

Mind Control for Weapons of War

History of POW Marine Mammals

The recent news about the US Navy plans to deploy dolphins at a military base in Washington raises the questions about the treatment of marine mammals and the types of experiments that they are subjected to. In addition, there is also the involvement of the Canadian governments and others who assisted.

The Navy started studying dolphins as far back as the 60s and which at its peak in the 1980s had more than 130 mammals in its ranks, including six Canadian belugas.

In the early days of the program, various marine mammal species were considered including: killer whales, pilot whales, belugas (white whales), Steller sea lions, grey seals, and fur seals. Other animals (including birds and sharks) were used in various studies pertaining to locating personnel from downed aircraft and creating effective shark deterrents to protect them until they could be rescued.

In 1960 navy scientists noticed how effortlessly dolphins move through the water, and were determined to try to copy nature's unique hydrodynamic design. If they could discover how dolphins travel at such great speeds and for so long, they believed the same principles could be applied in designing torpedoes, ship hulls and missiles.

Equally interesting was the dolphin's sonar system to create weapons. In 1965, the navy deployed a bottled-nosed dolphin named Tuffy to carry equipment to divers. For the first time one of the navy's marine mammals had worked in the open water without a leash to prevent it escaping.

Photo: In 1968 Yukon Harbour, WA two of 5 orcas captured and were sold to US Navy, Hawaii. One escaped after 2 years and one died after 5.5 years in captivity. They were from the now designated endangered Southern Community.



In 1965, Canada and the United States agreed upon the establishment, operation and maintenance of a torpedo test range at Nanoose Bay in the Strait of Georgia, to be more formally known as the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges (CFMETR).

In 1977 the Canadian government gave permission to the US Navy to capture three belugas near Churchill Manitoba. Two of them, Noc and Muk, were penned on Winchelsea Island in Nanoose Bay. In 1980 three more belugas were captured. Some were subjected to sonar noise experiments. Of the six, three died after 2.33 years, 4 years and 7.83 of captivity. Noc was the lastest to die in 1999. Muk and Ruby are at Sea World San Diego and are still the property of the US Navy.

Photo Nanoose Bay, BC



In 1974 the US Navy also studied the sleep patterns of belugas and orcas at Vancouver Aquarium for the purpose of using cetaceans as weapons of war.

Military Experiments

John Mark's classic book 'The Search for the Manchurian Candidate: The CIA and Mind Control' discussed the goal of the US military was to use mind control with both human and animal "soldiers". Electrodes implanted into the brain could trigger pain and/or pleasure.

Other countries have also used animals. The English 'Times' newspaper (March 10, 2000) reported that a group of twenty-seven militarily trained sea mammals, which includes dolphins, Beluga whales, walruses, and sea lions, was flown to an Iranian military base along the Persian Gulf. The animals have all been trained in finding mines, or placing mines on enemy shipping, finding lost torpedoes, and was even involved in airdrop experiments.

'Earth Island Journal' (Summer 1998), reported that John Henley, a reporter for the London 'Observer' told of seeing numerous dolphins washed up on French Mediterranean beaches most with "an identical, and mysterious wound, a neat, fist sized hole, on the underside of their necks." Leo Sheridan, an accident investigator, is quoted as saying he is "convinced that these were dolphins that were trained by the US Navy, and something went badly wrong." Apparently, in 1989 the US began tests using dolphins fitted with special harnesses that would push electrodes into their flesh. The dolphins would be "monitored and controlled via electric signals transmitted through the neck harness." Most disturbingly, Sheridan pointed out that sixteen of the dead dolphins had wounds indicative of the explosive charge inserted into the harness worn by the military test subjects, to keep those dolphins from falling into enemy hands. "It seems incredible, but these programs are well known in military circles," Sheridan revealed.

This subject was covered in the classic film by director Mike Nichols, 'Day of the Dolphin,' (1974) starring George C. Scott as a scientist studying dolphins, teaching them to talk and communicate with him. This entertaining film was closer to reality than most might believe, being based on the early research of Dr. John Cunningham Lilly, who didn't approve of the ultimate military application of his attempts at inter-species communication. Lilly, who besides eventually doing experiments in communication with dolphins, was also an expert on the brain, with extensive research time spent implanting electrodes into the brains of cats and monkeys to find out the centers of pleasure and pain.

There is also information on various doctors and scientists who worked with, and experimented on the dolphins, like Dr. John Cunningham Lilly. According to this pretty negative portrayal of him, "many of Lilly's dolphins suffered an agonising death. 'Despite disappointment and sadness,' he announced, 'we had to go on with our research: our responsibilities lie with finding the truth.' It was not until years later however that a repentant Lilly finally stumbled across that apparently elusive truth. After suffering drug addiction and a mental breakdown, he characterized his research in an entirely different light: 'I was running a concentration camp for my friends.

Kamikaze dolphins

US military's use of dolphins, including a rundown of the Vietnam 'swimmer nullification program', with another mention of exploding enemy divers, Two Americans were accidentally killed when they fell off the platform while painting a ship.

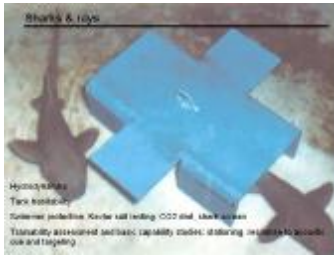


Photo: From Navy's present website that mentions CO2 darts as "swimmer protection".

The most secret programme was a team of dolphins, the Swimmer Defence Team that would protect military installations against enemy divers. When the dolphins detected intruders, they would either vocally alert their navy handlers or tag a swimmer with a tracking device. A five-dolphin team was even sent to Vietnam in 1970 to guard the harbour at Cam Ranh Bay. Full details of their efforts remain classified, but allegations were later made by animal-rights activists that the dolphins had been trained to kill with knives attached to their snouts or to carry hypodermic syringes and inject enemy divers with lethal drugs.

Although the Navy denied that they were training killer dolphins. The following eyewitness accounts speak for themselves.

Alexandria Morton, present BC Researcher:

She had been warned to avoid a dolphin named Slan since he had been trained to kill humans. And although she didn't have any contact with the Canadian whales, Morton grew very upset with how the dolphins were handled during her two years with Ridgeway. "They were doing very invasive brain research, which was interesting from a science point of view, but they had to restrain the animals and put probes right through their brain tissue," says Morton. "I was pretty shocked."

Richard O'Barry, former Dolphin Trainer for Flipper Shows

The television news magazine 60 Minutes looked into allegations of animal abuse and claims that the navy had trained some of the animals to harass enemy scuba divers by tearing at their facemasks and air-tanks. Richard O'Barry, the trainer for TV's Flipper, alleged the CIA had approached him (in 1964) during the Vietnam War to create an army of dolphins for underwater combat.

Rick Trout, former US Navy Dolphin Trainer

Rick Trout, a navy dolphin trainer, would later write that on the second day on the job he had watched in horror as a fellow trainer kicked a young sea lion in the head twice in an attempt to get the animal to eat. Trout says he quit after trying to stop such acts of cruelty as depriving the animals of food.

Present

The 'Seattle Times' reported (October 15th, 1997), that during the 1996 GOP Presidential convention held in San Diego, the US Navy had at least half a dozen dolphins patrolling the waters of San Diego Bay for intruder divers.

Although there is no denying that, while reportedly giving up on them, as they are not 'good soldiers', various militaries have been training dolphins and other aquatic animals for special high-risk military missions.

The US Navy had ordered the unit of seventy-five dolphins and nineteen other mammals to be decommissioned, but as of 1997, nothing had been found that worked better at the sort of underwater work the dolphins and other creatures undertake for their human military minders, so US\$15 000 a year was still going into each animal's upkeep. There are many reports that the US Navy deployed dolphins in the Persian Gulf to guard US warships against enemy divers, mines, and other undersea attacks.

Live "Systems"

"System" is the term used for the various marine mammal programs developed for use by the Fleet. Systems include:

Mk 4 is a dolphin mine-searching system that detects and marks locations of mines moored off the ocean bottom. Mk 4 is capable of shipboard forward deployment to support post-amphibious operations. Located at EODMU THREE, Coronado, California.

Mk 5 is a sea lion exercise mine-recovery system that locates pingered training mines. The sea lions can locate these mines to depths of 1000 feet and attach a grabber device for recovery. Located at EODMU THREE, Coronado, California and EODMU SIX, Charleston, South Carolina.

Mk 6 is a dolphin swimmer and diver-detection system that can detect and mark the location of an intruder. This system was used in Vietnam in 1970-71 and the Persian Gulf in 1987-88. Located at EODMU THREE, Coronado, California.

Mk 7 is a dolphin mine-searching system that detects and marks the location of mines on the ocean bottom. This system is also capable of shipboard forward deployment to support post-amphibious assaults. Located at EODMU THREE, Coronado, California.

Photo: Type of Dolphin Enclosure



Threat to Dolphins and People

Points Against POW Marine Mammals:

1. Soldiers during the Iran-Iraq war would machine-gun every dolphin they spotted for fear they might be American dolphins! Other non-military marine mammals would be targeted. **Innocent wild populations are destroyed.**
2. In the 1981 issue of the military journal US Naval Institute Proceedings a grim scenario was painted of how America might prepare for attacks by the marine mammals the Russians had been training. **One such measure would involve protecting a harbour by poisoning the surrounding waters.**
3. **Attack dolphins pose a threat to boaters and swimmers.**
4. **The confinement of dolphins does not provide for their social and behavioural needs.**
5. **The proposed species of dolphins is not suited for cold Washington waters.** Researcher Sam Ridgway stated that "We knew it was possible to train pilot whales and dolphins, but you can't take dolphins into cold water." (he recommended using belugas).