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# Navy EOD joins forces with Army to help clear ordnance from Baghdad



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Erica Gardner

Navy EOD technicians from Norfolk, Va., currently assigned to the Bahrain-based Special Operations Task Force 56, work with Army EOD technicians to prepare unexploded ordnance (UXO) for demolition at a safe disposal area in the vicinity of Baghdad in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and reconstruction efforts in Iraq. The joint Army-Navy EOD teams are working diligently to destroy sizable quantities of UXO spread throughout the country in an effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate weapons and ammunition available to insurgents for use against coalition troops.

By Lt. Cmdr Lisa Brackenbury  
*COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT*  
*Public Affairs*

BAGHDAD, Iraq — While much of the media's attention remains focused on the hunt for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) personnel are diligently working to protect coalition troops and Iraqi citizens from smaller and more deadly tools of individual devastation.

Buried mines, unexploded ordnance, rocket-propelled grenades, and objects called Improvised Explosive Devices, or IEDs, are just a few of the malicious objects threatening the future peace and stability of Iraq.

For the past six months, 14 Navy EOD technicians from Norfolk, Va., and currently assigned to Special Operations Task Force 56 based in Bahrain, have been fully integrated into U.S. Army EOD units spread throughout Baghdad, responding to daily calls from U.S. and coalition military police, Iraqi police, and even Iraqi citizens, to investigate suspicious objects. While conditions are improving daily in Iraq, there are still those opposed to the U.S. presence who continue to attack people and infrastructure with explosives designed to wreak havoc on military convoys, innocent civilians and ultimately, the rebuilding process.

"Probably the biggest threat to coalition personnel in Iraq, and

especially in Baghdad, comes from the enemy hiding explosives within mostly commonplace objects, such as cola cans, trash bags, and even MRE [Meals-Ready-to-Eat] packages, making them very dangerous IEDs," said Navy Chief Petty Officer Charles Hashek, who is working with the Army's Third Brigade Combat Team (BCT) operating in Baghdad. Hashek is the current Navy EOD record holder thus far in his one-month-old deployment, with 24 disarmed IEDs. "One of the positive aspects of the work we're doing is that we're all gaining a lot of experience in handling IEDs. We've had to continually adjust our tactics and how we employ ourselves and our equipment in order to keep up with the changing tactics of the enemy. We're keeping a long list of lessons learned to pass down to our training commands."

"Neither the Navy nor the Army has ever dealt with this number of IEDs in such a short period of time," said Army Lt. Col. Tim Eberhard, commander of all EOD forces in country. "37 teams handle between 3800 to 4000 incidents per year in the U.S. Here in Iraq, our teams have responded to more than 4500 IED calls in the past three months alone."

Small, inexpensive, easily constructed, and now with relatively sophisticated remote-detonation capability, material for

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**EOD - from front page**

constructing IEDs is easy enough to find. "Any explosives that can be looted, stolen or easily obtained are used by the insurgents to make IEDs," explained Army 1st. Sgt. Larry Cushing. "The city has ammunition all over the place ... in schools, mosques, and even hospitals. We find it everywhere, from World War I-era bombs, to rocket-propelled grenades." Insurgents simply steal the hardware, remove the explosives, and pack the material into items that would normally not warrant a passing glance. In a densely packed city teeming with loose trash on sidewalks, streets and in buildings, IEDs are almost impossible to find until it is too late.

The solution for reducing and ultimately eliminating the IED threat is to collect this unexploded ordnance (UXO) and destroy it using demolition procedures in controlled environments. The challenge is moving the UXO from locations throughout the country to captured ammo holding areas (CAHAs) or safe holding areas (SHAs), then destroying the weapons in safe disposal areas (SDAs).

"We are now moving roughly 60 five-

ton truckloads of ammunition per day out of Baghdad alone," said Eberhard. "With the help of the four civilian contracting companies we recently hired, we should be able to get up to 100 truckloads per day. That should give you an idea of just how much ammo is still out there."

The joint Navy and Army EOD forces of Third BCT dispose of about 2,000 to 2,500 pounds of ordnance each week. Any arms not destroyed by coalition EOD forces will be stored for possible future use by the Iraqi Army currently being developed and trained by coalition forces.

Although a few of the Navy EOD members had previously worked with Army personnel in exercises such as Bright Star in Egypt, most had never before operated with their counterparts. Fortunately, thanks to their common language revolving around "blowing stuff up," these unique teammates quickly bonded into cohesive units capable of effectively working together to save lives and Iraqi property.

"The Navy is strong on water, and the Army is strong on land," said Army Sgt. Keith Adams. "Since we've been working together, we've tried to use each other's strengths to our advantage. I wish we worked more together during our training, but at least the situation here is giving us a chance to learn from each other."

Army Sgt. Micah Long agreed. "At first

there were challenges. The Navy teams are organized differently than our Army teams, for example the Navy's team leader is an E-7 [Chief Petty Officer]. Our team leader is an E-6 [Staff Sgt.]. Our teams are also different sizes, and some of the equipment we use is different. But overall, because we have the same goals, the integration is working," Long said.

Navy EOD's ability to deploy quickly with minimal equipment and personnel also worked in the Army's favor.

"Navy EOD teams are highly mobile, and with the Army already stretched a bit thin, it made sense for us to step in and integrate with their highly capable teams already in place," Hashek said. "U.S. forces have never had to deal with IED situations like this before. Our primary challenges revolve around Baghdad's urban environment and not having enough interpreters to assist us in dealing with the crowds that result from our presence during IED calls. We're not doing training missions out here."

The teams expect to be in country until at least after Christmas. But even though they'd like to be home with their families during the holidays, these dedicated Sailors and Soldiers know their mission is important.

"I miss my family, but I love the work," Long said. Hashek agreed, "It's been an experience so far. It feels good to be contributing to the future of Iraq." 🇮🇶



Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet, is **Vice Adm. David C. Nichols, Jr.**

The Scimitar is an authorized publication for the men, women and families serving overseas in the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command area. The editorial content of The Scimitar is prepared, edited and provided by Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/Commander, U.S. Fifth Fleet Public Affairs Office. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof.

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U.S. Navy photo by PH1(AW) Ernest Hunt  
Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Vern Clark, greets Vice Adm. David C. Nichols, Jr., Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/ Commander, 5th Fleet at the Bahrain International Airport Aviation Unit. CNO made a brief stop in Bahrain after visiting naval counterparts in the region.

## U.S. Coast Guard port security units with Naval Coastal Warfare ensure security in Arabian Gulf



U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA2 Kyle Niemi

A patrol boat squad from Coast Guard Port Security Unit 308 patrols the harbor at the port of Shuaybah, Kuwait, Sept. 21, 2003. PSU 308, from Gulfport, Miss., an integral part of Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron 30, which is in turn a major part of Naval Coastal Warfare Group One-Forward, are responsible for maintaining security for this major port of arrival of military supplies as well as Kuwait and Iraqi commerce.

By PA2 Kyle Niemi, USCG

*Coast Guard Forces Southwest Asia  
Public Affairs*

Coast Guard members supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, are working closely with Navy commands to provide security ensuring the safe and smooth flow of commerce and military supplies into and out of the port of Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait.

Port Security Unit 308, from Gulfport, Miss., has been deployed to the coalition base of Camp Spearhead in Ash Shuaybah since August. The unit is under the command of Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron 30 (NCWRON30) that, in turn, takes orders from Naval Coastal Warfare Group One-Forward.

The commodore of NCWGRU ONE(Forward) is Capt. Allen C. Painter.

"We have a pretty good sized Coast Guard contingent," he said. Of the 51 members of NCWRON30's command element, 19 are Coast Guardsmen.

Cmdr. Will K. Dailey is the executive officer of NCWRON30. He said their mission is to provide force protection for the port.

"That's a very tough problem. It's a complex, sophisticated problem." At a port

like Ash Shuaybah, he explained, "you've got to deal with all the commercial and industrial problems."

"What you have is a very complicated solution that requires a lot of integration," he said. "The solution to the problem is

very dependent upon the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard brings capabilities that are very different from the Navy."

"There's a long list of things the Coast Guard can provide us to help make this problem smoother," Dailey said. "Because they are Coast Guard officers, they have the right to go onboard and inspect any vessel. The Navy can't do that," he explained.

"The Coast Guard generally has a much better understanding of cargo and container vessels. They can communicate with the port authority smoothly and they understand the issues," Dailey said.

Alongside the port security units, Painter commands mobile inshore undersea warfare units and inshore boat units. "The MIUW unit is the surveillance asset. The IBU and the PSUs are the interdiction assets," he said.

"Within that organization, the PSU brings some unique things. They have different types of boats," he said. "The IBU boats are a little bit bigger so we layer the defenses.

Painter explained that while the Navy ships operate at sea, he utilizes the port security unit's boats, "closer in to the ships in the port that we're trying to protect."

Another significant advantage, Dailey said is, "the fact that they come with a mari-

*See USCG - page 5*



U.S. Coast Guard photo by PA2 Kyle Niemi

A small boat patrol by Port Security Unit 308 ensures the safety and security of the commerce and military traffic at the port of Ash Shuaybah, Sept. 25, 2003.

# Firehawks Participate in Iraqi Freedom

By JO2 Rebecca Horton,  
Navy Region Southwest  
Public Affairs

The "Firehawks" of Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron (HCS) 5 are currently in Iraq, mobilized and deployed for the first time since Operations Desert Storm/Desert Shield.

HCS-5 was the first naval air squadron deployed to Iraq, and the Firehawks still remain in theater.

"We have been called on to support Operation Iraqi Freedom for an indefinite amount of time," said Aviation Structural Mechanic (Structures) 1st Class Richard Segla, HCS-5 work center supervisor.

A squadron solely comprised of Reservists, HCS-5 is one of two squadrons in the Navy dedicated to Naval Special Warfare support and combat search and rescue.

Due to the uniqueness of their primary missions, service members from the squadron can tell you they don't have the ordinary requirements of a Reserve unit.

"Our Selected Reservists dedicate more time than one weekend a month and two weeks a year," said Cmdr. Russell Allen, HCS-5 executive officer. "The mission is challenging, and the training requirements are high."

Pilots with HCS-5 are some of the most experienced helicopter pilots in the Navy, according to Allen. The average pilot has 12.5 years of experience flying, more than 2,600 logged military flight hours and more than seven years of mission experience.

The air crew members assigned come from all different ratings. "We are qualified in multiple weapons and tactics, and some of us can operate as search and rescue medical technicians," said Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class (AW/NAC) Kenneth Maust, HCS-5 air crew member.

"Every Sailor in our squadron is truly dedicated to his or her job," Allen said.

In addition to the well-prepared crew, the Firehawks took four Sikorsky HH-60H Seahawk helicopters with them to Kuwait and Iraq.

"Our aircraft lead the Navy with mission system and weapon system upgrades," said Lt. Cmdr. Matt Scribner, HCS-5 pilot and operations department head. "With them, we are able to operate in a medium-threat environment, close to the ground. It's just what we need to complete our primary missions."

The HH-60H Seahawk, manned with two pilots and two or three air crew members, is capable of flying low levels and long distances at night, in challenging operational environ-

ments. It can land on any surface with the intent of inserting or extracting personnel. Aircraft Survivability Equipment on the helo enables the flight crew to defend themselves against infrared and radar-guided missiles.

In March, 70 percent of the squadron's Selective Reservists were called to active duty in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We mobilized 75 people and deployed to Kuwait within 10 days," Allen said. "We arrived in March to support U.S. Central Command, Special Operations Command Central, and Joint Special Operations Air Component."

"While we were in Kuwait, we were constantly switching back and forth between MOPP [Mission Oriented Protective Posture] levels," Segla said. "There was one time when I was sleeping, and awoke to a loud bang. It was louder than any sound I had ever heard. About a minute later I heard the sirens from the Code Red alarm, and had to get back in full MOPP gear and run to the bunker."

"We were all hunkered down in the bunker. It was really eerie and quiet," Segla said.

"We found out later that a scud missile had been shot down within seconds of impacting the camp," Segla continued. "I think

See Firehawks - page 6



## Command Religious Program Naval Support Activity Bahrain



### Weekly Schedule of Events

Monday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain's Office Chapel Annex 1700 - Gospel Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility
Tuesday	1130 - Praise Ministry - Chapel Training Facility 1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain's Office Chapel Annex 1830 - Gospel Bible Study, Chaplain Parker's flat
Wednesday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 1630 - Catholic Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1730 - Protestant Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1830 - Gospel Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1830-2000 - Alien Youth Group Bible Study (grades 9-12), Bahrain School Room NTC 2000 - Gospel Praise Dancer's rehearsal, POC Elder Sorrells
Thursday	1130 - Praise Ministry- Chapel Training Facility 1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain's Office Chapel Annex 1630-1700 - Confessions, Chapel/Training Facility 1730 - Catholic Vigil Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 1830 - Gospel Intercessory Prayer Ministry, POC Miller 1830 - Children's Choir Practice - Chapel/Training Facility. POC Sister Diane
Friday	0815 - Catholic CCD classes. POC Monika Thompson 0930 - Catholic Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 0930 - Protestant Adult Friday School II in the CPO Lounge at the Dome 1100 - Protestant Worship Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1130 - Gospel Friday School Class, Navy College Classroom #2 1300 - Gospel Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1330 - Gospel Children's Church ages 5-10 in the CDC, POC Mrs. Fulson 1830 - Catholic Bible Study- Fr. Borger's flat
Saturday	0730 - Protestant Single and Geo-Bachelor Men's Study in the Dome Conference room 1545 - Protestant Campaigner's Youth Bible Study, Bahrain School Rm 53 POC Ketan
Sunday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain's Office Chapel Annex 1800 - Protestant Evening Worship Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1900 - Gospel Praise Dancer's rehearsal, POC Elder Sorrells

#### Laypeople:

Muslim- CTCM Young  
Latter Day Saints- Cmdr. Hansen  
Jewish- Lt. j.g. Frey  
United Pentacostal- CW3 Moody

#### NSA Chaplain Staff:

Cmdr. Marshall, Command Chaplain  
Lt. Borger, Catholic Chaplain  
RP1(SW) Jefferson-Brooks  
RP2 Harris  
RPSN McCalister  
**NAVCENT Chaplain Staff:**  
Capt. Tidd, Command Chaplain  
Cdr. Parisi, Catholic Chaplain  
RP2 Mosqueda

Questions regarding Command Religious Programs, please contact NSA Bahrain Chaplain's office at 439-4235/4303 or 724-235/303, Sunday - Thursday.

Event participation contingent upon Force Protection Conditions

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time security force that deploys to control the landward side. When you defend a harbor, you actually have a 360-degree ring that you're defending.

"And, so that's exactly how we use them — we put them on the very inner circle of defending on the blue side and the landside to tie them together."

"They've expanded our capability to execute the missions that are assigned to us," Painter said. "They're a very well-trained and capable force."

"The Coast Guard provides a tremendous value," Dailey agreed. "They have skills that we do not train and those skills are essential. Understanding the problem, mission, and threats that you're countering is critical. The body of knowledge for

doing this job is evenly split between Navy assets and Coast Guard assets. And, I think it would be a challenge to do it without the Coast Guard assets."

Coast Guard PSU 308 will continue to provide the security necessary to protect the port of Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait and all commerce to ensure the stability of a rebounding Kuwaiti economy. They will also protect the valuable military resources on their way to and from newly-liberated Iraq.

These vessels can only accomplish their missions thanks to a successful integration of that U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy forces. The Navy sailors and Coast Guardsmen of NCWGRU ONE, NCWRON30, and PSU 308 will continue to provide the necessary security to this crucial port.



# NSA Paradise Theater

THURSDAY	
16	1530 Finding Nemo (G)
	1730 The Italian Job (PG-13)
	1930 China Town (R)
FRIDAY	
17	1530 Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas (G)
	1730 Bruce Almighty (PG-13)
	1930 Legally Blonde 2 (PG-13)
SATURDAY	
18	1530 Bud (PG)
	1730 Alex and Emma (PG-13)
	1930 2 Fast 2 Furious (PG-13)
SUNDAY	
19	1730 Dumb and Dumberer (PG-13)
	1930 Hulk (PG-13)
MONDAY	
20	1730 Small Soldiers (PG-13)
	1930 Basic Instinct (R)
TUESDAY	
21	1730 The Italian Job (PG-13)
	1930 Lara Croft 2: The Cradle of Life (PG-13)
WEDNESDAY	
22	1530 Ghostbusters (PG)
	1730 Crocodile Dundee (PG13)
	1930 The Peacemaker (R)

**BRUCE ALMIGHTY** (PG-13) Jim Carey & Jennifer Aniston: A "human interest" television reporter in Buffalo, NY is discontented with almost everything in life despite his popularity and his love for his girlfriend. At the end of the worst day of his life, he angrily ridicules God, and God gives him a response. He challenges the disgruntled reporter to take on his job to see if he can do better. (101 min)

**LEGALLY BLONDE 2** (PG-13) Reese Witherspoon & Sally Field: Sassy post-grad Elle Woods is all about animal rights. In fact, she puts her nuptial plans on hold to head to Washington D.C. to get an anti-animal testing bill passed where her building's doorman quickly shows her the ways and workings of our government and nation's capital. (95 min)

**ALEX & EMMA** (PG-13) Luke Wilson & Kate Hudson: An author with writers block and gambling habits that put him deeply in debt, hires a young stenographer to help him finish his novel in 30 days so he can pay off a loan shark. As he begins to dictate the novel, the opinionated stenographer challenges his ideas at every turn and eventually ends up changing everything. (96 min)

**DUMB & DUMBERER** (PG-13) Eric Christian Olsen & Derek Richardson: Set in 1986 when mentally challenged best friends, Harry and Lloyd were teenagers, this is the madcap comic tale of their attempt to get out of the "special needs" department and into regular high school life. (85 min)

**HULK** (PG-13) Eric Bana & Jennifer Connelly: While working on genetic DNA experiment programs, Dr David Banner uses himself as a guinea pig. The experiment fails but his damaged DNA is passed on to his son who many years later, like his dad, works in a research lab where he is accidentally exposed to radiation that transforms his into the incredible HULK. (138 min)

**SMALL SOLDIERS** (PG-13) Kirsten Dunst & Gregory Smith: Technology runs amok when computer chips designed for space age weapons are used in children's action figures. When a small boy's army of toy soldiers suddenly comes to life and begins to wage war on the Gorgonites, the town of Winslow Corners will never be the same. (109 min)

**THE PEACEMAKER** (R) George Clooney & Nicole Kidman: When two Russian trains collide, a nuclear explosion eliminates all evidence of what caused the crash. Some experts have doubts about the accident and believe it was just a cover up for the sale of weapons to rogue governments. One nuke seems to have fallen into the hands of a terrorist who wants to blow up Manhattan. (118 min)

**LARA CROFT 2: THE CRADLE OF LIFE** (PG13) Angelina Jolie & Gerard Butler: Archaeologist extraordinaire Lara Croft must face her greatest challenge yet after she discovers a sphere that is said to contain the mythical "Pandora's Box" in an underwater temple, only to have it stolen from her by the leader of a Chinese crime syndicate and a villain who wants to use it as a doomsday weapon. (130 min)

**CHINA TOWN** (R) Jack Nicholson & Faye Dunaway: Jake is a private investigator who makes his living by following unfaithful spouses. When a woman asks him to get the goods on her husband, it's easy money. But when the husband is found dead, Jake decides to look a little closer, and what he finds will lead him through a world of shady characters, and plots within plots. (103 min)

**THE ITALIAN JOB** (PG-13) Mark Wahlberg & Edward Norton: In this remake, a mastermind thief pulls off an amazing gold bullion heist from a heavily guarded palazzo in Venice, Italy, only to be double crossed by one of his crew. He travels to California with his former gang to re-steal the gold by manipulating traffic signals from a thief. (103 min)

*Firehawks - from page 4*

that's the closest I've ever been to being killed. That's when it hit me that the war was real. I recognized the value of all the training and practice drills we had gone through."

Throughout the war, the Firehawks worked 12 hours on, 12 hours off.

"We did a lot of training while we waited for mission approval to come through," said Senior Chief Aviation Electrician's Mate (AW/NAC) Michael Walden, air crew member and operations senior chief. "We trained on how to evade the enemy and effectively recover special operations personnel, in addition to weapons and medical training."

Training is not something new to the Firehawks. Because their primary mission is special operations and combat search and rescue, they are constantly training with SEALs (Sea Air Land), and participating in exercises around the world.

"We train at night in the mountains, the desert and the jungle. We train in both littoral and maritime environments," Allen said. "We have conducted training exercises in Thailand, Australia, Alaska and Chile. Our training enables our pilots and aircrew to perform their duties anywhere in the world and to be able to go where we are needed, no matter what."

Although the majority of their flights in the Iraqi theater have been supporting special operations ground forces missions, both in urban and rural areas, they have also provided support in other ways to the military.

"We have performed some secondary missions since being deployed to Iraq," Allen said. "During Iraqi Freedom we worked with PSYOPS [psychological operations] in dropping leaflets over Iraqi cities explaining to the Iraqi army how to surrender."

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By JO3 Shawnee McKain

Force Journalist

Capt. Jay Smith, Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity Bahrain has proclaimed October as domestic violence awareness month throughout NSA Bahrain.

Domestic violence is defined as a pattern of behavior used to establish power and control over an intimate partner through fear and intimidation, and this behavior can include physical violence.

"The Deputy Secretary of Defense issued a memorandum that domestic violence will not be tolerated within the Department of Defense," said Ann C. Wilson, the Family Advocacy Representative at NSA's Fleet and Family Support Center. "The same goes for NSA Bahrain."



U.S. Navy Photo by PH1(AW) Shane Wallenda  
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/ Commander, 5th Fleet, Vice Adm. David C. Nichols, Jr. and Rep. Jim Saxton of New Jersey talk with the Congressman's nephew, Marine Cpl. Curtis Hazen, currently stationed in Bahrain. Congressman Saxton is part of a bipartisan congressional delegation visiting the Middle East on an official fact-finding trip.

The Firehawks have also participated in military operations in urban terrain, and helped with medical and casualty evacuations. Altogether they have flown more than 390 sorties and logged more than 850 flight hours.

Since the Firehawks hadn't been mobilized since Desert Storm, there were challenges that the squadron was faced with in the beginning.

"Once we moved into Iraq, we were in an unsupported environment," Scribner said. "Logistically, it took a little bit of time to get established. It was hard to find parts and we were dealing with a lot of additional maintenance because of the sand and dust."

"Initially getting simple things, like food and water was difficult," Walden said. "We built a shower and an outhouse, and eventually things started to fall into place."

"We really had to work together and learn to multi-task," Scribner said.

Although the Firehawks are in Iraq for an indefinite amount of time, Walden, Segla, Scribner and Maust recently returned home and are scheduled to go back in the coming months.

"Our goal is to keep Sailors in theater for 90- to-120 days at a time," Allen said. "We are constantly rotating through the squad." 📷

According to Department of Defense statistics, domestic violence is the leading cause of injuries to women between the ages of 15 and 44 in the United States – more than car accidents, muggings and rapes combined.

The Navy's Family Advocacy Program (FAP) focuses on domestic violence prevention, identification, treatment, follow-up, and reporting. FAP also addresses domestic violence issues for non-married couples. Family Advocacy's goal is to prevent domestic violence, intervene effectively when incidents do occur, promote healthy family life and improve readiness and retention.

"We are all a part of the prevention," Wilson said. "If we know or suspect domestic violence or even child abuse and neglect, it

is our job to report it."

According to Wilson, you just have to have a suspicion of abuse. If you see someone with some unexplained injuries, or even if someone tells you it's happening, you must report it or encourage the alleged victim to report it.

When FAP receives a report, they only consider it an allegation. Facts are then gathered and the allegation is investigated.

To report known or suspected spouse/intimate partner abuse or to schedule training, contact Ann C. Wilson, Family Advocacy Representative, at 439-9026 or 829-026. To receive additional information regarding services provided by the Counseling and Advocacy Division at the Fleet and Family Support Center, call 439-4046 or 724-046. 📷