



## **SAIC's Kevin Ford Inducted into the Surface Warfare Hall of Fame**

March 1, 2004

(SAN DIEGO AND MCLEAN, VA) - SAIC today announced that Kevin Ford, a training specialist within SAIC's Training and Simulation Solutions (TSS) Business Unit recently was inducted into the United States Navy's Surface Warfare Hall of Fame. The ceremony was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia on January 15, 2004.

The Surface Navy Association and The Surface Warfare Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the Continental Navy, U.S. Surface Navy, or to Surface Navy Warfare, whether as a member of the armed services or as a civilian. Awardees include individuals, past and present, who have served the Navy in the surface ships of the Fleet and have distinguished themselves by exhibiting exemplary qualities that have marked the Surface Warrior throughout history.

Kevin Ford was inducted for his actions while serving aboard the USS Samuel B. Roberts FFG 58 as the Ship's Servicemen Chief Master (SHCM) on April 14, 1988. His performance was instrumental in saving the Samuel B. Roberts and he was awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic actions.

"SAIC is incredibly proud of Kevin for his selfless service as well as the leadership and good judgment he displayed during this tragic incident," said George Singley, SAIC president of the Transformation, Test, Training and Logistics Group. "We salute him for this honor, and we are proud that he is a member of the SAIC family."

The USS Samuel B. Roberts FFG 58, while performing military operations in the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Earnest Will, struck an Iranian MO-8 mine causing catastrophic damage to the ship's structure and extensive fires in the engineering spaces and superstructure. With the ship on fire and sinking rapidly from massive flooding, Chief Ford led a damage control team into a severely damaged and flooding engineering space; two main engineering spaces had flooded and immediate action was required to save the ship.

Chief Ford led his team despite working in water already at or above waist level, knowing that the damaged bulkheads were already fractured, leaking massive amounts of water and could collapse at any moment trapping and drowning all team members in seconds. Chief Ford directed his repair team in patching, plugging, shoring, and dewatering the space ensuring that the ship's buoyancy was maintained. After setting a dewatering watch, Chief Ford directed his team to join other damage control teams fighting fires in the superstructure of the ship. Despite facing temperatures high enough to melt the soles of their shoes, Ford led an attack team that was instrumental in extinguishing upper-level fires adjacent to the 76MM gun magazine, which seriously threatened the survival of the ship.

Related Information:

- Awards & Recognition

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Business Contacts:

Use our Contact Form or call 1-800-430-7629.

Press/Public Relations Contacts:

Ron Zollars - San Diego, CA  
858-826-7896  
[zollarsr@saic.com](mailto:zollarsr@saic.com)

Alison Williams - McLean, VA  
703-676-6762  
[williamsae@saic.com](mailto:williamsae@saic.com)