

Lincoln Sailor receives bronze star

STORY BY MC2 BARRY RILEY
Penny Press Staff

USS Abraham Lincoln Sailor (CVN 72) Lt. Thomas Amano, of the ship's air department, was recently awarded a bronze star medal for meritorious service after returning to the ship from a nine-month individual augmentee (IA) deployment to the Middle East.

The Bronze Star Medal is the fourth highest military decoration in the US Armed Forces, and is awarded to service members for bravery, acts of merit or meritorious service, explained Amano.

"I was very taken back, and humbled when I first heard I was receiving a bronze star," said the Beaverton, Ore. native. "It's a huge honor to receive this award."

Amano recently returned to the Lincoln from an assignment at the Theatre Interment Facility Reconciliation Center on Camp Taji, Iraq, where he served as officer in charge of the Iraqi Correctional Officer Village. He led a team of 45 Sailors and was directly responsible for the safety, security and transportation of more than 2,500 Iraqi correctional officers during his stint. He also directed reception and convoy movement of groups of more than 650 Iraqi correctional officers from an unsecured parking lot outside the contingency operating base to the reconciliation center.

Though deployment to Iraq can be stressful, Amano said the lessons he learned while working on the ship helped

prepare him for his IA.
 "I feel like my experiences from the flight deck helped whip me into shape for this deployment," he said. "I had to remember to always remain vigilant, keeping my head on a swivel, just like when I'm up topside. I think this mentality helped keep my Sailors and I safe during

"It's all about playing your part. Everone plays a key part in the Navy's mission, no matter what department, rate or rank."

our tour there."
 While deployed, Amano said it was difficult to communicate with his family, but said when he was honored with the award, it helped him show his family his dedication to duty.

"I don't talk about my job much when

I'm at home, especially while I was there, so it was a little hard at times," he said. "When my wife read the citation for the award, she was in shock. I think it offers her a sort of validation for the nine months I was gone."

While Amano adjusts back into ship life, he said he will maintain the same type of work ethic he went into his IA with, and offers some advice for other crew members.

"I went into this IA with the intent of doing the best I could do with what I had, and ensuring the safety of my Sailors," he said. "It's all about playing your part. Everyone plays a key part in the Navy's mission, no matter what department, rate or rank. If we all keep that in mind, and work as a team we can reach and better yet, exceed our goals."



U.S. Navy photo
Lt. Thomas Amano supervises flight operations during a carrier underway period. Amano recently returned to Lincoln after a nine-month deployment to Camp Taji, Iraq where he earned a bronze star medal in commemoration of his meritorious service.

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Know Your Shipmates

AO3
Johnathon Mortimer

Hometown:
Miami, Fla.

Quote:
"AO1 Charles is the best."

Hobbies:
*Long walks on the beach,
charity events, kite-flying.*

Goal:
To be successful.

**If i could live anywhere,
it would be:**
Amsterdam.



Photo and information gathered by MCSN Jacquelyn D. Childs

Keep up with the Lincoln

visit

www.navy.mil/local/cvn72

Or visit **USS Abraham Lincoln's fanpage**
on Facebook to get up-to-date
information on the ship's status,
and check out new photos.

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MCSN JEREMIAH MILLS REVIEWS...

EDGE of DARKNESS

OK

EDGE

www.edge-of-darkness.com

EDGE OF DARKNESS

With several years of being behind the scenes directing blockbuster hits such as: "The Passion of the Christ" and "Apocalypto". The question begged to be asked; "Has being behind the scenes hurt or helped Mel Gibson's acting prowess?" The answer is No, despite his eight year hiatus on screen since "Signs, 2002" Mel Gibson delivers a compelling performance in his new film titled "Edge of Darkness" (2010).

Gibson plays a Boston detective, Thomas Kraven, who in avenging the murder of his daughter Emma Kraven, he later finds himself in the middle of a Government scandal interwoven with murder, greed and betrayal. On Kraven's way to the

truth, he encounters Darius Jedburgh (Ray Winstone), an ex-CIA "no-strings attached problem solver" hired to clean up the mess Kraven has made.

Kraven confronts his daughter's former employer, a highly influential nuclear energy corporation. The CEO of the corporation, Jack Bennett (Danny Huston) is a multi-millionaire whose social circle includes former heads of state, oil tycoons and foreign royalty. Kraven's attempt to solve the death of his daughter frustrates Bennett's effort to cover up his company's conspiracy.

The emotion conveyed in the acting convinced that the cast had managed to concentrate their energy on delivering one hundred and seventeen minutes of moments. Moments, that allowed

me to understand what made their characters "tick" and illustrate an emotional and dynamic chemistry on screen. Another focus I enjoyed with the movie was its simple yet compelling plot full of personal and social strife.

The conflicts of interest build between Bennett and Kraven into a climactic conclusion that will leave spectators on the edge of their seats. "Edge of Darkness" delivers the goods, with a compelling plot, riveting story twists, and great action. A savage opera, full of wit and savvy that brings out the best I've seen in Gibson for years. It is a dramatic thrill-ride of revenge that kept me on the edge of my seat.

DRAMA /THRILLER RUN TIME 117 MIN.

STARRING: MEL GIBSON, "BRAVEHEART" RAY WINSTONE, "THE DEPARTED" DANNY HUSTON, "X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE"

QUOTE OF THE FILM: "YOU HAD BETTER DECIDE WHETHER YOU'RE HANGIN' ON THE CROSS OR BANGIN' IN THE NAILS, ON THIS ONE SENATOR."

PROS: THE FILM IS WELL-BALANCED, IN ITS PLOT AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT. IT HAS A QUALITY SOUNDTRACK, VIVID FIGHTING SCENES AND THE GUN BATTLES ARE FEROCIOUS AND VIOLENT.

CONS: THE PLOT MAY COME OFF AS THE COMMON RETRO 80'S ACTION FILM. FOR THOSE WHO DON'T LIKE GOOD ACTION FILMS DON'T SEE THIS MOVIE, YOU'LL BE DISAPPOINTED. HOWEVER, FOR THOSE THAT DO LIKE QUALITY FILMS SUCH AS THIS, IT IS A MUST SEE!

RATING: 9 OUT OF 10

TWIN

Working on Lincoln

STORY BY MC3 KAT CORONA
Penny Press Staff

There are times when being a Sailor on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) is a difficult task. Being away from home in an environment full of strangers can breed homesickness and loneliness for many Sailors.

Four Lincoln Sailors are in a special situation and able to deal with the difficulties of ship life pretty easily in a unique way. Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Angela Sobieski, Logistical Specialist 2nd Class Stacey Sobieski and Aviation Ordnanceman Airmen Tito and Otis Siaitu are in the special situation where they have a sibling to lean on.

Angela and her older sister (by three minutes) Stacey, from Greeley, Colo., have lived together since the womb and are now both stationed on Lincoln.

“Everyone says twins have that weird connection, and we really do,” said Angela. “When I first joined the Navy I went on two deployments really quickly. Out of 24 months, I was gone 16. The second I’d get home, [Stacey] would fly up to see me. It was the first time we’d ever really been apart and we decided we’d never go that long again without seeing each other. She really is my best friend, and it took me until I’d left for the Navy to really realize it.”

Angela joined the Navy nearly five

years before Stacey decided to join.

“I was looking for something new, I wanted a career change,” Angela said.

When Stacey grew tired of waiting to hear if she’d get into nursing school she thought about her sister.

“I saw what she did and thought it looked good,” Stacey said. “I’d never ever been out of the country before. Plus, I knew the Navy would help pay for nursing school. So I decided to join too.”

Angela was able to help Stacey choose a rating she would enjoy, and has given her sister guidance in succeeding in the Navy.

“When I made the choice to join the Navy, she was the one person who gave me the guidance and direction to get me where I am today,” Stacey said. “I give thanks to her because I wouldn’t be a second class in less than two years if it wasn’t for her guiding me on the right path and showing me the tools the Navy has to offer in helping me to advance.”

When Stacey received orders to Lincoln Angela promptly called her detailer to get orders to join her sister on the ship.

“I thought it would be cool if we’d be able to do a deployment together,” Angela said.

Now that both sisters are on board, they say they hardly see each other.

“Sometimes people will think I’m her and they’ll come up to me and ask if I’ve been demoted,” Stacey said. “You get

used to it. A lot of her co-workers [from Weapons Department] will yell out ‘AO1’ when they see me, but I think they do it on purpose.”

“Yeah, they do it on purpose,” added Angela. “They think it’s funny.”

Angela and Stacey both agree they are looking forward to Lincoln’s overseas 2010 deployment and to have the opportunity to experience it together.

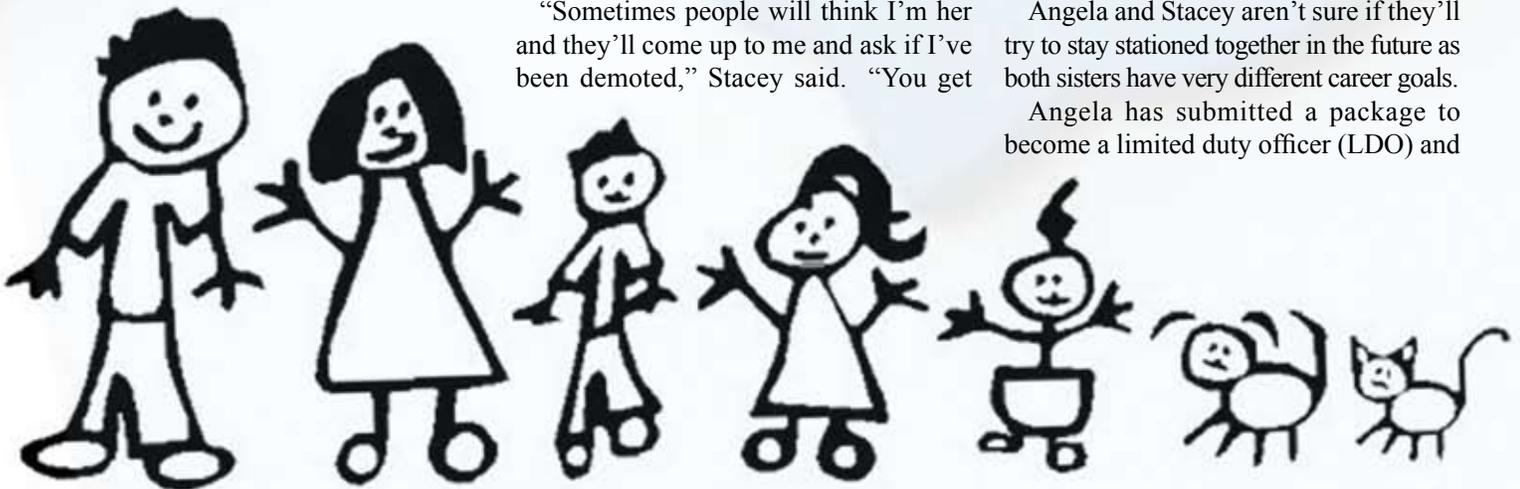
“There are times when having someone by your side— who knows you almost better than you know yourself— gives you a great sense of comfort through some of the most challenging times,” said Stacey. “She has a great work ethic, she is stern yet fair across the board and she has inspired me to find my own style of leadership.”

According to Angela, when it comes to the ship the sisters know when to separate fun and work and to stay focused on the job.

“I don’t tell her as often as I should, but I am very proud of her and her accomplishments not only in life but her career,” said Stacey. “She is my healthy competition, she sets the bar above the standard and I try to go above and beyond that. I am proud to call her my twin sister, my friend and my fellow shipmate. I wouldn’t have wanted anyone else by my side through this awesome journey.”

Angela and Stacey aren’t sure if they’ll try to stay stationed together in the future as both sisters have very different career goals.

Angela has submitted a package to become a limited duty officer (LDO) and



BLISS

is a family affair

LAYOUT BY MCSN JERINE LEE
Penny Press Staff

is hoping to find out if she was accepted this spring.

Stacey said she plans on becoming a chief petty officer in only seven years of service.

The Sobieski sisters are not the only Lincoln Sailors with a special bond. Tito and Otis Siaitu, of Ocean Side, Calif., are not only twins stationed on board Lincoln together, but they also work side-by-side in weapons department.

Otis, who's older than Tito by only 15 minutes, said joining the Navy was his idea.

"I wanted to get out of the house," he said. "I was just tired of seeing the same thing every day."

When he pitched the idea to Tito, his brother said he'd go with him. The twins headed over to the recruiter and joined the Navy under the "buddy program," which guaranteed them they'd stay together for as long as possible.

The brothers were together through bootcamp, A-school and were both given orders to Lincoln.

"It's really nice having a piece of home with you, and to have a built-in liberty buddy" said Otis.

"It helps with not being homesick," added Tito.

Tito and Otis both admit there is a little constant competition between the two, but they hope it'll help push them further in their time in the Navy.

The brothers are remarkably difficult to tell apart, but they said everyone can tell them apart by the small scar over Tito's eyebrow and the little mole on his cheek.

The Siaitu brothers haven't decided what their plans are for the future, but with only a year in the Navy, they agree that they still have some time to decide.



Photo by MC3 Kat Corona

Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Angela Sobieski (left) and Logistical Specialist 2nd Class Stacey Sobieski pose for a photo on the hangar bay on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).



Photo by MCSN Jerine Lee

Aviation Ordnanceman Airmen Tito and Otis Siaitu pose for a photo on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Archie L. Baile, stands watch as the phonetalker on the bridge on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Jacob L. Albasin uses a whistle to pipe attention to an announcement on the IMC on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Alex Torres stands the helm watch Lincoln (CVN 72).

S

steering the ship *CvN 72*



on board the USS ABraham



Quartermaster 3rd Class Jennifer E. Schwarz trains Quartermaster Seaman Verda T. Henson how to chart the ship's routes on a map on board the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).



Sailors Honored with Commemorative Stamp

STORY BY MC2 JESSE B. AWALT,
NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Penny Press Staff

U.S. Navy and United States Postal Service (USPS) officials gathered at the U.S. Navy Memorial Feb. 4 for a first-day-of-issue stamp dedication ceremony of the Distinguished Sailors Stamps.

The free public event that drew more than 250 people honored four Sailors, who appear on new 44-cent commemorative first-class stamps.

USPS officials say they hope the Distinguished Sailors Stamps will help to immortalize William S. Sims, Arleigh A. Burke, John McCloy and Doris "Dorie" Miller, who served with bravery and distinction during the 20th century.

"I am pleased to honor these four great Sailors who impacted our nation and world," said John E. Potter, USPS postmaster general. "These brave individuals represent the U.S. Navy's proud legacy of service to this nation. Their example is an inspiration to every American."

Juan Garcia, assistant secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs,

reflected on the diversity of the Sailors featured on the new stamps.

"This wildly diverse group is tied together by their love of country and their fearless courage under fire," said Garcia. "It's a diversity reflected in today's Navy mission itself."

In addition to stamp collectors and naval historians, relatives of the Sailors being honored came to Washington from various parts of the country to attend the event. For some relatives of these Sailors, the stamp series has inspired new interest in their family history.

"I was of course very pleased at the news of the stamp. I am glad that younger generations will perhaps get to know these four distinguished sailors," said Anne Hopkins, granddaughter of William Sims.

"Although I grew up knowing of my grandfather mostly as a World War I leader..., I have only come to appreciate this in the past couple of years, and through the discussions related to the stamp," Hopkins said of her grandfather, who died in 1936 when she was six years old.

Although the honored Sailors are not alive, they were still remembered as shipmates.

"They are our shipmates; we still think of them that way," said Vice Admiral Sam J. Locklear III, director, Navy Staff.

"These Sailors in their own way, and in their own time, all exemplified in every way the basic core values of our Navy, which are honor, courage and commitment," said Locklear. "I like to imagine that while we are having this ceremony today they are somewhere all looking down on this event."

Locklear said the Sailors would probably all be surprised that their faces were showing up on U.S. stamps.

"I can only imagine the conversation they would likely be having between themselves," said Locklear. "They are probably all amused."

Customers have 60 days to obtain the first-day-of-issue postmark by mail and may purchase new stamps at their local post office, at The Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop or by calling 800-STAMP-24. They should affix the stamps to envelopes of their choice, address the envelopes to themselves or others and place them in a larger envelope addressed to: Distinguished Sailors Stamps, Special Cancellations, PO Box 92282, Washington, DC 20090.



U.S. Navy photo

Vice Adm. Samuel Locklear, director of the Navy Staff, U.S. Postal Service Postmaster General John Potter, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs Juan Garcia and David Rosenberg, a naval historian, unveil the Distinguished Sailors commemorative stamps series during a first-day-of-issue ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial.

Around the ship: *Lincoln's Finest*



Seaman Chase Butler, of Addison, Ala., stands aft lookout on the fantail of aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). The Lincoln is currently underway for flight deck certification off the coast of Southern California with Carrier Airwing (CVW) 2 to prepare for a fall 2010 deployment in support of maritime security operations.



Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class (AW) Dominick Bennett, of Jacksonville, Fla., guides the removal of a hydraulic pump from a spotting dolly in USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) hangar bay. The Lincoln is currently underway for flight deck certification off the coast of Southern California with Carrier Airwing (CVW) 2 to prepare for a fall 2010 deployment in support of maritime security operations.



Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Cory Henry, native of Ingleside, Texas, sorts out life preserver kits for the abandon ship lockers in hangar bay two of USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72). The Lincoln is currently underway for flight deck certification off the coast of Southern California with Carrier Airwing (CVW) 2 to prepare for a fall 2010 deployment in support of maritime security operations.



Aviation Support Equipment Technician Airman Aaron LaFear, of Ft. Knox, Ky., removes the last bolt to loosen a hydraulic pump from a spotting dolly in USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) hangar bay. The Lincoln is currently underway for flight deck certification off the coast of Southern California with Carrier Airwing (CVW) 2 to prepare for a fall 2010 deployment in support of maritime security operations.

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New rules improve detailing

STORY BY NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND, PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Special to the Penny Press

February marks the fifth month since the Navy implemented new rules for detailing Sailors using Career Management System Interactive Detailing (CMS/ID), the Web-based program Sailors use to review and apply for permanent change of station orders (PCS).

“We have been through four complete cycles of the new CMS/ID process and we like what we are seeing,” said Rear Adm. Mike Shoemaker, assistant commander of Navy Personnel Command (NPC), which issued more than 88,000 sets of PCS orders last year.

NAVADMIN 249/09, announced enhancements to the CMS/ID system including increasing Sailor choice, adjusting the orders

negotiation window and a requirement to fill all red zone requisitions each cycle.

CMS/ID uses color coding to identify jobs. The majority are displayed in the green zone and are considered open requisitions. Global Support Assignments are displayed in the purple zone. Immediate requisitions -- the most critical fills that could directly degrade mission capability if unfilled -- are displayed in the red zone.

Under the new detailing rules there are fewer of these red zone billets displayed, but all will be filled each cycle. All Sailors in the negotiating window are considered eligible for assignment to a red zone requisition.

“We are seeing our most critical billets filled,” said Vicky Fabian, assigned to United States Fleet Forces Command, Manning Control Authority Fleet, which controls more than 200,000 billets including all sea duty billets in the Navy and some shore assignments. Under the new detailing rules, MCAF can place two billets in the red zone

for each rating at each pay grade.

Another change was the modification of the orders negotiation window. The detailing window is now seven-to-nine months before a Sailor’s projected rotation date. This allows for a three-month window to negotiate for orders before a Sailor is considered to be eligible for an involuntary “needs of the Navy” assignment.

“This change encourages more aggressive participation by Sailors in negotiating orders. It also allows NPC better responsiveness to fleet demands and current Global War on Terror Support Assignment deadlines,” said Shoemaker.

One benefit is that Sailors placed into “needs of the Navy” assignments will know at the seven-month window where they are going instead of the five-month window. Assuming a stable PCS budget, another advantage is earlier issuance of orders, giving Navy families more time for PCS moves.

Naval Station Everett

Fleet & Family Readiness Program

See reverse for event times, locations and details.



February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7 Super Bowl (Tremors) Super Bowl Party (Vibes)	8 Separation TAP	9 Separation TAP (4-H) Making Cents Bioshock 2 Game Release Party Last day Globetrotters tickets (ITT, Feb. 20) Masquerade Mask Making & Wine Tasting (Tremors)	10 Separation TAP Welcome Aboard	11 Separation TAP Cards for Loved Ones – COD Event Battle of the Sexes Trivia Night	12 Applying for Washington State Employment How to Find the Dream Job – Interview Skills Free Cookie Friday	13 Saturday Ski Shuttle to Mt. Baker Seattle Chinese New Year
14 Valentine's Dinner at the All American	15	16 Last day Princess Katie tickets (ITT, February 27 show) Fat Tuesday Celebration (Tremors) (4-H) Making Cents Poker Tournament	17 Stress Mgmt. How to Find the Dream Job – Career Exploration Job Search Strategies	18 Bingo Night	19 Free Family Swim Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and Careers	20 Saturday Ski Shuttle to Stevens Pass Mountaineering Class: Ice Axe Arrest Cosmic Bowling

Editor's Top 5

Top 5 best Chuck Norris phrases

5. Chuck Norris's hand is the only hand that can beat a Royal flush.
4. Chuck Norris doesn't read books. He stares them down until he gets the information he wants.
3. Chuck Norris is the reason why Waldo is hiding.
2. There is no 'ctrl' button on Chuck Norris's computer. Chuck Norris is always in control.
1. Chuck Norris is so fast, he can run around the world and punch himself in the back of the head.



Shipmates

The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew.



Photo by MCSN Robert Robbins

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fueling) Donald Shelvin poses for a picture on the captain's chair in the bridge on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) with the Commanding Officer Capt. John D. Alexander.

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