

# Navy's Puget Sound future has bright spots, clouds

By Lloyd Pritchett  
Sun Staff Writer

BREMERTON — As the post-Cold War defense budget continues to shrink in size, it "gets more and more challenging" to maintain steady funding for Navy activities in the Puget Sound area, U.S. Rep. Norm Dicks said Wednesday.

But so far the effort has been successful because the Washington state congressional delegation works together to make it happen, the Bremerton Democrat said.

Meanwhile, Dicks said, some changes in the wind actually may increase the Navy presence here — but only if Kitsap County can manage to solve its critical housing problem.

Dicks, who was elected this week to his eighth term in the U.S. House, made his comments to members of the Puget Sound Naval Bases Association, a non-partisan group dedicated to supporting the area's Navy installations.

His assessment was largely echoed by Lou Krisher, PSNBA's liaison in Washington, D.C., who discussed the Navy's future here in an interview before Wednesday's meeting.

The two pointed out these encouraging signs on the horizon:

■ The Navy has indicated it will send Trident submarines based here to Bremerton's Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for refueling and conversion to the new super-powered Trident 2 missile system, Dicks said. The work is valued at more than \$1 billion.

■ The Navy spending bill signed by President Bush says naval shipyards like PSNS should be given priority for all work involving the dismantling of mothballed nuclear submarines, Krisher said, and that will provide a steady source of work.

■ Possible closure of the Naval Air Station at Alameda, Calif., could increase the number of Puget Sound-based aircraft carriers from one to two, Dicks said. One of these might be homeported at Bremerton — but any such action is years away, Krisher said.

■ An increased need for fast sealift ships was highlighted in the military authorization report produced by Congress, Krisher said. Construction of such vessels in private shipyards could leave more repair and overhaul work for Navy yards like PSNS.

■ Military construction projects authorized in this area show the Navy continues to have a strong commitment here — including an expansion of PSNS, a modernization of the Naval Submarine Base at Bangor and continued funding for the new Everett home port.

But these bright spots were dimmed somewhat by other potential developments:

■ As submarine and carrier building programs slow down, private shipyard programs that build them will be pursuing the type of nuclear repair work that PSNS specializes in, possibly biting into the Bremerton shipyard's workload, Krisher said.

■ With the Cold War winding down, and with the threat of nuclear war with the Soviet Union, automatic congressional support for the Trident missile system can no longer be assumed, Krisher said. Future strategic arms control agreements also could have a tremendous impact on the Trident submarine fleet, he said.

■ Kitsap County has got to solve its housing crisis, Dicks said, before the Navy will seriously consider basing more ships here.

"We've got to have additional housing, and we have to upgrade the housing that is available," he said. "We've got to pull together as a community to do this. Just because we're number one doesn't mean we can't improve."

He said the young Navy families who come to Bremerton need "a decent place to live."

"In essence, this is something we're being graded on (by the Navy)," Dicks said. "Our future depends, to a certain extent, on how well we handle this challenge."

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out expression or comment as the dog went first through the boys' locker room, then the girls'. No students were present.

Opie paused and scratched at a locker door only once in the boys' room, where Vice Principal Keith Canton had hidden a gram of hashish Pace had brought with him. He'd gotten it from the federal Drug Enforcement Agency for use in his work, he said.

Planted drugs reward the dog with a success and help keep him interested, as well as proving that the dog can do the job, said Pace.

In the girls' room, Opie focused on a gram of three lockers, which were opened by Canton, but no drugs were found. It was chalked up to a residual odor from past contact with drugs.

After the break between classes, which Opie sat out in his plastic cage, the searchers moved to a hallway in the mathematics section.

Opie focused on two lockers there, but when they were opened by Canton with a master key, the dog showed his greatest interest of the day in the sack lunches on the top shelf of each. He found no drugs.

He found the planted gram of hashish again, but on a second run-through, walked past that locker, too.

Pace said Opie "burned out a bit toward the end." He'll have to work on longer searches, and train Opie around food, he said, for better results.

After it was over, Noack said he had mixed reactions to the test. "I'm surprised we didn't

find anything," he said. "I'm not so naive as to believe we have a totally clean school."

He had hoped some drugs would be found to demonstrate how easily one can be caught, he said. On the other hand, "I was pleased that the students were watching that we just opened the locker to take a look (when the dog scratched at a door). We didn't jump to conclusions."

He likened it to the need for patrol cars to be seen from time to time so traffic laws aren't ignored.

"I don't pretend for one second that this will solve the drug problem at the high school," said Noack. Anti-drug education, Natural Helpers, an all-staff CARE team, and drug counselor Mona Johnson — "that's how we truly address the problem."

## Airport

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Puget Sound and Sea-Tac Airport is part of Puget Sound, he said, urging acceptance of regionwide answers.

"Certainly Kitsap people have a stake in how convenient air travel is in and out of the region," added Wallace.

State Rep. Paul Zellinsky Sr., D-Bremerton, told the crowd that strides in quieting aircraft engines, and in phasing out the older,

noisier jets will reduce many of the problems airports visit on their surroundings.

He agreed with his neighbor Sherry that you can "set your watch" by a 7:45 a.m. departure of an "old-fashioned DC-9" that leaves Sea-Tac and passes over their neighborhood.

"But it won't be long before that airplane is a restaurant somewhere," he added, replaced by a new, quieter plane.

## Saddam

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It mentioned Rashid's new title in a report of a graduation ceremony he attended at Baghdad's military academy on Wednesday.

In Washington, officials confirmed Khazraji had been replaced by Rashid. They said Khazraji was replaced because he objected to

the invasion. Khazraji has been made a special military adviser to Saddam, believed a demotion for the military commander, the officials said.

"Khazraji was promoted to a non-job," said one official.

The U.S. officials spoke on condition of

anonymity.

"Khazraji had been chief of staff since 1985 and was one of the top officers in Saddam's inner circle of military advisers."

"It's very odd," said analyst Shahram Chubin of the Geneva-based Graduate Institute of International Affairs and author of books on the Persian Gulf war.

## War

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Appropriations subcommittee.

Dicks restated his belief that the president should pursue every peaceful approach to solving the Persian Gulf crisis before resorting to a military option.

"I hope we can solve this problem with diplomacy and negotiating," the seven-term congressman said.

But Gorton bluntly said it would take a year or two for a naval blockade and economic sanctions to have much effect, and by then Kuwait "will have ceased to exist in any meaningful sense."

U.S. hostages held by Iraq as human shields also "will have ceased to exist" by then, he said.

Both Dicks and Gorton agreed that President Bush should get the approval of Congress and the U.N. Security Council before taking any military action against Iraq.

"It is my view that if the president does make this determination, that Congress should be called back into session either for a declaration of war or for some formal statement of its approval and support for this country," Gorton said.

Dicks said Congress adjourned with the understanding that it might be called back into session to deal with the Persian Gulf

crisis. A formal consulting panel of lawmakers also stayed behind in Washington, D.C., to remain in touch with the White House on the issue.

The alternative to war or a sudden pullout of Iraqi troops from Kuwait is facing up to a long-term U.S. military presence in the Saudi Arabian desert, said Gorton, a former three-term Washington state attorney general.

Such a stalemate also would allow Iraq to develop nuclear weapons and could encourage other Third World dictators to push ahead with acts of aggression undaunted by the people in this room," he told the audience of PSNBA members.

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## World chess showdown First half ends in a tie

NEW YORK (AP) — The 12th and final U.S. game in the championship chess match between Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov ended in a draw, leaving the pair tied 6-6 in points as the duel moves to France for up to 12 more games.

Each player won one game in New York. The 10 other games, including Wednesday night's, ended in draws.

Only once in the previous 33 world championship matches have there been so many draws in the first 12 games: in 1978, when Karpov beat Viktor Korchnoi.

The championship resumes Nov. 24 in Lyons, France. The first player to gain 12½ points wins the championship and \$1.7 million of a \$3 million purse. A win is worth a point, a draw a half-point.

Grandmaster Patrick Wolff, who did commentary during the match, said the biggest surprise in the New York portion of the match was the inconsistency.

The first five games could be considered the best opening quintet in world championship history, Wolff said. Games six through nine were "terrible," and the final three were a slight improvement, he said.

Wolff also said chess experts had expected Kasparov, the defending champion, to take a substantial lead. But Karpov surprised them.

Danny Martin, a member of a New York City chess club, said the draws were expected.

"It's what happens when the best play the best," he said.

Wednesday's game ended after Kasparov's 37th move.

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