

SEABEE COURIER

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NCBC NOSC pays respects to true heroes during annual rally



Sailors assigned to the Naval Operational Support Center conduct a quarterdeck ceremony during the annual Run For the Wall Trail of Honor event in Jackson, Miss 20 May. During the quarterdeck ceremony, the team rendered a salute and piped in Medal of Honor recipients, retired USMC Maj. Gen. James Livingston and Ronald Rosser as well as several former POWs and Battle of Iwo Jima survivors. During the Run to the Wall event, more than 700 motorcycles carried flags and other emblems as they passed through Mississippi headed for Washington D.C. (U.S. Navy Photo by Brian Lamar)

NMCB 133 builds maritime operations center for Gabonese Navy

CTF-68 Public Affairs

Seabees assigned to U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 turned over a newly constructed maritime operations center (MOC) to the Gabonese navy at a ribbon cutting ceremony May 3.

The ceremony signifies the completion of the physical building and recognizes the collaboration between the two countries.

The MOC project, a 2,100 sq. foot structure, began in June 2018 by Seabee detachments assigned to NMCB-11, followed by NMCB-1, and brought to completion by NMCB-133. It took a total effort of all Seabees involved working side-by-side with the Genie Militaire (Gabonese military engineers) to finish this task.

"The work that has taken place between the U.S. Navy Seabees and Gabon's Genie Militaire is an example of a true partnership," said Maj. WooWon Chung, Office of Security Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy Libreville. "This has been a successful effort by the U.S Embassy Libreville, U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Navy and Gabon."

The facility will be outfitted with modern equipment which will support Gabon in protecting their maritime borders and counter illicit trafficking. In addition, the maritime operations center will support future military exercises with the U.S. Navy, such as Obangame Express allowing the U.S.



Seabees assigned to Naval Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 pose for a photo with U.S. Army Maj. WooWon Chung, office of security cooperation at U.S. Embassy Libreville, during a ribbon cutting ceremony for Gabon's newly-constructed maritime operations center, May 3, 2019. NMCB 133 is forward-deployed to execute construction, humanitarian and foreign assistance, and theater security cooperation in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Naval Construction Battalion 133/Released)

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Building Leadership course hosted for first time at NCBC Gulfport

By Ryan Labadens
NCBC Gulfport Public Affairs

Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport hosted a new leadership-training course, called Building Leadership, designed to help first-level supervisors develop their leadership skills May 13-17, 2019.

While the course has been held at four other naval installations since the Navy first began offering it in 2018, this is the first time the course has been offered at NCBC Gulfport and the only time it was scheduled to be held in Navy Region Southeast this year.

The course is geared toward first-level supervisors and is open to U.S. Navy military personnel, Department of Defense civilian employees and NAF (non-appropriated funds) civilian employees. The training is designed to help better equip these supervisors in developing others, and especially themselves, so they can become better team leaders.

"I think Building Leadership truly gives leaders the tools they need to excel for themselves as well as for their teams, their departments and the mission," said Karen Mitendorf, Miller Heiman Group independent master trainer and instructor for the Building Leadership course. "It allows them to look inwards first and really spend time on that before looking outwards to their team, because if we don't know who we are, then it's pretty tough to develop and help our teams accomplish the mission."

The training involved various classroom-based instruction and interactive exercises that included participants exploring a research-based model that can be broken down into six Leadership Zones: business, diversity, ingenuity, people, reflection and society. Using this model as a guide, the 12 course participants were able to create and interpret their own Zone Profiles to help them discover their own strengths and weaknesses so that they could plan ways to better apply their abilities to their roles as first-level supervisors. "The approach taken here is completely different from all other leadership classes I've had in the past," said Capt. Ken Brown, NCBC Gulfport Security Department watch commander. "Engaging



Participants in the Building Leadership course give their final presentation at the end of their leadership-development training held onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, Miss., May 17, 2019. This five-day course involved various classroom-based instruction and interactive exercises that gave the participants insight into their own strengths and weakness so that they could plan ways to better apply their abilities to their roles as first-level supervisors. (U.S. Navy photo by Ryan Labadens/released)

those employees in a conversation about the feedback you give them and the feedback they give you - this is a really great tool to be able to take back to the workplace and start utilizing."

Capt. William Whitmire, NCBC Gulfport commanding officer, noted the importance of training first-level supervisors so that they

could not only become better leaders themselves, but so they can develop others to eventually fill those roles as supervisors and help fulfill the Navy's mission of maintaining, training and equipping combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression and maintaining freedom of the seas.

"Investing in the skills

of our supervisors to lead, motivate and effectively manage their people is critical to us being able to accomplish our mission," said Whitmire.

Anyone from NCBC Gulfport with questions about the Building Leadership course can contact Kevin Gillam, NCBC Gulfport installation programs integrator, at 228-871-2412.

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Navy to fight alongside our allies and partners.

"Efficient, economical, and cooperative, a MOC is an awesome tool for maritime security and safety," said Lt. Cmdr. Ghislain Moussavou, assigned to Naval Instruction Center. "Indeed, this MOC is not only an instrument for collective security in the Gulf of Guinea, but also a platform for national synergy and a decision-making tool for the Navy."

Port Gentil is a peninsula located in the Gulf of Guinea, a location that is vital to the joint efforts to ensure maritime security, regional cooperation, and combating illicit sea-based activity.

"It's been rewarding; on one end you have Seabees and Genie giving their best on the site to make things happen, the esprit de corps, the exchange of skill and more," said Lt. j. g. Femi Ibitoye, detachment officer in charge, NMCB-133. "On the other end you have the battalion, embassy and host nation working together to overcome the logistic challenges we constantly faced."

NMCB-133 is deployed in support of combatant commanders across the globe, providing general engineering capability to enable the warfighter and maximize readiness wherever we are called upon.



Naval Construction Battalion Center firefighters teamed up with Harrison County Firefighters to teach students at Saucier Elementary the importance of knowing what to do in case of a fire 17 May. (U.S. Navy photo by Brian Lamar)

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