



# U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND JECC



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JOINT ENABLING CAPABILITIES COMMAND NEWSLETTER

JULY 2012

## JECC Commander's Message



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Welcome to the July issue of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command newsletter.

As we recently commemorated our Nation's Independence, I want to begin this note by sending out our thoughts, prayers and thanks to JECC members within the Joint Planning Support Element, the Joint Public Affairs Support Element and the Joint Communications Support Element currently serving away from home and the families who make their service possible.

July 1 marked the JECC's one-year anniversary of becoming a subordinate joint command under U.S. Transportation Command. See the cover page article for details on this momentous occasion.

In addition to a successful transition to USTRANSCOM, the JECC has also focused on efforts to better align the command to meet joint warfighter requirements and strengthen relations with the command's main stakeholders, the geographic combatant commands. See page 11 for more information on how the JECC recently reinvigorated its engagement program.

Equally important to visiting with the GCCs, JECC members also fostered relations by participating in GCC-led exercises. For instance, included on page 6, members from JPSE and JPASE recently participated in U.S. Northern Command's exercise Ardent Sentry which enhanced participants' understanding of responding to a Defense Support of Civil Authorities mission.

In accordance with strengthening bonds, members from JCSE participated in Exercise Cobb Ring, a combined training exercise with United Kingdom and Canadian forces, to enhance their communications expertise and interoperability. Read about this event on page 10.

The JECC remains focused on maintaining the highest level of trained individuals to ensure we perform efficiently and effectively while deployed. In particular, members from JCSE, JPASE and JPSE participated in Exercise Midway which is highlighted on page 2. JCSE and JPASE also held internal training events specifically centered on the expertise they bring to the joint force commander, described on page 7 and 8, respectively.

The JECC's continual training, such as those opportunities mentioned above, ultimately prepares our members to contribute critical skill sets to emergent missions such as the current support JCSE is providing to Pacific Partnership 2012. See page 4 for an update on their experiences while supporting this humanitarian assistance mission.

As you read about the JECC's most recent events, I thank you for your continued service, support and interest in the command.

Respectfully,

**S. A. Stearney**  
Rear Adm., U.S. Navy  
Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THIS ISSUE.

*Very Informative, Informative, Not Informative*

## JECC celebrates one year with U. S. Transportation Command

**Whitney Williams**  
USTRANSCOM JECC



Photo by: USTRANSCOM JECC

Pictured above, U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Scott Stearney (far right), the Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, and Ms. Diana Roach (center right), the Division Chief of U.S. Transportation Command's Change Management office, celebrate the JECC's one-year anniversary with USTRANSCOM as Mr. Chris Shepherd (far left), the JECC Executive Director, and U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew Kilgore (second from left), the JECC's J6 Communications Services Director, look on.

On July 1 the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command celebrated its one year anniversary with U.S. Transportation Command. Twelve months ago, the JECC was reassigned as a subordinate joint command as a result of the disestablishment of U.S. Joint Forces Command.

The JECC retained its three subordinate organizations – the Joint Planning Support Element, the Joint Communications Support Element and the Joint Public Affairs

Support Element – as well as its mission of providing mission-tailored, ready joint capability packages to combatant commanders in order to facilitate rapid establishment of joint force headquarters, fulfill Global Response Force execution and bridge joint operational requirements.

While the JECC mission remains the key priority of the command, the JECC

*JECC celebrates one year with U.S. Transportation Command continued on page 2.*



# JECC celebrates one year with U. S. Transportation Command

*JECC celebrates one year with U.S. Transportation Command continued from page 1.*

has worked to successfully transition to a new position under USTRANSCOM over the past year. The JECC has rapidly integrated with USTRANSCOM counterparts effectively unifying command and control with the four-star command. Additionally, in the past 12 months, the JECC has deployed over 750 personnel in support of various real-world missions and priority exercise events for each geographic combatant command.

These significant activities, in cooperation with the many other notable activities of the JECC members and staff over the past year, have further contributed to the command's ability to provide joint force commanders with a highly skilled team that rapidly increases joint op-

erational command and control capability.

U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Scott A. Stearney, the Commander of the JECC, recollected on the past 12 months and spoke of what the JECC sees on the horizon.

"With the help of our higher headquarters [USTRANSCOM], the JECC was able to seamlessly continue its valuable mission of providing joint operational capabilities following our reassignment," he said. "We have worked diligently to synchronize our mission and activities with USTRANSCOM priorities and as we continue to integrate into USTRANSCOM, the JECC is looking forward to efficiently and effectively



Photo by Mr. Bob Fehringer, USTRANSCOM/PA

Mr. Andrew Meister, from ASI Signage in St. Louis, installs the new Joint Enabling Capabilities Command emblem on the main entrance to U.S. Transportation Command's Building 1900 complex. The JECC is the command's only subordinate command and was reassigned as a result of the disestablishment of the U.S. Joint Forces Command.

supporting the joint force commander in the future." ■

## JECC members assemble for total force training during Exercise Midway

**Whitney Williams**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

The Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, a subordinate joint command of U.S. Transportation Command, places a significant focus on employability and total force training to successfully execute its mission of rapidly establishing joint force headquarters and bridging joint operational requirements.

The JECC hosted an internal training event, named Exercise Midway to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Midway, from June 2-9 at Fort Story, Va. Exercise Midway brought together over 120 active duty and Reserve component members from each of the JECC's subordinate commands – the Joint Communications Support Element, the Joint Public Affairs Support Element and the Joint Planning Support Element – to provide fundamental training on the critical skills required of JECC members when deployed.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Richard Surowiec, a JPSE member and the officer in charge of executing Exercise Midway, explained how this event was intended to meet specific JECC training objectives.

"This is a once in a year opportunity to bring both active duty and Reserve com-



Photo by USTRANSCOM JECC

ponent members from the JECC's three subordinate commands to build esprit de corps in the shared challenges of training in a simulated austere environment," he said. "We provided the training teams with a complex scenario to further challenge each JECC capability and to hone our skills."

Exercise Midway merged active duty and Reserve component personnel in a unique, training environment that simulated the various dynamics of a real-world mission. The JECC relies heavily

on its Reserve component members who train to the same standards as active duty personnel. This total force concept creates a strong, cohesive unit that builds upon each other's areas of expertise to bring even greater value to the joint force commander.

U.S. Navy Capt. Thomas Savidge, the [former] JECC J9 Reserve Forces Director, commented on the importance of an event that brings together the active duty

*JECC members assemble for total force training during Exercise Midway continued on page 3.*





# JECC members assemble for total force training during Exercise Midway

*JECC members assemble for total force training during Exercise Midway continued from page 2.*

and Reserve component to train as one unit.

"Exercise Midway provided a great opportunity to build trust and confidence in one another and brought all JECC members together as a cohesive unit," he explained. "The common bond of shared differences is good for teambuilding as the active duty and Reserve component members train together."

Exercise Midway also concentrated on building integration among each of the JECC's subordinate commands. JCSE, JPASE and JPSE provide distinct capabilities in joint communications, public affairs and operational planning, respectively, and this training event offered an opportunity for each element to demonstrate their unique knowledge and learn how their counterparts' skill sets could be employed during crisis or contingency operations.

Mr. Nick Balice, the JPASE Operations

Chief, spoke of how Exercise Midway honed skill sets and provided a chance to learn more about the capabilities of the JECC's other subordinate commands.

"Exercise Midway offered JPASE an opportunity to practice the skills that have proven critical for all JPASE deployments," he explained. "Our participation offered the opportunity to train alongside JPSE and JCSE personnel and share knowledge and experiences from the different functional areas."

The Commander, JECC, U.S. Navy Rear



Photo by USTRANSCOM JECC

*A member of the Joint Communications Support Element, a subordinate command of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, sets up a satellite enabling communications for members during Exercise Midway.*

Adm. Scott Stearney, spoke of the benefit of these training events and mentioned that the command is planning similar internal exercises in the future.

"This training exercise has provided lots of great learning and offered an opportunity for the JECC to raise the bar in what we do best, integrate across all elements and build upon the facets of our organization that allow us to be agile and flexible," he stated. "We will continue to execute these exercises across our readiness cycle to maintain this high degree of employability standards for real-world missions."

Collective training events like Exercise Midway are an opportune way to bring a unique group of Service members together and allow them to tap into each other's strengths to execute the mission. Integration of the JECC's subordinate commands coupled with the synchronized training of both active duty and Reserve component personnel will lead to increased effectiveness as the JECC is requested to support future operations. ■

*"This training exercise has provided lots of great learning and offered an opportunity for the JECC to raise the bar in what we do best, integrate across all elements and build upon the facets of our organization that allows us to be agile and flexible."*

*- U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Scott Stearney,  
Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command*



Photo by USTRANSCOM JECC

*Pictured above, Joint Planning Support Element member U.S. Marine Corps Col. Alan Mangan (far right) answers questions focused on the training scenario during a simulated media engagement. During Exercise Midway members of the Joint Public Affairs Support Element facilitated interviews with team leads from JPSE which created a realistic training environment and provided an in-depth understanding of the capabilities JPASE members bring to a joint force commander.*



# Lasting memories are made while supporting Pacific Partnership 2012

**Julianne Sympson**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

Since May 1 seven personnel from the Joint Communications Support Element, a subordinate command of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, have been embarked in the USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) supporting Pacific Partnership 2012, a humanitarian assistance mission in the Asia-Pacific region. In the midst of their deployment, these highly trained communicators took time to reflect on the lasting impact this unique mission has already had on them.

JCSE provides rapidly deployable, mission-tailored teams of highly trained communicators to support worldwide joint mission requirements. Similar to the communications services they would provide to a joint force commander, the team from the 224th Joint Communications Support Squadron, a Georgia Air National Guard unit aligned with JCSE, has provided ship-to-shore communications services during PP12.

The seven JCSE members are among 1200 personnel aboard the *Mercy* consisting of medical, dental, veterinarian and engineering teams who are providing a range of procedures and civic activities to support the local populace during each scheduled port visit. These teams consist of personnel from Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Peru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, Republic of Korea, Thailand, all four services of the U.S. military, government and non-government organizations and numerous volunteer groups.

JCSE member, U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. John Vining, commented on how his team's direct support in communications services has eased communications challenges for the healthcare providers and the civil engineers.

"Communications in the middle of a rural area, giving real-time request and response to and from the *Mercy* each day has provided a capability that was otherwise non-existent," said Vining. "The reliability and speed of our services allowed the Medical Civil Action Project teams to query the ship for a patient surgery or treatment and give a



*Pictured above, this seven-member team from the Joint Communications Support Element's 224th Joint Communications Support Squadron is currently supporting Operation Pacific Partnership 2012 in the Asia-Pacific region while onboard the hospital ship, USNS Mercy. This humanitarian assistance mission has reached the halfway point after concluding efforts in Indonesia and the Philippines. The JCSE team continues to provide critical ship-to-shore connectivity to the medical, dental, engineering and veterinarian teams at each destination.*

response within a matter of minutes."

The Pacific Partnership mission promotes multilateral cooperation among its participants and their compassion has been illustrated in the diligent efforts they've provided to the local communities. This mission exemplifies how the international community is collectively working towards building partnerships and improving quality of life for people in the Asia-Pacific region.

While deployed to various sites in Indonesia, PP12 provided engineering

*Lasting memories are made while supporting Pacific Partnership 2012 continued on page 5.*

## Communications keeps Pacific Partnership 2012 connected

**U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Stephen Votaw**  
U.S. Navy Public Affairs Support Element - West

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Service members from Pacific Partnership 2012's Joint Communication Support Element are pushing technology to its utmost to keep everyone connected during the mission.

Through the use of numerous satellite dishes and antennas, the three teams operate at different sites providing Wi-Fi Internet, e-mail and cell phone communications to the field teams working in remote locations.

U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. John Vining, leading non-

commissioned officer for the JCSE, said it was very important to keep communications active between the various civil action sites and their home base aboard USNS Mercy (T-AH 19).

"Without proper communications, no one would know what anyone else is doing," Vining said.

This is the first Pacific Partnership mission to use JCSE to this extent.

"Previous missions never had the level of communications that we do," Vining said. "For doctors to be able to communicate back and forth from the field to the *Mercy*

*Communications keeps Pacific Partnership 2012 connected continued on page 5.*





# Lasting memories are made while supporting Pacific Partnership 2012

*Lasting memories are made while supporting Pacific Partnership 2012 continued from page 4.*

subject matter experts who initiated the construction of a brand-new emergency care building and a pharmacy, and supplied much needed renovations to sanitation facilities and a nearby clinic. The JCSE teams provided mission-critical communications services to support the MEDCAP teams as they executed significant logistical operations and made a visible difference in the community.

One medical team member supporting PP12, Dr. Lynn Bemiller, the Medical Director from Project Hope, spoke of how JCSE Reserve member, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Charles Grant, used his civilian experience to fix processes while supporting a MEDCAP team on site.

"His first project was to engineer flow in and out of our little pharmacy until he got our wait times consistently down to 15 minutes," said Bemiller. "That was so successful. He took a look at our registration and waiting room processes, made a few changes and then we had our process so smooth that over 600 patients flowed through the site in a six-hour timeframe with no hang up."

Following the stop in Indonesia, *Mercy* continued its journey to the Philippines where the medical teams worked with local healthcare providers to complete a record-breaking 36 surgeries and offer medical screening to over 700 patients in one day. JCSE was on hand to provide the critical ship-to-shore communications needed for the physicians and medical technicians on site to complete these humanitarian missions.

Another JCSE team member, U.S. Air Force

Tech. Sgt. Brian Abel, spoke of how this humanitarian assistance mission has impacted him and the incredible reception the Pacific Partnership personnel have received at each site.

"The reception at both places, [Indonesia and the Philippines], was unbelievable. We arrived as early as 7:00 a.m. and there were hundreds of people waiting patiently for us," said Abel. "Even after the Medical Civil Action Project was completed, we were offered small gifts of thanks and even celebrated with their local customs and traditions in place."

The goodwill and combined efforts of these dedicated service members, government civilians and volunteers have helped thousands so far and continue to make a considerable difference during this exceptional mission. The JCSE team is looking forward to continuing their journey to strengthen partnerships and provide similar humanitarian assistance in Vietnam and Cambodia. PP12 is scheduled to conclude in early September. ■

## Communications keeps Pacific Partnership 2012 connected

*Communications keeps Pacific Partnership 2012 connected continued from page 4.*

gives them much greater flexibility in the cases and patients they can treat."

Vining said the JCSE team has thoroughly enjoyed being able to take part in PP12 and looks forward to hopefully being involved in future missions.

"This is a great opportunity for our young crew members," said Vining. "Not only do they get the reward of helping out those in need, they also get to work on systems to an extent that is rarely seen in most branches of service today."

When a JCSE team arrives at one of PP12's civil action projects they immediately set up all of the equipment needed to provide communications. However, sometimes the host nation personnel lend a hand to help get systems up and running.

"All of the host nation personnel have been extremely helpful," said Vining. "Their knowledge of local terrain really helps in setting up the satellite somewhere that is

both as safe and as effective as possible."

Now in its seventh year, Pacific Partnership is an annual U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian and civic assistance mission that brings together U.S. military personnel, host and partner nations, non-government organizations and international agencies to build stronger relationships and develop disaster response capabilities throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

For more news from Pacific Partnership 2012, visit <http://www.navy.mil/local/pacpart12/>. ■



Photo provided by JECC JCSE

Pictured above, Joint Communications Support Element member U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. John Vining, JCSE team lead during Pacific Partnership 2012, displays an American flag with children in Talaud, Indonesia. While supporting the Medical Civil Action Project teams on site, Vining took time to share the flag which was made by a kindergarten class from Brunswick, Ga., where JCSE's 224th Joint Communications Support Squadron is headquartered.



# Exercise Ardent Sentry enhances understanding of DSCA operations

**Julianne Sympson**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

The Joint Enabling Capabilities Command broadens the expertise of its personnel through unique training opportunities which familiarize them with potential mission requirements.

Recently, nine personnel from the Joint Planning Support Element and four Joint Public Affairs Support Element members participated in the U.S. Northern Command-led exercise, Ardent Sentry 2012, from May 2 – 9 to refresh members' understanding of Defense Support of Civil Authorities operations and foster relations among USNORTHCOM and its subordinate units.

AS-12 validated existing state and regional plans in response to a DSCA mission, which may require support from both the Title 10 federally-governed U.S. Armed Forces and the Title 32 National Guard forces from various states. Although Title 10 and Title 32 forces follow separate lines of command authority under normal circumstances, when called on to support a DSCA mission, both forces fall under a Dual Status Commander. This dual status allows the designated Commanding Officer to rapidly and seamlessly integrate Title 10 and Title 32 forces into a domestic emergency operation.

To gain an in-depth perspective of such a complex planning environment, JPSE members regularly participate in the USNORTHCOM-facilitated DSCA II course. Select JPSE members also attend the DSC course which goes into further detail on the role of the DSC and his priorities during a DSCA operation.

Because of the vast knowledge base the JPSE team retains, they were able to serve as resident experts during AS-12 and share their understanding of DSCA operations with USNORTHCOM's subordinate units. In addition to their real-world joint operational experience, the JPSE members put their classroom education of DSCA operations to practice as they deployed to Anchorage, Alaska and fully integrated with USNORTHCOM's Joint Task Force – Alaska.

U.S. Navy Capt. John Carter, who has attended both the DSCA II course and the DSC course, led the JPSE team during AS-12 and commented on the distinct training environment and the value of AS-12.

"Participating in AS-12 fully exercised our joint planning expertise through a unique scenario with additional environmental planning factors that we wouldn't normally face," said Carter. "After attending DSCA II and other related training courses, the JPSE team was able to bring a level of knowledge that helped us do what we do best in supporting the joint task force."

Specifically during AS-12, the JTF-Alaska staff and JPSE worked through the joint operational planning process while responding to a search and rescue mission within the U.S. In concert with the JTF-Alaska staff, JPSE members faced challenges of limited infrastructure and environmental factors which further exercised the training audience's actions and contributed to an increased appreciation of each other's processes and procedures. While working as one, cohesive unit throughout the exercise, JPSE and JTF-Alaska built relationships that will expedite efforts if the JECC were requested to support a similar mission in the future.

In addition to the JPSE team, JPASE members supported AS-12 from various locations to bring an increased level of public affairs expertise and ensure the training environment closely resembled real-world events.

JPASE member, Mr. Gary Boucher, who served as the lead for the public affairs white cell from Suffolk, Va., spoke of JPASE's participation in the exercise and how it served dual purposes of training the force and building strong ties with the USNORTHCOM public affairs teams.

"JPASE members helped replicate the media environment and higher command authorities to drive the USNORTHCOM public affairs objectives and further prepare USNORTHCOM personnel," said



*Pictured above, a team of nine Joint Planning Support Element members and one member from the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, travelled to Anchorage, Alaska to participate in U.S. Northern Command's exercise Ardent Sentry. This was the first opportunity the JECC has had to foster relationships and support Joint Task Force - Alaska while working through a Defense Support of Civil Authorities mission scenario.*

Photo provided by JECC JPSE

Boucher. "We work with all geographic combatant commands during training exercises, such as Ardent Sentry, and our familiarity with their staff and operational processes allows us to fit right in with them if called on for a real-world operation."

To enhance the training audiences' ability to execute their communication plans, JPASE assisted exercise participants in performing specific public affairs tasks and generated valuable discussion among the participants. JPASE also produced print and video products which created a realistic media environment.

JPASE's public affairs expertise helped give the exercise participants a more interactive training environment as they worked through their public affairs processes.

AS-12 offered a great opportunity to clarify the complex roles and responsibilities of each party involved during a DSCA mission and the necessary planning required when responding to a crisis or contingency in the U.S. The diverse training experience of this exercise reinforced JPASE's ability to fully integrate with a joint force headquarters and support their joint planning process. In addition, as the lead joint public affairs trainer in DOD, JPASE brought an added sense of realism and professional insight in public affairs which ultimately enhanced the AS-12 training environment. ■





# Highly trained communicators enhance combat skills

Julianne Sympson  
USTRANSCOM JECC

The Joint Communications Support Element, a subordinate command of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, rapidly deploys mission-tailored teams of highly trained communicators to support both joint task force headquarters and joint special operations task force requirements. Therefore, the command continually exercises its personnel's readiness and employability to bring the highest level of communications expertise to the joint force commander. In preparation for supporting a broad spectrum of mission requirements, JCSE places a great emphasis on training their personnel for potential combat situations.

Recently, JCSE personnel organized and participated in two unique training opportunities – Gryphon Group training and an Endurathon – in preparation for future deployment requirements. The Gryphon Group training took place from June 4-10 at Fort Bragg, N.C., and focused on providing a select group of deploying unit members' familiarization with more advanced combat tactical skills. JCSE's Endurathon took place from June 18-22 at Withlacoochee State Forest, Fla., and trained JCSE members who demonstrated exceptional leadership potential and proficiency in the communications services JCSE provides downrange.

The Gryphon Group training, a specialized training regime facilitated by Gry-



Photo provided by JECC JCSE

Pictured above, Joint Communications Support Element member, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Benjamin Johnson, completes one of the Gryphon Group battle drills at Fort Bragg, N.C. using the M9 service pistol and the M4 Carbine with non-lethal simunitions. During a timed event, JCSE members were required to engage two moving personnel and a silhouette target in the distance while shooting through various shaped apertures.

*"Though JCSE personnel are known for their technical prowess, this training demonstrates our commitment to being tactically proficient service members in support of joint warfighter requirements in hostile environments."*

*- U.S. Air Force Capt. Nathan Van Loon  
Operations Officer, JCSE's 3rd Joint Communications Squadron*

phon Group Security Solutions, LLC, was designed to ensure that JCSE members could fully integrate into a highly trained team of special operations forces and are amply prepared to handle any possible situation they could encounter. Specifically, the Gryphon Group training tested

JCSE members' tactical skills in combat triage, combat driving skills and advanced weapons training.

U.S. Air Force Capt. Nathan Van Loon, the operations officer for JCSE's 3rd Joint Communications Squadron, spoke of the difficulty of the Gryphon Group training and how it provided a stronger comprehension of specific skills

that JCSE members may need in combat situations.

"This training provides our communicators with extremely specialized tactical and medical training that is important to preparing our noncommissioned officers for the worst possible day they could encounter while deployed to a combat area," said Van Loon. "Though JCSE personnel are known for their technical prowess, this training demonstrates our commitment to being tactically proficient service members in support of joint warfighter requirements in hostile environments."

Although this training prepared these service members for a potential worst case scenario downrange, it also built their cohesion as a team, as well as confidence in their ability to respond appropriately in combat situations, while at the same time lending credibility to JCSE's ability to support a JSOTF team.

Complementary to the Gryphon Group training was JCSE's Endurathon, which empowered select individuals from JCSE's 1st Joint Communications Squadron to

**Highly trained communicators enhance combat skills**  
*continued on page 8.*



Photo by provided by JECC JCSE

Joint Communications Support Element member, U.S. Air Force Senior Airman James Hairston, works on mastering weapon and magazine changes and engaging different targets. While participating in the Gryphon Group training, members from JCSE demonstrated their ability to respond to quick commands reinforcing mental concentration on multiple targets in a heightened stress training environment. This mission-critical training better prepared JCSE members for tactical skills they will need while supporting joint special operations task forces downrange.



# Highly trained communicators enhance combat skills

*Highly trained communicators enhance combat skills continued from page 7.*

lead their troops by pushing the teams through rigorous training in high stress environments.

While being evaluated on their ability to effectively direct their troops through various scenarios, the JCSE team leads and their personnel provided uninterrupted connectivity using the JCSE communication packages they deploy with downrange. Additionally, this training event tested proficiencies in combat life saver training, M4 and M9 weapons qualifications and other warrior task skills.

JCSE member, U.S. Air Force Sgt. Joshua Ardoyn, participated in the JCSE Endurathon and commented on the valuable training the event provided.

"Team building and ensuring our efficiency in communications pushed us to our limits mentally and physically during this exercise," said Ardoyn. "It made us tough and always ready."

Another participant, JCSE member U.S. Air Force Sgt. Thomas Johnston, spoke of how this event further prepared the JCSE team leads as they learned from the collective experiences of those JCSE members who have successfully completed the training before them.



Photo by provided by JECC/JCSE

*Pictured above, members of the Joint Communications Support Element exercise their technical and tactical skills during JCSE's Endurathon which took place from June 18 - 22, 2012. This training event ensured future JCSE team leaders could effectively lead their communications teams through the rigorous and realistic training scenarios.*

"During the JCSE Endurathon, leadership is learned at different levels," said Johnston. "The training event tested our abilities to lead as a team chief and also to listen to the advice of our higher ranking team members who may have more experience in similar situations."

JCSE members bring exceptional communications support to joint force commanders and the ability to adapt to a changing environment contributes to mission success while deployed downrange.

By ensuring their troops are fully prepared for a broad range of potential high risk scenarios, JCSE instilled confidence in their communicators to respond quickly and effectively to unanticipated situations. ■

## JPASE employs the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System to extend their public affairs support

**Julianne Sympson**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

**A**s DOD's only rapidly deployable, joint public affairs unit, the Joint Public Affairs Support Element, a subordinate command of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, provides mission-tailored PA skills and capabilities to the joint force commander. JPASE's expertise is typically requested for the early, critical stages of operational planning during the establishment of joint force headquarters and also bridges PA requirements as requested by the combatant commands.

JPASE's highly-trained public affairs experts implement the full spectrum of PA support including the employment of the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution

*"While deployed, we provide expertise in media relations, crisis communications planning, standard public affairs operations, as well as facilitating live interviews using DVIDS and advising the commander in his decision-making process."*

*- U.S. Army Master Sgt. Mark Swart,  
Joint Public Affairs Support Element member*

System, a network of portable satellite transmitters deployed in theater to immediately broadcast news. DVIDS enables JPASE to facilitate live news interviews and stream to a multitude of worldwide public media outlets by transmitting the data through the DVIDS hub, located in Atlanta, Ga.

JPASE member, U.S. Army Master Sgt. Mark Swart, described the broad scope of

PA support JPASE offers to the joint force including the use of DVIDS.

"We are a rapidly deployable joint public affairs unit and our diverse public affairs expertise is one of our greatest advantages as we deploy in support of joint operations," said Swart. "While deployed, we provide expertise in media relations,

*JPASE employs the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System continued on page 9.*





# JPASE employs the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System to extend their public affairs support

*JPASE employs the Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System continued from page 8.*

crisis communications planning, standard public affairs operations, as well as facilitating live interviews using DVIDS and advising the commander in his decision-making process."

JPASE's combined wealth of knowledge and level of experience contributes to the command's ability to efficiently and effectively serve the joint force commander downrange. Specifically, DVIDS, which consists of three airline transportable cases, is vital for joint force commanders to deliver their message through on-site interviews, images and video from anywhere in the world in a matter of minutes.

In past deployments, JPASE has employed DVIDS to facilitate live-feed interviews with service members and subject matter experts downrange. Sharing the mission objectives can be a significant portion of the joint force commander's communication strategy while in-theater.

A two-man JPASE team requires only 30 minutes of initial setup preparations, to successfully facilitate a live interview on-site with the field commander. To further expedite transmission of data, JPASE pre-programs each DVIDS kit for locations within North America, Iraq and

Afghanistan prior to deploying.

Swart, who is responsible for JPASE's training and operational use of DVIDS for real-world missions, explained how this commercial satellite broadcasting system enhances the support JPASE brings during the earliest stages of an emergent operation.

"JPASE has deployed with DVIDS for every real-world mission the command has supported and the system is crucial in allowing service members to get live news feeds to any media outlet," said Swart. "This is a great tool for JPASE-supported missions during contingency operations because it helps us get the military message out there on short notice when the media interest is at its highest."

JPASE continually updates and maintains the readiness of two DVIDS kits at all times. One DVIDS kit is readily deployable



Photo provided by JECC JPASE

*Pictured above, Joint Public Affairs Support Element member U.S. Army Master Sgt. Mark Swart manually aligns a Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System at Yokota Air Base, Japan, during Operation Pacific Passage in March 2011. JPASE members rapidly deployed and successfully transmitted live feed interviews from Japan back to the DVIDS hub in Atlanta, Ga. during this real-world operation which supported the military assisted departure operations following an 8.9 magnitude earthquake and tsunami in Japan.*

on short notice for emergent operational requirements. An additional system is available for in-house training opportunities to introduce the system to new JPASE members and also reinforce current personnel's familiarization with the equipment. JPASE retains two additional systems, if needed for additional mission requirements that may call for this PA capability.

In addition, JPASE hosts quarterly DVIDS training to increase understanding, setup and testing of the tool to ensure all deployable JPASE members can successfully operate DVIDS and provide mission-essential PA support. Most recently, the command held DVIDS training at their headquarters in Suffolk, Va., on April 24 to guarantee their proficiency to fully employ the system.

The ability to provide immediate, first-hand information enhances PA operations, improves the public's perception of the mission and improves situational awareness as a whole. With JPASE's combined level of PA expertise and inherent knowledge of the DVIDS system, JPASE can further support joint force commanders in distributing their message in a relevant and timely manner to the appropriate audiences. ■



Photo by JECC JPASE

*Pictured above from left to right, Joint Public Affairs Support Element members, U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Tyson Dunkelberger, JPASE civilian, Ms. Aaronetta Stewart, and U.S. Army Lt. Col. Mike Indovina, execute the initial setup of a Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System for a functions check on April 24, 2012. JPASE members exercise their proficiency on setting up and operating DVIDS on a quarterly basis at their headquarters, located in Suffolk, Va.*





# JCSE participates in Exercise Cobb Ring to build interoperability among coalition partners

**Julianne Sympson**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

The Joint Communications Support Element, a subordinate command of the Joint Enabling Capabilities Command, participated in exercise Cobb Ring 2012 from June 11 – 24 to prepare for global responsibilities and interact with likely coalition partners. JCSE personnel and counterparts from the United Kingdom and Canada strengthened relations and increased interoperability across the three nations' network infrastructures. In addition, the three communications organizations also gained a firsthand experience in each of their partners' pre-deployment requirements by integrating into internal training drills while on site.

Members from JCSE, headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Fla., the U.K. 30th Signal Regiment, located in Bramcote, U.K. and the Canadian Forces Signal Regiment, located in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, each sent teams to their coalition partner's respective locations to ensure their communications packages could effectively operate from each destination. JCSE, in particular, deployed two members to the U.K. and two members to Canada while also hosting larger teams from the U.K. and Canada at JCSE head-

quarters.

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jeffrey Worthington, JCSE's 2nd Joint Communications Squadron Commander, who led the JCSE portion of Exercise Cobb Ring, spoke of how this training opportunity demonstrated JCSE's ability to extend their communications support across various coalition networks.

"This was an eye-opening and extremely beneficial training event for everyone as we each shared our tactics, techniques and procedures and training processes," said Worthington. "We quickly realized that we all face similar challenges in both our training and operations as communicators downrange."

Specifically, this unique opportunity allowed the participants to establish point-to-point high frequency radio voice and



Photo by JCSE member, U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Haloma

Pictured from left to right, Joint Communications Support Element member U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Michael Williams, United Kingdom Army Lance Cpl. Rukman Limbu and Canadian Army Cpl. John Byrnes set up communications services in Tampa, Fla., during Exercise Cobb Ring. JCSE members and their coalition partners successfully transmitted reachback capabilities at three different locations – Kingston, Ontario, Bramcote, United Kingdom and Tampa, Fla. – during Exercise Cobb Ring 2012. By using each of the three forces' networks and communications capabilities, Exercise Cobb Ring further trained each team on interoperability across the various communications packages used during real-world operations.

data communications connectivity at each destination. By successfully connecting to the different networks, exercise Cobb Ring demonstrated that in the event a communications system becomes unavailable while deployed downrange, each country is able to use the other nations' capabilities to reach back to their home network infrastructure; a mission-critical capability if the requirement arises.

JCSE member, U.S. Air Force Capt. Weilun Lin, shared his sentiments on the importance of enhancing relations with coalition partners.

"Working alongside our coalition partners allows us to build our global reach and capabilities to provide a broader understanding of how we can work through their networks for reach back capabilities," said Lin. "This knowledge allows greater flexibility in the communication support we provide to the forces we support downrange and the expertise we collectively bring to the fight."

In addition to the technical aspect of the training, exercise Cobb Ring also provided each nation a firsthand opportunity to see how their coalition partners operate and train their communicators

*JCSE participates in Exercise Cobb Ring to build interoperability continued on page 11.*



Photo by JCSE member, U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Haloma

Pictured above, Joint Communications Support Element members from the 2nd Joint Communications Squadron, led by U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jeff Worthington (front row, right) and U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Willie Pearson (front row, left), are joined by their coalition partners as they participate in Exercise Cobb Ring 2012 from June 11 - 24. This exercise brought rapidly deployable communicators from JCSE, the United Kingdom's 30th Signal Regiment (on the left) and the Canadian Forces Signal Regiment (on the right) together to foster relationships and participate in technical and tactical training near JCSE headquarters, located at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Fla.





## JCSE participates in Exercise Cobb Ring to build interoperability among coalition partners

*JCSE participates in Exercise Cobb Ring to build interoperability continued from page 10.*

at the tactical level. Each of the three communications units facilitated small weapons training drills on their respective weapons systems similar to the internal training their communicators regularly complete before deploying to real-world operations.

Those U.K. and Canadian military mem-



Photo by JCSE member, U.S. Army Sgt. Michael Halona

Pictured from left to right, U.K. Army Cpl. Dean Stollard, Joint Communications Support Element member U.S. Army Sgt. Cory Wingate and U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Van Pooen work on establishing communications services using the various communications packages that the coalition partners use for real-world operations.

*"This was an eye-opening and extremely beneficial training event for everyone as we each shared our tactics, techniques and procedures and training processes."*

*- U.S. Army Lt. Col. Jeffrey Worthington, Commander, JCSE's 2nd Joint Communications Squadron*

bers who were deployed to JCSE headquarters were able to fully integrate with JCSE's 2JCS during the squadron's Field

Training Exercise. The coalition participants worked through realistic operational scenarios such as Escalation of Force drills and foreign civic action situations.

Cobb Ring and the various weapons training drills broadened understanding of each coalition partner's capabilities and increased the expertise they each bring to forces downrange.

JCSE member, U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Daniel Haynes, spoke of the importance of

interoperability and building awareness in each others' capabilities.

"Exercise Cobb Ring and the concurrent Field Training Exercise served as opportunities to see how our coalition partners operate technically and tactically," said Haynes. "As communicators, we all have the same job and work through communication challenges differently but it was nice to see the capabilities of each group to meet training objectives."

Exercise Cobb Ring promoted partnerships among communications experts from the U.S., U.K. and Canada while providing valuable training that will be essential in the future. The three nations came together to enhance interoperability in a training environment which further prepared exercise participants in case they need each other's support on the battlefield. ■

## JECC enhances engagement with geographic combatant commands

**Julianne Sympson**  
USTRANSCOM JECC

The Joint Enabling Capabilities Command maintains strong ties with the geographic combatant commands to ensure the command meets joint warfighter requirements and is better postured for global response in support of emergent operations. The Commander, JECC, U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Scott Stearney, placed a greater emphasis on JECC involvement in GCC engagements by initiating cross-functional efforts in a newly improved engagement program.

Stearney demonstrated the level of priority he placed on engagements by visiting each of the GCCs soon after assuming command and built awareness of the capa-

*"Through strong relations, the combatant commands know what we bring to the fight and how to request our capabilities rapidly."*

*- U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Scott Stearney, Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command*

bilities the JECC can provide to a joint force commander.

Stearney commented on the value engagements bring and how the JECC continually synchronizes and integrates efforts to meet joint operational requirements on a global scale.

"We are doing our mission exceedingly well and moving this command forward to do what the Department of Defense asks us to do," said Stearney. "Through strong relations, the combatant commands know

what we bring to the fight and how to request our capabilities rapidly."

The JECC refreshed its engagement program and has been actively seeking opportunities to engage with the GCCs to build a level of trust and understanding on both sides.

The reinvigorated JECC engagement program designates select members from the Joint Planning Support Element, a subordi-

*JECC enhances engagement with geographic combatant commands continued on page 12.*



# JECC enhances engagement with geographic combatant commands

*JECC enhances engagement with geographic combatant commands continued from page 11.*

nate command of the JECC, to serve as a lead engagement officer while military and government members from across the JECC headquarters' J3 Operations Directorate are assigned as deputy engagement officers. Together, these personnel build awareness of the capabilities the JECC brings to the joint warfighter and provide valuable insight on recent activities in each of the GCCs' areas of operations.

The engagement officers travel during training exercises and planning conferences to maintain strong relations and directly coordinate with the GCCs' functional directorates of Operations (J3), Plans (J5) and Training (J7). Ultimately, the increased level of engagements maintains regular correspondence with the GCCs and builds a comprehensive situational awareness of GCC activities and current operations for the JECC.

With frequent engagements, the JECC is better postured to support worldwide operational requirements. These close relations provide valuable insight on the GCCs' planning priorities, requirements and potential capability gaps where the GCCs may request the JECC's support.

The JECC J3 Operations Officer, U.S. Navy Capt. Geoffrey Gage, commented on the positive effect of these visits.

"The culmination of Rear Admiral Stearney's direct engagements with each of the combatant commands and the designated JECC engagement officers allows us to foster relationships, balance priorities and provide a swifter and more effective response to demand signals from the geographic combatant commands," said Gage.

JPSE member, U.S. Navy Cmdr. Frank Castellano, who serves as the JECC engage-

*"These face-to-face engagements truly demonstrate the JECC's level of commitment to the geographic combatant commands to support their mission. Staying engaged lets them know what capabilities we have resident in the JECC and provides us increased visibility so the JECC is better poised and continues to be forward-leaning in case an emergent operation occurs."*

*- U.S. Navy Cmdr. Frank Castellano,  
JECC Engagement Officer for U.S. Pacific Command*

ment officer for U.S. Pacific Command, concurred with Gage's comments and added, "These face-to-face engagements truly demonstrate the JECC's level of commitment to the geographic combatant commands to support their mission. Staying



engaged lets them know what capabilities we have resident in the JECC and provides us increased visibility so the JECC is better poised and continues to be forward-leaning in case an emergent operation occurs."

To maximize the employability of the unique rapidly deployable assets the JECC can provide to the joint warfighter, it is essential that the GCCs understand how they can request JECC's support. By effectively communicating this to the GCCs, the JECC continues to take preemptive measures to ensure the command can rapidly respond on short notice.

The JECC J35 Future Operations lead, Mr. Reynaldo Cabanas, coordinates JECC engagement activities and also serves as the U.S. Southern Command deputy engagement officer. He recently visited USSOUTHCOM during several planning conferences and spoke of how the JECC's visible presence at the GCCs builds personal relationships and facilitates a more coherent understanding of the JECC's roles and responsibilities.

"It is important to remain in touch with our potential mission partners so that we can provide a bridging solution to joint operational requirements within a short amount of time," said Cabanas. "Frequent contacts, personal relations and inclusions in plans will build a mutual understanding of what we bring and how the GCCs can access the JECC capabilities when they need our support most."

By sustaining active relationships with GCC headquarters staff and component command staffs, the JECC gains an in-depth understanding of GCC requirements which facilitates the rapid integration of JECC capabilities during crisis or contingency operations. The strong ties and shared familiarization between the JECC and the GCCs will ensure smooth deployments in the future and effective employment of the JECC's valuable capabilities. ■

*"The culmination of Rear Admiral Stearney's direct engagements with each of the combatant commands and the designated JECC engagement officers allows us to foster relationships, balance priorities and provide a swifter and more effective response to demand signals from the geographic combatant commands."*

*- U.S. Navy Capt. Geoffrey Gage,  
JECC J3 Operations Officer*





## U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND JOINT ENABLING CAPABILITIES COMMAND

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### WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THIS JECC NEWSLETTER?

VERY INFORMATIVE

INFORMATIVE

NOT INFORMATIVE



## U.S. TRANSPORTATION COMMAND JOINT ENABLING CAPABILITIES COMMAND

*Joint Enabling Capabilities Command (JECC) provides mission-tailored, ready joint capability packages to Combatant Commanders in order to facilitate rapid establishment of joint force headquarters, fulfill Global Response Force execution and bridge joint operational requirements.*

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