

Chief of Naval Operations stresses racial issues

WASHINGTON, D.C.—It was 55 minutes of give-and-take. When the program had ended Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., had answered nearly 20 questions posed to him by a panel of six junior officers.

Admiral Zumwalt met with the six officers drawn from the Bureau of Naval Personnel, before a large studio audience—also comprised of junior officers. TV cameras recorded the session, and it is planned to send out videotapes and films for others throughout the Navy can share information brought out at the discussions.

In discussing personal appearance, Admiral Zumwalt said, "Where a change is nonsubstantive, where we can do it without weakening military discipline, we will do it...the older

generation has to do some accommodating.... I'm sure the majority of our officers will support the spirit of the programs..."

The CNC said he is giving the highest priority to improving racial problems in the Navy. He pointed out that there was a need to remove frictions between all minority and ethnic groups, and commented, "I am anxious to increase our rate of moving forward." He indicated that there are for too few black officers in the Navy, and added, "I would like to see an increase, for instance in the number of NROTC units

Asked if the reduction in hardware and ships would cut command at sea and thus advancement potentials, Asmiral Zumwalt said that because it would be a smaller Navy in the future, the "balance" would provide about the same percentage of chance that now exists.

He enlarged on the thought that the Navy needs to explore "potentials for command and advancement for those who don't command at sea." He said that officers who show a talent for project management, for instance, should be able to advance to flag rank.

When asked if this portended a "wet-dry Navy," he replied, "Not necessarily...there should be a mixing..."

Concerning Reserves—whether they would be expanded, reduced, or streamlined, he answered that a study was underway, and added his belief that Reserves are in for an increased role.

In a last wrap-up question, the Chief of Naval Operations was asked his assessment of the Soviet Navy and its effect on our national policy.

The Soviets, Admiral Zumwalt said, are acquiring "strategic parity" with the United States. They are bringing into existence and deploying major surface naval forces...and they have a vigorous maritime policy.

The U. S. Navy, he feels, will have increased importance and will be "the cutting edge" of this country's power in the decade to come.

Sammy Davis denies retirement reports

Sammy Davis, Jr. is disturbed over erroneous reports that he is retiring permanently from show business - or, as some stories put it, that he is even taking a sabbatical.

"I don't know how these stories get started," said Mr. Wonderful from his hotel suite in Seattle, Wash. where he has just ended his coast-to-coast concert tour. "It's much like the rash of predictions some years ago declaring the end of the world washere. A bit premature. In fact, it would take the end of the world to make me quit the stage."

The truth is, the "Golden Boy" of the twentieth century was retiring to Honolulu with his wife, Altovese, for a ten-day rest on orders from his doctors. He will arrive in New York on Oct. 12th to host the Johnny Carson Tonight Show before beginning a two week stint at the Copacabana there.

The tour was so triumphant, both critically and financially, that it created an even greater demand for the multi-talented dynamo. He follows the Copa with engagements at Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas in Nevada, ending the year at King's Inn, Bahamas.

Prior to the tour, Sammy was hospitalized for pneumonia after collapsing onstage in Las Vegas. According to his press agent, the rumors started then. "They had him on his deathbed."

But the stage, screen and recording star emerged from the oxygen tents confirming with his agent that he would indeed make the tour, delighting his multitude of fans but causing great concern for his doctors and friends.

Not wanting to "appeal to your sympathy" of those in the capacity audiences who were aware of his illness, Sammy assured them that he was being accompanied at all times by a special nurse, who kept a watchful eye on his temperature and medicine intake.

"I guess I will have to take it easy for a while," he added, "but like the song says, 'I'm going to carry on 'til I die.'"

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