



Observer

NAVSEA
professionals team to
repair damage to USS
Denver in Pearl
Harbor. Story on
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Naval Sea Systems Command

Keeping America's Navy #1 in the World

September 2000

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The link joins all field activities with headquarters to allow the sharing of business process improvement experiences and best practices. Page 2

New destroyer to join the Fleet

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First Flight IIA Aegis destroyer commissioned

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Navy mine hunters hitch ride to Bahrain

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Theater Ballistic Missile Defense test launch successful

The test was the second successful flight in a week. Page 12

Top Story

Defense Appropriations Act signed, pay to rise 3.7 percent

By **Jim Garamone**
American Forces Press Service

President Clinton signed the fiscal 2001 Defense Appropriations Act, paving the way for a 3.7 percent pay raise for service members Jan. 1.

The budget of \$288 billion is an increase of \$18 billion over fiscal 2000 and about \$3.5 billion more than the president requested.

The act provides \$75.8 billion to pay a total of 1.382 million active duty personnel and 866,934 members of the reserve components.

The act also provides money for DoD to begin eliminating out-of-pocket housing costs. Currently, the Basic Allowance for Housing covers only about 81 percent of service members' housing costs if they live off base. DoD seeks to cut this 19 percent out-of-pocket expense to 15 percent in fiscal 2001 and to zero by 2005.

The Defense Health Program is funded at \$12.1 billion. That share includes money Congress added to support changes to the military pharmacy benefit. Members of Congress said the

legislation also would provide a blueprint for implementing permanent health care for retirees.

Congress matched the administration in funding operations and maintenance (O&M). O&M funding is set at \$96.9 billion in fiscal 2001. This is up from \$92.2 billion in fiscal 2000. The funding covers contingencies in Southwest Asia and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

Military modernization also got a boost from the act. Procurement for fiscal 2001 is set at \$59.2 billion. Major Army projects funded include \$729 million for Apache Longbow modifications, \$637 million for the medium armored vehicle family and \$294 million for Abrams tank upgrades.

In addition, the Army will receive \$1.6 billion to transform itself. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki called for the creation of 4,000-member quick strike brigades that can be deployed anywhere in the world in 96 hours. The appropriations act fully funds one such brigade and will equip a second brigade in 2001. The Army also received money to develop a

(See "Pay Raise" on p.3)

Key Communications

NAVSEA Business Process Interface Link online

By Craig McKay
NAVSEA Corporate Planning
Division

The Naval Sea Systems Command Business Process Interface Link (BPIL) represents all field activities with the mission to capture and share Business Process Improvement (BPI) experiences, opportunities and best practices among NAVSEA headquarters and field activities.

As the Navy gets smaller and more constrained by the budget, the sharing of information is a key NAVSEA strategy for - Keeping America's Navy #1 in the World.

The BPIL has developed a web site that shares best practices, process improvements, and other related topics.

The BPIL web site is located on the NAVSEA Intranet (<http://corp.navsea.navy.mil>) under "Teaming Efforts."

It can also be accessed via the Internet at <http://bpil.navsea.navy.mil> and is accessible to all navy.mil users. The web site includes:

- Listing of best practices as identified by the NAVSEA Inspector General Command Performance Inspections (CPI)

- "Good ideas" being implemented at NAVSEA activities

- Strategic Sourcing Functionality Assessment information (e.g. NSWC Crane Business and Process Reengineering (B&PR) presentations and B&PR Handbook)

- Related tools and training information

- Related web sites and more

In addition, the BPIL has formed a network of Business Process Improvement representatives at NAVSEA field activities.

The BPIL network communicates Business Process Improvement information throughout the corporation.

All members of the BPIL network are listed on the web site. The NAVSEA HQ point of contact is Craig McKay, NAVSEA Corporate Planning Division (SEA 09B1), 602-1175, ext. 350.

Sponsorship for the BPIL resides with NAVSEA's Business Transformation Executive Team's Change Standing Committee and the Business Process Strategic Goal Steward who provides overall guidance.

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