

## **Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Desmond Parks**

Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Desmond Parks was born in Rantoul, Illinois, where he spent three months of his life before he moved with his parents to Zweibrücken, Germany. After moving to Brooklyn, New York, with his mother when he was four, Parks lived in eight more states, attending elementary school in Brooklyn, junior high and high school in Las Vegas, Nevada, and attended the University of Houston in Houston, Texas, Bethune Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Florida, and New York University in New York.

In February, 2013, Parks entered the U.S. Navy and attended basic training in Great Lakes, Illinois. Parks then entered the Defense Information School in Fort Meade, Maryland, and graduated in October, 2013. Parks' first command was Naval Public Affairs Support Element East.

Parks deployed aboard the Military Sealife Command container ship MV Cape Ray to document the destruction of Syrian chemical weapons on March 3, 2014. Parks' work has appeared online and in printed publications.