

## **Navy Surgeon Praises Medical Community in Birthday Message**

Story Number: NNS101013-02

10/13/2010

From Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- In a birthday message to the Navy Medicine global workforce, Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson, Jr. thanked the medical community for their hard work and reminded them of their proud naval heritage.

"For generations, our corpsmen, nurses, doctors and dentists have deployed with Sailors and Marines worldwide, in wartime and in peacetime – providing critical mission support aboard ship, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield," said Robinson. "From Khe Sanh to Kandahar and countless other places we have gallantly answered the call.

"At the same time, Navy Medicine's military and civilian health care professionals have provided care for uniformed services' family members and retirees at military treatment facilities around the globe," said Robinson.

The U.S. Navy was formed October 13, 1775, when the Continental Congress passed a resolution to acquire the first two warships. Two hundred thirty-five years later, the Navy now operates 288 ships and submarines, more than 3,700 aircraft and employs almost 600,000 Sailors and Navy civilians. The Navy Medicine community is composed of 59,000 active duty and Reservists, government civilians and non-medical contractors.

Robinson praised the Navy medical team for their pivotal role in all elements of the Navy but placed a special emphasis on the medical community's role in providing humanitarian assistance operations around the world in support of the nation's maritime strategy.

Navy Medicine personnel respond to disasters around the world and at home, while also participating in proactive humanitarian missions in places as far reaching as Africa through Africa Partnership Station to the Pacific Rim through Pacific Partnership and South America through Continuing Promise.

"Nowhere was the value of Navy Medicine more evident than your extraordinary response to the people of Haiti during Operation Unified Response," said Robinson. "Our response to the Haitian people shows the selfless character of our nation, and our values of caring for others less fortunate, illustrating without a doubt that we truly are a 'global force for good.'"

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