

Naval Nuclear Power Training Command

the primary loop

April 2020

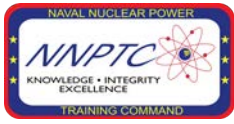
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Child**

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SAILORS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



ETN1(SS)
Christopher V. Taylor

Hometown:

Tamarac, Florida.

Why he joined:

I joined to start my career, pay off my student loans, and to travel the world.

Favorite part of the Navy:

Meeting and getting to know a lot of people who have a different background and life experience from myself. I also love the travel and unique job opportunities.

Most memorable port call: Scotland. It's the closest time I've ever felt like a pirate.

Hobbies:

Working out, reading, writing, and people watching.

Hometown:

McDonough, Georgia.

Why he joined:

I joined to have experiences that I couldn't have as a civilian and visit different countries while making a difference for my country.

Favorite part of the Navy:

Right now, being able to make a positive impact in students' lives and helping out my fellow shipmates as much as possible.

Most memorable port call: The Bush was the first carrier to pull into Israel since the '70s, and we got to see Jerusalem. That allowed us to see where Judas allegedly betrayed Jesus, and I got to see the Wailing Wall.

Hobbies:

Muay Thai, lifting weights, longboarding, hiking.



MMN2(SW)
Marshall J. Vaughan

Hometown:

Somersworth, New Hampshire.

Why he joined:

I wanted to see foreign ports, ensure job security, and do something I felt I would excel at.

Favorite part of the Navy:

Distributing boot-fulls of freedom and democracy to all those in need. I enjoy working on subs and take great pride in our history and tradition.

Most memorable port call: Souda Bay, Crete. They had amazing food and an amazing cultural experience.

Hobbies:

Woodworking, playing the guitar, supporting local music, attending local metal bands concerts.



EMN1(SS)
Brandon S. Perkins

CMC's Corner



A staff member from NPTU who recently separated from the Navy wrote a letter to staff and students that contained the following motivational words that was too good not to share with you all.

“I’d like to share with you an excerpt from ‘Mad Dog’ Mattis’ book: ‘Later that year I was sent to Okinawa to join my first infantry unit. I was lucky: I had joined the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, where most of the key leaders had spent years fighting in rice paddies, mountains, and jungles [in Vietnam]. They knew their stuff. Far from being standoffish because they had seen combat, they were tough and friendly, and they readily shared their combat knowledge. I didn’t have to earn their support; it was mine to lose, not to gain.’

Mr. Mattis goes on later to say, ‘Show no favoritism. Value initiative and aggressiveness above all. It’s easier to pull the reins back than to push a timid soul forward. Consistently maintain a social and personal distance, remembering that there is a line you must not cross. But you should come as close to that line as possible – without surrendering one ounce of authority. You are not their friend. You are their coach and commander, rewarding the qualities essential to battlefield victory. You get to know them as individuals – what makes them tick and what their specific goals are. One is striving to make corporal, another needs a letter of recommendation for college, another is determined to break eighteen minutes for three miles. A Marine knows when you are invested in his character, his dreams, and his development. Men like that won’t quit on you.’

It seems that even Marines, who are arguably much ‘tougher’ than the majority of Sailors, find EMPATHY to be a positive characteristic in leaders. We haven’t ‘gone soft’ because we’ve started caring more about students as humans. And as for the pump vs. filter, Rickover told Congress in 1979 that the program attrition rate was about 25%; we’ve been around 40% the last 10 years.

I’ve also seen another category of non-empathetic staff, less concerned with the toughness of Sailors...I’ll leave you with this, also from Jim Mattis:

‘At Central Washington State College in 1968, I was a mediocre student with a partying attitude. After I caroused too much one night, the local judge ordered me to spend weekends in jail – punishment for underage drinking. One inmate, Porter Wagner (not the famous singer) had jumped bail in Maryland. One Saturday night he saw me hoisting myself up to look out the barred window, eager to see what I was missing outside.

‘What do you see, Jimmy?’ he said, lying back on his bunk.

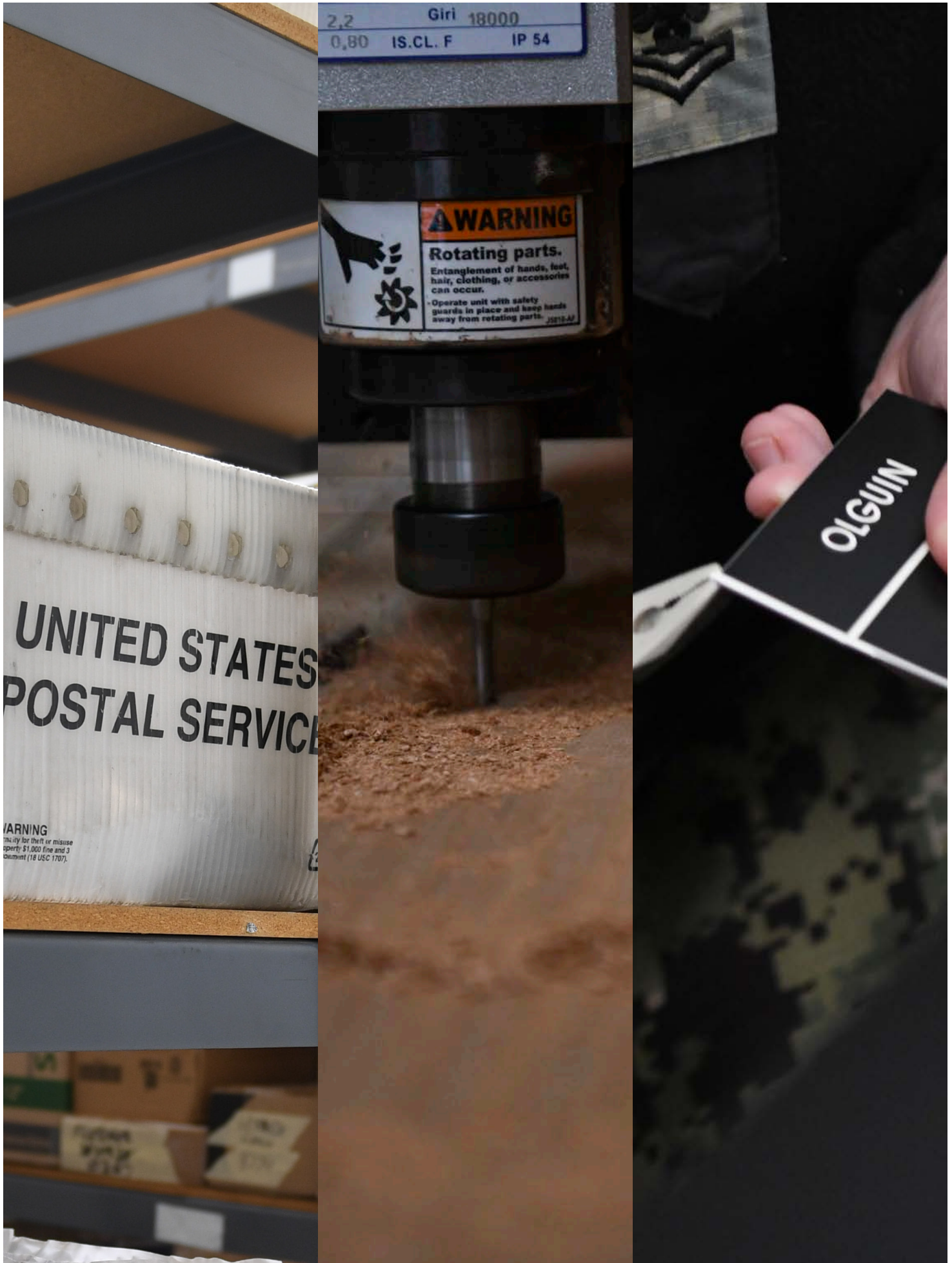
‘A muddy parking lot.’

‘From down here, I see stars in the night sky,’ he said. ‘It’s your choice. You can look at stars or mud.’

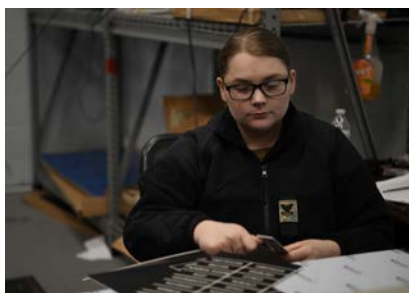
He was in jail, but his spirit wasn’t. From that wayward philosopher I learned that no matter what happened, I wasn’t a victim; I made my own choices how to respond. You don’t always control your circumstance, but you can always control your response.”

Motivational Quotes

“Change your thoughts and you change your world.” - Norman Vincent Peale



4 the primary loop



The Team Behind the Scenes

Story & photos by MCSA Keyly Santizo

The sounds of a saw cutting into wood, envelopes and boxes being processed and packed, and the engraving machine making nametags for staff and students can be heard when walking around the Bowman Center at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC).

Plaques, mail, wood work and a variety of other amenities needed throughout the command are the primary focus of the 1st Lieutenant division's facilities crew as they work together to support NNPTC students and staff, and keep the campus running.

Chief Electrician's Mate James Thompson, leading chief petty officer of the facilities team, from San Antonio, Texas, said customer service is at the center of the facilities team's success.

"It's vital for us to work with other divisions," said Thompson. "Our hands are in everything. We try to keep it like a family."

The facilities team runs basic facilities such as contracting, woodwork, engraving, mail and maintaining campus grounds. They also handle ordering, resupply, and contracting of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) work.

Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Rebecca Brook, assigned to the engraving shop at NNPTC, makes plaques, nametags, and all of the signs that can be seen posted throughout the command.

"I make everything," said Brook, a native of Tampa, Florida.

She makes more than 200 nametags and 50 door plates and desk plates daily in the engraving shop.

Brook said the engraving shop and the woodshop work together to create memories for students and staff.

"The woodshop will make the templates and give them to me," Brook said. "The wood comes from them, and I put brass on it."

The wood shop makes the awards that are presented to students and staff. They also build recreational areas, such as gazebos, for the command.

"It's nice to see people getting awards that I made," said Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Noah Corcoran, assigned to the woodshop at NNPTC, from Cape May, New Jersey. "Some student now who is going to retire 20 years from now will have a piece of NNPTC that I built."

Along with the woodshop,

the grounds team also helps build and construct. They ensure sanitation of the command and safety hazards are mitigated, perform equipment maintenance, and help with Nuclear Power School graduations.

"We make sure that landscaping needs are met," said Machinist's Mate 1st Class Roeb Ruon, assigned to grounds at NNPTC, from Chonburi, Thailand. "We ensure students are able to walk to the barracks safely."

Also part of the facilities team, the mailroom ensures students at NNPTC are able to send and receive mail.

"We give packages to 2,000 students daily," said Logistics Specialist 1st Class Laudy OliverosGarcia, from the Dominican Republic.

The mailroom receives and processes mail and issues it to the students. They process approximately 10,000 boxes and 7,000 envelopes monthly. OliverosGarcia said she enjoys seeing the students' smiles when they receive letters and packages after a hard day of class.

"There's a good culture here," Corcoran said. "We all help each other. We all rely on each other. If someone needs help we all pitch in."

Month of the Military Child

The Month of the Military Child has been celebrated every April since its inception in 1986, when former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger established the commemorations. The celebration honors the important role military children play in the armed forces community.

Military children face unique challenges and hardships that may be considered uncommon to most children. They often see their parents ship off for months at a time, sometimes to dangerous combat zones and with limited communication. They weather frequent moves and rarely experience what it is like to settle in one place for long.

Their ability to overcome these hardships is truly admirable, and for that we say THANK YOU to the children of our team at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC). It is because of their support and courage through these sacrifices that we continue to complete the mission that our nation has called upon us.

April 2020 has brought its own unique challenges as families maneuver through the limitations brought on by COVID-19. Some of our NNPTC staff members shared photos of their children and how they are navigating education and activities during quarantine.



Bode,
Lt. Bell



Hunter,
Lcdr. Rinehart



Lennon,
YN2 Abernathy



Brooke,
EMNCM Meador



Magnolia,
EMN1 Childress



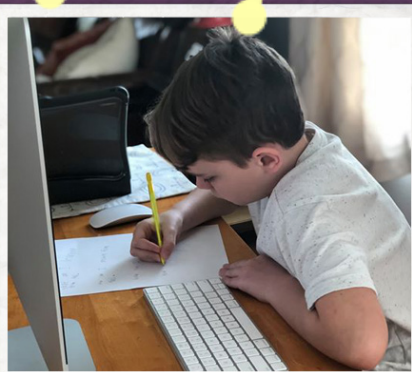
Ethan,
ETNC LaSalle



Mimi & Nick,
ETNC LaSalle



Chase,
Lcdr. Rinehart



Gavin,
EMN1 Bishop



Tyton,
MA2 Allen



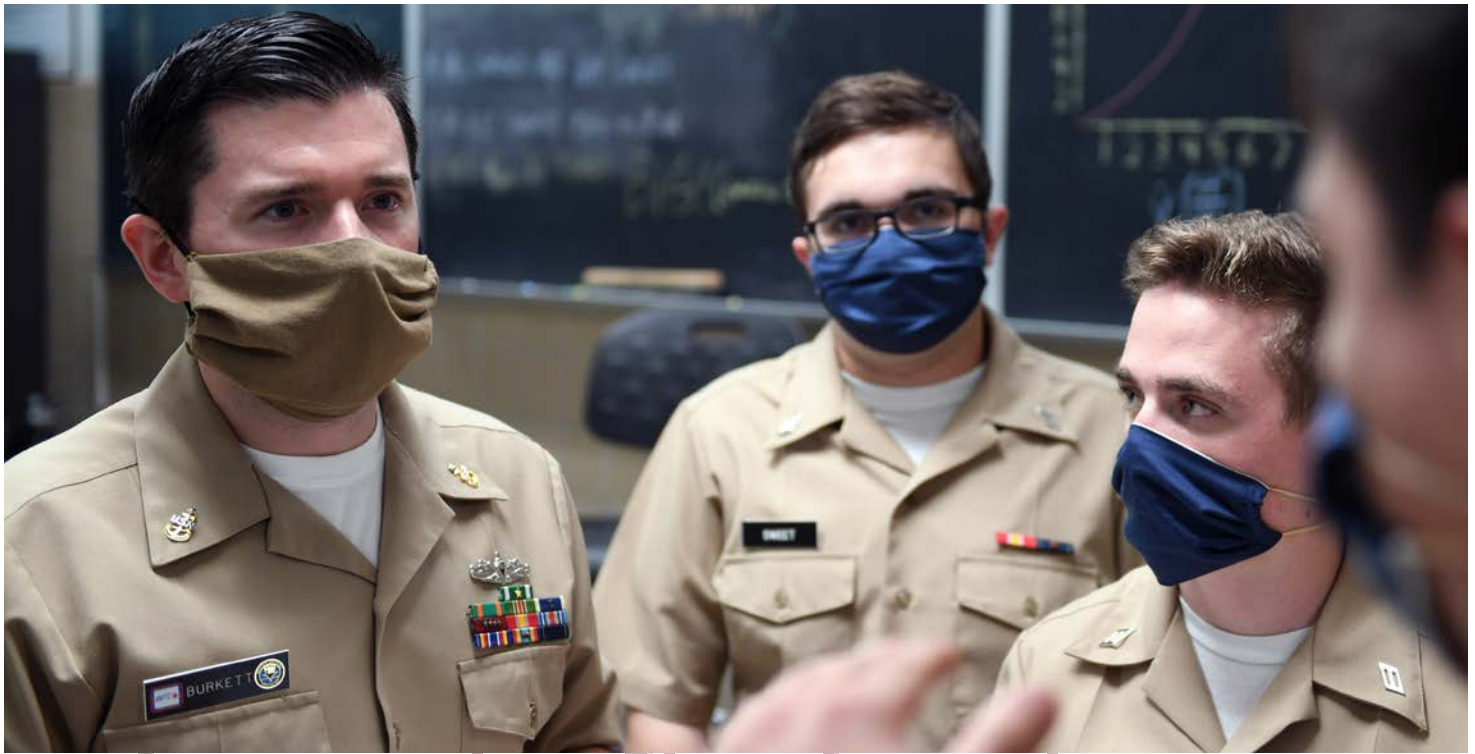
Gwyn,
EMNCM Meador



Eva & Eleanor,
Lt. Gibson



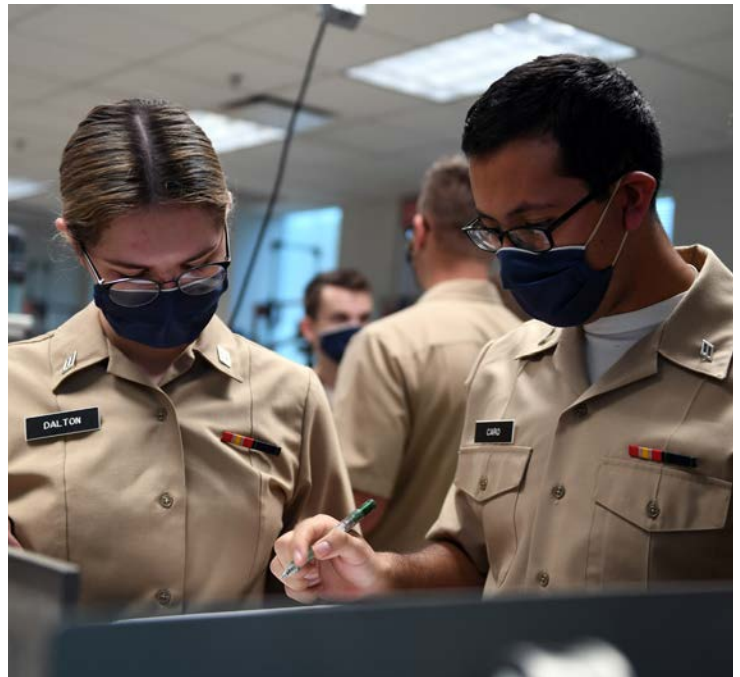
Leighton & Wilson,
OS2 Falk



PHOTOS AROUND NNPTC DURING CORONAVIRUS

Sailors at NNPTC are wearing protective masks in accordance with NAVADMIN 100/20, which announced the requirement for military personnel, Navy civilian employees, family members, and Navy contractors to wear cloth face coverings when maintaining proper social distancing is not possible.







The crew of USS Pueblo as they arrive at the U.N. Advance Camp, Korean Demilitarized Zone, on Dec. 23 1968, following their release by the North Korean government.

Held Far Away From Home

The 2nd Oldest Ship in the Navy

By Ensign Josh Warnick

American Sailors know that the USS Constitution is our oldest commissioned vessel; even now, she sails as a link between our ancient naval tradition and the Navy we maintain today. But fewer Sailors know about the second-oldest ship in the U.S. Navy. Her name is USS Pueblo (AGER 2), and she is held pierside as a captive in Pyongyang, North Korea.

Originally built as a freight and passenger ship for the Army, the future USS Pueblo was commissioned in New Orleans in April of 1945 and was manned by the Coast Guard as a civilian training ship. She was mothballed in 1954 before being returned to service in

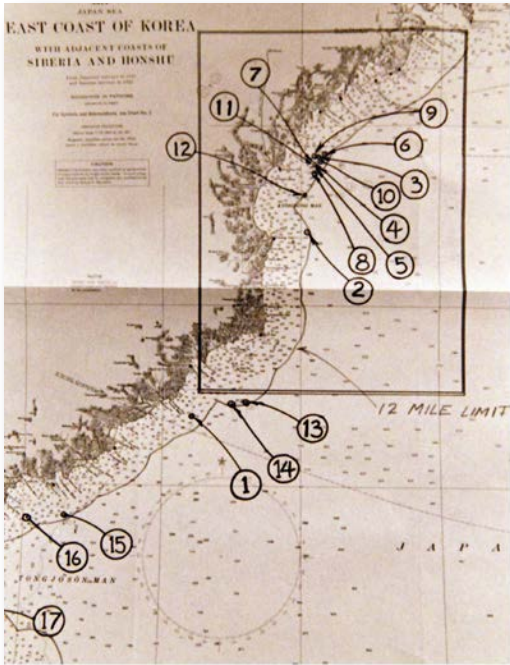
1966 to serve as a signals intelligence ship. After a refit at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard with the equipment needed for a “spy ship”, she was put to sea in 1967, sailing for San Diego as a shakedown cruise.

Pueblo set sail from Sasebo, Japan on her fateful voyage on the January 11, 1968, leading to the event now known as the “Pueblo Incident”. Her mission was to take her no closer than 13 nautical miles from the Korean coast, but on January 23, Pueblo was approached by a North Korean submarine chaser, which ordered her to stand down. Pueblo initially attempted to escape, maneuvering to avoid boarding for over two hours before the North

Koreans opened fire. Pueblo surrendered, and began to destroy the classified material she carried, but was only able to destroy some of it before the North Koreans boarded the ship, took the crew captive, and towed it to Wonsan Harbor, later claiming that the Pueblo had sailed into their waters. While the North Koreans subjected the crew to beatings, starvation, and psychological torture, the United States and South Korea worked to negotiate their release. Eventually, 11 months after their capture, the crew of the Pueblo, less Fireman Duane Hodges, who was killed by North Korean gunfire during the capture

of the ship, crossed the Bridge of No Return into South Korea.

Today, the Pueblo remains in Pyongyang as the centerpiece of a museum where visitors can view artifacts from the crew, visit the ship's code room, and see the damage inflicted during the ship's capture. She may be a tourist attraction for North Koreans, but for American Sailors, she serves, even from a pier in the Pothong River, as a reminder of our collective responsibility to keep our sailing skills sharp, to conduct ourselves with honor, and to never give up the ship.



Left: Chart prepared by the Court of Inquiry on the capture of USS Pueblo (AGER 2). The chart shows the alleged 17 points of violation on the territorial waters claimed by the North Koreans during the period of capture on January 15-24, 1968.

Right: Cmdr. Lloyd M. Bucher, the commanding officer of USS Pueblo (AGER 2), receives his Purple Heart.



USS Pueblo (AGER 2) now on display at the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum in Pyongyang, North Korea.

CNO Message to the Fleet

By Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday



U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Ryan M. Breeden

LOS ANGELES (April 5, 2020) Lt. Ronald Silver, from Ontario, Calif., renders a hand salute during morning colors aboard the hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19).

WASHINGTON (NNS) – The events of the past week have been difficult for our Navy and our nation. We will learn from them. But make no mistake, we are moving forward. The Navy has our orders and we are executing them.

As I write, we have thousands of Sailors on mission, above, under, and on the seas as well as here at home on the front lines of the coronavirus crisis. We're operating far forward on 90 ships, including three aircraft carriers and two big deck amphibious ships. Navy Cyber teams are defending our networks. Seabees are converting commercial buildings into medical facilities across six states. Three thousand Navy doctors, nurses and corpsmen, including hundreds of reservists, are caring for our fellow Americans on USNS MERCY, COMFORT, in New York City's Javits Center, and

in civilian hospitals. Hundreds more deployed to treat the sick in Dallas and New Orleans. The NIMITZ carrier strike group and her air wing at Lemoore are in 14 day Restriction of Movement (ROM) as they ramp up to deploy. Same for our SSBN crews. Countless more Sailors are leaning in to support them – across our fleet staffs, intelligence centers, training facilities, and supply depots. More than six thousand recruits at Great lakes are preparing to head to the fleet.

Given this, I have three priorities for us right now. First, our health and safety. Second, ongoing fleet operations and our support to the coronavirus effort. Third, continuing to generate the enormous amount of support required to keep #1 and #2 on track. I know much of that effort is behind the scenes and out of the limelight – but every bit

of it is critical.

We must ensure the health of the force. And we must be laser-focused on the Fleet – from manning to maintenance, and from training to warfighting. Operational readiness is our job... and every one of us has a role. Nobody sits the bench.

Everyone must pull together. And in this new environment of coronavirus, we're all learning, adapting, and improving by the hour. There is no better example of this than USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT – staring down an invisible enemy – dedicated in their efforts – making phenomenal progress, and providing lessons for the Navy and beyond.

America. Has. A. Great. Navy. Our nation counts on you and so do I. Never more proud to be your CNO.

USS Vermont Becomes Latest Virginia-Class Fast-Attack Submarine in Service

From the Office of the Navy Chief of Information

WASHINGTON (NNS) – The U.S. Navy commissioned USS Vermont (SSN 792), the 19th Virginia-class attack submarine, April 18.

Although the traditional public commissioning ceremony was canceled due to public health restrictions on large public gatherings, the Navy commissioned USS Vermont administratively and transitioned the boat to normal operations. Meanwhile, the Navy is looking at a future opportunity to commemorate the special event with the ship's sponsor, crew and commissioning committee.

"This Virginia-class fast-attack submarine will continue the proud naval legacy of the state of Vermont and the ships that have borne her name," said Acting Secretary of the Navy James E. McPherson. "I am confident the crew of this cutting edge platform will carry on this tradition and confront the challenges of today's complex world with the professionalism and dedication our nation depends on from warriors of the silent service."

Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle, commander, Submarine Forces, said Vermont's entry to service marks a new phase of American undersea warfare dominance for a global Submarine Force that is ready to deter, defend and defeat threats to our nation, allies, and rules-based international order.

"This warship carries on a proud Vermont legacy in naval warfare and unyielding determination stretching back to the birth of our nation," Caudle said.

"To her crew, congratulations on completing the arduous readiness training to enter sea trials and prepare this ship for battle. I am proud to serve with each of you! Stand ready to defend our nation wherever we are threatened – honoring your motto – FREEDOM AND UNITY.

May God bless our Submarine Force, the people of Vermont, and our families! From the depths, we strike!"

USS Vermont's sponsor, Gloria Valdez, former Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Ships), offered her gratitude to everyone who played a role in delivering USS Vermont to service. She said she is proud to represent the crew and the first Block IV Virginia-class submarine to enter service.

"I am very proud of the Sailors and families of USS Vermont, who worked so hard to bring her to life, and also feel extremely grateful to everyone who played a role preparing her to defend our nation for generations to come," Valdez said. "I look forward to commemorating this special occasion together with the crew in the future."

Vermont's commanding officer, Cmdr. Charles W. Phillips III, highlighted Vermont's accomplishments over the past several weeks getting through initial sea trials. The hard work and dedication of the entire team the past few years was evident in the successful execution of at-sea testing, he said.

Phillips added he is especially thankful to the crew and their families, ship sponsor Valdez, and the USS Vermont Commissioning Committee, led by Debra Martin, for all their hard work and support of the crew.

"We recognize just how important the submarine force is during this era of Great Power Competition," Phillips said. "As part of the nation's maritime asymmetric advantage over our competitors, we are ready to perform whatever duty is most needed.

"The crew is hungry to hone our skills at-sea and become an effective fighting unit, and we will

work tirelessly to justify the nation's confidence in us," he added. "Today marks the culmination of six years of dedicated work by the men and women who constructed the nation's newest and most capable warship. We are all honored to be part of this historic moment.

"We are also grateful for the families who have supported our Sailors through the long process of bringing this warship to life and dedicated their time with patriotism and selfless devotion," Phillips said.

USS Vermont is the third U.S. Navy vessel to bear the name of the Green Mountain State. The first Vermont was one of nine 74-gun warships authorized by Congress in 1816. The second Vermont, Battleship No. 20, was commissioned in 1907 and first deployed in December that year as part of the "Great White Fleet." She was decommissioned June 30, 1920. Vermont is a flexible, multi-mission platform designed to carry out the seven core competencies of the submarine force: anti-submarine warfare; anti-surface warfare; delivery of special operations forces; strike warfare; irregular warfare; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and mine warfare.

The submarine is 377 feet long, has a 34-foot beam, and will be able to dive to depths greater than 800 feet and operate at speeds in excess of 25 knots submerged. The boat's construction began in May 2014, and it will provide the Navy the capabilities required to maintain the nation's undersea superiority well into the 21st century.

Vermont is the first of 10 Virginia-class Block IV submarines. Block IV submarines incorporate design changes to reduce total ownership cost, as well as allow the Navy to increase the time between maintenance stops and the number of deployments.

Grieving Loss of Many Kinds

By Lt. John Gibson



“When someone dies, it is like when your house burns down; it isn’t for years that you realize the fullest extent of your loss.”

The above quote, attributed to Mark Twain, is directly referencing losing someone we care about to death. However, as I read it over and over again, I am reminded that grieving is something that applies to ANY loss that we may experience in life. While I suppose it is natural to immediately associate grieving to the death of a loved one, I believe it is also beneficial to us to think of it as something experienced when we lose aspects of our lives such as possessions (i.e. homes), or friendships, or even a sense of familiarity and routine.

And so perhaps it would benefit us to examine this last item for just a moment. Because lately, for many of us, we have found ourselves at odds with our loss of familiarity. We have experienced – and continue to experience – consternation over the fallout pertaining to COVID-19 and its impact on our world, and particularly on our community here at NNPTC. We grieve over the fact that our routines, plans, and regular

comings and goings have been put on hold by forces beyond our control.

Yes, for many of us, “grieving” is what we are experiencing, though we may not even realize it...because let’s face it: losing a vacation plan isn’t the same as losing someone we’re close to.

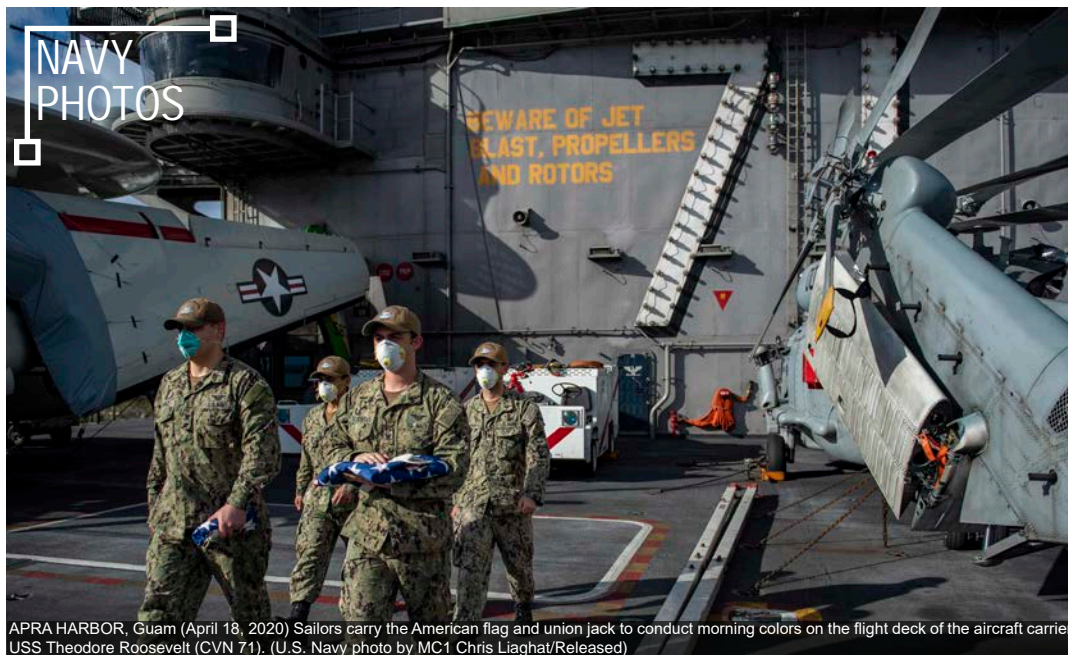
Still in all, many of us reacted with shock when we learned just how significant of an impact that the coronavirus was going to have on our lives. We likely denied this reality for a time, and may have figured quietly to ourselves that “this too shall pass...and likely soon.” Some of us – perhaps most of us – reacted with anger when the reality finally began to sink in as to what COVID-19 meant for us. We may have found ourselves “bargaining” for a time; “if only I had taken care of ‘xyz’ thing before this whole thing hit.” Following this, depression; a deep sense of sadness or anxiety or other pronounced emotion as we began to realize, as with Twain’s house fire, just how deep a loss we were experiencing when it came to our lives. Maybe you’re still there, or maybe you’re gradually – ever so

gradually! – moving into a place of acceptance and resolution. Maybe you’re coming to the realization that new experiences, routines, life lessons, and, perhaps best of all, new connections await you as we move through this thing.

If you didn’t notice, the above paragraph is a descriptive outline of the five stages of grieving: shock/denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and resolution/acceptance.

Wherever you might find yourself on that continuum, please know that not only is it okay to grieve, it is necessary. We need to mourn what was lost, but we also need to ensure that we’re doing it with an eye toward our greater mental, physical, and spiritual health. As we process cancelled plans, activities, and the like, we must find other (healthy!) coping strategies that will help see us through.

So my prayer for you is that you’ll do that; that you’ll look for ways to move forward in the midst of adversity. And I also hope that you will reach out to your chaplain’s office – always standing by to assist – if we can help you.



APRA HARBOR, Guam (April 18, 2020) Sailors carry the American flag and union jack to conduct morning colors on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Chris Liaghat/Released)



EDISON, N.J. (April 15, 2020) Joint Task Force New York/New Jersey commanding general Maj. Gen. William "Bill" Hall gets fit tested for an N95 mask by a Soldier stationed at Field Medical Station Edison, located in the New Jersey Convention and Exposition Center. (U.S. Navy photo by MCC Barry Riley/Released)

Answer Key

SPRING

Solution:

1	M	A	R	C	H		6	S	C	A	B		10	A	B	S				
13	O	P	E	R	A	S		15	E	R	I	E		16	U	R	N			
17	D	E	V	O	I	R		18	T	E	R	M		19	T	E	A			
				20	C	R	I	21		22	W	E	A	23	T	H	E	R		
		24	T	H	U	S		26		27	O	W	E	D		28	O	O	Z	E
29	O	R	E	S			30	A	W	O	L		31	W	I	R	E	D		
32	F	I	R			33	B	L	I	N		34	M	I	L					
35	F	O	R	S	36	A	K	E		37	S	E	N	S	38	U	A	L	40	
				41	T	R	Y			42	F	O	L	D		43	C	N	S	
44	A	C	M	E	S		47	B	O	L	T		48	S	L	E	D			
49	S	H	O	E			50	Y	O	G	I		51	T	H	A	W			
52	S	I	R	L	O	I	N			54	D	A	R	E						
56	A	L	A			57	B	E	D	S			59	S	A	I	L	E	D	
63	I	L	L			64	O	L	E	O			65	L	I	K	E	L	Y	
66	L	Y	E			67	E	D	D	Y			68	T	H	E	M	E		

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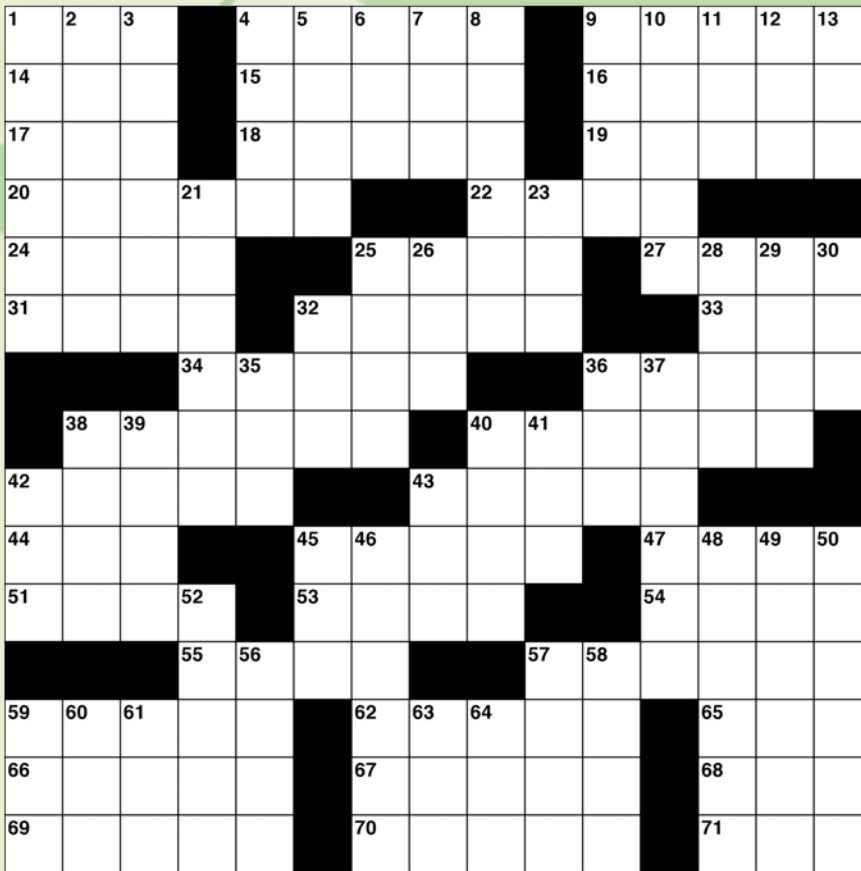
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Cover photo: Machinist's Mate (Nuclear) Fireman Jeremy Rice, from Kansas City, Missouri, sews protective masks for students and staff at Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC). (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jessica Gomez)

EARTH DAY

Game Corner



ACROSS

- 1 Spiritedness
- 4 Review
- 9 Rubbish
- 14 Wing like part on a living organism
- 15 Help
- 16 Recycle
- 17 Tear
- 18 Striped animal
- 19 Enthusiastic
- 20 What we breathe
- 22 Require
- 24 Italian money
- 25 Baseball glove
- 27 Dirt
- 31 Canal
- 32 Vice ____
- 33 Pacific Standard Time
- 34 French city
- 36 Sacred poem
- 38 Away from home
- 40 Container usually made of glass or plastic
- 42 Spew forth violently
- 43 Relating to the sun
- 44 Knot
- 45 Complain
- 47 Asian country
- 51 Phone
- 53 Weightless

- 55 Young Men's Christian Association
- 57 Employ (2 wds.)
- 59 Chili con ____
- 62 Bird claw
- 65 Business title ending
- 66 Girl in Wonderland
- 67 Drug does
- 68 Constellation
- 69 Day's opposite
- 70 Ply
- 71 High naval rank (abbr.)

DOWN

- 1 Type of probation
- 2 Medicinal drink
- 3 Ancient paper (plr.)
- 4 Take down
- 5 Fair
- 6 Taxi
- 7 Mixture of gasses that surrounds the earth
- 8 Places in soil
- 9 Leaf maker
- 10 Looks at a book
- 11 August (abbr.)
- 12 South southeast
- 13 Possessive pronoun
- 21 Celtic language
- 23 Estimated time of arrival abbr.
- 25 Repair
- 26 Internal Revenue Service
- 28 Opaque gem
- 29 Island
- 30 Long-term memory
- 32 Volume (abbr.)
- 35 Still
- 36 School group
- 37 Opp. of weak
- 38 Melody or song
- 39 Anything that is burned as a source of energy
- 40 Emaciated
- 41 Bullfight cheer
- 42 And so forth
- 43 Mr.
- 45 Western Athletic Conference
- 46 Interruption
- 48 Capital of the Philippines
- 49 Made amends
- 50 Noncommissioned officer
- 52 Type of mob
- 56 Get together
- 57 Painful
- 58 Institution (abbr.)
- 59 Metal container for food or other products
- 60 Boxer Muhammad
- 61 Set up
- 63 Tree
- 64 Downwind

