



## Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, USS McFaul, locates pirated vessel

### PRESS RELEASE

Combined Maritime Forces  
Public Affairs

**MANAMA, Bahrain** — USS McFaul (DDG 74), a U.S. Navy Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, located the pirated M/V Iceberg I off the coast of Somalia with up to 50 pirates and more than 20 crew members on board, May 24.

The Panamanian-flagged vessel had last been seen off Garacaad, a Somali town and known pirate haven.

The Iceberg's exact location was unknown until the McFaul made a positive identification of the pirated ship, May 19.

The ship initially communicated to the McFaul that it had not been pirated and instead was off course for its next port-of-call due to mechanical difficulties. Visual identification was at first confusing, because the name on the vessel's hull read, "Sea Express." Further investigation showed that the name of the ship had been crudely painted over.

After the McFaul request-

ed to board the ship to check on the health and safety of the crew, the Iceberg radioed that they had been taken hostage, stating that the pirates on board were heavily armed.

The McFaul continued to shadow the ship for more than 36 hours, before the Iceberg reversed its course toward the Somali coast.

"We cannot be sure what the pirates plan was if they had not been interrupted. The vessel may have been on its way to either assist other pirates in distress or look for another merchant vessel to attack," said Republic of Korea Rear Adm. Beom Rim Lee, commanding officer of Combined Task Force (CTF) 151, the Combined Maritime Forces' (CMF) counter-piracy task force that operates in the Gulf of Aden and Somali Basin.

"First and foremost, our responsibility is to ensure the safety of the crew. Given the report of heavily armed pirates

See PIRATES, A15



Photo by MC2 Gina K. Wollman

An SH-60 Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to The Nightdippers of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 5 hovers over the guided-missile destroyer USS McFaul (DDG 74). McFaul is part of the Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group and is deployed as part of an ongoing rotation of forward-deployed forces to support maritime security operations in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.



Photo by MC3 Brian Goodwin

Line handlers heave the mooring lines aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) before the ship's departure from Naval Station Norfolk. Truman deployed as part of the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HST CSG) in support of Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) efforts in the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility.

## AIRLANT presents Truman with Battle "E" Award prior to deployment

### PRESS RELEASE

USS Harry S. Truman Public Affairs

**USS HARRY S. TRUMAN, At Sea** — Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic (CNAL) presented USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) Sailors with the carrier's second consecutive Battle Efficiency Award, May 21.

CNAL Rear Adm. Richard O'Hanlon presented the award hours before the Truman carrier strike group got underway for a scheduled deployment.

"This is a historic moment," O'Hanlon said. "It speaks to the caliber of the men and women on board Truman that this is their second consecutive Battle 'E' win. I am extremely proud to present this award as they depart today for deployment."

One of the most coveted awards in the fleet, the Battle Efficiency Award, more commonly known as the Battle "E," recognizes sustained superior performance in an operational environment.

The Battle "E" Award is one of the few awards given in the Navy that isn't earned by one individual, but rather is award-



Photo by MC3 Brian Goodwin

Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Rear Adm. Richard O'Hanlon presents Battle Efficiency Award plaque to Capt. Joe Clarkson, commanding officer of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) prior to the ship's departure from Naval Station Norfolk.

ed based on a point system that evaluates the performance of 14 different departments and more than 4,000 Sailors.

This marks the fifth year the Truman has won the award. The ship was also a recipient in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2008.

"I am proud of our Sailors each and every day," said

Capt. Joe Clarkson, Truman's commanding officer. "This prestigious award reflects the commitment, dedication, and sustained pursuit of excellence of every Sailor on board. I cannot think of a better way to recognize their battle-readiness

See BATTLE E, A15



Photo by MC1 Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst

Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Gary Roughead, delivers remarks during the rollout ceremony for the F-35C Lightning II, the Navy's first-ever stealth fighter. The aircraft will enable the Navy to possess 5th generation fighter capabilities at sea, extending America's reach and reducing the timeline from threat to response.

## Navy leadership reaffirms commitment to Joint Strike Fighter Program

### PRESS RELEASE

Defense Media Activity - Anacostia

**WASHINGTON** — The acting director of air warfare on the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) staff reaffirmed the Navy's commitment to the Joint Strike Fighter Program as the centerpiece for the future of Naval Aviation during a media roundtable, May 24, at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

"I want to dispel the contention that the Navy is soft on F-35C," said Rear Adm. Michael C. Manazir. "The Navy has had the F-35C in her horizon for more than a decade. As we built the path from F/A-18 aircraft on to the carrier to fifth generation, we grew the E/F Super Hornets in the limits of fourth generation capability. We now need to move into the F-35C to realize our vision for TACAIR (tactical air) coming off the carriers."

Manazir said the aircraft will complement the capabilities of the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornets now serving as the Navy's premier strike fighter.

"When you bring F-35C to the carrier with a fully developed weapon system and a Super Hornet E/F along with F/A-18G, the synergy is more complimentary when we get to a greater level of

war fighting off the carrier," said Manazir, who is a fighter pilot and former USS Nimitz (CVN 68) commanding officer. "The F-35C brings stealth, sensor and data fusion, and a system to systems approach to war fighting allowing it to get in there on day one in an anti-access denial type of fight. It also communicates across a wide range of networks providing data to a broader range of people sometimes with or without the pilot's knowledge, often communicating to other fifth generation airplanes."

The F-35C is designed to enhance the flexibility, power projection and strike capabilities of carrier airings and joint task forces, sporting a stealthy design, internal weapons carriage, fully fused mission systems and an unrefueled combat radius of more than 600 nautical miles.

The Navy's first Joint Strike Fighter squadron is scheduled to begin transition in 2014, with a first deployment scheduled in December 2016 followed by a second deployment in February 2017. The Department of the Navy's planned procurement is 680 F-35 aircraft.

For more news, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil).

### INSIDE:

#### MEMORIAL DAY 2010

**The History of Memorial Day**  
In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day.



A8

#### FRONT AND CENTER

**Military Appreciation Night at Harbor Park**  
The Norfolk Tides baseball team paid tribute to military members, May 22.



B1

#### OFF DUTY

**Celebrate a day of remembrance**  
Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died serving our country.



C1



# The Flagship

Commander Navy Region  
Mid-Atlantic is:  
Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel

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Photo by MC1 Jennifer A. Villalovos

Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist Bill Houlihan interviews Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick D. West and Navy Total Force Fleet Master Chief Scott Benning for a Continuations Boards podcast.

## Performance key for active, reserve Senior Enlisted Continuation Board

### PRESS RELEASE

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** — Established last year for active duty and full time support E-7 through E-9 personnel, this year's board will also include selected reserve and voluntary training unit personnel with at least 19 years of service and three years time in rate.

According to the message, certain records are exempt from review by the board. Examples include Sailors with approved Fleet Reserve/retire dates effective on or before June 30, 2011; personnel selected for command senior chief/master chief or limited duty officer/warrant officer programs; those selected for advancement during the FY-11 boards; personnel enrolled in the Safe Harbor program; and fleet, force and command master chiefs.

"This is a performance-based board," said Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, Chief of Naval Personnel. "We want to retain those master chief, senior chief and chief petty officers that demonstrate the ability to generate positive results and command success through team and personal performance. These Sailors are vital in setting the tone of the fleet and providing a positive model to sustain our high-quality force."

Documented misconduct and substandard performance are the primary reasons a Sailor would not be continued, according to the message. The board will primarily focus on the previous five years of performance and will be looking for the following factors: substandard performance of duty, declining performance, failure to maintain physical fitness assessment standards, de-

tachment for cause, removal of security clearance, military or civilian conviction or non-judicial punishment and administrative or personnel action for misconduct.

In addition, board members will consider a member's ability to produce and foster well trained enlisted and officer teams while providing sound proactive solutions linked to command and Navy mission accomplishments.

To ensure complete consideration of a Sailor's career, the Navy message also emphasizes that each eligible member is responsible for ensuring their record is correct and up-to-date with their latest evaluations, awards and other appropriate information.

"Check your official military personnel file on BUPERS Online, by logging into BOL and clicking on "Web-Enabled Record Review." Here, Sailors can see their records exactly as they will be seen by the selection board," said Kathy Wardlaw, director, Records Management.

If needed, candidates may communicate with the continuation board by submitting a board package. Selection board packages provide candidates the opportunity to submit any missing documentation. Packages must be post marked not later than Aug. 16.

Members not selected for continuation will transfer to the Fleet Reserve or retire no later than June 30, 2011.

Commanding officers with personnel not selected for continuation will be notified so they may personally and confidentially notify the members.

*For more information, read the NAVADMIN at [www.npc.navy.mil](http://www.npc.navy.mil).*

## THE FLAGSHIP'S LEEWARD SHOUT

# What does Memorial Day mean to you and what will you be doing to celebrate?



HM3  
Jocelyn Quinto  
Sewells Point Medical Clinic

"Memorial day is a great time for remembering the people who served their country and have died. It's a day to take time to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country."



PS2 (AW/SW)  
Tiffany Washington  
MSFSC

"I plan on spending time with my family. We are going to do a family BBQ. I am using it as a time to have a family get together and celebrate our families and those who have served to protect our freedom."



CTT2 (SW/AW)  
Teirra Jackson  
Central Security Forces (CSF)

"Memorial day is a time to be grateful for the people who went before us. It is a time to thank our fathers and grandfathers and remember what it is that we fight for."



IT2 (SW)  
Kevin Crisco  
NCTAMS LANT

"I wish that I knew more about the true meaning behind Memorial Day. I really don't feel the true meaning is talked about and I hope that we can use that day to spread what it is truly about."



CS1 (AW/SW)  
Andre Steele  
NSA

"It's a great time to honor the people who have died while protecting their country. I am going to spend the holiday with the woman I love; it's her birthday, so I'm going to take her out to celebrate both occasions."



YN3  
Kyle Andrews  
Commander Second Fleet

"Memorial day means to me that I get a chance to reflect upon the service members who came before me and made it so that I can fight."

Photos by MC3 Samantha Robinett

VIPIR

PLANNING FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
84	85	80	81	80	80	81
67	67	64	63	62	64	63

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# Gates vows to focus on reform, reducing overhead

BY JIM GARAMONE  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates vowed to take the time necessary to reform the Defense Department and eliminate unnecessary overhead expenses.

At a Pentagon news conference, Gates said he has made fighting this fight the goal of his remaining time as defense secretary.

“I intend to spend every day, for as long as I remain secretary of defense, doing all I can to implement these reforms that are so critical to sustaining our military in the years ahead,” he said.

The secretary also threw down the gauntlet to Congress, saying that if the fiscal 2011 defense authorization bill includes funds for an alternative engine for the F-35 Lightning II joint strike fighter, he will ask President Barack Obama to veto the whole bill. If Congress includes an additional half of a percentage point to the military pay raise over the administration’s recommendation, however, he said he will not recommend a veto.

“I believe the defense budget process should no longer be characterized by business as usual within this building or outside of it,” the secretary said. “We in (the Defense Department) must make tough choices and decisions to ensure that current and future military combat capabilities can be sustained in a time of budget stringency.”

Gates has the full support of the uniformed military in the building, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said at the news conference.

“The proper stewardship of the taxpayers’ dollars is high on absolutely everybody’s list,” Navy Adm. Mike Mullen said. “I don’t underestimate the challenge that is here. But I think being able to get at overhead and shift it ... and do so inside the force structure that we have right now is absolutely critical.”

Gates unveiled his goal of eliminating overhead and shifting the savings to more critical mission-oriented programs during a speech at the Eisenhower Library in Abilene, Kan., May 8. “I have challenged this department to become more efficient in the way it is organized, staffed and operated and, in so doing, find the savings necessary to sustain essential military force structure and



Photo by Cherie Cullen

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen responds to a question during a press conference with Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates at the Pentagon, May 20.

capabilities,” he said.

The secretary met with defense and service leaders earlier this week to establish a plan and process for attaining this goal.

“Getting this done will require the priority attention of our entire leadership team and include all services, commands, components and elements of America’s defense establishment,” Gates said.

The department also will work with Congress, think tanks, academia and others for “specific and workable proposals on how to change the way this department does business,” he added.

Gates stressed that he is not asking for cuts in the defense budget. As the department fights two wars and as planners anticipate an unsettled future, he said, the department needs a certain amount of yearly real growth.

“The president’s budget proposal ... proposes such a real growth path,” he said. “However, the department will

face very difficult choices with regard to sustaining needed military capabilities in the years ahead unless it is able to shift resources away from excess management structure or lower-priority areas and towards current and future combat capabilities.”

His intent in shifting funds is to protect the required budget growth in areas most important to the defense of the United States, said Gates. These include force structure, uniformed personnel or future combat capabilities.

The secretary told reporters he is worried about congressional actions on the joint strike fighter (JSF) program and the desire of some in Congress to buy more C-17 Globemaster III transport jets that, he says, the Defense Department doesn’t need.

The House Armed Services Committee has passed its version of the authorization bill, he said, and “it appears that the committee continues to insist that the department add an extra

engine to the JSF.

“In addition,” he said, “the detailed conditions they have imposed on the overall (JSF) program would make it essentially unexecutable and impose unacceptable schedule and budget costs.”

The JSF program is the largest and most important acquisition project over the next decade. It has been through some tough times and Gates personally intervened in an attempt to get the program back on track.

“Our team has taken aggressive steps to restructure and manage it through this critical phase in development,” he said. “I am therefore determined to ensure that it remains on track. Accordingly, as I have stated repeatedly, should the Congress insist on adding funding for a costly and unnecessary JSF extra engine or direct changes that seriously disrupt the JSF program, or impose additional C-17 aircraft, I will strongly recommend that the president veto such legislation.”



# Safe Harbor Program supports troops, families

BY CAT DEBINDER  
National Naval Medical Center  
Public Affairs

BETHESDA, Md. — Wounded, ill and injured service members face a multitude of challenges throughout their recovery process. To ensure they can concentrate on their recovery, Navy Safe Harbor program provides assistance with non-medical issues.

The Navy Safe Harbor program is the Navy’s lead organization for coordinating the non-medical care of wounded, ill and injured Sailors and Coast Guardsmen and their families. Dedicated to non-medical needs, the organization’s management services are designed to fit each service member’s unique requirements. They handle such things as pay and personnel issues, lodging and housing adaptation, transportation, legal and guardianship matters.

“Navy Safe Harbor provides a systematic approach to providing a continuum of non-medical care to our recovering Sailors and Coast Guardsmen by working in concert with organizations both within and outside of the Navy,” said Commanding Officer, Navy Safe Harbor Command Capt. Key Watkins. “Safe Harbor assistance has proven to be invaluable to our enrolled shipmates by lifting much of the burden from them and allowing them to remain focused on their recovery and rehabilitation activities.”

“We provide lifetime tailored assistance and assist with the successful recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration into society for our Sailors and Coast Guardsmen who are seriously ill or injured,” said Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman Kendall Hillier who is a non-medical care manager in charge of Navy Safe Harbor’s Bethesda satellite office.

“We also work with their families,” she said, “because families are an integral part of the recovery process.”

Hillier said the patients they work with are not all wounded warriors. Some are injured in shipboard, car and motorcycle accidents or have cancer or other serious physical

and psychological illnesses. She added not all are inpatients, some are outpatients and in different stages of their recovery process.

“Safe Harbor currently has over 1,000 actively engaged patients in the program nationwide,” said Hillier. “It started in 2005 with a staff of three and enrollment of 20 war-wounded Sailors, at that time only war-wounded Sailors were eligible for the program.”

Hillier also noted what is unique about the Safe Harbor program from others is a reserve surge support team that can be rapidly activated in the event of a large scale disaster or when multiple casualties occur within a short time frame.

They also have the Anchor Program, a Reserve Component Retiree Council partnership of volunteer mentors that provide lifelong contact with enrollees and their families.

“The program has been absolutely helpful and they are a wonderful group to have helping out,” said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Jacob Emmott, a Safe Harbor enrollee and former National Naval Medical Center inpatient injured in Afghanistan. Emmott said Hillier was assigned to him as a case manager. “She handled a paycheck issue for me,” he said. “She really did everything she could every chance she got – especially when I was in the ICU.”

Emmott said it was a pleasure being taken care of by Hillier. He would love to come work for her some day. Emmott’s mother, April, said the attention and the care they received from Hillier was wonderful.

“From day one, even before Jake arrived, she reassured us and maneuvered us around for everything we needed,” she said. “It has made our visit ‘Jake-specific’ and we didn’t have to deal with any other details.”

Emmott’s father, Bob, was pleased with and grateful to the Navy Safe Harbor program and its members at the Bethesda office.

“They steered us toward everything to help us,” he said.

For more news from National Naval Medical Center, visit [www.navy.mil/local/nnmc/](http://www.navy.mil/local/nnmc/).

# U.S. Fleet Forces Command names new Fleet Surgeon

PRESS RELEASE  
U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs

Rear Admiral William M. Roberts has been named the Fleet Surgeon of U.S. Fleet Forces Command. He relieved Rear Admiral Alton Stocks who assumed command of the Portsmouth Naval Hospital.

As U.S. Fleet Forces Fleet Surgeon, Roberts is responsible for providing medical support to the operational forces in order to maintain combat ready Sailors and Marines through both preventive measures and casualty care, and support efforts to continuously improve quality of care and safety.

Roberts previously served as the director, Medical Resources, Plans and Policy Division (OPNAV N931), Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, at the Pentagon, as well as director of the Navy Medical Corps. He has served as commanding officer, Medical Treatment Facility, USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), commanding officer, Naval Hospital Bremerton, Wash and medical officer of the Marine Corps.

A native of Washington, D.C., he graduated from the Landon School in Bethesda, Md. and earned his Bachelor of Arts (cum



Rear Admiral William M. Roberts

laude) from Princeton University in 1975. He completed his Doctor of Medicine in 1979 at the George Washington University. Roberts’ four years of medical school were under the auspices of the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program.

# Stress Conference lays groundwork for future

BY MC2 JOSH CASSATT  
Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West

SAN DIEGO — The first joint Navy and Marine Corps Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC) Conference concluded May 20, after three days of discussions and presentations on stress control.

The symposium, organized by the Naval Center for Combat and Operational Stress Control (NCCOSC) to address combat, operational and daily stress, brought together hundreds of Navy and Marine Corps leaders, medical and mental health professionals, counselors, chaplains, combat veterans and family members.

“This conference has been overwhelming,” said Medical Officer of the Marine Corps Rear Adm. Richard R. Jeffries. “The next step is, now that we have brought together all these brilliant minds and all these programs are now going, what can we create to be more proactive and make a difference in the future? That is what everyone here is excited about. Now we are looking at the growth side instead of the problem side.”

The NCCOSC invited individuals and organizations from around the world to discuss the new combined Navy/Marine Corps COSC doctrine, as well as new

policies, research, data, programs, interventions and the best practices pertinent to combat and operational stress control.

“This conference has been a culmination of what we have been working on for the past several years,” said Capt. Paul Hammer, NCCOSC director. “Even though the Marine Corps developed the COSC model and the Navy adopted it, this conference was a success because we have been able to look at the COSC from the perspective of Naval service as a whole.”

One highlight of the conference was the presentation of the new COSC doctrine, expected to be formally introduced within months. This doctrine promotes effective leadership by enhancing the mission capabilities of caregivers. It also empowers commanders and important links in the chain of command to perform the five core functions of combat and operational stress control: to strengthen, mitigate, identify, treat and reintegrate.

Psychological stress, according to this new doctrine, is plotted and measured on a continuum of severity, duration and impairment. This paradigm ranges from “ready” (mission ready) to “reacting” (mild/transient/functional) to “injured” (moderate/persistent/

distressed) to “ill” (severe/prolonged/disabled).

In years past, the Marine Corps held their own COSC conferences, but this year’s conference was the first time there has been a wide array of experts and greater collaboration.

“I was most pleased with the level of collaboration among a lot of different groups that would normally not be collaborating,” Hammer said. “We had line leaders talking with researchers; we had family members talking with clinicians. I think we broke down a lot of barriers that would normally limit who people would talk to or what they would talk about.”

NCCOSC is a Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery program created to improve the psychological health of Navy and Marine Corps forces by helping to build and promote resilience.

Its goals are to provide service members, combat veterans and their families with educational programs to effectively address combat, operational and daily stress, reduce the stigma in seeking mental health treatment and to facilitate research in psychological health, especially in relation to post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

For more news, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil).

# Save time: Pay enrollment fees electronically

FALLS CHURCH, Va. — Prime beneficiaries can save time by paying their enrollment fees electronically.

Veterans and their families, including survivors and eligible former spouses, enrolled in TRICARE Prime pay, an annual enrollment fee. TRICARE Prime beneficiaries can pay electronically two different ways – direct withdrawal from their retirement pay allotment or by creating an electronic funds transfer (EFTs) linked to a bank account.

Beneficiaries can visit their regional health care contractor’s website to download and fill out the required Enrollment Fee Allotment Authorization letter or EFT Payment Authorization form to get started. Beneficiaries mail the completed form back to their regional health care contractor. The system does not allow electronic form submissions.

Once forms are received and authorized, TRICARE Prime enrollment fees are automatically deducted from the beneficiary’s retirement pay or bank account monthly. In the South Region, a quarterly payment is required first, before establishing a monthly payment option. The beneficiary has to pay three months up front, before he or she can start making monthly payments. For convenience, beneficiaries are able to view online payment history and claims status at any time.

Both payment methods are safe and convenient options that free beneficiaries from the worry of missing a payment or defaulting on their coverage.

Of course, mail-in payments will always be accepted and pay-by-phone is offered in all three regions. Beneficiaries can check with their regional health care contractor’s website for more information.

Health Net Federal Services  
(North Region)  
[www.hnfs.net/bene/enrollment/fees/Enrollment+Fees-Payments.htm](http://www.hnfs.net/bene/enrollment/fees/Enrollment+Fees-Payments.htm)

Humana Military Healthcare  
Services (South Region)  
[www.humanamilitary.com/south/bene/billing-enrollment/PaymentOptions.asp](http://www.humanamilitary.com/south/bene/billing-enrollment/PaymentOptions.asp)

TriWest Healthcare Alliance  
(West Region)  
[www.triwest.com/epay](http://www.triwest.com/epay)

# Virtual Army Experience lets civilians experience combat

STORY AND PHOTO BY SGT. DAVID TURNER  
214th Mobile Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE ANDREWS, Md.** — The “Virtual Army Experience” offered Armed Forces Day visitors the chance to experience a few minutes of combat at the Joint-Service Open House and Air Show.

Visitors to the annual event at Joint Base Andrews were treated to a wide variety of displays and demonstrations May 14 - 16, but perhaps the most popular exhibit wasn’t in the air, but instead one that immersed them in a virtual world.

“It gives them a little bit of a look of everything that goes on in a battlefield,” said George Munro, who travels around the country with the Virtual Army Experience simulator.

The simulator is based on “America’s Army,” a video game first released in 2002, which now has more than 10 million users worldwide. In this game scenario, players travel through hostile territory to rescue aid workers on a humanitarian mission, manning a gun truck or helicopter and coming under heavy enemy fire.

Instead of playing in their living room with a standard controller, players work alongside their comrades using simulated rifles in a 180-degree environment with sensory feedback and sound ef-



Visitors to the Joint-Service Open House and Air Show fire weapons in the Virtual Army Experience combat simulator, based on the popular video game “America’s Army,” at Joint Base Andrews, Md., May 15. The event featured an air show as well as exhibits and demonstrations by members of all the military services.

fects.

“It takes video games to a whole new level,” Munro said. “It’s not by any means what Soldiers are doing every day, but it’s as close to realistic as you’re going to get.”

The experience is more than just

the game, as Munro explained. Players learn some of how the Army works between their mission brief and after-action review. Retired and Reserve Soldiers provide the instruction.

“It shows them all different aspects of what it’s like to be a Soldier,” Munro said.

Thirteen-year-old gaming enthusiast Jonathan Mannarano, of Leesburg, Va., said the experience was far better than playing at home.

“It was probably the raddest video game you will ever get to play,” said Mannarano, after going through the simulator with his family. “If you shot a gas tank, then you actually feel a shake and hear the explosion.”

“It was fantastic,” added Jonathan’s mother, Deb Mannarano, who played alongside him in a simulated up-armored Humvee. “You felt like you were right there. The adrenaline was flowing, it was very cool.”

Jonathan Mannarano said it also gave him a new perspective on the Army and combat.

“I think it’s a really tough job being a Soldier because you have to put your life on the line to save all these people that need to be saved,” said Jonathan Mannarano. “These Soldiers are so modest, giving their lives to give us all this freedom.”

Deb Mannarano also enjoyed the depth of the game experience for her son, who she said plays “too many” games at home.

“I think having a brief in advance really made a difference because they get to understand a little bit more, especially at his age,” she said. “It’s not just fun and games, there’s real life stuff out there.”

## CYBERFOR hiring for more than 250 IT-related positions

**VIRGINIA BEACH** — Navy Cyber Forces is hiring for more than 250 Information Technology (IT)-related government positions in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area, San Diego and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

According to CYBERFOR Manpower Director Katie Petrillo, the jobs are open for immediate hiring of well-qualified candidates who may be recent college graduates or experienced professionals.

“This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in serving their country as a Navy civilian, while enjoying outstanding job security and professional development,” Petrillo

said. “Our benefits include flexible work schedules, top-notch retirement programs, 401(K) employer matching contributions, medical and dental insurance plans and programs to help employees achieve their educational goals.”

Desired experience includes Network Operations (NetOps), Information Technology Service Management (ITSM) and knowledge of industry best practices such as Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) processes and methodology.

Available positions in Virginia Beach, are at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek - Fort Story with-



in the following commands: Navy Cyber Forces (CYBERFOR), Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) and Navy Cyber Defense Operations Command (NCDOC). Job openings at Naval Base Norfolk are located within the

Global Network Operations Center (GNOC) and Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Atlantic (NCTAMS LANT).

Positions at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii are within Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) and the San Diego jobs are located at the Navy Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS).

These jobs will support the Navy’s transition from the current Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) supporting more than 700,000 users worldwide, to the Next Generation Enterprise Network (NGEN)

— a secure enterprise computer network to meet the warfighting and business needs of the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

To browse all job descriptions and submit a resume, please visit the Navy Cyber Forces website at: [www.cyberfor.navy.mil/](http://www.cyberfor.navy.mil/). Resumes and questions can also be directed to: [NAVCYBER\\_IS\\_HIRING.fct@navy.mil](mailto:NAVCYBER_IS_HIRING.fct@navy.mil).

Information on Department of the Navy benefits for civilian employees is available through the Employee Benefits Information System at: [https://www.civilianbenefits.hroc.navy.mil/benefits\\_newemployees.asp](https://www.civilianbenefits.hroc.navy.mil/benefits_newemployees.asp).



# Observing Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery

BY BETH WILSON  
*Military Spouse Contributor*

If you are a regular reader, you may recall that I lived many years in the Washington, DC area. While the Beltway may be the center of power for the nation, it is also a major seat of our history. From the monuments to the museums, Washington, DC is a journey through our nation's rich history. There are two holidays celebrated in DC that



Pause where you are at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day for the National Moment of Remembrance.

cannot be rivaled anywhere else; Memorial and Independence Day.

While I visited Arlington National Cemetery as a senior in high school, I lived in DC for six years prior to making a second journey to Arlington. That trip took place on Memorial Day. My father, a WWII and Korean War Navy Veteran was in town and wanted to visit this sacred ground. As we rounded the Jefferson-Davis Highway, the sight of the American Flags on each white grave marker took my breath away. Out of the corner of my eye I saw my father wipe away a tear that escaped down his cheek.

Each year, just prior to Memorial Day weekend, a tradition called “Flags In” is conducted. Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry, also known as The Old Guard, honor fallen heroes by placing American flags before the gravestones and niches of service members buried at Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Soldier's and Airmen's National Cemetery.

Taking approximately three hours, every available soldier serves to place the American flag one foot in front and centered before each grave marker. More than 260,000 gravestones, 7,300 niches (at the cemetery's columbarium) and another 13,500 flags are placed at the Soldier's and Airmen's Cemetery, located nearby. As part of the Memorial Day weekend activity, Old Guard soldiers, the Army's official ceremonial unit, remain in the cemetery ensuring that a flag remains at each gravestone.



Photo by MC1 Jennifer A. Villalobos

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick D. West lays a single red rose at the gravesite of the first MCPON Delbert D. Black at Arlington National Cemetery after attending the commemoration ceremony for the 117th anniversary of the establishment of the rank of the Chief Petty Officer at the Navy Memorial.

The trip to Arlington with my father transcends words. I watched my father read gravestones of fellow WWII and Korean War veterans, lingering longer at a few. We stood at the Tomb of the Unknowns together during the Changing of the Guard ceremony.

My father, a man of Puritan heritage and British descent, was a man of few words. Though a Purple Heart recipient, he shared little about his time in the Navy till nearer his death. As we left Arlington that day I asked my father about WWII and the Korean War. He quietly said, “They were good men, Beth, they were good men.”

If you have never visited a national cemetery on Memorial Day let me suggest that you take the opportunity this year. Many locations offer special ceremonies to commemorate the day, so call ahead or check the website.

May I invite you to tune into my show, May 27, when Mr. Thomas Sherlock, historian of the Arlington National Cemetery is my guest. He will take us on a “verbal tour” of the history and traditions of Arlington National Cemetery. You are sure to enjoy this broadcast ([www.blogtalkradio.com/nht](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/nht)).

*Beth and Homefront in Focus are celebrating the Year of the Enlisted Spouse. Logon to [www.enlistedspousecommunity.com](http://www.enlistedspousecommunity.com) to learn more and nominate the amazing enlisted spouse in your life. Contact Beth at [beth@homefrontinfofocus.com](mailto:beth@homefrontinfofocus.com).*



# Memorial Day 2010

## The History of Memorial Day

### PRESS RELEASE

Department of Veteran Affairs

Three years after the Civil War ended, on May 5, 1868, the head of an organization of Union veterans – the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) – established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. Maj. Gen. John A. Logan declared that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30. It is believed that date was chosen because flowers would be in bloom all over the country.

The first large observance was held that year at Arlington National Cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C.

The ceremonies centered around the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various D.C. officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided over the ceremonies. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the GAR made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns.

### Local observances claim to be first

Local springtime tributes to the Civil War dead already had been held in various places. One of the first occurred in Columbus, Miss., April 25, 1866, when a group of women visited a cemetery to decorate the graves of Confederate soldiers who had fallen in battle at Shiloh. Nearby were the graves of Union soldiers, neglected because they were the enemy. Disturbed at the sight of the bare graves, the women placed some of their flow-

ers on those graves, as well.

Today, cities in the North and the South claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day in 1866. Both Macon and Columbus, Ga., claim the title, as well as Richmond. The village of Boalsburg, Pa., claims it began there two years earlier. A stone in a Carbondale, Ill., cemetery carries the statement that the first Decoration Day ceremony took place there on April 29, 1866. Carbondale was the wartime home of Gen. Logan. Approximately 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, many of them in the South where most of the war dead were buried.

### Official birthplace declared

In 1966, Congress and President Lyndon Johnson declared Waterloo, N.Y., the "birthplace" of Memorial Day. There, a ceremony on May 5, 1866, honored local veterans who had fought in the Civil War. Businesses closed and residents flew flags at half-staff. Supporters of Waterloo's claim say earlier observances in other places were either informal, not community-wide or simply one-time events.

By the end of the 19th century, Memorial Day ceremonies were being held on May 30 through-

out the nation. State legislatures passed proclamations designating the day and the Army and Navy adopted regulations for proper observance at their facilities.

It was not until after World War I, however, that the day was expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971,

### Some states have confederate observances

Many Southern states also have their own days for honoring the Confederate dead. Mississippi celebrates Confederate Memorial Day on the last Monday of April, Alabama on the fourth Monday of April and Georgia on April 26. North and South Carolina observe it on May 10, Louisiana on June 3 and Tennessee calls that date Confederate Decoration Day. Texas celebrates Confederate Heroes Day January 19 and Virginia calls the last Monday in May Confederate Memorial Day.

Gen. Logan's order for his posts to decorate graves in 1868 "with the choicest flowers of springtime" urged, "We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance ... Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

The crowd attending the first Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery was approximately the same size as those that attend modern day observances, about 5,000 people. Then, as now,

small American flags were placed on each grave – a tradition followed at many national cemeteries today.

In recent years, the custom has grown in many families to decorate the graves of all departed loved ones.

The origins of special services to honor those who die in war can be found in antiquity. The Athenian leader Pericles offered a tribute to the fallen heroes of the Peloponnesian War over 24 centuries ago that could be applied today to the 1.1 million Americans who have died in the nation's wars, "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

To ensure the sacrifices of America's fallen heroes are never forgotten, in December 2000, the U.S. Congress passed and the president signed into law "The National Moment of Remembrance Act," P.L. 106-579, creating the White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance. The commission's charter is to "encourage the people of the United States to give something back to their country, which provides them so much freedom and opportunity" by encouraging and coordinating commemorations in the United States of Memorial Day and the National Moment of Remembrance.

The National Moment of Remembrance encourages all Americans to pause wherever they are at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day for a minute of silence to remember and honor those who have died in service to the nation. As Moment of Remembrance, founder Carmella LaSpada states, "It's a way we can all help put the memorial back in Memorial Day."



MC2 Patrick W. Mullen III

Master-at-Arms 1st Class Alex Roelofs, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 5, raises the national Ensign to half mast on Memorial Day.

Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress, though it is still often called Decoration Day. It was then also placed on the last Monday in May, as were some other federal holidays.

## Ceremonies scheduled to honor fallen heroes, families



1st Lt. Sarah Cleveland

A Sailor renders a solemn moment of remembrance at the Cuzco Wells Memorial Day Ceremony aboard Naval Base Guantanamo Bay.

### STORY BY HEATHER MCCANN

Fort Monroe Public Affairs Office

**FORT MONROE** — The poet Pam Brown wrote, "The courage of very ordinary people is all that stands between us and the dark." These poignant words take on additional significance each Memorial Day.

On May 31, the Fort Monroe and Hampton communities will gather to honor the thousands of men and women who sacrificed their lives in this nation's defense during two distinct Memorial Day observances. Both are open to the public.

The first observance begins at 10 a.m. on the grounds of Hampton University, where the Hampton National Cemetery Complex is located at the intersection of Marshall Avenue and Cemetery Road. Command officials from several Hampton Roads' military installations will participate.

This year's keynote address will be delivered by Maj. Gen. Dana J. H. Pittard, Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations & Training at the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) at Fort

Monroe. Pittard coordinates the efforts of the headquarters staff and its major subordinate organizations in building a campaign-capable expeditionary army.

A detail from the 233rd Military Police Detachment (Fort Monroe) will render a seven gun, three volley salute, and the TRADOC Brass Quintet will play the National Anthem and other patriotic musical selections. A member of the TRADOC Band will perform "Taps," a revision of an earlier bugle call credited to Civil War Brigadier General Daniel Adams Butterfield and his brigade bugler, Oliver Wilcox Norton. At the time, Butterfield and Norton were encamped at Harrison's Landing (Berkeley Plantation) with the Army of the Potomac, formed at Fort Monroe.

During this ceremony, a joint services color guard will carry the colors and representatives from each branch of the armed services will place wreaths at the headstones of service members laid to rest at the cemetery.

The second observance gets underway at 11:40 a.m. at Fort Monroe's historic Continental

Park. Garrison Commander, Col. Anthony D. Reyes, will open the ceremony with brief remarks. TRADOC Deputy Commanding General and Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. John E. "Jack" Sterling, and former TRADOC Commanding General, General (Ret.) Donn Starry, will also speak. A 105mm Howitzer, 21-gun, Memorial Day salute will follow.

Members of the U.S. Army TRADOC Ceremonial Band will provide patriotic music at the Monroe ceremony, and the salute will conclude with the rendering of "Taps."

Continental Park is located at the corner of Fenwick and Ingalls Roads. Both observances will take place rain or shine. Visitors to both the Hampton National Cemetery Complex and Fort Monroe are reminded that valid photo identification for those ages 18 and older is required for entry.

For more information regarding the Hampton National Cemetery Complex observance, call 723-7104.

For information regarding the Continental Park observance on Fort Monroe, call 788-2263.



MC3 Derek Poole

Members of the Fleet Week flag detail open a U.S. flag during a Memorial Day tribute aboard the USS Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum during Fleet Week New York City 2009.



# Phoenix Express 2010 kicks off from Souda Bay

BY MC2 (SW/AW)  
FELICITO RUSTIQUE  
*Navy Public Affairs Support Element -  
East Det. Europe*

**Souda Bay, Greece** — Phoenix Express 2010 (PE-10), a two-week, two-phase, multinational, maritime exercise among regional partners from Africa, Europe and the United States, is set to conduct its kickoff pre-sail conference and conclude its in port training portion of the exercise.

The in port phase, which began in Rota, Spain and continued in Souda Bay, Greece, focuses on medical training, maritime interdiction operations (MIO), helicopter operations and safety, damage control, navigation, deck seamanship, search and rescue (SAR), small boat operations and a leadership round table.

Ships and personnel involved will depart Souda Bay later this month and sail into international waters in the central Mediterranean Sea.

During the underway portion of PE-10, countries will track and board suspect vessels carrying suspicious cargo, Maritime Patrol Aircraft and Automated Identification Systems along with MIOs like SARs and visit, board, search and seizures will be performed.

U.S. commanders believe PE-10 is invaluable to theater partners because it fosters mutual understanding and improves international military partnering.

“Phoenix Express demonstrates theater partner nations’ commitment to regional stability and maritime security,” said Capt. Martin Beck, commander, Task Force 68, whose task force is in command of the exercise. “During this exercise, maritime professionals will further develop the capacity to



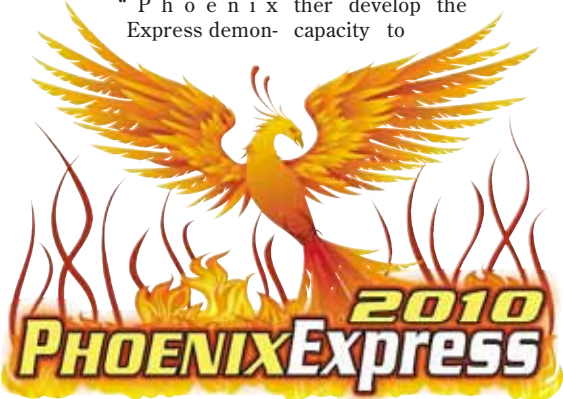
Turkish sailors perform fast-rope exercises from a U.S. Navy MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter during exercise Phoenix Express. Phoenix Express is part of the overall U.S. Africa Command and U.S. Naval Forces Europe, U.S. Naval Forces Africa, U.S. 6th Fleet Theatre Security Cooperation strategy to enhance regional stability in the region through increased interoperability and cooperation among regional allies from the United States, Africa, and Europe.

maintain maritime domain awareness. When they meet in the future to conduct combined peacekeeping or humanitarian operations, or to counter trafficking in drugs, people, or weapons in this region, they will be better able to respond and work together.”

Twenty countries are expected to participate in the exercise as an either an active participant or observer. U.S. units participating in Phoenix Express include the USS Gunston Hall (LSD 44), home ported in Virginia Beach; USS John L. Hall (FFG 32), home ported in Mayport, Florida; Military Sealift Command ships USNS LCPL Roy M. Wheat (T-AK3 016) and USNS Laramie (T-AO 203); and members of the U.S. 6th Fleet staff.



Greek sailors form up after completing a fast-rope exercise from a Greek SH-60 Seahawk helicopter during exercise Phoenix Express.





# First Lady calls on nation to support military families

BY ELAINE WILSON

*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — First Lady Michelle Obama issued a national challenge to all sectors of American society: mobilize and take action to support and engage military families.

“One percent of Americans may be fighting our wars, but we need 100 percent of Americans to support them and their families,” said Obama. “This has to be all hands, on deck. This is a challenge to government.”

The first lady made this call to action during her remarks to the National Military Family Association’s summit: “When Parents Deploy: Understanding the Experiences of Military Children and Spouses.”

“We know that our military families are some of the most patriotic, some of the most dedicated, the most service-oriented Americans you will ever meet,” she said. “But we also know ... that these strong families are being tested like never before.”

President Barack Obama and his administration have made military families a priority, she noted, with increased pay and benefits as well as increased funding for military housing and child care and spouse counseling and career development. The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) also has been extended to more military families and caregivers, she added.

The budget for next year is slated to continue to strengthen military family support programs, the first lady said.

“And last week, my husband signed into law legislation that many of you fought for – expanding veterans’ health care and giving unprecedented support to caretakers,” she said.

Within the Defense Department, the first lady lauded the leadership of Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen for the progress made in military family programs.

Still, much work remains to be done to better understand how to serve military families, she said.

To that end, the Defense Department has launched the Military Family Life Project, the first lady said, a landmark study of more than 100,000 spouses and service members that is slated to launch this month. This survey will assess families’ quality of life to give officials a better sense of how families are experiencing deployments and improve the support provided to them.

Spouses and service members, selected at random from all services, will be invited via mail to participate in the online survey, defense officials said.

“I want to encourage all the spouses who were selected to fully participate in this project, because the more that this nation knows about your priorities, the more we can do to meet them,” said Obama.

Along with the federal government, Obama extended her challenge to encompass state and local governments “whose services touch military families in so many ways.” The Interstate Compact that eases the school transfer process for military children has been adopted by 30 states, she noted as an example.

“And we are going to need the other 20 states to help by adopting it too,” she said.

In the private sector, businesses large and small also can make a difference, the first lady said.

“Maybe it’s offering services, pro bono, to a military family or veteran,” she suggested. “Maybe it’s helping a military spouse or a veteran develop their job skills and find a job. Maybe it’s hiring them – because you know

the discipline and dedication needed to succeed in the military are the same traits that any business would want in their employees.”

Obama encouraged community-based organizations to continue their work on behalf of military families, pointing out the contributions of organizations such as Sierra Club, which partnered with the National Military Family Association to create Operation Purple summer camps for military children.

“There are so many organizations with skills and interests that can be shared with military families and we need to get them involved,” she said.

In communities, Obama called on people to reach out to military families, particularly those living far from military installations. Even in communities without a base, people can find ways to reach out, she said, and many partnerships are waiting to be forged.

The first lady pointed out a national network that she and Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, launched last Veterans Day. Mission Serve brings civilian and military service groups together not only to help support troops and veterans and their families, but to encourage communities to use the talents and skills of military families and veterans, she said.

From a federal government leader to a next-door neigh-

bor, her challenge ultimately extends to all Americans, she said.

“Everyone can do something, whether it’s reaching out to a local family or supporting an organization serving families or sharing your skills or being a voice in your community or just saying, ‘Thank you,’” she said. “Even small things send a big message.”

It may take time to come to fruition, Obama said, “but if Americans respond to this challenge, if we mobilize ev-

ery segment of society, if we work together, if we hold ourselves to the same high standard of excellence that our military families live by every day, then I know we can succeed,” she said. “I know we can realize our vision of an America that truly supports and engages our military families not just now, but for decades to come.

“And I can promise you this today, this will remain one of my defining missions as first lady,” she added.



# Navy releases roadmap for global climate change

BY BOB FREEMAN

Office of the Oceanographer  
of the Navy

WASHINGTON — The Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert released an overarching roadmap on May 21 that will guide Navy policy, strategy and investment plans related to a changing global climate.

Entitled the U.S. Navy Climate Change Roadmap, the guidance was developed by the Navy’s Task Force Climate Change, a matrixed organization that includes representatives from various Naval staff and program offices and the operational fleet, with the close collaboration of the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“We must ensure our Navy is fully mission-capable and ready to meet national requirements in



Photo by MC2 Adrian White

**Aerographer's Mate 2nd Class Elizabeth Clements prepares to release a weather balloon from the fantail of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) to analyze atmospheric pressure and temperature.**

the future. That responsibility includes anticipating the impact of changing climatic conditions on mission requirements, force structure and infrastructure,” explained Rear Adm. Dave

Titley, director of Task Force Climate Change and Oceanographer of the Navy. The Climate Change Roadmap is intended to be a companion document to the Navy Arctic Roadmap,

released in November 2009. While the Arctic Roadmap serves to promote maritime security and Naval readiness in a changing Arctic, the new Climate Change Roadmap examines the broader issues of global climate change impacts on Navy missions and capabilities.

“We issued the Arctic Roadmap first because that is where the most significant evidence of climate change is occurring,” Titley remarked, “but the Arctic is not a vacuum. The changes that are occurring there, from both an environmental and political standpoint, reflect changes that will occur in the rest of the world.”

The roadmap lays out a chronological approach di-

vided into three phases.

Phase 1, focusing on near-term goals, includes defining the requirements for improved operational and climatic prediction capabilities through cooperative efforts within the U.S. government and scientific and academic communities.

Phase 1 also calls for inclusion of climate change impacts on national security in Naval War College coursework and in strategic “table top” exercises.

Phase 2, which is targeted for fiscal years 2011 and 2012, identifies as a priority the development of recommendations for Navy investments to meet climate change challenges. These challenges include protecting coastal installations vulnerable to rising sea

levels and water resource challenges and being prepared to respond to regions of the world destabilized by changing climatic conditions.

Phase 2 also calls for the formalization of the cooperative relationships defined in Phase 1, and targets incorporation of climate change considerations in strategic guidance documents and fleet training and planning.

Phase 3, looking out through fiscal year 2014, addresses the execution of investment decisions and the initiation of intergovernmental, multilateral and bilateral activities with various partners to better assess and predict climate change, and respond to the military impacts of climate change.

“Climate change will affect the type, scope, and location of future Navy missions, so it’s essential that naval force structure and infrastructure are delivered at the right time and at the right cost,” Titley explained. “That will depend upon a rigorous assessment of future requirements and capabilities, and an understanding of the timing, severity, and impact of the changing climate, based on the best available science,” he added.

The Roadmap, which incorporates guidance from national maritime and defense strategies, will be updated to reflect future guidance after the next Quadrennial Defense Review.

## NAVSEA’s SUPSALV surges, supports oil spill response

### PRESS RELEASE

Naval Sea Systems Command Office of  
Corporate Communications

WASHINGTON — Navy pollution response experts have shipped 98,000 feet of oil containment boom as of May 20, to the Gulf of Mexico, as part of the combined effort to reduce the environmental impact of the underwater oil spill at an exploratory oil rig off the coast of Louisiana.

Naval Sea Systems Command’s (NAVSEA) Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (SUPSALV) has positioned equipment and personnel from Texas to Florida to support the oil spill response efforts led by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

“With a single phone call from the U.S. Coast Guard, 66,000 feet of open ocean boom and nine self-contained skimming systems and the professionals to install and operate them, were dispatched (representing the initial shipment). That’s your Navy – a 24-hour Navy – incredibly ready and trained to respond to a wide variety of national taskings,” said Vice Adm. Kevin McCoy, NAVSEA commander.

The Navy oil booming equipment is designed to divert the oil spill from an identified area. According to Capt. Patrick Keenan, NAVSEA’s director of Ocean Engineering, Supervisor of Salvage and Diving, the booming equipment was first deployed to the western tip of Ship Island, south of Gulfport, Miss. Keenan said the Oil Containment Boom System is the primary containment equipment at an oil spill site and consists of vans, boom, air compressors, and necessary equipment to support the various types of containment booms. SUPSALV’s Oil Containment Boom Systems are portable and maintained at strategic locations in a state of readiness for rapid deployment to a spill site.

Eighty-five 18-wheelers of vital equipment arrived in Gulfport, Miss., within 48 hours of that one call, and 24 hours later NAVSEA personnel were at sea combating this terrible spill, added McCoy.

In addition to the boom systems, SUP-

SALV also shipped 21 oil skimming systems to the Gulf of Mexico, including the Vessel of Opportunity and Rapid Deployment Skimming Systems for oil spill clean up. Skimming systems are outfitted with the machinery that separates spilled oil from the water, stores the recovered oil, and then transfers it to an off-vessel storage facility. Keenan said a single skimming system can be set up in four hours, and if operated constantly, has a daily capacity of 1,200 barrels. Additionally, more than 90 personnel and three contracted offshore supply vessels are supporting the Coast Guard’s oil response efforts.

“A team of NAVSEA professionals are working around the clock to protect the sensitive coast lined with oil booms and perform open ocean skimming at the source. NAVSEA’s Chief Engineer for Underwater Salvage (Keenan) has been an integral member of BP’s Engineering Command Cell that has assembled the best and brightest minds from around the world to try to stop the leak,” said McCoy.

While the magnitude of this spill is unprecedented for this team, Keenan said SUPSALV personnel regularly operate their equipment at oil spill exercises around the world. He said in this type of an effort, safety standards are a key part of their operation. His team follows strict personal protection protocols and complete OSHA’s Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response training as a standard part of their training requirements.

SUPSALV has been the Navy’s oil pollution experts since the 1970s, as required by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. They provide technical, operational, and emergency support to the Navy, Department of Defense and other federal agencies in the ocean engineering disciplines of marine salvage, pollution abatement, diving, diving system certification, and underwater ship husbandry.

“The Navy is committed to protecting the environment while meeting its national security mission,” said Keenan.



# Educating Sailors on the importance of recycling at NAS Oceana

BY MC3 TERAH MOLLISE

Naval Air Station Oceana Public Affairs

**VIRGINIA BEACH** — Educating Sailors on the importance of recycling is one of the top priorities of the waste management team at Naval Air Station Oceana.

“Going Green” has become much more important than just a catch phrase, with large companies to small businesses – as well as the Navy – trying to do their part.

Jim Clagett, integrated solid waste manager, and Garathan Kirby, equipment operator, who together run the recycling facility serving Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana and Dam Neck Annex, are continually working with Sailors and Marines on recycling. Clagett and Kirby are also responsible for the recycling on Naval Auxiliary Landing Field Fentress, Naval Support Activity Northwest Annex and Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM).

“One important factor is realizing that we need to do a better job of recycling. It not only saves the Navy a lot of money, so it helps out the budgets, but it also gives us more money for repairing and flying airplanes, too,” said Clagett. “It all comes back to better, (more) economical ways of doing things.”

The base recycling program starts with the small blue bins available for each office. Those bins are emptied into the larger blue bins resembling garbage cans located outside each building. The large bins are picked up every other Friday by the Integrated Solid Waste/Navy Recycling program.

Trash, including food waste, glass products, Styrofoam, candy wrappers and canned foods are not recyclable.

“There are a couple of things we have to do if a com-

mand wants to either start a recycling program or to get more bins,” said Clagett. “A part of my job is to assess the command’s needs. I go out and see what their needs are, how much paper they are projected to output and then will make a judgment on how many bins will be needed.”

One point Clagett stresses is to watch where the bins are placed. “If the recycling bins are put near coffee messes or by the door, when people walk out, they just throw their trash out.”

With just the two of them, “we just don’t have the time to go through all of the bins to get the trash out,” Clagett explained.

That trash can be expensive. “When we send the paper down to the paper processing place, they will deduct a lot of money from the Navy if we have a lot trash,” he added.

Increased recycling is mandated by Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy and Economic Performance, which makes it mandatory for a 50 percent diversion rate. A diversion rate is calculated by what percentage of recyclable materials is being recycled versus being thrown into the dump.

With Oceana’s fourth quarter 2009 diversion rate, including the months of October, November and December, only being 16 percent, Clagett was determined to bring up the numbers. With the diversion rate steadily going up every month, January rose only 3 percent to 19 percent, but February went up to 25 percent and March ended with a 39 percent diversion.

Many things can vary the diversion rate. Oceana and Dam Neck recently held the annual Clean the Base Day but all of the materials thrown away went to the landfill, which could have caused the diversion rate to go down.

“We need to get the word throughout the base that we need to be doing a better job at recycling. It’s the only way that things are going to turn around,” said Clagett.

In addition to the items above, the Navy also recycles materials such as stainless steel, paper and wood, where the Navy receives a check for the amount recycled. Other materials, such as copper and high heat steel, are put into a container to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Within Oceana’s recycling facility, broken pallets are recycled.

“We just found out that the horse manure at the stable is renewable because they take it and spread it out on the field to reuse it and that helps our diversion rate, but that is only one small part of it,” said Clagett.

But with the president’s mandate, Clagett and Kirby have been spreading the word and have had a “super increase” of commands wanting to participate or obtain more bins. One of the newest commands participating in the base recycling program is turning out to be one of the most successful. According to Clagett, the NEXCOM facility managers take an active interest in recycling and they are just doing a fabulous job.

“We are currently setting up the NEXCOM with a recycling program. They have about 500 employees. We walked throughout the command and saw little blue bins by their trash cans by almost everybody’s desks,” said Clagett.

“Based on that we figured six, 90 gallon containers would be fitting, but within a week they had called us and already filled them up. We had to go put more bins out there and there was about 95 percent quality recyclables in them. We ended up with 18 to 20 bins out there,” he explained.

“Everything is about saving money,” Clagett explained. “All of our operating funds are covered through the money that we make through recycling. When we first started, it was probably subsidized by the government, but all the money from the general recycling goes back into the fund.”

Clagett arrived at Oceana in September 1999, when the base’s recycling program changed from a Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) program to a regional Naval Facility Engineering Command (NAVFAC) program.

“We always had a budget, but we are very careful and keep a close eye on our budget. We have to work very economically, so we don’t put out more money on a program than we are taking in,” said Clagett.

“If someone wants a 40 cubic yard dumpster to put construction material in, I will go out there and look at what they have because it is going to cost the Navy to put out that dumpster. If it is something that we can put on a truck and bring to our recycling center here, then that’s what we will do. It’s my responsibility to try and save money where we can,” said Clagett.

Because they want to abide by the mandate, Clagett said “they are going out and trying to educate people.”

“The main factor is just getting folks on the base to take an active part in recycling” with the program only as good as the command’s designated recycling petty officers, said Clagett.

He said without a lot of people from each command involved, it is very difficult to do a good job of recycling.

Part of Clagett’s job is to monitor the trash dumpsters for the amount of recycling being thrown in the garbage. When he finds serious problems, Clagett informs senior leadership.

Clagett said that another problem in having a successful recycling program is lack of attendance by senior leaders at the annual environmental conferences on the base. “We have been getting less and less attendance over the years ... and I don’t think enough information is getting back to the commands.”

“The most important thing to me is we need to really impress upon the folks on the bases the importance of recycling and that is from the top all the way down to the bottom. It helps a lot more if you have the chain of command on board with it,” said Clagett.

*For more news from Naval Air Station Oceana, visit [www.navy.mil/local/oceana/](http://www.navy.mil/local/oceana/).*





Family and friends wave goodbye to the Sailors of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) as the ship prepares to depart from Naval Station Norfolk.

Photo by MC2 Rafael Martie

# BATTLE E: USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) Sailors awarded with the carrier's second consecutive Battle Efficiency Award, May 21

Continued from page A1

as we begin our deployment.”

The competitive cycle for the award is from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. The better each individual department scores with regards to their qualifications, the higher the marks they receive. The higher the departmental score, the better the overall average score for the ship.

The ship's score is computed

and compared to other operational carriers on the east coast and the vessel with the best score wins the prestigious honor of calling themselves a Battle “E” recipient.

“It feels great to join a ship that has such a strong reputation,” said Seaman Jason S. Kowalski, who joined Truman's Deck department in December 2009. “It gives me the motivation to keep this tradition going.”

Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, com-

mander, Carrier Strike Group 10, offered congratulations to the crew.

“The skill and determination of every Sailor aboard Harry S. Truman has made a direct contribution to the success of the Carrier Strike Group 10 team and ensured we are ready to deploy,” said Driscoll.

For more news from USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), visit [www.navy.mil/local/cvn75/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cvn75/).

# PIRATES: Pirated M/V Iceberg I located off the coast of Somalia, May 24

Continued from page A1

on board, it was more prudent to monitor the ship's movement, rather than attempt a rescue,” said Cmdr. Ronald W. Toland, Jr., the McFaul's commanding officer. “My crew executed their instructions perfectly and I'm proud of each and every one of them.”

Successful pirate attacks in the Gulf of Aden and the Somali Basin decreased by 40 percent in 2009, increased in part to the presence of coalition warships and also by the use of best management

practices by the shipping industry. These practices include the use of razor wire, 24-hour watches, fire hoses and high-speed maneuvers by vessels transiting throughout the area.

CTF 151 is a multinational task force established by CMF in January 2009 to conduct counter-piracy operations. CMF patrols more than 2.5 million square miles of international waters to conduct both integrated and coordinated operations to increase regional security and prosperity.

For more news, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil).



Photos by Ens. Kristine A. Volk

Kelly Ripa greets Sailors and Marines following May 24 taping of the Regis & Kelly Show at the Manhattan studio. Approximately 75 Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen were part of the show's audience in advance of Fleet Week 2010. This year's Fleet Week begins May 26 and concludes June 2, with the participation of 3000 sea service members, seven Navy ships and three Coast Guard vessels. (Top L-R) Kelly Ripa, Gunnery Sergeant Alexander Kitsakos, U.S. Marine Corps; Seaman Apprentice Lashanda Scott, Mass Communications Specialist Second Class (AW/SW) Amanda Scott, and Mass Communication Specialist First Class (SW) Erika Carrillo.



(Above) Captain Mark Genung, chief of staff, Expeditionary Strike Group Two, presents Regis Philbin and Kelly Ripa with command coins during a May 24 taping of the Regis & Kelly Show at the Manhattan studio.



## Navy freeing up aviation training pipeline

BY WM. CULLEN JAMES  
Navy Personnel Command  
Public Affairs

**MILLINGTON, Tenn.** — In an effort to reduce and stabilize the current wait time for training, the Navy is seeking to decrease the number of officers in the Aviation Preflight Indoctrination (API) student pilot pre-load.

Reductions to aviation fleet requirements and recent material challenges with training aircraft have caused the student pilot population to exceed the optimal preload by approximately 200 personnel.

“Typically, time from commissioning to API start should be three months. The current delays have increased this time to six months,” said Capt. Mike White, director, Aviation Officer Distribution.

To assist in reducing the number of students in the pipeline, Navy officials have planned to offer redesignation to qualified volunteers.

“Qualified volunteers from the existing API pool will be solicited through



Photo by Ensign Pete Lee

Guests ask the Naval Aviation: Issues and Answers panel questions at the National Naval Aviation Museum Symposium 2010. The goal of the symposium series is to help preserve the rich history and proud heritage of Naval Aviation by highlighting historical events in which U.S. Naval aviation has played a major role.

June,” said White. “Community managers and detailers will be available to answer questions and make assessments of volunteers' qualifications and affinities toward alternative paths. Following an administrative review board, those selected will be removed from training status and administratively redesignated. If an individual is not accepted, for whatever reason, they will continue aviation training.”

Navy officials are also planning to offer delays or deferments via internships, graduate education, and other temporary additional duty options, prior

to moving to Pensacola, Fla.

“We have been pursuing internship opportunities through various agencies in the Washington, D.C. area for our U.S. Naval Academy graduates,” said White. “In addition, several newly commissioned officers will go directly to Naval Postgraduate School to pursue a graduate degree while graduates from Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) units around the country will have the opportunity to work locally with their unit or perhaps in recruiting.”

Beginning in December, some Navy ROTC gradu-

ates may be assigned to the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) until their API start date.

“The length of time spent in the IRR will be dependent on their API class start date,” said White. “Nominally, this period will be about three to six months.”

For more information about Aviation Officer Distribution, visit [www.npc.navy.mil/Officer/Aviation](http://www.npc.navy.mil/Officer/Aviation).

## Did You Know?

**Remembering Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in your will (or living trust) is one of the easiest and best ways to ensure that the Society's crucial work will continue for generations to come?**

Including the Society as a beneficiary of your will can be as simple as adding an amendment (or codicil) to your existing document. NMCRS can provide sample bequest wording and a codicil form.

Please contact the Society for further information! Let them know how they can be of assistance.

**Contact your local NMCRS Office today!**  
**NMCRS: Your First Resource**  
[www.nmcrs.org](http://www.nmcrs.org)





# ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

## AIGA O TOA O SAMOA FAMILY DANCE GROUP

The dance group is composed of military personnel and their dependents who are all from the South Pacific islands. They performed dances as part of a special performance commemorating Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, May 13, aboard Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. **B7**



# FRONT & CENTER

SECTION B

FLAGSHIPNEWS.COM

May 27, 2010

## Military Appreciation Night at Harbor Park



One service member from each branch lines up to throw the first pitch at the Norfolk Tides Military Appreciation Night game May 22. The game is an annual event held at Harbor Park Stadium.



Senior military representatives stand at attention on the Harbor Park field during a pre-game ceremony.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
**MC3 SAMANTHA ROBINETT**

*The Flagship staff writer*

**NORFOLK** — The Norfolk Tides baseball team paid tribute to military members, May 22, by holding their annual Military Appreciation Night at Harbor Park in Norfolk. This marks the 15th year that the Triple-A affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles honored their military neighbors.

As fans lined up outside Harbor Park, they were greeted by a number of military service members displaying armored vehicles featuring the latest in military technology. Inside the park along the concourse there were Seal team displays, recruiters and mascots.

Just prior to the home team taking the field, pre-game activities included a special ceremony that honored service members at home and abroad and 32 delayed entry program members who recited the Oath of Enlistment, becoming the newest members in the United States armed forces.

Each branch of service was represented by a senior officer who was recognized on the field, each stepping forward in honor of their branch of service or organization, as the U.S. Fleet Forces Ceremonial Band

played the Joint Service Medley. The senior service members were: Maj. Gen. David Edgington, U.S. Joint Forces Command; Brig. Gen. Brian R. Layer, Army; Maj. Gen. Cornell Wilson, Marine Corps; Capt. Charles Stuppard, Navy; Maj. Gen. Judith Fedder, Air Force; and Rear Adm. Wayne Justice, Coast Guard.

Prior to the National Anthem, fans were asked to rise and offer a moment of silence for all service men and women who answered the nation's call to arms and made the ultimate sacrifice defending freedom. Musician Third Class Sarah Janiak then sang a moving a capella version of the National Anthem.

As Little League team members joined their favorite Tides player on the field, selected service members honoring the enlisted corps warmed up their arms for the first pitch. They included: CMC Scott Harris, U.S. Joint Forces Command; Staff Sgt. Douglas Carille, Army; Lance Cpl. Jonathan Tinoco, Marine Corps; Yeoman 1st Class Elise Jewett, Navy; Master Sgt. Jason Elftmann, Air Force; and Electronics Technician 2nd Class Earl Johnson, Coast Guard.

Approximately 8,000 fans attended the event, which was followed directly by an elaborate fireworks display to honor service members.



(L) Musician 3rd Class Sarah Janiak performs the National Anthem during the Norfolk Tides Military Appreciation Night pre-game ceremony. Janiak is from Toledo, Ohio and has been a member of the Four Star Edition, U.S. Fleet Forces Band since 2007.

## Truman Strike Group deploys

PRESS RELEASE

*USS Harry S. Truman Public Affairs*

**NORFOLK** — The Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HST CSG) deployed May 21 for a six-month deployment, to the 5th and 6th fleet areas of operations, in support of maritime security operations.

The HST CSG includes Commander, Carrier Strike Group (CCSG) 10; the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75; Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3; Commander, Destroyer Squadron (CDS) 26; the guided-missile cruiser USS Normandy (CG 60), and guided-missile destroyers USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81), USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79), USS Ross (DDG 71) and German Frigate FGS Hessen (F221).

Missions of the HST CSG focus heavily on maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts, which help establish conditions for regional stability.

"I'm extremely proud of the men and women of the Truman Carrier Strike Group," said Rear Adm. Pat



Photo by MC3 Brian Goodwin

The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) departs from Naval Station Norfolk. Truman deployed as part of the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group (HST CSG) in support of Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) efforts in the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility. HST CSG includes Commander, Carrier Strike Group (CCSG) 10, Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3, Commander, Destroyer Squadron (CDS) 26, aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), guided-missile cruiser USS Normandy (CG 60), German Frigate FGS Hessen (F221), and guided-missile destroyers USS Winston S. Churchill (DDG 81), USS Oscar Austin (DDG 79), USS Ross (DDG 71).

rick Driscoll, commander, Carrier Strike Group 10. "We are ready to deploy in support of troops on the ground, execute the nation's Maritime Strategy, and protect our

nation's interests."

The deployment is part of an ongoing rotation of forward-deployed

See **TRUMAN**, B11

## NECC to host 2010 Family Readiness Symposium

BY MC2 (SW)

**MICHAEL R. HINCHCLIFFE**

*Navy Expeditionary Combat Command Public Affairs*

**VIRGINIA BEACH**

— Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) is hosting the 2010 Family Readiness Symposium in Virginia Beach, June 3 and 4.

The symposium is designed to bring together command family readiness team members, service organizations and other stakeholders within the Navy and local communities. Programs and assistance are scheduled to be discussed, as well as best practices for individual and family readiness within the expeditionary forces of the Navy.

"What we hope to achieve during this symposium is the ability for our family readiness

team to be better equipped, allowing them to promote a team approach and support to family readiness," said Capt. Larry Cripps, Force Family Readiness Director.

The participants of the Family Readiness team will comprise of 13 component commands in the expeditionary community. The symposium is designed to offer an opportunity for professionals to showcase information on practice guidelines, tools and processes specific to family readiness and support.

Keynote speakers include Rear Adm. Michael Tillotson, commander of NECC; Adm. John C. Harvey, commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command; and Ellen Roughhead, wife of Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughhead.

## Battle of Midway to be remembered aboard USS George H.W. Bush

PRESS RELEASE

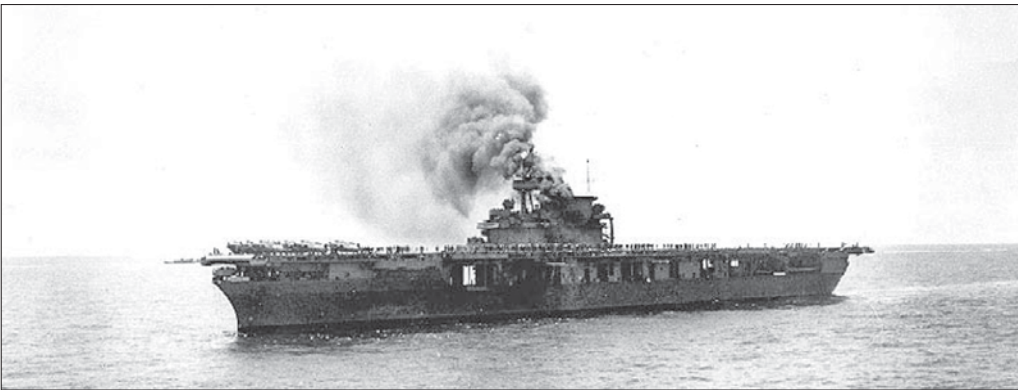
*U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs*

U.S. Fleet Forces Command will host the fleet's commemoration of the Battle of Midway aboard USS George H.W. Bush at Norfolk Naval Station on pier 11, June 4 at 10 a.m. The keynote speaker will be Commander, Naval Air Forces, Vice Adm. Thomas Kilcline, Jr. and several survivors of the Battle of Midway are expected to attend.

All interested military members are invited to attend in the uniform of the

day. The Battle of Midway was fought by Sailors and Airman in working uniforms and flight suits. We will pay tribute to their sacrifice and their victory by wearing working uniforms, flight deck gear and flight suits, as appropriate. (Coveralls or utilities are not authorized.)

The Battle of Midway was fought June 4 - 7, 1942, and was a turning point in the war in the Pacific during World War II. During



U.S. Navy archive photo

USS Yorktown (CV-5) after being hit by Japanese bombs shortly after noon on June 4, 1942. This view was taken shortly after the ship lost power and stopped, while F4F-4 fighters were still spotted forward, their location during the attack.

See **MIDWAY**, B11



# SPOUSE *SPEAK!*

## My grandfather's generation

BY CASEY SPURR  
Navy spouse and writer

A couple of weeks ago while on vacation with my family, I was struck by a fleeting moment that might have escaped someone else. As we pulled into our resort, my husband showed his military ID to the elderly security guard who greeted us. After a quick inspection, the older gentleman opened the gate, eagerly gave my husband a salute and thanked him for his service with the most infectious smile beaming from cheek to cheek. My husband simply returned the smile and wished him a good day, always rather humble and perhaps a bit bashful when greeted with this type of gesture.

To me, it was more than just a salute and kind expression of gratitude though. Behind that face, I could see a much younger man who likely once served himself. I could sense a feeling of pride and perhaps even of brotherhood that was hard to ignore. There is something about his generation, who lived through wars most of us only read about in history books, that even after a lifetime gone by, still elicits a deep sense of honor and a feeling of triumph over the adversity of their time. I am always touched by that and the significance of these moments rarely escapes me.

I think part of the reason I am so moved by this type of instance is because it reminds me of my own grandfather. He served nearly thirty years in the military and besides his grandchildren, there was little

in his life that made him prouder. He enlisted in the Navy as a teenager and served at the end of World War II, eventually joining the Army where he spent the majority of his career. During his time in the Army, he served in both Korea and Vietnam, where he earned a Bronze Star – something he coveted as one of the greatest honors of his lifetime.

Other than as a man who loved his family, I think he most identified himself with his service. Even though many years had passed, his days in the military never seemed far from his thoughts. I was so fortunate to attend a reunion with him as a teenager where he was able to see friends he had met in the Navy as a very young man nearly 50 years earlier. I can recall how eager he was for that event and it seemed as though they had picked up right where they had left off. I believe it was then that I first came to realize the pride of his generation and the significance of military service in so many of their lives.

But, he didn't just enjoy talking shop with those of his own generation. I can remember many visits to the Navy Exchange (which he, of course, still called the PX) when I would find him deep in discussion with a random Sailor. He was a real character and it wasn't uncommon that he would bring those Sailors to laughter with his delightful sense of humor and the manner in which he told stories of his younger days in the military.

Though his service was such a tremendous part of who he



Photos courtesy of Casey Spurr

Staff Sergeant Frank J. Smith, U.S. Army (Ret.)

away from any discussion about the more difficult things he had witnessed and there were memories he wished he could forget.

So much so that he refused to watch "Saving Private Ryan" after he read that many other veterans from his generation had found it too difficult to watch for its authentic depiction of war.

Despite those painful memories though, his pride of service never faltered. He loved his country and lived each day of his life with the true passion of a soldier. It

was, there were many of his own experiences that he was never quick to discuss. During those years, he had seen many devastating events, lost too many friends and had learned the cold reality of war. He shied

because of him that I came to love my country even as a child and learned to respect its flag. Not a day passed that he didn't rise early and immediately display the flag in front of his home with pride and then make

certain to properly bring it back inside before dusk. And on the day he received license plates that stated "Bronze Star Recipient", he couldn't get them on his car fast enough and could hardly contain his pride. Today, that Bronze Star is one of the greatest gifts I have ever been given and one of my most prized possessions.

So when that security guard flashed his smile and gave a salute, it meant a lot to me. I knew there was a young soldier inside who saw himself in brotherhood with my husband and all those past and present who have served this country. I saw an incomparable pride in his face that it seems his generation will forever own, and perhaps I saw a bit of my grandfather.

*Casey Spurr is a Navy spouse who is involved in Blue Star Families and frequently writes about her experiences as a military family member. She lives in Virginia Beach with her husband and their son. To contact Casey, send an E-mail to casey.spurr@gmail.com.*

## Money, money, money ... and deployment



BY BIANCA MARTINEZ

Wow, I should have called this past couple of weeks a deployment series! Can you tell what mode I am in right now? Folks that have no concept of military life think that the only tough part about deployments is the separation. Oh no, there are so many different things that need to get squared away. It's almost too much to keep track of. Try we may, but there will always be something that we forget to get in order.

I am a person that hates money. I am not even kidding, I hate dealing with money. It stresses me out, makes me angry and it can even put me in a bad mood. I would avoid dealing with the budget at all costs if I wasn't married to a military man. Obviously, I went to journalism school for a reason. I am not good with

*Reach out to NewsChannel 3's Bianca Martinez at bianca.martinez@wtkr.com. Be sure to check out "Do My Military Job" every Wednesday at 11 p.m. on NewsChannel 3!*

numbers and I don't want to even look at them. I am going to share a pretty embarrassing story with you for that sake of illustrating how important it is to get everything in line before your loved one takes off to serve our country.

Hubby and I were pretty young when we got married. We were high school sweethearts, so right out of college I was ready to say, "I Do." We did ... at age 22. We moved out to Hawaii and bought ourselves a brand new VW Jetta. We were oh so proud of our purchase. We lived in base housing, so honestly, that car bill and our cell phone bills were it. Should have been simple to keep track of right? Not with me at the helm. Half way through his six-month deployment, I come home to a hand written, hand delivered note saying it was an attempt to collect a debt on the car! My stomach dropped. Repo man? No, but it was enough to freak

me out. See, I thought hubby would continue to get on-line and pay the car bill. He thought I would do it. And there we were. Worse, there was no money to pay the bill because I was spending it thinking he had already paid it. We eventually worked it out, but from that point on we swore we would never assume again. It was time to come up with a definite plan for each and every trip or deployment.

The biggest component when it comes to being prepared is the Power of Attorney (POA). It can be so confusing, but don't think that a general POA will take care of it all. I have had to do our taxes during deployments, needed a specific taxes POA. I have sold a house and bought a house while my husband was gone ... real estate POA. I have even sold a car to surprise him with a new truck while he was gone ... automobile POA. The general just won't do. Now, if you are going to be doing straight banking and bill paying the general POA is sufficient. However, I am a believer in having joint bank accounts. I was that girl, that independent girl, that thought no way would I share an account with someone. I learned my lesson and it has made military life so much easier in that

respect.

Consider allotments and don't forget about safe deposit boxes. Know where to send them. Know where they are. The not so fun part, you need to be up front and honest when looking at the financial outlook. What are your outstanding debts? What are your goals during this deployment? Will you be saving money, paying off credit cards? I know when my husband deploys, we don't look at the tax-free status as an opportunity to spend, spend, spend. Instead, consider taking that "extra" income and putting it away in savings or some sort of other high interest account. You can never go wrong with saving. It is something to consider.

There are many resources available to us as spouses. Contact Fleet and Family Support Services to find out if there is anything that can help you out. Also, [www.jag.navy.mil](http://www.jag.navy.mil) has an awesome pre-deployment checklist that covers financial issues and so much more. The most important thing here is communication. You and your spouse need to take the time (I know it is hard to find with all the other madness) to get on the same financial page.



You can catch Bianca Martinez anchoring the 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. newscasts with Kurt Williams during the work week. You can also follow her laughter, stress and tears as a military wife in her blog, "Married to the Military," weekly in the Flagship.

# Local service times

## IDS PROGRAMS

JEB Little Creek Chapel Worship Schedule:  
Noon — Sun. Worship (Chapel Annex Classroom 4)  
8 p.m. — Wed. Bible Study  
(Chapel Annex Classroom 4)

## NAVAL STATION NORFOLK

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

*Our Lady of Victory Chapel*

*Mass Schedule:*

5 p.m. — Sat.

*(fulfills Sunday obligation)*

10 a.m. — Sun.

11:45 a.m. — Mon.- Fri.

*(except holidays)*

*Confessions:*

4:15 p.m. Sat.

### PROTESTANT

*David Adams Memorial*

*Chapel Worship Services:*

10:30 a.m. — Sun.

*Worship*

*Wednesday Services:*

8:30 - 10:15 a.m. — Bible

Study Noon “Lunch

with the Lord”

**For more information call**  
**Naval Station Norfolk Chapel 444-7361**

## JEWISH PROGRAMS

*Commodore Uraih P. Levy Chapel:* Jewish services are at Norfolk chapel in Building C7 on the Second Floor every Friday at 7:30 p.m. Building C7 is located at 1630 Morris St. on Naval Base Norfolk. For more information call 444-7361 or 7363.

## MUSLIM PROGRAMS

Masjid al Da'wah

2nd Floor (Bldg. C-7): Muslim services are at Norfolk chapel every Friday at 1:30 p.m.

## JEB LITTLE CREEK CHAPEL

### ROMAN CATHOLIC

*Mass Schedule:*

5 p.m. — Sat.

*(fulfills Sunday obligation)*

9 a.m. & 12:15 p.m. — Sun.

11:30 a.m. — Tues. - Fri.

*(except holidays)*

*Confessions:*

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. — Sat.

### PROTESTANT

9 a.m. — Sun. School

(4 years-Adult)

10:30 a.m. — Sun.

Divine Worship,

Children's Church

(Ages 4-10)

PWOC: Bible Study at the Chapel Annex Every Wed.

Fellowship: 9:30 a.m. Bible Study: 10 a.m. - noon

PWOC: Evening Bible Study Every Mon.: 7 p.m.

Latter Day Saints

11:30 a.m. — Sun.

Coffeehouse

6 p.m. — Sun.

**For more information call JEB**  
**Little Creek Chapel 462-7427**

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# National Day of Prayer on USS Nassau

STORY AND PHOTO BY  
**MC3 DESIREE GREEN**

*Amphibious Squadron Eight  
(CPR-8) Public Affairs Office*

**USS NASSAU** — Sailors and Marines aboard USS Nassau (LHA 4) came together recently to celebrate the National Day of Prayer on the Mess Decks.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance held the first Thursday of May. This day is designated by United States Congress, so participants may turn to God in prayer and meditation. The law formalizing its annual observance was enacted in 1952.

“We have the liberty and freedom to come together in prayer and gratitude,” said ship’s Command Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. William D. Stallard, from Danville, Ky. “The free exercise of religion is a right that I cherish.”

The program began with Operations Specialist Seaman (SW) Joseph Marlo C. Guilas, from Las Vegas, singing the National Anthem followed by an invocation. Stallard then educated the crew on the history of the day.

While more than 50 crew members listened quietly, Information Systems Technician 1st Class (SW/AW) Jessica G. Castro, from Elizabeth, N.J., recited President Barack Obama’s official National Day of Prayer proclamation.

“On this day, let us give thanks for the many blessings God has bestowed upon our nation,” said Castro. “Let us rejoice for the blessing of freedom both to believe and to live our beliefs and for the many other freedoms and opportunities that bring us



Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. William D. Stallard opens the National Day of Prayer service held aboard the ship’s Mess Deck with the history of the nationally celebrated holiday.

together as one nation.”

After the reading of the proclamation, ship’s chaplain Lt. Victoria Chappell introduced the programs guest speaker, Command Master Chief (AW/SW) Stan Kopiczak.

Kopiczak expressed to the crew the influence that his father, faith and prayer has had in his life and how it shaped his success in the military.

“I have applied all of the lessons that I have learned from my father to my career and successfully use them in my family as well. A family that prays together, stays together,” said Kopiczak.

Kopiczak also discussed turning to prayer during hard times, such as deployment while also recognizing one’s many blessings.

“There is always something to be thankful for,” said Kopiczak.

Sailors and Marines agreed that the service was a morale booster and came at just the right time.

The crew is currently at the half way mark of a seven-month deployment in which they have spent more than 100 days out to sea without a liberty port.

“I think that it was needed,” said Cryptologic Technician Technical 2nd Class (SW) Raynetta L. Presswood from East Point, Ga. “After being underway for over 100 days, it is easy for someone to forget that after all the hours of watch and physical training, you need to stop and take a break to think of all you have accomplished and what lies ahead.”

Not only was the National Day of Prayer a morale booster, but also educational.

“It’s nice to know that the command cares enough about the crew to give us a program like this,” said Presswood. “I really enjoyed it. The program gave me a look into what the

National Day of Prayer is all about and for the people that came out and participated, it proved that we all share the same values.”

The Nassau Amphibious Ready Group (NAS ARG)/24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) is currently supporting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) Operations in the 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

NAS ARG is comprised of ships from Amphibious Squadron Eight (PHIBRON 8) including the Tarawa-class multipurpose amphibious assault ship USS Nassau (LHA 4), the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) and the Whidbey Island-class amphibious dock landing ship USS Ashland (LSD 48). Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (24 MEU) complete the group.



# 2010 MOAA Military Spouse Symposium in Va. Beach

BY MICHELLE GALVEZ  
*Navy spouse, journalist*

About 100 military spouses gathered at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, May 13, for the 4th Annual Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Military Spouse Symposium and 130 more spouses attended online. The symposium was open to spouses of all ranks and service branches.

This year’s theme was “Spouse Solutions Summit: Making the Connection” and included a legislative and benefits update, a luncheon honoring this year’s Heroes at Home Military Spouse of the Year and two panel discussions – one on social networking and another from SpouseBUZZ bloggers.

Phil Dyer, MOAA’s Deputy Director of Financial Education discussed the nuts and bolts of transferability of the Post 9/11 GI Bill, the Yellow Ribbon program, the Gunny Fry Scholarship for children of service members killed in the line of duty, the latest on the MyCAA program and how the Military Spouse Hiring Authority can help those looking for a job.

For military spouses in the job market, the Hiring Authority authorizes non-competitive appointment of qualified military spouses to federal civil service positions for temporary, term and permanent positions.

“This really has opened up a broader range of opportunities for spouses to get government jobs,” Dyer explained. Readers can



(L-R) Stephanie Himmel-Nelson, Monique Rizer and Vivian Greentree at the 2010 MOAA Military Spouse Symposium, in Virginia Beach.

download Dyer’s entire presentation by visiting [www.moaa.org/welcomespouse](http://www.moaa.org/welcomespouse) and clicking MOAA Spouse Symposium.

During lunch, Deanne Polanin, a Navy wife and the 2010 Heroes at Home Military Spouse of the Year, was recognized and presented with awards by representatives from MOAA, the Naval Institute and AFCEA In-

ternational as part of the Joint Warfighting Conference going on next door.

The symposium’s premier sponsor was Ceridian. Freebies and resources to fill up participants’ souvenir tote bags were offered by more than a dozen organizations at the symposium. They included event sponsors “Flagship” and Military Newspapers of

Virginia, plus Fleet and Family Support Centers, Blue Star Families, Military OneSource, Marine Corps Family Team Building, USO, Navy Safe Harbor, SOAR and many others. Most of the resource tables were staffed by military spouses.

At the SOAR (Student Online Achievement Resources) table, Navy spouse Angela Lees was kept busy explaining how the free program can help military children in grades three through 11 in all 50 states and DoD schools. The online program is accessible 24/7 from anywhere in the world, so deployed parents can even stay involved in their child’s progress.

“I’m here today because it’s important to ensure that every military spouse knows about this free educational resource for their children,” said Lees. “I’m passionate about SOAR and getting the word out so every military child is able to take advantage of this benefit.”

Blue Star Families (BSF), a non-partisan organization committed to support, connect and empower military families, was also part of the resource fair and volunteers encouraged symposium attendees to participate in the 2010 Military Family Lifestyle Survey.

*Michelle Galvez is a Navyspouse, journalist, ombudsman and mother who lives in Virginia Beach with her husband and children. Contact her at [michellegalvez@hotmail.com](mailto:michellegalvez@hotmail.com).*

## Project Hope Recognizes Navy contribution

BY MC2 (SW)  
**KYLE P. MALLOY**  
*Chief of Naval Operations  
Public Affairs*

WASHINGTON — The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Adm. Gary Roughead, was the honorary representative for the Navy at the Project Hope Spring Gala in Washington, D.C., May 20.

President and CEO of Project Hope, John P. Howe, thanked Roughead for the Navy’s continued partnership during humanitarian and relief efforts.

“Project Hope recognizes the United States Navy and its exceptional maritime strategy with its emphasis to build

trust and improve and safe the lives of millions of children and adults in nations throughout the world through these humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions,” said Howe.

Roughead spoke about the impact of the Navy, its Sailors, Project Hope and partnering navies during disaster relief efforts during the Indian Ocean tsunami and more recently, the earthquake in Haiti.

“(The efforts) have paid off in what we have been able to give to people around the world who, in their wildest dreams, never thought that from the sea

there would come people who care about them, who care about their families, who care about their future, and care about what we can do if we could join together,” said Roughead.

Roughead thanked Project Hope for the partnership and friendship that has enabled the two organizations to have such a positive global impact and reinforce the Navy’s motto of ‘Global Force for Good.’

“We are (a ‘Global Force for Good’) because of organizations like Project Hope that show the true side of our country, of our people and what we want to see in the world of to-



Photo by MC1 Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead gives his command coin to Haiti earthquake survivor 8-year-old Dave Louizard during the Project Hope Spring Gala in Washington, D.C.

morrow,” said Roughead.

Project Hope has partnered with the Navy to help make health care available to com-

munities around the world through a variety of medical initiatives and educational programs. Since 2005, more than

1,000 Project Hope volunteers have participated in 17 humanitarian assistance and health education missions.

## Health agencies focus on STI prevention

### PRESS RELEASE

USS Wasp (LHD 1)  
Public Affairs

**USS Wasp (LHD 1)** — The daunting problem of Sailors contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) has become a major focus of health care providers around the Fleet and onboard the Multipurpose Amphibious Assault Ship USS Wasp (LHD 1).

An estimated 19 million new cases of STIs are reported in the U.S. every year, almost half of which are among people under age 25, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Onboard Wasp, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SW/AW) Joseph Nicholls noted the rise in cases and attributes the increase to a combination of behavior and location.

“The prevalence of STIs is increasing. People engaging in risky sex practices – including having multiple partners and not using condoms – have increased the number of STI cases we are seeing. Hampton Roads leads the nation in per capita STI cases and we work extensively with local health agencies and the CDC to keep on top of the problem,” said Nicholls.

Nicholls and fellow preventive medicine technician (PMT), Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Rafael Collins, work to ensure the ship's crew get's the education and treatment they need.

“We provide guidance and screening and all information regarding the patient is considered confidential and will not be disclosed to the chain of command,” said Nicholls. “We are not here to judge, we're here to help our shipmates.”

Health practitioners see patients with various types of STIs, but there are a few that seem to be more prevalent, including chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis.

Unlike gonorrhea and syphilis, which are associated with symptoms that are painful and discomforting, symptoms of Chlamydia are usually mild or absent. Thus, many individuals who have the disease may not know they have it and are likely to continue spreading it.

According to the CDC, Chlamydia is one of the most common STIs in the country, especially among young women. It can potentially cause damage to their reproductive organs, infertility and pregnancy complications.

“It's better to come in as soon as possible if someone believes they may have an STI,” said Collins. “Most are treatable and many curable, so it makes sense to come in sooner rather than later to get the treatment they need. In some cases, if left untreated, certain STIs can cause problems for future reproduction.”

According to Nicholls, practicing safe sex – including abstinence – is the best way to avoid the problem. In the Navy, Sailors are required to be tested for HIV every two years, but are not limited to that requirement – they can be tested more often if they so choose. Wasp Sailors are encouraged to seek guidance from their PMT's and to keep abreast of current trends in STIs and to understand the potential impact on their health.



**Lt. Cmdr. John Laney, Explosive Ordinance Disposal Liaison Officer with Carrier Strike Group 2 embarked on the multi-purpose amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1), stretches after running on the flight deck while underway on a training operation in the Atlantic Ocean area of responsibility.**

## Wasp holds fast to high fitness standards

STORY AND PHOTO BY MCSN SCOTT PITTMAN

USS Wasp (LHD 1)/ NPASE-E SEAOPDET

**USS Wasp (LHD 1)** — The multi-purpose Amphibious Assault Ship USS Wasp (LHD 1) opened its flight deck to crew members for physical fitness training while on a training exercise in the Atlantic Ocean, May 2.

The flight deck is normally off limits for such activities due to flight operations being conducted or for safety concerns, but with no clouds in the sky, the sun shining and the spring Physical Readiness Test (PRT) scheduled soon – maintaining the Navy's fitness standards is paramount.

“People asking for help is my motivation,” said Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (AW/SW) Hector Respeto, the Command Fitness Leader (CFL). “If I see Sailors out there who ask, Chief, can you come help us out – I'm in PT gear in no time and I'm up there helping them.”

Sailors are administered a PRT every six months to ensure they are physically fit. These tests consist of push-ups, curl-ups and a 1.5 mile run, although the cardio portion can be administered on an elliptical machine, exercise bicycle, treadmill or as a swim test as alternatives for the test.

“I'm actually going to start doing the swim,” said Quartermaster 3rd Class Daniel Cupp, with Morale, Welfare and Recreation. “I've been swimming since I was a little kid. I love swimming and I think it is the easiest thing.”

Sailors who fail to meet minimum requirements are put into a fitness enhancement program, also known as FEP. FEP Sailors aboard Wasp muster three times a week for 45 to 60 minute PT sessions.

“A lot of people think it's a disciplinary tool or a punishment, but it's not. It's a program to target Sailors in the areas they are having problems with,” said Respeto. “If they are having problems with weight management, then we target losing inches and burning calories. If they are having a problem with their run time, then we target their cardio.”

OPNAVINST 6111.1H states that Sailors who fall out of standards and fail to pass both the Body Composition Assessment (BCA) or the weigh-in and taping, or the Physical Fitness Assessment portions of the semi-annual PRT, are ineligible for advancement. Sailors who fail three PRTs within a four-year period will be administratively separated from the Navy, ultimately ending their careers.

“You get out of it what you put in,” said Operations Department's Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class (AW) Manuel Villa, a Wasp Sailor who said he's benefited from FEP. “When I have something to motivate me I push myself harder. I've improved in all aspects with the PRT ... and it has brought my weight down.”

Regular physical activity improves your mood, combats disease, assists weight management, boosts energy and promotes better sleep according to the Mayo Clinic website.

## USS WASP

# EMRT: Training to save lives

BY MC1 (SW/AW)

ANDREW MCCORD

USS Wasp (LHD 1)

Public Affairs

**USS Wasp (LHD 1)**

— It's one of the few calls over the 1 Main Circuit that every person on the ship stops and listens to:

Medical emergency, medical emergency ...

Afterward people will go about their business, hoping that it's not someone they know who's been hurt. Occasionally, if they're in the right place at the right time, they'll see a flurry of Sailors running with backpacks and a stretcher to wherever the scene might be.

The Wasp Emergency Medical Response Team (EMRT) is comprised of four corpsmen and the General Medical Officer. The EMRT is designed to get to the scene of any medical emergency in less than four minutes to begin providing on-scene care with the ultimate goal of stabilization.

“Our goal is to get there as quickly as we can, because in the case of a major casualty, you have three-and-a-half minutes to four minutes before irreversible damage could occur,” said EMRT member Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Michael Azoy. “We want to initiate treatment before there's a serious injury.”

Between the four members, they have nearly 10 years aboard USS Wasp, two tours in Iraq that involved combat action and experience in the civilian sector as Emergency Medical Technicians. In the last year, they have had to deal with casualties ranging from heat stress to head lacerations to dislocated and fractured ankles to a patient that required immediate Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.

The training and experience that goes along with being an EMRT member requires them to be able to deal with any potential



Photo by MCSN Richard J. Stevens

**Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW) Michael Azoy carries a stretcher as USS Wasp's (LHD 1) Emergency Medical Response Team (EMRT) rushes out of the ship's medical center during a training exercise May 2.**

medical casualty on the spot and then to be able to transfer them as quickly as possible to medical.

“When we get to a scene, we usually don't know what's happened or what we're going to find,” said EMRT member Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class (SW/AW/FMF) Lloyd Smith. “But, we've all worked together long enough that we know each other and what to expect from each other.”

Along with their regular training as corpsmen, EMRT members receive regular drilling – approximately every other day – to keep them on their toes and ready to treat the next casualty. Despite the small size of their team, they are quick to note that their duties could be fulfilled by any member of the Medical Department.

“All corpsmen can be on the team,” said EMRT team member Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (SW/AW) Travis Winston.

“We're all trained in emergency medicine and even if you don't see the other corpsmen on the scene, they're all busy mobilizing the Main Battle Dressing Station and preparing to receive the patient. When we get there with the patient, we'll do a turnover, give them the preliminary vitals and any information we may have gotten from other people on the scene and then the patient is theirs.”

Another aspect that the team is greatly appreciative of is the security personnel who they work in tandem with and who act as crowd control for the understandably curious bystanders during medical emergencies.

“In terms of spectators, we don't need them,” said Azoy. “Security does a really good job of keeping those people out of our way so that we can do our jobs and get the patient stabilized and up to medical.”





Photo by MC3 Bryan Blair

Sailors and Marines watch the U.S. Navy flight demonstration team, the Blue Angels, perform an air-power demonstration over the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65).

# Blue Angels perform at-sea air show for USS Enterprise

BY MCSN NATHAN CARPENTER  
*USS Enterprise Public Affairs*

**ABOARD USS ENTERPRISE, At Sea** — The U.S. Navy flight demonstration team, the Blue Angels, conducted an at-sea air-power demonstration show above USS Enterprise (CVN 65), May 21, for a crowd of thousands of Sailors on the flight deck. The Blue Angels were practicing for a scheduled air show at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. They amazed the crowd on the flight deck below by performing aerial maneuvers and close-formation flybys. The six blue-and-gold F/A-18 fighter jets approached in a perfect V formation and then peeled off one by one as a greeting to the watching Sailors.

The show was a highly anticipated event on the ship and it provided a few minutes of fun for the crew, which have been conducting virtually around-the-clock flight operations

in support of carrier qualifications for Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 1. “This was an awesome opportunity for our Sailors who have been really working hard day and night. Many have never seen the Blue Angels and you can’t ask for a better vantage point than on the flight deck of an aircraft carrier at sea,” said Capt. Ryan B. Scholl, the ship’s Executive Officer and former Blue Angels pilot. The ship had 10 civilian distinguished visitors aboard who also had the opportunity to watch the show. The event further enhanced their experience. “This is amazing!” said Peter Richardson, an executive at Navy Federal Credit Union who was part of the embarked group. “A big goal of mine is to really serve the Sailors who are our customers and get a better understanding of where they’re coming from and what they do. This sort of thing just makes me appreciate what Sailors do every day.”

The Blue Angels squadron is made up of more than 130 Navy and Marine Corps officers and enlisted personnel. The squadron composition is much like any other military aircraft squadron, but earning a duty assignment comes only after a highly selective process that includes an application, interviews and a record full of superior service evaluations. The squadron spends most of the year traveling the globe conducting precision air shows, wowing the crowds that gather wherever they fly. The air show over Enterprise lasted for an hour and within an hour of the Blue Angels disappearing over the horizon, Enterprise was launching sorties from her flight deck. Enterprise is underway conducting carrier qualifications in preparation for her work-up phase leading to its 21st deployment. *For more news from USS Enterprise (CVN 65), visit [www.navy.mil/local/cvn65/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cvn65/).*

## Eisenhower nominated for Phoenix Award

BY MC1 AMY KIRK  
*USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) Public Affairs*

**USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, At Sea** — USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) is competing against all the other branches of the military for the Secretary of Defense’s Phoenix Award.

Every year the Navy, Marine Corps, Army and the Air Force compete for the award based on how well their commands perform maintenance.

According to DoD Instruction 1348.30, the award recognizes maintenance operations and accomplishments at the unit and program levels. Award categories include small, medium and large commands with two commands in each category able to win the award.

Eisenhower, nominated in the large command category, will be judged on several criteria, including effective use of maintenance resources, innovative management accomplishment, personal quality-of-life programs and mission accomplishment.

Chief Engineer Cmdr. Howard Markle said being the only afloat command nominated in large command category says a lot about the crew’s capability to effectively and efficiently maintain the material condition of the ship.

“We always attribute our successes to an all hands effort and it is no different with the maintenance of the ship,”

said Markle. “Every department plays a role in maintaining the overall material condition of the ship.” Markle explained that while departments such as Reactor, Combat Systems, Engineering and Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department are more maintenance oriented, every Sailor or aboard ship has to take ownership of their spaces, equipment and the maintenance they perform within their department in order to keep the carrier in good working order. Markle stated that the crew’s ability to conduct shipboard maintenance in a self-sufficient manner without relying on outside contractors is another reason for the nomination. “We do a great job fixing our ship, everything from making sure the ship is clean and properly preserved to maintaining overall equipment operability,” said Markle. “Our ability to fix our own equipment without asking for outside assistance is the true measure of our maintenance capability. We have also demonstrated our capability to help other ships within the strike group with repairs and technical assistance to conduct their own repairs.” With effective use of maintenance, personnel and financial resources, combined with an all-hands approach, the Eisenhower crew has developed into a highly efficient maintenance team.

(L-R) Capt. Babette Bolivar, the Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Yorktown assists Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic by ceremoniously cutting a cake to commemorate the achievements of Asian-Pacific Americans.



## Sailors honor Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

STORY AND PHOTOS  
BY MC3 SAMANTHA  
ROBINETT

*The Flagship staff writer*

The Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic staff participated in a ceremony to honor Asian-Pacific American (APA) Heritage Month, May 24.

A rather broad term, Asian-Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia.

The ceremony included APA history along with how May came to be a month dedicated to enriching the communities of America with the Asian-Pacific heritage.

The guest speaker of the ceremony was Capt. Babette Bolivar, the Commanding Officer of Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.

Bolivar was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and has been an officer in the Navy since graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1985 and was inducted into the Women Divers Hall of Fame in 2005.

Bolivar spoke extensively of APA heritage before assisting Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic with the ceremonious cutting of a cake to commemorate the achievements of Asian-Pacific Americans.

APA Heritage Month was enacted by public law on October 28, 1992. The purpose of the law was to honor the achievements of the APAs



Capt. Babette Bolivar speaks during a ceremony to honor Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, May 24.

and to recognize their contributions to the United States.

The recognition was the culmination of Jeanie Jew's efforts in the 1970s to establish APA Heritage Week.

In 1977, Jew enlisted the support of Reps. Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California who introduced a House resolution that called upon the president to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week.

The month of May was

chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843 and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869.

The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

On October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution declaring the first Asian Pacific American Heritage Week as May 4 - 10, 1979.

In 1992, the week was expanded to a month-long recognition by President George Bush. The law was unanimously supported by both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

## Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, aboard Naval Weapons Station Yorktown



Photos by Mark Piggott

(At Left) Faitala Tualauleilei (front) and At Aelua (back) of the Aiga O Toa O Samoa family dance group performs a Fijian war chant as part of a special performance commemorating Asian-Pacific Heritage Month, May 13, aboard Naval Weapons Station Yorktown. Aiga O Toa O Samoa family dance group is composed of military personnel and their dependents who are all from the South Pacific islands.

(Top) Members of the Aiga O Toa O Samoa family dance group performs the Samoan "Aginaia" as part of a special performance.

(Bottom) Musu Ifopo of the Aiga O Toa O Samoa family dance group performs the Samoan "Pate Pate" as part of a special performance.



# Secrets of the Post 9-11 GI Bill

## Part 1: Understanding how it all works and how to make the most of your Post 9 - 11 GI Bill

BY MC1 (AW) TIM COMERFORD  
The Flagship Staff Writer

If you want to make the most of your Post 9-11 GI Bill, then the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) has some valuable information to share. There are secrets that will help you maximize what you get out of your benefit. This first in a two part series discusses an overview of the program, its benefits and what the benefit can do if you have already taken advantage of the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB) and steps service.

### This isn't your father's GI Bill

"This is the new benefit for service members post Sept. 11. The basic benefit itself is tied directly to your Title 10 active duty from September 11 coming forward," said Phillip A. Dyer, deputy director, financial education at MOAA. The title that Dyer refers to is the U.S. Code: Title 10, Subtitle E, Part II, Chapter 1209, Section 12304 pertaining to "Selected Reserve and certain Individual Ready Reserve members; order to active duty other than during war or national emergency."

According to the new set of rules, the amount of the schooling the Post 9-11 GI Bill will pay is based on the amount of active duty service that was completed after Sept. 11.

"You must have served in an active duty component or be in the Guard or Reserve that has been activated under Title 10," Dyer explained. "To receive the lowest level of benefit, you must have 90 days of aggregate Title 10 time from Sept. 11, 2001 forward or have served 30 continuous days and have been discharged due to service connected disability."

Dyer expressed that annual training time for National Guard and Reserve does not count towards time that can be used to receive the benefit. He also said the National Guard does not qualify, but he thinks that might change.

For officers to qualify it takes a bit more work.

"It is a five year obligation coming out of the academy," said Dyer. "In order to qualify at the 100 percent rate, the officer has to serve an additional three years. To transfer it to a spouse they have to be at 11 years and to transfer it to kids, they have to be at 15 years."

The bill's benefits last longer than the MGIB.

"Once you have it, the benefit lasts for 15 years after separation or retirement from the service. For kids it is up until their 26th birthday."

The Post 9-11 Bill benefit is not always better than MGIB.

"Certificate programs, vocational training or flight training – unless it is tied to a degree program – are not covered," Dyer explained. "MGIB covers certificate training, vocational training, flight training and things of that nature."

### Whether you had or used the MGIB, you can still qualify

"If you are going to use the benefits personally and you are 50 percent or more done with your MGIB, you are better off finishing it up," said Dyer. "Then once you are finished, you can pick up 12 months of post 9-11 GI Bill benefits. This is because if you have used 18

## Post 9-11 GI Bill basic Information

- The amount of the schooling the Post 9-11 GI Bill will pay is based on the amount of active duty service that was completed after Sept. 11, 2001.

- For officers to receive the GI Bill they have to serve an additional 3 years to their initial obligation.

- Benefits from the Post 9-11 GI Bill last until 15 years after separation from the service or if transferred to children until they reach their 26th birthday.

- The Post 9-11 GI Bill, unlike the Montgomery GI Bill will not cover certification Programs, Vocational Schools or Flight training unless they are tied to a degree.

- The maximum benefit a service member can

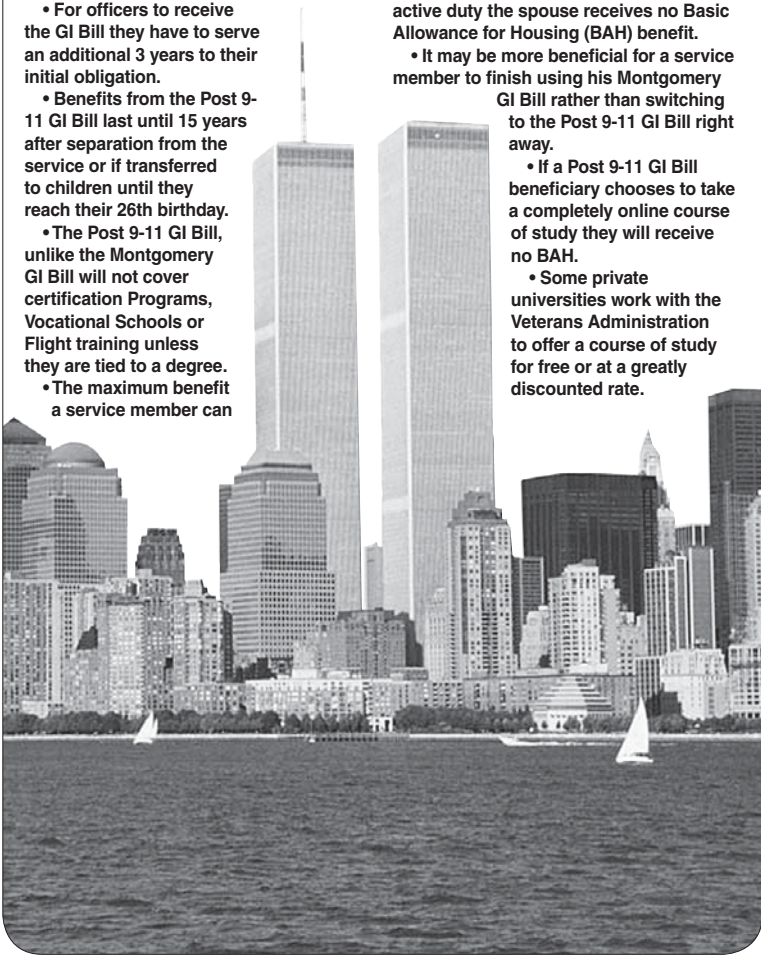
receive from the Post 9-11 GI Bill is 36 months of educational benefits.

- If a service member chooses to transfer benefits to a spouse while still on active duty the spouse receives no Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) benefit.

- It may be more beneficial for a service member to finish using his Montgomery GI Bill rather than switching to the Post 9-11 GI Bill right away.

- If a Post 9-11 GI Bill beneficiary chooses to take a completely online course of study they will receive no BAH.

- Some private universities work with the Veterans Administration to offer a course of study for free or at a greatly discounted rate.



months or more of the MGIB and you transfer over to the post 9-11 GI bill, you will only have 18 month left on it. But, if you finish up all 36 month of your MGIB, then you can get 12 months of post 9-11."

### Money, money, money

"The maximum benefit is for 36 months of full time educational benefits," Dyer explained. "You are not required to go full time – you can go on a part time basis – it can be transferred to your spouse or kids and there is no enrollment fee. If you look at the average cost to attend a four-year university across the country, it's about \$6,600 or a private school for around \$25,000 in tuition."

"At the base level, the benefit covers the highest tuition fee for undergraduate education at a public university of the state where the beneficiary is attending school," said Dyer. "With the Post 9-11 GI Bill, this must be a degree granting university. It must be an Associates degree, Bachelors degree, Masters degree or PHD program through an accredited university."

"The second thing to be paid out at the base pro-

gram is \$1,000 a year in books and supplies. That is paid directly to the student and the educational benefit is paid to the schools, unlike the MGIB."

### The difference between the bills

"The big change from the MGIB is the payment of a housing stipend that is the equivalent of the E-5 Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate with dependant for the zip code of the school that is being attended," Dyer explained. "The BAH is also paid directly to the student. So, if you transfer the benefit to your kids and they are 18, it goes to them. A parent might want to set up a joint bank account so they know what is happening with that account."

For spouses of active duty service members, the Post 9-11 Bill works differently and can be a huge advantage.

"Spouses of folks on active duty do not get the BAH payment and for some strange reason they don't get the books and supplies stipend. However, there is no tuition gap for active duty service members and spouses of active duty service members' spouses," Dyer explained. "If a spouse is interested in getting a significant career enhancing degree, like medical school or going to law school with a whole lot of potential to earn a lot of money. These are expensive degrees; they may want to consider using that benefit for their spouse. If they are going to \$120,000 a year medical school, right now there is no tuition gap, it would be covered completely."

Some private universities work with the Veteran's Administration (VA) also to get service members enrolled.

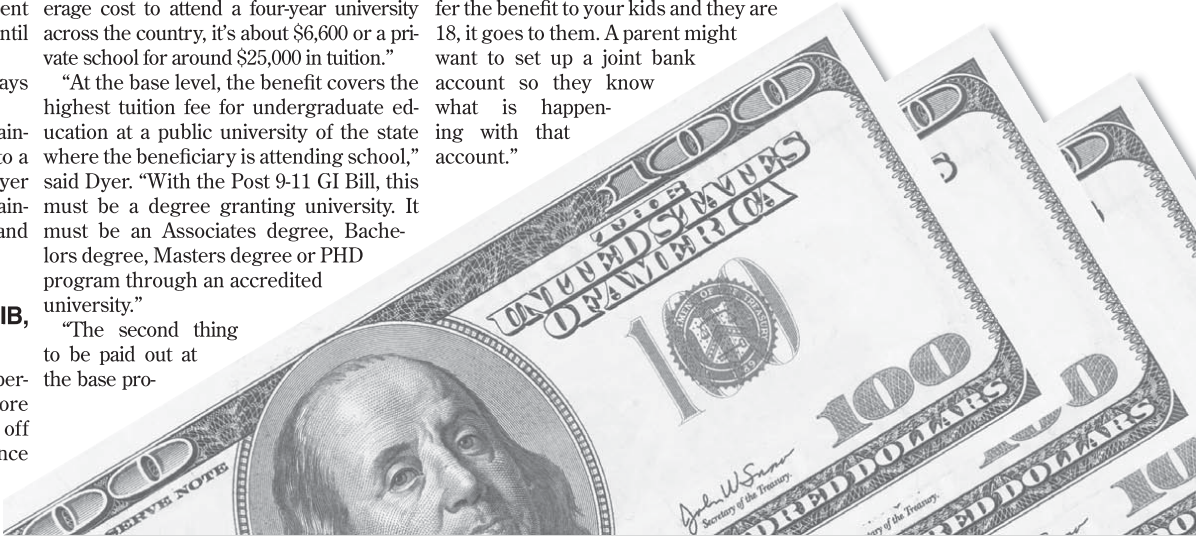
"Also available is the yellow ribbon program for service members that receive 100 percent benefit. Schools can voluntarily pay up to 50 percent of the difference between the cost of the school and what the VA will pay under the basic program and the VA matches that expense for the service member," said Dyer. "Lets say the state benefit is \$10,000 and it costs \$20,000 tops go to the school. The school can kick in \$5,000 and the VA will match that dollar for dollar. In this case it would cost that student nothing to attend that school."

A completely online course of study could be detrimental.

"If the service member's entire course of study is online at a university that does not have a physical location, you will get no BAH," said Dyer. "The schools are not stupid, they are aggressively partnering with local bricks and mortar locations to offer one course out of the semester course of study at that physical location. As long as they take one course per term at a physical location it activates the BAH."

There is also a BAH rule that could benefit the service member.

"As long as you, your spouse or your child is attending school at half time plus one, you get the BAH benefit. For an undergraduate degree, full time is 12 credit hours and half time is six credit hours, so 7 credit hours. But, if you are on half time plus one you are burning your benefit slower. Instead of 36 months worth of benefit, it would actually stretch it out to 60 months."



## Did You Know?

**Remembering Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in your will (or living trust) is one of the easiest and best ways to ensure that the Society's crucial work will continue for generations to come?**

Including the Society as a beneficiary of your will can be as simple as adding an amendment (or codicil) to your existing document. NMCRS can provide sample bequest wording and a codicil form.

Please contact the Society for further information! Let them know how they can be of assistance.

**Contact your local NMCRS Office today!**  
**NMCRS: Your First Resource**  
[www.nmcrrs.org](http://www.nmcrrs.org)



# Part I: Reflections from the Naval Mine Depot, Kirkpatrick Park



U.S. Navy Photos  
**Capt. Robert Kirkpatrick Had a long and illustrious Naval career that took him to what is now known as Naval Weapon Station Yorktown.**

**BY LEO C. FORREST, JR.**  
*Navy Munitions Command, Yorktown*

At 9 a.m. on Nov. 2, 1942, a remarkable individual took command of Naval Mine Depot Yorktown. As a Naval Aviator, he may have been considered a pioneer, but events of WWII would bring him to an ordnance production facility located in southeast Virginia where he presented a plan to the civilian workers that helped to win WWII. Perhaps, the achievements that he shared with the civilian workers would have been forgotten by now, except for a reflection that is still cast at a place now known as Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.

Commanding Officer, Capt. Robert D. Kirkpatrick, directed over two-thousand civilians to assemble, May 8, 1945, at the parade ground, located in the southwest corner of the intersection of Main Road and Spring Road at the Naval Mine Depot Yorktown, Va. There was an atmosphere of pride and patriotism as the buses arrived from the worksites and unloaded their passengers.

The area went silent as a delegation of officers made their way from the Administration Building toward a wooden platform that Kirkpatrick had constructed just shortly before the ceremony. Executive Officer, Capt. Herbert Rice, introduced the Commanding Officer who had approached the podium and prepared to address the civilian workers.

"The mission of the Naval Mine Depot is to store high explosives, to fill, service and store mines, depth charges, war heads, torpedoes, anti-submarine devices, aircraft rockets, bombs and their component parts in order to maintain a supply and provide a reserve for the U.S. Fleet," said Kirkpatrick during his speech.

He continued, "We have executed our mission that has been fully confirmed by letters, telegrams and cables setting forth the damaging blows inflicted on our enemies by munitions which were loaded and assembled here. We, of this command,



**A crowd of thousands of civilians gathered to hear what Capt. Robert Kirkpatrick, then Commanding Officer of Naval Mine Depot Yorktown, had to say on the day of the German surrender, May 8, 1945.**

are playing an important and essential part in the successful prosecution of the war."

Perhaps a round of applause echoed across the military installation that sat just inside the mouth of the York River. When it was established in 1918, the Mine Depot was envisioned as a place to store underwater mine materials left over from WWI. Though, over the years, the role of the Mine Depot had grown to include the list of war supplies described by Kirkpatrick.

"To each and every one of you I extend sincere greetings and grateful acknowledgment of the loyal and enthusiastic part you have played at the Naval Mine Depot during WWII," concluded Kirkpatrick.

After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in June of 1913, Kirkpatrick reported onboard USS Hull, where he served as Executive Officer.

In the spring of 1916, Kirkpatrick began training in fixed-wing and lighter-than-air craft at Naval Air Station, Pensacola. In June 1917, he was designated Naval Aviator no. 48.

After earning his wings, Kirkpatrick was chosen to establish and organize all Naval Aviation training schools. He held this responsibility throughout WWI, until he received orders to report to Naval Headquarters, London. While there he observed the advances being made in the skies over Europe.

Over the next few years, Kirkpatrick found himself at the forefront of Naval Aviation. In Dec. 1919, Kirkpatrick was ordered to report to Pearl Harbor as Commanding Officer.

He then received orders to report to Hawaii, where he was the first person to fly to Midway Island. He then produced a composite aerial topography chart that would be used to establish Naval Air Station Ford Island.

In the fall of 1926, Kirkpatrick continued his work in Naval Aviation as a Naval attaché to Europe. For the next few years, Kirkpatrick was attached to the embassies of London, Paris, Berlin and the Hague. Often, his work was interrupted in order to inspect Naval Air Sta-

tion facilities, including those in Spain and North Africa.

Kirkpatrick then experienced a heart attack that forced him to retire from the Navy. He had just completed a series of Navy sea-duty service requirements as the Commanding Officer of the destroyers: USS Hatfield, USS Hopkins and USS Dobbin.

Kirkpatrick's retirement, however, was immediately followed by a recall to active duty that would limit him to shore base assignments. And on the morning of Nov. 2, 1942, Kirkpatrick, age 51, took command of the Naval Mine Depot Yorktown.

At the Mine Depot, Kirkpatrick became well known for conducting unannounced work-site inspections. Whenever his green Buick pulled up in front of a building, "attention on deck" echoed throughout the hallways.

Kirkpatrick's inspections started as soon as he walked in a building. He would approach a worker and started a series of questions about the work that he or she was doing. Then he

would walk across the room to question someone else about the work they were doing.

After just a few days of arriving at the Mine Depot, everyone had come to realize that their job is just as important as any other.

Kirkpatrick encouraged everyone, especially those who lived on the Mine Depot, to plant a victory garden. These backyard vegetable gardens were both a sign of patriotism and an important source of food during this time of war.

The victory gardens were also subject to Kirkpatrick's inspections and with food supplies being rationed, he expected to find the plants well-watered and the soil free of weeds. He was said to have spent much of his free time, including weekends teaching farmers how to best improve their crops.

A feeling of pride and appreciation had developed – both for the civilian workers and for Kirkpatrick. Overnight, the Mine Depot had turned into a state-of-the-art ordnance production, testing and storage facility.

*Next week, in Part II of this two-part series, the civilian workers will again assemble at the corner of Main Road and Spring Road. This time, however, it will be the civilian workers who will request Kirkpatrick's presence at the parade ground. Following the presentation, a lasting tribute will be unveiled to an individual whose bold vision, leadership and accomplishments are still reflected at a place known today as Naval Weapons Station Yorktown.*

*Leo C. Forrest, Jr. is a mechanical engineer at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, and can be contacted at 887-4780.*



**Capt. Robert Kirkpatrick praises the audience at Naval Mine Depot Yorktown, thanking them for the excellent job that helped strike a blow against America's enemies during WWII.**





Photo by MC2 Rafael Martie

**Capt. Joe Clarkson, commanding officer of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), responds to questions by media before the ship's departure from Naval Station Norfolk.**



Photo by MC2 Rafael Martie

**Chief Logistics Specialist (SW) Jose Rodriguez from the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) says goodbye to his daughter prior to the ship departing.**



Photo by MC3 Brian Goodwin

**Commander, Harry S. Truman Strike Group (HST CSG) Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll responds to questions by media before the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) departs from Naval Station Norfolk.**

# TRUMAN: The Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group deployed for a six-month deployment in support of maritime security operations

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forces to support maritime security operations and operating in international waters around the globe, working with other coalition maritime forces.

The HST CSG, which consists of approximately 6,000 Sailors who,

over the last four months, have successfully completed refresher training and certifications to ensure they operate effectively and safely together.

“The USS Harry S. Truman has worked hard to maintain our operational excellence and we are prepared to answer the call. There

is no doubt in my mind that these Sailors are prepared to get underway and that they will excel at whatever task we are assigned,” said Capt. Joseph Clarkson, Truman’s commanding officer.

*For more news from USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75), visit [www.navy.mil/local/cvn75/](http://www.navy.mil/local/cvn75/).*

## Navy property transferred to the City of Virginia Beach

**BY KELLEY STIRLING**  
*Naval Air Station Oceana  
Public Affairs*

**VIRGINIA BEACH** — Naval Air Station Oceana and the city of Virginia Beach closed May 18 on the transfer of 98 acres, called the Marshview property, from the Navy to the city.

“This is a win-win for the Navy and the city of Virginia Beach,” said Capt. Mark Rich, commanding officer of NAS Oceana. “The Navy is eliminating a significant amount of excess property, while ensuring the continued compatible use of that parcel while gaining substantial additional development rights in a high priority area, and the City of Virginia Beach gains a sizeable parcel which it intends to develop into a low-density park which will

be welcomed by the surrounding communities.”

The Marshview property, which is in Virginia Beach near Birdneck Road, was purchased by the Navy in the late 80s as part of the Navy’s Air Installations Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) acquisitions around Oceana and Naval Auxiliary Landing Field Fentress.

At the time, the Navy was purchasing restrictive easements on property as part of the AICUZ acquisitions, however, the easement purchase alone for the Marshview property proved to be very costly; instead, the Navy bought the property in a fee simple purchase for \$4.29 million. Part of the property lies within the greater than 75 average decibel level and the Accident Potential Zone Two.

For many years, the City of Virginia Beach has sought to acquire this property from the Navy to turn into a low-density park area, which would be a compatible use under the AICUZ program. After deliberations, this transfer has taken place and rather than a cash purchase, the Navy has asked the proceeds to be used for the purchase of restrictive easements on 46.71 acres for encroachment buffering within the inter-facility traffic area between Oceana and Fentress.

The Navy will still own a Restrictive Easement over the Marshview property, but the city’s park development plans fall within those restrictions.

*For more news from Naval Air Station Oceana, visit [www.navy.mil/local/oceana/](http://www.navy.mil/local/oceana/).*

## Hundreds of museums offer free admission to military families

**BY ELAINE WILSON**  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — Active duty service members and their families will gain free access to hundreds of museums throughout the nation in the summer of 2010, thanks to a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families.

More than 600 museums in 50 states and the District of Columbia have signed up so far to participate in Operation Appreciation: Blue Star Museums.

The program offers active duty service members – including activated Guard and Reserve – and up to five of their immediate family members free admission to participating museums from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

“The Blue Star Museums initiative is a tangible expression of appreciation to service members and their families,” said Barbara Thompson, director of the Pentagon’s office of family policy, children and youth. “It warms our hearts to see how other federal agencies and local communities can think creatively to recognize their sacrifice and contribu-

tion to the nation.”

Visit [www.arts.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/index.php](http://www.arts.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/index.php) for a complete list of participating museums, which run the gamut from children’s and fine arts to history and science museums. Participating museums include the Art Institute of Chicago, Dallas Museum of Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia, Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and all of New Mexico’s 14 state-run museums and historic monuments.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for service members and their families to enjoy the cultural experiences that might have otherwise been inaccessible because of cost,” said Thompson. “We truly appreciate the generosity of the National Endowment for the Arts and the participating museums.”

While admission is free of charge, some special or limited-time exhibits may not be included in the program, according to a Blue Star Museums news release. People should contact the museum directly for specifics.

“There have always been wonderful examples of partnerships between museums and military installations, but the scale of this gift from the museum community to military families is thrilling,” said Kathy Roth-Douquet, chairman of Blue Star Families. “Military families work hard for this country and it is gratifying for us to be recognized for that.”

“We anticipate that thousands of military families will participate in the program and visit museums this summer – many of them for the first time,” she continued. “Blue Star Families will work hard to help our military families make the most of these opportunities.”

A group of military spouses formed Blue Star Families in December 2008 to raise awareness of the challenges of military family life in partnership with civilian communities and leaders, according to the organization’s website. The nonprofit group has grown to include spouses and families from all services and walks of life, including National Guard and Reserve, as well as veterans and civilians.

## MIDWAY: U.S. Fleet Forces Command will commemorate Battle of Midway, June 4 at Norfolk Naval Station

*Continued from page B1*

the battle, U.S. Navy carrier strike forces, augmented by shore-based bombers and torpedo planes, decisively defeated an Imperial Japanese navy carrier task force. Each year, the Navy commemorates the battle by remembering the Sailors who fought so valiantly.