



IKE's Multicultural Committee Deals In Diversity

Story by MC3 (SW/AW) Mack Jamieson
5 Star Writer

Diversity is a principle the U.S. Navy takes seriously, and aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) the command's Multicultural Committee leads the charge, seeking to further the Navy-wide diversity goals through increased understanding and education.

Committee member Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 1st Class (AW) James Rucker said the mission of the committee is to help shipmates learn and understand what is special about their differences, allowing a more open and tolerant working environment.

"The Multicultural Committee tries to bridge gaps," said Rucker. "We want to bridge the gaps that come up between people from different backgrounds by bridging the gaps in their knowledge of one another."

During the deployment, the Multicultural Committee has sought to provide educational opportunities by taking advantage of the different ethnic heritage months that are recognized by the Department of Defense to highlight these groups' contributions to the Navy and the United States.

"We had Asian/Pacific Islander heritage month during May and our festivities were successful," said Rucker. "But, we can always do better, and we want to make sure that we keep moving forward in the kinds and scale of activities we have planned."

Master Chief Information Systems Technician (SW/AW) Fredrick Simpson, the IKE Equal Opportunity Advisor, said he hopes in the future to see increased participation from IKE Sailors.

"The events we have held have been successful," said

Simpson. "I would really like to see these events become standing room only types of affairs, though. I think that if we get more people involved in these types of events we will see a real return on that investment."

Simpson said he believes everyone wants to enjoy coming to work and feel like they are appreciated. He said the Multicultural Committee and the events they coordinate are one way to give back to the command and contribute to a happier workplace.

"One of the things that make the Navy great is that it brings people from all sorts of different backgrounds together to make something larger than their selves as individuals," said Simpson. "Those differences are something we can and should celebrate, because it helps us understand the Sailor working next to us."

Rucker said he wanted IKE Sailors to understand they can participate in the events regardless of a Sailor's own background.

"We have these events to celebrate the contributions of different groups, but you don't have to be a part of the group being celebrated to come out, enjoy yourself, and learn something," said Rucker.

The next celebration on the agenda for the Multicultural Committee is Women's Equality Day in August, said Rucker.

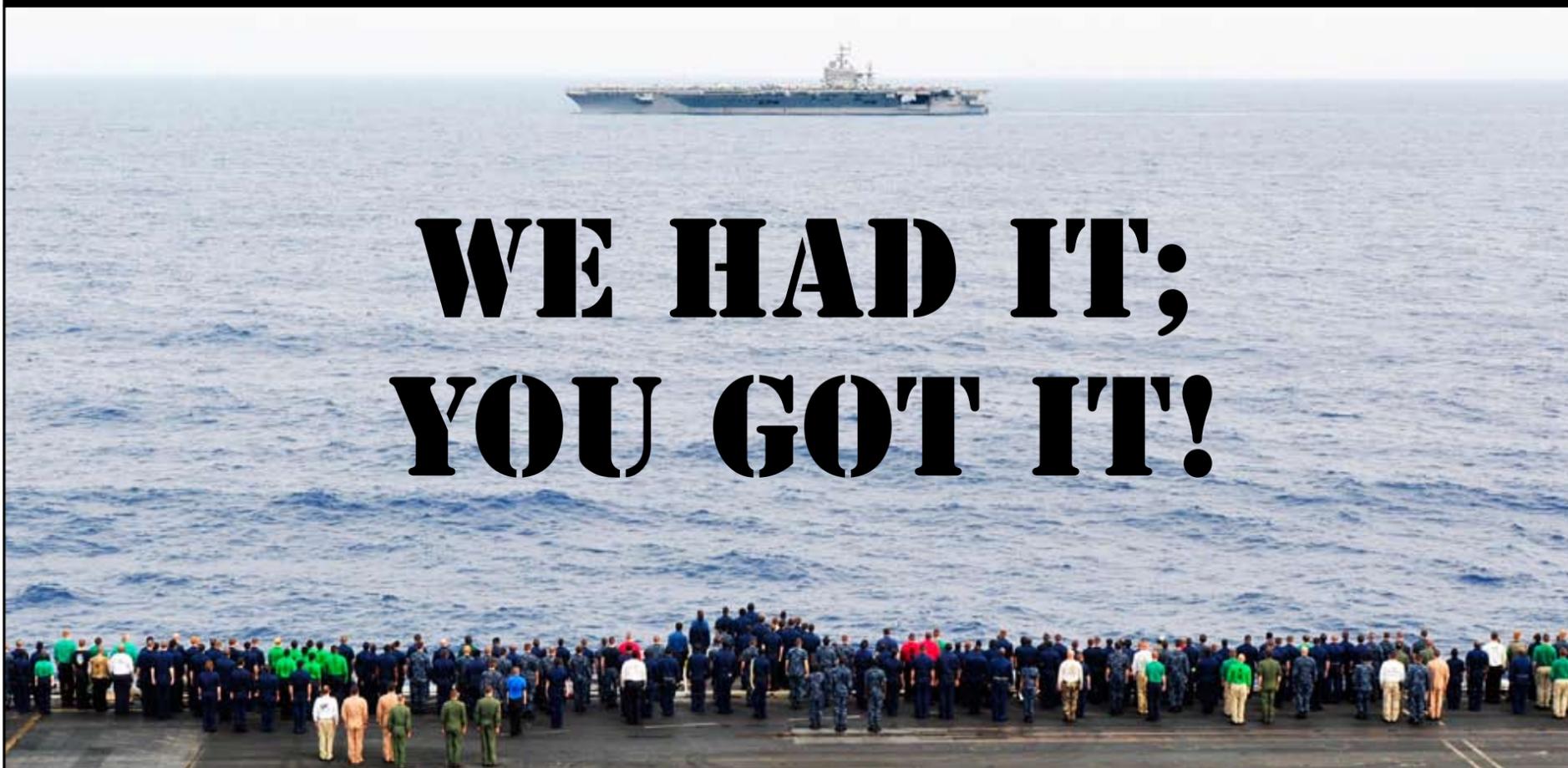
"We won't have another big event until after we pull into port, but the more planning we do now the more successful it will be," said Rucker. "We invite everyone to come out and volunteer and help us make this event as big a success as we can possibly make it."

Sailors interested in becoming part of the Multicultural Committee are encouraged to contact ABH1 Rucker by e-mail or at J-5016.



PSC Genesis Mojica presents products native to the Asian Pacific cultures during last month's Asian Pacific American Heritage ceremony aboard IKE. (Photo by MCSN David Krieger)

Aboard IKE



WE HAD IT; YOU GOT IT!

Sailors gather on IKE's flight deck to catch a glimpse of Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) as they assumed responsibility for 5th Fleet area of operation Saturday. (Photo by MC2 (SW/AW) Gina Wollman)



PROFILE



Operations Specialist

OS3 (SW/AW) Ashley Johnson

Department/Division:
OPS / OI

Hometown:
Red Springs, N.C.

Official Work Title:
SCAC / Surface Tracker

Goals:
Submit STA-21 Package

Achievements:
ESWS / EAWS Qualified
Good Conduct



“ I control aircraft in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The aircraft that I oversee conduct MISR (Maritime Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance). The greatest thing about my job is that I get to make a difference in our mission. This is the first step in my career. ”



ANNOUNCEMENTS/MOVIES



WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



**SAILOR
A03 CHRISTOPHER CURRY**

**DEPT/DIVISION
WEAPONS/G-4**



**SAILOR
AMAN ANDREW MOODY**

**SQUADRON
VAQ-140**

WE WANT TO GO HOME TOO!!!



Removal of dishware from the mess decks is unauthorized. Please return items to the sculleries.

Attention Wine Aficionados:

Supply Department is pleased to offer the opportunity to purchase French and Italian wines at local prices from a reputable vendor with years of experience working with the Navy. Whether you prefer reds, whites or pinks, there are 125 different selections to choose from. Prices range from \$7.50 to \$78.00. Extra virgin olive oil from Italy is available as well for \$10.00.

Where: Bay 2- Aft Mess Decks

When: June 25-28, 1200-1500 & 1900-2200

How: Navy Cash payments are due at time of order; buyer has to be 21 or older. Bottles are bought in cases of six and mixing of varieties is authorized. There is a 24 bottle limit per buyer. All wine not picked up by 1600, Sept. 2 will be thrown away.

CCSG-8, CVW-7, CDS-28 and IKE will be able to pick up their purchases while walking off the ship in Norfolk. Squadrons will distribute wine in their hangars or locations selected by the squadrons.

ICAT CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solution:



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MC3 (SW) Stephen Gustin

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SUNDAY'S IKE MOVIE SCHEDULE

Channel 5

8:30 a.m. *Unbreakable*
10:30 a.m. *Cheaper by the Dozen 2*
12:30 p.m. *Boy in the Striped Pajamas*
3 p.m. *RV*
5:30 p.m. *Rush Hour 3*
7:30 p.m. *IKE News*
8 p.m. *Unbreakable*
10 p.m. *Cheaper by the Dozen 2*
12 a.m. *Boy in the Striped Pajamas*
2 a.m. *RV*
4 a.m. *Rush Hour 3*

Channel 6

8:30 a.m. *Notes on a Scandal*
10:30 a.m. *G Force*
12:30 p.m. *Resurrecting the Champ*
3 p.m. *Halloween 2*
5:30 p.m. *The Game Plan*
7:30 p.m. *IKE News*
8 p.m. *Notes on a Scandal*
10 p.m. *G Force*
12 a.m. *Resurrecting the Champ*
2 a.m. *Halloween 2*
4 a.m. *The Game Plan*

Channel 7

8:30 a.m. *Epic Movie*
10:30 a.m. *North Country*
12:30 p.m. *The Return*
3 p.m. *Halls of Montezuma*
5:30 p.m. *Enter the Dragon*
7:30 p.m. *IKE News*
8 p.m. *Epic Movie*
10 p.m. *North Country*
12 a.m. *The Return*
2 a.m. *Halls of Montezuma*
4 a.m. *Enter the Dragon*

Channel 8

8:30 a.m. *SERE Training*
10:30 a.m. *RAD CON Training*
12:30 p.m. *Heat Stress Prevention*
3 p.m. *Sexual Assault: It Could Happen to You*
5:30 p.m. *RSEP: Arab-Israel Conflict*
7:30 p.m. *IKE News*
8 p.m. *SERE Training*
10 p.m. *RAD CON Training*
12 a.m. *Heat Stress Prevention*
2 a.m. *Sexual Assault: It Could Happen to You*
4 a.m. *RSEP: Arab-Israel Conflict*