

ISSUANCE OF THE AFGHANISTAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL (ACM) AND IRAQ CAMPAIGN MEDAL (ICM) FOR NAVY PERSONNEL

The Afghanistan Campaign Medal (ACM) and the Iraq Campaign Medal (ICM) are authorized for immediate issue to qualified Navy personnel. For the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, an individual must have served in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) in the designated Area of Eligibility (AOE). The ACM period of eligibility commences 24 October 2001 to a future date to be determined. The AOE encompasses all land area of the country of Afghanistan and all air spaces above the land. For the Iraq Campaign Medal, an individual must have served in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). The ICM period of eligibility is on or after 19 March 2003 to a future date to be determined. The AOE encompasses all land area of the country of Iraq, all air spaces above the land area of Iraq, and the contiguous waters of Iraq out to 12 nautical miles.

Common criteria for both the ACM and ICM include:

1. Minimum time period in the AOE for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days or meet one of the following criteria:
 - a. Be engaged in actual combat during an armed engagement, regardless of time in the area of eligibility.
 - b. While participating in an operation or official duties, is killed, wounded or injured requiring medical evacuation from the AOE. Noncombat medical evacuation does meet the qualification criteria.

2. Air crew qualification. Must participate as a regularly assigned air crew flying sorties into, out of, within, or over the AOE in direct support of military operations. Each day that one or more sorties are flown into, out of, with, or over the AOE shall count as one day toward the 30- or 60-day requirement.

Information on duplicate awards and GWOT Expeditionary Medal Trade-In for service in the ACM and ICM AORs before 1 May 2005 may be obtained from the full text of NAVADMIN 085/05.

MYSTERY SUB

The mystery submarine that Israel detected snooping off its shores last November belonged to the American Navy. According to a report, Israeli officials have not indicated what the Americans may have been looking for. Senior Israeli military sources have only said that it belonged to a “Western navy.” The incident occurred on the night of 9 November off the northern coast of Israel. Israel had detected the submarine after it had penetrated two nautical miles into Israel’s territorial waters, about 18 kilometers from shore. They followed the submarine for a few hours; but the moment they took active measures to close in on the submarine, the submarine quickly turned and headed back to international waters.

RECORD REVIEW ON-LINE SOON TO BE A REALITY

Navy Personnel Command has implemented a program to allow access to your official military personnel file via a new Web-based application referred to as Web-enabled

record review. This application will allow active duty and drilling reserve personnel on-line access to their official military personnel files. The Web site is accessed using any Internet-ready personal computer with Microsoft Internet Explorer 5.5 or higher. A valid DoD level-3 public key infrastructure certificate and a BUPERS on-line account access is required. For access, go to <www.bol.navy.mil> and log on. Then select the “view my permanent record” link. For those who do not have a BUPERS on-line account, instructions are provided on the BUPERS on-line Home Page at first login – similarly, instructions for obtaining and installing the public-able, when you first attempt to view your record. Full implementation expected in Sep. 2005. Until that time, NPC will be populating the Web-enabled record review database. Additionally, you may still continue to obtain a complete copy of your official military personnel file on CD-Rom by making your request through BUPERS on-line or by mail. The Web-enabled record review was announced by NAVADMIN 117/05.

CONSERVATION GROUP SUES OVER WHALES

A national conservation group filed suit in May to force the U.S. government to reveal the extent to which ocean mammals worldwide have died as a result of massive sonic blasts from intense military search equipment. The group said the Navy’s sonar systems generate sounds of extreme intensity to locate objects in the ocean. It said the sounds can disturb, injure, and even kill marine mammals, which have extraordinarily sensitive hearing. ⚓