

days restriction, 45 days extra duty, forfeiture of one-half month's pay for two months and were reduced in rate or had a pending promotion withheld. In all, 10 members, E-1 to E-5, appeared at Captain's Mast aboard Merrimack. Four of the 10, although not participants in the incident, received "Administrative Warnings" because they had knowledge of the incident but did not report it to their supervisors as required by regulations. Disciplinary action against one Sailor, presently an unauthorized absentee, is pending.

Aboard USS Monongahela eight junior Sailors, from E-1 to E-4, received 45 days restriction, extra duty, forfeiture of one-half month's pay for two months and suspended reductions in rate for their participation in an assault-related hazing incident involving another junior enlisted man. The victim in that incident did not require medical treatment.

An investigation is ongoing aboard both ships to determine if other crew members may have been involved. The three hazing victims and assailants on both ships are males.

(This story appeared on Navy Wire Service as NWSA079)

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NNS876. Navy Lodge to Upgrade and Add Rooms

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy Lodge program is meeting the needs of its customers by providing more rooms where needed, as construction continues despite Navy-wide downsizing.

Nearly 10 percent of all rooms in the Navy Lodge system are currently under renovation, including 160 rooms in Pensacola, Fla.; Bethesda, Md.; and Atsugi, Japan.

Renovations planned for 1995 include a total of 520 guest rooms being upgraded, ranging from 15 rooms in Gulfport, Miss., to 200 in Norfolk. Construction projects planned for next year include 50 new rooms in Mayport, Fla.; 100 rooms in North Island, Calif.; 100 rooms in Great Lakes, Ill.; 48 rooms in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico; and 50 rooms in Everett, Wash.

These projects altogether will provide a total of 2,709 guest rooms.

(This story appeared on Navy Wire Service as NWSA042)

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NNS877. This Week in the Navy: Dec. 29, 1812 -- USS Constitution, under the command of William Bainbridge, left HMS Java a shambles in a hard two-and-a-half hour fight off Brazil. With this third loss in three frigate-to-frigate actions in five months, the Royal Navy received orders not to take on the American 44s like the Constitution and United States with less than squadron strength.

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Short Splices

NNS878. Navy Ombudsman Program Turns 25 Years Old

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- In 1970, ADM Elmo Zumwalt, then Chief of Naval Operations, issued Z-gram 24, establishing the Navy Ombudsman Program to improve communication between commands and the families of Sailors who served in them. The kick-off celebration for the program's 25th anniversary will begin Sept. 14, 1995.

Activities celebrating the silver anniversary of the Ombudsman Program are in the planning stages now. To contribute to the celebration, send stories, old photos or other types of information to Kerrie Godding, Bureau of Naval Personnel, Code 662D, 2 Navy Annex Washington, D.C. 20370-6620.

(This story appeared on Navy Wire Service as NWSA074)

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NNS879. DeCA Receives Approval to Close Four Non-BRAC Commissaries

FORT LEE, Va. (NNS) -- Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) officials recently announced the closing of four commissaries as a fund-saving efficiency to operate within the agency's budget for

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