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News Release

Navy Surgeon General VADM Donald C. Arthur to Address USU Graduates

BETHESDA, Md. – The Navy's 35th Surgeon General Donald C. Arthur, Vice Admiral, Medical Corps, will address the graduates of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) at the university's 28th Commencement Exercise, Saturday, May 19.

Vice Admiral Arthur, who is also Chief of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, has served 33 years in the U.S. Navy, and plans to retire in August 2007. During his naval career he has served in a variety of operation and staff positions in both the Navy and Marine Corps. Most recently he held the positions of Deputy Surgeon General, Vice Chief (Chief Operating Officer) of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and Chief of the Navy Medical Corps. Prior to his selection as the Navy Surgeon General he served as the Commander (Chief Executive Officer), National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD.

In his role as Ex-Officio Member to the Board of Regents he has supported the importance of the education and training provided in the university's joint environment.

The Commencement Exercise is at the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C., at 11 a.m. The F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine will award 159 Doctor of Medicine and 49 Biomedical Sciences graduate degrees, while the Graduate School of Nursing will award 25 Master of Science degrees in the Family Nurse Practitioner, Perioperative Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Nurse Anesthesia disciplines.

USU, which is located on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center, is the nation's federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. The students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Public Health Service and federal civilians, who are being educated to deal with wartime casualties, national disasters, emerging infectious diseases and other public health emergencies. Many of the university's graduates are currently supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering both their leadership and expertise. Approximately one-fourth of all military medical officers currently serving on active duty are graduates of USU.

Media interested in attending the commencement exercise should contact the USU Office of External Affairs at (301) 295-1219 by noon, Wednesday, May 16. To view Vice Admiral Arthur's entire biography visit: http://www.navy.mil/navydata/bios/navybio.asp?bioID=20.