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United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

3 May 2023

Admiral Michael M. Gilday
Chief of Naval Operations
The Pentagon
Washington, District of Columbia

Admiral Gilday:

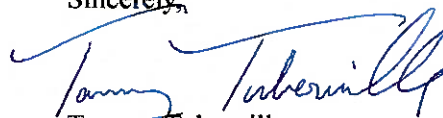
Since questioning you on 18 April regarding a junior officer's poetry reading on the *USS Gerald R. Ford*, yet another video of one of your sailors went viral status this week. This time the video is of a so-called "Digital Ambassador" who reportedly performed as a drag queen while deployed aboard the *USS Ronald Reagan* beginning in 2017. As a member of the Senate Committee on Armed Services and its subcommittee on Seapower, I expect answers to the following by close of business 12 May:

1. Who were the commanding officers, executive officers, and officer(s) tasked with the collateral duty of supervising Morale, Welfare, and Recreation programs aboard CVN 76 and CVN 78 at the time these shows/poetry readings took place? Include in your answer a military biography and most recent Fitness Report and Counseling Record for each.
2. Who was the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) at the time of these performances? Again, include in your answer a military biography and most recent Fitness Report and Counseling Record for that officer.
3. Who were the civilian Afloat Recreation Specialists (Fun Bosses) of CVN 76 and CVN 78 responsible for oversight and planning of these performances?
4. Were the chaplains of these warships members of their respective Recreation Advisory Boards?
5. Provide any guidance you've given, by email, memorandum, directive, or in person to the Navy Chief of Information regarding these videos. Include with your answer any additional guidance you've given to that officer regarding the Navy's public affairs posture for "Pride Month."
6. Provide any guidance you've given regarding the use of pronouns for officers and sailors.

As I stated after your evasive answer to my question regarding the self-centered focus of these videos, my issue is not the sailors' sexual orientation. The Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment are a great recruitment tool; an emphasis on race, sexuality, gender are not.

Lastly, you may consider this oversight letter a warning order that I will be closely watching the Navy's recruiting numbers, as I fully expect them to suffer in the wake of these events coming to light.

Sincerely,



Tommy Tuberville
U.S. Senator