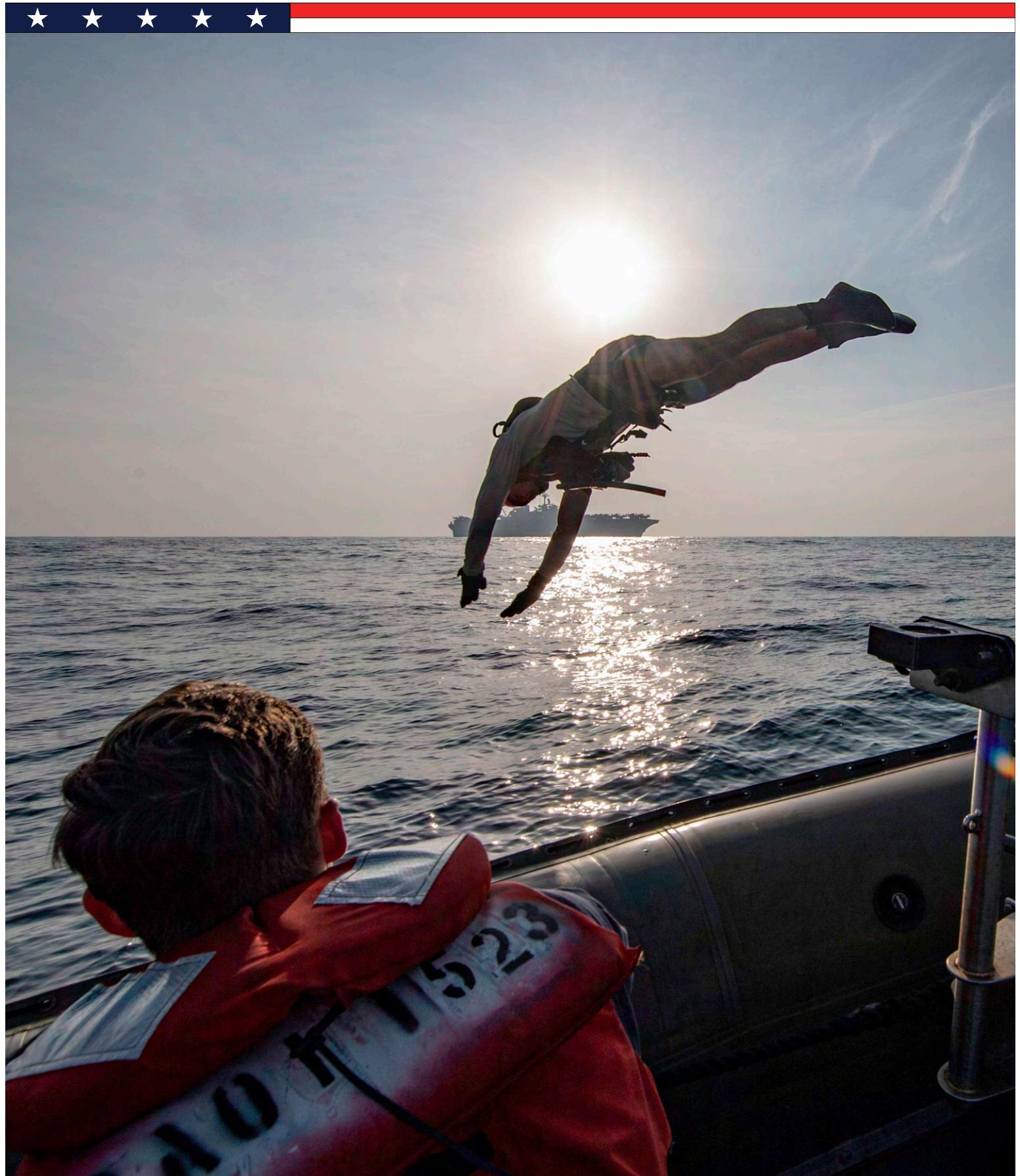


TAKE NOTICE



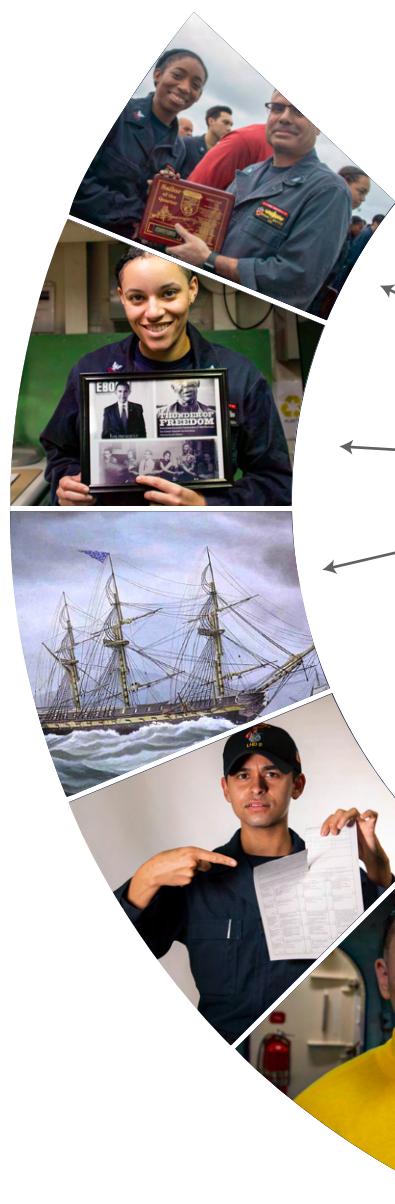
The Voice of the Iron Gator

28 February, 2019



Featured

in this edition



- **3 CO's Letter to the Crew**
- **6 Tigers get Underway**
By MC2 Chandler Harrell
- **13 Navy Jacks**
Learn about this week's ESWs topic.
- **14 Faces of S-2**
Meet the Sailors of S-2!
- **18 Around the Deckplates**
What was your favorite part of Tiger Cruise?

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Sailors *of the* Quarter



AO1 COURTNEY
SANDERS

What does being selected mean to you?

It is a weapons department accomplishment. It is my mentor's accomplishment. It is my junior Sailors' accomplishments and most of all; it is my family's accomplishment. Being selected as the Essex SSOQ is a huge thank you to all because I wouldn't have gotten to this point without all of their support!

Who or what do you attribute to your success? What motivates you?

My family. My mentor. My weapons family and chain of command. My family and my mentor for being with me and supporting me during the different adjustments I had to make up to this point in my Navy career. My weapons COC for allowing me to not only be the leading petty officer for weapons G-3 division, the biggest division in weapons, but believing in me and supporting me 100% knowing that even without having the experience of being stationed on a ship, I am able to make a huge impact in weapons department in helping to build something special with our junior Sailors. They are the future of the Essex and will help carry the Essex weapons department through the next deployment safely and efficiently. IYAOYAS!

Being nominated takes a lot of work. What advice would you give to peers hoping to be selected next quarter?

Be confident, motivated and ready to work hard. Be humble, respectful and let your work speak for you. Be open-minded and receptive to constructive criticism and mentorship.

What does being selected mean to you?

This award is not just about me. Not only do I represent myself, but I also represent my work center "Cal Lab," my division IM03 and my department AIMD. We have all put forth great effort to ensure that Essex is at its highest readiness! This award shows that our hard work does not go unnoticed and is motivation to continue to strive for excellence.



AT2 CAMILLE
YEARWOOD

Why do you think your department nominated you for this quarter?

I think I was nominated for this quarter because my chain of command saw the work I was putting in and believed that I could best represent the department for the quarter. I also think it's because my jokes are pretty funny.

What advice would you give to someone trying to earn JSOQ?

Some advice I would give is to make sure you work hard in your own rating, but also make sure you step out of your comfort zone and help out your command. Join committees or volunteer whenever you get the chance. You might even like doing it without realizing it. Being selected as the JSOQ to me means that I am doing what I am supposed to be, which is progressing in my paygrade as a worker and a leader. It makes me believe that hard work indeed does not go unnoticed, and makes me want to work even harder.



AO3 DAVONNE
SCALES

Why do you think your department nominated you for this quarter?

I think my department nominated me because of my hard work and dedication to always complete my tasks at 110%.

Who or what do you attribute to your success? What motivates you?

What attributes to my success are my little brothers. I always want to be a good role model for them. What motivates me are my fellow shipmates. Seeing them reach their goals, shows me there's always more to get and I can continue working hard.



YNSN YANDERIA
MARTE

WARRIORS OF THE DAY



CPL Alip
Millington, TN

YN3 Wilson
Bluffton, SC



LCPL Pait
Daytona Beach, FL



LCPL Williams
Weaver, AL



CPL Maxwell
West Des Moines, IA



HTFN Bach
Prior Lake, MN



History and Heritage

1. Where does the title “admiral” come from?

2. When was the first Army vs. Navy football game and who won?

3. What was the name given to the first African-American officers commissioned in 1944?

4. What ship remained afloat during the Battle of Okinawa despite being struck by four bombs and kamakazi aircraft?

5. Who tightened grooming standards following the Vietnam War?

5. Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.

4. USS *Laffey* (DD-724).

3. The Golden Thirteen.

2. November 29, 1890, Navy won 24-0.

1. Arabic, amir al bahr, “Commander of the Sea.”

**“Nothing
matches a
Sailor’s
kiss
coming
back home
where he
belongs.”**

— Sameh Elsayed

*CPL Romine
Bowling Green, KY*



*SGT Perez
Phoenix, AZ*



*IS3 Wilson
San Diego, CA*



*IC3 Bruno
San Antonio, TX*



*CPL Hill
Freeport, NY*



*SN Romo
Lindale, TX*



LetYourVoiceBeHeard

Story by MC2 Chandler Harrell



Not many people can say they are related to people who show up in history books. While in 7th grade, Electronics Technician 2nd Class Tara Montgomery was asked do to a project for Black History Month. She went to her aunt for help and discovered a surprise about her own heritage. Her grandmother, Bernice Montgomery, was the first black woman to register to vote in Holmes County, Mississippi.

"My aunt showed me that she was featured in Ebony Magazine," said Montgomery. "She was in history books and things like that. I read the article and I immediately went online to look her story up. I didn't have the opportunity to learn from her while she was still alive. When you Google something, you don't expect to see a picture of your grandma."

Bernice Montgomery was a science and math teacher at the all-black Mount Olive Elementary and High School. Her husband, Eugene, was a farmer. Both were heavily involved in the civil rights movement in Mississippi during the 1960s. She marched, participated in bus boycotts and organized with community leaders. Her most

noteworthy accomplishment was her participation in the Holmes County voter registration movement.

According to the book "Thunder of Freedom: Black Leadership and the Transformation of Mississippi" by Sue Lorenzi Sojourner, less than 7% of Holmes County's eligible black adults were registered to vote in the early 1960s. In many places



"That's when Miss Bernice handed a United States history book to the registrar and began to recite the Constitution word by word"

across the south, black people faced many problems trying to exercise their right to vote. Most would have to pay poll taxes, take literacy tests and sometimes perform even more humiliating, unorthodox "tests" in order to register. Even after the Voting Rights Act passed in 1965, it took a long time for black voters to register unburdened by these discriminatory practices.

In an interview for the book, ET2 Montgomery's aunt Zelpha Montgomery-Whatley recounted the story of her parents' struggle to obtain voting rights in December 1964.

"My dad, Mr. Eugene, went into the voter registration office first," said Montgomery-Whatley. "He asked to register to vote. He was told it was against the law, but if he insisted, he would have to do two things: pay a special tax, called a poll tax, and tell Mr. McClellan how many bubbles were on a bar of soap. He refused to pay the voting tax and certainly couldn't count the bubbles on a bar of soap."

Next came Bernice Montgomery, and like her husband, the office demanded that she pay a poll tax. However, because her teaching career painted her as more intelligent than the average black person, they devised a more demanding test than counting soap bubbles. According to the book, it was not uncommon for registrars to make black voters recite passages of the Mississippi state constitution. Bernice was asked to recite the entirety of the U.S. Constitution. She was denied registration that day, but

this would not be where she let things end.

On January 28, 1965, Bernice Montgomery returned to the courthouse to register. The registrar mockingly reminded her that his requirements still stood.

"That's when Miss Bernice handed a United States history book to the registrar," said Montgomery-Whatley. "She began to recite the Constitution word by word, not stammering or missing a single word. Courthouse employees gathered in the doorway. When she finished, the registrar, in absolute amazement, granted Bernice Patton Montgomery her constitutional right to register and vote."

Many involved with the voter rights movement in Mississippi, especially in Holmes County, faced horrible backlash. Those involved often lost their jobs, were harassed by police or even targeted with acts of violence. Many of Bernice Montgomery's colleagues feared that she would be fired for her actions. Thankfully, she was not. She continued to teach and work on programs benefitting the black community.

After Bernice Montgomery's death, Zelpha Montgomery-Whatley continued her mother's legacy. Not only has she recounted the story to historians, but she has taken over running Miss Bernice's Place, a home for the elderly founded by her mother.

ET2 Montgomery also continues her grandmother's legacy by being part of the ship's Command Resiliency Team (CRT). The CRT works directly with the Command Managed Equal Opportunity (CMEO) representatives to promote a climate of fairness and combat discrimination. She also wishes to become more involved with civilian organizations after this deployment. Her grandmother's story is not just a family anecdote for her. It's a call to action.

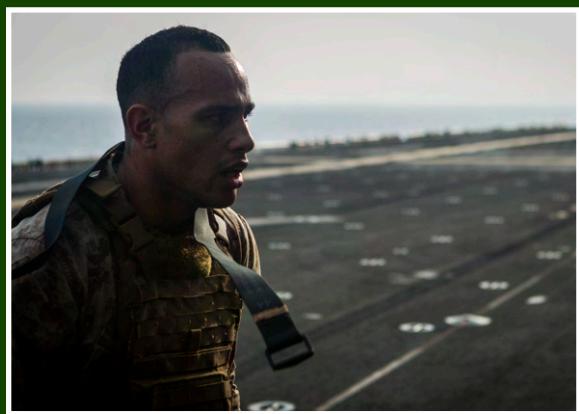
"As an African American community, our voices were suppressed," said ET2 Montgomery. "At one point, we were represented as only three-fifths of our counterparts. I think that the Civil Rights movement shows that we have a voice, and if you use that voice, it will be heard. I think that's motivation to the younger generation, showing that if you speak up, you will be heard."



THIS WEEK

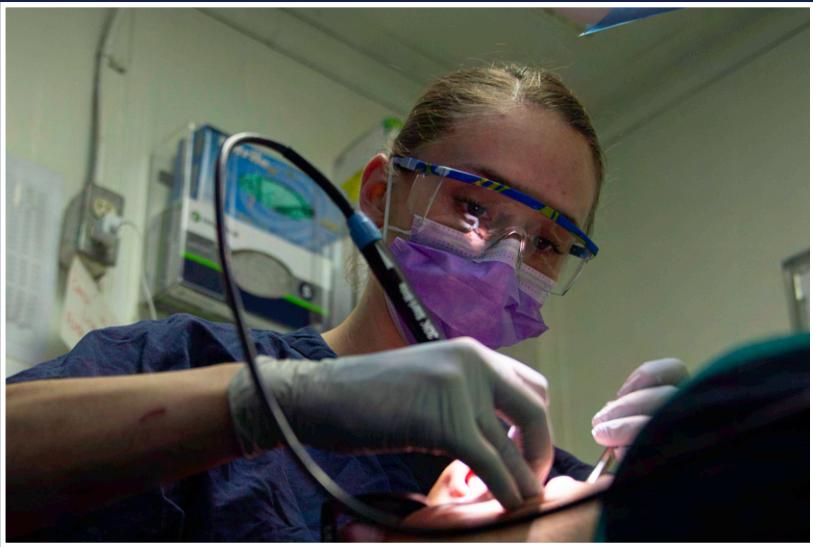
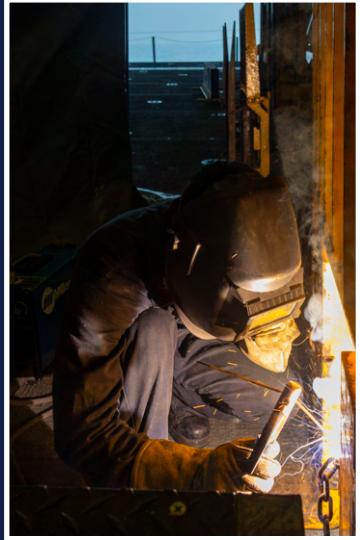


IN PHOTOS



Photos by 13th MEU Public Affairs

THIS WEEK



IN PHOTOS



COMMAND MANAGED EQUAL OPPORTUNITY



"We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams." – Jimmy Carter

IT1 VASQUEZ
ABHCS GUNDERSON

LS1 DE LUNA

AM1 WATSON

HM1 DOMENECH

ABHC MORRIS

RP1 JONES

ABHC MORRIS



Return & Reunion Classes

February 10th -17th
Ship's Classroom



Hosted by the Iron Gator Sailor 360 Boat Teams

Classes facilitated by FFSC contain valuable information for our return home.

The Navy Jack

USS President was a wooden-hulled, three-masted heavy frigate of the United States Navy, rated at 44 guns. George Washington named her to reflect a principle of the United States Constitution. She was launched in April 1800 from a shipyard in New York City. President was one of the original six frigates whose construction the Naval Act of 1794 had authorized, and she was the last to be completed. Joshua Humphreys designed these frigates to be the young Navy's capital ships, and so President and her sisters were larger and more heavily armed and built than standard frigates of the period. Forman Cheeseman, and later Christian Bergh were in charge of her construction. Her first duties with the newly formed United States Navy were to provide protection for American merchant shipping during the Quasi War with France and to engage in a punitive

expedition against the Barbary pirates in the First Barbary War.

On 16 May 1811, President was



at the center of the Little Belt Affair; her crew mistakenly identified HMS Little Belt as HMS Guerriere, which had impressed an American seaman. The ships exchanged cannon fire for several minutes. Subsequent U.S. and Royal Navy investigations placed responsibility

for the attack on each other without a resolution. The incident contributed to tensions between the U.S. and Great Britain that led to the War of 1812.

During the war, President made several extended cruises, patrolling as far away as the English Channel and Norway; she captured the armed schooner HMS Highflyer and numerous merchant ships. In January 1815, after having been blockaded in New York for a year by the Royal Navy, President attempted to run the blockade, and was chased by a blockading squadron. During the chase, she was engaged and crippled by the frigate HMS Endymion off the coast of the city. The British squadron captured President soon after, and the Royal Navy took her into service as HMS President until she was broken up in 1818. President's design was copied and used to build the next HMS President in 1829.



After being captured by the Royal Navy, President and her crew were ordered to proceed to Bermuda with Endymion. During the journey, they encountered a

dangerous gale. The storm destroyed President's masts and strained Endymion's timbers so badly that all the upper-deck guns were thrown overboard to prevent her from sinking. Decatur and his crew were briefly held prisoner in Bermuda. Upon the prisoners' return to the United States, a U.S. Navy court martial board acquitted Decatur, his officers, and his men of any wrongdoing in the surrender of President.

In March 1818 she was considered for refitting. A drydock inspection revealed that the majority of her timber was defective or rotten and she was broken up at Portsmouth in June. President's design was copied and used to build HMS President in 1829, although this was reportedly more of a political maneuver than a testament to the design. The Royal Navy wished to retain the name and likeness of the American ship on their register as a reminder to the United States and other nations of the capture.

THE FACES of Exec



A priest, photographer and secretary all walk into a bar... This might sound like the beginning of a joke, but for the Sailors that make up Executive Department, there are even more characters to the story. Comprised of Yeomen, Personnel Specialists, Mass Communication Specialists, Legalman, Career Counselors, Religious Program Specialists and a host of specialty officers, EXEC is a cornucopia of professions and talent.

While it may not be dirty, or nearly as dangerous as many other jobs performed on board, the work these Sailors execute around the clock is extremely vital.

"People forget about how many jobs EXEC covers, but we make sure all Sailors and their families are taken care of," said PS1 Escobedo. "We all have our own specialty, but what we contribute makes the lives of everyone aboard ESSEX better."

Don't underestimate these pencil-pushers, though! A good number of them came from various other departments, and they can man up the boat deck with the best of them.

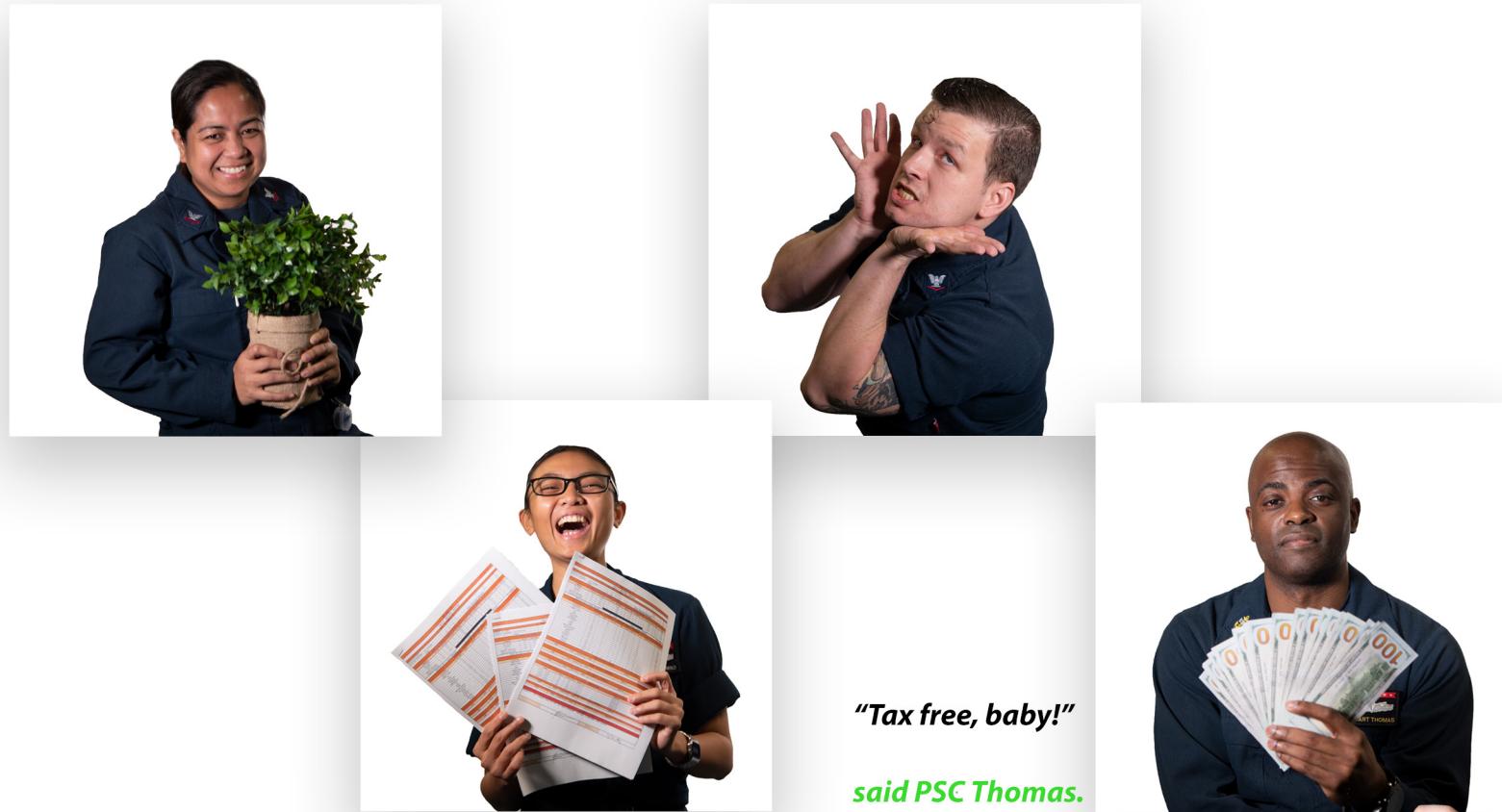
"We have the most diverse and talented group of Sailors on the ship," said MC1 Franklin. "The Sailors who cross-rate or strike to one of our ratings, come with a wealth of knowledge from their previous departments and they only continue to sharpen their professional skills."

So, whether you need help with pay, reenlisting, legal, 3M or career guidance, EXEC Sailors are here to help...from our climate-controlled spaces of course.





***"These guys are 'go-getters' and
there is nothing more rewarding than
knowing the team I have is ready for
anything," said YNC Diaz.***





**"You want to be in the magazine? We make
the magazine and we're just now in it!"
said MC2 Harrell. "Also, please stop calling
me Harry Potter."**



AROUND THE DECKPLATES

WHO DO YOU THINK WILL WIN THE SUPER BOWL AND WHY?



"The Rams because they are younger, faster and have a better defense."



"The Patriots because of their experience."



"The Rams... the Patriots look a little deflated."



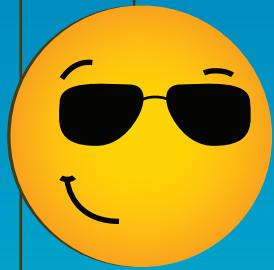
"The Rams, because the Patriots suck."



"The Patriots, because they have the best defense."



"Unfortunately the Pats because they have a culture of going to the Super Bowl, but God wouldn't hate you if you wanted both teams to lose."



Sampaga's Joke Corner

What does CHENG say when he gets hurt?
Eooooow!

Submitted by DC3 Hunt

What type of market should you never take your dog to?
A Flea Market.

What did sushi A say to sushi B?
Wasabi.

You never realize
how boring you are
until you have to write
three facts about
yourself.



Submit your jokes to
jenna.dobson@lhd2.navy.mil





TOO MUCH
PHUKING
FUN!

