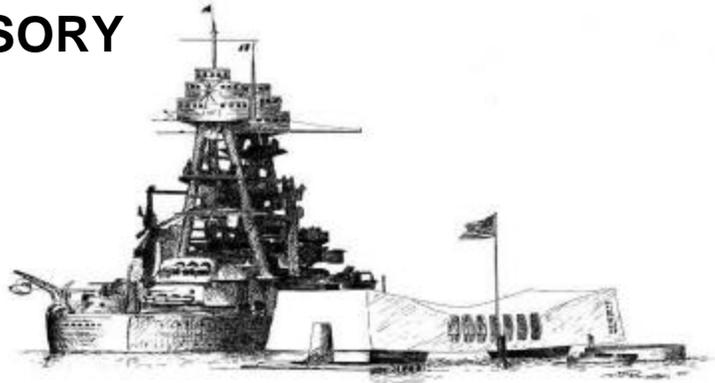


NAVY MEDIA ADVISORY

NAVY REGION HAWAII
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
850 TICONDEROGA ST., SUITE 110
PEARL HARBOR, HI 96860

Tel: (808) 473-2888
Fax: (808) 473-2876
www.hawaii.navy.mil



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2003

POC: LCDR Jane Campbell

RELEASE #001-03

CHARGES REFERRED AGAINST SAILOR

The Commander of Navy Region Hawaii, the convening authority in this case, has referred pre-meditated murder charges against Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond. The charges referred today are violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ), and will be tried at a General Court Martial trial. These charges are only accusations, and the accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The charges and specifications are as follows:

Charge I: Violation of the UCMJ, Article 118(1)

Specification 1: In that Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, on active duty, did, at or near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on or about 10 June 2002, with premeditation, murder Zaleha K. DeArmond by means of striking her in the head with an iron skillet.

Specification 2: In that Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, on active duty, did, at or near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on or about 10 June 2002, with premeditation, murder Saniah B. Abdul Ghani by means of stabbing her with a knife.

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Charge II: Violation of the UCMJ, Article 80

Specification: In that Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, on active duty, did, at or near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on or about 10 June 2002, attempt to rape Zaleha K. DeArmond.

Charge III: Violation of the UCMJ, Article 134

Specification 1: In that Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, on active duty, did, at or near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on or about 10 June 2002, wrongfully abuse the corpse of Zaleha K. DeArmond, in violation of Hawaii Revised Statute § 711-1108, as assimilated through 18 U.S.C. § 13.

Specification 2: In that Hull Technician Second Class David A. DeArmond, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, on active duty, did, at or near Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on or about 10 June 2002, wrongfully endeavor to impede an investigation and the due administration of justice in the case of United States v. HT2 David A. DeArmond, by destroying, moving and tampering with evidence.

If convicted of the charges referred, the accused could face the death penalty.

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