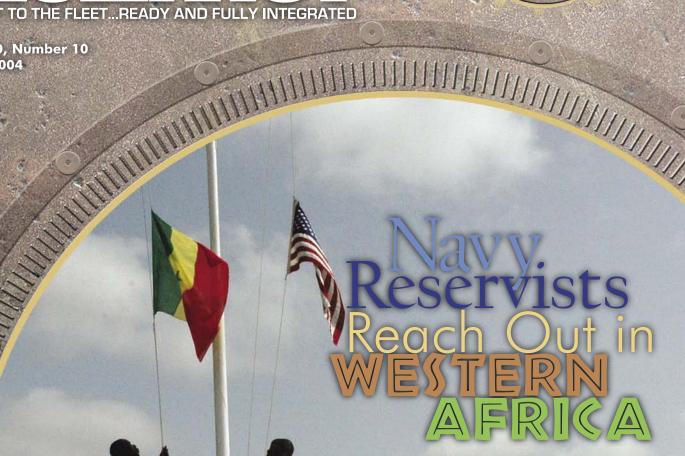
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SUPPORT TO THE FLEET...READY AND FULLY INTEGRATED

Volume 30, Number 10 October 2004



# A Reservist's Life



Naval Station Norfolk - Sept. 11, 2004

SK2 Mike Calton embraces his wife, Gayle, upon his return from deployment with Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force Forward (NAVELSF) Group Alpha.

It took three Navy C-40 aircraft to carry more than 200 members of the NAVELSF ALPHA home, marking the end of an eight-month deployment to Iraq and Kuwait. The Reservists, who were mobilized in support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*, departed Jan. 5 and had the distinction of being the Navy's most forward deployed unit force.

# Features

Commander's View
Sailors Matter
Opportunities



# West African Training Cruise (WATC)

Senegal, West Africa, was the location of Naval Forces Europe humanitarian aid exercise, which allowed exchange of information between United States and Senegalese medical professionals.

# VP-64 Becomes VR-64

Squadron changes missions and roles in support of the Global War on Terrorism as they transition to a fleet logistic support squadron.





# **AIMD**

Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department supports multiple Navy and Marine units at Naval Air Station (JRB) New Orleans.

# On the Cover

CAPT Philip Landrigan of Fleet Hospital Fort Dix, N.J., and officer in charge of WATC 04, salutes during a joint flag raising ceremony. In the background, HM3 David Ross of Uniontown, Pa., and PFC Jacob Ndiaye raise their





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## **NEWS ONLINE**

The Navy Reservist and the Navy Reserve News Service [electronic wire service] current and past issues can be accessed online at <a href="http://navalreserve.navy.mil">http://navalreserve.navy.mil</a> Navy Reserve News Stand, a Web site featuring Navy Reserve news and photos, plus links to Navy Fleet pages, can be viewed at <a href="https://www.news.navy.mil/locallnrf">www.news.navy.mil/locallnrf</a>.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Selected Reservists with address changes need to provide updates to their database diary entry (via their unit commanding officer) to Full Time Support personnel at local Naval Reserve Activities. Individuals who are not Selected Reservists and need to change their address should mail their request, along with a copy of their mailing label, to *The Navy Reservist*.

# Commander's View

mericans everywhere paused last month to remember the horrific events of 9/11, reflecting on the loss of life and especially on those who continue to serve and sacrifice around the globe ensuring a secure tomorrow.

Looking forward to next month, please remember to register to vote and exercise your duty as a citizen to participate in the national election on Nov. 2. Everyone's vote not only counts, it's critical! We live in the world's greatest democracy, and the same freedom to cast your opinion and help shape America is what we are enabling in Iraq and other nations. If you will be traveling or are deployed, please take the time to vote "absentee," either in person or by mail. Command Voting Representatives can help you with the procedures for every state.

In late August, RDML Dave Anderson, Fleet Forces Command N8R, briefed the CNO and OPNAV staff on the process and recommendations of the Reserve Component (RC) Zero Base Review

(ZBR). CNO was very pleased and said that this metrical analysis of every billet and unit will be the model for all aspects of our Human Capital Strategy; active, Reserve, government employees and contractors. Many Reservists (FTS and SELRES) and civilians are asking what it will mean to them. Some are concerned they will lose their job or opportunity to serve. This is certainly not the case. Over the next few years, the Navy will get smaller, more effective and more efficient. While our RC end strength will decrease from 85,900 in FY04 to 83,400 in FY05, a net reduction of 2,500 Sailors, doesn't mean we began cutting billets on Oct. 1, 2004. These reductions have already occurred through attrition (retirement, Sailors who chose not to reenlist and failures from early phases of training) and recruiting adjustments. We will continue to emphasize recruitment of skilled Navy Veterans as well as talented Non Prior Service (NPS) personnel. The ZBR will be a continuous process as we shape the Navy

to meet our national military strategy and global requirements. There will be growth in many mission areas, including homeland defense, security, coastal warfare, anti-terrorism/force protection, combat service support and joint commands. Sailors who meet readiness standards and want to serve and make a difference will continue to find opportunities to add value to our great Navy.

Command sponsorship of new or returning Sailors remains an important aspect of our daily routine. Sponsorship is not just about FTS changing duty stations, but rather, it is about bringing new or returning Sailors onto the team, making them feel welcome from the very start, and helping them get quickly oriented. As we further integrate, sponsorship will be increasingly important, because we will be interacting with AC and RC shipmates, and the performance expectation is high. Family sponsorship is also critical, and every effort must be made to get them connected with both the AC and RC Ombudsmen. Contact with new shipmates and families should be done well in advance of their transfer and arrival to ensure that they are warmly greeted. Making our personnel feel welcome from the start in a new command is a key factor in keeping them Navy for a career. We really do recruit Sailors and retain families!

It's been a very busy month talking on the phone and traveling to meet with our great Sailors. SK2 Galvester Brantley, of NRC Port Hueneme, is aiming to make Master Chief and finish his criminal justice degree. His father served with the Army in Vietnam. At NAS JRB Fort Worth, we were escorted by REDCOM South's MAI Tony Gray, whose favorite memory is duty at the Pentagon and trips with then Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney. His goal is to make Chief and perhaps enter the Limited Duty Officer (LDO) program. We called NRC Watertown, N.Y., and talked with SK2 Natalie Higby, who is engaged to a Soldier, plans on running a marathon and fondly remembers petty officer indoctrination after being selected for advancement to E-4. She is following a family tradition of military service as her father was in the Army and her grandfather in the Navy!

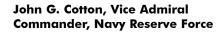
YNI Joshua Dempsey is working on his associate degree in business administration and really likes duty at NMCRC

> Moundsville, W.Va. His mentor is PNC Christopher Keary at HSL-60, and he plans to make making chief. He really enjoyed serving with three Commander, Third Fleet admirals aboard USS Coronado (AGF-11), and participating in exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2000. At NRC Lubbock, Texas, PNI Lou Merpzig is aiming to make chief; he is mentored by PNC Mike Hills. He says he'll never forget the hurricane that went through Newport, R.I., in 1990, and how his crew pulled together during the disaster. YNSN Crystal McManus says her greatest achievement was making it through boot camp one year ago. She really likes serving at NRC Chicago, Ill. with her mentor, YN1 Lisa Kluetz, and she's looking forward to earning her college degree.

> We called NRC Forest Park, Ill. and spoke with the Commanding Officer, CDR Barbara Franklin, who has served in many varied billets and commands. She gives full credit to her many mentors who enabled her to grow

and achieve! Her favorite Navy memory was at the change-of-command ceremony, when her mother said, "you were born to be a leader!" skipper, you are so right...we all want our parents to be proud of who we are and what we do. Also at Forest Park is SKI Gary Hoffman, who recently made a huge impression while on active duty in Naples, Italy. When asked if he was a Reservist, he jumped out of his chair in the workcenter and replied, "I'm in the Navy!" SKI, you are so right...we are all in the Navy. We support the fleet; we stand ready to respond both at home and when forward deployed. And each and every one of us is a recruiter, looking for talented people to join our team.

Thanks for the amazing year of support to the fleet! We averaged over 23,000 Reservists on operational support orders each week; that's over 28 percent of the Reserve force supporting the Combatant Commanders (COCOMs) and Fleet Commanders every day! You are making a difference, and the demand for your valued contribution continues to increase. Keep it up!





# FORCM(AW/NAC) Thomas W. Mobley

ome major uniform changes are immediately upon us while other changes will affect us Oct. 1, 2004. In addition, there are new uniforms being wear tested that will be implemented at a later time. These changes have come about by listening to your likes, dislikes and recommendations through Task Force Uniform.

The new Navy Working Uniform (NWU) will replace the utility, working khaki, coverall (with accoutrements), tropical khaki, tropical utility, winter working blue, aviation green and camouflage (non-tactical environment) uniforms. The NWU will be a year round uniform worn by E-1 through O-10. If your command is interested in participating in wear testing the new NWU, utilize your chain of command and submit the request to me via your echelon IV Command Master Chief.

I want to highlight the significant changes, but all hands need to review NAVADMIN 209/04 carefully for accurate guidance and prescribed manner of wear on all changes.

- Women's Skirts will be an optional uniform component and may no longer be prescribed.
- Only the MCPON, Fleet Master Chief, Force Master Chief, CNO-Directed CMDCM, Command Master Chief, and Chief of the Boat, NECs 9580/9579 are authorized wear the Command Senior Enlisted Badges.

The following changes are effective immediately:

- Civilian computer bags, brief cases, backpacks, garment bags, etc. (excluding women's handbags and purses) may be worn with working and service uniforms. Review NAVADMIN 209/04 for prescribed manner of wear.
  - Handbags will be optional uniform components for women and may no longer be prescribed. The NAVADMIN also provides guidance on the dimensions and requirements for purchasing a civilian handbag to be worn in uniform.
  - One official wireless communication device may be worn on the belt, either side of the body and aft of the elbow. Again, review the NAVADMIN for official guidance.
  - Silver breast insignias will have either an anodized (shiny) or oxidized (pewter) finish. Personnel qualified to wear multiple breast insignias are required to wear devices of the same finish.

As you can see these changes are significant and should be adhered to. Wear your uniform with pride and professionalism. Take time to review current uniform regulations and provide periodic training for personnel in your unit and command.



# Thomas W. Mobley, FORCM(AW/NAC) Navy Reserve Force Master Chief



# Item for Item Reservists get the Best Deal

### JO1(SW/AW) Rob Kerns

Commander, Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs

EW ORLEANS—The results of the recent customer service survey are in, and the answers given in the uniform service section were quite surprising.

The survey showed many Reservists between the pay grades of E-1 to E-6 have serious concerns about the ability to maintain a complete sea bag without a uniform allowance.

"I think the main reason we have had such a strong reaction is an overall unawareness of the Navy Reserve's Item for Item Replacement Program," said SKC Kevin Doucette, Reserve forces clothing program manager.

# "With this program, Reservists are able to swap old and worn uniform items for new ones at their Reserve centers."

The Item for Item program works in place of the active duty's uniform allowance program, due to the difficulties in funding a Reserve Clothing Maintenance Allowance (RCMA).

According to comptroller projections, based on how often a Reservist typically wears their uniform, an RCMA would only be 12 to 15 percent of an active clothing maintenance allowance, which comes out to \$50 a year.

"It is not possible to maintain a satisfactory sea bag with \$50 to \$60 per year," said Doucette. "With the Item for Item program the Reservist gets a much better deal."

With the Item for Item program sea bag items are replaced free

of charge to the member. This is a much better benefit to the member, since replacing just a few items can add up to \$100 or more easily.

To replace a complete set of dress blues would cost a Reservist \$112 and boots would cost another \$65.

The Reserve center activity storekeeper can assist members for item replacement.

A Sailor should expect an item ordered during their drill weekend to be available for pick-up the next drill weekend, unless it is one of the few back-ordered items.

Alterations are also provided free of charge to members. The Reserve center storekeeper will usually make arrangements to have an item altered at the time it is picked up by the member.

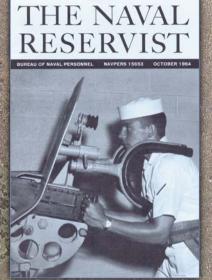
"It is important to remember to let the activity storekeeper make the arrangements for the alterations, since we do not reimburse members for such costs," said Doucette. "One of the reasons we don't offer reimbursement is because using the vendor we have contracted with ensures

the Navy is getting the best price for this service and the vendor is



# a look back 40 years ago...

This issue highlighted a 1964 military pay raise, which affected Navy Reservists on inactive duty in a drill pay status. According to the new pay schedule, an E-7 with 10 years service would earn \$11.10 per drill period, and an O-6 with over 26 years active service pulled in \$37.07.



familiar with the regulations."

The Navy Reserve has its uniforms provided by the Kentucky Logistics Operations Center (KYLOC), the prime vendor for the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia. KYLOC is responsible for receiving, processing, filling, and shipping uniform orders. The average order ships from KYLOC three days after it is placed.

Seventy-eight percent of full sea bag orders ship in three days.

"The relationship we have with KYLOC is great. It's amazing the amount of uniform items we are getting out to the Reserve centers," said Doucette.

Of the over 7,100 items supplied by KYLOC, only 129 are in a back-order status. The Naval Reserve Activity storekeepers have access to the backorder report and can readily tell a member whether an item is currently on back order. A full sea bag order contains 50 line items. Only 22 percent of full sea bag orders go into a backorder status.

"The way we are able to help our Sailors is overwhelming," said Doucette. "It is still the responsibility of the Sailor to make sure his uniforms are up to date. We need to be checking our uniforms regularly and preparing ahead of time for uniform shifts and inspections."



# Opportunities, News & Updates

# **Skilled Technician Opportunities:**

elicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (HM) 14 "Vanguards" are looking for the top performers in the Reserve community to be part of one of the largest and most unique squadrons in the Navy.

The experienced gained with the Vanguards prepares Sailors for success.

Professionals with high standards and solid performance records can expect underway and classroom training, culminating in significant qualifications such as enlisted air warfare, aircrewman, coxswain, among others. These qualifications will increase competitiveness at selection boards and broaden opportunities for post-Navy employment.

The Vanguards fly the MH-53E Sea Dragon. HM-14 is one of two squadrons Navy-wide having integrated an active duty airborne mine countermeasures squadron with its Reserve counterpart, with approximately 705 Active Duty and full time support personnel and 85 Selected Reserve personnel. The Vanguards of HM-14 are capable of rapidly deploying to and operating from any part of the world within 72 hours via Air Force C-5.

HM-14 is based at Naval Air Station Norfolk, Va., and was one of the first squadrons deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Want to have fun while enjoying excellent advancement opportunities and the camaraderie of the best team in the Navy? Give us a call if you're up to the challenge. For details contact our Reserve Component LCPO, AMC(AW) Bolin, at bolinjw@hm14.navy.mil or DSN 565-6716, Comm



# U.S. Navy photo PH2 Bob Houlihan

# Commander Naval Surface Reserve Force was recently awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

The period of service is from July 1, 1997 to July 20, 2002. If you were permanently assigned to Naval Surface Reserve Force during this time you are eligible to wear this ribbon. Eligibility may be established by evidence in service records, such as orders for officers and NAVPERS 1070/605 (Page 5) entries for enlisted personnel. A copy of the Meritorious Unit Commendation citation can be downloaded from the Naval Reserve Forces Command Website under What's New.

The website address is http://reserves.navy.mil.

# **Policy Board Update**

In an on-going effort to make The Commander, Navy Reserve Force Policy Board process more responsive to the Field, the board now meets quarterly to resolve issues much more quickly. Echelon IV commands will convene local policy on an as needed basis to consider all policy items. Echelon IV will forward policy items to COMNAVRESFORCOM via electronic means by calling (540) 678-8583 or DSN 678-8583 or visit the NKO Policy Board website. Refer to COMNAVRESFORINST 5420.5J of May 17, 2004 for further details. Point of contact is YNCS(AW) Bornes.

Here's a sample of what has happened this quarter:

Recommendation from the Field: On-line statements for Government travel card.

<u>Resolution</u>: Bank of America established a website to do this. The address is **www.myeasypayment.com**.

Recommendation from the Field: Eliminate the 60-day reservation restriction for the Navy Lodge. Active Component members can make reservations at the Navy Lodge any time, while Reserve component members may not make reservations more than 60 days in advance.

<u>Resolution</u>: The Navy Exchange Service Command has stopped enforcing the 60-day policy. The governing directive, DoD 1015.11, has been revised and should be released before the end of CY 2004.

Recommendation from the Field: Authorize non-pay drill credit for non-Navy courses that contribute to obtaining NEC's or NORC's

<u>Resolution</u>: This issue was passed to NETC since the Navy's Five Vector Model (5VM) deals with documenting and crediting this type of training. Naval Reservists are intimately involved at the development stage of all the 5VM training tracks.

# War Chiefs

### JO1(SW/AW) Rob Kerns

Chiefs from Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force Camp Patriot had their anchors pinned on and were piped aboard in a time-honored ceremony Sept. 21 at Camp Patriot, Kuwait.

According to NAVELSF Forward Bravo Command Master Chief, UTCM Chuck Merritt, putting together the training and pinning ceremony for chief selects is always a challenge. Doing it from a forward logistics support center in Kuwait made it an even greater challenge.

Being forward deployed means mission first," said Merritt. "Training has been a challenge. The training every chief select needs to receive before his pinning is directed from the Master Chief Petty people have right now. The chief selects showed amazing dedication during their training and initiation period."

The end of the training phase is a ceremony rich in naval heritage where the newly selected chiefs hear a reading of the chief petty officers' creed, have their anchors pinned on, their new covers placed on their heads and are welcomed to their command's chiefs' mess.

"Making chief is the most awesome thing I have ever experienced in my life" said SKC Biobard Duncan terminal supportion. Ash

enced in my life," said SKC Richard Duncan, terminal supervisor, Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait. "Since the ceremony I haven't stopped smiling."

Merritt set the wheels in motion months before deploying to assure the pinning ceremony was true to naval tradition.

We wanted to make sure our new chiefs got all of the same opportunities in their pinning ceremony they would have had if we were home in the states, so I made sure all of our chiefs brought their khaki uniforms with them when we forward deployed."

According to Inshore Boat Unit Leading Chief Petty Officer, ISC Louis Barani, the ceremony was better than any he had ever seen in the states, and he considers himself fortunate to have the honor of being pinned there

The ceremony was simple but elegant," said Barani. "The chiefs'

mess here really outdid themselves to welcome us." NAVELSF Commanding Officer CDR Daniel Pionk wrapped up the ceremony by personally congratulating the new chiefs and passing on, "Officers run the Navy, but chiefs make the Navy run."

Those words and the day's events had a deep impact on those

being pinned.
"I know the work we do here in Kuwait has a direct impact on those fighting on the front lines," said Duncan. "As a chief, I want to continue to do my part to help in the war on terror."



Eleven newly pinned chiefs stand at attention.



# Spirit of Cooperation Joins Congress, Navy and CDF

JO1(SW) Gregory S. Cleghorne NAVAIRES San Diego Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO—Just in time for this year's peak wildfire season, Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (HC) 85 "Golden Gaters" successfully performed an aerial firefighting demonstration Aug. 18 using a Navy UH-3H helicopter, piloted by LCDR Peter Abbott, at Ream Field, Navy Outlying Field, Imperial Beach.

The demonstration marks an historic cooperative effort between the Navy and the California Department of Forestry and Firefighting (CDF). Since last year's destructive wildfires, the worst on record, San Diego's city, state and federal agencies began working to coordinate Southern California's firefighting efforts.

California Congresswoman Susan A. Davis attended the demonstration and said the coordinated effort was a welcome resource for the people of San Diego.

"After the Cedar fires everyone wanted to know and understand how we can fight wildfires better, and I think this is a real demonstration of state and federal agencies working together and making sure people are cross trained," said Davis.

The Golden Gaters spent the last year training with the CDF to assure they are able to communicate with and work alongside their civilian counterparts.

Understanding the language of coordinated civilian firefighters in the air and on the ground is critical in any configuration. The training put pilots and administrators to work in each other's environments.

"When you have a wild fire, the air space is very dynamic, very congested and very dangerous," said CDF Battalion Chief Ray Chaney. "We wanted to make sure the Navy had all the training and protocol prior to entering that air space, so we could have a safe and efficient air operation."

Navy Region Southwest's Commander, RADM Jose Luis Betancourt Jr., was essential in establishing the cooperation needed for the Golden Gaters to be an asset in the California firefighting effort.

"When you have a wild fire, the air space is very dynamic, very congested and very dangerous".



Thanks to this new agreement, state and federal agencies can now join forces in the event of an emergency requiring naval aerial support.

Davis put the new cooperative effort in a larger scope of importance; "I think wildfires are a Homeland Security concern," she said. "Fires are a terrorist's tool as well, and I think we need to be very focused on how we can do a better job in fighting fires. Everyone who can do the job is working together and serving the people; that's what it's all about."

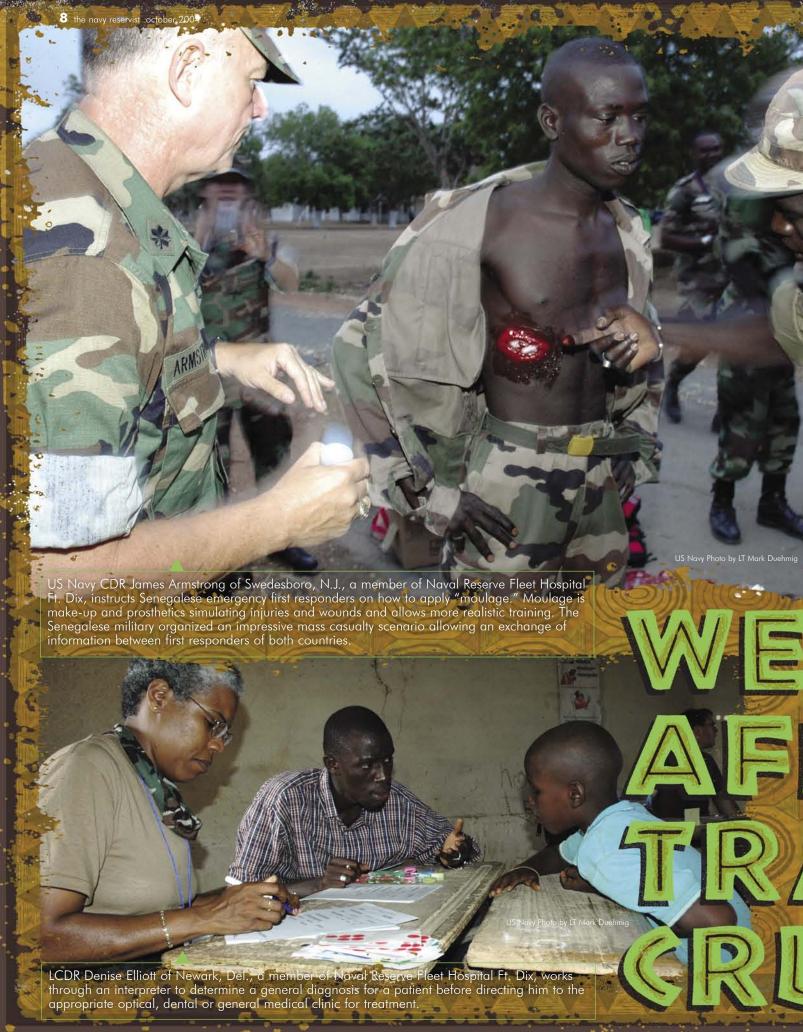
The agreement comes at a time when the region is experiencing the worst drought in hundreds of years, according to a San Diego Union Tribune article (June 30, 2004).

"In drought conditions fire behavior is extreme and very explosive," Chaney said. "Santa Ana weather patterns in September, October and November fan fires and makes them very dangerous. The timing of this training and getting the signatures on this agreement is good.

"Throughout this cross training, I have felt a spirit of cooperation." IM



Graphic by Bryan Bordelon



# Navy Reservists Reach Out in Western Africa

JO2 Joseph R. Holstead NR NAVINFO East 102

–Members of Navy Reserve Hospital Fort Dix and other Navy personnel treated more than 6,000 patients in the West African country of Senegal in July as part of the West African Training Cruise (WATC) 2004 Medical

Outreach Program (MOP).
WATC 2004 MOP, conducted by Commander, U.S. Navy Forces Europe (NAVEUR), as part of NAVEUR's security cooperation program with West Africa, was a three phase operation.

The first was a training phase, followed by a mass casualty scenario event. The final phase consisted of Medical Civilian Assistance Programs (MEDCAPs) in eight different villages.

eight different villages.

During the training phase, medical personnel from the U.S. Navy Reserve and Senegalese military shared their expertise. U.S. Navy members provided information about the latest advances in U.S. medicine and the Senegalese military doctors passed on their medical knowledge, particularly in the area of tropical medi-

"You've just experienced a graduate level course, whole semester, in two hours, "said CAPT (Dr.) Philip Landrigan of Navy Reserve Fleet Hospital Fort Dix and officer in charge of WATC 2004 MOP, summarizing the feeling of U.S. Navy and Senegalese medical personnel who attended a lecture given by Senegalese malaria expert Maj. (Dr.) Lamine Diawara on July 20.

The U.S. Navy training team was led by CDR James Armstrong, a decorated Vietnam Veteran, flight nurse with the University of Pennsylvania Health System in the civilian world, and the exercise's training officer.

"Working and training with the Senegalese improves military to military interoperability and benefits everyone involved," Armstrong said.

U.S. Navy Reserve medical personnel lectured on preventive medicine, women's health, pre-hospital assessment, and Fleet Hospital's role in Operation Desert Storm.



Wis., and member of Naval Reserve Fleet Hospital Great Lakes, extract an infected tooth.

US Navy Photo by LT Mark Duehmig

# RICAN AINING

IIISE

WATC04 is a humanitarian aid exercise conducted by Naval Forces Europe and is designed to allow an exchange of information between United States and Senegalese medical professionals and to foster interoperability between the two country's militaries.



"This has been an outstanding opportunity to share the knowledge I've gained over the years, both in the Navy and as a firefighter," said HM2 John Brophy, pre-hospital training coordinator for the exercise. "The Senegalese have been eager to learn different techniques and apply them," he said.

The training phase culminated in a mass casualty scenario

event (which also marked the second phase of WATC 2004 MOP). The scenario required Senegalese military and first responders to react to an explosion at a weapons depot.

On the morning of July 21, Armstrong, Brophy, and HM1 Tom Novak, all of whom were involved in the pre-hospital training during the first phase, met with approximately 30 Senegalese volunteers applied moulage (simulated injuries) to set the scene.

Senegalese explosives experts further enhanced the realistic atmosphere by setting off staged blasts that filled the air with smoke and left fires burning around the scenario area at the air base in Theis, Senegal.

Senegalese first responders went into action shortly after the explosions as U.S. Navy and Senegalese military personnel observed.

To aid them in prioritizing treatment for the scenario victims, the first responders used internationally recognized colored tags that had been donated to the U.S. Navy for use in Senegal. The differently colored tags indicate the immediacy of treatment needed, breaking down any language barriers the service members may have otherwise encountered. For example, both French and English speaking troops know that a red tag indicates immediate treatment and yellow means delayed.

"The information I've learned here is very important and has given me a new understanding of how to approach trauma," said Senegalese Sergeant Massogui Mbaye.

July 21 also marked the beginning of the MEDCAPS, the third phase of WATC 2004 MOP, in the village of Pout. U.S. Ambassador to Senegal Richard Roth visited the village, along with RADM Jerry West, Deputy Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Reserve Affairs, to meet with their Navy team and the villagers and to mark the occasion.

"I am very impressed with the quality of care provided," West said.

To make the MEDCAPS run smoothly, nurses, working with translators, received the villagers and determined which department they would visit based on the symptoms they described. To allow medical personnel to see the maximum number of people, each patient could visit one department (although parents could take their children to a department different than that which they chose).

Divided among dental, medical, women's health, pharmacy and optometry departments, and with the assistance of Senegalese military

> medical personnel, U.S. Navy supply and administration support, and translators from various organizations, the WATC 2004 MOP team treated 6,189 people at MEDCAPs between July 21 and July 29.

> "It has been a fantastic experience to be able to help those who do not have the same opportunities for medical care as people in the U.S.," said Reservist LCDR (Dr.) Walter Klein. "It is both gratifying and humbling."

> During the MEDCAPS, the dental department extracted 1,246 teeth; the medical department saw 4,266 patients; the pharmacy dispensed drugs to 5,003 patients; and the optometry department gave away 913 pairs of recycled prescription eyeglasses that had been donated by the Lions Club of New Jersey.

2004 marked the third WATC medical outreach. The first took place in Togo and Ghana in 2002. The second was in Ghana in 2003. 2004 continued the upward trend in the WATC MOPs, with WATC 2004 MOP personnel achieving the highest level of patient contacts (patients treated plus pharmacy visits) thus far with 11,192. (The WATC exercise, which did not include Naval vessels this year but has in the past, is itself over 30 years old.)

While the numbers of patients helped is very impressive, the individual successes capture the essence of exercise.

"At the second village [MEDCAP], an old man who needed three people to help him walk because he could not see was escorted into the eye clinic," said Reservist HM3 Dennelle Roberts who worked in the optometry department.

"He could not even sit down without people helping him," Roberts said. "We found a pair of glasses that most closely met his needs, put them on, and his face lit up."



Sailors participating in the annual West African Training Cruise (WATC 04) Medical Outreach Program (MOP) base in Theis.





US Navy Photo by LT Mark Duehmig

# "He walked out of the eye clinic on his own."

CDR Patricia Killea of Chatham, NJ, a member of Naval Reserve Fleet Hospital Ft. Dix, examines a patient visiting the medical clinic. She and her colleagues saw hundreds of patients a day at the eight different Senegalese villages.



# Change of Command, Mission for Condors

## JOCS(SW) Doug Hummel

NAS JRB Willow Grove Public Affairs Office

AVAL AIR STATION JOINT RESERVE BASE WILLOW GROVE, Pa.—Change was the word of the day for members of Patrol Squadron (VP) 64 when they held a change of command ceremony in their hangar Sept. 18.

First, the commanding officer position of the squadron changed hands when CDR Mark R. Greenwood relieved CDR Stephen R. Speed. As soon as Greenwood took charge of the Condors, the squadron changed missions and roles in the support of the Global War on Terrorism as they transitioned to a fleet logistic support squadron.

"The part that has me excited is, very shortly after this ceremony, we're going to have aircraft on the ramp. Before you know it, those Navy painted C-130s are going to be flying in and out of the Grove on local training flights as we continue to train our people, so we're back in business," said Greenwood. "As a VR squadron, we're looking forward to supporting the fleet by bringing the war fighters the tools they need to get the mission done."

Since the day the Condors found out they were going to transition into VR-64, Speed has been at the helm, focused on preparing the squadron so it would be ready for its new mission.

"The biggest hurdles have been getting people trained. It's a whole new platform with a whole new mission. Everybody's really excited about it," said Speed, the last commanding officer of VP-64, who will now report to the Naval Reserve Chief of Naval Operations Management Analysis Office at Washington, D.C.

The C-130 Hercules transport aircraft's maiden voyage was August 23, 1954, and has been in use by more than 60 countries. Over 70 variations have been assembled, totaling over 2,200 legendary Lockheed Martin aircraft. "Mighty" and "venerable" are terms often associated with this diverse workhorse.



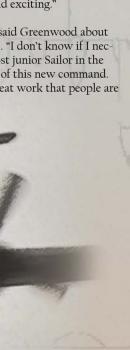
Graphic by Bryan Bordelon

"What these Condors have accomplished, over the past few months, is nothing short of phenomenal," said Speed. "I've been amazed at their dedication. I've been amazed at what they have accomplished, and I've been amazed at the way they have continued to tackle the many obstacles that have been thrown in front of them."

Even though the squadron hasn't received their inventory of aircraft yet, they have done everything else to be ready for their new role. Gone are their P-3C Orions and the radars needed to conduct anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare and aerial mine warfare operations. Personnel have been trained and maintenance equipment has been acquired to support the C-130 Hercules planes that will provide transportation for troops, supplies and gear all over the globe.

"I'm real excited about being done with training and getting back to work and doing something for the Navy. I know that the P-3 mission is important, but the C-130 mission seems to have more of a direct impact (on the war on terrorism) because we'll be supporting the troops on the frontlines in Iraq," said Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Burton Rheutan, an air framer in the Condors' maintenance department who's been training to became a loadmaster on the C-130. "This transition has given me an opportunity to broaden my horizons and to do something new and exciting."

"I feel very fortunate to be part of this," said Greenwood about being the first commanding officer of VR-64. "I don't know if I necessarily feel that much different then the most junior Sailor in the command who is going to be a plank owner of this new command. For me, it's just an opportunity to see the great work that people are doing in support of the effort overseas."





US Navy Photo by JOCS(SW) Doug Hummel

CDR Mark R. Greenwood (right), the first commanding officer of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 64, addresses his squadron after they were re-designated from a patrol squadron during a ceremony held in Hangar 175 at NAS JRB Willow Grove, Pa., Sept. 18. CDR Stephen R. Speed (left), the 25th and final commanding officer of VP-64, looks on.



"...the C-130 mission seems to have more of a direct impact (on the war on terrorism) because we'll be supporting the troops on the frontlines in Iraq."

**Neither sand** storm, scud missile or chemical attack will keep these couriers from their appointed rounds.



### JO1(SW/AW) Rob Kerns

Commander, Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs

AMP ARIFIAN, Kuwait—The U.S. Postal Service can be found almost anywhere, from any small town in America to a warship in the Pacific Ocean. Even in the middle of a war torn desert.

Reservists from Supply Support Battalion Two (SSB-2) stationed in Fort Dix, N.J., are working seven days a week to make sure all those stationed in and around Camp Arifjan can have almost all the services a post office in the United States can provide for them.

"We send packages, sell money orders and ship mail. There isn't much a stateside post office does that we don't do here," said CS2 Steve Steadman, a postal clerk stationed at Camp Arifjan. "One of the only real differences here is we work seven days a week, where back in the states the post office is closed on Sunday."

Working a seven-day work week is almost a necessity, as the camp post office normally sends out eight to 10 thousand pounds of mail daily and receives 30 thousand pounds of mail. It is not uncommon for the Camp Arifjan Post Office to handle over 2 million pounds of mail a month.

The constant influx of mail would challenge even the most veteran postal clerk. For the postal workers at Camp Arifjan, the challenge is even greater, since many of the Reservists come from different Naval career fields having nothing to do with postal work.

Due to current manning issues, the Navy Reserve utilizes its Sailors in different forms. It is not uncommon to see Sailors working out of their rates filling gaped billets at their Reserve centers.

"Before coming to Kuwait, our postal workers went to a two week training course to give them all the skills they needed for their assignment here," said Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force (NAVELSF) Chief of Staff CDR Jim Sills. "They may not be rated postal clerks, but you can't tell. Their work is excellent."

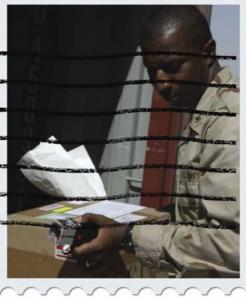
Coming mostly from Navy supply ratings, many of those working at the Arifjan post office have a genuine love for dealing with customer service and enjoy seeing the results of their work everyday.

"I get a sense of satisfaction seeing people get their mail," said Steadman. "Seeing their reactions when they get a letter or package makes me feel good about the work I'm doing here."

According to Steadman, his greatest memory of doing postal work since coming to Kuwait was seeing an Army sergeant receive a picture of his baby girl.

"This was the first time the soldier had seen his baby. He was so happy and grateful to get the photo," said Steadman. "As a father, I can appreciate that. Seeing things like that makes me want to continue to do my job well."

Aside from sorting mail for the 264 units around the base, the purchase of money orders and assisting members to register to vote



SH2 Leroy Nowell helps to unload a truck of mail arriving at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Mail arrives daily at Camp Arifjan and is distributed promptly to the camp units.

also rests in the hands of the camp postal clerks.

All US Navy photos in this story by JO1(SW/AW) Rob Kerns

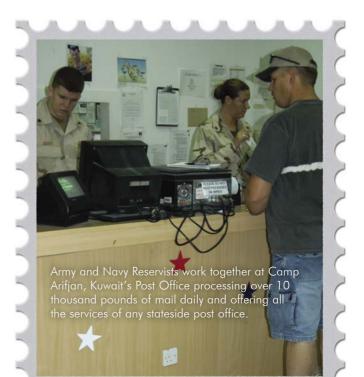
"We know everyone is depending on us," said SH2 Leroy Nowell, Camp Arifian registered mail clerk. "Our training prepared us for this, so I don't feel overwhelmed. That could change with the holiday season."

With the holiday season on the horizon, the pace of post offices around the world will step into high gear. The same can definitely be said for Camp Arifian.

"Our current deployment takes us right through the holiday season. Our postal staff is ready and enthused to meet the challenge," said Sills.

"We're ready for the holidays," said Nowell. "I'd be lying if I said I wasn't nervous, but I'm ready for the holiday rush."

At a glance it would seem the post office at Camp Arifjan would be heavily challenged to meet their tasks, but the hard work and dedication from the Sailors of SSB-2 have proven their mantra of "One Fight One Team," to be true.



AS2(SW) William Thormann from

to remove the transmission.

New York City loosens a EOW tow

tractor transmission support in order

# Support Equipment Technicians Keep Reserve GROUND SUPRORILEDRAND

JO1 (SW) Jay Cope

NAS JRB New Orleans Public Affairs Office

he Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) New Orleans airfield can be a very busy place, with three Naval Reserve Air Squadrons, two Marine

Reserve helicopter squadrons, and a Coast

> Guard Air Station, all using the facility. Additionally, transient aircraft utilize the airfield and equipment as do reserve squadrons from other bases which come to NAS IRB for training.

As awe-inspiring as the daily take-offs and landings can be, the job behind the scenes is equally impressive.

All of these units require the support of the Aircraft Intermediate

Maintenance Department (AIMD.) AIMD has seven divisions, all of which are vital to maintaining, repairing, supporting and keeping aircraft safe for the pilots to fly. None are more important to getting those

aircraft up in the air, however, than 900 Division - also called Support Equipment Division.

900 Division is responsible for more than 1,200 individual pieces of equipment that move, load, service or otherwise prepare the aircraft for its next flight. According to LCDR Milton Greene, AIMD assistant maintenance officer, "it is a job that is often overlooked...at least until something goes wrong."

"If the crew is doing their job and everything is working, we don't hear much," he said. "But if something isn't working we hear about it fast."

It is the job of the 32 divisional team members to keep things quiet. Nine persons are support staff who take care of the administration, supply, training and other functions of the division. The other 23 members of the team, Aviation Support Equipment Technicians (AS), ensure equipment such as mobile electrical power plants, hydraulic units, tow tractors, shols gear for handling ordnance, oxygen and nitrogen service units, and many more are available when they are needed.

If the division's gear isn't ready, the planes don't fly, or as the division says, "there is no air support without ground support." So the tempo can be a little stressful, according to AS2 Andy Foster, assistant workcenter supervisor for the Hydraulic Shop.

"The steps required in the repairs are very precise," he said, "but the equipment can be needed on very short notice, and the repairs need to be completed now. It's intense work."

The division has eleven workcenters; 91A Turbine Shop, 91B Tow Tractor Shop, 92A Hydraulic Equipment, 92B Structural, 92C Cryogenic Carts, 92D Corrosion Control, 930 Electrical, 940 Component Repair, 950 Periodic Maintenance, 970 Air Conditioning, and 990 MMF. Each division faces its own challenges, but they all have one thing in common according to Foster. They take pride in their work.

"The whole division is proud of our discrepancy count. Our count is very low, and keep it low," said Foster. "We fix it right the first time, and the repair stays fixed."

ASAN Kevin Minsky tightens the fuel lines of an AS30A-42 tow tractor to ensure proper operational readiness.

**AMAN** Steven Coen from Portland, Ore. surveys the damage under a EOA tow tractor.

> All US Navy photos in this story by PH2(AW) Justin C. Proulx

EN2 Eric Lewis, A Reservist detached to CVNE 1082, and a New Orleans, La. native, removes a damaged transmission from an EOA tow tractor which is used to haul aircraft and large support equipment.



Whether the repair is minor and takes a couple of minutes, such as replacing a filter, or takes days, such as troubleshooting a complex piece of electronics, the unit emphasizes doing every job to the best of their abilities. Even more important, than quality repairs to the long-term success of the division, is the emphasis on preventive maintenance.

Each of the division's 1,200 pieces of gear is on a regularly scheduled maintenance routine. From changing oil to greasing gears to replacing tires, Greene emphasized the same kind of maintenance required for your car - and more - is done at their facility. The preventive maintenance is the large majority of work the division performs.

"The preventive maintenance saves us work in the long run," said Greene. "It's the unscheduled work that causes problems, so we try to keep the bulk of our work on a planned schedule."

The Support Equipment Division personnel don't operate the equipment on the flightline, but turn over the equipment to the squadron personnel. Many of the repairs needed on the equipment were preventable with a better understanding of the gear. So, the division maintains a training program to familiarize operators with the ins and outs of each piece of equipment. Now, no one can check out any gear until they have a yellow license to show they are qualified.

The team has several qualified instructors in the division, and they perform all of the training. More than 1,500 students have attended these training sessions in the past year. Approximately 20 classes are held monthly to instruct the equipment operators on the proper use of the 35 different types of drivable gear.

The ready for issue rate has climbed steadily with these initiatives, and now stands at a healthy 97 percent, a number that is well above fleet average according to ASCS(AW) Chandler Clark, support equipment division officer. The repair actions have correspondingly decreased from more than 400 to about 80. Clark gives the credit for the significant improvement to Sailors in the shops.

"These guys surprise me on a daily basis," he said. "This is not an easy job, but they do it well. They are a tight knit group and always find a way to have fun on the job."

Clark's statement is further emphasized by the fact the division has a 100 percent retention rate over the last year. Enjoying their job may be part of the secret to that retention rate, but having facilities that are as outstanding as the people who work inside them doesn't hurt.

900 Division moved into the new facility in February from a more than 40-year old structure reminiscent of the 1950's era Army barracks. The new building looks more like a state-of-the-art auto repair facility with multiple bays, pull-down fluid dispensers, sand blasting booth, painting booth, tire units, welding station, and heavy duty lifts; all conveniences the team didn't have previously. While there is no statistical data available yet, it is certain that nearly all the preventative maintenance procedures have been drastically cut both in time and effort. Clark insists there are only a handful of facilities in the Navy that are comparable.

Greene insists that the new building only makes an already talented crew even more efficient. Shop personnel can work on hydraulic equipment, diesel engines, calibration equipment, air conditioners, and electrical or electronic components depending on the day and the needs of the shop.

"We tend to be a jack-of-all-trades. These guys posses and incredible array of skill sets across an enormous spectrum," he said. "All of which are contained in one rate. They truly are talented technicians."

Those talents are usually put to their sternest test come October. The annual N'Awlins Air Show brings in aircraft, both civilian and military, from across the country nearly doubling the number of aircraft the base normally contains. This normally behind-the-scenes division will come straight to the forefront as their equipment is used to maneuver, refuel, service, load and otherwise ensure the intensive flight schedule is kept.

The division will begin preparations for the show nearly a month in advance to prepare for the Oct. 23-24 show. With the performers arriving Oct. 20 and two days of rehearsals 900 Division's equipment and team will be running nearly non-stop for five days. Greene isn't worried though.

"The spirit of this group is that they can take on any obstacle," he said. "They not only have a 'can-do' attitude, but they have a 'will-do' attitude. They go to any lengths necessary to make it happen."

Those efforts may not be seen by the public, but when the planes take off, it's proof the work was done right. IN

These guvs posses incredible arrav skill sets across an enormous spectrum.



# **REDCOM Round-up**





Ivan's aftermath on Pensacola Beach, Fla.



BILLINGS, Mont.—Naval Reserve Center, Billings, Mont., recently welcomed LT Chris Colson as their new commanding officer. Colson reports from USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 709), homeported in Norfolk, Va. He succeds CDR J. Mark Ripkey who will continue to serve at Command Naval Reserve Forces Command as deputy information technology manager in New Orleans, La.

—JO1 Diane Tehle, Naval Reserve Center Billings Montana, Public Affairs

Over 100 Navy Reservists from Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 15, Air Cargo Handling Battalion Two Detachment 16 and Commander Naval Forces Detachment Alpha recently completed a coordinated four-day field training exercise at the Iowa National Guard facilities made available at Camp Dodge, Iowa. During the training, units participated in pistol and rifle qualification, M203 grenade launcher familiarization, land navigation and leadership reaction course. —CDR David Dietz

ONBOARD USS DONALD COOK—Naval Reservists from Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Rock Island, Ill., recently sharpened their skills during underway operations on USS Donald Cook (DDG 75). The Reserve Sailors provided real world support in underway replenishment evolutions, ships anchoring evolution, gun shoots and Phalanx Close-In Weapons System familiarization fires. The support to the ship contributed to the ship winning the 2003 Phalanx Close-In Weapons System (CIWS) Excellence Award.

—CDR Michael Czarnik

POINT MUGU, Calif.—Sixteen newly selected Chief Petty Officers from Patrol Squadron (VP) 65, Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 55, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD), Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD), Mobile Operations Control Center (MOCC) and Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 116 joined together to clean-up the playground

(EOD), Mobile Operations Control Center (MOCC) and Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 116 joined together to clean-up the playground equipment, replaced light fixtures, cleaned and painted the barbecue grill pits and built four new horseshoe pits. Big job, great sense of satisfaction!

Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 55 broke their command flight time record during the month of July by operating five aircraft for a total of 666.7 hours. The squadron based at Naval Air Station Point Mugu, Calif., was deployed to Atsugi, Japan as well as Bahrain during the record-breaking month.

—IO2 Auburn Hutton

NAS Pensacola—A majority of base roads are impassable. All buildings are damaged with 90 percent receiving "significant" damage. As of this printing, there was no power, no water and no sewage with sporadic gas leaks, limited phone service and no Internet access. Base Public Affairs Office and photo lab destroyed. Naval Air Technical Training Center is completely underwater. Coast Guard station reported destroyed. Air Control radar is down.

NAS Whiting Field—Primary and helicopter training was suspended and temporarily moved to Meridian, Miss. Every hangar is missing its roof.

NAVSTA Pascagoula—Minimal damage reported at NAVSTA.

Personnel: About 2,900 Sailors were stationed at local shelters in the community. They are working with the American Red Cross to unload supplies and food. Base access is restricted to emergency and disaster relief personnel due to downed power lines being down. Florida National Guard from all over the state is inbound for relief efforts. All Blue Angels operations were on hold.









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www.navalreserve.com 1-800-USA-USNR



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID ITHACA, NY PERMIT #777

# Navy Reserve Profile of the Month

Name: Teresa Gali Rank: DT3

Rating: Dental Techniciar

### VICKING INTO HIGH GEAP

Teresa currently serves in the Naval Reserve's NRAC unit as a dental tech and works full time as a dental assistant in her civilian job. Although she really enjoys the "operationally fit" culture and aspect of being in the Naval Reserve, that is not the main reason she gives for joining. "I joined for the benefits," Teresa explains. "Especially the educational benefits. I'm going to be applying to a hygiene program soon, and it's wonderful that the Naval Reserve will cover 75% of the costs."

