

# SEPTEMBER 2015





ULCHI FREEDOM GUARDIAN



Integrated Training Exercise



Talisman Sabre 2015



Scan**E**agle **D**rone



Undersea Rescue Command

<sup>■</sup> Religious Program Specialist 2nd Class Michael J. Pornovets, assigned to Company A, 4th Medical Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, stands outside a medical tent at Range 400 during Integrated Training Exercise 4-15 aboard Marine Air Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms, California. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Ian Leones)

▼ Command Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman James Fyfe pins anchors on Chief Hospital Corpsman Jessica Guzman, a Reserve Sailor from Texas, during a chief pinning ceremony at Bagram Air Field. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Kristine Volk)





4 History: Navy Reserve Expeditionary Forces

5 Profiles in Professionalism

6 Career: Commissioning Programs

7 Benefits: Tricare

12 Exercise Lake Effect

16 B2B: Reserve Support to Fleet Exercises

28 Suicide Prevention

**30 Citizen Patriot** 

31 Faces of the Force

32 Phone Directory



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TNR is always looking for action photos of Navy Reserve Sailors (minimum 300 dpi) that tell a story of Reserve Sailor support to the fleet. Please provide full identification of all individuals in the photograph, including their respective rating, rank and command. Photos should also include a visual information record identification number or VIRIN. Information about VIRINs is available online at <a href="https://www.navy.mil/photo\_submit.asp">www.navy.mil/photo\_submit.asp</a>. Submissions should be received eight weeks prior to publication month (i.e. Sept. 1st for the Nov. issue).

NEWS ONLINE: TNR current and past issues, and Navy Reserve news and social media sites, can be accessed online at <a href="https://www.navyreserve.navy.mil">www.navyreserve.navy.mil</a>. Navy Reserve News Stand, a website featuring Navy Reserve news and photos, plus links to Navy fleet pages, can be viewed at: <a href="https://www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf">www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf</a>.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Selected Reserve and Full-Time Support Sailors must submit address changes through NSIPS (Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System) via their Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) personnel office. If you are not a Reserve Sailor, but would like to be added to the TNR mailing list, please forward your name and address to <code>cnrfc1@gmail.com</code>.

TNR Magazine, COMNAVRESFORCOM (N00P) 1915 Forrestal Drive, Norfolk, VA 23551-4615 (757) 445 - 8500

# FOCUS ON THE FORCE



# Vice Adm. Robin R. Braun

Right to left, Lt. Ben Jones, Cmdr. Billy Franklin, Chief of Navy Reserve Vice Adm. Robin Braun, Master Chief Gas Turbine Systems Technician Steven Brown and Chief Hospital Corpsman Paul Smith, pose for a photo during Navy Operational Support Center Indianapolis' dedication ceremony. (U.S. Navy photo)



# Shipmates,

In order to increase our security posture, we are implementing plans to provide an armed watch stander at each of our off-installation NOSCs. The effort is well underway with over 70 Selected Reserve Master-At-Arms Sailors who volunteered to support this program. These hand-selected, firearms certified MAs are tasked with organizing the NOSCs' weapons program and training designated NOSC personnel on Rules for Use of Force, Pre-Planned Responses, Post Orders, and the proper and safe handling of firearms. Upon completion of required training and after satisfying all requirements, each of our off-installation NOSCs will have an armed watch stander posted with the primary responsibility of protecting the NOSC during working hours. This new force protection measure is focused on the security of Reserve Sailors, Marines, and all who visit our NOSCs. The Armed Watch Stander Program has been a monumental undertaking by Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command staff, requiring the support of a multitude of Navy commands and a significant commitment of time and energy. I want to thank CNRFC, RCC, and NOSC personnel for their focused work to date and their continued dedication and commitment to standing up this important program.

Recently, NOSC Indianapolis CO, Cmdr. Billy D. Franklin invited me to the dedication ceremony for NOSC Indy's new building which is co-located with Guard and Reserve facilities at the former Ft. Harrison. Since 1936, NOSC Indy Sailors had drilled at the Naval Armory, an expansive, historic building that was in need of significant renovations and repair. Skipper Franklin and the NOSC Indy crew were proud to show off their new facility, which is "dedicated to all the Indiana Sailors - past, present and future - who selflessly provide support" to our Nation. Their drill hall features a large flag recovered from the USS Indianapolis (CA-35), a heavy cruiser that was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine on July 30, 1945. Of 1,196 crewmen aboard, 317 survived. NOSC Indianapolis' logo features the ship and pays tribute to her service during WWII. Since 1960, surviving crew members and families have been meeting for reunions in Indianapolis. For the 70th reunion, held in July 2015, 14 of the 32 remaining survivors attended. Rear Adm. Gene Price, Cmdr. Franklin, and NOSC Indianapolis Sailors were there to represent the Navy and honor the ship's dedicated crew. During our Centennial year, it was especially moving to pay tribute to those Sailors and families who sacrificed so much for our Nation.

Last month we attended the annual ESGR "Freedom Awards" ceremony hosted by the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon. This prestigious award is given to a select group of employers who provide extraordinary support to employees serving in the Reserve or National Guard. This year, 15 employers were selected from among 2960 nominations from Guard and Reserve personnel. Of the 15 award winners, three were nominated by Navy Reserve Sailors: the City of Glendale, Arizona, nominated by MA2 Patrick Valenzuela; the law firm of Neil Dymott in San Diego, nominated by LCDR Robert Olson; and the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts, nominated by CEC (SCW) Keith Jermyn. During the formal ceremony, we heard about the employers' noteworthy support to military service members and their families. What a fitting tribute to these employers who understand the critical role the Guard and Reserve play in our nation's defense. Nominations are now being taken for the 2016 Freedom Awards. Please consider nominating your employer for this prestigious award at www.FreedomAward.mil

Every day, Navy Reserve Sailors are making a difference across the globe. Thank you for the tremendous work you are doing in support of our Navy!

> Vice Admiral Robin R. Braun, Chief of Navy Reserve

KllBraun

# Force Master Chief (AW/SW) CJ Mitchell

Force Master Chief CJ Mitchell poses for a group photo with chief petty officers attached to Navy Operational Support Center Phoenix. (U.S. Navy photo)



# Shipmates,

September is an exciting month in the Navy Reserve. For many of our fellow Sailors it is the first time they will be donning the khaki uniform and gold anchors of a chief petty officer. This month I had the honor of meeting with some of the CPO selectees in New Orleans, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti and NOSCs Phoenix, Tucson and Albuquerque.

Congratulations to all our new chief petty officers! You were not selected because of what you have done but as recognition of the work you will do on behalf of Sailors in our Navy. I am excited to have you and your families in the Mess. I stand by in anticipation of the great things you will do. It is encouraging to see Reserve chiefs who take time out of their personal and professional lives to train and mentor these new chiefs. It's immediately evident how much they truly care about all of their Sailors. Thank you chiefs for all of your efforts.

The contributions of RC Sailors have been the highlight of my recent travels. I was able to visit with Sailors mobilized to HOA and Camp Lemmonnier, Djibouti, and RC Sailors on a variety of orders and missions in Bahrain, Naples and Sigonella, Italy. RC Sailors making direct contributions to mission accomplishment was the common theme in every engagement. I met new chief, Chief Yeoman James Alexander from Montana, in Djibouti. He has been on MOB there since March 2015. He was very excited to make CPO and works protocol for Camp Lemmonier.

When I was able to visit with 5th Fleet/NAVCENT HQ in Bahrain and 6th Fleet HQ in Naples, Italy, I heard more about direct support from Reserve Sailors. Directly, from the leadership there and from the OSOs, your Navy Reserve shipmates ensure mission accomplishment on the deckplates. Contributions of RC Sailors for operations, planning and exercises is appreciated and celebrated. Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Anda Shaffer who lives and drills overseas in Europe is an example. Speaking at least three languages, she has provided valuable professional help and advanced language skills to 6th Fleet protocol office for international relations and exercises.

This month TNR focuses on fleet exercises. Each year the Navy is involved in exercises with a growing number of nations in numerous locations around the globe. These exercises are a crucial part of military readiness and the Navy Reserve plays an important role in these exercises, providing needed skills, expertise and support to the fleet around the world.

This year Reserve Sailors from the Military Sealift Command, Expeditionary Port Unit (EPU) 114 participated in exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2015, held in the Republic of Korea (ROK). Reserve Sailors tracked ships entering the second largest port in the ROK. In June, Reserve Sailors and Marines participated in the 2015 Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) at Twenty-nine Palms Marine Air Ground Combat Center, California. ITX is a live fire training exercise that also included Sailors and Marines from the 4th Medical Battalion, who conducted a mass causality exercise. In July, Reserve Sailors seamlessly integrated and jointly trained with nearly 30,000 U.S., Australian and New Zealand service members during exercise Talisman Sabre 2015 in Australia. These are a few examples of the many opportunities the Reserve has to fully integrate, train and build relationships with not only fellow Sailors, but also militaries from other countries.

The quality contribution the Navy Reserve provides is a great source of pride for me and highly valued by the Navy. I often hear uplifting stories about the great work you do wherever you are assigned. You are all so successful because of your high state of readiness and commitment to mission. I thank you and your families for your continued support and I thank your employers for their support of each of you. I am very proud to be your Force Master Chief and I look forward to meeting you when I travel to your AOR. Are You Ready?

Force 15



# **Ready Then** The First Deployment of Navy Reserve Expeditionary Forces

By Master Chief Information Systems Technician James L. Leuci, Naval History and Heritage Command



Today, Navy Reserve expeditionary warfare units routinely participate in numerous training exercises throughout the Fleet. They train to be ready to deploy when called. However, the very first expeditionary deployment of Reserve Sailors was a short-notice call with little time to train. The deployment was not in support of a training exercise, but to support the war effort on the Western Front during the First World War.

U.S. Navy manpower rapidly expanded after the declaration of war on April 6, 1917. Within a year, the number of Sailors had grown from 73,000 to 269,000 and would eventually reach half a million. During this time, Naval Training Station Great Lakes expanded from a pre-war population of only a few hundred men to 50,000. This resulted in an immediate demand for the construction of barracks, hospital facilities, warehouses, mess halls, training buildings, and supporting infrastructure. The amount of work overwhelmed the training station Public Works Department tasked to oversee every facet of design, planning, and construction. The Navy decided to organize a public works force using skilled trade workers who had enlisted in the Navy and Naval Reserve Force for the duration of the war. The new work force, designated the Twelfth Regiment (Public Works), quickly grew to over one-thousand men by December 1917, and to 6,500 by the end of the war.

At Great Lakes, they built camps to accommodate thousands of recruits. They constructed mess halls, athletic fields, and power plants. Nearly all the enlisted men in the regiment were Sailors of the Naval Reserve Force. They, in turn, trained unskilled recruits to become proficient in various trades associated with the construction and maintenance of naval facilities. In the spring of 1918, the regiment organized an expeditionary force to deploy to northern France to construct aviation stations, medical facilities, and radio towers – over 500 Sailors deployed.

The most notable expeditionary forces, deployed from the Twelfth Regiment, were the railway parties that assembled and operated 14-inch naval guns on the Western Front. When the United States entered the First World War, German long-range artillery dominated the Western Front. British and French guns did not have the range to meet the German threat. To counter

the threat, the U.S. Navy decided to mount several 14-inch naval guns on railroad cars and deploy them to France. The design of five railway batteries was completed on January 25, 1918. Three months later, the first railway gun mount was successfully test-fired at Sandy Hook, New Jersey.

Designing and quickly building the railway mounts had been a major challenge. However, finding men to assemble, maintain, and operate the guns, hampered by the unavailability of active duty Sailors proved even more challenging. Capt., later Rear Adm., Charles Plunkett, the commanding officer, had no option but to draw most of his manpower from the Naval Reserve Force.

450 men from the Twelfth Regiment and the 7th and 8th battalions of the Michigan Naval Militia comprised nearly 90% of the railway battalion crews. They operated on the Western Front from September 6, 1918 until the fighting ended on November 11. The five battalions fired a total of 782 rounds, on 25 different days, at strategic targets such as railway centers and enemy troop concentration areas creating disorganization and the disruption of the German Army transportation system which hastened the end of the fighting.

After the war, the Twelfth Regiment (Public Works) was disestablished. However, the idea of using Reserve Sailors as an expeditionary construction force was not forgotten. Over twenty years later, Reserve Sailors were once again called upon to build and fight – this time as U.S. Navy Seabees.



# PROFILES IN PROFESSIONALISM



We have many talented people in our Navy Reserve. Each month we highlight our stellar Sailors and some of the unique careers, skills and services they provide to the fleet.





**Information Systems** Technician 2nd Class Nicole Roach

Hometown: Norfolk, Virginia Command: Navy Operational Support Center Fort Dix

Brief description of your Navy job:

As an Intelligence Specialist, I prepare detailed intelligence information reports and analyze and combine multi-source intelligence information to produce operationally relevant intelligence. I also compile intelligence information and disseminate data through media, such as plots, briefings, reports and publications.

What has been your greatest Navy achievement? My greatest Navy achievement thus far is becoming certified in the Human Targeting course at the Defense Intelligence Agency University.

Who has been your biggest influence since joining the Navy? My biggest influence has been my fellow enlisted shipmates! There is something to be said about the benefits of camaraderie across all ratings. I have been able to meet people from a wide range of backgrounds, and I love hearing why each member joined and why they will stay in the Navy.

What do you enjoy most about the Navy?

I love the team-oriented environment of the Navy. The Navy gives you the opportunity to build skills and work towards a bigger cause outside of yourself. Not many civilian jobs offer such opportunities.

Most interesting place visited since joining the Navy: I haven't traveled much yet. I would say, Dam Neck, Virginia! I love the beach.

#### **Current hobbies:**

I love vintage shopping. I actually opened up an online store in November to sell vintage items. Also, yoga and listening to music.



**Hospital Corpsman** 3rd Class Robert Trapnell

Hometown: Winter Springs, Florida Command: Navy Operational Support Center Orlando

Brief description of your Navy job:

I currently work in the clinic at Navy Operational Support Center Orlando. My responsibilities are ordering supplies for my unit and serving proudly in funeral honors details.

What has been your greatest Navy achievement? I really appreciate the small recognitions like when my Commander congratulates me on a good flag fold for funeral honors, or shipmates compliment the clinic for great service.

Who has been your biggest influence since joining the Navy? The HM1s pushing me to not waste any opportunity and the medical officers who were prior corpsman setting an example.

What do you enjoy most about the Navy?

The camaraderie. We are a team made of different stories working towards the same goals. Also, some of the issues we deal with as Reservists are unique and it is comforting to share with others having similar issues.

Most interesting place visited since joining the Navy: I'm still new so nothing exotic. My time in San Antonio in A-School was fun. Running from Ft Sam to the River Walk on the weekends was my fondest memory.

#### **Current hobbies:**

Participating in marathons, cycling, reading and writing a novel.

To nominate a Sailor, send an email to cnrfc1@gmail.com for a submission form. Please include a high-resolution (300 dpi) 5" x 7" digital photo of the candidate.







# **Commissioning Programs for Enlisted Reserve Personnel**

By Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command N15 Force Retention

Are you looking for a new challenge? Do you have what it takes to be a commissioned officer? Some of the best prospective naval officers are already serving as enlisted Sailors. Enlisted commissioning programs capitalize on proven leadership ability and academic accomplishments, providing an opportunity to transition from the enlisted community to the wardroom. Detailed program information can be found in *OPNAVINST 1420.1B*, *ENLISTED TO OFFICER COMMISSIONING PROGRAMS APPLICATION ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL*.

NOTE: Some programs listed below require an active duty obligation upon commissioning, whereas others allow for continued service in a Reserve status.

# U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY (USNA) & NAVAL ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL (NAPS)

The Academy is a four-year naval college, preparing young men and women to become professional officers of competence, character, and compassion in the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. USNA students are midshipmen on active duty in the U.S. Navy, and upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science degree receive commissions as ensigns in the Navy or second lieutenants in the Marine Corps. The minimum service obligation is five years active duty and 3 years Individual Ready Reserve upon initial appointment as an officer.

NAPS is a ten-month course designed to enhance a midshipman candidate's moral, mental, and physical foundation to prepare for success at the USNA.

# OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL (OCS)

OCS is a commissioning program for individuals possessing a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited institution. OCS applicants may request designation, depending upon individual qualifications, from available community designators

within the Unrestricted Line (URL), Restricted Line (RL), and selected staff corps. Graduates of OCS incur a minimum active duty obligation of four years (certain designators incur greater minimum obligation because of follow-on training).

# **DIRECT COMMISSION OFFICER (DCO)**

DCO is an opportunity for Reservists with a baccalaureate degree to receive a commission in the Navy Reserve and remain in a Reserve status. Reserve Officer Recruiters manage the DCO program and are available to answer any questions regarding.

# RESERVE LIMITED DUTY OFFICER (LDO) / CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER (CWO)

The LDO and CWO programs provide commissioning opportunities to qualified senior enlisted personnel. In addition, CWOs may apply for the LDO program. The LDO program is open to Sailors in pay grades E-6 through E-9, as well as personnel already commissioned in the CWO program. The CWO program is open to personnel in pay grades E-7 through E-9, as well as E-6 personnel selected for E-7. Eligible personnel may apply for both LDO and CWO simultaneously. No college degree is required for LDO or CWO, but having a degree is a positive enhancement to an LDO/CWO package. Leadership ability, military qualifications, and technical expertise remain the key factors to selection.

### **SEAMAN TO ADMIRAL-21 (STA-21)**

The STA-21 program provides an opportunity for highly motivated enlisted personnel to complete requirements for a baccalaureate degree and earn a commission in one of more than a dozen program options. Emphasis will be placed on those applicants who possess both the academic and leadership potential necessary to become outstanding naval officers. Graduates of STA-21 incur a minimum active duty obligation based on the specific program completed.



# **Tricare Benefits**

# for Drilling vs Non-Drilling Reserve Sailors





# **TRICARE Reserve Select (TRS)**

TRS is a premium-based health plan available to Selected Reserve (SELRES) members and offers coverage similar to TRICARE Standard.

## **Line of Duty Care**

When RC members are on active duty for 30 days or less (e.g., drilling on weekends, annual training), they are covered for any injury, illness, or disease incurred or aggravated in the line of duty (LOD). LOD care is provided in order to specifically resolve the associated injury or illness. LOD care continues until the issue has been resolved and, if required, extends beyond the period of military duty during which the injury or illness was sustained.

#### Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP)

RC members are provided premium-free TRICARE coverage that continues 180 days beyond the last day of active duty in support of a Contingency Operation. After the completion of TAMP, RC members returning to the Selected Reserve are eligible to purchase TRS.

## **Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP)**

CHCBP is a premium-based temporary health care coverage program that provides RC members medical benefits similar to TRICARE Standard benefits for up to 18months after the loss of TRICARE eligibility. A member must enroll within 60 days after last day of active duty or end of TAMP benefits.

# TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR)

TRR is a premium-based health plan that provides medical benefits similar to TRICARE Standard for retired RC members until age 60.

Once retired RC members reach the age of 60 and are in receipt of retired pay, they are eligible for TRICARE Standard/ Extra benefits, and may be eligible to purchase TRICARE Prime coverage if they live near a military treatment facility. At the age of 65, retired RC members are eligible for TRICARE for Life upon enrollment to Medicare Part B.

The TRICARE Dental Program is a premium-based dental plan available to all RC members.

# Voluntary Training Unit (VTU) Tricare Benefits

■ A subset of the Individual Ready Reserve, Voluntary
■ Training Unit (VTU) Sailors can drill in a non-pay status and continue to earn points for retirement. What Tricare benefits are afforded to these Sailors?

■ TRICARE benefits and health plan options are based on the member's military status which can change multiple times throughout a Sailor's career. Below are a number of situations in which a VTU Sailor can sign up/receive Tricare benefits:

- While serving on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, members of the Reserve Component (RC) have the same health care benefits as members of the Active Component (AC).
- When RC members are ordered to active duty for more than 30 days in support of a contingency operation, TRICARE benefits are authorized to begin up to 180 days prior to the member's activation date.
- Pursuant to 10 U.S. Code §1076d and 32 CFR
  199.24, members of the Individual Ready Reserve
  (IRR), to include the VTU, are ineligible for TRICARE
  as a sponsor. If an IRR member is a dependent of an
  active duty or Selected Reserve sponsor, then he/she
  would be able to opt-in to other TRICARE programs as
  an eligible family member.
- As RC members transition to the IRR, they are eligible to purchase coverage via the Continued Health Care Benefit Program (CHCBP) if purchased within 60 days of termination of TRICARE eligibility. CHCBP is a premium-based temporary health care coverage program that provides medical benefits similar to TRICARE Standard for up to 18 months after initial enrollment.
- Members of the IRR are eligible to purchase dental coverage under the TRICARE Dental Program.

# FREEDOM GUARDIAN

# Mobile Sealift Operations Command participates in UFG 2015



By Grady Fontana, Military Sealift Command Far East

n the southern coast of the Korean peninsula, four Sailors with Expeditionary Port Unit (EPU) 114 were tracking ships entering the port — the second largest in the Republic of Korea (ROK). These Sailors were staged in a small, modified shipping container equipped with various types of critical communication equipment.

The container, called a Mobile Sealift Operations Center (MSOC), was a prepositioned asset from Busan, reserved for quick deployment during contingencies or exercises such as this one, Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG) 2015.

Set near the edge of the pier next to the starboard side of USNS Washington Chambers (T-AKE 11), a dry-cargo and ammunition vessel undergoing a scheduled voyage repair, the Sailors were there as part of one of the MSOC's roles during a contingency or operation to direct and assist supporting ships.

"During an operation, this port could be overwhelmed with ships coming in with cargo, and some of the local ports are not equipped to handle our ships," said Lt. Cmdr. Phillip R. Casalegno, executive officer, EPU 114, which is part of Military Sealift Command (MSC) Pacific. "Essentially, we become the military liaison for the local port authority."

EPUs are MSC Reserve units that are mobile and can deploy and establish port operations quickly, even under adverse conditions. For EPU 114 the exercise was a good drill on testing their readiness.

"This kind of opportunity is critical for EPUs to be able to work with the MSOC every day, satisfy our qualification requirements and make sure we are proficient for mobilization readiness," said Casalegno.

Port operations here are just one aspect of MSC Far East's (MSCFE) mission in UFG. More than 30 MSC personnel deployed to Korea, Singapore and Japan



Aug. 17-28 from various Reserve centers in the U.S. to participate in UFG 2015, a major computer-simulated exercise involving more than 30,000 U.S. service members. The 30 Reserve Sailors augmented the various MSC-affiliated locations in the Far East that were participating in UFG 2015.

The UFG exercise, one of two annually scheduled exercises between U.S. and ROK forces, tested the ability of the U.S., ROK and their allies to respond to a contingency on the Korean peninsula. Australia, Canada, Columbia, Denmark, France, and the United Kingdom also participated this year.

Despite the small exercise footprint of MSCFE, the scope of the UFG training was both diverse and complex. The MSC enterprise in Singapore, ROK and Japan was augmented by five Reserve units managing hundreds of simulated U.S. government and commercially contracted, dry-cargo ships and fuel tankers to and

from the Korean area of operations.

The scenarios that impacted MSC exercise gaming included operating under adverse weather, managing unscheduled ship maintenance, fueling of vessels, and working with host nation port authorities.

"Exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian is and has been an outstanding training opportunity that clearly displays how critically important MSC's Reserve component is to our operations and contingency plans," said Capt. Paul Harvey, commodore of MSCFE. "Reserve Sailors from our MSC units deployed to the ports and command centers across the Pacific theater and took up operational roles side-by-side with our active component staff and Korean partners."

EPU 114, based out of San Diego, California, has 17 billets that operate the MSOC and assist with port operations. During UFG 2015, they only deployed four, while EPU 104 set up a base at Yokohama, Japan.

"Our unit had already addressed several other requirements this year, including training a large group for [Exercise] Key Resolve at Chinhea [ROK] in March, so I was mainly taking the new personnel," said Casalegno. "That made the training even more valuable since two of the three had never seen the inside of a MSOC. They were trained and ready for operations by the end of the exercise."

According to Cmdr. Christopher Cassano, Reserve Sailor and operations officer for MSCFE Reserve Unit 101, they spend months preparing for a major exercise. Since each unit is required to support multiple events during the course of a year, pre-planning on individual annual training allocation, as well as the creation and execution of unit training plans, is continuous.

"Administratively, unit leadership must ensure each Sailor is mobilization ready; having completed all medical assessments and required general military



training," said Cassano. "Operationally, unit leadership develops detailed plans of action and milestones leading up to an exercise, involving rudimentary level training and review, individual training for specific mission requirements, and unit level training and events to prepare them for deployment."

On pier eight in Busan, South
Korea, eight Navy Sailors from
MSCFE Reserve Unit 102
augmented the permanent MSC
Korea office staff. They manned
a 24/7 crisis action team, and
the Combined Seaport Command Center,
a centralized command and control center
that can manage cargo ships at ports
throughout South Korea working closely

with the Army's Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC), and ROK army and navy personnel.

While the bulk of exercise activities

"Our Reserve-component Sailors brought both their corporate knowledge developed throughout the training cycles, as well as their civilian experiences and skills sets, directly to our operations."

took place in South Korea, MSCFE headquarters in Singapore played a key role. Nine Reserve Sailors from St. Louis-based MSCFE Reserve Unit 101

and Sealift Support Unit 102 augmented permanent command staff in manning an around-the-clock command and control center, working with counterparts from

the staff of Commander, Task Force 73. During UFG, they monitored and directed all simulated MSC shipping traffic throughout the western Pacific.

"We supported any sealift and combat logistics requirements for the exercise," said Cassano. "We also supported any request-for-information of MSC assets and any other exercise roles such as one for a noncombatant evacuation operation."

In Yokohama, six Reserve Sailors from MSCFE Reserve Unit 101 and four from Syracuse, New York-based EPU 104 joined counterparts from SDDC in manning



the Japan Seaport Coordination Center (JSCC). During exercises and contingency operations, the JSCC serves as the single point of contact for sealift activities and cargo destined for Japan.

Reserve Sailors with MSCFE often possess intangible skills and continuity that are unique and immeasurably valuable to MSC plans and operations.

"Our Reserve component Sailors brought both their corporate knowledge developed throughout the training cycles, as well as their civilian experiences and skills sets, directly to our operations," said Harvey, a Sailor with almost 40 years of experience. "In particular, the strategic sealift officers

- who have merchant mariner licenses
- bring unique skills, experiences and a strong desire to contribute; they are

absolutely essential to MSC's mission."

Additionally, Reserve Sailors bring continuity to an organization that is unlike what is typical of the active-duty component.

"My (Reserve) officers are assigned to the unit for three years and they overlap each other, so we rarely, if ever, have any knowledge gaps," said Capt. Brad Knowlton, commanding officer and a Reserve Sailor with MSCFE headquarters 102. "However, we do have personnel turnover like any active duty command and the exercises are where we get (Reserve Sailors) the vital hands on experience in working the problems with our ROK allies on the peninsula, and with other MSC Far East locations. No amount of classroom training or plan reviews can make up for

being here."

The Sailors from EPU 104 also visited Japanese ports at the Yokohama North Dock; Hakozaki Fuel Terminal at Fleet Activities, Yokosuka; and Kure/Hiro Ammo Pier, near Hiroshima to assess the capabilities of those ports and to conduct port risk assessment surveys.

"Our time here in Japan provided excellent training opportunities for the members of both units," said Lt. Cmdr. Paul Unverzagt, executive officer of EPU 104. "No members had previous experience in the Far East, so the training was educational. We feel that our learning points here will allow us to positively contribute to the MSC mission." O

# EXERCISE EFFECT

Sailors team with Marines and allied soldiers to increase joint interoperability

# By Cmdr. Vic Lopez, Reserve Component Command Mid-Atlantic

loday's Joint interoperability missions require that our naval forces and those of our allies remain agile, welltrained and capable of overcoming a variety of natural and manmade obstacles. Reserve Sailors and Marines play a significant role in the continued success of interoperability missions. In mid-September 2015, scores of Reserve Sailors from Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 2 Buffalo, New York, and Navy Operational Support Center, Buffalo, New York, teamed with U.S. Marines from Charlie Company 1st Battalion, 25th Marines, and Canadian soldiers from the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry Unit based around Hamilton, in Ontario, Canada, to accomplish just that. Over a three-day training cycle, more than 180 Reserve Sailors, Marines and allied soldiers conducted arduous joint interoperability training as part of exercise Lake Effect, where they collaborated to conduct an amphibious landing on the shores of Evangola State Park near Buffalo.

The exercise was designed to test both their metal and mental capabilities, as Sailors and Marines worked to perfect the tactics, techniques and procedures of systems, communications, and doctrine within the exercise battle space. According to ACU-2 Boatswains Mate Petty Officer Second Class (SW) Jesper Doly, this exercise gave Reserve Sailors a chance to train for realworld situations that require well-coordinated logistics, shared communications and an understanding about the challenges



sea and land warriors face. "To me, it's all about readiness and transforming our mantra 'Ready Then, Ready Now, Ready Always' into operational reality through challenging training opportunities just like this."

Making significant contributions through continuous training added to mission success. NOSC Buffalo Sailors operated Maritime Prepositioning Force Utility Boats to transport Marines and Canadian Light Infantry to the landing site where they deployed troops from the well deck to conduct a patrolling exercise. In addition, NOSC ACU Sailors and Full-Time Support personnel spent weeks planning, preparing the craft for the exercise, and conducting practice operations to execute navigation transit and troop loading onboard the vessels. The pre-training efforts paid off with the Navy being able to transport and offload Marines and Soldiers with-in the 45-minute insertion window, and at speeds of up to 35 knots. The operation dubbed "Lake Effect" was a resounding success and was the first time that the Navy has landed Marines in an amphibious environment in over 10 years on the Great Lakes.

The Navy's contribution to this interoperability exercise was refined over several months with Marines, Canadian Soldiers, and NOSC Buffalo and ACU Sailors. For example, they worked hand- in-hand with the Marines to identify a beach, survey it, plan the route and ensure that all contingencies were planned



out and accounted for. In addition, Chief Boatswain Mate (SW/AW) Michael Clementz, leading chief petty officer NOSC Boat Department and Chief Boatswain Mate Bob Barzycki from ACU-2 helped to train junior Sailors on the tactics of a beach survey and an amphibious operation. Both Doly and Engineman 2nd Class (SW) Tenecia Johnson, recent transfers to NOSC Buffalo, were gaining their first ever experiences in amphibious operations. Other members of the NOSC Staff, all small craft designated,

were helping to crew the vessels and gain experience as well. Among them was Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Adrienne Berndt, a first term Sailor, who gained some of her first seagoing experience from operating these vessels.

According to NOSC Buffalo

Commanding Officer Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Griffin, "The purpose of this joint exercise, was to support the return of the Marines to their amphibious roots, as well as expand on the experience and training for the ACU in Buffalo." The NOSC crews also benefited from the experience by augmenting the ACU and gaining valuable fleet experience that they will be able to take to their follow-on

commands. Griffin expressed how proud he was of the of the work and commitment to mission success by his ACU Sailors commenting that, "The work of the Navy/Marine Corps team and our NATO partners from Canada have proven once again that our Navy and Marine Corps Reserve, as well as our Reserve brethren from Canada, are capable of bringing the fight to our enemies across the globe anytime, anywhere."

The operations were a success, because of the superb

maintenance of the craft from the NOSC-ACU team.
Led by Engineman 1st Class (SW) Francis Londono, the maintenance team of Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW)
Christopher Hawes and
Engineman 1st Class Han Moe ensured that the craft were in top condition for the mission

The work of the Navy/Marine Corps team and our NATO partners from Canada have proven once again that...[they] are capable of bringing the fight to our enemies across the globe anytime, anywhere."

and even corrected some last-minute concerns prior to launch.

The overall team effort by Reserve Sailors ensured that the Navy Marine Corps mission was an overall success, and that it demonstrated that Reserve Sailors are once again fully capable of any mission that an active component command would need.

Ready Then, Ready Now, Ready Always! O

# Sailors and Marines Simulate Mass Casualty Response

By Capt. Carl Bergren, 4th Medical Battalion

he sun was already blistering hot at 9 o'clock in the morning as the Sailors and Marines of the 4th Medical Battalion conducted a mass casualty exercise at 29 Palms Marine Air Ground Combat Center (MAGCC) as part of the 4-15 Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) live fire exercise. Chief Hospital Corpsman Adam Kinney, exercise senior enlisted leader, watched as the Marines and Sailors expertly unloaded the ambulances with the "IED victims."

"What's amazing is that we have brought together Sailors and Marines from all over the country and formed a team capable of taking care of the wounded," Kinney commented.

The 4th Medical Battalion participated in the 4-15 ITX staged by the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) 25 at 29 Palms MAGCC. The exercise involved elements from the infantry, tanks, artillery and air combat forces of the Marine Reserve Forces in live fire maneuvers over the two-week time frame. The 4th Medical Battalion, working under Combat Logistics Battalion-23, provided logistics and medical support for the exercise as well as conducted training exercises for members of the 4th Medical Battalion like the mass casualty drill.

The 4th Medical Battalion main role was to establish and maintain a Shock Trauma Platoon-Forward Resuscitation Surgical System (STP-FRSS) in the field for training and medical support. The STP is like an emergency room used for the initial evaluation and treatment of casualties in the field. The FRSS is the pre-op/post-op area with an attached operating room.

The STP-FRSS was established in field conditions similar to Afghanistan to support live fire ranges during the first week of the exercise and was staffed by more than 170 Navy Reserve doctors, nurses, corpsmen and other Marine Reserve support personnel.

After the first week, the 4th Medical Battalion packed up the equipment and redeployed to a Forward Operating Base (FOB), like those in Iraq, complete with sand, wind and over 115 degree temperatures.

The 4th Medical Battalion trained to provide initial triage and resuscitation of the combat injured at the STP and to provide resuscitative surgical care in the FRSS unit. The STP-FRSS is a highly mobile, self-sustaining surgical unit capable of providing up to 18 operations over a 72-hour time frame without resupply. The types of operations the unit can perform in real world combat situations include surgeries for abdominal injuries, fracture management and control of bleeding.

The STP-FRSS was first developed around 2003 to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and currently has several sections within the unit. During an exercise, a patient collection point is located outside the tents and used for sorting patients by level of severity of injury. Critically injured patients needing surgery are directed toward the pre-op/post-op holding tent to prepare for the operating room. Other critical patients are sent to the STP tent where resuscitation procedures involving airway control, IV therapy and blood can be given. After the patient is stabilized, transfer for a higher level of care can be arranged usually by air depending on the tactical situation. Other less urgent patients can be monitored for up to 24 hours prior to being transferred or returned to duty. This concept allows for immediate surgical care to be on point in the battlefield where and when it is needed."

The 4th Medical Battalion is composed of Navy doctors from multiple specialties including primary care, emergency medicine, anesthesia and surgery. Navy nurses trained in critical care, anesthesia and critical care transport are also assigned to the unit. The majority of medical support is provided by corpsmen, many who have recent deployment experience. Marines assigned to the unit provide transportation support, security, utility support with electrical and water testing, and manpower personnel for casualty movement.

During the exercise, the unit trained with several mass casualty drills to train the members of the team and test the system. The

unit also had the opportunity to actually manage a real world mass casualty incident while in the field.

During a live fire combat exercise in triple digit temperatures, 20 Marines suffered heat related

injuries including dehydration, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Casualties arrived over a period of one hour and were quickly and efficiently treated with IV fluids and cooling packs. The STP-FRSS was also able to provide ground medevac transfers via ambulance to the Robert Bush Naval Hospital at Mainside 29 Palms MAGCC for further treatment and monitoring.

Other training provided during the exercise included a Trauma Casualty Care course for Sailors, Fleet Marine Force certification for Navy officers and enlisted, and Medical Regulating course and a Preventive Medicine course for enlisted Sailors.

This exercise was the first exposure to the STP-FRSS model for many of the members. Lance Cpl. Bryan Martin, on his first AT with the 4th Medical Battalion stated that this was a "great training experience" for him. Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Carlos Benares from San Diego, also stated that the training "really reinforced the knowledge and training I received from the classroom." Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Mark Harris,

> also from San Diego, echoed those sentiments when he said, "this was the first time I had experienced a mass casualty exercise of this magnitude."

Brig. Gen. Patrick Hermesmann, commanding officer, 4th Marine Logistic

Group, visited the STP-FRSS during an air evacuation exercise using the V-22 Osprey from the Air Combat Element at Miramar, California. He was impressed with the co-ordination and the way the unit was "training like we fight."

Capt. David Arzouman, commanding officer, 4th Medical Battalion, was also pleased with both the performance of the unit as well as the training provided. "In the future, I see the 4th Medical Battalion mobilizing as a unit to provide this kind of medical support in the field." O



"What's amazing is that we

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By Lt. Ken Hagihara, NR U.S. 3rd Fleet Headquarters **Public Affairs** 

or two weeks in July, the world's second largest joint international maritime exercise played out in the seas north of Australia. Led by U.S. Pacific Command and the Australian Defence Force, Talisman Sabre 2015 (TS15) brought military assets from Australia and United States together to conduct various types of training at sea, ashore and in the air off the Australian coast and in the United States 7th and 3rd Fleet areas of responsibility.

More than 33,000 personnel from the U.S. and Australia, 21 ships, three submarines and 200 aircraft participated in TS15, the sixth iteration of the biennial exercise which has been conducted since 2005. The exercise included participation by the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, and the Royal Australian Navy, Australian Army, and Royal Australian Air Force, as well as other government agencies from each country.

The purpose of Talisman Sabre is to



during TS15. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jesse L. Gonzalez)

improve Australian-U.S. readiness for a wide variety of contingencies, strengthen interoperability, maximize combined training opportunities, and conduct maritime prepositioning and logistics operations in the maritime and littoral training areas of Australia, Talisman Sabre also demonstrates the resolve of the U.S. to support security operations with a key ally.

TS15 was conducted from multiple

locations in both the U.S. and Australia. U.S. locations included Joint Base Pearl

"It is great to watch our Reserve Sailors fully integrated with the 3rd Fleet staff leading the major elements of this exercise."

> Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii; San Diego, California; Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington; Norfolk, Virginia; Suffolk,

Virginia; and the island of Guam. Locations in Australia included Darwin,

> Rockhampton, Amberley, Canberra, Enoggera, Fog Bay, the maritime areas of the Coral Sea, and Australian ranges including the Bradshaw, Shoalwater Bay, and Townsville field training areas.

TS15 was a single-period exercise that included overlapping and integrated Field Training Exercise (FTX) and Command

# TALISMAN SABRE

Post Exercise (CPX) phases and live-fire events. Combined Joint Live, Virtual, and Constructive (JLVC) forces were used to enhance the FTX and CPX training.

Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet staff managed a combined force of geographically dispersed Australian and U.S. ships, demonstrating the fleet's ability to manage multinational assets from 3rd Fleet Headquarters in San Diego, which added to the realistic, relevant training that is necessary for an effective global Navy.

"Talisman Sabre 2015 provided a great opportunity for our Third Fleet team to work together with the Royal Australian Navy to train in a high-end, mid-intensity warfighting scenario to improve joint combat training, readiness and interoperability," explained Vice Adm. Kenneth Floyd, Commander U.S. 3rd Fleet. "This exercise improves both nations' abilities to work together

bilaterally, preparing U.S. and Australian service members to work together to provide security in the region and around the world."

Third Fleet served as Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC)

for the exercise. In the joint task force construct, CFMCC is one of four functional components: Combined Forces Maritime Component Commander, Combined Forces Air Component Commander, Combined Forces Land Component Commander, and Combined Forces Special Operations Component Commander.

Third Fleet Reserve Sailors from a wide variety of designators and ratings played major roles throughout all phases of TS15. Of the 438 personnel supporting the 3rd Fleet CFMCC mission during the exercise, 180 were Reserve Sailors.

"Our Reserve officers and enlisted Sailors played a critical role in Talisman

▶ Military members from the U.S. Navy and the Royal Australian Navy discuss operations and planning. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jesse L. Gonzalez)

Sabre 2015," said Floyd. "Not only are they a critical force multiplier that supplemented our active component throughout the planning and execution of the exercise, but many of them have had the benefit of participating in multiple Talisman Sabre exercises over the years. The Reservists brought to the exercise continuity, lessons learned and best practices from previous exercises that contributed immeasurably to the success of Talisman Sabre 2015."

Cmdr. Richard Meyer, Commanding Officer, U.S. 3rd Fleet Headquarters Reserve unit, served as a member of the Maritime Assessments Group (MAG) for TS15. The role of the MAG was to assess the effectiveness of the maritime campaign and the performance of maritime forces, and provide the maritime component commander with the information necessary to redirect the plan, as required, to achieve the commander's

"Our Reserve

officers and enlisted

Sailors played

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Talisman Sabre

2015"

objectives.

"Talisman Saber
2015 presents a
challenging Joint
operations scenario
that demands
Operational Level
of War (OLW)
expertise be leveraged
across the Joint
and component

commander staffs to address the battle problem," Meyer explained. "The reservists often have a more durable footprint than the active component staff, giving them the benefit of being able to bring multiple years of OLW lessons learned from past exercises to help plan and execute the concept of operations. It is great to watch our Reserve Sailors fully integrated with the 3rd Fleet staff leading the major elements of this exercise."

Meyer discussed how the experience from his civilian career brought value to CFMCC in his role in TS15. "Maritime Assessments is all about defining and monitoring the right measures to





determine if the maritime force is on or off plan and making course corrections, if necessary, to achieve objectives," he explained. "This is very similar to monitoring business performance. As a former management consultant and now as a VP of Engineering, I have developed metrics to monitor the performance of business objectives. The process of defining the right measures to help assess both if we are 'doing the right things' and 'doing things right' in industry is similar to the process that is used by the Maritime Assessments Group. I leveraged this experience, in addition to the doctrinal information from Joint publications, in helping to drive the measures that we identified."

Cmdr. Karim Rasul, Deputy N1 for the







3rd Fleet Reserve Joint Force Maritime Component Commander (JFMCC) unit served as Current Operations (COPS) during TS15. "My role was to monitor and assess ongoing operations, make sure we were executing the Commander's intent, and oversee and provide quality control during operations for the implementation and coordination of 3rd Fleet orders."

As a Reserve Sailor, Rasul's role in maintaining and updating the current operations picture and providing situational reports to higher headquarters was enhanced by the experience he brought from his civilian career. "Because I work in the SPAWAR program office, I am familiar with most of the platforms utilized in TS15," he explained. "Understanding their capabilities and

limitations greatly enhances the knowledge base needed for actionable planning purposes."

The fleet intelligence watch during TS15 was a real-time operations and intelligence fusion cell which collected and analyzed current operational intelligence and provided direct input to operations and the battle watch for decision makers. LT Kenneth Schaffer, 3rd Fleet Headquarters Reserve deputy security manager, served as a fleet intelligence watch officer during TS15. "Reservists often have a more broad-based experience, and more varied skill sets, that allow us to bring a new perspective to our jobs in the Navy," he explained. "As a special agent for Homeland Security Investigations, I have a special understanding of customs and

international law. This has been helpful in assessing and providing input for actions during TS15."

One of the ways that Reserve Sailors often bring value to the active component during exercises and other training or real-world activities is by bringing new perspectives to existing processes and procedures. "Sometimes in the Navy there can be blinders on how to do things because 'we have always done it that way," said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Davenport, 3rd Fleet Reserve JFMCC unit, who served at the CFMCC Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) anchor watch desk during TS15. "Bringing fresh viewpoints and eyes from the outside can help identify issues or find new solutions that might not have been considered otherwise." O

# "Launch the ScanEagle"

Naval Special Warfare Provides New Reserve Support Opportunities

By Cmdr. Cheol Kang, Naval Special Warfare Group 11 Public Affairs



hat was the order of the U.S. Navy ship's captain to his crew in the Hollywood movie "Captain Phillips" about the 2009 Navy standoff with Somali pirates involving the life of an American merchant marine captain which hung in the balance.

This portrayal of actual events reflects one of the greatest needs of any military commander - to understand the evolving battlespace. Real-time intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) provided by the Navy's ScanEagle is one solution to the ever-increasing demand

Produced by Insitu, a subsidiary of Boeing, ScanEagle is one of the Navy's provide the same organic ISR capabilities to SEAL Teams as the active duty detachments employed by NSW's Special Reconnaissance Teams (SRT) 1 and 2, employing the multi-mission tactical UAS ScanEagle. Originally developed for fishing vessels to track fish migration, the Navy has since developed the platform for combat use resulting in more fleet interoperability opportunities, expanded Navy surface ship capabilities and operational commanders having greater situation awareness on the battlefield.

Technological improvements in advanced targeting with the use of electrooptical, infra-red, and signals intelligence payloads enable tactical forces to find and

access to the network," Feldman said.

Cmdr. Dario Calabrese, the UAS program manager for NSWG 11, was recently selected to establish the new UAS Reserve units under the NSWC mission tasking. A Reserve Naval Aviator, Calabrese is excited at the prospect of tapping into the talent pool of the Navy Reserve for this new program.

"Our Reserve Sailors not only bring expertise from their Navy jobs; they also have valuable skills from further education and professional civilian training. We are definitely considering all these factors when recruiting personnel. This makes for a multi-faceted warrior who will drive the future success of the Reserves and,

66 Our Reserve Sailors not only bring expertise from their Navy jobs; they also have valuable skills from further education and professional civilian training... This makes for a multi-faceted warrior who will drive the future success of the Reserves and, ultimately, the broader Navy mission. 77

premiere, forward-operated ISR platforms, both on and off shore. The 10-foot wide, 50-pound unmanned aircraft system (UAS) does not require a runway for launch and recovery. It is piloted remotely and can be employed in a variety of different environments and operational settings. ScanEagle's low cost, versatility and capabilities make it a valuable asset, especially for the Navy's maritime special operations force.

Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command (NSWC) recently ordered the creation of a Reserve component UAS program under Naval Special Warfare Group 11. With greater ISR capacity, SEAL operators down range offer fleet and geographic combatant commanders a wider range of options, and deliver greater tactical, operational and strategic impacts on the battle field.

Assigned to Reserve SEAL Teams 17 and 18 in San Diego, California, and Little Creek, Virginia, the NR units will recruit, man, equip and train personnel to deploy in support of NSW. They will

track the enemy. ScanEagle also gives operators down range greater flexibility in not having to request support from somewhere else.

A ScanEagle detachment will consist of an officer in charge (typically with an aviation background, 0-3/0-4); six UAS operators (including a senior enlisted advisor E-7/E-8, and five E-5/E-6); and an intelligence support section of two cryptologic technicians, two intelligence specialists, and one information technology specialist (E-5 to E-7).

Lt. Ben Feldman, who recently returned from deployment as a ScanEagle mission commander with SRT-2, has taken his tactical experience from active duty to the Navy Reserve where he serves as the first ST-18 UAS officer in charge.

"The ScanEagle was truly a combat multiplier, and our organic capability to the customer allowed us to provide constant access to enemy locations without being seen or heard. The quality of video ScanEagle produced can be distributed to anyone, anywhere with

ultimately, the broader Navy mission," Calabrese said.

New recruits can expect to attend the Advanced Training Center's eight-week ScanEagle course in San Diego, California, followed by Green Skills combat training and other schools prior to becoming fully "mission qualified."

The majority of ScanEagle training occurs prior to mobilization. "We will deploy fully-trained, fully-qualified Sailors to provide seamless integration with our active duty counterparts," Calabrese said.

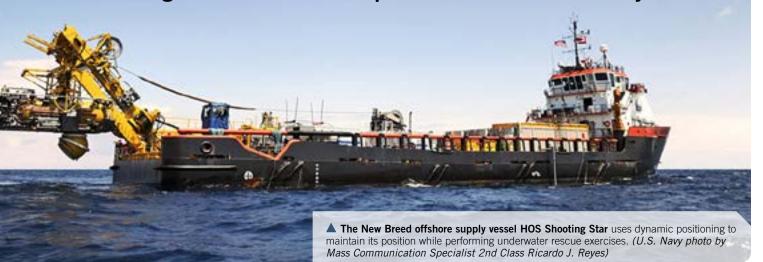
For the Reserve Sailor, the NSW UAS program provides an invaluable opportunity to get involved in a field of emerging technology in an early stage. The establishment of a Reserve UAS unit is a unique opportunity to start a career, or even change an existing career, based on the qualifications received in this program.

If you are motivated to support NSW's Reserve UAS and want to test your physical and mental acuity in this new and growing program, email the NSWG 11 UAS recruiting team at reserveuas@ navsoc.socom.mil. O



# **Undersea Rescue Command**

# Delivering the World's Most Capable Submarine Rescue System



By Lt. Cmdr. Erick Johnson, NR Undersea Rescue Command

ndersea Rescue Command (URC), previously known as Deep Submergence Unit (DSU), is tasked with providing the only submarine rescue capability within the U.S. Navy and provides its services to the world while touting a 72-hours time to first rescue (TTFR) worldwide. To maintain a rescue ready force, with multiple organizations working hand in hand, while delivering the world's most capable submarine rescue system is an daunting task.

URC consists of an active and Reserve Navy Component, as well as civilian contractor, Phoenix International. These three organizations work closely together in order to execute the submarine rescue mission. This unique mix was put to the test over the last three years working together to recover a Pressurized Rescue Module (PRM) and return her to full capability.

On February 14, 2012, URC encountered a significant setback when a mechanical failure in the Launch and Recovery System (LARS) caused the PRM to drop unexpectedly atop the support structure. No personnel were injured, but it was clear the PRM could suffer significant damage. This incident would result in more than just a minor fix of some pipes and fresh paint to return the PRM to sea duty.

Over the next few months the PRM was stripped down to just a pressure vessel, which looked like a large yellow tank, to await pressure testing to recertify her 2000 ft. depth capability. Phoenix International took charge of this effort and expertly disassembled the many supporting systems of the PRM. In a sense, the PRM had to be rebuilt from the ground up and recertified by Naval Sea Systems Command for continued operation. This was no small task given the austere operating requirements of submarine rescue, and knowing all the while the clock was ticking as rescue capability was hindered until the PRM could be fully restored.

Phoenix not only took to rebuilding the PRM, but they also

set out to redesign and fix the failed mechanism by building in redundant points of contact to ensure a similar incident would never occur again. Phoenix took full ownership of the repair work as if they themselves would be diving the PRM and rescuing their fellow shipmates from the ocean floor. For the most part that would be true given that Phoenix is largely made up of prior Navy submariners and Sailors who are familiar with submarines. While the daunting effort went around the clock, and despite intense pressure to return the PRM to service, Phoenix International maintained their attitude of safety and dedicated quality craftsmanship so that the mission of rescuing submariners would never be compromised.

While the repair work on the PRM was undertaken by Phoenix, Navy Sailors were faced with their own challenges. As the scheduled repairs and testing for the PRM began to shift to the right, the active component started to undergo personnel changes as projected rotation dates expired. This exodus of qualified, experienced personnel posed a major hurdle to returning the PRM to duty. The active and Reserve components wasted no time while the PRM repairs were conducted pushing through a rigorous training program using technical manuals and drawings to train new personnel on how to operate the PRM.

The focus on maintaining and developing proficiency in Sailors, many of whom had never even seen the PRM, let alone witness first hand a dive to 2000 ft., proved to be difficult. The operational experience was at risk of being lost. Fortunately, the Reserve Component of URC acted as a keeper of operational knowledge with some Sailors who had taken part in the first PRM certification. A uniquely Reserve attribute, some Sailors had been with URC for 8+ years and were highly experienced in operating the PRM. This knowledge base was never lost during the three years it took to get the PRM back to mission status, and proved to be valuable in training active component watch standers during

recertification efforts.

Over the past three years active and Reserve Sailors, and Phoenix, worked tirelessly to ensure that the PRM was returned to service, and safe to operate in the severe conditions that accompany submarine rescue.

The culmination of these efforts was tested on July 17th and 18th when a combined crew of Phoenix, active and Reserve Sailors underwent an extensive Operational Readiness Exam (ORE) off the cost of Catalina Island, California. The exam was conducted by Squadron 11 and overseen by the Commodore, whose presence highlighted the importance of this recertification

to the submarine force. As the rest of the submarine force waited for word that the PRM was rescue ready, the watch teams were being put through the paces by testing their knowledge of the systems and operational procedures. Their efforts and ability to work together through

adverse conditions spanning three years were rewarded with a passing grade for the ORE, and marked the return of the PRM to operational duty. The Submarine Force once again has fully capable deep-water rescue ready assets available for the call when needed.

Over two years, three organizations, over 100 personnel, and one PRM represent a large investment by any standard, to ensure that we maintain our submarine rescue capability. Submariners worldwide can breathe a sigh of relief knowing that once again URC stands ready to pull them from the depth should some unthinkable accident occur. The efforts that went into the PRM

truly exemplified the Navy core values of "Honor, Courage, and Commitment!"

"Working with active component, Reserve component and civilian contractors has been incredibly rewarding. We collaborated, integrated, and achieved; illustrating the depth of operational capability that Reserve Sailors bring to our Navy team," said Senior Chief Navy Diver Jeffery Powers, a PRM plankowner.

"Undersea Rescue Command has a long standing history of highly motivated Reserve Sailors representing several ratings including; ND, HM, ET, BM, IT, LS, YN – they all bring a level of

commitment that truly communicates our Reserve Force Vision. We leverage civilian skills sets to force multiply our capabilities. We have Sailors who work as firefighter paramedics, trained in confined space rescue. We have corpsmen who work as Hyperbarics nurses and technicians in the

civilian sector. And we have divers who maintained exceptional knowledge, skills and abilities while working as contractors. All these skills add to our Navy's excellence," said Senior Enlisted Leader Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman David Danielson.

According to Cmdr. Mark Harrison, commanding officer, URC, "Undersea Rescue Command Sailors truly personified the ideals of professionalism, resolve and esprit de corps in their efforts to restore this vital rescue system. While the equipment is important to the Navy and exciting for the crew to operate, it is the members of URC that make this an outstanding command to be associated with."



We collaborated, integrated,

and achieved; illustrating the

depth of operational capability

that Reserve Sailors bring to

our Navy Team.

# It's about being there for every Sailor, every day.

# **Every Sailor, Every Day**

# **Navy Reserve Suicide Prevention**

September is Suicide Prevention Month where our Navy will kick-off efforts to remind us about the types of resources available to its service members. This year's campaign theme is "1 SMALL ACT" which encourages simple actions that Shipmates can do to save a life. These resources are accessible to all Sailors, family members and friends to help understand the warning signs of suicide, and allow for early intervention.

"1 SMALL ACT" is based on the ASK-CARE-TREAT model that ties into the Navy Reserve's crusade to establish a broader collaborative communication link between Reserve Sailors and their units. Suicide and suicide-related behaviors are often a battle between hopelessness and hope. Although complex, these actions are PREVENTABLE. The Navy Reserve continues to offer support that includes:

- **↓** Suicide Prevention Coordinators
- **‡** Chaplains

- Fleet and Family Services
- <sup>♣</sup> Psychological Health Promotion Programs

# Psychological Health Promotion Programs (PHOP)

The Navy Reserve PHOP is a program that Reserve Sailors have access to, to appropriate psychological health care services. PHOP was established to increase Sailor resiliency, and facilitate recovery. It is staffed by licensed mental health clinicians that maintain 24/7 phone, email, and on-call service to Navy Reserve Sailors and their families. PHOP teams are embedded throughout the Reserve

#### Command Consultation:

PHOP partners with leadership to facilitate individual and unit wellness/readiness.

### **↓** Psychological Educational Briefings:

PHOP team members provide briefings to Reserve Sailors and family members during Drill Weekends, Deployment Readiness Trainings, Post Deployment events and Medical Stand Downs.

# **↓** Behavioral Health Screenings:

As licensed mental health professionals, PHOP staff conduct comprehensive screening to assess the overall psychological well-being of clients.

### **Description** Partnering, Collaborating and Coordinating:

- PHOP teams partner and coordinate with other Military Support Providers whenever possible. They also assist commands with leveraging local civilian support
- PHOP does not provide mental health diagnosis and treatment. The teams work closely with Medical Reps, Case Managers, CIACs and Ombudsmen.

# **↓** Client Care Management:

- All referrals to PHOP are contacted within 24-48 hours depending on the severity of the clients identified issue. Care management continues for the Sailor and family members' service needs throughout the life of the case.
- Clients who are assessed to be a threat to themselves or others are referred to the appropriate emergency services for immediate aid.

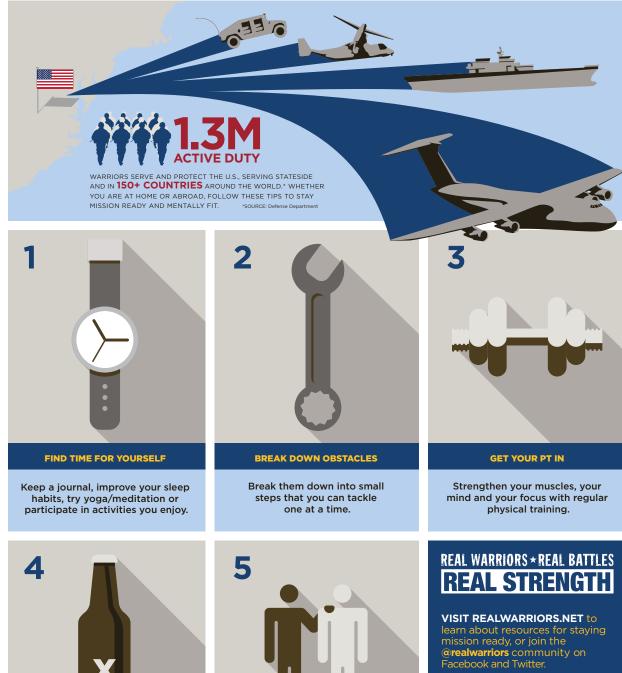
### TRESOURCE and Referral Services:

- PHOP teams vet and maintain a list of current resource providers to ensure quality and appropriateness, and meet client needs.
- Demobilization / PDHRA Outreach:

PHOP teams provide outreach calls to three groups of demobilized Reserve Sailors:

- \* Recently demobilized
- ★ Demobilized in any war
- ★ PDHRA referrals for psychological health concerns

# TIPS TO STAY MISSION READY





# **AVOID ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE MISUSE**

Avoiding substance misuse makes it easier to manage stress, sleep, relationships and responsibilities.

### **IDENTIFY PEOPLE YOU CAN TURN TO**

Identify a friend, family member, chaplain or health professional you can talk with.

# **NEED TO TALK? Contact the** DCoE Outreach Center for free

- 24/7, confidential support: • 866-966-1020
- realwarriors.net/livechatresources@dcoeoutreach.org

Trained health resource consultants are ready to listen, wounds, and direct you to resources in your area.

REALSTRENGTH.REALWARRIORS.NET

FACEBOOK.COM/REALWARRIORS

TWITTER.COM/REALWARRIORS

# y Jest Orb

# **Jacqueline** Johnson

**Navy Region Southwest Reserve Component Command San Diego** Executive Assistant. **Drug Program Coordinator** 

Jacqueline Johnson has been providing administrative support to Navy Region Southwest Reserve Component Command San Diego for over eight years of her 40 years in civil service. She is best known for being proactive and anticipating upcoming conflicts despite a hectic schedule. A dedicated and exceptional team player, she continues to contribute to the command MWR and Diversity programs. In addition to her duties at RCC San Diego, Johnson volunteers at the Returning Warrior Workshop as a facilitator, Rock Church "Toys for Joy" and community cleanup events, Loma Portal "Everyone-A-Reader" tutor program, and the Rose Parade "Donate Life" float decorating.



"I feel passionate about my job - partly because I am valued. I feel connected to a staff that supports the command's mission in providing mobilization readiness, operational support and training to over 10,500 Sailors."

# Faces of the Force



# **Reserve Component Command Great Lakes**

Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Yamilka Rosario Rivera. LS2 Rivera serves in two units simultaneously. She is the career counselor for 76 Sailors as a member of NOSC Cincinnati's Operational Support Unit, and she is also cross-assigned to Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 202. Rosario was recently awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for her duties as career counselor and assistant command fitness leader. She has spent 4 years on active duty, which included one Mediterranean cruise and one Gulf cruise on the USS Harry S Truman (CVN 75) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



# **Reserve Component Command San Diego**

Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Lang. IT3 Lang played a significant role assisting ships in adhering to data remnants policies and procedures by decomposing and destroying 65 classified and unclassified hard drives. He deconstructed and disintegrated 40 classified data tapes which led to more than 80 man hours of support. While serving as Fleet Material Readiness and Assessment Report Petty Officer onboard the USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG 60), USS Sampson (DDG 102), and USS Champion (MCM 4), IT3 Lang compiled operational reporting data and summarized a total of 207 material readiness discrepancies.



# **Reserve Component Command San Diego**

Information Systems Technician Seaman Martinez. ITSN Martinez installed 14 Nonsecure Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRnet) and Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRnet) workstations and six printers; ensuring senior leadership was outfitted for NIPR/SIPR connectivity. Additionally, she processed 65 Navy messages, troubleshot 320 NMCI trouble calls, inventoried 400 line items, and initiated 20 Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) accounts.



# **Reserve Component Command Jacksonville**

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Stephanie Rossman. MA2 Rossman received the 2014 American Red Cross Hero Award for her commitment and dedication to community and volunteer service. While attached to Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Bessemer, Rossman's initiative, drive and expert coordination also led her to be recognized as the NOSC's Sailor of the Quarter for 1st Quarter FY-14.



### **Reserve Component Command Norfolk**

Personnel Specialist 1st Class Shana Michaud. PS1 Michaud is currently serving as the Command LPO and Command Career Counselor for Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Wilmington. Michaud was hand selected by Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command to travel to Great Lakes to write the new NOSC Staff PQS (NAVEDTRA 43075). She serves as a Manpower and Command Career Counselor (CCC) Region Mid-Atlantic Mentor, and recently received the MOVSM for outstanding volunteer efforts.



### **Reserve Component Command Fort Worth**

Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (AW) Justin Litchtenthal. LS2 was named Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Tulsa's Sailor of the Quarter for the 3rd Quarter FY-14. His motivation and enthusiasm accomplished the arrangement of berthing and meals for more than 180 Reserve Sailors. Additionally, he was responsible for the purchase of more than \$10,000 worth of supplies for NOSC Tulsa.

# Navy Reserve Force Phone Directory





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**COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR FORCE RESERVE** (619) 767-7379

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