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A special thank you to all those who let us tell your stories to the crew and to the fleet.

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SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT



PS3 Eliza Gonzalez

HOMETOWN: Cleveland, Ohio

WHERE SHE WORKS: Personnel Department, Educational Services Office Leading Petty Officer

WHY SHE JOINED: To make her family proud

HOBBIES:

Hanging out with friends, going out to the movies, and going out to eat

ADMIN DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP NOMINATED HER BECAUSE:

She is the reason why people advance aboard this ship. She has both of her warfare pins, and she was meritoriously advanced to PS3. In the department she does all of the paperwork for TA, star reenlistments, and all 1278 advancement worksheets. She is also an exceptionally hard worker and very diligent with her work.

GW'S NEWEST WARRIORS



AA Devan Patel AT3 Antoine Jackson ICSN Diamond Jones MM3 Christopher Ranzy MMN2 Daniel Jones MMN2 Kailan Neff MMN3 David Freed PS3 Langston Hooper



AN Brittane Macdonald AN Kyle Minnick AO3 Jorge Sortocortes CSC Roderick Baker CS3 Dana Calderon ETN2 Ian Brown HM3 Ryu Tuifao IT2 Branden Bethelmy IT3 Fernando Carrero MM2 Joshua Barker MM3 Peter Moreno



IT1 Jeffrey Powell IT2 Justin Pakele IT2 Robert Hodges IT3 Alexander Toressantana IT3 Fernando Carrero-Irizarry



HAPPY NEW YEAR'S George Washington!



MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS...

CDR DEXTER To stop buying Starbucks and make coffee at home.

MA2 NABORS

To get promoted to E-6 and to get my warfare pin.

ABHCS DODGE To achieve better financial positioning and read more books.

ABH2 ROHDE

To improve professionalism by stopping cursing, improving my grammar, and prioritizing personal life more.



YNC HOUSTON To drink more water.



HM2 MAJOR To get a better PRT score.



AOAN PIERCE To get promoted to AO3.



HMCS MEDINA To achieve 100% medical readiness.



HM3 TILLEY To work out more.



IT1 WIEDEMEIER To stop smoking and to make it to church once a month.

BMC BROWN To eat healthier. MC2 HILKOWSKI To make MC1 and max out quals.

AOAN JENSEN To get both of my warfare pins. **ABH2 HUGHES** To compete in the Cross-Fit competition.

ENSIGN HENSON To eat healthier and stay in shape.

AN MCKEITHEN To be more organized.

FAIR WINDS, FOLLOWING SEAS CMS-ID: HELLO MY NAVY ASSIGNMENTS STORY BY LN2 TEAL NORMAN, GRAPHIC BY MYNAVY HR

Starting Dec. 5, 2019 with the release of Naval Administrative Message (NAVADMIN) 276/19, Career Management System – Interactive Detailing (CMS-ID) was reintroduced as MyNavy Assignment (MNA). With this change, according to the NAVADMIN, the future of enlisted detailing fundamentally changes.

The intent of this change is to provide sailors with better transparency, flexibility, and choice, and is a part of the U.S. Navy's Sailor 2025 initiative. According to the U.S. Navy's Sailor 2025 pamphlet, Sailor 2025 "is the Navy's program to improve and modernize management training systems," and MNA is the next step in the bold and revolutionary program.

"It simplifies the order selection process,"



said Chief Navy Career Counselor Shaqanta Chukwuma, Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73)'s command career counselor. "Billets are now more visible and can be shown twelve months out. Sailors will be able to bookmark a billet and later apply for it."

With the advent of MNA, Sailors can focus more on their career and less on the billeting process itself. Active duty and Full Time Support (FTS) Sailors will be able to review and apply for billets in MNA, but there are exceptions to the changes.

"Sailors in the Exceptional Family Member Program need to directly contact their detailers, and co-located sailors must negotiate orders with their detailers also," said Chukwuma. The first change Sailors will see is a new graphical user interface (GUI). The GUI is a key element in delivering modern human resources service and experience for everyone who uses MNA.

Along with the changes to the GUI, the update will bring an increased access window, allowing Sailors to see billets up to 12 months out from their projected rotation date (PRD). The change also brings an expanded job search capability, additional job search tools, bookmark capability, and an improved application process.

Another change introduced in MNA that affects not only Sailors, but the gaining commands as well, is the MyResume feature.

This feature allows a Sailor's current

t MyNAVYHR presents

command to give inputs and allows Sailors to create a resume. Chukwuma adds, "With the addition of having a resume, now a potential gaining command can see additional skills or education that a Sailor's profile doesn't show, allowing for greater flexibility with selection."

The MyNavy team has already begun work on future updates. The team is committed to continuing to learn and adjust their business processes and practices to improve transparency, flexibility, and choice for both Sailors and commands.

For more information about MNA, Sailors can visit https://mynavyassignment.navy.mil/ mna/Index.action or talk to any of George Washington's career counselors.



FAN MAIL

USS George Washington receives letters and drawings from a young supporter.







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STORY BY MC3 TATYANA FREEMAN, PHOTOS BY MC3 ADAM FERRERO AND MCSN CORY DAUT





The year 2019 saw many significant milestones come and go for the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) and with a new year comes new milestones. Leading from the front in accomplishing these milestones, literally and figuratively, is deck department.

"[We moved aboard due to] an eagerness throughout the department to get where we ought to be," said Lt. j.g. Timothy Jefferson, deck department's division officer.

Deck department is the first department aboard George Washington to completely function on the ship independent of the floating accommodation facility (FAF).

"Being in any shipyard environment is tough in that you do not have the physical ability to train in an operational setting, however you must tailor your training to your environment," said Jefferson. "[Now being on the ship] is the opportune time to hone in on leadership skills and develop a strong work ethic."

In order to move aboard the ship,

preparations had to be made to ensure the move aboard was successful and seamless.

"Some of the preparations we made were ensuring proper work spaces were identified for all three divisions as well as for senior leadership," said Jefferson. "We had to pull our weight as much as we could to have our identified work spaces ready for a full re-integration, and these Sailors did an astounding job."

Deck department was not alone in their accomplishment of fleeing the FAF, however. Other departments and teams came together to support the move, just as they have done and will continue to do throughout the refueling complex overhaul (RCOH) process.

"Combat systems helped us tremendously with getting assets to the ship from our office on the FAF in a timely manner," said Jefferson. "We greatly appreciate their help."

Being completely aboard the ship has alleviated common problems within the department.

"It's easier to talk to the chain of

command," said Seaman Morgan Berkopec, a Sailor assigned to deck department aboard George Washington. "We can have a direct line of communication instead of wasting time walking back and forth from the FAF."

Deck department's move from FAF to ship brings with it not only an increased sense of purpose, but higher morale.

"I feel like [deck moving aboard] is helping the ship move forward in the RCOH project and toward our next milestone," said Berkopec.

Deck department moving aboard is among George Washington's first big accomplishments of 2020, and sets the standard and a challenge for the other departments to be the next to move aboard.

"It shows pride," said Jefferson, "The best type of ship is 'ownership' and from that stems pride. Our department is here, and as a result, we need to bring life back to the spaces we own and the ones we need in order to start revamping our programs."

Now deck's spaces on the ship are

abuzz with activity, the only thing left is to conquer more milestones-and there are many in the books.

"Getting the ship prepared to receive Sailors from deck department back onboard living here [is our next milestone]," said Jefferson, "It is one small victory towards getting this ship to where it needs to be, and that is in the Fleet."

2020 promises a litany of other milestones that George Washington's crew will successfully accomplish. Following deck department's lead, other departments will mark their full return to the ship and say farewell to the FAF, bank building, and various supporting warehouses and facilities. As more capabilities throughout the command come home to the ship itself, George Washington is inching ever-closer to becoming not only the Navy's premier and always ready aircraft carrier, but its most advanced and capable one as well.





THE MYNAVY FAMILY APP

STORY AND GRAPHIC MC3 ADAM FERRERO

Sailors and their loved ones live a life of frequent change, new experiences, and struggles and opportunities alike. There are many resources they can turn to for help, but finding the right one in today's fastpaced and technologically-advanced Navy can sometimes be a daunting task. The MyNavy Family mobile application seeks to change that.

The Navy released the MyNavy Family app in May 2019 specifically for Navy spouses and Sailors' families, combining information from more than 22 websites into a single, convenient application.

"The purpose of the MyNavy Family app is to provide an authoritative, one-stop shop of resources for Sailors, families, and spouses," said Michele Garrard, Director, Fleet and Family Support Center Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Cheatham Annex and Newport News. "The app was developed with Navy spouses and families in mind, but as a provider of programs and resources within Fleet and Family Services, I find it a great resource to have in my pocket as well."

A lot of work went into the development of this new resource.

According to applocker.navy.mil, the MyNavy Family app was developed by a spouse advisory tiger team established by the Navy Sailor Experience team. The tiger team included Navy spouses, along with the Ombudsman at large Navy organizations that provide services to Navy families, as well as several non-profit organizations. More than 1,100 spouses participated in developing the app through online surveys and focus groups in person and online.

All of that research culminated in an app with sections and features specifically geared to provide a plethora of information for Sailors and their families.

"There are so many helpful features," said Garrard. "I particularly like the 'Welcome to the Navy Family' section, which is especially helpful for new spouses. This section of the app provides a treasure trove of information for those new to the Navy and helps to start them off on the right foot by providing all the resources they will need to successfully navigate life in the Navy. Everything from new spouse orientation online training, to DEERS and medical care, to understanding Navy customs and traditions. It's always up to date and just a click away."

The app recently received its first major update, version 2.0, in November, bringing with it enhanced search capabilities and expanded content.

"The update included three new sections," said Garrard. "Family Financial Planning', 'Survivor Resources', and 'Parents and Family Members of Sailors."

"Family Financial Planning" covers resources that can aid with numerous monetary questions and practices, including developing a spending plan, saving and investing, and buying a house. "Survivor Resources" covers information regarding Sailors who have died, are captured or missing, or have disabilities. "Parents and Family Members of Sailors" provides families with resources that help them better understand the Navy as an organization, as well as the best ways to communicate with their Sailors.

"Additional resources also include the Navy Spouse Navigation page and the Military Spouse Mentorship Program, as well as access to the Navy Family Portal," said Garrard. "There's new spouse orientation online training, the Navy Family eHandbook, and the Navy Spouse eLibrary."

In the age of instant information, especially at commands like Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) with consistent access to smartphones, an all-encompassing mobile app is a great way to stay informed in today's modern fleet.

"We know that resilient families create resilient Sailors," said Garrard. "We also know that, more and more, the populace is reliant on and demands quick and easy access to resources and information. This app brings all of these factors into focus in one quick, easy, and concise area. Don't wait. Download the app today and always be the smartest Sailor in the room."

The MyNavy Family app is downloadable for free via the iTunes App Store, Google Play Store, or applocker. navy.mil. More information from the initial rollout of the app can be found at https:// www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_ id=109733.

THE MYNAVY FAMILY APP

The MyNavy Family app combines the strength of more than 22 websites to connect Navy spouses and families to information and resources when and where they need it.



The app's extensive content includes resources on:

- New Spouse
 Orientation
- Mentorship &
 Networking
- Employment & Adult
 Information
- Family Financial
 Planning
- Parenthood
- Special Needs Family Support
- Moving & Relocation
- Service Member
 - Deployment

- Emotional Support Services
- Recreation, Lodging,
 Shopping, & Travel
- Family Emergencies
- Transition &
 Retirement
- Parents & Family Members of Sailors
- Survivor Resources
- MyNavy Career Center
- Military Installation Search

Download today at applocker.navy.mi



Leyte Gulf Returns to Norfolk From 9-Month Deployment

By Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs



NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- The Ticonderoga class guided-missile cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) returned to Norfolk Naval Station Jan. 4, marking the end of a nine-month deployment to the U.S. 6th and 5th Fleet areas of operation.

The ship deployed Mar. 27 from Norfolk as part of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 12 in support of maritime stability and security. Leyte Gulf performed critical air warfare responsibilities as part of the carrier strike group, operating across the full spectrum of warfare areas in order to ensure mission readiness.

"The crew of Leyte Gulf demonstrated professionalism and dedication at every turn, and made a major impact on our strike group," said Rear Adm. Michael Boyle, commander, CSG 12. "They should return home knowing that they positively contributed to maritime security in some of the most consequential waterways in the world."

While in the U.S. 5th Fleet, the cruiser, operating in concert with assets throughout the strike group and theater, worked to foster maritime security and stability. After an expedited deployment to the area in response to credible threats, the strike group operated in the Arabian Sea and, after a successful Strait of Hormuz transit on Nov. 19, the Arabian Gulf.

Throughout the deployment, Leyte Gulf performed numerous training exercises to develop tactical competencies. From carrier strike force operations with the John C. Stennis Strike Group, to dual operations with the Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group, to exercises with partner navies and forces, the crew of the cruiser developed key skillsets to maintain readiness and interoperability.

"Deployments are our time to put into practice all of the skillsets that we work to develop prior to getting underway. They are where Sailors distinguish themselves," said Capt. William "Grady" Musser, commanding officer of Leyte Gulf. "I'm proud of the grit and resilience our team showed over nine months away from home, and I'm grateful for our families for their unwavering support. It is only as a result of that support that we are able to do what we do at sea." Leyte Gulf navigated over 50,000 nautical miles and completed multiple strait and choke point transits, to include the Strait of Gibraltar, the Suez Canal, the Bab-el Mandeb, and the Strait of Hormuz.

While underway, Leyte Gulf also commemorated the 75th anniversary of its namesake, the Battle of Leyte Gulf. The largest sea battle in modern history, Leyte Gulf was a decisive turning point for U.S. efforts in the Pacific during World War II. "No Higher Honor," a phrase used by Lt. Cmdr. Robert Copeland as he recounted the valor of his Sailors as they fought during the battle, became a theme for the crew of the ship during deployment.

Additional ships of CSG 12, including USS Bainbridge (DDG 96), USS Mason (DDG 87) and USS Nitze (DDG 94), deployed with the strike group in April and returned to Norfolk in November. Flagship Nimitzclass aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), along with its embarked airwing, Carrier Air Wing 7, and the staffs of CSG 12 and Destroyer Squadron 2, remain on deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet supporting a free and open Indo-Pacific.

GAMES CORNER





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HAMPTON ROADS EVENTS

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| | New Year, New You | Mario Kart Tournament | Pool Tournament | Paint and Sip | Upcycled Jewelry | MacArthur on Ice Trip |
| | 6:00 a.m. NNSY | 5:00 p.m. Huntington Hall | 12:00 p.m. Portsmouth | 5:30 p.m. NAVSTA Norfolk | 6:00 p.m. Little Creek | 12:00 p.m. Portsmouth |

| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Wintergreen Ski Trip | Youth Basketball | Music Production Class | Ping Pong Tournament | National Pie Day | Painting With Bob Ross | 11th Annual Chili Cook-off |
| 4:30 a.m. Huntington Hall | All Day Little Creek | 6:00 p.m. NAVSTA Norfolk | 12:00 p.m. Portsmouth | 4:00 p.m. NNSY | 5:00 p.m. NNSY | 11:00 a.m. Huntington Hall |

EVERY WEEK - FITNESS CLASSES

| М | т | W | т | F |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Strength Training Huntington Hall 5, 6, 7:30 a.m. | Core Training Huntington Hall 5, 6, 7:30 a.m. | GW Run Club Mariners Museum 6:30 a.m. | Yoga Huntington Hall 5;15 a.m. | HIIT/Core Huntington Hall 5, 6, 7:30 a.m. |
| | | | | |
| Functional Fitness Huntington Hall 3:00 p.m. | Functional Fitness Huntington Hall 3:00 p.m. | Functional Fitness Huntington Hall 3:00 p.m. | | |

