

SEABEE COURIER

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QUICK EDITION

Vol. 2 No. 18

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

June 18, 2019

Hess takes command of 366th TRS

By Brian Lamar

NCBC Gulfport Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Joseph Diciolla relinquished command of the 366th Training Squadron Detachment 6 to Maj. Rebecca Hess in a change-of-command ceremony June 17, 2019, at the Naval Construction Battalion Center Training Hall.

During Diciolla's tour as commanding officer of the 366th, he led a team of 29 professional faculty responsible for the technical training of more than 600 entry-level and 300 journeyman-level Airmen in the structural civil engineer career field.

The squadron seems to be left in good hands with Hess due to her extensive background in the civil engineering field. Hess has served in numerous operational and staff installation, and installation and major command levels, to include Operation Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and Freedom Sentinel deployments.

According to Hess, with her plethora of experiences in the civil engineering career field and education, she is excited to be put in charge of future generations of Air Force civil engineers.

Detachment 6 is a geographically-separated unit of the 366th Training Squadron at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. The 29-member cadre in Det. 6 provides apprentice training to more than 400 Airmen and advanced training to more than 300 Airmen in the civil engineering field annually, providing future combat engineers through three phases of basic construction curriculum.



Lt. Col. Joseph Diciolla relinquished command of the 366th Training Squadron Detachment 6 to Maj. Rebecca Hess in a Change of Command ceremony June 17 at the Naval Construction Battalion Center Training Hall. (U.S. Navy photo by Ryan Labadens)

Officers can now submit their official Navy photos to their Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) online via MyNavy Portal (<https://my.navy.mil>).

Go to "My Record" and then look for the "Officer Photo" tile. Clicking on the tile will bring up an electronic Officer Photograph Form (NAVPERS 1070/884).

Photos can be directly uploaded to the form and then submitted to the OMPF. A tutorial for this new application is available on the same tile. Officers are reminded to reference MILPERSMAN 1070-180 for photo requirements.



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NCBC Security Department reopens shoot house for training

By Ryan Labadens

NCBC Gulfport Public Affairs

The Security Department onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, Miss., reopened its scenario-based tactical training facility, or shoot house, on base at the end of May 2019.

The shoot house, which is set up in one of the warehouses on base, had been completed in December 2018 but needed to undergo some safety inspections to certify that it was ready to be used for training purposes, said Ensign William Clark, NCBC Gulfport security officer.

To ensure the shoot house was in compliance with safety standards, the NCBC Gulfport Safety Department had inspectors from their office and Naval Facilities Engineering Command evaluate the facility using a series of tests while a shooter inside the structure was firing simunition rounds. The purpose of using simunitions in their training is to provide the security officers a more realistic training experience. Simunitions are low-speed training rounds that can be fired from handguns and rifles and leave a color-marked compound upon impact, almost like a paintball round.

"The primary thing we're looking for is where the rounds are going to go for the simunitions [after they're fired]. The second thing is whether [officers] are being overexposed to noise levels, and the third thing is whether they're being exposed to some type of gas or material that could be detrimental to their health," said Tim Proctor, NCBC Gulfport safety director. "The biggest thing that your simunitions have is something called lead styphnate. Well, the lead styphnate levels are so low in a simunition – it's 50 times lower than what you have in a regular gun round – that the potential for them getting exposed to something hazardous while shooting those sims is very, very slim."

The main goal of this training facility is to provide masters-at-arms and law enforcement officers a place to practice responding to various incidents, such as active-shooter situations, so they can improve upon their tactics in an ever-changing environment.

Different sections of the wooden structure can remain opened or be closed off to make changes to rooms, providing security members the opportunity to alter the layout of the structure depending upon the training scenario.

Having this versatility available to them provides the security members with a valuable training tool, especially since one of their goals is to train alongside civilian police officers from local law enforcement agencies, such as the Gulfport Police Department, said Master-at-Arms 1st Class



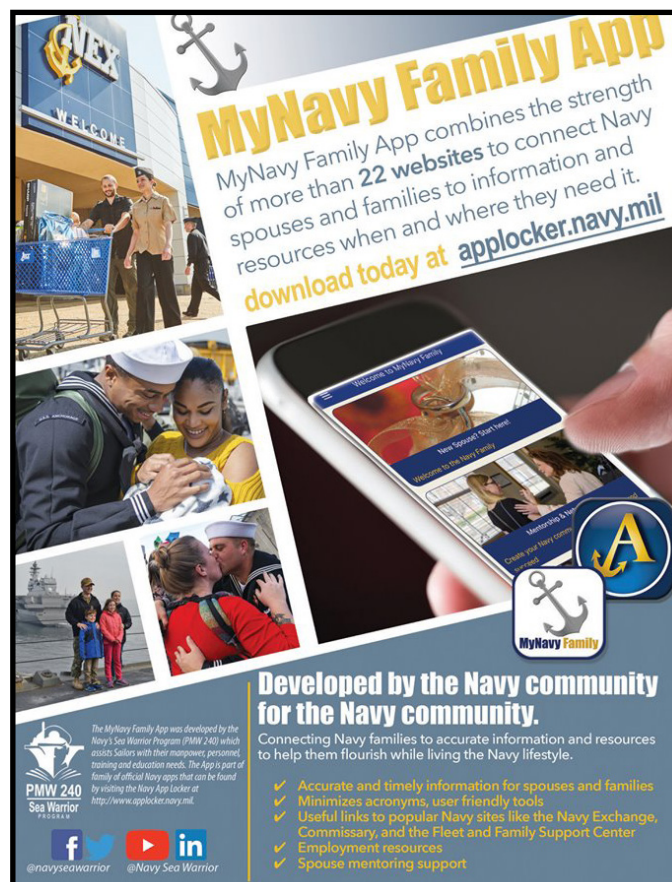
U.S. Navy Ensign William Clark (left), Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport security officer, talks with law enforcement officials about the tactical training opportunities available to them at the center's scenario-based training facility onboard NCBC Gulfport, Miss., Jan. 24, 2019. The training facility recently completed safety inspections that certified it as ready for use for security training purposes, such as active-shooter training scenarios or other situations security personnel may encounter. (U.S. Navy photo by Ryan Labadens)

Rodolfo Gallardo, NCBC Gulfport Security Department lead petty officer and watchman.

"This is good joint training. We get a lot of opportunity to work together and improve our situational awareness during training so officers can react quickly to different situations," said Gallardo.

He also emphasized the importance of having a safety mindset both when it comes to operating and training in the shoot house.

"Safety is our number-one priority," said Gallardo. "We want [our security members] to understand that safety is paramount in this whole evolution when we use this [facility]. It's valuable because if we ever did have to come in and react to an active shooter, that these guys are not only trained to do it but also have safety in mind so that they can get the job done without putting themselves or anyone else in any additional danger."



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