

UNCLASSIFIED/
FM CNO WASHINGTON DC//DNS//
TO NAVADMIN
UNCLAS//N05758//
NAVADMIN 299/12
MSGID/GENADMIN/CNO WASHINGTON DC/DNS/OCT//
REF/A/CNO/NAVADMIN 201642Z JUN 12//
NARR/REF A IS 237TH NAVY BIRTHDAY PLANNING ORDER//
SUBJ/237TH NAVY BIRTHDAY EXECUTE ORDER//
RMKS/1. THIS NAVADMIN UPDATES REF A AND PROVIDES AMPLIFYING INFORMATION
ON PARAGRAPH 7.C.1 OF REF A; BELL RINGING CEREMONY.
2. AMPLIFYING INFORMATION ON PARAGRAPH 7.C.4 OF REF A; HISTORY
STAND-DOWN.
A. DELETE "HISTORY STAND-DOWN" AND REPLACE WITH "READING OF HISTORICAL
MESSAGE."
B. ADD THE FOLLOWING HISTORICAL MESSAGE TEXT:
AS WE CELEBRATE OUR NAVY'S 237TH BIRTHDAY, OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE
FORMS OUR IDENTITY, TELLING US WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE STAND FOR. OUR
CORE VALUES OF HONOR, COURAGE AND COMMITMENT HAVE BEEN PASSED DOWN FROM
OUR FOUNDERS, WHO CHARGED THE NAVY WITH THE SOLEMN DUTY TO SERVE AS
THE "SHIELD" OF OUR REPUBLIC. THE FIRST REAL TEST OUR NAVY FACED
WAS DURING THE WAR OF 1812. THIS WAR BEGAN AT SEA WHEN UNITED
STATES SHIPS WERE ORDERED TO HEAVE TO UPON THE HIGH SEAS AND U.S.
CITIZENS WERE FORCEFULLY TAKEN, OR IMPRESSED, INTO THE CREWS OF
ANOTHER NATION'S SHIPS. THE GREAT BATTLES THAT FOLLOWED PROVED THE
FIGHTING METTLE OF OUR SAILORS AND THE CUTTING EDGE OF OUR SHIP
DESIGNS. THESE BATTLES ESTABLISHED BOTH FREE TRADE AND FREE
NAVIGATION AS CRITICAL NATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR COUNTRY, INTERESTS
THAT ENDURE TO THIS DAY. THE WARRIOR CHARACTERISTICS OF CUNNING
AND BOLDNESS EXHIBITED IN 1812 INSPIRE OUR SAILORS OF TODAY'S NAVY
AS THEY CONTINUE TO SERVE AROUND THE WORLD. THE WAR OF 1812 SERVED
AS A CRITICAL TURNING POINT FOR OUR NAVY.
ON THIS 237TH BIRTHDAY OF OUR NAVY, WE HAVE THE HONOR TO SERVE IN
THE GREATEST MARITIME FIGHTING FORCE THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN, BUT
WE DO SO WITH HUMILITY, CONTINUING TO BUILD UPON THE FRAMEWORK
THOSE FIGHTING SAILORS FORGED BEFORE US. HISTORY TEACHES US THAT
WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. FROM THE GREAT
CAPTAINS AND CREWS WHO FOUGHT SINGLE SHIP ACTIONS IN 1812 TO THE
COMMERCE RAIDERS OF THE CIVIL WAR; FROM THE CONVOYS OF WORLD WAR I
TO THE MAJOR FLEET ACTIONS AT CORAL SEA AND MIDWAY; FROM THE
BLOCKADE OF CUBA IN OCTOBER OF 1962 TO THE RIVERINE OPERATIONS ON
THE TIGRESS AND THE EUPHRATES, OUR NAVY HAS BOLDLY AND PROUDLY PUT
OUR SHOULDER TO THE WHEEL. WE HAVE CHAMPIONED PEACE AND WE CONTINUE
TO SHIELD THE REPUBLIC. HERE IS TO 237 YEARS OF PROUD NAVAL HERITAGE,
AND MANY MORE!
3. THE BELL RINGING CEREMONY WILL COMMENCE AT 0900 LOCAL TIME
12OCT2012.
A. THE BELL WILL BE RUNG NINE (9) TIMES.
(1) EIGHT BELLS, USED TO SIGNAL THE END OF THE WATCH, REPRESENTS THE
END OF THE CURRENT BIRTHDAY YEAR.
(2) READ THE HISTORICAL MESSAGE.
(3) THE SINGLE BELL (CEREMONIAL NINTH), TRADITIONALLY USED TO SIGNAL

THE START OF A NEW WATCH, REPRESENTS THE START OF A NEW YEAR, OUR 238TH.

4. VISIT NHHC'S WEBSITE FOR OTHER AVAILABLE PRODUCTS ASSOCIATED WITH HISTORICAL MATERIAL FOR OUR 237TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

(WWW.HISTORY.NAVY.MIL).

5 RELEASED BY VICE ADMIRAL R. W. HUNT, DIRECTOR, NAVY STAFF.