



# THE WASHINGTON SURVEYOR



Vol. 21, Issue 18 Sept. 6, 2021





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### USS George Washington (CVN 73)

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#### Executive Officer



Capt. Michael Nordeen

#### Command Master Chief



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J-DIAL: 5397

#### PHOTO STUDIO HOURS

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TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL J-5397

A special thank you to all those who let us tell your stories to the crew and to the fleet.

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# SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



**MAI Troy Conway**

## HOMETOWN:

Mechanicsville, Virginia

## WHERE HE WORKS:

Security Department

## HOBBIES:

He likes hiking, camping, and kayaking.

## WHAT HE ENJOYS ABOUT HIS JOB:

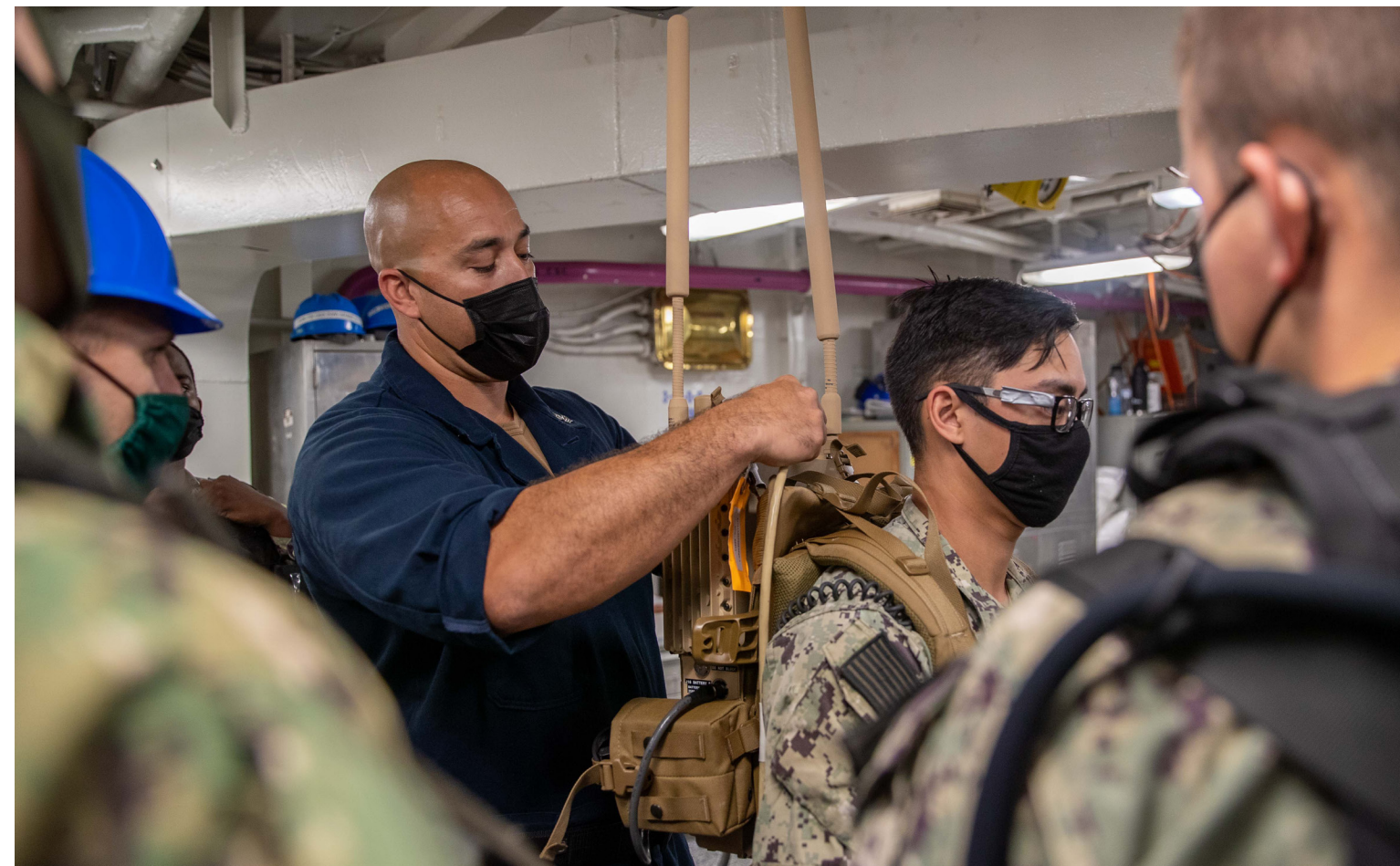
The people he gets to meet and work with.

## WHAT 'SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT' MEANS TO HIM:

Conway says, "It helps validate the hard work I have been putting in and shows that it is not going unnoticed."

## WHY HE WAS NOMINATED:

Conway was nominated for his exceptional work as Range Safety Officer. He is responsible for weapons qualification and safe live fire evolutions. His technical expertise and hand-on training approach lead to the most recent Security Reaction Force Basic course achieving a Security Department first with 100% qualification on the 9MM Pistol and M4 Rifle qualifications, increasing GW's security posture and flexibility on their watchbill.



## Sailors Assigned to Security Department Train with DRAKE.

Drone Restricted Access Using Known Electronic Warfare is a radio frequency negation system that delivers a non-kinetic, selective electronic attack of Group 1 drones.

Photos by MC3 Aislynn Heywood





# Reinforcing Deck Skills

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MCSN JACK LEPIEN

## The day to day

operations of any given Navy ship requires constant vigilance and hard-earned skills to protect the lives of our Sailors and the integrity of our equipment. To that end, Sailors are often sent to a variety of schools and simulators prior to getting underway.

One such simulator is the Underway Replenishment (UNREP) Simulator at Maritime Skills Training Center, Atlantic, where a group of Sailors stationed aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) trained on the UNREP process.

UNREP is the process by which supplies are moved from one ship to another across long wires, similar to a zip line.

“Underway replenishment is one of the most dangerous evolutions a ship can do out to sea,” said Chief Boatswain’s Mate Christopher Anderson, the production leading chief petty officer of George Washington’s deck department. “You’re moving fuel and supplies across line between two ships driving only 180 feet from each other. There’s about 5,000 things that can go wrong.”

According to Anderson, that’s what makes training environments so critical to the success of the fleet.



Sailors assigned to deck department heave line during an UNREP Simulator.





BM2 Jennifer Zavala briefs Sailors on safety procedures for the upcoming training evolution.



BMSN Ethan Johnson trains as an underway replenishment signalman.



BM2 Jett Bollinger, right, heaves line during underway replenishment signalman.

“Here, we can learn and practice in a controlled environment, where we have complete control over how the evolution goes,” said Anderson. “Underway, we have to deal with waves, wind, and other variable conditions. These all make this dangerous job even harder.”

An UNREP is the process where two ships pull alongside each other and, using thick cable and lines, swing materials across the sea between the ships. This allows vessels to receive food, fuel, mail, and other necessary supplies without having to pull into port.

With George Washington going through Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH), her Sailors haven’t had the hands-on experience traditionally gained at sea.

“Most of my Sailors haven’t been underway due to RCOH,” said Anderson. “Even some of my more senior 2nd class petty officers have never done an evolution like this before. On a ship outside of maintenance periods, within a month you’re standing line handler. Six months later, you’re a rigger. A year and a half after that, you’re a rig captain.”

“...those jets are gonna need fuel, and we’re how we get that fuel.”

-SN Richard Delabat

“Our Sailors didn’t get that experience because we were focused on building our ship from the ground up,” said Anderson. “That’s why I’m so grateful for this training: it gives them an opportunity to put their hands on the equipment and learn the skills necessary to put this boat to sea.”

Simulations like these help prevent injury to Sailors and their equipment.

“If we didn’t have schools like this where Sailors can learn this stuff and get certified, then out to sea would be the first time they actually put their hands on a span wire, work with a messenger, use a winch, and set up a seating probe,” said Anderson. “With everything that can go wrong, that’d be catastrophic. The risk of injury and damaging equipment would far exceed what anyone would be comfortable with. That’s why we’re here.”

Seaman Richard Delabat, also assigned to George Washington’s deck department, is one of the Sailors getting this crucial training for the first time.

“We’ve been hitting the books,” said Delabat. “But this is the first time getting to actually do it, and being able to practice what we’ve learned about feels amazing.”

BMSN Diana Vallejo, stands ready to signal the beginning of the UNREP simulation.



(Right) BM1 Rio Flores watches her Sailors as they participate in UNREP training.



Delabat believes that preparedness is the main takeaway from this training.

“If we went to war right now, those jets are gonna need fuel, and we’re how they get that fuel,” said Delabat. “What we’re doing right now is perfecting our craft. Whether you’re an athlete, or a musician, you need practice. We’re Boatswain’s Mates, and this is how we practice.”

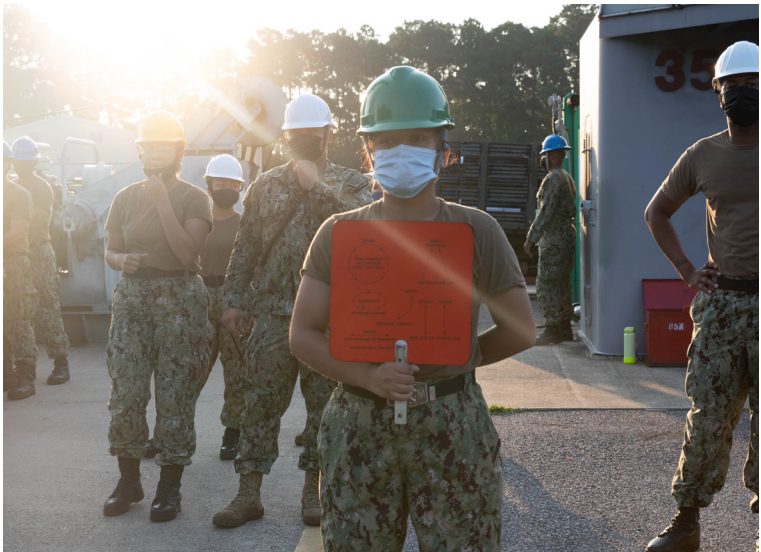
Without the guidance from the schoolhouse, Delabat says they wouldn’t be where they are now.

“The instructors we have now, they’re getting us ready, they’re cranking us out, and they’re preparing us for it,” said Delabat. “We’ve got chiefs and first class petty officers who have been out to sea, really done this stuff, and they’re giving us that knowledge we wouldn’t be able to read in a book or learn in a class.”

Despite the hot weather and long training, Delabat and his shipmates were excited to be training.

“We’re walking on the moon here as Boatswain’s Mates,” said Delabat. “This is nirvana for us.”





**“This is nirvana  
for us.”**

-SN Richard Delabat





STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC3 AISLYNN HEYWOOD  
ADDITIONAL PHOTOS BY MCSN JOSEPH NEGUSSE

# An Introduction to the Ship



Capt. Brent Gaut, commanding officer of the ship, speaks to new Sailors during INDOC.

Whether it is a first date, a job interview, or when a Sailor checks aboard a new command, first impressions can be crucial.

In order to make sure newly arriving Sailors are getting a great first impression on the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73), training department conducts a one-week indoctrination (INDOC) class that gives the new Sailors training, resources, networking opportunities, and information that is vital for their success. INDOC teaches them how they can contribute to the ship's overall mission, and get the ship back out to sea.

"A lot of our new Sailors that check into the command are coming straight from boot camp and their A-schools," said LCDR Veronica Baker, the training officer aboard George Washington. "We need to make a good impression. We want to make sure that we continue to uphold that standard and help them transition smoothly."





Sailors listen to a damage control brief during INDOC.

“The importance of INDOC is to give the Sailors an abbreviated feel of what the command’s mission is and what the command will be expecting from the Sailors.”

~IC2 Alyssa Mays~

One major thing that makes George Washington different from other aircraft carriers or commands is that our ship is in Refueling Complex Overhaul (RCOH). Sailors are rebuilding the ship in order to give her another 25 years out at sea, but the majority of the new check-ins do not know that until they have completed the course. INDOC plays a key role in the success of new Sailors and helping them understand the process aboard the ship.

“Because our ship is in RCOH, we want to make sure we are setting the expectation early,” said Baker. “The new Sailors are going into an environment that may be more challenging physically and mentally, so being transparent about what our mission is from the start gives them the training, knowledge, and resources to do the best they can do in order to help get our ship back to sea.”



AT1 John Thompson attends INDOC.

INDOC includes training and briefs from over 20 different departments and programs.

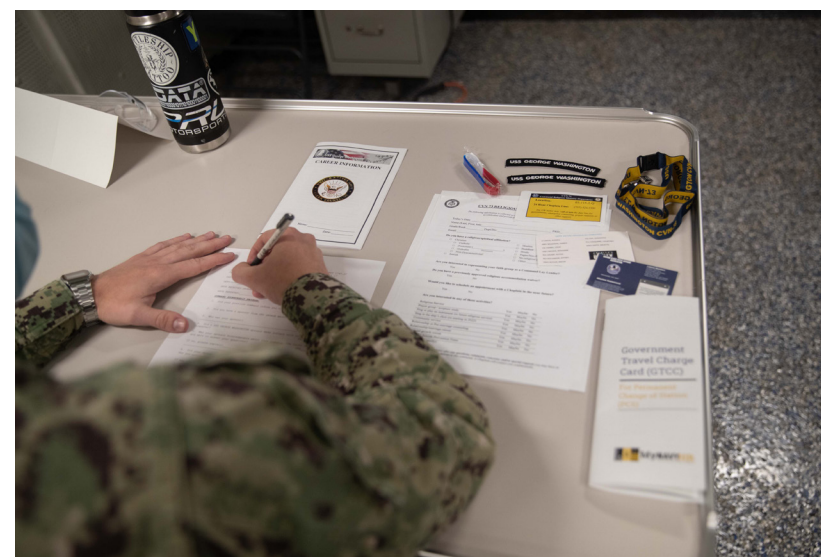
This gives the new Sailors an all-around understanding of all programs available and the expectations they are to uphold during their time aboard. From basic damage control safety to suicide prevention, INDOC ensures all of the Sailors have as many resources as they can in order to thrive while onboard.

During INDOC the commanding officer, executive officer, and command master chief speak to new Sailors and share their expectations. This gives Sailors the opportunity to meet them and to ask questions.

“The importance of INDOC is to give the Sailors an abbreviated feel of what the command’s mission is and what the command will be expecting from the Sailors,” said Interior

Communications Specialist 2nd Class Alyssa Mays, the Command INDOC Coordinator, says: “It is vital to set our new check-ins up for success with the training and resources provided during INDOC so they can do their part in building the ship.”

First impressions are not only important for the Sailors checking in, they are also important for the ship as well. INDOC bridges the gap between “A” school and the fleet, and helps both the Sailors and the ship make a good first impression.



A Sailor answers a questionnaire during INDOC.



# Preparing for DISASTER

STORY BY MCSN JACK LEPIEN

On Sunday, August 29, 2021, Hurricane Ida swept through the southern United States. In its wake, two people are dead, over a million homes are without power, and hundreds are stranded on their rooftops, awaiting rescue by helicopter or boat. Tragedies like Ida are not uncommon, occurring nearly every year in America, but with careful planning and preparation, you can protect yourself and your loved ones from disaster.

“Destructive weather preparedness is an all-hands effort,” said Cmdr. Dale Durlach, the destructive weather officer aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73). “Sailors and their families need to be ready when the time comes.”

According to the National Weather Service’s National Hurricane Center, hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30 each year, with the majority of hurricane historically forming in the autumn months.

But what can a Sailor really do in the face of catastrophic natural disasters? Well, one key to success is knowing when and how to evacuate.

“Every residential address in Virginia is organized into ‘zones’ based on the likelihood of flooding during foul weather,” said Durlach. “You can find your flood zone at <https://www.vaemergency.gov/hurricane-evacuation-zone-lookup/>”

**“Destructive  
weather  
preparedness  
is an all-hands  
effort.”**

**-Cmdr. Durlach-**

Flood zones are often used by the Navy and local governments to decide who needs to evacuate, and when those citizens should do so.

“Know your evacuation zones and routes,” said Durlach. “Realize that some may be blocked by flooding or debris. Have a back-up plan.”

Another key part of hurricane preparation is having an emergency kit.

“Sometimes evacuation isn’t possible or recommended,” said Durlach. “It’s crucial that Sailors and their families have supplies stocked for such an event, such as batteries, fresh water, non-perishable food, gasoline, and even cash.”

For a detailed checklist of the kinds of items you should have in an emergency kit, go to [ready.navy.mil](https://ready.navy.mil).

The Navy has also put in place documents to assist with mustering Sailors during an emergency.

“All Sailors have a form in their service record that should contain an evacuation plan for that Sailor and their family,” said Durlach. “Ensure your Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) is up to date. It’s important to keep records like these updated.”

“The bottom line is hope for the best, plan for the worst,” said Durlach. “Emergencies can strike at any time, and we need to be ready.”

Just as Ida showed us, tragedy can strike at any time. The best thing we can do is prepare.

## Hurricane Preparedness 101



In case of hurricane follow these directions:

### 1. Make a plan

If evacuation is necessary, turn off all utilities and follow community disaster preparedness plans. Select a common meeting place or a single point-of-contact for all family members. If you have pets, have a plan for their evacuation as well.

### 2. Secure the exterior

Trim large trees and shrubs and bring all outside patio furniture, potted plants, bikes and toys indoors. Secure outdoor furniture and items that are a potential missile hazard.

### 3. Install storm shutters

Protect windows, doors and skylights with appropriate shutters or plywood.

### 4. Move your cars

Move cars to higher ground or park them in your garage. Do not park under trees, power lines or in low-lying areas.

### 5. Power up

Fill your car’s gas tank, charge your cell phone, test your generator and have extra fuel.

### 6. Unplug appliances & electronics

Disconnect all appliances and electronic devices from power source, cable and internet connection ports.

### 7. Protect important documents

Keep important documents, such as legal papers, birth certificates, marriage license, financial papers and insurance policy information as well as valuables, in a safety deposit box. Be sure fire and flood proof safe, a container to be transported during evacuation.

### 8. Identify a shelter room

This enclosed area should be on the first floor, in the central part of the house without windows. Avoid all unprotected windows and doors until the storm passes.

## Emergency Kit



## Emergency Contact

**Naval Medical  
Center Portsmouth**  
P: 757-953-5000

**Norfolk Hurricane  
Hotline**  
P: 877-272-7337

**American Red Cross  
Military Emergency  
Communications**  
P: 877-272-7337

**USS George Washington  
Quarterdeck**  
P: 757-534-3930

**Navy/Marine Corps  
Relief Society**  
P: 757-441-5600







On Aug. 31, 2021, Vice Adm. W. R. Merz, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy, OPNAV N3/ N5, released NAVADMIN 190/21 mandating full COVID-19 vaccination for Navy service members. This NAVADMIN comes after the release of the Secretary of Defense’s memo instructing military departments to enact this new vaccination requirement for DoD uniformed personnel who are not medically or administratively exempt, and the Secretary of the Navy’s ALNAV message directing the same.

“COVID-19 is a readiness issue. As N3/N5, it is my responsibility to deliver the most ready and capable force. This mandate ensures our ability to reach that goal,” said Merz.

Military personnel must be prepared to execute their mission at all times, in places throughout the world, including where vaccination rates are low and disease transmission is high.

“The DoD’s mandatory vaccination policy is the proven way to ensure the readiness and the safety of our naval force, DoD civilian work force, and the American people and our allies and partners. Vaccinating every eligible service member improves readiness and ensures our Sailors and Marines are equipped with the biological body armor needed to protect ourselves from biological threats,” said Rear Admiral Bruce Gillingham, U.S. Navy

Surgeon General, Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

While a mandatory COVID-19 vaccine is a new requirement for the Department of Defense, mandatory vaccinations are not. Currently there are 17 vaccines that are considered safe and effective by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that are necessary to protect the health of the force.

As the services enact this requirement, Navy service members may elect to receive one of the current FDA Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) COVID-19 vaccines in lieu of vaccines that have received Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licensure. Personnel will be considered fully vaccinated two weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or two weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine. Booster shots are under evaluation and will be addressed via a separate message, the NAVADMIN stated.

Throughout the past several months, the services have incurred positive results in those who are fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine. Navy Medicine reported up to 95% efficacy in fully immunized service members, reinforcing vaccination as a primary method to reduce risk of COVID-19.

Commanders will retain the authority to tailor additional mitigation measures,

such as Health Protection Condition levels, at the local level. Military Treatment Facilities (MTF) will coordinate ordering and administration of vaccines with their supported local units and other eligible populations.

All personnel who receive the vaccination from a retail network pharmacy or other non-DoD vaccine administrator must provide documentation of any COVID-19 vaccination to their Command no later than the next duty day for Active Component or within seven days for Reserve Components to ensure vaccination is appropriately recorded in their electronic health record and/or MRRS.

Navy Medicine is a global health care network of 63,000 personnel that provide health care support to the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, their families and veterans in high operational tempo environments, at expeditionary medical facilities, medical treatment facilities, hospitals, clinics, hospital ships and research units around the world.

To make an appointment to receive your vaccine, please visit <https://tricare.mil/vaccineappointments>.

Please refer all media queries to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs office at: [usn.ncr.bumedfchva.list.bumed---pao@mail.mil](mailto:usn.ncr.bumedfchva.list.bumed---pao@mail.mil)

# MOVIE SCHEDULE

## Channels 202 & 203 on SITE-TV

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
Sept. 6	7	8	9	10	11	12
202 1700: A League of their Own  1930: Red Dragon  203 1700: Good Boys  1930: RV	202 1700: White Men Can't Jump  1930: Spaceballs  203 1700: Dodgeball  1930: The Patriot	202 1700: Rampage  1930: Blockers  203 1700: Angel has Fallen  1930: Bourne Ultimatum	202 1700: The Meg  1930: Slenderman  203 1700: Bourne Identity  1930: Christopher Robin	202 1700: Mission Impossible: Fallout  1930: Mile 22  203 1700: The Breakfast Club  1930: Happytime Murders	202 1700: Fury  1930: Bloodshot  203 1700: Road House  1930: The Hunger Games	202 1700: The War with Grandpa  1930: Ride Along  203 1700: Casino Royale  1930: Spectre
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
202 1700: Major Payne  1930: Lone Survivor  203 1700: Bill and Ted Face the Music  1930: Jaws	202 1700: The Maze Runner  1930: Polar Express  203 1700: Battleship  1930: Rambo: Last Blood	202 1700: Larry the Cable Guy  1930: Green Lantern  203 1700: Jurassic Park  1930: Pacific Rim	202 1700: Deadpool  1930: A Few Good Men  203 1700: Jumanji: The Next Level  1930: Guardians of the Galaxy	202 1700: Iron Man 3  1930: Zombieland 2: Double Tap  203 1700: The Goonies  1930: The Dark Tower	202 1700: The Hitman's Bodyguard  1930: Atomic Blonde  203 1700: Annabelle: Creation  1930: Annabelle Comes Home	202 1700: Kung Fu Panda 2  1930: Harry Potter 1  203 1700: Dances with Wolves  1930: Deadpool 2

## SITE-TV Channels

### Shipboard Broadcast System

200 - NMPS Movie 1  
201 - NMPS Movie 2  
202 - NMPS Movie 3  
203 - NMPS Movie 4  
204 - Information 1  
205 - Information 2  
206 - Training DVD

### Pier Cable TV

400 - AMC  
401 - USA  
402 - MTV  
403 - FOOD  
404 - TRAVEL  
405 - TNT  
406 - HISTORY  
407 - FOX NEWS  
408 - CNN  
409 - ESPN  
410 - ESPN2  
411 - FS1

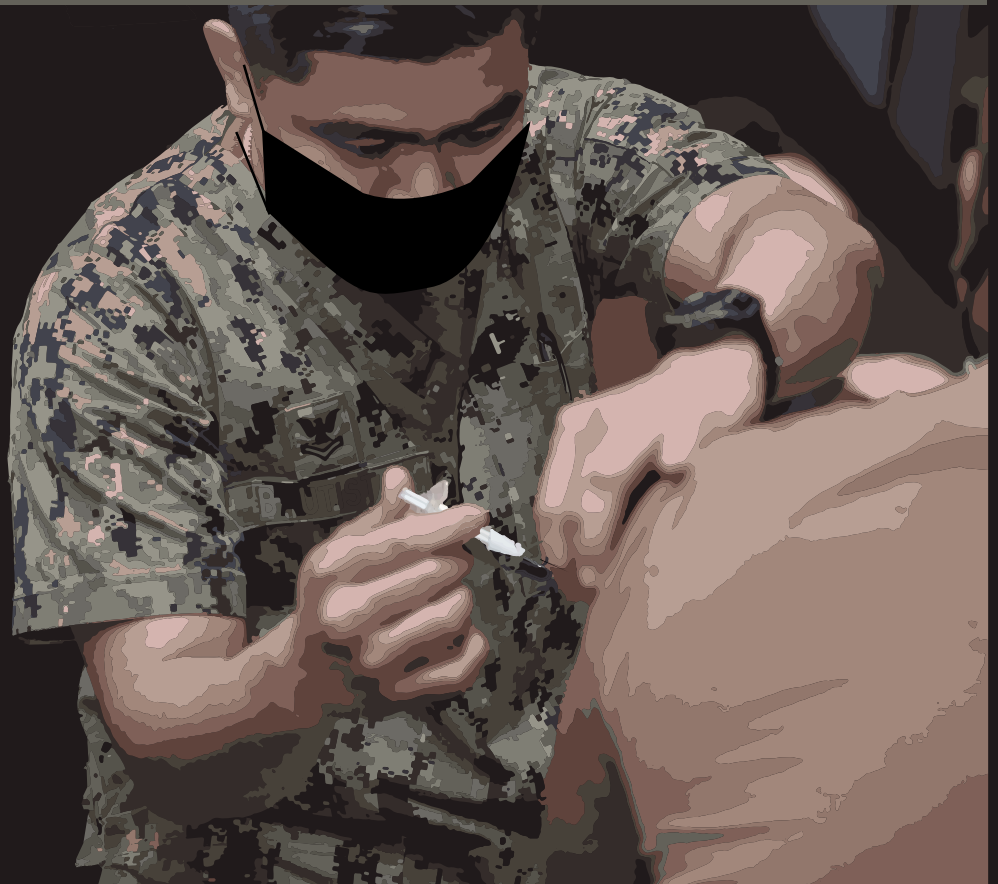
### Local Over the Air TV

600 - AMC  
601 - USA  
602 - MTV  
603 - FOOD  
604 - TRAVEL  
605 - TNT  
606 - HISTORY  
607 - FOX NEWS  
608 - CNN  
609 - ESPN  
610 - ESPN2  
  
611 - Quest  
612 - whroWorld  
613 - Antenna TV  
614 - Grit  
615 - COZI  
616 - H&I  
617 - Laff  
618 - Mystery  
619 - Stadium  
620 - Comet



# CVN 73

# COVID SHOTEX



**Where: Aft Mess Decks**

**0800-1400**

**First Dose: Sep. 7-10**

**Second Dose: Sep. 27-Oct. 1**