



SKYWRITER

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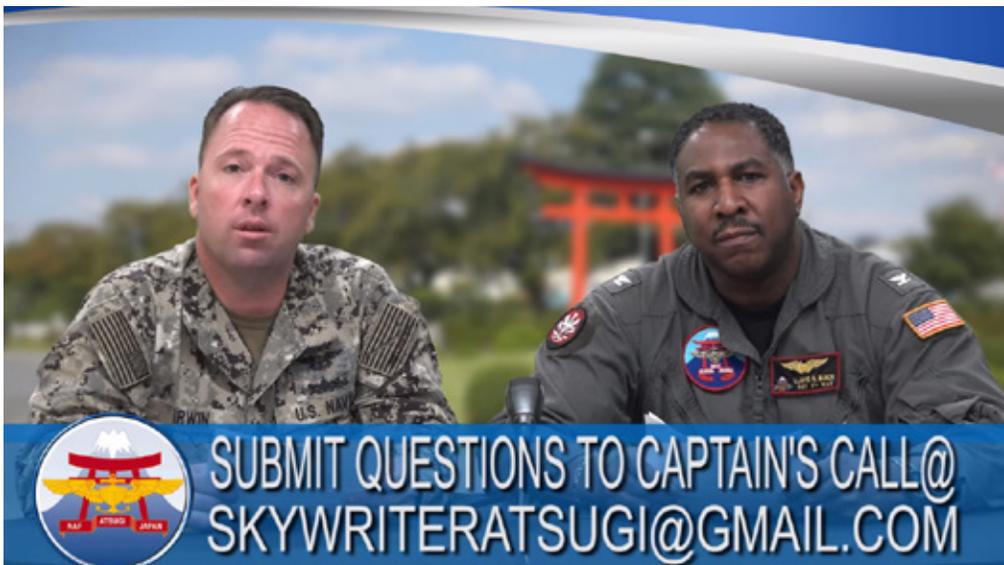


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CHECK OUT OUR NEW CAPTAIN'S CALL VIDEO



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SKYWRITER
ONLINE

ON THE COVER



CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SELECTEES FOLD THE NATIONAL ENSIGN DURING THE INSTALLATION'S 9/11 REMEMBRANCE EVENT IN ALLIANCE PARK ONBOARD NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI.

C M D C M C O R N E R

With Command Master Chief Daniel Irwin

Shipmates,

Welcome back to another edition of CMC Corner! There is a lot going on this month, so let's dive right in.

There's a quote that says "Change is the only constant in life." That phrase also holds true in the Navy. October 1st marks the mandatory sundowning of the NWU Type I "blueberries." With that, our NWU Type III becomes the official working uniform for daily wear. In addition, the first of the month is also the deadline to switch from 8-point covers with rank insignia to 8-point covers featuring the ACE (Anchor, Constitution, and Eagle) logo.

Our ability to execute these seemingly small changes while maintaining our forward momentum is the hallmark of what has made our Navy successful over the last 244 years. Since October 13, 1775 change has been constant. Change is how we adapt and overcome. It's how we improve. From the original six frigates, to ironclad battleships and Torpedo

Boat Destroyers like USS Bainbridge (DD-1) to the Zumwalt class destroyers of today, our sea service not only survives, but thrives on change.

As we celebrate our 244th Navy Birthday, I'd like each of you to take a moment to reflect on the contributions of our predecessors and the challenges they conquered to mold our Navy into the most formidable force the world has ever seen. And while you do so, don't forget to include yourself in that legacy which has carried on for nearly a quarter millennium. I'm looking forward to celebrating our birthday with all of you at the Navy Ball on October 10th at Club Trilogy!

Happy Birthday Shipmates!

CMDCM Daniel J. Irwin



NAVAL HISTORY

October 13, 1775
The Continental Congress establishes Continental Navy, later the U.S. Navy.

October 18, 1867
The sloop-of-war Ossipee and the third-class screw steamer Resaca participate in formal transfer of Alaska from Russia to U.S. authority at Sitka and remain to enforce law and order in the new territory.

October 20, 1941
USS Hornet (CV 8) is commissioned. During World War II, she participates in the Doolittle Raid on Japan, the Battle of Midway, and the Solomon Campaign.

October 31, 1956
The U.S. Navy lands seven men in an R4D Skytrain on the ice at the South Pole. They are the first men to stand on the South Pole since Capt. Robert F. Scott in 1912.



The Link Between Sea and Shore



STORY AND PHOTOS BY ANGE OLIVIER CLEMENT

The Navy ombudsman has become a key resource for many Navy family members, particularly during long deployment periods. With more than 4,000 ombudsmen serving worldwide, the Navy empowers these individuals to serve as trusted intermediaries between commands, deployed Sailors, and their families.

According to Melanie Brassfield, ombudsman Program Coordinator for Naval Air Facility Atsugi (NAFA), Navy ombudsmen are an integral part of the Navy as a whole.

“It is very important to have ombudsmen available and accessible to the command families because their duties include is not only serving as a link for the families--providing communication, as well as resource

referral to command families, especially during times of deployment--but also to be facilitators for those same families in times of need,” said Brassfield.

Brassfield further explained that a command ombudsman is typically a spouse of an active-duty or Reserve service member. “The way an ombudsman supports the command mission is by taking care of its families so that the service members are able to focus on their job.”

Stacy Benjamin, who serves as the ombudsman for NAFA and for Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training (CNATT) Detachment Atsugi, said she acts mainly as a resource and referral provider for Sailors and their



families. “We are here to assist Navy families in any way that we can,” said Benjamin. “We are not trained counselors, but I can refer families in crisis to the appropriate people if needed.”

Benjamin said she also fields a lot of questions from spouses and families relocating to Atsugi about school quality in the region and the housing and job market. “Being in the Navy is hard on all families in more ways than one. It is important to have someone they can go to, someone to help them work through the challenges of Navy life,” said Benjamin.

Benjamin, whose husband is a Petty Officer with Air Operation at NAFA, adds that she enjoys her position as one of the base’s ombudsman because she is able to provide direct support to families during a crisis or time of need. “When I am able to help someone in a time of need, that is very fulfilling,” said Benjamin. “I feel honored that someone would call me or trust me to help them in a difficult time.”

Brassfield additionally points out that the role of the ombudsman is crucial in keeping constant communication between families and Sailors during underways or long deployments.

“When it comes to our ombudsman, we need an advocate who wants to do a good job and care for the families as well as be a conduit of information,” Brassfield explained. “The role of an ombudsman can be difficult, but Stacy has shown a great passion for it. Not only do I trust her, but I feel very comfortable communicating with her because I know the information will get back to the families and appropriate personnel.”

Brassfield said that commands use various strategies in recruiting their ombudsmen, including announcing a position opening, asking other ombudsmen for referrals, asking key spouses for recommendations, or simply asking a trusted individual directly. In general, the commanding officer normally makes the selection and appointment of the ombudsman, said Brassfield.

All ombudsmen are required to take an ombudsman basic training course offered at NAFA by the Fleet and Family Support Center. The class provides information and skills training necessary for volunteers to properly execute the duties required by the commanding officer. Online orientation is also available within six weeks of appointment to volunteers who are unable to attend training.



Energy Action

STORY BY MC3 JACOB SMITH GRAPHICS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

See the Light - Don't Feel the Heat!

Of one dollar spent to light an incandescent bulb, 95 cents is wasted in heat. Replace a 75-watt bulb with a 20-watt compact fluorescent bulb and over its lifetime save the equivalent of about 500 pounds of coal.

Make a pledge to lower your energy use
Be energy efficient and conserve water



Energy Efficiency ... You Make It Happen.

Since September 13, 1991, when former President George H. W. Bush proclaimed October as Energy Awareness Month, the Department of the Navy has long been conducting energy awareness campaigns that promote wise and efficient use of energy.

This year's focus is on the Three Pillars of Energy Security (P-602) which are: Energy Reliability, Energy Resiliency and Energy Efficiency. This initiative will attempt to minimize power outages, prepare for loss of power by developing alternative sources, and use the least amount of power while ensuring adequate service for all.

“Whether it's Energy Awareness Month or any other time during the year, we must all remember that saving energy is an individual priority and focus, and that we can safeguard our energy infrastructure and reduce our carbon footprint in all that we do through simple choices and attention to energy efficiency,” said David M. Motroni Installation Energy Manager (IEM). “With so many major global challenges tied

to energy use, including air pollution, climate change, volatile fuel supplies and costs, aging energy infrastructure, and reliance on fossil fuels, it makes sense to choose energy efficiency as a basic work ethic and lifestyle.”

Each year it is possible for installations to earn an achievement based on their energy usage; ranking begins at Blue, then Gold, with Platinum given only to the installations that went above and beyond. Through the combined efforts of all hands aboard Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi, the base saved enough power to earn the Gold achievement for its energy program this year. This is an improvement over the Blue award given to the base in fiscal year 2017. While the official notice from the Secretary of the Navy has not arrived at time of writing, it is still an outstanding achievement worthy of being celebrated. Motroni said this improvement was only possible through training, leadership, and awareness throughout the base.



However, the Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) project was also essential. This project which provided \$76.5 million for installation energy and infrastructure improvements across multiple installations including NAF Atsugi, resulted in a guaranteed savings of \$6.3 million in the first year alone and an estimated total of \$164 million over the project's 19-year life-span. This project will replace water fixtures (faucets/showerheads) with low flow energy efficient fixtures as well as improve lighting options by installing energy efficient LEDs. The largest undertaking of the project is replacing NAF Atsugi's existing boilers with dual fuel boilers that will run on natural gas and depend less on more traditional forms of energy.

"[With the federal government being] the single largest domestic user of energy, our nation can benefit from the wise use of energy at federal facilities," said Motroni. "As an IEM, it is an honor to achieve this level because it was a team Atsugi effort. I thank all the Sailors and family members that took the time to save energy! Together we are helping to save taxpayer dollars,

reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to protect the environment, and conserve natural resources."

NAFA's energy team will be hosting events throughout the month of October to include displays at the NEX food court, a visit to Shirley Lanham Elementary School from BRITE—the Navy's energy mascot—and other outreach opportunities to encourage tenants and families to become informed on the importance of energy conservation. Whether its unplugging electronics when not in use, turning off all the lights in your home before you leave, or keeping your windows closed to reduce the cost of air conditioning, it's important to remember the impact daily utilities have on the environment. While earning Gold is an outstanding accomplishment, we must continue to find new ways to conserve energy usage so NAF Atsugi can earn Platinum, all while making the way for a cleaner, brighter future.

For more information about how to help conserve energy usage or to report any energy waste issues, contact David Motroni at 264-2522.

Slay the Energy Vampires

Did you know that an idle desktop printer sucks an average of 10 to 35 watts?

Computer speakers, when connected to power, draw 1 to 3 watts. To starve these vampires, plug all computer peripheral equipment into a power strip with an on/off switch. Make it easy to reach, then flip the switch each time you log off.



DEPARTMENT
OF THE NAVY



Visit <https://energy.navy.mil>



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PHOTO BY MC3 JACOB SMITH

THROUGH THE LENS

FUJISAWA



PHOTO BY MC3 JACOB SMITH

KAMAKURA YUIGAHAMA BEACH



PHOTO BY MC3 JACOB SMITH

Promoting Spousal Education



STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC3 JACOB SMITH

For military spouses, job opportunities in Japan are limited. However, one opportunity for employment and fulfillment is through caring for and nurturing children through the Child Development Center (CDC).

The CDC, managed through the Navy Child and Youth Program (CYP), aims to provide part-time or day-long care for children on NAF Atsugi. Training and Curriculum Specialist Jeron A. Omoigui believes in developing the future of CDC employees, as well as the future of children. With this in mind,

she created the Child Development Associate (CDA) Initiative.

“I started this program in late 2016, shortly after joining the CYP team as the Training and Curriculum Specialist at NAF Atsugi to promote career advancement for all NAFA CYP staff,” said Omoigui. “Many of those on the CYP Staff begin the program with only their high school diploma and little to no professional experience with children and youth programs or services. I saw a need for an initiative to increase professional growth.”



Through onboarding and additional annual training, staff are given the tools and techniques to develop into highly qualified professionals of Early Childhood Education (ECE). Earning a CDA further qualifies CYP staff for career opportunities and leadership roles within the ECE field, both in the Department of Defense and civilian sectors. The CDA Initiative motivates staff to challenge themselves while pursuing a professional development; a recipe for career success.

Every CYP staff member is eligible to earn their CDA credential as long as they are willing to dedicate the necessary time towards completion. During orientation training, new staff members are introduced to all training requirements and opportunities, including the CDA initiative. Omoigui recommends they begin this program when they feel comfortable in the new position, usually after three months. At this point, direct care staff usually begin their specific age group coursework assigned by the training program. CYP staff are encouraged to simultaneously work on the CDA modules, if possible, as the information is closely aligned. If this course load is too much, staff may choose to complete their required training and then begin the CDA process. The training program consists of workshops, reflective coaching sessions, and observations specifically for staff working on their CDAs. The workshops allow the cohort CDA candidates to assist each other through the process regardless, of what stage they are in, under the guidance of the trainer.

The CDA process consists of 120-plus hours of direct interaction and engagement with children from infancy to five, assembly of a professional portfolio compiled with resources and reflective competency statements, as

well as a verification visit (a two to four-hour observation conducted by an official CDA Professional Development Specialist) and lastly, the CDA exam. “As the Training and Curriculum Specialist, my role is to ensure that high quality care is being implemented throughout our services,” said Omoigui. “In order to do this, we need to train and retain highly competent and confident staff. The CDA is one way of doing this but, it is not the only way. We offer tuition reimbursement for relative coursework that pertains to our line of work. We also encourage and finance staff to become instructors in areas such as CPR/First Aid, food handling, playground inspectors, etc. which only makes them more competitive in the field. We are actually in partnership with the University of Phoenix to begin an Atsugi CYP class in Early Childhood Development and Education. The class will consist strictly of CYP Atsugi staff members.”

Since 2016, more than 20 have earned their CDA through this program, not including staff at other bases in Japan that have also been supported by NAF Atsugi staff. Right now, more than 40 percent of NAF Atsugi’s Child Development Center and School Age Center staff have earned their CDA. The CDC has benefited greatly by training, encouraging and retaining high performing, competent staff. These staff in turn influence and demonstrate best practices of ECE within their programs, which further increases the CDC’s quality of care. The efforts of CDC staff to better themselves through education not only enhances their career, but sets an excellent example to inspire other spouses in Atsugi.



Weathering the Storm

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC3 JACOB SMITH



Typhoons, the western pacific equivalent to hurricanes in the Atlantic, are a normalcy in Japan, with the peak of the season hosting the most powerful storms between August and September.

In the early hours of Monday, Sept. 9th, Japan's eastern coast was hit by Typhoon Faxai. The Kanto Plain suffered the highest intensity with winds comparable to a Category-1 hurricane and more than 100,000 evacuation advisories issued due to high winds and flooding. Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi came through safely with little damage to its community.

Although this was not the most powerful storm NAF Atsugi has experienced over the last decade, it maintained its intensity long enough to cause over \$1.7 million dollars in

damage. Preparation mitigated much of the potentially greater damage, and without it, more damage could have adversely affected the base's mission, operations and services.

"The fortunate thing about a typhoon is we can see it coming," said Dr. Greg Wise, Emergency Management Officer. "Communication between the Joint Typhoon Warning Center, the 374th Operational Weather Squadron (OWS) in Yokota, and NAF Atsugi was constant, consistent, and dependable. This allowed us four days to observe weather patterns, evaluate options, and initiate plans. Prior to the storm arriving, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated and became the primary Command and Control function for the installation. Constant communication took place between

the EOC, Security, Public Works, and the 374th OWS. Once TCCOR 1 Emergency was set, all personnel were restricted and missions temporarily suspended.”

The system used by the military in preparation for typhoons is the Tropical Cyclone (Typhoon) Conditions of Readiness (TCCOR). TCCOR is scaled from 5, advising military members 96 hours out to make preparations by stocking up on food, medical and emergency supplies, to Level 1 with the arrival of the typhoon, prohibiting outside activity. Military members and their families were kept updated about base TCCOR settings via coordinated social media warnings as well as AFN radio and television advisories.

While the EOC was preparing from their operations center, the Public Works Department (PWD) was preparing structures of NAF Atsugi for the approaching storm.

“PWD does a great deal of preparation before typhoons,” said Lt. Maxwell Perrin, Assistant Public Works Officer. “Our Self-Help Seabees distribute a limited number of sand bags to building managers responsible for facilities susceptible to flooding. They also start-up and service chainsaws and other tools to ensure they will be fully operational during recovery efforts. Throughout the PWD, we inspect all job sites to ensure all materials, tools, equipment, and scaffolding are secured.”

As important as it is to prepare beforehand to mitigate damages, there is always a recovery period after a typhoon to return the base back to its normal material condition. This falls under the jurisdiction of the PWD as well.

“We prepare tools and equipment that could be needed during recovery, including generators, pumps, and heavy vehicles,” said Perrin. “PWD is also responsible for operating school buses and all shuttle services. We work closely with NAF Atsugi leadership to determine if any transportation

services should be rescheduled or canceled. In addition to these actions, we also establish a watchbill of military, civilian, and Master Labor Contractors personnel to ensure facility services—including water and waste water treatment, as well as steam and electrical distribution—continue through the typhoon. Finally, we make sure that the right people are ready to begin damage assessment and recovery operations the moment TCCOR 1-Recovery is declared.”

The damages from Typhoon Faxai, estimated to a little over \$1.7 million, is predominantly a result of roof damage at Shirley Lanham Elementary School (SLES), and the subsequent internal water damage to two classrooms.

“With the help of our Seabees, SLES teachers and staff moved everything from the impacted rooms to another building, minimizing disruption to the students,” said Perrin. “Our hard-working shops team has installed tarps on the roof to prevent further water damage until we award a contract to replace the roof.”

Other damage to base facilities, comparatively minor, ranged in impact, from roof leaks and broken windows to the total destruction of bicycle shelters. Approximately 30 trees fell or had sizeable limbs break off. The trees that fell range in diameter from 6 to 18 inches, and either snapped or failed at the roots due to the highly-saturated soil. Countless small branches fell from trees all over the installation. The PWD is still in the process of removing the downed trees, starting with those that pose a safety risk and/or are in high traffic areas.

“A big shout out and many thanks go to the Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FOUR Detail Atsugi who are deployed here from Port Hueneme, California,” said Perrin. “These 20 Seabees joined forces with those in our PWD, and were truly crucial in the immediate recovery efforts that allowed NAFA to resume normal operations within mere hours after the typhoon passing.”





8 POINT
ACE COVER,
RANK INSIGNIA REPLACED BY
ANCHOR, USS CONSTITUTION
AND EAGLE

UNITED STATES FLAG
PATCH

NAME PLATE

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FIRST NAVY JACK
FLAG PATCH



OFFICIAL CHANGE TO TYPE III UNIFORM
CHANGE WHEN ASHORE
1 OCTOBER 2019

The Final Word



WITH NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI
COMMANDING OFFICER
CAPT. LLOYD B. MACK



This month we commemorate the 244th birthday of the United States Navy (October 13, 1775) with our annual Navy Birthday Ball (October 10). This one-night event encourages us to celebrate and reflect on the history, heritage and traditions of the Navy throughout the entire year. One element of our great Navy heritage, and one for which we should all be proud, is the Navy's commitment to diversity. Currently, the Navy has the highest rate of diversity among US Armed Forces, leveraging strengths and wisdom across multiple cultural, and economic lines to build the strongest, most cohesive Navy in the world. This diversity is what makes us strong and resilient.

It is fitting, therefore, that as we celebrate this, and other traditions, we also celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. This year's theme is "A History of Serving Our Nation" and honors the men and women of our Hispanic communities who have served our nation with honor, distinction and a common pride in our diversity. So this month, as we dress in our best to celebrate the history and traditions of the Navy, let us also celebrate the diversity that has made it so successful.

CAPT Lloyd B. "Chilly" Mack

Congratulations to our newly pinned Chief Petty Officers!



