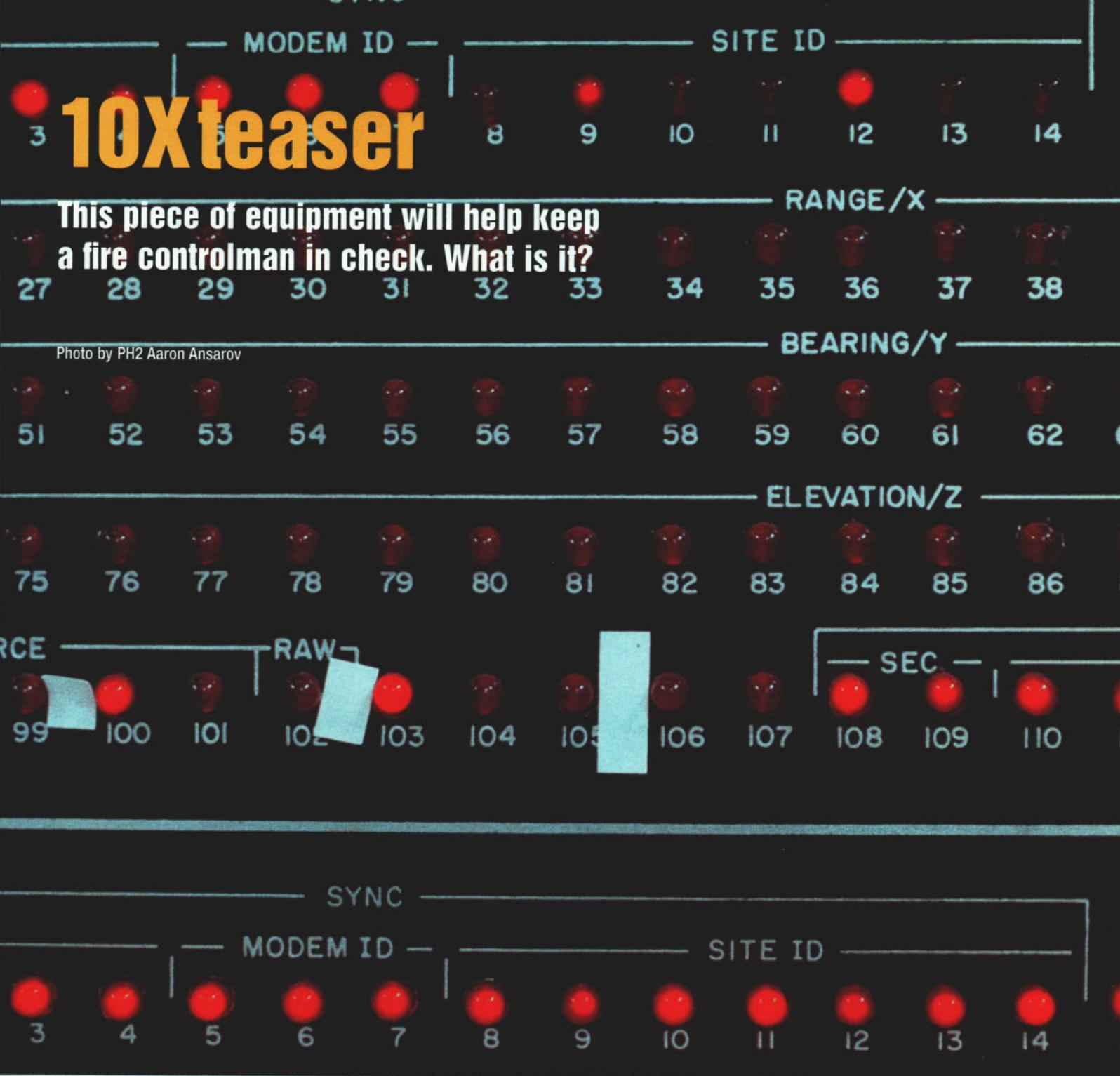
Translation

My bad	Oops
Wussup	Hi
Illin'	Feeling OK
Hanging	Being with your friends
Disrespecting	Being rude
Foo	Fool (replaces L on the forehead)
Huh?	What?
“G”	Cool friend
Fo scheezee	For sure (replacing the old Valley Girl expression – “Fer sure”)

10Xteaser

This piece of equipment will help keep a fire controlman in check. What is it?

Photo by PH2 Aaron Ansarov



Last Month's Answer:



A snare wire used by the class at Cold Weather Environmental Survival Training (CWEST) to trap the food they need to survive the harsh elements of the North.

Photo by PH2 Bob Houlihan

Go to our web site at www.mediacen.navy.mil or wait for next month's inside back cover to learn the answer...

ATAN Shonda McGowan

Been in 1.5 years.

New Mom.

Will have
medical and dental
benefits while
Mom and Dad
stay Navy.

AW3(SAR) Jabin McGowan

Been in 1.5 years.

New Dad.

Baby
Karimah Kiara McGowan
3 days old.

“We’re staying.”

www.staynavy.navy.mil