

# Captain's Call Kit

Fall 1999



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CCK articles may be easily copied for posting on command bulletin boards. Articles may also be used for Plans of the Day, Captain's Call, SITE-TV, the command newspaper or reading and reference purposes. This quarter's articles include the following:

If you have any suggestions or comments for articles or ways to improve CCK, please write, call or fax a comment to:

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Captain's Call Kit, Fall 1999



## ***Force Health Protection benefits Sailors and Marines***

The term Force Health Protection (FHP) may not be a part of every Sailor and Marine's vocabulary, but it's a concept that's helping them achieve and sustain optimal health and readiness.

Three scenarios represent examples of FHP at work.

**Scenario one:** A Sailor passes overseas screening after his blood pressure and weight are lowered through his participation in his command's physical fitness and health promotion programs.

**Scenario two:** A team of Navy SEALs receives immunizations to protect them against various diseases before deploying to a region where the threat of disease is high.

**Scenario three:** In a future combat situation, a hospital corpsman wraps an injured Marine's wounds with a special bandage that will stop bleeding and accelerate healing time.

FHP is the military's strategy to maintain the health and readiness of military personnel throughout their careers. It's based upon the three principles reflected in the above scenarios respectively: a healthy and fit force, casualty prevention, and casualty care and management.

Because people are the most valuable and most complex "weapon system" in the U.S. military inventory, it's vital that we have an able fighting force. It's no secret physically fit and healthy Sailors and Marines have more physical and mental stamina — critical factors that save lives when moments count. TRICARE managed health care and command programs such as stress management, weight loss/fitness training and tobacco use cessation, all contribute to FHP's first principle of a healthy and fit force.

Casualty prevention concentrates on countering two types of threats. The first threat, environmental and health hazards, is a complex assortment of factors that combine to form the largest number of military casualties — those caused by disease and non-battle injuries. The vaccinations given to the SEALs in the second scenario is an example of a casualty prevention measure to protect against this type of threat.

The second threat is the one posed directly by the enemy and can produce far more serious casualties. An example of protection against this type of threat is the DOD Anthrax Vaccination Program, which is designed to prevent mass casualties due to exposure to weaponized anthrax, a deadly disease.

The third principle of FHP, casualty care and management, evolved through military medical researchers' development of technologies and products, such as the special wound-healing bandage in the third scenario, for treating battle-related injuries or illnesses. As science and technology improves, the military will continue to develop lighter, faster and more responsive capabilities to provide the essential care needed to stabilize a wounded service member in theater and rapidly evacuate him to more comprehensive care.

There are numerous other examples of these three FHP principles at work and the ways they benefit Sailors and Marines. FHP broadens and deepens the relationship between military medicine and the fighting force it serves. Whether Sailors and Marines can define the concept or not, FHP is already a part of their lives and will continue to keep them healthy and ready throughout their careers.



## ***O-3s and O-4s continuation policy revised***

Lieutenant commanders and some lieutenants who have been passed over twice by a selection board may still have a shot at staying on active duty and even getting that promotion, based on a policy change announced in NAVADMIN 223/99.

NAVADMIN 223/99 announces the Navy's FY00 officer continuation policy and reaffirms the Navy's interest in retaining qualified regular officers to retirement eligibility as the foundation of the continuation policy.

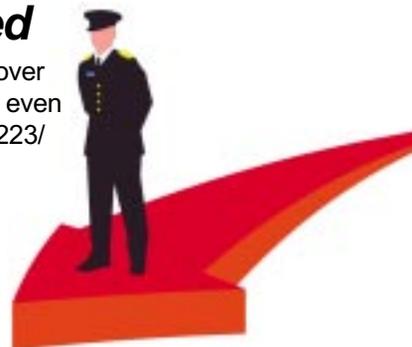
Continued active-duty service will be offered to those regular officers selected for continuation, primarily lieutenant commanders who have twice failed for selection to commander (2xfos LCDR) and are fully qualified to remain on active duty to reach retirement eligibility. Also, 2xfos lieutenants in the aviation, surface warfare and submarine communities will be considered for continuation. This is due to low retention and critical manning shortfalls. Medical Corps and Nurse Corps 2xfos lieutenants will also be considered for continuation due to their special skill requirements.

Although temporary early retirement (TERA) is authorized by statute through FY01, the Navy currently has no plans to authorize early retirement in any officer community, according to community planners.

The FY00 continuation boards will be convened in the fourth quarter of this year to consider all eligible regular officers. Officers selected for continuation will be notified by letter and must either accept or decline continuation on active duty.

Eligible officers will automatically be considered by the board, and as long as an officer is on active duty, his or her record will be considered for promotion boards. Questions regarding continuation should be directed to PERS 813 (Officer Separations) at DSN 882-3194/3195 or (901) 874-3194/3195.

For more information, see NAVADMIN 223/99, available on the Internet at [www.bupers.navy.mil](http://www.bupers.navy.mil) under the messages section.



## ***No Selective Early Retirements scheduled for FY00***

The days of Selective Early Retirement (SER) are over, according to officials in the Office of the Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP).

During the last few years, when Navy personnel numbers were falling, many officers came to dread the announcement of the SER boards. The SER program previously screened eligible officers for early retirement. Now, with the drawdown complete, no SER actions are planned for FY00.

"The SER process is a force shaping tool that was included in the Defense Officer Personnel Management Act (DOPMA) in 1980," said CAPT Lane Willson, head of officer policy for CNP. "It was included to help officials manage the number of officers within any respective community. Chief warrant officers, lieutenant commanders, commanders and captains with at least two years time in grade were eligible for involuntary retirement under the program."

Although the program has been approved for use since 1980, the Navy didn't conduct its first SER boards until FY91. Since then the boards have occurred every year, with a total of 2,537 officers retiring under the program. This year will be the first

time in nine fiscal years SER has not been needed to help shape the officer force.

"SER boards are also necessary to help maintain healthy flow points in the various officer communities," Willson added. Flow points are the average time in service for officers being promoted to a specific rank. For example, unrestricted line officers can expect to be promoted to lieutenant commander with 10 years and one month of service, to commander with 15 years and two months, and to captain with 21 years, four months of service.

"With the drawdown over and the Navy maintaining a force level that is relatively stable, we can use a combination of increased accessions and increased retention to achieve a healthy balance in our officer communities," Willson said.

"DOPMA authority for SER remains," added Willson, "and we may need to use it again if there is excessively high retention in the upper ranks of some communities. But, there are no plans to convene any SER boards in the near future."

## ***Policy revised for Naval Reserve officer resignations***

The policy governing the procedures for Naval Reserve officers requesting voluntary release from active duty (RAD) has been revised and will become effective Jan. 1, 2000.

The change is intended to preserve Reserve officers' rights for release from active duty upon completion of their minimum service requirement (MSR) and any obligated service in addition to MSR. It is also intended to make timing of the request for RAD consistent with the one applicable to resignation requests for regular officers.

As of Jan. 1, 2000, any Naval Reserve officer on the active-duty list (ADL) (designation XXX5) desiring RAD at or beyond expiration of MSR plus any additional obligated service, must notify the Chief of Naval Personnel (CNP) by letter at least nine months, but not more than 12 months prior to the month RAD is desired. This applies to all Naval Reserve officers on the ADL, including officers recalled to active duty from an inactive status.

If officers request RAD less than nine months before their requested release date, they may be retained up to nine months from the date the request is received to identify a relief.

Requests for extension on active duty beyond MSRs are no longer required for

Naval Reserve officers. If an RAD request isn't received prior to the first day of the sixth month before the month of an officer's projected rotation date (PRD), it will be understood the officer requests to be retained beyond MSR. The officer can then be issued orders and will be obligated to no less than a minimum tour for separation at his or her next duty station.



If an officer's minimum service requirement extends beyond his or her current PRD, a letter of intent may be submitted to notify CNP that the officer does not wish to remain on active duty beyond his or her minimum service requirement. If received at least six months prior to PRD, a letter of

intent will stop an issuance of orders that would obligate the officer for service beyond minimum service requirement. The officer must still file an RAD request nine to 12 months prior to MSR.

Applicable sections of the Military Personnel Manual and the Officer Transfer Manual are under revision to reflect this policy change. Questions regarding specific application of this policy for individual officers should be addressed directly to their detailers. For additional information see NAVADMIN 216/99 located at [www.bupers.navy.mil](http://www.bupers.navy.mil) under the message section.

# CNO approves uniform changes

The Chief of Naval Operations, ADM Jay L. Johnson, has approved revisions to Navy uniforms.

Modesty liners that extend to the bottom of the pockets are approved for all women's summer white (belted), 100 percent polyester (Certified Navy Twill) slacks, and E-6 and below women's service dress white (jumper) slacks.

Unlined 100 percent polyester (Certified Navy Twill) white slacks will be phased out Oct. 1, 2001.

Anodized (highly polished) gold buttons are approved for phase-in on officer and chief petty officer service dress coats, dinner dress (mess) jackets, overcoats, reefers, waistcoats and combination hats.

Non-anodized (flat finish) gold buttons will not have a phase-out date. Personnel may continue to wear non-anodized gold buttons as long as they are serviceable. All buttons on a given uniform component must have the same finish (excluding hard shoulder boards for officers).

Anodized gold button replacement kits, for optional wear, are available in local Navy Exchange uniform shops or by calling the Navy/Marine Corps Uniform Support Center (1-800-368-4088).

The polyester/cotton fabric (working khaki) for service khakis will be discontinued. Effective Oct. 1, 1999, khaki uniforms made of polyester cotton may be worn only as working khaki (no ribbons). This excludes maternity uniforms. Polyester wool uniforms may be retained.

Effective immediately, command ball caps are approved for optional wear with service uniforms (service khakis, summer white and winter blue) onboard and pierside in the immediate vicinity of the ship, and ashore in the immediate workspaces. Command ball caps are not authorized for wear with service uniforms, other than what is prescribed above.

A new textured polyester Navy blue (black in appearance) uniform is approved for phase-in for the service dress blue maternity uniform. The replacement fabric is spun textured polyester, a plain weave known as comfort fiber. The current service dress blue maternity uniform will not have a phase-out date. Personnel may continue to wear the service dress blue maternity uniform in the current fabric as long as it is serviceable. Mixing of the fabrics is not authorized. The new uniform will be available Oct. 1, 2000, for optional wear.

For more information, see U.S. Navy Uniform Regulations NAVPERS 15665.



## *General Detail Sailors get duty preference*

New procedures for submission of availabilities used to request orders for all General Detail (GENDET) personnel are effective immediately.

Each GENDET Sailor will have the opportunity to express preferences for duty assignment and GENDET detailers will make every effort to honor each member's choice. Historically, the Navy has not accommodated duty preferences for the majority of GENDET Sailors.

For additional information, contact Mr. Grant A. Lindsley, Enlisted Personnel Management Assignment Center (EPMAC) Code 70 at (504) 678-1432 or Mr. Walt Cleighton, EPMAC Code 70A at (504) 678-1704. More information is available in NAVADMIN 214/99 at [www.bupers.navy.mil](http://www.bupers.navy.mil).

## Website looks at DOD Childcare

The DOD Child Development System aims to accommodate the youngest members of the military community by providing quality, affordable child care for infants, toddlers and school-age children.

To learn more about childcare in DOD, visit the American Forces Information Service Web site "Formula, Fatigues, Diapers and Duty" at [www.defenseLink.mil](http://www.defenseLink.mil).



## 1999-2000 child care fee increase

Fees at military child care facilities will increase by about 1.6 percent for the 1999-2000 school year, DOD officials announced June 29, 1999.

Depending on their total family income, DOD families will pay \$39 to \$114 per child per week during the coming school year. This represents a weekly increase of \$1 to \$3 per child.

Family policy officials review child care fees annually. Based on this review, DOD plans to adjust its fees using the inflation rate of 1.6 percent included in the president's FY00 budget, according to Carolee Van Horn, a Family Policy Office specialist here.

The fee covers only a portion of the actual cost of child care, Van Horn said. Appropriated funds authorized by Congress pay the remainder.

"Regardless of income, all parents receive some subsidy since the government pays a portion of the cost for all," she said.

DOD views child care as critical to overall mission accomplishment, according to Linda Smith, Office of Family Policy director. "The mobile military lifestyle can be stressful for young families," she said. "On average, military families move every 2.9 years. They do not have the stability of neighbors or nearby family to help them with child-care responsibilities."

Increased deployments and separations make military life even more demanding, Smith said. "By providing child care, we are helping military members balance the competing demands of the military mission and family responsibilities. We strongly believe this contributes to readiness and the retention of a highly-skilled work force."

In 1998, Van Horn pointed out, the average DOD weekly fee was \$70. For that, a child received up to 11 hours of care, breakfast, lunch and two snacks each day. Nationally, the average weekly fee for comparable center care ranges from \$100 for infants to \$85 for pre-schoolers.

Installation commanders set fees within ranges established by DOD. They can adjust fees within the range based on local cost-of-living conditions, Van Horn said. Commanders can also use an optional high-cost fee range if qualified child care providers earn higher wages in the local labor market, she added.

Installation child development centers may begin charging the following fees anytime between Aug. 1 and Oct. 1, 1999.

Category	Total Family Income	Range of Weekly Fees Per Child	Optional High Cost Range
I	\$0-\$23,000	\$ 39 - \$ 53	\$ 44 - \$ 56
II	\$23,001-\$34,000	\$ 50 - \$ 64	\$ 55 - \$ 68
III	\$34,001-\$44,000	\$ 61 - \$ 76	\$ 67 - \$ 82
IV	\$44,001-\$55,000	\$ 74 - \$ 87	\$ 80 - \$ 93
V	\$55,001-\$69,999	\$ 89 - \$ 100	\$ 92 - \$ 104
VI	\$70,000+	\$ 102 - \$ 114	\$ 103 - \$ 116

Commanders may offer a 20 percent fee discount for each additional child from the same family. Hardship waivers may be granted for families in unique financial circumstances.

# *Naval Home*

## *- a tradition of caring*

Taking care of our own has been Navy standard operating procedure for almost as long as there has been a Navy. The U.S. Naval Home, a part of the Armed Forces Retirement Home System, is a living example of that ideal.

The Naval Home was established by an act of Congress in 1811 authorizing the commissioners of Navy hospitals to provide a permanent home for disabled naval officers, seamen and mariners.

In 1834, the original Naval home opened as a naval command in Philadelphia on land originally owned by the family of William Penn. It is the oldest continuously-operating retirement community in the United States.

The Naval Home remained in Philadelphia for 142 years and moved to its present location in Gulfport, Miss., in 1976 after it was determined the Philadelphia facility could not be economically expanded and modernized.

The initial sources for the Naval Home's funding from its inception until the early 20th century came from two funds, the Naval Pension Fund and the Navy Hospital Fund. These two funds received money from a number of sources, such as a monthly pay contribution of 20 cents per month from officers, seamen and Marines specifically for the relief of seamen (established in 1799, this is one of the earliest examples of "taking care of our own"); deposits from the sale of "prizes of war;" and fines and penalties imposed on persons in the Navy.

Congress abolished the Naval Pension Fund in 1935, which at that point was the sole source of funding



*Social worker, Mary Thornton, assists retired Sailors during meal times.*

*Photo by PH2 Jim Watson*

for the Naval Home, and deposited the proceeds into the U.S. Treasury. The Naval Home received appropriated funds from the Navy just like any other shore command. At that time until recent years, the Naval Home was open to retired Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel receiving retired pay or honorably discharged vets of 65 years or older that were unable to support themselves independently.

In the late 1980s, Congress took an interest in the Naval Home and in the U.S. Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, which had a similar mission in Washington, D.C. Congress held hearings on whether the management, operations and admissions criteria at the two facilities should be standardized. As a result, Congress enacted Public Law 101-510, Nov. 5, 1990, which merged the Naval Home and the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home into

an entirely new entity, the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH).

The law changed the policies, management oversight and operation of the two facilities to make them more uniform in their operation. Public law disestablished the Naval Home as a naval shore command and changed the funding source from appropriated funds to a trust fund comprised of active-duty fines and forfeitures, a 50 cent per month pay deduction from active-duty enlisted personnel, a monthly fee to be paid by the residents of the facility, and interest on the trust fund itself.

Sailors and Marines began contributing 50 cents a month in FY91 to support the AFRH. Soldiers and airmen had already been paying this monthly contribution for the operations of the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home, which had been

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# *for real Sailors*

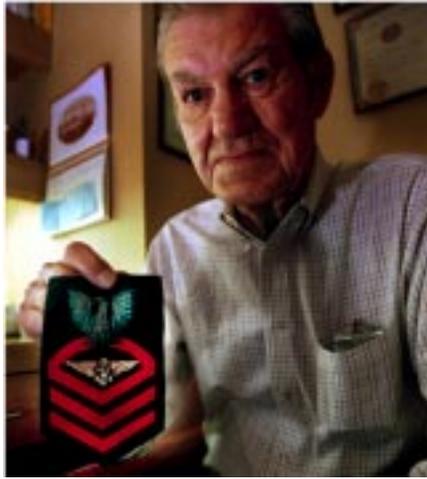
using a trust fund since its inception in 1851. Also, both facilities were opened for admissions to former personnel from all branches of service.

The downsizing of the Armed Forces began soon after the establishment of the AFRH. Since approximately 75 percent of the income to the AFRH trust fund was based on the size of the active-duty force, income to the trust fund began to decline and income projections pointed to the insolvency of the AFRH trust fund by the year 2000.

The average deficit between trust fund income and facility expenditures is currently at \$10 to \$12 million per year.

In response, the AFRH Board of Trustees, the oversight entity set up by the public law, took several actions to try to prevent insolvency of the trust fund. They asked Congress to pass a law to increase the amount of the fee paid by the residents (which was enacted), and also implemented a number of internal management efficiencies to reduce expenditures at both facilities. This pushed trust fund insolvency to 2004-2005.

The AFRH Board also requested that Congress raise the authorization for the active-duty pay deduction from 50 cents per month to \$1 per month. This request was approved by Congress in the Defense Authorization Act for FY95. The law gives the Secretary of Defense the discretion to set the pay deduction at any amount up to \$1 per month.



Although an increase of 50 cents per month in the deduction would bring in an additional \$7.5 million per year to the AFRH trust fund, it is not enough to guarantee long-term solvency of the homes. DON has consistently opposed any increase to the pay deduction unless it is part of a

comprehensive plan to ensure the long-term solvency of the AFRH trust fund. The Navy is committed to continue working to achieve long-term trust fund solvency.

# *in real need*



# DEERS UPDATE

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) is a world-wide database of personnel eligible for TRICARE.

1. Be sure to update your DEERS information when you move. Addresses listed in DEERS are frequently used to send out information about TRICARE health benefits.

2. The following options are available for use when updating your DEERS information:

- a. Initiate a request through your nearest military personnel office
- b. Call the DEERS Support Office toll-free telephone number for your area:
  - (800) 527-5602 - Alaska/Hawaii
  - (800) 334-4162 - California
  - (800) 538-9552 - All other states

Note: The best time to call the DEERS Support Office is 0900-1500, Pacific time, Wednesday thru Friday to avoid delays.

- c. Visit <http://www.TRICARE.osd.mil/DEERSAddress>
- d. Fax address change to (408) 655-8317
- e. Mail the address change information to:
  - DEERS Support Office
  - ATTN: COA
  - 400 Gigling Road
  - Seaside, CA 93955-6771
- f. Send email to <[addrifo@osd.pentagon.mil](mailto:addrifo@osd.pentagon.mil)>

### New Address Information

Sponsor's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Effective date of the address (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

Your telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of other family members affected by address change:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other information, such as the addresses for geographically separated family members:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***“The little red wagon, a symbol of childhood, could be filled with childish hopes and dreams or weighed down with their burdens. Millions of American children need our help to pull that wagon along. Let’s all pull together.”***

***Retired Army Gen. Colin L. Powell,  
Chairman, America’s Promise***

## ***Navy helps keep America’s Promise***

On April 29, 1997, America’s Promise, The Alliance for Youth began a nationwide crusade to point our youth in the right direction. Headed by retired Army Gen. Colin Powell, America’s Promise has challenged, energized and inspired thousands of individuals, organizations and communities in their efforts to ensure our youth become productive, responsible adults.

The Navy has surpassed its initial commitment of reaching the lives of an additional 600,000 youths by December 2000 through Navy Community Service. We cannot stop there. In his 1999 report to the nation, Powell calls on all Americans to increase their support. Through Honor, Courage and Commitment, the Navy will continue to reach out to American youth through the new millennium and beyond. Through community service we can guide an entire generation to successful adulthood.

At the heart of America’s Promise is a set of five basic promises made to every child in America:

1. An ongoing relationship with a caring adult — parent, mentor, tutor or coach
2. A safe place with structured activities during non-school hours
3. A healthy start
4. A marketable skill through effective education
5. An opportunity to give back through community service.

To point a kid in the right direction and for additional information on America’s Promise and “Serving America Twice,” please contact Navy Personnel Command, PERS-GOS at DSN 852-4270 or commercial (901) 874-4270.



## ***Navy community service program video now available***

The Navy Community Service Program's (NCSP) premiere video, "Serving America Twice Through Navy Community Service," is now available. This 15-minute video explains how the NCSP builds on the success of the Navy's Personal Excellence Partnership Program which started it on its community outreach efforts.

The video also describes how you can get involved by volunteering in your community in one or more of the program's five flagship projects. The projects are:

- *Personal Excellence Partnerships;*
- *Project Good Neighbor;*
- *Campaign Drug Free;*
- *Health, Safety and Fitness; and*
- *Environmental Stewardship*



*A Sailor delivers meals through the Meals on Wheels program.*

To obtain a copy of "Serving America Twice Through Navy Community Service" contact your regional volunteer coordinator listed below:

Guam DSN 339-5238 (671) 339-5238	Navy Region Great Lakes DSN 792-4483 (847) 688-4483
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Navy Region Hawaii DSN 315-474-7252 (808) 474-7252	Navy Region Mid-Atlantic DSN 262-2826 (757) 322-2826
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Navy Region South Central DSN 861-3625 (512) 961-3625	Navy Region Northwest DSN 322-5113 (360) 315-5113
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Navy Region Northeast DSN 694-4779 (860) 694-4779	Navy Region Southeast DSN 942-5380 (904) 542-5380
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Naval District Washington DSN 288-3728 (202) 433-3728	Navy Region Southwest DSN 522-4306 (619) 532-4306
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## ***Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal***



The Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (MOVSM) recognizes members of the United States Armed Forces, including Reservists, who distinguish themselves through outstanding community service. The MOVSM is intended to recognize exceptional community service over time, and not a single act or achievement. It is intended to honor direct support of community activities.

Any Navy active-duty or Reserve member, whose service meets the eligibility criteria listed below, may apply for the medal. The MOVSM may be awarded posthumously. To be eligible an individual's service must be:

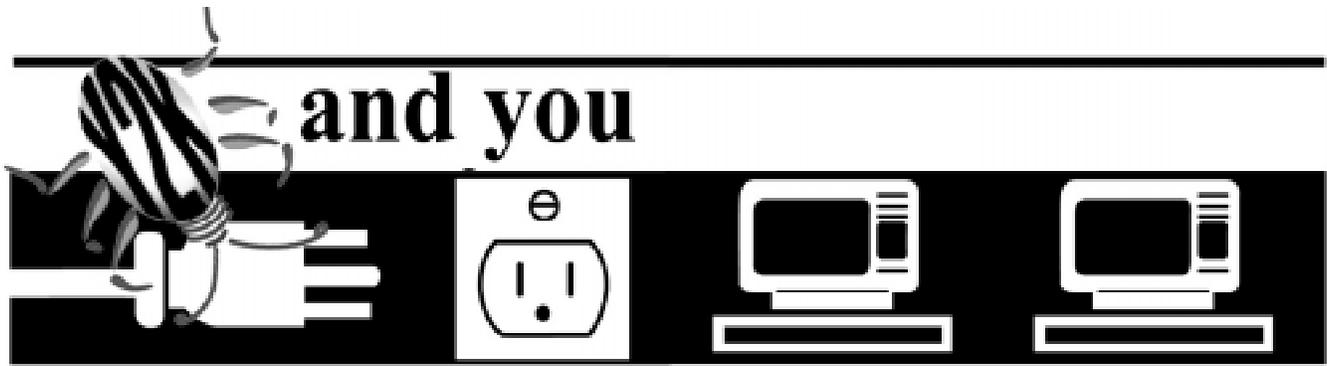
- Voluntary and support the civilian community, including the military family community;
- Significant in nature and produce tangible results;
- Reflect favorably on the Navy and the DOD; and
- Of a sustained and direct nature.

The service member should normally perform sustained, direct, hands-on community service during a three-year period. Members assigned to deploying units may include deployed time within the three-year period.

The MOVSM honors direct support of community activities. Programs and activities falling under the auspices of the Navy Community Service Program qualify as appropriate activities for the award of the MOVSM.

For consideration for the MOVSM award, service members must be recommended by anyone senior to them. The recommendation must be submitted on OPNAV Form 1650/3 (3-76), Personal Award Recommendation S/N 01074 Y-0 16-5015. This form is available through the Navy supply system using requisitioning procedures contained in NAVSUP P-2002D, Navy Stock List of Publications and Forms. The MOVSM may be awarded only once during a single tour of duty.

The MOVSM is further detailed in SECNAVINST 1650.1F, 8 August 91.



***I was wondering how active-duty members at overseas duty locations will be affected by Y2K? What is being done to make sure host countries are Y2K compliant, as this will affect military members and their families?***

Because of its large overseas presence, the Navy has invested significant resources to assess and ensure the Y2K preparedness of nations who are “hosts” to our overseas bases and duty stations. This is an important issue because our overseas bases rely heavily on the host country for basic services like electricity, water, sewage and gas. Because the Navy understands the effect of potential service outages — both to the fleet and to service members’ families — it has designated “host nation support” as a vital part of its Y2K preparedness program.

Overseas base commanders are working closely with local officials to ensure that adequate power, water and other essential services will be available when the date change occurs. Additionally, DOD teams and State Department representatives are conducting on-site reviews of vulnerable host nations.

In most countries, Navy officials, as well as local service providers, expect no major outages or disruptions. Nations that currently experience irregular utility services are likely to experience similar problems during the date change. As the situation is unique for every country, you should consult your base’s Y2K representative or inquire within your chain of command for more information.

***What are contingency plans, and how will the Navy use them as part of the Y2K effort?***

Newspapers often refer to contingency plans or back-up measures that will be taken if Y2K repairs and upgrades do not function as anticipated. Many businesses, utility companies and government services are developing Y2K contingency plans to add another layer of “just in case” protection. The Navy has had contingency plans of its own long before Y2K was ever a concern. There are standing Navy procedures in place to respond to common emergencies like equipment casualties, fire or flooding, personnel injury, or to conditions like reduced maneuverability or visibility at sea. Some examples of established Navy contingency plans are equipment casualty control procedures, communication plans, ships instructions, and damage control doctrines. These same kinds of procedures would be used if a contingency plan were required due to a Y2K-related failure.

While contingency *plans* refer to specific measures that will be taken in the case of an isolated incident, Navy Y2K contingency *planning* refers to a broad set of procedures that posture the Navy appropriately to respond to Y2K-related problems. Information about Navy contingency planning can be found on the Navy’s Y2K web site at <http://199.211.210.88/ny2k/ny2k.htm>.

***Do contingency plans apply to my personal life or to my family?***

Sure, just ask yourself the “what if” question. For example, “What if my ATM card doesn’t work as it should on New Year’s Day even though my bank says it’s Y2K ready?” A good back-up plan is to have some extra cash on hand to tide you over for a few days. Other personal contingency plans are having sufficient fuel for your car; getting early refills for your prescriptions that expire in December 1999 or January 2000; and having some candles and flashlights handy. Hopefully, you’ll never have to exercise your contingency plans, but you’re better off being prepared just in case of a winter storm.