



THE WASHINGTON SURVEYOR



Vol. 21, Issue 20 Oct. 4, 2021



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Vol. 21, Issue 20 Oct. 4, 2021

USS George Washington (CVN 73)

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Executive Officer



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Command Master Chief



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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



YN2 Namib Baregu

HOMETOWN:
Hamden, Connecticut

WHERE HE WORKS:
XO Admin

HOBBIES:
He enjoys basketball, working out, and spending time with family.

WHAT HE ENJOYS ABOUT HIS JOB:
YN2 enjoys meeting Sailors and working closely with the Executive Officer.

WHAT ‘SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT’ MEANS TO HIM:
“It means a lot to me. I owe it to my junior Sailors who walk out the door with me everyday, and to my leadership for trusting me.”

WHY HE WAS NOMINATED:
He is responsible for supervising 5 Sailors, directly providing quality customer service to 2,555 military personnel in the daily execution of a myriad of administrative functions. His superb leadership resulted in the timely routing of 368 correspondence actions, 3 special requests, 215 evaluations and fitness reports, and 62 awards in support of our crew!

CONGRATULATIONS

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON’S NEWEST
ENLISTED SURFACE WARFARE SPECIALISTS



ETN2 Harrison Leonard
MMN2 Jake Occhipinti

**ESWS
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**EIWS
COORDINATORS**
ITC Brandon Glassco

**DECK WATCH
COORDINATORS**
Cmdr. Steve Yargosz
Lt. Brandon Merritt

FALLing Temperatures

Autumn Fun is Here

Story by MCSN Jack Lepien

Say goodbye to sweating on the walk through the shipyards, sunburns, and mosquito bites, fall has arrived. Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) is scheduling a plethora of activities to take part in over the coming months, and there are a lot of natural wonders to explore.

“We’ve got a ton of great stuff coming up,” said Ryan Roberts, the afloat fitness specialist (FITBOSS) aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73). “I’m especially excited for the upcoming trips we have planned.”

Currently, MWR offers a daily shuttle to the Patrick Henry Mall, giving Sailors that live aboard the ship the opportunity to get out of the shipyards and enjoy their liberty.

“We do the mall shuttle every day, but we’re running some big trips pretty soon,” said Roberts. “We’re going to the Mariner’s Museum in October for sure, but we’re still looking at dates for Mount

Vernon, the USS Wisconsin museum, the NASA Museum, and the Smithsonian in Washington D.C.”

Sailors interested in going on these trips can sign up at the MWR ticket booth, located on the aft mess decks.

“If you like pumpkins, Fort Story has a pumpkin patch event where they give out free pumpkins,” said Roberts. “And if you like carving them, MWR Portsmouth is hosting a virtual pumpkin carving contest right after.”

There are also a few fitness events coming up in the next couple months.

“As FITBOSS, [five kilometer runs] are a little more in my wheelhouse,” said Roberts. “We’ve got two coming up. One in October for breast cancer awareness and one in November for the Wounded Warrior charity. If anyone wants help training for a 5k, or really anything, come by and talk to me.”

Information, sign-up sheets, and other events

NSA HR - PORTSMOUTH MWR | FITNESS & SPORTS

FREE

Friday, October 15
11:30 a.m.
Fitness Center

757-953-7024

NavyLifeP.com/Runs

NSAFT-MWR-200-6-1157-TR No Navy endorsement implied.

can all be found at the MWR ticket counter.

MWR isn’t the only way to have fun. Fall is also the perfect weather for hiking, camping, and enjoying nature.

“There’s nothing like fresh air to make you feel like yourself,” said Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class George Frede, assigned to George Washington’s safety department. “Being on the boat can feel pretty claustrophobic sometimes, and the only cure for that is to get out in the open air.”

Frede, who has lived in Hampton Roads for many years, has a few spots he likes to go to for outdoor fun.

“We’re lucky to have Shenandoah National Park just a few hours away,” said Frede. “I love to hike out there, because the views from those mountain tops and cliff faces are insanely beautiful. It’s indescribable how amazing it is. Everyone should go see for themselves.”

The fall is a great time to go see the vistas, according to Frede.

“Snow can make some of the trails inaccessible in the Winter, and it’s so hot in the summer here that it feels like a chore to hike far,” said Frede. “Spring and fall are by far the best times to go.”

“I’d like everyone to take advantage of their liberty and go relax,” said Roberts. “With so

much to do and so few days of great weather to do those things, it’s important to really make each day count.”

For more information on fun fall activities, check out the MWR ticket booth on the aft mess decks and stay tuned to The Washington Surveyor, available to all Sailors and located on the mess decks or in Main Media (3-180-0-Q).

JEB LITTLE CREEK - FORT STORY MWR | COMMUNITY RECREATION

FREE

Fort Story PUMPKIN PATCH

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

Fort Story One Stop,
Community
Recreation Center,
864 Omaha Beach Rd.

Saturday, October 9
4 to 5:30 p.m.

Visit our Pumpkin Patch to
receive a real, **free pumpkin!**
First-come, first-served.
Supplies are limited!

757-422-7600

JEBFS-MWR-2108-1405 TL No Navy endorsement implied.



USS George Washington Sailors pose for a photo after completing an MWR Fun Run.

Nightshift in the Galley

Story and Photos by MC3 Joseph Negusse

As the dinner rush wanes and tables are wiped down seemingly for the last time in preparation for breakfast, a new group of Sailors assigned to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) prepare to relieve the Sailors who worked the day shift. The galley remains in continuous motion day and night. While food is served during working hours, the food service attendants (FSA) help serve the food and maintain the galley's cleanliness by wiping down tables and removing all the waste produced from the preparation and consumption of meals. Already a challenging task for the culinary specialists and FSAs during the day, the night crew has to fulfill all of the same arduous day tasks and much more.

"We typically have a chop log, a list of items we have to prep for breakfast, lunch, and dinner," said Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Joshua Mena, a food service attendant assigned to George Washington's food service division. "We work almost fourteen, fifteen hours a day, entering at 6 p.m. and then leave at 8 a.m. Before being able to go to sleep you still have to deal with a loud berthing and shipyard workers repairing the deck."

Their deadline consists of hungry Sailors in a line reaching the hangar bay, staring through a glass partition as the clock runs down. To the FSAs and the culinary specialists, it's just another night turning around meals. Tray after tray, serving midnight rations, then going back



CSSA Joshua Mena makes some pancakes for midnight rations and breakfast.



CSSN Anthony Howay checks the chop log for tomorrow's meals.



CSSN Anthony Howay wipes down tables in preparation of the day crew.

to working on their nightly tasks and cleaning in preparation for the day crew.

"We make breakfast, as well as prepare all of the ingredients that are used to prepare lunch and dinner, while still having to make and serve the food during midnight rations,"

said Culinary Specialist 3rd Ricco Penn, a chef assigned to George Washington's food service division. "Since we work nights, we don't see much of the chain of command, and so it's up to us to get all of the tasks done before the day crew arrives for their hard work."

The night shift has a very challenging schedule to work. When in a fast paced environment the expectation is to get food and go about the day without thinking about what it took to make that meal. It's important to appreciate the hard work and effort that is put into each meal by the FSAs and culinary specialists crews who work tirelessly throughout the day and night.

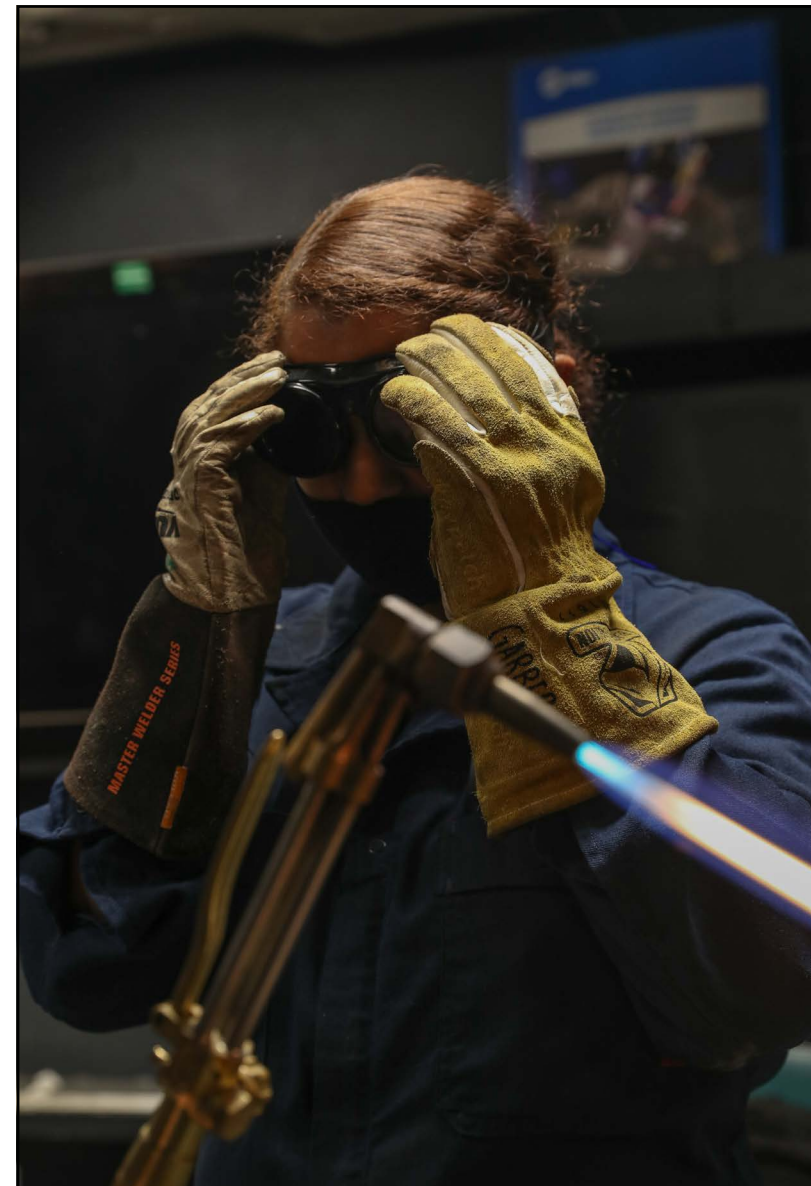
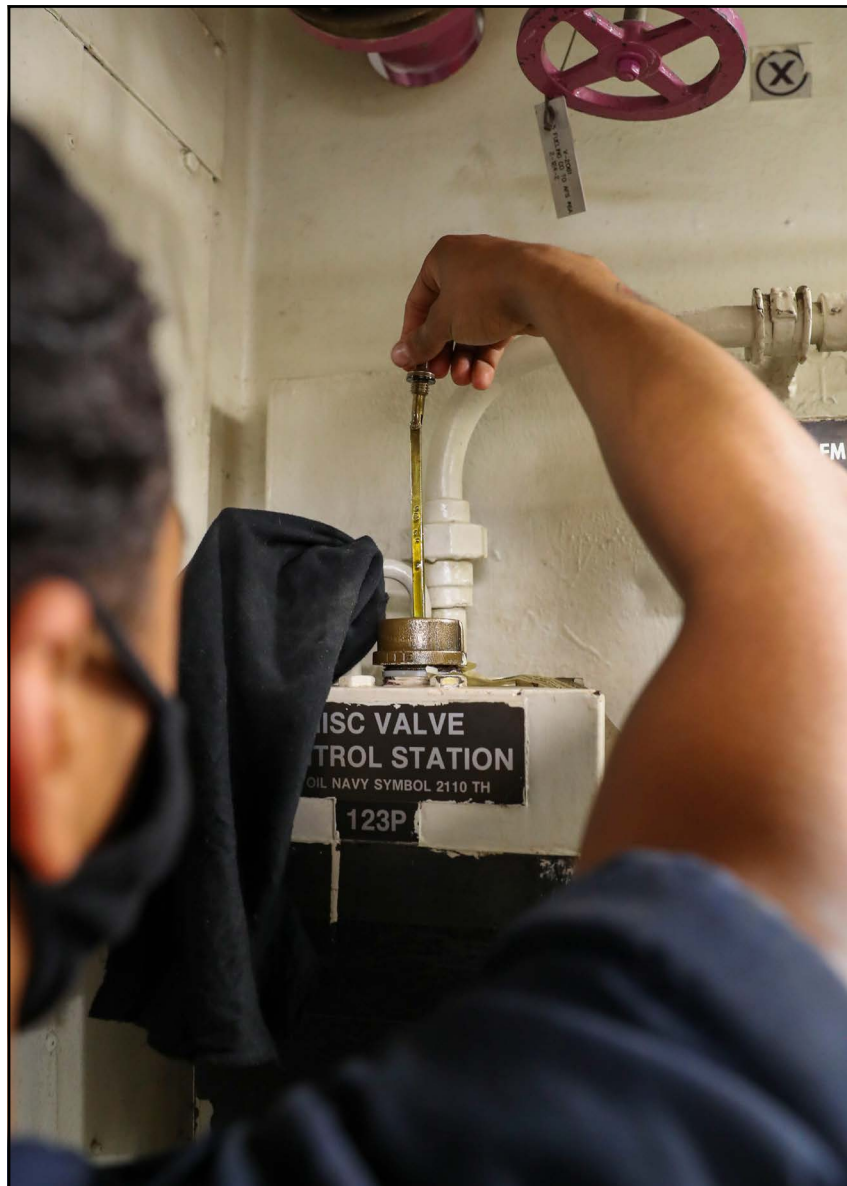
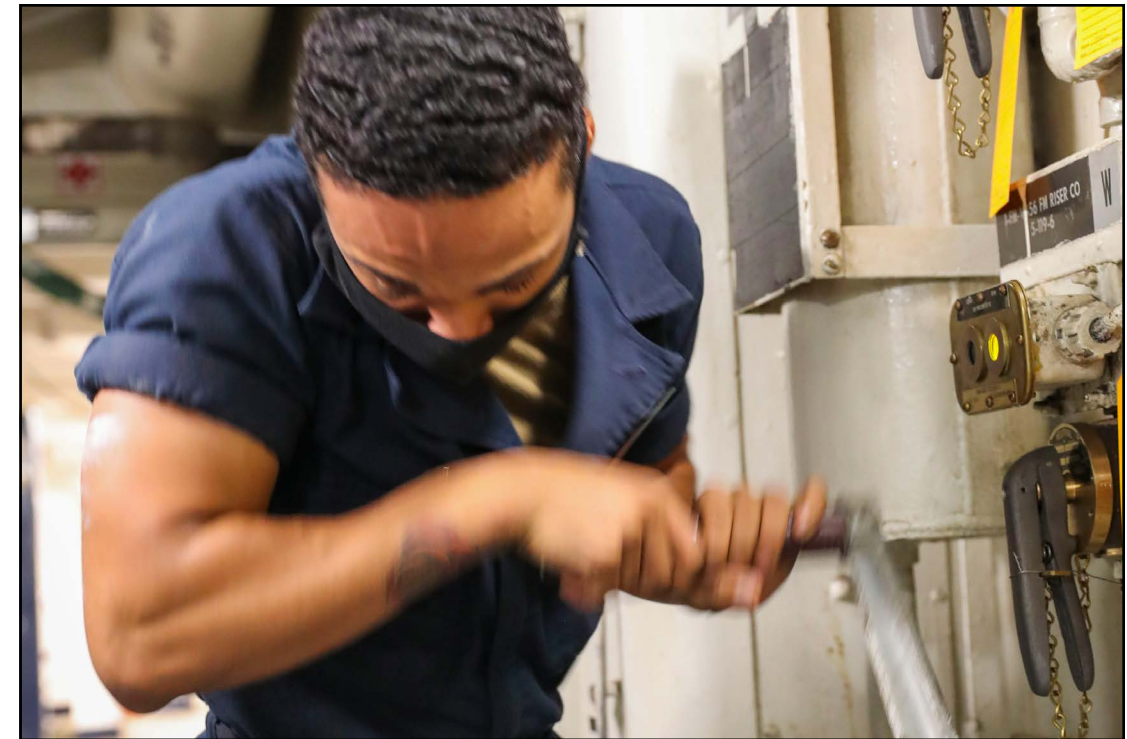
"My life consists of catching up on my sleep," said Mena. "It's hard to do anything but sleep. If I don't keep up with my sleep schedule on my days off, it might lead me to be up for two days. It's hard sometimes to work on myself as an individual, as well as a Sailor."

The work and hours are hard on the body and mind. It is a sign of resilience and strength to come to work every day in an environment that can be thankless at times. It's that these Sailors display the epitome of honor, courage, and commitment with their dedication to keeping the crew fed at all hours of the day, said Penn.

Around The Ship



Photos
by
MCSN Corbin Hagman



Women's Symposium

*Story and Photos
by
MC3 Tatyana Freeman*

Of the over 1.3 million service members in the United States Armed Forces, less than 25% are women according to the Defense Manpower Data Center. Women have made much progress in the military since the Women's Armed Services Integration Act in 1948, including the first woman to become a commanding officer of a nuclear aircraft carrier, Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, and the announcement of the first woman to become a Naval Special Warfare combatant-craft crewman. Despite that progress, it's still rare for female service members to have tailored advice, assistance, and information when it comes to their military careers, health, and well-being.

To address that problem, the women in the Chief's Mess and the First Class Petty Officer's Association assigned to the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) hosted a Women's Symposium September 28, 2021 in Newport News, Virginia, for female Sailors onboard George Washington.

"I think the Women's Symposium today really opened up Sailors to see that the Navy is open-minded and accepting of females, and they can do great things in the Navy," said Master Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate Cherry Pizzarelle, air



Sailors pose for a photo during the 2021 USS George Washington Women's Symposium with Capt. Brent Gaut, commanding officer of USS George Washington and Command Master Chief Christopher Zeigler.

department's leading chief petty officer, and one of two master chiefs in her rate.

Female members of the Chief's Mess and First Class Petty Officer's Association led presentations on a variety of topics that are usually only broadly addressed to the entire crew, and not generally targeted towards the females of the crew.

"We were here today to give back to our Sailors by showing them that there are people that understand their day-to-day walk," said Chief Personnel Specialist Mishell Brownlee, deputy chief of dispersing in supply department, and one of the main coordinators of the event. "We are women and leaders, and we have been in their shoes."

Some of the topics discussed were hygiene and wellness, shipboard living, finances, advancement and career development, military bearing, work/life balance, and professionalism as it pertains to females in the military.

"We let [female Sailors] know they are not alone in what may seem to be a struggle," said Brownlee. "We wanted to bring them together so that we could discuss things like career development, their mental and women's wellness, and grooming standards so we can not only set the standard, but show them what the right standard is. We also allowed the Sailors the opportunity to ask questions that

they may not sometimes get to ask and we gave them feedback."

Several different presentations and speakers throughout the day offered their personal career story, what led them to the Navy, struggles they have faced as women and Sailors, and advice on leadership, life, and overcoming obstacles.

"Answering these questions and seeing their female leaders up here, caring, and to be up here and to listen to all the topics we have...Sailors were walking through the hallways out here and they're saying thank you for doing this," said Pizzarelle. "That



Left: Capt. Brent Gaut, CO of the USS George Washington, speaks to guests at the women's symposium.

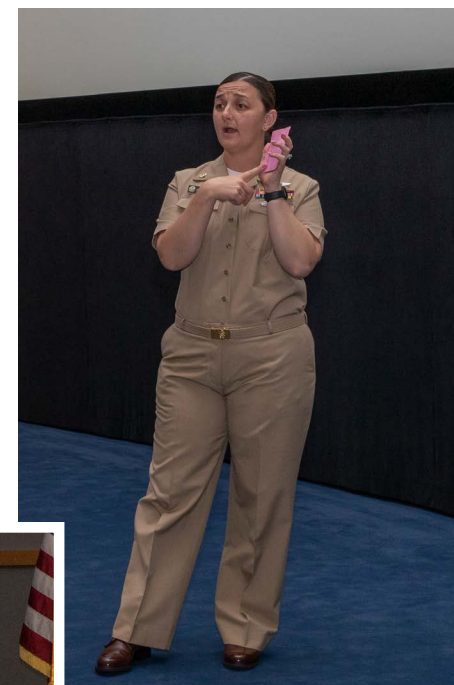
Below: MMNC Lisa Martin speaks about grooming standards at the women's symposium.



Left: MCC Christina Shaw speaks at the women's symposium.

Right: ABEC Amber Balajadia speaks about grooming standards at the women's symposium.

Below: Retired Master Chief Petty Officer Katrina Cain speaks at the women's symposium.



means Chief Brownlee and her crew did something really good."

Capt. Brent Gaut, the commanding officer of the George Washington, and Command Master Chief Christopher Ziegler, the ship's command master chief, were also in attendance and remarked on the importance of it.

"If I'm going to be a leader who can best serve you as your commanding officer, I have to think about who [struggles women have in the military]," said Gaut. "I have to try to understand where you guys are coming from and the challenges you face throughout your career."

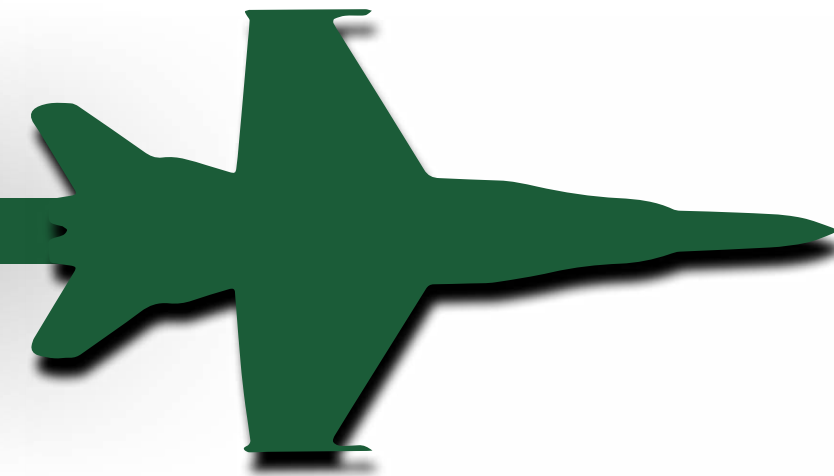
The Women's Symposium was the

first of its kind in many years for George Washington, and as women become more prevalent in all facets of the military, it confirmed the need for more female-tailored events like this one.

"This is just the beginning," said Brownlee. "I'm looking forward to more evolutions like this one."

Managing the Flight Deck

Story by MC3 Dakota Nack



The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) is one of the ten active Nimitz-class aircraft carriers. Each nuclear-powered aircraft carrier in the fleet manages to maintain this country's status as the greatest power on the world's seas due to all of the various departments and individual rates working together. The Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) is among the rates that work together strongly and the impact they have on the flight deck is vital for a carrier's success.

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) are responsible for a wide array of duties. They operate, maintain, and perform maintenance on the arresting gear and arresting gear engines, hydraulic and steam catapults, and the barricades. Maintaining

the equipment is of the utmost importance because an aircraft needs to be able to take off and have a place to land while out at sea.

"The best thing about being an ABE is the experience, because coming out of high school you really don't think that you're going to launch an aircraft off an aircraft carrier," said Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) Amber Balajadia, the maintenance chief for air department's V2 division.

Aircraft carriers will always consist of Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) personnel because their work mainly takes place on the flight deck. However, due to refueling complex overhaul (RCOH), Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) Sailors that have been assigned to George

Washington for their first command have not been fully exposed to the daily lifestyle that would take place at sea. Nevertheless, that does not mean the work being completed for RCOH is not preparing them for the future.

"I believe we are at the turning point of RCOH," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 1st Class Raymond Gonzalez, the maintenance control leading petty officer for air department's V2 division. "We are finally getting our equipment back. Catapults one and two are coming together nicely and catapults three and four are slowly coming along."

For RCOH, there is currently a lot of support from the shipyard workers to help restore equipment to readiness condition, but the



ABE2 Paris Simmons uses a sound powered telephone aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68). (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Elliot Schaudt)

Electrician's Mate and Interior Communications Electrician rates are also helping the Aviation Boatswain's Mates (Equipment) work on the equipment vital for this ship's flight deck.

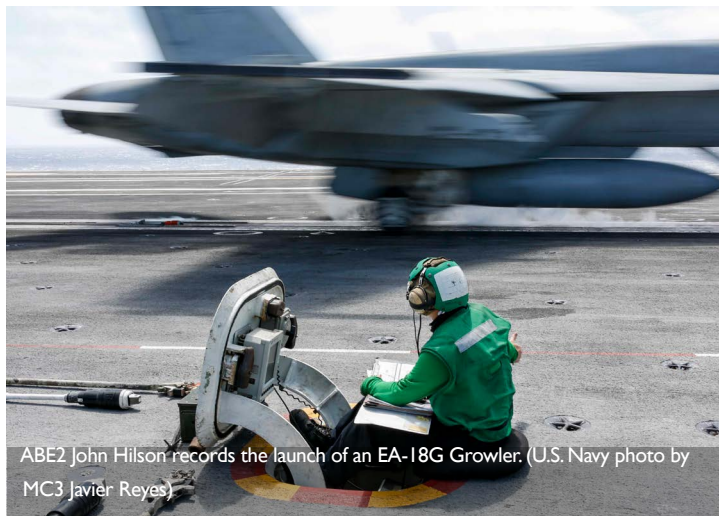
Every Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) knows that the work is fast paced and the hours are long. There will be some days where work will go deep into the night. No matter what the weather is, there will always be Sailors on the flight deck in their green jerseys diligently working to launch the aircrafts

off effectively and safely.

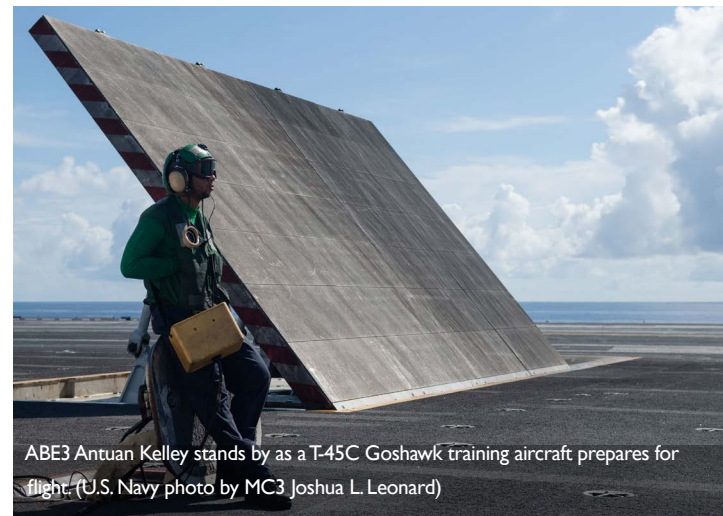
"My first day as an ABE, I showed up at 1700 thinking I would only work a few hours, but that was not the case at all," said Gonzalez. "We did not stop work until maybe two in the morning, but I vividly remember an aircraft shot off and all of us were completely engulfed in steam and I thought it was amazing. I could not see anything but the stars in the sky and the steam."

"Being an ABE [Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment)]

requires long hours. For example, when doing flight operations that can go deep into the night," said Balajadia. "But there is nothing better than being an ABE [Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment)]. There are only two rates in the Navy. The ABs and the wannabees."



ABE2 John Hilson records the launch of an EA-18G Growler. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Javier Reyes)



ABE3 Antuan Kelley stands by as a T-45C Goshawk training aircraft prepares for flight. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Joshua L. Leonard)

RONALD REAGAN CARRIER STRIKE GROUP RETURNS TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

From Commander, Task Force 70 / Carrier Strike Group 5 Public Affairs



The U.S. Navy’s only forward-deployed aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) steams through international waters.

The Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group is operating in the South China Sea for the second time during its 2021 deployment, Sept. 24.

The carrier strike group includes the Navy’s only forward-deployed aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) the embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5, and embarked staffs of Task Force 70 and Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15, as well as the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Shiloh (CG 67).

The strike group enters the South China Sea after concluding successful naval operations in U.S. 5th Fleet, upholding maritime security and stability while Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 5 provided airpower to protect U.S. and coalition forces as they conducted drawdown operations from Afghanistan.

“We look forward to leveraging our recent out-of-area experience as we return to the South China Sea and our rapidly growing alliances and partnerships dedicated to the Indo-Pacific,” said Rear Adm. Will Pennington, commander, Task Force 70, Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 5.

“The deployment of Ronald Reagan carrier strike group to the middle east and rapid seamless return to the Pacific highlight the flexibility and responsiveness of a premier maritime force and the power and reach of global coalitions dedicated to the stability provided by international law and rules

based order.”

While in the South China Sea, the strike group will conduct fixed and rotary-wing flight operations, maritime strike exercises, anti-submarine operations, and coordinated tactical training.

“Ronald Reagan and all components of its strike group have operated with relentless energy and commitment throughout the deployment, showcasing the strength and resilience of America,” said Capt. Fred Goldhammer, Ronald Reagan’s commanding officer. “As we continue our mission in the South China Sea, we remain vigilant and ready to answer the call.”

The strike group will work with its network of partners and alliances to ensure maritime security and a free flow of commerce in the Indo-Pacific.

The Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group is forward-deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific region. U.S.

7th Fleet conducts forward-deployed naval operations in support of U.S. national interests in the Indo-Pacific area of operations. As the U.S. Navy’s largest forward-deployed fleet, 7th Fleet interacts with 35 other maritime nations to build partnerships that foster maritime security, promote stability, and prevent conflict.



Japanese Navy JS Fuyuzuki (DD 118) steams alongside USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Channels 202 & 203 on SITE-TV

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.
Oct. 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
202 1700: Casino Royale 1930: Robocop 203 1700: Fargo 1930: Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure	202 1700: Legally Blonde 1930: Zero Dark Thirty 203 1700: Barbershop 1930: Rain Man	202 1700: Little Fockers 1930: Animal House 203 1700: Four Weddings and a Funeral 1930: Ride Along	202 1700: My Best Friend’s Wedding 1930: Road House 203 1700: Hotel Rwanda 1930: Ride Along 2	202 1700: Spectre 1930: Backdraft 203 1700: Concussion 1930: American Gangster	202 1700: The Secret Garden 1930: TRON: Legacy 203 1700: JAWS 1930: Aladdin (1992)	202 1700: Battleship 1930: Downton Abbey 203 1700: Ad Astra 1930: Joker
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
202 1700: Donnie Brasco 1930: The Birdcage 203 1700: Salt 1930: Meet the Fockers	202 1700: The 40 Year Old Virgin 1930: Erin Brockovich 203 1700: Night at the Museum 1930: Ava	202 1700: The Hunger Games 1930: The War with Grandpa 203 1700: Divergent 1930: Ali	202 1700: Top Gun 1930: Battleship 203 1700: Midway 1930: Crimson Tide	202 1700: Tin Cup 1930: Honest Thief 203 1700: Major Payne 1930: Arthur	202 1700: Green Lantern 1930: American Sniper 203 1700: Twilight 1930: Wizard of Oz	202 1700: Mamma Mia 1930: Columbiana 203 1700: Kung Fu Panda 1930: Iron Man 3

SITE-TV Channels

Shipboard Broadcast System

- 200 - NMPS Movie 1
- 201 - NMPS Movie 2
- 202 - NMPS Movie 3
- 203 - NMPS Movie 4
- 204 - Information 1
- 205 - Information 2
- 206 - Training DVD

Pier Cable TV

- 400 - AMC
- 401 - USA
- 402 - MTV
- 403 - FOOD
- 404 - TRAVEL
- 405 - TNT
- 406 - HISTORY
- 407 - FOX NEWS
- 408 - CNN
- 409 - ESPN
- 410 - ESPN2
- 411 - FS1

Local Over the Air TV

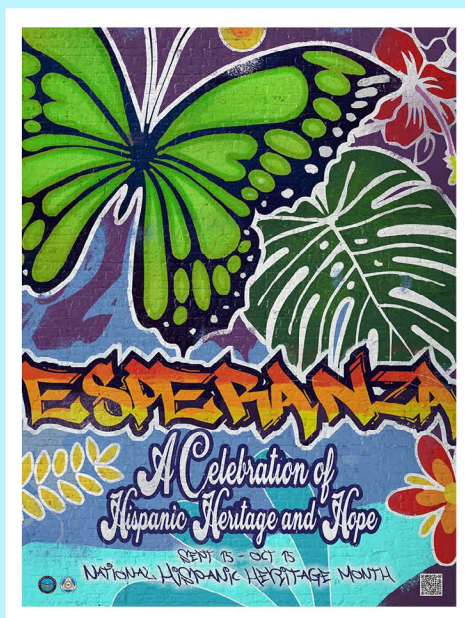
- 600 - AMC
- 601 - USA
- 602 - MTV
- 603 - FOOD
- 604 - TRAVEL
- 605 - TNT
- 606 - HISTORY
- 607 - FOX NEWS
- 608 - CNN
- 609 - ESPN
- 610 - ESPN2
- 611 - Quest
- 612 - whroWorld
- 613 - Antenna TV
- 614 - Grit
- 615 - COZI
- 616 - H&l
- 617 - Laff
- 618 - Mystery
- 619 - Stadium
- 620 - Comet

CULTURAL
AWARENESS

OBSERVANCE



NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SEPT 15 - OCT 15



Every year the Department of Defense (DoD) joins the Nation in celebrating and honoring the cultures and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans. This year's theme is: *"Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope."*

On September 17, 1968, Congress passed Public Law 90-48, officially authorizing and requesting the president to issue annual proclamations declaring September 15 and 16 to mark the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Week. President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first Hispanic Heritage Week presidential proclamation.

On September 14, 1989, President George H.W. Bush became the first president to declare the 31-day period from September 15 to October 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month.

"Not all of the contributions made by Hispanic Americans to our society are so visible or so widely celebrated, however. Hispanic Americans have enriched our nation beyond measure with the quiet strength of closely knit families and proud communities," Bush said.

September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.

The term Hispanic refers to people of any race who trace their ethnic roots to a country where Spanish is the main language, including Spain.

Latino refers to people of any race who trace their roots back to countries from the Caribbean, Mexico, and throughout Central and South America.

Today, thousands of Hispanic-American Service members throughout the world are protecting our nation.

Just as in generations past, we honor our Hispanic community—military and civilian—for their significant contributions to (or toward) protecting the United States and embodying the DoD values that unite us all as one team.