

1 organization, state who that is and where they
2 are located.

3 I will keep track of the time and then I
4 will use the cards just to assist you in
5 understanding where you are at and how close
6 you are to the end of your time.

7 Mr. Dudley, if you would like to go first
8 please.

9 MR. DUDLEY: Thank you very much, Captain,
10 for your time. My name is William E. Dudley.
11 I am the Northeast Florida area representative
12 for the Navy League of The United States. The
13 Navy League's headquarters is in Alexandria,
14 Virginia.

15 ✓ [My reason for being here tonight to
16 comment is that the Navy League is an
17 organization that supports the men and women of
18 the Sea Services of the United States. And my
19 purpose for speaking here tonight is to support
20 the Navy in their training and the need for
21 training for the use of sonar in our service
22 and our submarine ships.

23 I think -- as has been explained here
24 tonight very adequately -- that there is a dire
25 need for the Navy to be able to continue to use

1 sonar in all of its operations; both passive
2 and active. Real life training is critical.
3 It is critical in anything we do. I think that
4 anyone knows that any sports team, if it is to
5 achieve success, has to train and they have to
6 training rigidly. The Navy has no less need
7 for training then that except that the need is
8 much more critical.

9 I think we know that we live in a very
10 dangerous world today. And if our men and
11 women in the Sea Services are not going forth
12 in their jobs trained and trained in the most
13 adequate fashion, then the consequences are
14 very dire.]

15 ✓ [The Navy is spending a tremendous amount
16 of money. As has been explained here tonight,
17 they spend roughly 15 million dollars annually
18 in marine environmental research. That money
19 is being given out to universities and study
20 groups throughout the U.S. and in mammal
21 environmental research and study.]

22 ✓ [The Navy training is also being given to
23 all of its crew members in terms of mammal
24 detection on board ships and the restricted
25 adherence of rules are being complied with. I

1 can attest to this on a fist-hand basis.] [I ✓
2 recently came down from Norfolk, Virginia to
3 Mayport on board the USS Wasp. The morning
4 that we were coming into Mayport when we were
5 at the outer buoy, there was a right whale and
6 a calf that were moving north to south in the
7 channel.

8 The commanding officer of the ship
9 immediately took evasive action, moved back out
10 of the channel, and continued to do 360-degree
11 turns with the ship until such time and
12 maintaining the 500-yard separation. The
13 captain maintained that separation until such
14 time as the right whale eventually moved on off
15 to the south; at which time it was clear for
16 the ship to then come into port.]

17 ✓ [During that entire period, he had
18 personnel and crew stationed all around the
19 ship with binoculars keeping a close eye on
20 this whale and its calf. So I know that the
21 crew -- and they immediately went into action
22 mode as soon as the whale was spotted. The
23 crew knew exactly what to do, and the crew took
24 the proper action in response to the sighting
25 of this whale.]

1 ✓ [So I just want to point out that I know
2 that the training is there; that the crews of
3 all of these ships are operating today and
4 comply strictly with the avoidance rules of
5 mammals and making sure that they are
6 protected. They also make sure that they have
7 a need to be sure that the mammals are
8 protected and that they comply with the rules.]

9 ✓ [So that is -- and I just wanted to say
10 that the Navy League supports this training and
11 this need for training and for the use of sonar
12 for our Navy ships at sea today.]

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr.
14 Dudley. Mr. Kirkland.

15 MR. KIRKLAND: I am Gary Kirkland. I live
16 in Neptune Beach, Florida. I am a dually
17 enrolled marine biology and stenography teacher
18 where the students get high school credit and
19 college credit. I have many hats. I am the
20 past president of the Florida Marine Science
21 Educators Association. I used to commercial
22 fish and commercial spear fish during the
23 summers. Like all teachers, I have to make a
24 living during the summers so I did that for a
25 while. I am a boat captain. I have a 100-ton