



# U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ACCIDENT UPDATE**

## **Aberdeen Test Center diver dies in maintenance accident**

**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md.** – An engineering technician (diver) died here Jan. 30 while completing routine underwater test infrastructure maintenance at the Underwater Test Facility, also known as the Super Pond.

George H. Lazzaro, Jr., 41, of Nottingham, Md., worked in the Firepower Directorate, Aberdeen Test Center, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. The cause of death is unknown at this time. An autopsy will be performed.

The incident occurred around 2:30 p.m. Emergency personnel from Aberdeen Proving Ground, along with local authorities, responded to the scene. After recovery operations, Lazzaro was taken by ambulance to Harford Memorial Hospital.

“Aberdeen Test Center personnel are saddened by the loss of one of our own. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and we mourn with them during this tragic loss,” said Col. Gordon L. Graham, ATC commander.

The family asks for privacy at this time as they mourn the loss of their husband, father, and friend.

Graham ordered an immediate safety stand down held Jan. 31 in addition to ATC’s scheduled monthly stand downs. Each month ATC personnel conduct safety reviews, where they review operating procedures and processes and discuss best practices.

The Super Pond provides ATC with the capability and expertise to conduct a wide range of Department of Defense, academia and private industry shock test programs, as well as other research and development and test and evaluation efforts without impact on the environment. The pond has been used for testing here since 1995.

The U.S. Army is investigating the cause of the accident.

Media should contact Robin Boggs, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command at 443-861-9731 (office); 410-652-8291 (mobile) or [robin.l.boggs.civ@mail.mil](mailto:robin.l.boggs.civ@mail.mil).

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Attachments:

- (1) Underwater Test Facility Fact Sheet
- (2) Official UTF Photo (Released)