

Stay Focused!

Be Ready!

Make an IMPACTT!

Volume 2, Issue 7

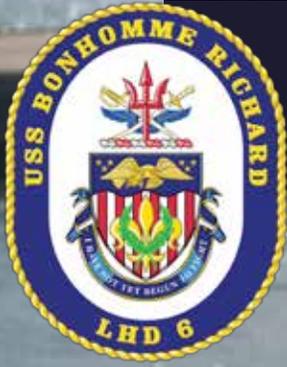
July 31, 2018

Poor Richard, 2018.

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Family Gram Edition

INTEGRITY . MAINTENANCE . PROFESSIONALISM . ADVANCEMENT . COMMUNICATION . TRAINING . TEAMWORK



Captain's Corner

Revolutionary Families and Friends,

We completed our home port shift from Sasebo to San Diego, took a month to get settled in, and went back to sea to answer the Navy's call to participate in the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Exercise off the coast of Hawaii as the Navy's only big-deck amphibious assault ship.

Before leaving San Diego we conducted in-port flight operations to embark UH-1Y Venom and AH-1Z Viper helicopters of Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron (HMLA) 367, and MH-60S Seahawk helicopters of Helicopter Sea Squadron (HSC) 21. The crew worked together to make the rare in-port evolution safe and successful. Once underway, amphibious landing crafts of Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 5, and MV-22B Ospreys of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 363 joined us for the exercise.

In celebration of our nation's independence, MWR coordinated a 4th of July celebration that included friendly competitions of tug-of-war, card games and sumo-suit wrestling in the Hangar Bay, and we all enjoyed a meal on the Mess Deck together. Officers, chiefs and first class petty officers joined our CSs and food service attendants, serving food, washing dishes and cleaning up.

During the exercise, the ship served as a command and control platform for Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 3

and Amphibious Squadron FIVE, as well as our Australian partners of Combined Task Force (CTF) 176. We also hosted distinguished visitors from Chile and Israel, several groups of senate and congressional staff delegates from Washington, D. C. and media personnel from across the globe, including a group of documentarians from the Discovery Channel doing a special on RIMPAC.

As usual, our engineers worked hard day and night down in the plant, our CSI and Operations personnel ensured the lines of communication were up and the CSs kept the crew nourished for the energy to continue the mission. It always takes a team to complete our mission, no matter how big or small that mission is, and I appreciate every one of your Sailors and Marines for their contribution.

RIMPAC 2018 is the world's largest international maritime exercise, and included 25 nations, 46 ships, five submarines, about 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel, and your Sailors and Marines operating from and with Bonhomme Richard. You can be proud of each and every one of them for their unique contribution and service to our country. While we have to be gone, we know you are there making your unique contribution and serving our country from the homefront and we thank you for that. We need every one of our service members and we need every one of you. Stay Focused, be Ready and continue to Make an IMPACTT every day!



~ Captain 'Mac'



BHR CELEBRATES 4TH OF JULY





USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 6) - FY18

MERITORIOUS ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

ABF1 Jose Betances
 AT1 Zachary Holmes
 AO1 Alonzo Thomas
 IT2 Jeffrey Cintron
 HT2 Gene Davis
 QM2 Rachel Dill
 MM2 Tate Ferguson
 HM2 James Gordon
 HM2 Michael James
 IS2 Alexander Macnamara
 CS2 Samuel Ofosuhene
 HM2 Dominique Scott

IS2 Keelan Young
 AZ2 Matthew Zafra
 HM3 Leianna Adame
 MM3 Joel Aguilar
 ABF3 Ciera Berquistahquin
 LS3 Adrian Concepcion
 AO3 Joshua Dean
 AO3 Noah Esquivel
 SH3 Xavier Ferrell
 MM3 Stenley Fongsam
 BM3 William Ford

SH3 Karissa King
 ABH3 Nicolas Lewis
 QM3 Brandon Link
 AO3 Kyle Massey
 HM3 Jesse Meechan
 EM3 Kylie Monko
 AM3 Charles Mulrain
 CS3 Maximiliano Navarrete
 AO3 Charles Oneal
 MM3 Trenton Pafford
 BM3 Sergio Quintanal
 ABH3 Jovonte Ross
 BM3 David Royal
 CS3 Sammy Thunge
 ABH3 Jalon Wilson

Congratulations to BHR's newly advanced Petty Officers!

MERITORIOUS ADVANCEMENT



IMPACTT
ADVANCEMENT



NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUCCESS STORY

Story by MC3 Gavin Shield
USS Bonhomme Richard Public Affairs

The story of a 12-year-old with a passion for ice hockey ordinarily begins with a boy from Minnesota or Utah, and it usually ends with a professional hockey player chasing world championships. But this story begins with a girl from Texas with a passion for ice hockey – it is the story of an Ensign, pursuing her dreams while stationed aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6).

What is similar about the two stories is that young Kim Do played hockey on the boys' team, and her passion for the sport led her to a professional traveling career, although not the one you would expect. Her career is centered on serving her country as an Information Professional (IP) Officer and assigned as the communications officer aka COMMO onboard Bonhomme Richard, a position usually held by Limited Duty Officers (LDOs), officers with much more experience and time in the service. Do was selected straight out of the Academy, a direct ascension, to work in the Information Warfare Community.

“Direct ascension just means that you get picked up directly from your commissioning source,” said Do. “In my case it was the Naval Academy and then directly into the information warfare (IW) community as an Information Professional (IP 1820).”

Do's career progression is rapid compared to most officers within the IW community. Intelligence communities are restricted line, meaning that they are restricted to specializing within their career field. Their milestone at sea tour is Information Warfare Commander (IWC) onboard a Carrier Strike Group (CSG). They focus on a single specialized area. Other examples of restricted communities are medical corps, dental corps, public affairs officers and supply corps. Typically, to get into an IW restricted line community, you must laterally transfer into the

community as a Surface Warfare Officer, or, if you already work within the community as an enlisted, you can be commissioned into the LDO 6820 restricted line community.

“Normally you would have to earn your Surface Warfare Officer certifications and only then transfer into a program like this,” said Lt. Cmdr. Henry Martinez, the former 6420 LDO, now IP 1820 aboard the ship. “As an Ensign, she already holds the position of an information professional – a rare feat for a new officer.”

Martinez is a seasoned veteran in the field. His rise to COMMO onboard USS Peleliu (LHA-5), Flag COMMO onboard CCSG-1, Officer in Charge of NMCI Det. San Diego and now Combat Systems



Lt. Cmdr. Martinez and Ensign Do working aloft

Information Officer (CSIO) came through years of experience, hard work and dedication. As the times change, and the military and technology evolve, he noted the change it brings to the selection process for jobs and responsibilities within the enlisted and officer ranks.

“These young professionals grew up with technology,” said Martinez. “We live in a time where technology changes constantly, and the younger generation is eager to learn and adapt to the changes. I started in 1986 as a radioman. When I applied and was selected for the LDO Information Systems 6420 officer's program, I served as enlisted for 16 years. Today, through dedication to learning the technical aspects, junior officers can be selected to enter the community right away.”

As Bonhomme Richard (BHR) steams across the

THE GROUND BREAKER

Academy, as she was selected to be part of the team after high school.

“Growing up, I always played on a boy’s team,” said Do. “But playing with the girls for the Academy at Division II level was very competitive and I loved it.”

Growing up on the ice with the boys was only natural for Do because she is very close with her two younger brothers. Now that they are all older and in the service, they can talk about hockey, and soon, share sea stories.

“My younger brothers are twins,” said Do. “They are both currently going to academies to become officers. One is at the Coast Guard Academy and the other is at the Merchant Marine Academy.”

The Do siblings also share a common motivation for serving their country. Do always wanted to be an officer and serve the nation that welcomed her family with open arms.

“My parents were both first generation immigrants following the Vietnam War,” explained Do. “This country has done a lot for my family, and I knew I wanted to give back.”

Although Do’s career is still just beginning, she says that giving back to her country is largely a team effort. From ice hockey to cyber security competitions, to maintaining the ship’s communication circuits, it’s a team of professionals coming together that make a solid impact.

“Bonhomme Richard has been a phenomenal ship so far,” said Do. “The enlisted Information Systems Technicians have been great role models for me. Even though they are technically subordinate to me, I look up to all of them. They are amazing Sailors and it makes my job a lot easier when I can just come to my division where everyone works hard and does their job well. I really appreciate their work, their support and their efforts.”

Pacific Ocean, deep within her hull, sitting under blue lights and the glow of computer monitors, Do’s small figure can be seen reading folders of sensitive information. Every now and then, she will answer her “batt phone,” a portable phone carried by only select Sailors who need a constant line of contact inside the ship.

Aboard BHR there are only a handful of batt phones. This form of communication is just one of Do’s responsibilities as BHR’s communications officer.

“My job is to provide seamless communications 24/7 to the ship and embarked staffs,” said Do. “I ensure that the ship has every circuit to receive and transmit internet and voice links both internally and externally.”

Do first became interested in the communications field during her freshman year at the Academy. When it came time to pick a major, she chose information technology after her experience competing on the Academy’s cyber warfare team.

“While I was at the Naval Academy, I was part of the cyber security team,” said Do. “We went to a lot of competitions, and my team was even offered the opportunity to meet President Obama. It was a great experience.”

Do’s competitive nature, which she carried from her teenage years, was shown not only through the cyber security team accomplishments, but also as a starter on the women’s ice hockey team at the Naval



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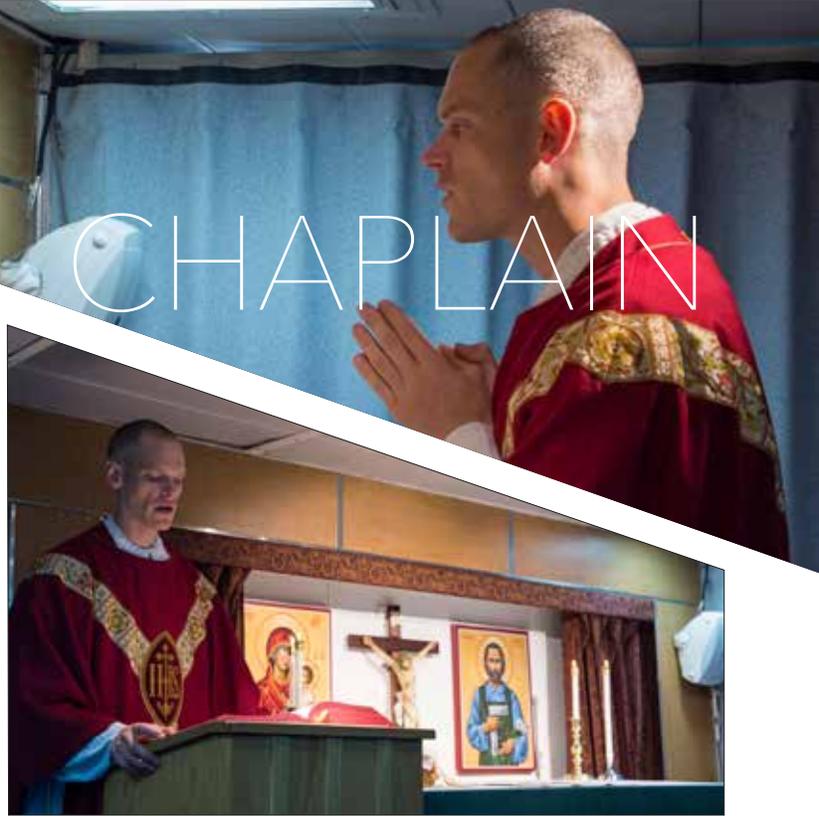


DECK

ENGINEERING



C51



MEDICAL

OPERATIONS



WEAPONS

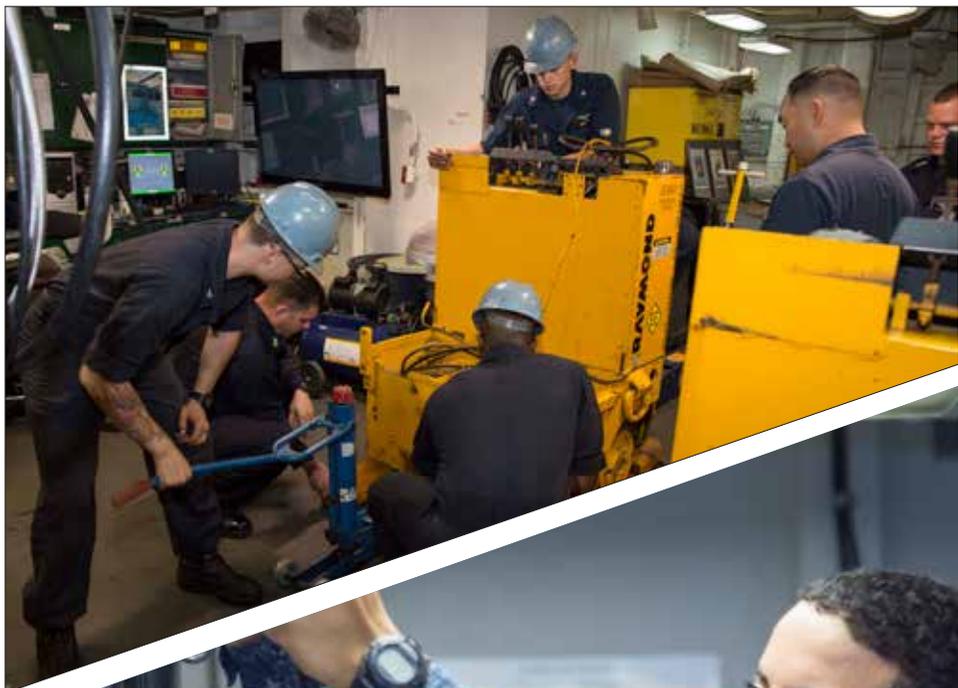
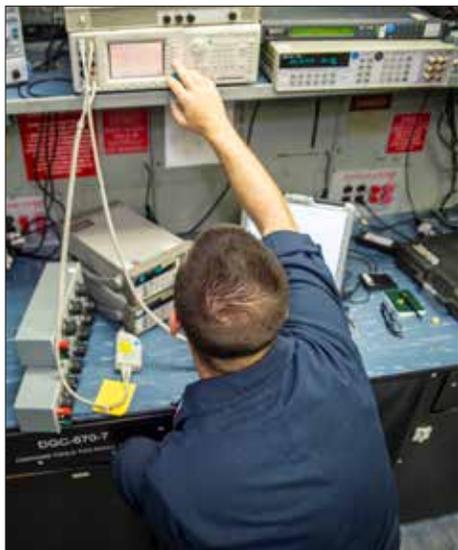
EXECUTIVE



SUPPLY

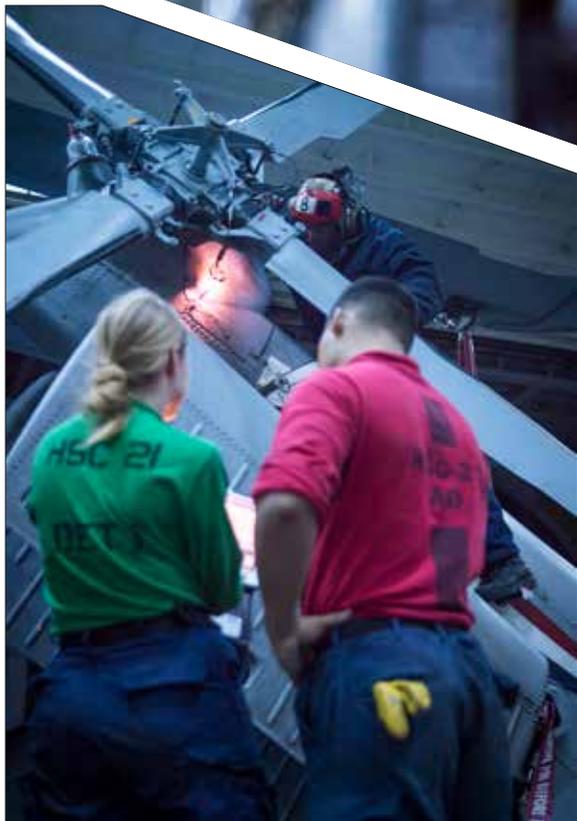


NAVIGATION



AIMD

HSC-21



ACU-5

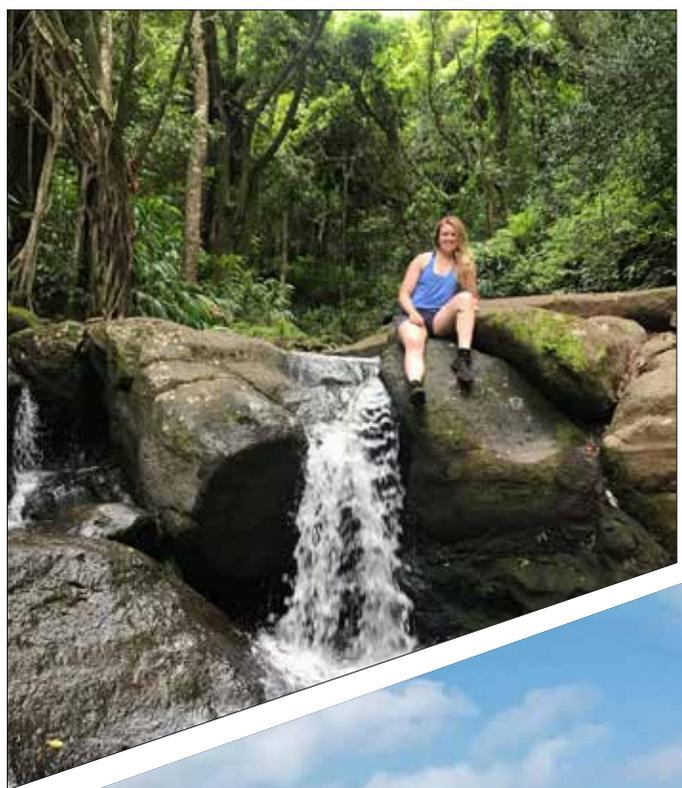
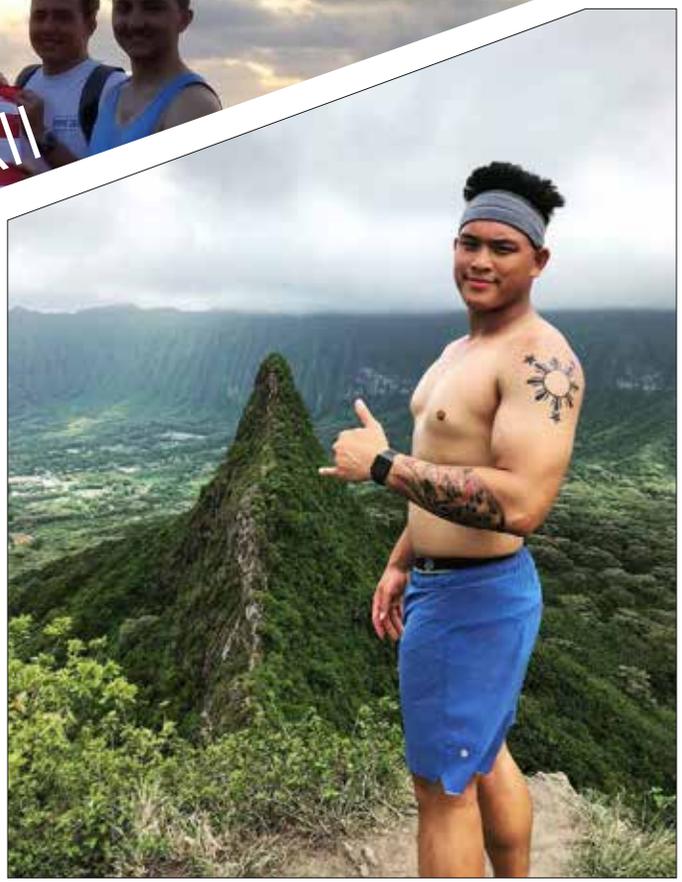


COMREL



COMBAT CARGO





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