

The Seafarer



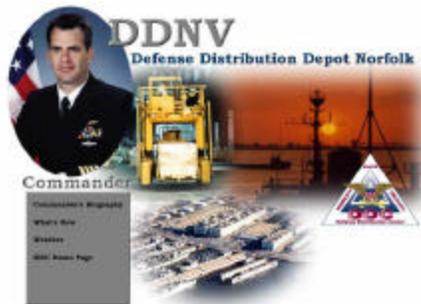
Captain Cris Toledo Returns as Director, Customer Operations

Captain Crispin Toledo has returned to the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Norfolk and assumed the duties as Director, Customer Operations. A Supply Corps officer with over 30-years service, Capt. Toledo is the senior Supply LDO officer in the Navy. His previous assignment was with the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) as Deputy Commander for Support Services. Before going to NAVSUP, Capt. Toledo was Officer-in-Charge of FISC's Cheatham Annex.

Bearer & CASREP checks now possible through the Internet

Defense Distribution Depot Norfolk, Virginia customers who have an Internet Protocol (IP) address registered as a MIL with Defense Enterprise Computing Center (DECC), can now check Bearer Walk-through and CASREP requisition status via the internet. Customers who submit Bearer requisitions to DDNV's JSSC, can now go to the new Internet address: [Https://DDNVNET.DDC.DLA.MIL](https://DDNVNET.DDC.DLA.MIL) which will give them immediate access to the Bearer Program. In order to determine if your material is available for pickup, key in your bearer requisition number or just your UIC if you want to see all bearers/CASREPS for your activity. Customers will no longer need to call or physically go to the Joint Supply Support Center (JSSC) to check the status of Bearer Walk-through or CASREP requisitions.

After you have logged onto the DDNV web site, the following screen will appear.



DDNV employees see their customers every day. The customer base includes more than 105 ships, from aircraft carriers to destroyers, and submarines, as well as major Navy industrial activities and shore establishments. Increasingly, DDNV serves customers worldwide with particular emphasis on Europe, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean.

The depot provides standard packing, specialized storage and hazardous material packing and shipping operations. It also interfaces with direct vendor-to-customer and local delivery services.

DDNV provides special services based on customer needs, such as packaging and transshipment of radioactive level one/subsafe material. Military operations are not the only recipient of the depot's program or services. As major stock point for meals ready-to-eat (MREs) and humanitarian daily rations (HDRs), DDNV is often called upon to provide humanitarian relief supplies in the United States, the Caribbean, and other countries.

If you have questions, please contact Ralph Howell at DSN 646-3401 or Comm 757-443-3401 or Hillard Reese at DSN 646-3460 or Comm 757-443-3460.

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One Touch Support

Moving the Supply System to the Web

NAVSUP has developed the One Touch Support (OTS) web site to provide customers a repository of resources to deliver best value products, services, and quality of life information. During the past several months, FISC Norfolk's e-Business Team and Marketplace Managers have been busy working with NAVSUP's One Touch Support Team and other FISC's to develop the One Touch Support and Ariba Commercial Marketplace portal.

One Touch Support (OTS) is designed to enhance the user's experience with job capability and create a user-friendly environment. Currently OTS consists of a Global One Touch and a Regional One Touch, with each site providing the same supply functionality. The objective of OTS is to provide customers with a single "One Touch" point of entry for all supply related business processes.

The customer afloat and ashore will be able to identify the stock location, input requisitions, perform technical screening and check on the status of their requisitions. The system will provide a seamless integration of various legacy systems, enabling the user to access a myriad of databases with single login and password.

Additionally, OTS provides access to the commercial marketplace where nonstandard requirements less than \$2,500.00 can be procured. The commercial marketplace is Internet based

and consists of electronic catalogs with navy specific suppliers. It is expected to be available by December 2001 and will allow navy government purchase card buyers to review a wide range of pre-negotiated online value added products and services with competitive pricing. When registering in OTS, a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) is required to perform technical screening, stock checks, and requisition processing. PKI is a system of digital certificates, Certificate Authorities (CA), and other registration authorities that verify and authenticate the validity of each party involved in an Internet transaction. It certifies your identity when you send messages to others or interact with other applications. It proves who you say you are. One Touch Support is rapidly changing supply logistics. A uniformed training package is currently in development at

NAVSUP that will provide users with a thorough understanding of OTS and the Commercial Marketplace. FISC eBusiness Office will coordinate orientation and training for FISC Norfolk customers once the final training package is released.

Your questions and comments are highly encouraged. Please submit questions, comments, or recommendations to FISC Norfolk eBusiness Program Management Office e-mail at eBusiness.Office@nor.fisc.navy.mil, phone number (757)443-1874/1843, or fax (757) 443-1543.



Rear Admiral Paul Soderberg (CINCLANTFLT Supply Officer); Capt. Bill Kowba, (CO, FISC Norfolk); Capt. Mark Heinrich (CO, NAVPETOF); LCDR Keith Ehrhard, (FISC Norfolk Fuels Officer); Mr. Chris Steele (TRAJEN Corp.) and Rear Admiral Christopher Cole (CNRMA) pose for a photo with the American Petroleum Institute(API) plaques designating Craney Island as a 2001 API winner.

FISC Norfolk's Craney Island Fuel Terminal & NAS Oceana Fuels Management Division win 2001 API Awards

The API Award was established to promote excellence in fuel management and to recognize those personnel and activities that made the most significant contributions to Navy and Marine Corps fuel operations and the Fleet fuel support mission during the past year.

This is the second consecutive award for NAS Oceana as the Best of Naval Air Station Fuel Operation in the United States Navy.

TARPS Program oversees repairables

Technical Assistant Repairables Protection (TARP) Program

The Navy Inventory Control Point (NAVICP) is responsible for exercising general oversight of the Navy's repairable assets, including the packaging, handling, storage, and transportation (PHS&T) elements of both Ready For Issue (RFI) and NRFI assets. The TARP program has been developed to assist NAVICP in meeting these requirements. TARPS provides:

- ◆ A program to identify and document PHS&T process deficiencies, and damage experience during the shipment and storage of repairable assets.

- ◆ Support at the field level for Naval operating sites serviced by the CONUS and OCONUS ATACs, the ATAC hubs at Norfolk, Va. and San Diego, Calif. and any other sites that might

turn in retrograde Depot Level Repairables (DLRs).

- ◆ Local facility assist visits and liaison support at storage facilities used for



Navy material at the above locations.

- ◆ Documents, monitors and reports all process improvements via an acceptable MIS.

- ◆ Identifies to NAVICP, PHS&T discrepancies, and recommend corrective

actions. When requested, assist in the discrepancy correction.

- ◆ Identifies areas for process improvements that can be implemented at the local level. When requested, present the recommendations to the proper government personnel at the facility.

- ◆ Identifies areas of improvement that require major policy or procedural change to NAVICP.

- ◆ Makes recommendations to NAVICP regarding procedures, documentation, physical handling, and protection of DLRs.

- ◆ Documents unresolved problems and work with the government through NAVICP to reach resolution.

- ◆ Provides training required to achieve the performance metrics. Training may include Navy, other DOD, and/or contractor personnel.

FISC Norfolk to Open Material Processing Center

The FISC Norfolk Material Processing Center will be opening during the 3rd quarter of FY01.

The FISC Norfolk Material Processing Center sites will be located at the Defense Depot Norfolk, Little Creek Amphibious Base Building, 3090 and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard Building, 1575. Expansion for the Destroyer and Submarine Piers, Building CEP-126 is scheduled to take place in October 2001.

The MPC provides individualized, customized and flexible logistic support services. The MPC will accept material from all supply sources, and record in a MPC database developed specifically for the MPC called Logistics Customer Asset Visibility (LCAV). The web application is accessible via a local LAN connection, or dial up modem, and gives immediate visibility of all material handled by the MPC. Material can be separated by ship's UIC and by requisition type, such as, DTO, Stock, CASREP and ANORS. Deliveries can be customized in accordance with ship's requests.

For information on MPC, contact your Logistics Support Representative at 443-1861, Monday – Friday, 0600-1800 or 1-

877-41-TOUCH, Monday – Friday, between 1800 – 0600, holidays and weekends.



The temporary Material Processing space in Building CEP-201. Buddy Prazeres and James O'Neil go over documents for a recent shipment being processed through the Material Processing Center.

Historic Beginning and Ending for Navy Ship

The Navy and the Military Sealift Command (MSC) recently recorded an historic moment. The fast combat support ship USS Supply (AOE 6) became USNS Supply (T-AOE 6) when it was recently transferred to operation control of the MSC. Supply is the first of four ships of the Supply-class scheduled for transfer to MSC operational control by September 2004.

The ship's crew of 544 Sailors will be replaced by a crew of 176 civilian mariners and 59 Sailors. The crew size is reduced due to the ship's change in status to a non-combatant vessel. As a non-combatant ship, Supply will no longer need Sailors to maintain and operate the weapons and combat systems.

The ship's primary mission will remain the same: to provide fuel, ammunition and food to Navy ships underway. The crew reconfiguration enables the Navy to redirect these Sailors to war-fighting assignments. Supply's former crew will be reassigned to combatant ships throughout the fleet.

As a civilian mariner-crewed ship, Supply will be able to spend significantly more days at sea because civilian-crewed ships are not restricted by the operational tempo and deployment cycle policies that govern commissioned Navy ships.

By transferring these ships to MSC control, the Navy expects to save \$76 million per year in ship-operating costs by 2004. Vice Adm. G.S. Holder, commander of MSC, was the principal speaker at the ship decommissioning and transfer ceremony. The outgoing commanding officer of USS Supply, Capt. Robert Warner, and the incoming master of USNS Supply, Merchant Marine Capt. Terry Rycenga, both participated in the ceremony. Retired Rear Adm. John Bepko also attended the ceremony. Bepko, a former deputy commander of MSC, was the first commanding officer of USS Supply. The ceremony has broader significance than just the transfer of the Supply-class ships to MSC.

Navy Integrated Call Center Provides Direct Customer Support

NAVSUP has created the Navy Integrated Call Center (NICC) as part of NAVSUP's vision of One Touch Supply and in direct response from our customers for better service.

The NICC is the single entry point for callers to obtain products, information and services from the Navy Logistics system.

Customers can call toll free (CONUS 1-877-4-1-TOUCH or OCONUS DSN 510-4-2-TOUCH). The use of the prefix 510 makes this DSN number a toll free call.

The new ex-panded capabilities of the NICC now include 24 x7x365 coverage and the presence of an automated voice response unit that will speed up the time to obtain information from the Navy Logistics system for the caller.

Callers into the NICC are greeted by a quick announcement followed by a menu consisting of six options. For supply information, our customers will select Option "1" (SUPPLY) for NIIN, requisition and other supply type information from the Navy supply system and the Navy DSS co-located storage sites.

When selecting Option "1", you will hear a list of various functions that you can

perform such as requisition status inquiries, stock check, new and modified requisition submittal and the opportunity to speak with a Customer Service Representative (CSR).

When using the Interactive Voice Response

(IVR) unit, you will have the option to speak your request or use the keypad from your touch-tone phone. Option "1" has some built-in customer help features to assist the caller with the IVR, if the caller has trouble. By

pressing "0" from a menu or "***" (two asterisks) when inputting information, the caller can get transferred to a customer service representative. If necessary, the CSR can transfer the caller back to the IVR, while the CSR is still on the line to assist the caller through the IVR process until the caller gets the information desired. We refer to this new feature as "personal online IVR tutoring." We also have built in an automatic CSR default feature that whenever a caller unsuccessfully attempts on two occasions to input information, the system will automatically transfer the caller to the CSR.

If you have a supply type question and need a quick answer, then give us a call using one of our toll free numbers, Option "1" (SUPPLY). NAVSUP and the FISCs are committed to providing World-Class service to their customers.



4.6 percent pay raise if Congress approves 2002 Budget

Department of Defense (DoD) officials have released the proposed fiscal 2002 active duty military pay table. The American Forces Press Service reports that the pay table incorporates the proposed 4.6 percent pay raise service members would get if Congress approves the Bush Administration's fiscal 2002 DoD budget request. If approved, the pay raise goes into effect Jan. 1, 2002. The pay table does not include the proposed targeted pay raise President Bush is also proposing. If that pay raise is approved, all service members will receive a 5 percent pay raise with some mid-level NCOs and officers receiving as much as 10 percent.

Several Programs Suspended

Impact of Suspensions will affect many - Maybe you

Suspension of Navy's Participation in the Household Goods Reengineering Prototypes: Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC), Pilot Transportation Operational Personal Property Standard System (PTOPS); Full Service Moving Program (FSMP), and Sailor Arranged Move (SAM) Program may have a impact on you.

This article is to advise Navy members of the impact of the suspension of Navy's participation in the Household Goods (HHG) Reengineering Pilot Programs. The affected programs include: PTOPS Operating from the States of NC, SC, and FL; FSMP from National Capital Region, GA and ND; and SAM from FISC Norfolk, FISC San Diego, FISC Puget Sound, NAS Whidbey Island and SUBASE New London.

Suspension of Navy participation in the three pilot programs impacts less than six percent of all navy HHG moves scheduled for FY01. HHG entitlements as established by the Joint Federal Travel Regulations remain in effect. All members will continue to move their household goods on time. All HHG shipments scheduled under the pilot programs on or before 17 APR 01 will be completed

as originally scheduled. Effective 18 APR 01, scheduling of HHG moves for all Navy personnel will be performed by the Personal Property Shipping Offices under the traditional Government Bill of Lading (GBL) process. The suspension of the Three Pilot Programs does not diminish the Navy's commitment to improving the quality of life for naval personnel. Service members should be advised that the HHG Pilot programs were test programs only. It is imperative they be reassured and understand that suspension of participation in the pilots has no affect on their HHG entitlements.

When the Pilot Programs were fielded, there was an expectation that the cost would be higher than the traditional GBL. The costs seen to date are well above budget expectations. Since the HHG Pilot Programs were funded from existing resources, when the expenses exceeded available funding levels it was necessary to suspend the HHG pilots until sufficient funds become available. For additional assistance, please contact; Warren Bennett, (717) 605-5858 or DSN 430-5858; or John Fairchild, (717) 605-2403 or DSN 430-2403.

Marine Paint now available in Regional HAZMIN Center

The FISC Norfolk Hazardous Property Management Division now stocks marine paints in its HAZMIN Center in Building LF-50. The following colors/stock numbers apply:

8010-00-344-5309 Haze Gray
8010-00-344-5322 White
8010-00-344-5100 Soft White
8010-00-344-6700 Terracotta
8010-01-302-3608 Formula 150 Primer (10 gal. Kit)
8010-01-350-4742 Formula 150 (2 gal. Kit)
8010-01-350-4727 Deck Grey

These purchases require a DD Form 1149 for payment. You may pick up your orders at Building LF-50 or LF-50 personnel will deliver to the Piers. Any paint not in stock will be available within 48 hours. The POC for ordering is Craig Hughes at (757) 444-2024 or DSN 546-2024. See HAZMAT Pay on page 8.

Fleet Medical/Dental Customer Support

On July 06, 2001, Mr. Albert Ford

and Ms. Alma (Rona) Henry, Combat Logistics Force (CLF) Coordinators relieved LT Jackson, Fleet Medical & Dental Liaison Officer. LT Jackson transferred to Naval Hospital Sigonella, Italy as Head of the Material Management Department. Mr. Ford and Ms. Henry will continue to provide medical and dental customer support to the Fleet. They can be reached at (757) 443-1201/1876/1877 or DSN 646-1201/1876/1877.

Holiday Mail

Preparations for holiday mailing season are underway. A planning conference for Atlantic theater was held May 14-17. Reps from airlines, USPS, MPSA and all Services attended. Similar conference are planned for Pacific theater.

Pacific Military Posts Add More Numbers to Zip Codes

Postal officials at Pacific military bases are preparing to add four digits to ZIP codes to get letter mail into mailboxes much quicker. Stars and Stripes reports that postal officials stateside have used a nine-digit ZIP code for years, but a recent survey by the Joint Military Postal Activity-Pacific showed a potential labor savings by using the expanded codes on stateside mail

headed overseas. The nine-digit ZIP codes affect only letter mail. Packages will still be sorted by hand before being placed in large bags for shipment. Fliers will tell postal patrons which four numbers to add to their ZIP codes, and change-of-address cards also will be placed in boxes. Military units sending official mail should just add their unit number to the five-digit ZIP code.

Notice to All DoD Civilian Employees

Changes in Income Tax Withholding Effective July 1, 2001 new withholding tables may reduce the amount of income tax withheld from your wages paid after June 30, 2001. The reductions in tax withholding are due to reduction in the current 28% and higher tax brackets effective July 1, 2001. The new tables, prescribed by the Department of the Treasury, reflect a change resulting from the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001. If you do not want to have your withholding reduced, you may want to submit a change to your Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, information either in E/MSS or with your Customer Service Representative (CSR).



On Monday, March 12, 2001, the prime vendor afloat provision support was awarded to a new vendor, SYSCO Food Services of Hampton Roads, formerly known as Doughtie's SYSCO. Most of you, if not all, have by now experienced ordering and receiving stores from the new vendor; the FISC has heard raves of praise and at the same time complaints from you

the customers. As with any new adventure our expectation is not always fully met in the beginning but with a little time the value of the services become appreciated. FISC goal is customer satisfaction; when things are not going right with your orders/receipts/ product quality or timely delivery inform your FISC STORES operator and he/she will take the necessary actions to

ensure your problem is resolved in an expeditious manner. However, if you fail to tell us when you are experiencing a problem then, we can not correct it. We must work as a team to ensure contractual compliance, delivery of quality products, quantity ordered is quantity received and more importantly that you, the customer, are satisfied with services rendered. In the past six months, several meetings have been held with the contract administrator (DSCP-Philadelphia), prime vendor, TYCOM, FISC stores personnel - NAVSUP and VETCOM representatives in attendance- to improve the quality of Fleet support being offered. If you have inputs or concerns please pass them on.

New advanced food items are being added to your prime vendor catalog continuously. Please take the time to review your weekly catalog for these additions. Once the catalog is reviewed and you find there are brands of product that you do not like, do not hesitate to notify either your TYCOM Rep., FISC operator or DSCP manager and the product will be deleted. SYSCO of Hampton Roads has just completed the building of a giant storage warehouse to better support you the customers.

The following points of contact will be able to assist you in resolving any problems and furnish recorded status on scheduled deliveries. NAVAL Base Norfolk operators are: Margaret West-- 443 1166, Leroy Mcclan 443 1199, Joan Brown 443 1180, Lester Hyden 443 1206, Linda Deaton 443 1204; NAVAMPHIB Base Little Creek operator is also Leroy Mcclan 443-1199. Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) - operator is Barbra Banks 396 3462. The Scheduler is Sherry Garnett 4431202 or voice response system (VSR) 443 1198. The Veterinarian is Harold Sheridan 443 1213 who is always waiting to assist in inspections or training.

FYI News you can use

BAH increase began July 1

Service members in pay grades E-1 through E-4 who have families and live off base saw an increase in their allowance for housing July 1. The increase is the result of legislation aimed at helping junior enlisted families. On average, those in the E-1 through E-3 grades received a monthly increase of more than \$50. E-4s saw a smaller monthly boost of about \$11. Rates will remain the same for single service members. Housing allowances are based on rental costs, so the actual increase will vary, depending on the cost of living in that particular area. Service members stationed overseas receive housing allowances under a different system and are not affected.

Culinary/Nutrition Training.

Professional chefs from Culinary Institute of America completed culinary training aboard USS TORTUGA and USS BATAAN 18 and 25 May respectively...52 MSs trained. Nutrition Awareness training provided at NSCS on 23 May...100 BQC officers in attendance.

Enlisted Aide (EA) Program

Two EAs completed 4-week Advanced Culinary Arts Training program at Ft. Lee on 1 June...brings total number of EAs to receive training this FY to seven. Ten additional are scheduled this FY.

Advancement Exams

Starting next January, sailors taking advancement exams will find that the format has changed. Navy Europe News Service reports that the advancement exams will now consist of 200 questions, 50 more than before, and will include and increased emphasis on professional military knowledge (PMK). The biggest change will be in the chief petty officer exams, which will have an occupational / PMK ratio of 100/100. Ratios for E6 exams will be 115/85, 135/65 for E5, and 150/50 for E4. More information on the exams can be found at the Naval Advancement Center.

Mail

The Regional Navy Mail Center has added SUPSHIPS Newport News to its regular messenger system. Our daily messenger service to Yorktown and CAX now includes a stop at SUPSHIPS. This provides the direct delivery of items addressed to SUPSHIPS by all activities within our service area, along with being able to provide Navy ships in the shipyard with regular outgoing official mail processing.

Sixteen Sailors Graduate from CNET Pilot Program

By JO2 Eileen M. N. Kelly

The Chief of Naval Education and Training's (CNET) vision to train more Sailors faster, better and at less cost, recently came into focus at Fleet Training Center (FTC) Norfolk, Va. Sixteen fleet-wide Sailors graduated from the Cisco Networking Academy Program (CNAP) at FTC Norfolk. The program teaches students how to design, build and maintain small to medium-size computer networks.

CNET adapted the CNAP program for the Navy to teach in a non-traditional environment using a commercial curriculum. The Local Training Authority Hampton Roads (LTAHR), Va., implemented the program under the auspices of the Homeport Training initiative. The Navy is experiencing the same shortage of experienced network administrators that is affecting private industry. To combat this, the Navy is adapting its training to provide the right skills and offer opportunities that promote the "whole person" concept that leads to developing career Sailors.

The Cisco Corporation established the CNAP in 1997 in anticipation of an industry shortage of experienced network administrators. The program, initially designed for college students, is normally offered over four, nine-week semesters. The pilot program that was adapted for the Navy consisted of two semesters offered for a period of 14 weeks. The course consists of a Web-based curriculum, hands-on laboratory instruction, and mentoring and assessment tools. Students are guided through the course through a series of lectures, self-paced activities and group lab activities. The program enables students to design networks and work on projects closely related to their working environment. In one scenario, students designed an enterprise network for a battle group that is about to deploy overseas. The student-designed network offers electronic Program for Afloat College Education (PACE) courses to Sailors in the battle group.

Online and ready to assist Pierside Fleet Learning Resource Center Now Open

Fleet Learning Resource Center - Pierside training entered a new level on May 1, 2001 when a modern Learning Resource Center (LRC) opened in Norfolk, Virginia.

The LRC is the result of a joint venture between FISC; the Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET); Fleet Training Center, Norfolk; and Local Training Authority, Hampton Roads. It consists of two Advanced-Automated Electronic Classrooms (AEC), located in the Logistics Support Center (LSC) in building W-143, across from Pier 4. Fleet Sailors, their families, and DoD civilians will be able to use the classrooms for a variety of training applications, as well as for personal and professional development.

Fleet Sailors can use computers in the LRC to prepare for advancement exams, conduct research for off-duty classes, or to just "surf the 'net". It is also an interactive multimedia facility for individual, unit and team training. Their family members will have access to the LRC as well, so even if they don't have a computer at home, they can use a computer at the LRC to send email to their loved one at sea.

The LRC is open seven days a week (except holidays). Hours of operation are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday, the LRC is open from 8:00 to 4:00 p.m. Hours may change based on usage. Waterfront shuttle service will also be provided. Call the LRC at 443-1101 for more information.

Education = Career Path for Supply LDOs

Education continues to be an important part of a Supply Corps officer's career. Funding for two quotas for FY 02 to allow LDOs/CWOs to attend college to complete a bachelor's degree has been approved. Although this program is very similar to the former College Degree Program (CDP), several positive changes have been made. This program will not only satisfy one's personal educational goal but also increase LDO's/CWO's chance for redesignation to 3100. Redesignation to 3100 will increase opportunities to billets that will foster professional growth and offer additional education opportunities such as PG school, the 810 Program, and Junior/Senior War College. This bachelor education program may carry over to FY 03 contingent on out-year funding. The details for the program will be forthcoming in a NAVSUP Notice. All those who meet the selection criteria should submit applications to this program. Any questions can be addressed to LCDR Steve Gill, LDO/CWO detailer at DSN 882-4613 or e-mail P4412a@persnet.navy.mil.

New Flight Deck Trousers Debut on USS Enterprise

The next Navy "fashion trend" won't be seen on the runways of Paris, but on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier. USS Enterprise (CVN 65) was recently selected as the first deployed carrier authorized to wear the newly designed flight deck trousers. The ship is currently on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea. The Navy-blue trousers were designed and tested by the Naval Supply Systems Command, at Mechanicsburg, Pa., in conjunction with the Naval Clothing and Textile Research Facility, based at Natick, Mass. The new flight deck trousers are a 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton twill blend. Each pair costs approximately 25 dollars. After two initial designs were evaluated by the fleet, the final product was issued to Enterprise Sailors. "They're great, they feel better than any other uniform I've ever worn," said AN Donquell Brown of the ship's V-2 division. Although the new flight deck pants resemble the camouflage pants that have been used since 1997, there are some differences. Velcro straps secure the pockets instead of buttons and there are no adjustment strings. Unlike the camouflage pants, the new pants come in specific sizes.

NAVSUP/DLA Dedicated Truck Partnership

To improve scheduled delivery times and to reduce cost of logistics, NAVSUP and DLA completed Dedicated Truck Test between Defense Depot Susquehanna Pa. and Norfolk/Tidewater Va. on 18 May. Proved to be reliable means of delivery providing 'premium like' transportation at reduced cost. Test declared successful by both Navy and DLA. Continuing to implement at other Fleet concentration areas and Navy Regions, e.g., Jacksonville, Fla.; San Diego, Calif.; and Puget Sound, Wa.

Tricare Update

TRICARE Has New Toll-Free Phone Numbers The TRICARE e-mail news list reports that TRICARE has new toll-free telephone numbers. The telephone numbers below are staffed by experts who can help beneficiaries find out about TRICARE, TRICARE for Life, the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program and TRICARE Prime Remote for active duty and their family members. The telephone numbers are (1) TRICARE General info and Senior Pharmacy Program 1-877-DoD-MEDS (1-877-363-6337); (2)

Naval Institute Essay Contest Deadline Sept. 1

All enlisted personnel are invited to submit their essays to the U.S. Naval Institute Enlisted Essay Contest. Navy Europe News Service reports that cash prizes of \$1,500, \$1,000, and \$500 will be awarded to the authors of the three best essays on any subject relevant to military service. The contact is open to active-duty, reserve, and retired personnel of any service, branch, or country. The deadline for submitting essays is Sept. 1.

Winning essays will be published in the Naval Institute's flagship journal "Proceedings", in February, 2002. For a complete set of contest guidelines, visit <http://www.navalinstitute.org>, call (410) 295-1058.

Bank Makes Changes on Travel Cards

The Bank of America will initiate more fees in August to encourage cardholders to pay off their travel cards quickly and avoid cash advances. New changes include: (1) a penalty of \$29 for payments received 75 days past the closing date listed on the statement in which the charge first appeared; (2) a \$20 fee for expedited delivery of cards, which can be claimed on your travel voucher; (3) a \$29 penalty for returned checks; (4) for cash advances, a fee of \$2 per transaction or 3 percent of the transaction amount, whichever is greater; and (5) reduced credit lines on restricted and standard cards consistent with travel needs.

The Bank included the revised terms and agreement policy in its July statements. It is only a notice and cardholders do not need to reply.

Payment for Hazardous Material

This is a reminder that A-condition material is no longer issued to FISC Norfolk Hazardous Material customers without sufficient funding in place to cover the cost of their material requests. This policy was stated in FISC Norfolk Memorandum 7000/43.1 dated 15 Sep 2000.

In accordance with DOD financial regulations, no work will be performed except on the basis of reimbursable orders (funding) received and accepted. Acceptable funding documents include the NAVCOMPT 2275 or DD 1149 for Navy customers and DD 448 Military



Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR) for non-Navy customers, or other appropriate reimbursable documentation.

Funding documents should be mailed to the following address:

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center

1968 Gilbert St Suite 600

Attn: Code 43.1 (L. McCollum)

Norfolk, VA 23511-3392

In our continued commitment to provide the best customer service quality, FISC Norfolk is developing the capability to accept your Purchase Card for Hazmin purchases less than \$2500 per order. Use of the Purchase Card is considered a pre-pay process. We are testing the software, procedures and process, and expect to have this capability available for our Hazmin customers by 1 October 2001. We'll keep you advised of our progress. However, this new process will not cover 100% of our customer orders, so the stipulations concerning funding stated above will still be required for customer orders that exceed the card limit.

The point of contact for Hazardous Material financial information/billings is Ms. Lynn McCollum, (757) 443-1758/ Fax (757) 443-1587 (DSN 646)

