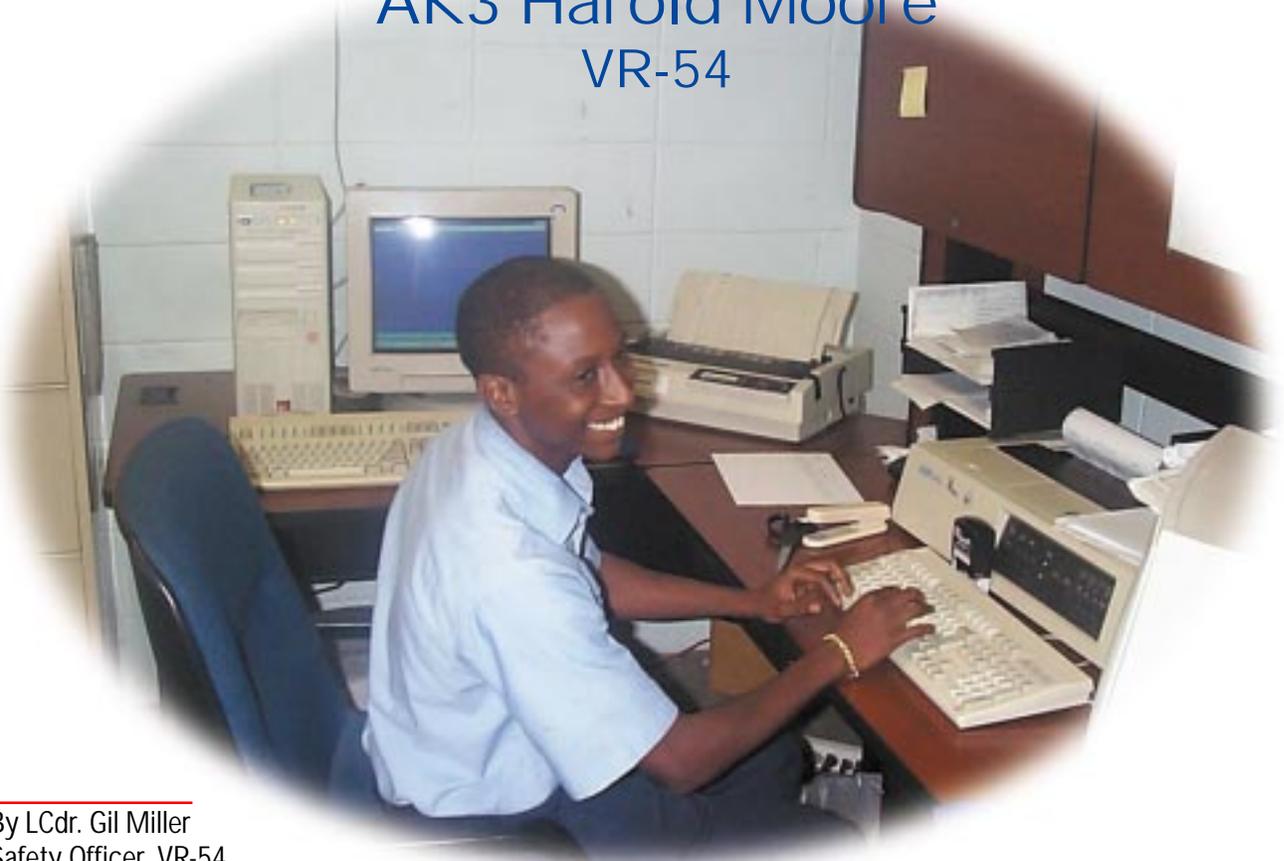


Hats off to...

AK3 Harold Moore VR-54



By LCdr. Gil Miller
Safety Officer, VR-54

Sometimes an opportunity for heroism comes when you least expect it. For Aviation Storekeeper Harold Moore, the opportunity arrived late on Dec. 23, 1999. Nearly asleep in his room in the bachelor quarters, AK3 Moore was jarred awake by the sounds of an argument in the lounge. Arriving in the lounge, he was greeted by the chaotic behavior of a shipmate from another command who'd obviously had a very bad day. The shipmate's career wasn't going very well, and to top it off, two women he'd been dating, unbeknownst to each other, were confronting him with their discovery.

The troubled man became enraged and threw a beer bottle at a vending machine, then hit the lounge television with his fist twice until the screen cracked. His alcohol-induced behavior then led him to upend a coffee table and pull a fire extinguisher from the wall.

Concerned for the safety of the two females as well as the intoxicated man, Petty Officer Moore

encouraged him to return to his room and rest. His shipmate then showed him where he'd slashed his arm with a broken bottle. Moore escorted him to his room and left to call security.

Awaiting the arrival of police and medical personnel, AK3 Moore returned to his shipmate's room to check on him. When he opened the door, he found the troubled man poised in his third-story window, preparing to jump. Moore rushed to the window and forcibly pulled the man from the ledge, restraining him until help arrived.

AK3 Moore's quick thinking and courageous actions saved the life of a shipmate. Refusing to ignore the serious problems facing his shipmate, he became personally involved and directly prevented a possible suicide.

AK3 Moore was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for saving the life of his shipmate. 