

The Beachhead Gazette

STAND

AND

FIGHT

Volume 1, Issue 3

July 2011

Message from the Commanding Officer



Dear ANZIO Families and Friends,

Greetings from the FIFTH Fleet Area of Operations. The last month has been action-packed for your ANZIO Sailors.

As many of you know from following our Facebook page, ANZIO has spent the last month as the flagship for Captain James Gilmour, Royal New Zealand Navy, and his international staff from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, and Kingdom of

Saudi Arabia, that compose the Commander, Combined Task Force 151 command element. As of 30 June, ANZIO has been the flagship for Captain (or "Commodore" as we have come to call him) Gilmour and his staff as they manage coalition efforts to combat piracy in the region.

On top of supporting the staff's important command role, ANZIO acts as one of the coalition units protecting the flow of commercial shipping through this area. This is one of the busiest waterways in the world linking the Arabian Gulf and Pacific Ocean nations to European and Atlantic nations via the Suez Canal.

So far, we have operated with other ships and aircraft from around the world to carry out the mission continuously over the last month at sea. This included dispatching our boarding team on several occasions to visit merchants and, in one case, search a vessel that reportedly fired weapons at a merchant ship. In the second case our boarding team disposed of several items that may have been used or would be able to be used in future potential illegal activity.

Our ability to conduct these operations is an all hands effort. From my perspective, there is not a Sailor aboard this great ship

that does not contribute to successfully achieving our mission. From making the engines propel the ship and providing power to operate systems, to enabling communications and coordinating operations, to supporting our personnel and personal needs, everyone plays an important and critical role.

Along with executing our counter-piracy mission, your Sailors have remained active continuing our training regimen on a daily basis in order to keep our readiness high in needed skill-sets. There is hardly a day that goes by that the ship is not conducting training and drills in areas such as damage control, weapons proficiency, aircraft control, helicopter operations, and seamanship. Events like this keep us sharp. In addition, we stay active maintaining our equipment which gets near continuous use, repairing things that break, and generally trying to make the ship a little better each day.

As well, your Sailors have been busy with their own personal qualifications for new individual watch positions, studying for upcoming advancement exams, and working on completing their Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS) qualifications. We have a host of Sailors in the last few weeks qualify for their ESWS pin, and at least a dozen that will be complete even before this newsletter hits the street.

On the lighter side, we were all able to take some time off to celebrate Independence Day, the best way we could – having a cook-out on our own "Steel Beach" expertly enabled by our food service division, and cooked and served by the junior officers. For entertainment, the flight deck golf driving range was open, fishing poles came out (although we didn't catch anything), and a "corn hole" game appeared - as well as an impromptu water balloon fight. It was as best a time as could be had far from families and friends.

Let me close by saying that the attitude, perseverance, and determination of this ship – more appropriately her officers and crew – in carrying out our assignment and conducting the nation's bidding are extraordinary. I could not be more proud of them, as I know you are too.

Thank you for all your support on the home front. Doing what we do here would not be possible without you!

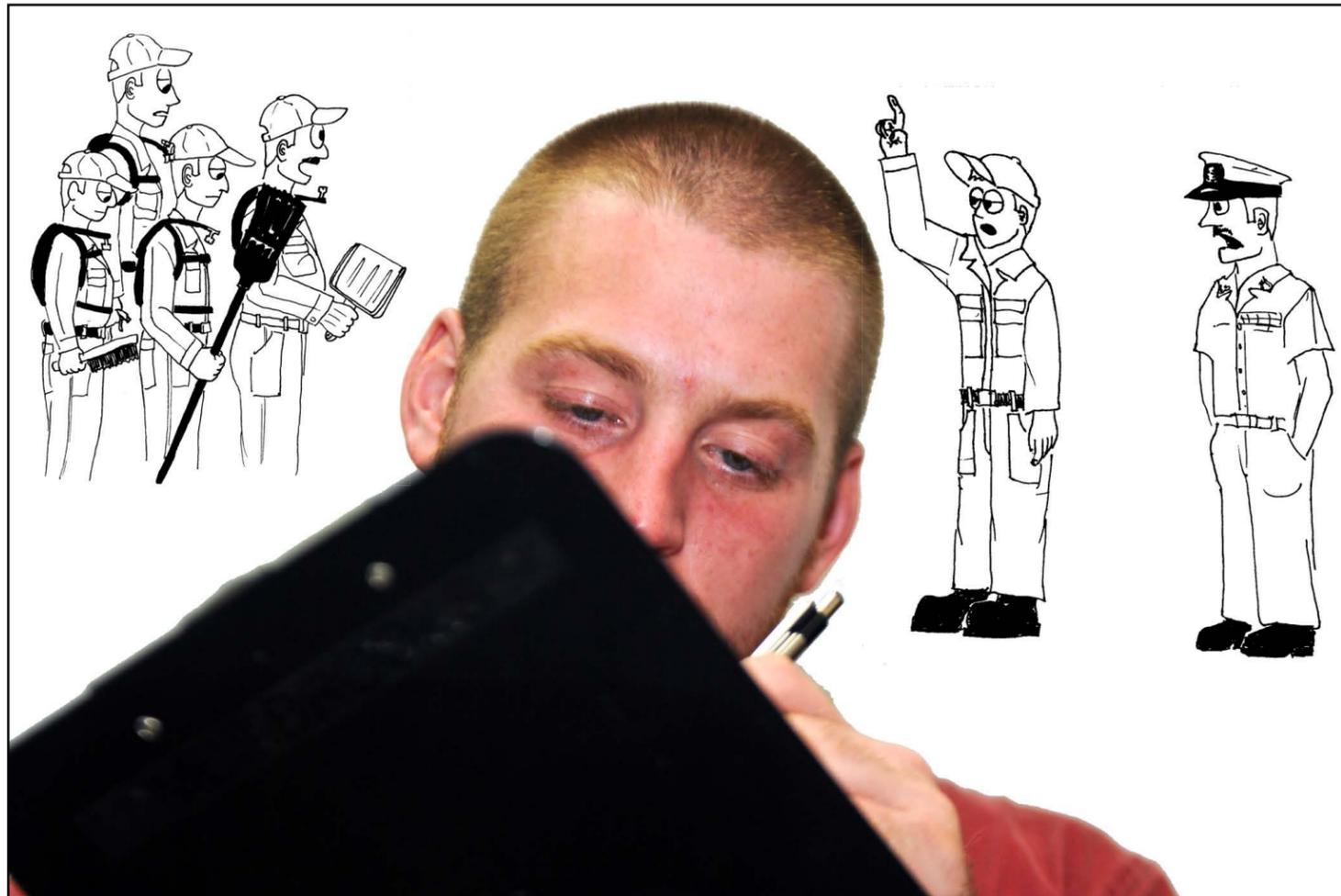
Sincerely,

CAPT John Dorey, USN
Commanding Officer, USS ANZIO (CG 68)

Artists Among US Series:

Quick on the draw

Stories and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Brian M. Brooks



Damage Controlman 3rd Class Gregory Anthony gathers his thoughts and prepares to sketch out a new cartoon for the crew of USS ANZIO.

One crewmember aboard guided-missile cruiser USS ANZIO (CG 68) has found a way to share the lighter side of life and viewpoints with his ANZIO shipmates in the form of a satirical cartoon.

On the ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) bulletin board is a designated space where Damage Controlman 3rd Class Gregory Anthony posts his cartoonist artwork to help boost the crew's morale.

"With everything going on at such a high tempo, the cartoons are a quick way to take a break and make light

of things," said Sonar Technician 2nd Class Roland Swain.

Anthony uses up-to-date shipboard situations and events as the idea bank behind his creations.

"Sometimes people will talk about certain things going on or about situations that bother them, and that's really where I get most of the ideas for my cartoons," he said. "I like finding the humor in a bad situation and making somebody laugh about it. That may make the situation easier to deal with."

The cartoon is a new concept not

only aboard the ship but also to some crewmembers who read the post.

"Of all the ships I've been assigned to, this is the first time I've seen something like this," said Chief Boatswain's Mate Chad Finogle. "I feel like the crew really enjoys the cartoons."

Anthony began drawing at an early age and used his drawings as a form of communication.

"My dad told me that I could draw before I could talk," Anthony said. "You know how a picture says a thousand words; I figure I can talk to you quicker through drawing a picture

than by actually talking to you."

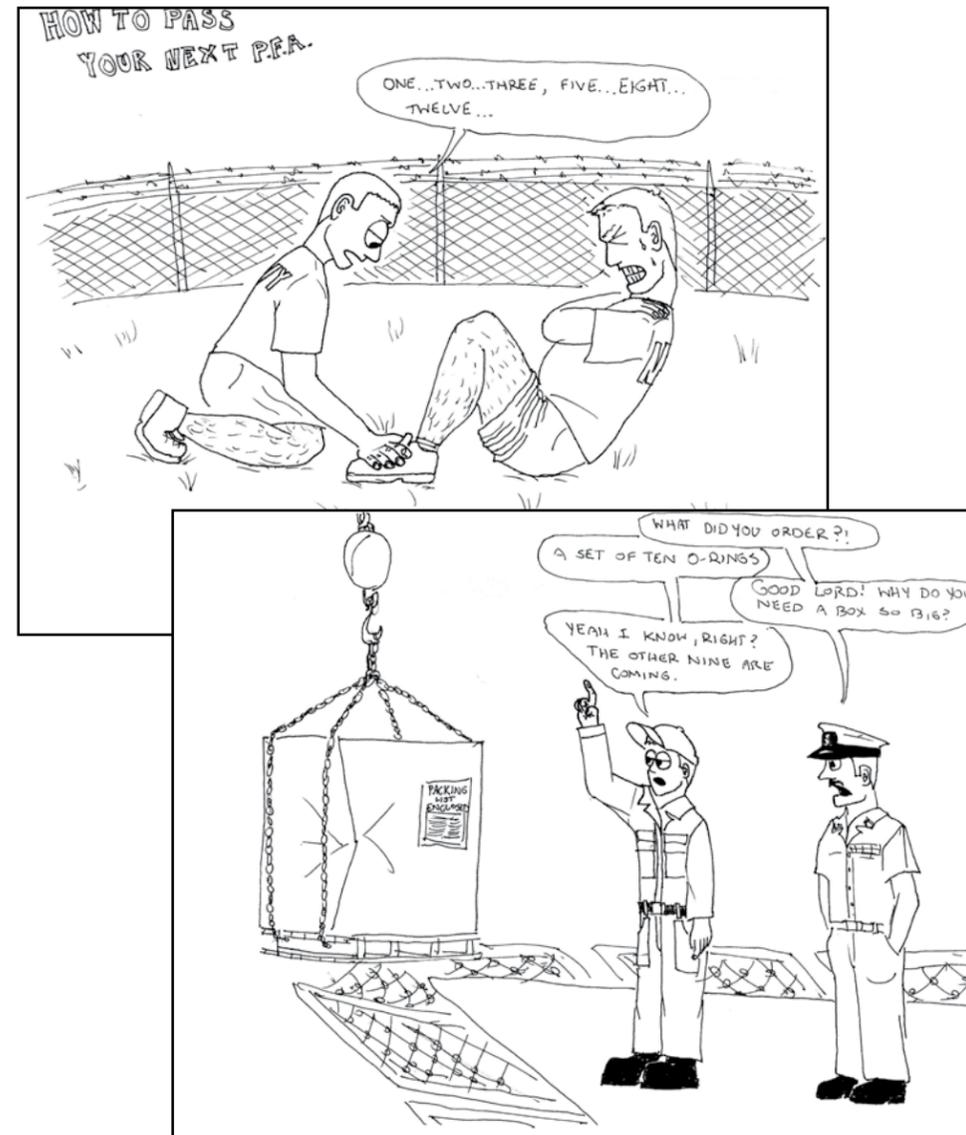
All throughout grade school and into high school, Anthony took art classes where he learned various techniques he believes honed his talent.

"I took 'Advanced Placement Art' during my junior and senior years of high school and actually failed the class because I didn't like to draw the way the teachers wanted me to," he said, laughing a bit. "I'm a 'smart Alec,' and I don't like being told how to draw. That's why I like cartoons; it's not realistic, and it's not following a guideline like everyone wants - it's just randomness."

Anthony feels that although he is not getting paid for his drawings, he is a professional at his craft and will continue to pursue his dreams of being a cartoonist.

"Drawing has always been a part of my life," he said. "I feel happy about being able to bring a smile to somebody's face when they're having a bad day and that someone appreciates something I do for them."

"Everyone on board has something to contribute to the mission; Anthony's is to make us laugh," Swain said.



Singers and Song-freestylers

Three Sailors aboard guided-missile cruiser USS ANZIO (CG 68) have come together to uplift the spirits of the crew through the gift of music.

Gas Turbine Systems Technician (Mechanical) 3rd Class Davin Cook, Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Derek McSwain, and Ship's Serviceman Seaman Apprentice Isiah Cruse have recorded more than 20 songs with the help of Cook's tablet.

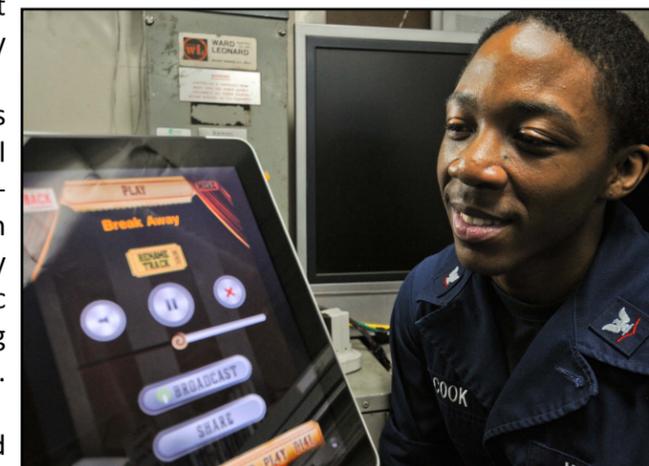
"We take shipboard environments and put a twist on them in our songs," Cook said. "For example, we have a song called 'Clampdown,' which is a Navy term used when the entire crew

cleans the ship. Well, the song is also about a spiritual clampdown where you clean the different areas of your life to try and do better."

Some other song titles include 'Port Call,' 'Mail Call' and other Navy-themed events to which Sailors can relate. They have shared their music with the crew, including the ship's chaplain, Lt. Lesa Welliver.

"Cook, McSwain, and Cruse are highly creative," Welliver said.

"What I like about their music is number one, it is very improvisational, and



GSM3 Cook listens to one of the group's song, "Break Away."

two, it comes from within their heart and soul.”

So far, the trio has recorded all of their songs in a freestyle manner.

“Just pick a song, pick a beat, and you just find yourself singing,” Cook said. “We like to convert everything from the ship into a spiritual aspect.”

Cook first introduced McSwain to his ability to record and create songs on his tablet one night after a bible study held on the ship’s mess decks.

“Cook asked me to listen to his sister sing some gospel songs, and then I heard someone else singing. When I asked who else was singing, he told me that it was him (singing),” McSwain said. “He then showed me how he recorded the songs right on his tablet.”

After a quick lesson on how to work the application and become familiar with its capabilities, Cook and McSwain recorded six songs that evening.

Cruse joined the group after talking to Cook and McSwain about the music they recorded.

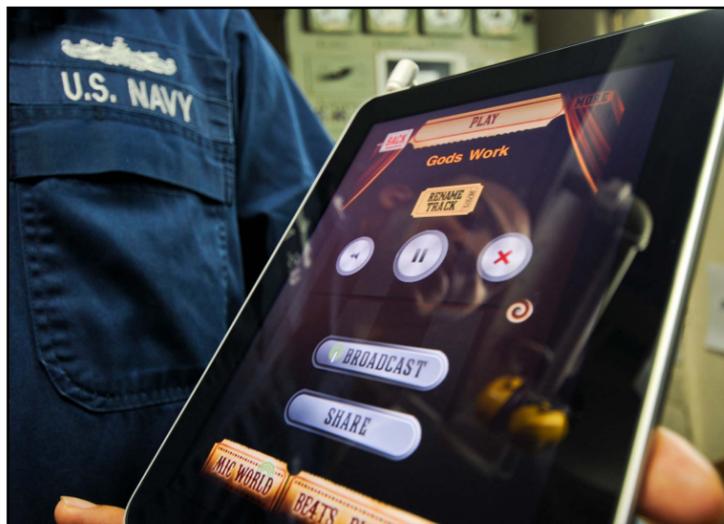
“After I heard a few of the songs I said, ‘I want to be a part of that,’” he said.

They all agreed that singing together is a way for them not only to express themselves but a great way to relieve stress.

Cruse, who works in the ship’s store, has made his job even more enjoyable by singing to the Sailors as they are shopping.

“The songs we make inspire me, and I feel like if they inspire me, they can inspire anybody else on the ship that listen to them,” McSwain said.

The group hopes to have one of their songs played during the end of one of the ship’s replenishment-at-sea evolutions. It is a tradition that when a U.S. Navy ship completes a replenishment-at-sea, a song is played over the ship’s announcement system during the break-away.



EN2 (SW) McSwain smiles as he listens to the message of one of the groups original songs, “Gods Work.”

“We’ve recorded a series of break-away songs but haven’t really liked them,” McSwain said. “I can see that might be the first one where we have to write lyrics.”

“I think they have been a bedrock of our spiritual community on the ship, and their music is a part of that creativity but also a blessing to others by trying to encourage and uplift them and keeping everyone together as a community,” Welliver said. “With everyone working so hard, I think that playing their music has been a joy for the crew to hear. Out of the grueling days of drills and underway replenishments, they put a positive spin on it.”

“We have a song called ‘Clampdown,’ which is a Navy term used when the entire crew cleans the ship. Well, the song is also about a spiritual clampdown where you clean the different areas of your life to try and do better.”

~ Gas Turbine Technician Specialist 3rd Class
Davin Cook



EN2 (SW) Derek McSwain, left, GSM3 Davin Cook and SHSA Isiah Cruse enjoy themselves singing along with one another during a photo shoot.

CMF SHIP USS ANZIO DISRUPTS PIRATE ACTIVITY

Story by Combined Maritime Forces Public Affairs

Just after 5.30pm on July 22, Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) warship USS ANZIO (CG 68), assigned as the CMF’s counter-piracy mission Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 flagship, intercepted a skiff, successfully disrupting the activities of a group suspected of attempting acts of piracy.

USS ANZIO first heard of the suspected pirate activity after receiving a report from a merchant vessel that it had been attacked, including being fired upon, by suspected pirates in a skiff.

It was reported that the suspected pirates were armed with a rocket propelled grenade launcher and AK-47 assault rifles, and that the attack had been unsuccessful. “This large merchant vessel avoided being pirated through adherence to ‘Best Management Practices’ which is another reminder of how effective these practical precautions are,” said Captain James Gilmour, Royal New Zealand Navy, who is the Commander CTF 151.

After clarifying details of the attack with the merchant vessel, ANZIO received orders to pursue the suspected



Photo by MC2 (EXW/SW) Bryan Weyers

A visit, board, search and seizure team from guided-missile cruiser USS ANZIO (CG 68) investigates a suspected pirate skiff.

pirate vessel and intercept it. Capt. Gilmour said: “It was very pleasing that this event resulted from a collaborative effort between CTF 151, NATO (TF 508), a Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force vessel and a Japanese Maritime

Patrol Aircraft to locate and apprehend the suspected pirate vessel.

“This cooperation culminated in the suspected pirates disposing of weapons and equipment that could be used for further piracy attempts, with the remaining suspected pirate paraphernalia being disposed of when the vessel was intercepted by a CTF 151 warship,” he added.

In accordance with United Nations Security Council Resolutions, and in cooperation with non-member forces, CTF 151’s mission is to disrupt piracy and armed robbery at sea and to engage with regional and other partners to build capacity and improve relevant capabilities, in order to protect global maritime commerce and secure freedom of navigation.

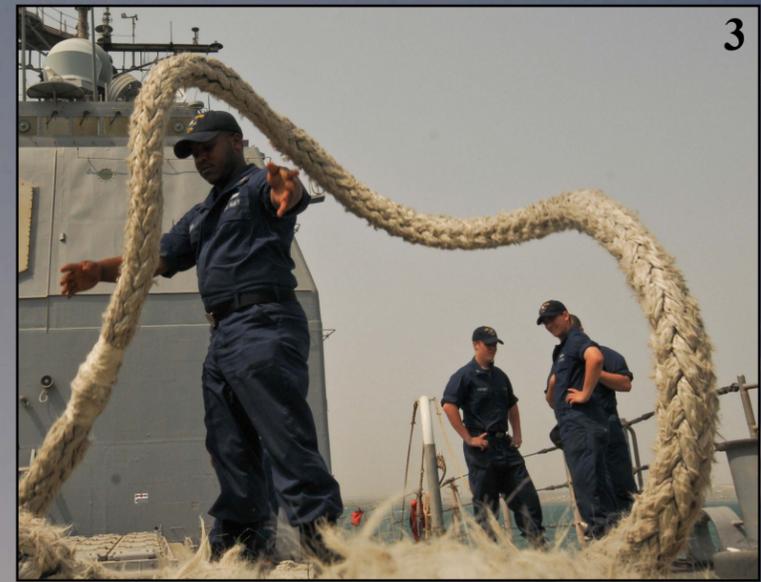
CTF 151 is one of three task forces operating under the US-led Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), a 25-nation coalition. CTF 151’s counter-piracy operations focus on the Gulf of Aden, Southern Red Sea, Arabian Sea and Somali basin, an area encompassing 2.5 million square miles.



Photo by MC2 Brian M. Brooks

Guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) visit, board, search and seizure team board a suspected pirate skiff after receiving a report of an attempted attack of a merchant vessel.

Watch Us Work



1. Aviation Electrician's Mate Airman Cory Miller performs touch-ups in the cockpit of an SH-60B Sea Hawk helicopter attached to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 46, July 18.

2. Canadian Navy Lt. Tony Bakhache, one of Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 Battle Watch Captains, updates information on a chat network in the combat information center, July 24.

3. Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 2nd Class Darius R. Allison tosses a mooring line on the deck as the ship leaves Djibouti, July 1.

4. Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Jean Guerra signals a UH-46D Puma helicopter to release its cargo hook on the flight deck during a vertical replenishment-at-sea, July 21.

5. Gunner's Mate 1st Class Jeremy Greene prepares to load a MK-46 MOD-5 torpedo into a MK-32 Surface Vessel Torpedo Tube after performing maintenance, July 3.

6. ANZIO Sailors man a phone and distance line during a replenishment-at-sea, July 13.

7. ANZIO Sailors enter the Chief's Mess to combat a simulated fire during a general quarters drill, July 17.

8. Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Steven Jones, left, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Nick Connelly and Ensign Austin Ayers pass by USS ANZIO in a rigid-hulled inflatable boat while conducting boat operations training, July 9.

Background photo - Ship's Serviceman Seaman Apprentice Isiah Cruse stands starboard lookout watch during sunset, July 28.

AROUND THE FLEET: Navy Revises Career Paths to Emphasize Service at Sea

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

The Navy released a message announcing revisions to the sea/shore flow for enlisted career paths July 12.

NAVADMIN 201/11 provides the Fleet with the updated sea shore flow for every rating. Thirty-six ratings will see an increase in sea time, and 18 will now be classified as sea intensive. Sailors in these ratings can expect to spend more than half their careers at sea.

“Our nation knows the importance and effectiveness of our forward-deployed Navy, whether delivering aid to those in need, or hunting terrorists. The skills and capabilities of our Sail-

ors are in great demand as an integral part of our national security and maritime strategy,” explained Rear Adm. Cynthia Covell, director, Total Force requirements Division (OPNAV N12). “As a result, the Navy has increased the number of sea duty billets and decreased the number of shore duty billets since 2008.”

To meet the new sea/shore requirements, Navy Personnel Command may adjust some Sailors’ projected rotation dates (PRD) based on the length of tour remaining. As a general rule, PRDs of March 2012 or earlier will not be adjusted, unless requested by the Sailor or if their commanding officer

submits a request based on unit readiness or deployment needs.

To maintain proper career progression, no sea tour lengths will involuntarily exceed 60 months for Sailors with less than 20 years of service (YOS) and 48 months for Sailors with more than 20 YOS. Sailors are advised to contact their community manager or detailee for information on the availability of incentives such as sea duty incentive pay for volunteering to serve additional time at sea.

To read the complete list of enlisted rating career paths, visit the Navy Personnel Command website at www.npc.navy.mil.

August Birthdays

CSSN NELSON ABREU
LT FRANCIS AMMATURO
DC3 ADAM BAILEY
EM2 BRYAN BAKER
IT2 ROBERT BENNETT
OS2 MICHAEL BERNARD
HTCS CHARLES BRAUTCHECK
SHSN TYRONE BROCKMAN
LTJG JOHN CAMP
BMSN KYLE COLEMAN

SHSA ISIAH CRUSE
ET2 SHAWN EAKEN
BMC CHAD FINOGLE
QM3 JAMARCUS HARDY
CTRC AARON JACKSON
DC3 JONATHAN JENSEN
GSCS LEONID KUKHAREV
ENFN KENNETH LACROIX
EM3 HENGDE LIN
STG3 BRADY LOGAN

STG2 CHRISTOPHER MCFALL
EN2 GREGORY MILLER
PSC JEFFERY MOULTRIE
FC2 ERIK RHODES
EN2 KIRSTOPHER RUCK
GMSA LUCAS SANTERRE
GSM2 WILLIAM SHIPP
STGCS JAMES SIMPSON
HMC MARK TAYLOR
SN MARLON THOMPSON

New Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists

EN2 (SW) KRISTOPHER RUCK
OS3 (SW) KASHAD MARTIN
CTT3 (SW) JOSHUA LYNCH

FC2 (SW) JERRON WYATT
ET2 (SW) TIMOTHY CARTER
OS2 (SW) SOLOMON LOCKWOOD

CTR2 (SW) MICHAEL HUGULEY
GSM2 (SW) HONG LIANG
GSM2 (SW/AW) WILLIAM SHIPP

Distance Traveled

Since leaving Djibouti July 1, 2011

Approx. 7,400 miles

Fun Shipboard Facts

Meals Served for July:

32,400 Meals to include: 1,010 dozen eggs; 350 lbs of bacon; 300 lbs of ham; 3,600 lbs of fruit; 400 gals. of milk; 1,000 lbs of cheese; 120 lbs of yogurt; 3,600 lbs of fruit; 1,200 lbs of bread; 750 lbs of pasta; and 1,030 lbs. of rice

Anzio on Facebook

Want to stay informed about the crew of USS Anzio? ‘Like’ us on Facebook @ **Official USS Anzio (CG 68)**

Commanding Officer:
CAPT John Dorey

Executive Officer:
CDR Nathan York

Command Master Chief:
CMDMCM (SW/AW) Donnie Novak

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