Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve
Farewell to HSC-84
Exercise Solid Curtain – Citadel Shield
Navy Recruiting
Naval Oceanography Reserve
Cmdr. David Faehnle of the VFC-111 Sun Downers "cloud-surfs" his F-5N Tiger II over the Gulf of Mexico near Naval Air Station Key West. (Photo by José Ramos)
Inside the cockpit of an F-5N Tiger II, leading a light division of Sun Downer F-5s on their way to the Whiskey 174 ranges northwest of Naval Air Station Key West. (Photo by José Ramos)
Shipmates,

This month you’ll notice something different about TNR Magazine. In order to focus more on social media, we’re publishing TNR on a quarterly basis, vice monthly. With this issue, we also say farewell to our TNR editor, LCDR Kimberly Brubeck, who has been recalled as our Reserve Force Public Affairs Officer for the past three years. LCDR Brubeck has done a tremendous job leading the CNRFC PA team and we salute her for a job exceedingly “Well Done” as she resumes drilling status.

The highlight of my travels across the Reserve Force is always the opportunity to meet with Sailors and learn about the innovative ideas they bring to the Navy, their command, or unit. Recently we visited NOSC Charlotte, where CO, CDR Jared Jacobs has embedded his N.O.S.C. – T.E.A.M.* philosophy throughout the command. Their dynamic team has worked together over the past year on projects like the CBMU-202 Gazebo/SEAHUT project, Navy Ball, and safety training with local police and firefighters, and they were the first NOSC in the nation to stand up the Armed Watchstander Program. I also met LT Melissa Fennell, a Medical Service Corps Officer who volunteered to design an impressive display documenting the history of NOSC Charlotte and the Sailors who have served there.

We also traveled to NOSC Wichita for the impressive establishment ceremony of the Navy Reserve’s 72nd “SurgeMain” unit, led by LCDR Shashank Divekar and UCCM Don Rumbac. SurgeMain Wichita will support maintenance at the Navy’s four shipyards: Portsmouth, NH; Norfolk, VA; Pearl Harbor, HI; and Puget Sound, WA. The SurgeMain Program gives the Navy and the American taxpayer a tremendous return on investment! Congrats to the Plankowners of SurgeMain Wichita!

During our visit, NOSC Wichita, CO, LCDR Mark Messery also introduced me to their Ombudsman, Susie Whyte and her husband, BM1 Justin Whyte. Susie also serves as the command’s photographer and produced an impressive NOSC Wichita Yearbook to help commemorate monthly events and show families how their Sailors supported the Navy Reserve in 2015. Thanks to Mrs. Susie Whyte for producing such a creative and memorable yearbook for NOSC Wichita Sailors and their families!

Last month also marked the decommissioning of one of our most decorated squadrons, the “Red Wolves” of HSC-84 in Norfolk, Virginia. The squadron’s lineage traces back to the Vietnam War as Helicopter Light Attack Squadrons 3 and 4, and later as HCS-4. The Red Wolves built an extraordinary legacy of success – to include an unprecedented twelve year deployment to the Middle East supporting Special Operations Forces (SOF). During the ceremony, Red Wolves CO, CDR Quinton Packard outlined the squadron’s impressive accomplishments during their extended deployment: 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses; 15 Bronze Stars; 120+ single action Air Medals with Valor; 1,437 Strike Flight Air Medals; 732 captured High Value Targets; 13,481 combat hours; 2,341 combat missions, and 161,182 maintenance man-hours. Hundreds of Red Wolves, past and present, turned out for the ceremony to pay tribute to the squadron. While HSC-84’ sister squadron, HSC-85, will remain in San Diego, the Navy Reserve will stand up Tactical Support Units in Norfolk and North Island to help train aircrews and continue support to the SOF mission. BRAVO ZULU to the HSC-84 Red Wolves and congratulations on your incredible accomplishments in support of the Navy and Special Operations!

As we head into the summer months, thanks to all our Sailors for your continued support of the Navy!

*N.O.S.C – T.E.A.M. = Navy Family always striving for Operational supremacy through Stewardship from every rank and rate’s Commitment with character so that Together Everyone Achieves More

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

Welcome to your first quarterly edition of the TNR. While the information and features that you normally see in your mailbox will come every three months, you can get lots of content, information and “news that you can use” via the Navy Reserve social media network including the Reserve Force Master Facebook page and Twitter feed. I encourage you to connect yourself and your shipmates to the latest and greatest because the news often comes fast and furious!

Of course, I look forward to seeing you engage in social media, it is my true honor to visit and share time with Sailors in my travels around the Reserve Force. I am always excited and energized by your enthusiasm about serving in the Navy and the team work attitude. Whether it is chief petty officers working to mentor new direct commissioned officers or petty officers working to indoctrinate New Accession Trainee (NATs) our ability to work together increases our efficiency and morale. Keep it up!

My recent travels took me to the West Coast – where I visited with NOSC Lemoore, celebrated the Navy Chiefs Birthday with NOSC San Diego chiefs and flew with the SEALS. That’s right: I FLEW with the SEALS. Or better put, I practiced flying. To be efficient and cost effective, our Navy Reserve SEALS practice free fall parachute techniques in a wind tunnel. And they gave me a chance to experience some of the same training that Navy SEALS execute to sustain free fall training. SOCM Jeff Martini and SO1 Bright, who recently returned from deployment, were great instructors, but I am not ready for combat yet.

It was incredibly busy in Lemoore when I visited in March: PFA, DRT, leadership training, and eval training. It was amazing that we found time for an All-Hands Call. Under the leadership of CDR Ken White and Command Senior Enlisted Leader Chad Weaver, this NOSC and VFA-122 SAU have forged a great relationship with NAS Lemoore. The team is so cohesive that the base command master chief joined us on SUNDAY! Most importantly, I was able to spend time with some Seabees preparing for deployment. The NOSC had hastily put together a DRT for a small group of the Seabees and families including, CE3 Delacruz and CE3 Vang. They live in the same community and serve in the same unit and are happy to be deploying together. CE3 Vang is really going to be missed as the training coordinator and CFL for his unit. Stay safe shipmates, thank you for the time.

In this month’s issue, you will read a lot about the business of your aviation shipmates in the Naval Air Force Reserve. I was able to meet some of these Sailors first hand in Lemoore at VFA 122 SAU in Lemoore, where they support F/A 18 flight training and at NOSC Corpus Christi at the SAU, where they support and train new pilots. The diversity of CNAFR is impressive from the training command mentioned above, to mine counter measure squadrons, to fleet reconnaissance, adversary missions, fleet logistics and of course, helicopter operations of HSM 60 and HSC 85. The impact and contributions of these Sailors and the work that they proudly do is felt around the Navy.

Spring brings opportunity. Each year at this time, we start getting advancement results and annual training plans become more clear and finalized. The summer provides us with chances to change ratings, get valuable rating training – see the feature about the BIBs on the Navy COOL Website, and perhaps even explore more than 100 opportunities to convert to FTS via RC to FTS. Now is the time to talk to your chain of command to make sure that you set up to realize all of your potential.

I look forward to seeing you soon in my travels around the force. Thank you for all of the hard work that you do and please be safe. #AreYouReady?
Naval Air Force Reserve Sailors have a tradition of volunteering going back 100 years to the establishment of the U.S. Naval Reserve Flying Corps on August 29, 1916. The first Naval Reserve aviation unit was comprised of volunteers from Yale University and had distinguished service during the First World War.

Fifty years ago, over 96,000 Reserve Sailors were serving on active duty. Most were volunteers serving initial two-year tours of active duty to be followed by four years of inactive duty as drilling reservists. Many were Naval Air Force Reserve officers and enlisted personnel deployed afloat and ashore in support of the war in Vietnam.

Inactive duty Naval Air Force Reserve squadrons and personnel, with few exceptions, were not involuntarily recalled to active duty to serve during the Vietnam War. However, that didn’t stop inactive Naval Air Force Reserve volunteers from flying missions over Southeast Asia.

Twenty-nine thousand Naval Air Force Reserve “Weekend Warriors” served at 18 Naval Air Stations and Naval Air Force Reserve Training Units in 1966 – the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Naval Reserve aviation. A year earlier, in May 1965, the U.S. military build-up in Southeast Asia began. The build-up mission required massive movement of cargo and personnel to South Vietnam. Active Naval Air Force logistics transport squadrons would support the mission but more capability was needed. The Navy Reserve became part of the solution. Naval Air Reserve Training Command logistics flights began transporting high-priority cargo and passengers from Hawaiian and the West Coast Naval Air Stations to South Vietnam.

Over the following year, Naval Air Force Reserve squadrons, flying Douglas RD5 (C-54) Skymaster and R6D (C-118) Liftmaster fixed wing aircraft, flew nearly 270 flights totaling over 14,000 flight hours. Many of the aircrews consisted of inactive Navy Reserve volunteers performing their two-weeks of annual training. The Skymaster crews could transport up to 5,000 pounds of cargo from NAS Alameda, California to NAS Barber’s Point, Hawaii. The Liftmaster, with longer range and lift capability (15,000 pounds or 50 personnel), would fly from the West Coast or Hawaii to Da Nang, South Vietnam, with stops along the way at Wake Island, Guam, and the Philippines.

Naval Air Force Reserve Sailors, either active or inactive, continued flying logistic, surveillance, and even combat missions over the following years of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. The 1965-1966 tradition of volunteering has endured for another fifty years and continues, as the Naval Air Force Reserve begins a new century of service.
We have many talented people in our Navy Reserve. Each month we highlight our stellar Sailors and some of the unique careers, skills and services they provide to the fleet.

Capt. Blair C. Perez
Hometown: San Diego, California
Command: Navy Reserve
Regional Legal Service Office Hawaii

Brief description of your Navy job:
I am the commanding officer of NR Region Legal Service Office (RLSO) Hawaii. The unit, which is comprised of five JAG officers and five legalmen, supports RLSO Hawaii located at Pearl Harbor. Unit personnel travel to the RLSO to augment the active component’s legal assistance, trial, and command services departments.

What has been your greatest Navy achievement?
My greatest Navy achievement was leading NR Defense Service Office West – the unit that won the 2015 West Coast Hugh H. Howell Award of Excellence and the 2015 Gilbert Cup for the top performing Reserve JAG unit in the Navy. I had the privilege of leading an exceptional team of JAGs who dedicated themselves to providing the highest quality defense to Reserve Sailors at administrative separation proceedings and Boards of Inquiry.

Who has been your biggest influence since joining the Navy?
As an active duty JAG, my father, Capt. Robert E. Smith, USN, deceased, (a retired naval aviator) was my biggest influence. As a Reserve Sailor, Capt. Dave Weaver, USNR, JAGC, a former commanding officer, was my biggest influence.

What do you enjoy most about the Navy?
The camaraderie.

Most interesting place visited since joining the Navy:
Dubai

Current hobbies:
Travel, movies, military history, and spending as much time with my husband and daughter as possible.

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

Special Warfare Operator 1st Class Leif Bright
Hometown: Monterey, California
Command: Navy
Operational Support Center San Jose

Brief description of your Navy job:
I am a U.S. Navy SEAL assigned to Navy Operational Support Center San Jose. I support the Navy as an automatic weapons operator, joint terminal attack controller, and communications expert. I have previously served on assignments in Southeast Asia and the Middle East. Just recently, I completed an 18-month mobilization.

What has been your greatest Navy achievement?
Participating in the Global War on Terrorism and assisting in the dismantling of Al-Qaeda networks around the world.

Who has been your biggest influence since joining the Navy?
Miguel Flores was my biggest influence, he gave his life on active duty in 2008. He was forever optimistic and strong as an ox.

What do you enjoy most about the Navy?
World travel, studying other cultures and languages, being on assignments with a purpose, and the opportunity to defend my country.

Most interesting place visited since joining the Navy:
Iraq and the Sulu Archipelago, I spent time in both locations supporting my country’s mission and assisted in numerous successful operations to further the goals of the Navy.

Current hobbies:
Studying languages, physical training, and documenting experiences.
Until recently, Sailors relied on Common Access Card enabled devices in order for them to find valuable training tools to prepare them for their advancement exams.

Now, Sailors preparing for advancement exams can access their bibliographies without the need of such devices as the Navy Advancement Center added the active duty and Reserve Bibs to the Navy Credentialing Opportunities Online website on March 14.

Although this new feature is available, it is still possible for Sailors to find their link to their BIBs through the Navy Knowledge Online website, which does require a CaC, but by adding a BIB portal on Navy COOL, it allows access through any Internet-capable computer or mobile device.

“A common theme running through the Sailor feedback we receive is that much of the preparation for advancement exams is done at home, away from work,” said Master Chief Electronics Technician, Nuclear Power (SS) James Berhalter, command master chief for the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center. “Having the public-facing BIBs will make figuring out what references to use for exam preparation significantly easier.”

The BIBS pages on Navy COOL will provide a link to the exam bibliography listings, for both active duty and Reserve Sailors, specific to their rating and rank. This will offer a virtual “one-stop shopping” for Sailors to know what publications to use in order to prepare for exams. The BIBS reference pages list the material subject matter experts use to develop the tests during the Advancement Exam Readiness Reviews.

“It’s important that Sailors review their BIBs before every exam,” said Berhalter. “Each cycle’s exams are different, and the BIBs listed through Navy COOL and on NKO are tailored specifically for that exam cycle. If a Sailor is relying on BIBs from past exams, then he or she may miss some important references. Publications and instructions are also constantly being updated, so it’s important to have the information that corresponds to that specific cycle’s exam.”

The Navy COOL links will contain the same content accessed through NKO, including BIBs for substitute exams, as well as rating-specific topics and subtopics which provide an exam content outline unique

The advancement exam bibliographies, topics and subtopics, FAQs and contact resources are found lower on the rating’s COOL page.

The Navy COOL office is located at the Center for Information Dominance on Naval Air Station Pensacola’s Corry Station. For more information on Navy COOL, visit www.cool.navy.mil/usn/.

Each of these assignments carries its own unique challenges and rewards, requiring a talented and diligent Sailor to stay abreast of current programs and policies, communicate benefits and opportunities to Sailors, and advise their commanding officer on the myriad of moving parts that comprise the Career Information Program.

The Reserve Component (Sea) Career Counselor of the Year is Navy Counselor 1st Class Kenneth Swan, attached to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR 62) in Jacksonville, Florida. Swan joined the Navy three years after graduating high school, graduated from boot camp in July 2004, and began his Navy career as a personnelman. He advanced to PN3 through accelerated advancement by graduating first in his class in “A” school. Swan promoted to PS2 from the advancement exam and ultimately advanced to PS1 via the Command Advancement Program. Swan converted to Navy Counselor following 18 months working as the Assistant Command Career Counselor aboard Naval Air Facility Washington and subsequently reported aboard VR- 62 in June 2013.

The Reserve Component (Shore) Career Counselor of the Year is Navy Counselor 1st Class Antwann North, attached to Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia. North joined the Navy two years after graduating high school, graduated from boot camp in August 1993, and began his Navy career as an aviation ordnanceman. North reported aboard VF-14 in 1993, serving out his active duty obligation before departing for the Navy Reserve. Following several years in the Navy Reserve and two periods of mobilization, as well as advancement to AO2 and then to AO1, North returned to active duty in the Full-Time Support program with a change of rating to NC. He reported aboard CNRFC in November 2014.

The Reserve Component Career Counselor of the Year is Robert Johnson attached to Fighter Squadron Composite 12 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Johnson joined the Navy two years after graduating high school, graduated from boot camp in June 2002, and began his Navy career as an aircrew survival equipmentman. Johnson served aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65), advancing to PR3 and then PR2 while aboard “The Big E”. A subsequent assignment to Fleet Readiness Center Mid-Atlantic Oceana saw Johnson advanced to PR1 and finish out his active duty on board Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA 136) before transitioning to VFC-12 in March 2011.

NAVRESFOR 005/16 announced the Reserve Component Career Counselors of the Year on February 19, 2016. Congratulations on a job well done.
The Navy Reserve encompasses a vast number of unique communities, missions and locations. While it is common knowledge that a large portion of the Navy Reserve is in aviation assets, their unique mission and skill sets are less known. So what does Reserve Naval Aviation do?

Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve, is headquartered in San Diego, and is responsible for three Air Wings, the Navy Air Logistics Office, one Naval Air Facility, 23 fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft squadrons, 26 Squadron Augmentation Units, including 17 within Commander, Naval Air Training Command, tactical support units and two Executive Transport Detachments. Additionally, CNAFR manages aircraft for the Fourth Marine Aircraft Wing, consisting of 12 squadrons and supporting units. CNAFR squadrons are a blend of both the active and reserve components.

Tactical Support Wing

The Tactical Support Wing is headquartered at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, and encompasses five squadrons:

- Fighter Squadron Composite (VFC) 12 at NAS Oceana flying the F/A-18A+ Hornet
- VFC-13 at NAS Fallon flying the F-5N Tiger II
- VFC-111 at NAS Key West flying the F-5N Tiger II
- Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 204 at NAS JRB New Orleans flying the F/A-18A+ Hornet
- Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 209 at NAS Whidbey Island flying the EA-18G Growler

TSW has administrative control of its SAUs with VAQ-129, VFA-106, VFA-122 and the Airborne Command Control and Logistics Wing.

VFC-12, VFA-204, VFC-13 and VFC-111 are “adversary squadrons” which have the unique mission of providing the fleet with tactical Dissimilar Air Combat Training. In other words, they study enemy tactics and role play these parts in order to provide a more realistic experience while training their active component counterparts. In addition, VFA-204 is able to deploy and provide the Fleet with strategic depth of strike fighter capability, when required. The “Star Warriors” of VAQ-209 provide strategic depth and operational support to the fleet with another EA-18G squadron.
**Fleet Logistics Support Wing**

The Fleet Logistics Support Wing is headquartered at NAS JRB Fort Worth, and encompasses these 12 squadrons:
- Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 1 at NAF Washington flying the C-20D Gulfstream III and C-37B Gulfstream 550
- VR-51 at Marine Corps Base Hawaii Kaneohe Bay flying the C-20G Gulfstream IV
- VR-53 at NAF Washington flying the C-130T Hercules
- VR-54 at NAS JRB New Orleans flying the C-130T Hercules
- VR-55 at NAS Point Mugu flying the KC-130T Hercules
- VR-56 at NAS Oceana flying the C-40A Clipper
- VR-57 at NAS North Island flying the C-40A Clipper
- VR-58 at NAS Jacksonville flying the C-40A Clipper
- VR-59 at NAS JRB Fort Worth flying the C-40A Clipper
- VR-61 at NAS Whidbey Island flying the C-40A Clipper
- VR-62 at NAS Jacksonville flying the C-130T Hercules
- VR-64 at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst flying the C-130T Hercules

FLSW also maintains ETD Sigonella flying the C-20G Gulfstream IV and ETD Pacific flying the C-37A Gulfstream V.

FLSW was established to operate Navy Unique Fleet Essential Airlift (NUFEA) aircraft on a worldwide basis to provide responsive, flexible and rapid deployable air logistics support required to sustain combat operations at sea. During peacetime, squadrons provide air logistics support for all Navy commands as well as provide continuous quality training for mobilization readiness. FLSW is unique in that it has no counterpart in the active force. Its mission represents 100 percent of the Navy’s intra-theater air logistics capability. Encompassing over 40 aircraft, FLSW squadrons carry more than 160,000 passengers and 29 million pounds of cargo each year.

A typical mission for a VR squadron comes from the scheduling authority for NUFEA aircraft called the Navy Air Logistics Office (NALO) located on NAS JRB New Orleans. NALO is responsible for providing time-critical and flexible air logistics support to Navy Component Commanders in order to meet wartime and emergent requirements.

**Maritime Support Wing**

The Maritime Support Wing is the newest of the three air wings in CNAFR and was established on July 31, 2015 at NAS North Island in order to support the Commander, Naval Air Force Master Aviation Plan and provide leadership for reserve Patrol Squadrons as well as CNAFR’s rotary-wing squadrons.

“The Maritime Support Wing had been operating as a detachment under CNAFR for more than a year,” said Capt. Albert Orgain, Commander, Maritime Support Wing. “Now as a true Echelon IV we are able to better serve our reserve units and Sailors, as well as the active component units that they support.”

MSW provides direct administrative control for four squadrons:
- Helicopter Combat Squadron (HSC) 85 at NAS North Island flying the HH-60H Seahawk
- Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 60 at NAS Jacksonville flying the MH-60R Seahawk
- Patrol Squadron (VP) 62 at NAS Jacksonville flying the P-3C Orion
- VP-69 at NAS Whidbey Island flying the P-3C Orion

MSW also provides advocacy and a link to CNAFR resources for seven other units including three Fleet Replacement Squadron SAUs, Helicopter Mine Countermeasure squadrons (HM) 14 and 15, Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19 and the Southern California Offshore Range detachment. Reserve squadrons have deployed in regular rotation to meet the Global Force Management Allocation Plan requirements just like the active component squadrons they serve alongside.

The Sailors of CNAFR are warfighters who provide the fleet with operational support to prepare for and operate forward in any theater, through ready and accessible Reserve Component equipment and people. There are a wide range of CNAFR capabilities to meet the Navy’s mission. The bedrock of these capabilities is the knowledge and experience of the motivated, professional and dedicated Sailors of CNAFR. From the front, CNAFR develops its people, accomplishes its mission, fights to fly, flies to fight, and fights to win!
hey are about five minutes out,” said Naval Aircrewman 1st Class Andy Anderson as he clenched his fists tightly and blew warm air into them. His breath condensed into a cloud in front of his face as he spoke. “Hopefully less. It is freezing out here!” He added. A line of boats, trucks, and construction equipment sat on the tarmac behind us – a unique sight, I thought, on a flight line full of rotary-wing aircraft.

“These belong to your squadron?” I asked. I had spent my fair share of time around Naval Aviation, but this was my first time touring a Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron (HM).

Before he could answer, the silence was broken by the familiar sound of a helicopter’s rotors slapping the air. As the MH-53E Sea Dragon came in for a landing a fine mist surrounded the aircraft from the water off the sea wall.

When the rotors came to a stop and the silence returned, Anderson confirmed that the seemingly non-squadron appropriate equipment on the tarmac did, in fact, belong to the squadron.

“Let me show you around,” he said.

At first look, the “World Famous Vanguard” of HM-14, along with their sister squadron HM-15, seem like any other Navy rotary-wing squadrons in Norfolk, Virginia: they have helicopters on the sea wall, they have a specialized mission set, and they have a plethora of outstanding Sailors working day in and day out to keep their squadron in peak condition and readiness. Upon closer inspection, though, one would notice some young boatswain’s mates working side-by-side with some Seabees. An even closer inspection would reveal that some of these Sailors are Selected Reservists, some are Full-Time Support, and some are active component. One might conclude that the “World Famous Vanguard” is one of the largest and most unique squadrons in the U.S. Navy – and they would be right.

Consisting of approximately 360 active component, 102 FTS and 48 Selected Reserve personnel, HM-14 flies the MH-53E Sea Dragon and is one of two Navy mine countermeasure squadrons with blended active and Reserve component personnel. HM-14’s mission necessitates Sailors with ratings that are not required in most other Navy squadrons, making the squadron a self-dependent and self-contained operational airborne mine countermeasures (AMCM) squadron, ready to provide rapid response mine countermeasures capability to any location in the world.

“When I first came to HM-14 I was blown away by the diversity of ratings,” said Anderson. “I didn’t expect to be working with boatswain’s mates and Seabees in a squadron, but I have really enjoyed the unique experience.”
HM-14’s “bread and butter” is AMCM. Beyond that, they train to Hurricane and Disaster Relief missions when called on by U.S. or foreign relief agencies. They train for heavy-lift missions with cargo, both internal and external. They train for vertical onboard delivery and they provide training to support SEALs and EOD for paradrop practice.

Since 2008, HM-14 has maintained a permanent detachment in Pohang, South Korea, where they now keep three of their 10 aircraft.

“As the Navy and the nation ‘pivot’ to Asia, our mission in Korea is essential to provide support to the Area of Responsibility (AOR),” said Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Toolan, officer-in-charge of HM-14’s Reserve component. “Having a well-trained and motivated SELRES component is essential should HM-14 need to provide operational support in the AOR or wartime support on the volatile Korean Peninsula.” The detachment has directly supported exercises such as Clear Horizon, Foal Eagle and Ulchi Freedom Guardian, in addition to tasks assigned by Commander, 7th Fleet.

HM-14 has participated in several major operations throughout their history such as Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, and disaster relief efforts such as Operation Toxic Look in 1992 and Operation Tomodachit in 2011. Recently, the squadron flew to Panama City, Florida, for VULCANEX 15-2 and 16-1. This semi-annual helicopter advanced readiness program exercise focuses on testing the squadron’s overall planning, solving, and execution capability for a real-time mine warfare scenario.

HM-14 has regularly responded to crises throughout the world, providing services that only the unique equipment and personnel of HM-14 can provide. Throughout its history the squadron has cleared thousands of miles of water to protect U.S. vessels from mines, and has carried hundreds of thousands of pounds of cargo that no other aircraft is capable of carrying. They will continue to do all of this while proudly serving the men and women of the United States of America as the “World Famous Vanguard.”

An MH-53E Sea Dragon, attached to Helicopter Mine Countermeasure Squadron (HM) 14, trains with the MK-103. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Nicole Lung)
Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron VP-62 and VP-69, the two VP squadrons within Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve, have been called on year after year to provide operational support to the fleet and maintain readiness for rapid deployment. Both squadrons regularly deploy overseas alongside active component VP squadrons, and contribute combat air crews to fleet exercises around the globe. Currently detachments from both squadrons are deployed to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa to support the 7th Fleet maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft mission.

VP-62 traces its lineage back to May 1, 1942 where it was established flying the PBY-5A Catalina, one of the U.S. Navy’s “flying boats.” The VP-62 “Broad Arrows” as we know them today were established in November of 1970 as the fourth squadron to be assigned the VP-62 designation. 1970 was a major reorganizing year for the Naval Air Reserve. Twelve Reserve component squadrons formed by the end of the year that were structured along the lines of active component squadrons with almost identical organization and manning levels. This reorganization also gave rise to the “Totems” of VP-69.

Recently, VP-62 and VP-69, located on Naval Air Station Jacksonville and NAS Whidbey Island respectively, have been called upon to support active component VP squadrons as they transition from the P-3C Orion to the P-8A Poseidon. In June of 2013, VP-62 and VP-69 began their first of multiple scheduled six-month mobilizations to support 7th Fleet missions from Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa. In September 2015, detachments from the two Reserve squadrons arrived in Kadena for their second six-month mobilization.

The squadrons are fully integrated in Kadena with VP-46, an active component squadron from Whidbey Island, Washington, and VP-16, an active component P-8 squadron from Jacksonville, FL. Personnel from all four squadrons have adapted to operate
as a single, cohesive unit. The success of the Navy’s maritime and patrol reconnaissance mission in Kadena has relied on the leadership, professionalism and adaptability of all P-3 and P-8 Sailors, active and reserve. Both reserve squadrons have mobilized three combat air crews, maintenance, logistic, intelligence, and administrative support personnel to the deployed active component Combined Task Group. With only about 10 percent of officers and 55 percent of enlisted being full time support, many drilling Reserve Sailors stepped away from their civilian careers for three to six months to deploy with their squadron to support this critical need.

“The amazing thing about the past two decades is how much everything has changed,” said Senior Chief Aircrewman (Operator) Michael Johnson from VP-62. Johnson, a Selected Reserve Sailor, is a government defense contractor in his civilian life. He took leave from work and family for five months to deploy one last time with his P-3 squadron. This is his fourth and final time deploying with a P-3 squadron to Kadena since he joined the Navy in 1990. “Not only have I changed, the Navy and our country have changed beyond my imagination,” Johnson reflected. “The mission here in Kadena, however, is still very much the same:

“I still remember how I felt when I was out here my first time as an Airman,” reminisces Johnson. “I had no idea how important I was to the bigger picture back then, but I now know.”

The P-8s are newer, faster, and have more capable sensor suites. However, until the fleet has been fully converted, the legacy P-3s will continue to be indispensable anti-submarine warfare, and intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance assets directly contributing to 7th Fleet’s situational awareness in the region. The aircraft also conduct bilateral and multilateral operations and exercises in the region to improve their capabilities, build trust, and strengthen relationships, with the goal of improved regional security and stability.

“I still remember how I felt when I was out here my first time as an Airman,” reminisces Johnson. “I had no idea how important I was to the bigger picture back then, but I now know. I am very proud of each and every one of our Sailors up and down the chain of command. Some of our junior Sailors now, much like me 23 years ago, may not even know what or where the Spratly Islands are or why they are so important. For them, they may not know the specifics yet; they are here for love of country and to do whatever it takes to complete the mission.”

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“I still remember how I felt when I was out here my first time as an Airman,” reminisces Johnson. “I had no idea how important I was to the bigger picture back then, but I now know.”

The P-8s are newer, faster, and have more capable sensor suites. However, until the fleet has been fully converted, the legacy P-3s will continue to be indispensable anti-submarine warfare, and intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance assets directly contributing to 7th Fleet’s situational awareness in the region. The aircraft also conduct bilateral and multilateral operations and exercises in the region to improve their capabilities, build trust, and strengthen relationships, with the goal of improved regional security and stability.

“I still remember how I felt when I was out here my first time as an Airman,” reminisces Johnson. “I had no idea how important I was to the bigger picture back then, but I now know. I am very proud of each and every one of our Sailors up and down the chain of command. Some of our junior Sailors now, much like me 23 years ago, may not even know what or where the Spratly Islands are or why they are so important. For them, they may not know the specifics yet; they are here for love of country and to do whatever it takes to complete the mission.”
On March 19, 2016, one of the Navy’s only two squadrons dedicated to supporting special operations, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 84 conducted its disestablishment ceremony. In response to the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act, a plan was created which included the establishment of two Tactical Support Units, retention of HSC-85 as a dedicated Special Operations Forces support rotary-wing squadron, and the disestablishment of HSC-84 in Norfolk, Virginia.

“By no small measure HSC-84’s accomplishments are a very proud part of the Navy Reserve and Naval Aviation history,” said Chief of Navy Reserve Vice Adm. Robin R. Braun during her remarks to the audience made up of hundreds of HSC-84 and predecessor squadron alumni.

The “Red Wolves” of HSC-84 trace their lineage to the “Sea Wolves” of Helicopter Attack (Light) Squadron Three, which operated in the Mekong Delta during the Vietnam Conflict, providing fire support to Riverine and Navy SEAL units. HA(L)-3 was disestablished following the end of Vietnam, but realizing the need for an elite unit trained in the special warfare role, the Navy established HA(L)-4 a few years Later. HA(L)-4 continued to operate in that role until they were disestablished and Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadrons 4 and 5 were established in its place. Operating the HH-60H “Rescue Hawk,” the HCS-4 “Red Wolves” and HCS-5 “Firehawks” were the only naval helicopter squadrons dedicated to supporting special operations and combat search and rescue as their primary missions.

HSC-84, together with its predecessors HCS-4 and HCS-5, maintained a continuous forward presence in the Middle East between 2003 and 2015. During that time 13,480 combat hours were flown in the execution of 2,341 combat missions. Three Distinguished Flying Crosses, 15 Bronze Stars, 120 Single Action Air Medals with valor, and 1,437 Strike Flight Award Air Medals were earned during the capture of over 732 high value targets.

In October of 2015, HSC-84 Detachment One redeployed to Norfolk, Virginia, marking the first time all personnel and aircraft had been home since 2003.

“Whether it was flying direct action missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom, or being a ready force waiting for the call to go forward, the Red Wolves have been fully prepared to do our nation’s work,” said Rear Adm. Mark Leavitt, commander Naval Air Force Reserve, at the time of HSC-84 Det 1’s welcome home ceremony in October 2015. “They have earned the respect and highest praise of our nation’s most elite fighting force – our special operations personnel out in the field.” The squadron supported Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Uphold Democracy, Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom, New Dawn, Enduring Freedom And Inherent Resolve during its now celebrated history.

Two TSUs will be established in order to leverage the years of experience of former HSC-84 and 85 personnel – one in Norfolk, Virginia and one in San Diego, California. The goal of
each unit will be to provide an improved level of SOF support training to HSC squadrons throughout the fleet. Personnel in the Reserve Force will be able to train and augment deploying active component squadrons if needed. The TSUs will also be capable of providing surge capacity to HSC squadrons supporting SOF.

“HSC-84 and 85 delivered a constant presence of excellence, excellence, excellence,” said Rear Adm. Michael Crane as he challenged the current members of HSC-84 and 85 in the audience: “continue strong, both at HSC-85 and at TSUs East and West.”

At the end of the ceremony there was a sense of sadness, and considering the remarkable history and accomplishments of HSC-84 it was not surprising. At the end of the day, though, the squadron was not great because of its name; it was great because of its Sailors. It was the diligence of the Sailor warriors of HSC-84 that worked day in and day out to ensure success until the very end. That’s what made HSC-84 one of the finest squadrons that Naval Aviation had to offer.

“The Red Wolves will live on through you,” said Cmdr. Quinton Packard, HSC-84 commanding officer. “The final chapter hasn’t been written. You who are standing up the TSU will be writing it. You who will put on the Firehawk patch and keep the mission alive will be writing it. And you who will be walking these very halls in two weeks with HSC-11 will be writing it.”

The knowledge and skills that these Sailors learned during their time with HSC-84 will serve the fleet when they transfer to HSC-85, one of the two TSUs, or to another HSC fleet squadron, and help train others to the gold standard that epitomized the “Red Wolves” of HSC-84.
CNAFR SQUADRONS & SAUs 2016

- NAF Washington
  - VR-1
  - VR-53
- JB MDL
  - VR-64
- NAS Norfolk
  - HM-14
  - HM-15
  - VFA-106
  - CACCLW
- NAS Oceana
  - VFC-12
  - VR-56
- NAS Jacksonville
  - VP-62
  - HSM-60
  - VR-58
  - VP-30
  - VR-62
- Eglin AFB
  - VFA-101
- NAS Sigonella, Italy
  - ETD Sig

- NAS Pensacola
  - VT-4
  - VT-86
  - VT-10
- NAS Whiting Field
  - VT-2
  - VT-3
  - VT-5
  - HT-8
  - HT-18
  - HT-28
- NAS Key West
  - VFC-111
In early February, more than 350 Reserve Sailors from Regional Operations Center and Navy Security Force units across the country supported Commander, Navy Installations Command and U.S. Fleet Forces Command in assessing the U.S. Navy’s anti-terrorism program command and control capabilities and evaluating the readiness and effectiveness of fleet and region anti-terrorism programs throughout the U.S. Northern Command area of responsibility.

Each year, installations across the country conduct Exercise Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield to demonstrate their ability to respond to threats at facilities (both on and off-installation) affecting Sailors and their families. During SC-CS, installations assess their fleet and family readiness, fire and emergency services, emergency preparedness, safety, air/port operations, public affairs and naval facility support in response to terrorist attacks. This nationwide exercise requires participation from a full cross section of Navy emergency management and security operations support personnel to include active duty, civilians and reservists.

“Exercise Solid Curtain - Citadel Shield is a very realistic test of the accessibility, readiness and level of integration of our shore enterprise Reserve Sailors,” said Vice Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Installations Command. “The safety and security of our shore facilities is a no-fail mission; we simply can’t do it without the 3,500 part-time Sailors who are integral to this command.”

As a result of recent real-world terrorist/homegrown violent extremist events throughout the U.S., implementing the lessons learned into policies, standard operating procedures and training programs are essential. Ensuring effective and efficient execution of incident response plans is even more crucial to the protection of Sailors, civilians and their families. This year, exercise SC-CS encompassed the following objectives: 1) critical infrastructure protection, 2) region command and control, 3) interservice/interagency coordination, 4) information management, 5) active shooter response, 6) integrated defense, 7) regional information sharing, 8) soft target protection/countermeasures, 9) consequence management, 10) intra-regional support and 11) restoration of capability.

The expertise and collaboration skills that each Reserve Sailor brought to regional ROC teams were critical to the overall success of the emergency response mission. Shore installations Reserve
Sailors, officer and enlisted personnel were qualified and fully integrated into the ROC teams and provided judge advocate general, chaplain, security officer and knowledge management support to the crisis action team chief; served as battle watch supervisor, journal log manager, request for information/request for support clerks and managers; and offered white cell scenario support. Smith recognized the value-added by Reserve Sailors, acknowledging their dedication to support this important event.

“I continue to be amazed at the extraordinary enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment to service that these Sailors bring, particularly as they balance dual-military and civilian careers. Thank you for choosing to serve,” said Smith.

NSF Reserve Sailors also augmented installation security forces across the country, which was a win-win for both the Sailor and the installation. Master-at-Arms Sailors were able to practice both tactical and operational aspects of their jobs, serving as sentries, performing vehicle inspections and responding to incidents as they occurred. With the additional security forces available, the installations were able to not only test secondary response times, but also utilize the Reserve Sailors to identify potential gaps in their planning efforts.

Throughout exercise SC-CS, regions, installations, activities and tenant commands conducted a variety of drills to test their respective force protection plans. The complexity of the drills and scenarios were scaled to meet the needs of each command, and they were set up to stress not only primary, but secondary and tertiary responses where feasible.

It’s all about the “one team, one fight” concept. Active duty, civilians and Reserve Sailors communicated and worked together diligently to successfully achieve CNIC and USFF exercise objectives. During exercise SC-CS, the team executed incident action plans that supported over 800 events across the U.S. In this simulation of what could be one of the nation’s worst moments, Reserve Sailors were able to augment at all levels of command, control and response positions throughout the two weeks, exemplifying professionalism and commitment to making a stronger Navy and proving to be “Ready now, anytime, anywhere”.

Navy Regions across the country provided the following unique contributions to SC-CS:

**COMMANDER, NAVY DISTRICT WASHINGTON**

Since the Washington Navy Yard shooting event in September 2013, significant changes, including more integrated Reserve ROC and NSF support, were implemented to prevent recurrence and ensure effective collaboration among interagency partners.

“Our Reserve unit provided essential augmentation to the Navy District Washington CAT,” said Steven Agriesti, operations director for Naval District Washington. “It is important to work together because we have limited manpower, both civilian and military. We view the Reserve unit as equal counterparts to the permanent CAT members. It is important for them to function and perform in the same capabilities.” Russell Duke, NDW emergency manager added, “We (active duty and civilians) learned and got a fresh perspective working alongside our Reserve Sailors. They
bring valuable diversity and corporate experience to the fight. This was the best team work I’ve seen during this annual exercise.”

COMMANDER, NAVY REGION MID-ATLANTIC

Navy Region Mid Atlantic ROC Knowledge Manager, Capt. Eric Wills, a Reserve Sailor also assigned to the Navy Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer unit praised the performance of the Reserve team. Wills stated, “During the exercise, Operations Specialist 1st Class Natalie Petroskey served at the current operations desk, leading a team of five active duty Sailors during the management and synthesis of current situations briefs, managing incoming phone calls and correspondence and effectively relaying the information to the CAT leadership.”

“During the exercise, and for the first time, the operations members confidently addressed the current operations team in a ‘fire and forget’ manner, indicative of their trust and confidence in OS1 Petroskey’s leadership and her team,” added Capt. Craig Laws, commanding officer, Mid Atlantic ROC.

COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Integration of Reserve Sailors in ROC and NSF operations during exercise CS-SC was essential to achieve mission objectives. “The Reserve support provided by the Commander, Navy Region Northwest ROC unit was superb,” said Stevin Johnson, Region Northwest’s current operations officer. “They seamlessly integrated into my battle watch team with fully qualified battle watch commanders and by becoming trained situation awareness cell team members rotating in with my active duty Sailors and providing accurate and timely decisional information to senior leadership. With their continued effort of support and qualifications achieved, I am better prepared to support continuous 24/7 operations should that ever become necessary,” Johnson added.

COMMANDER, NAVY REGION SOUTHEAST

Following the Chattanooga shooting event in July 2015, ROC and NSF Reserve Sailors responded immediately to support the 24/7 resource needs, and demonstrated the value-added the Reserve Sailors bring to the table to support their active duty and civilian partners. “During exercise Solid Curtain Citadel Shield, we had officers serving as Incident Regional Watch Officers and CAT Writers in the ROC. Our Chaplain supported the religious ministries team in the logistics cell by reviewing and responding to various incident response plans,” stated Cmdr. Gary White, commanding officer, Region Southeast ROC. “Our ROC enlisted Sailors served as knowledge managers in the resources, plans and operations cells of the CAT,” White added.
Additionally, master-at-arms personnel were also engaged providing security support across the region.

COMMANDER NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST

In the aftermath of the southern California wildfires in October 2003, region Southwest ROC and NSF Sailors have been integrated for catastrophic real-world events and exercises. When exercise SC-CS kicked off, Reserve Sailors were immediate force-multipliers to the region’s response.

“It is very comforting to know that our Reserve Sailors are participating in the ROC during real-world and training environments,” said Lt. Cmndr. Ryan Barnes, Region Southwest current operations officer and crisis action team operations section lead.

“Without their skillsets and unique capabilities supplementing the ROC planning, logistics, operations and financial/administrative cells, we would not have had adequate resource capacity to sustain a complex, wide-scale series of terrorist events in the region,” stated Jill Olen, Region Southwest’s emergency manager. Olen added, “These exercises allow our installations, activities and tenant commands to test their decision-making processes and to validate their directed in-port security plans and anti-terrorism force protection conditions in real time.” Our Reserve Sailors added an additional layer of preparedness to the exercise, allowing us to take advantage of their experiences and provide real-time training opportunities.”

Members of the Naval District Washington Regional Operations Center Reserve Augmentation Unit Supporting Exercise Solid Curtain Citadel 2016 (U.S. Navy photo)
Religious Program Specialist 3rd Class Jasmine Gulley prepares for a day of work. Although she will attend the same duties as any other day, her choice of attire will differ greatly. As a statistician for Navy Recruiting District Chicago and a Reserve Sailor, she has elected to serve in an active-duty capacity as a Navy Recruiter.

The road ahead will be a challenge for Gulley, but she looks forward to the tasks ahead of her. She will be assigned as a Canvasser Recruiter for NRD Chicago for a minimum of two years. During that time, she will be entitled to all benefits and pay of an active-duty Sailor.

The CANREC program is a temporary recall program for production recruiters to execute the Navy’s recruiting mission. CANRECs can be continued up to five years, based on individual performance and command endorsement.

“I decided to go into recruiting for a number of reasons,” Gulley says, “The basic allowance for housing and the veterans benefits alone are worth serving on active duty.”

Gulley is not alone in taking this path in her career. Navy Recruiting Command offers the opportunity for approximately 400 Reserve Sailors to serve as CANRECs across 26 NRDs around the country. Gulley, fortunately, was able to remain in the Chicago area due to a vacancy available.

As a civilian, Gulley serves as the NRD Chicago statistician, where she will remain while she awaits a classroom seat at the Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit, or NORU. There she will learn the basic principles of recruiting and will be equipped with the tools needed to be successful. Upon completion, she will focus her attention to locating the most qualified and needed ratings for affiliation with the Navy Reserve. In essence, she will continue to support the mission of the Navy Recruiting while serving in a full time support status.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Jeremy Parrish chose the same path as Gulley. He has been recruiting for nearly a year and has adjusted to the change of pace. Parrish decided to become a CANREC due to his dissatisfaction with his civilian position.

“They just don’t offer the same advancement opportunities as the Navy,” Parrish states. “One would think that with a degree in radiology, I would be qualified to perform at a higher level than what I was doing in the civilian sector. The Navy is at least clear on what I have to complete and perform to advance to the next level.”

Parrish has already contracted four new members into the Reserve Force. As he deals with prior-service active duty Sailors, he can confidently answer the necessary questions people have when they transition into citizen Sailors.

Serving as a CANREC is not just for the enlisted. Lt. Keven Haggerty, who was named the National Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Recruiter of the Year for fiscal year 2014, is serving his fourth year in recruiting. Haggerty’s focus is primarily officer accessions for both active duty and Reserve. He has made a name for himself in recruiting by identifying potential officers with the skills needed to be both a competent leader and a subject matter expert when his recruits swear in the oath of commissioned office.

“Recruiting has been an awesome opportunity for me to serve the Navy and build my career,” Haggerty states. “It’s a very efficient way to build up my retirement points, while building a strong Navy for tomorrow.”

Haggerty, who relocated from the Washington, D.C. area to serve as a recruiter, is adamant that his Reserve duty provides him an advantage over his active duty counterparts.

“From my perspective, I have seen just about every angle in which the Navy conducts business,” Haggerty says. “The difference between active duty and Reserve is a night and day comparison and the people serving in the active component are unaware of those differences. I consider this a key to my success.”

Haggerty also says that the requirements each Reserve Sailor must complete on a monthly basis are met throughout a standard month while on active duty. This includes general military training courses, maintaining personal health through periodic health assessments and performing the personal fitness assessments.

Navy Counselor 1st Class David Acevedo became a CANREC in October of 2007. After serving four and a half years as a CANREC, he decided to apply for a conversion from a Culinary Specialist to a Navy Counselor so that he could remain on active duty for the remainder of his career.

Acevedo will continue to serve on active duty as a Career Recruiter, otherwise known as a “hometown recruiter.” As many see this as a benefit to continue serving on active duty, the advancement typically stops at petty officer 1st class.
“Changing rates to NC was a great move for me,” Acevedo says, “I was able to serve the Navy on active duty and remain close to home.”

Acevedo says that the challenges of recruiting for the Navy Reserve differ greatly from recruiting people into active duty. One main contrast is the reserve have what is known as a “fit” environment. This means that the number of available rates are limited in both size and existence overall.

“Some of the rates people are successful in on active duty just don’t exist in the Reserve,” Acevedo says. “For example, you will not find a Navy Musician or a Navy Counselor serving in the Reserve. We just don’t have them.”

One important thing to remember when considering submitting an application to this program is that the hours of commitment and the level of stress to perform are much higher than many Reserve Sailors are accustomed.

In addition to the traditional CANREC opportunities, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command has established Navy Recruiting Command detachments to supplement the mission of maintaining high quality Sailors to fill the needed roles in the Navy Reserve. Cmdr. Michael Kerley, currently the officer-in-charge of NRC-Det Minneapolis, recently returned to Reserve duty after serving as the Navy city outreach officer in Chicago.

“We support the active component NRDs with filling the gap of recruiting qualified Reservists,” Kerley states. “We provide Reserve Sailors to under-manned areas to assist the active component recruiters to help fulfill their requirements.”

Reserve Sailors who return from CANREC duty are utilized in this capacity due to the unique skills they have been trained to perform when they served in a full time support capacity for recruiting. This is used as an alternative to sending regained Reserve personnel into operational support units. By having this cadre of skilled Reserve assistance in a Reserve capacity, they provide a higher benefit to the Navy.

Master Chief Navy Counselor Derek J. Milo, the Chief Recruiter for NRD Chicago feels that these CANRECs stimulate the quality of recruiting overall.

“These Sailors bring logical experience and expertise into the recruiting world,” Milo states. “Their familiarity of the local area gives them the opportunity to foresee trends and influences in the area where they live and serve.”

Milo adds that the value of the Reserve Sailors who assist in the mission to improve the Navy is a valuable resource that truly brings the big picture together for all to see.

“We love to have CANRECs onboard,” Milo said. “We bring them aboard because we need them and their vital skills, they produce high-level Sailors who go on to serve and bring the Navy into the future.”

Logistics Specialist 1st Class Eva Marte, a recruiter near Naval Station Oceana, Va., discusses career options with a perspective Sailor. (U.S. Navy Photo)
Unbeknown to many was the critical role Navy Reserve Sailors played in the CINCLANTFLT/North Atlantic Treaty Organization arenas during the cold war and during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Had hostilities broken out between the allied forces and the Soviet Union, Commander, 2nd Fleet would have assumed duties as NATO Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic, commanding aircraft carrier battle groups that would steam to the North Atlantic/Norwegian Sea to bottle up the Soviet fleet.

This evolution, which was practiced during several major fleet exercises, required considerable logistics support, most of which was provided by Navy Reserve Sailors at advanced logistics support sites, formerly known as advanced logistics supply bases, and forward logistics sites on the west coast of Europe, primarily in the United Kingdom and Norway. Unlike the Pacific and Mediterranean fleets, CINCLANTFLT had very limited overseas bases or supply depots and had to rely on host nation support and Navy Reserve Sailors to establish ALSS/FLSs to provide logistics support for afloat forces deployed to the North Atlantic theater.

To offset this disparity, CINCLANTFLT created the U.S. Commander Eastern Atlantic Command which had a very small staff of Navy Reserve personnel in London, commingled with the CINCUSNAVEUR staff that was augmented and fleshed out by a considerable number of Navy Reserve Sailors that manned and commanded an ALSS, a staging and receiving area for critical supplies bound for deployed fleet units; and to operate a FLS.

The mission of the ALSS was to receive cargo from the U.S. by Air Mobility Command common user aircraft and deliver the critical cargo and personnel by carrier onboard delivery and vertical onboard delivery or Navy supply ships to the ships at sea, provide on-site communications (by means of a portable on site mobile maintenance command and communications van, arranged anchorages and port services and coordinated prearranged host nation support). An FLS is a smaller unit that moves as far forward as possible, is in close proximity of the battle group and is the last stage in delivering critical cargo and personnel to fleet units. Navy Reserve Sailors, augmented by a small staff from Commander Logistics Group Two manned the ALSS and FLS and provided the majority of logistics support to COMSTRIKFLTTLANT battle groups and would also oversee repair of battle damaged ships in NATO shipyards, primarily in England, Scotland and Portugal. This would be accomplished by two specially created Navy Reserve SUPSHIPS Detachment units. Navy Reserve Sailors also manned a 40 van Mobile Maintenance Facility that had parts and equipment to support P-3 aircraft at overseas bare bases in Portugal, UK and Norway. These Navy Reserve Sailors practiced their skills by providing vital logistics support to the US/NATO fleets and maritime aircraft (P-3) during scheduled major exercises. Navy Reserve C-9 aircraft played a vital role in transferring critical cargo and needed personnel from the ALSS to the FLS as well as performing other in theater functions. Navy Reserve C-9 aircraft were unable to deliver heavy cargo, such as aircraft engines from the ALSS to the FLS, so the Navy Reserve borrowed a C-130 aircraft from the U.S. Air Force to accomplish this mission. This resulted in CINCLANTFLT requesting two C-130 Operational Support Aircraft. When a CNAVRES representative and a Senator got in the act, Congress authorized and the
Navy Reserve procured 20 C-130 aircraft. The AMCC van in use by the ALSS for command and control communications with the fleet, FLS and other shore activities including the CINCLANTFLT Logistics Readiness Center, manned primarily by Navy Reserve Sailors, was procured specifically by CINCLANTFLT for ALSS use. It was used more recently by the Navy Reserve personnel in New Jersey for on site communications in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

During Operation Desert Shield, Atlantic Fleet Navy Reserve units that were scheduled to establish and operate an ALSS and FLS during the Atlantic Fleet Exercise Teamwork 82 were diverted into Sigonella and later to other sites in the European and Central Commands and established ALSS/FLSs. Other recalled Navy Reserve units also played key roles in the establishment of ALSS/FLSs at Jedsah, Bahrain, Hurgahada, Masiarsh, Antely and Fujayrah. In addition, recalled Navy Reserve Cargo Handling Battalion personnel not only manned ALSS/FLSs but handled critical cargo in Rota, Guam, and Subic Bay. Navy Reserve Overseas Air Cargo Terminal units, Forward Freight Terminal units and Supply Support units also provided critical support at ALSSs in the Persian Gulf area. CINCLANTFLT had these critically needed Navy Reserve units in the Presidential Reserve call up and worked closely with the Chief of Navy Reserve to ensure these Sailors were ready to fulfill these very critical roles.

As a result of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, it was clear that a unit was needed in theater to orchestrate logistics support among and between commands, so CINCLANTFLT established two Logistics Task Forces, one for the Atlantic fleet and one for the Pacific fleet, both manned by Navy Reserve units.

Another product of this assessment was the establishment of a similar organization within NATO. This new organization was highly regarded, and additional supply ships were needed to augment the Combat Logistics Force. OPNAV outfitted commercial ships with Merchant Ship Naval Augmentation Program gear. Navy Reserve Cargo Rig Teams were formed and tested by CINCLANTFLT, trained by Logistics Group Two, tested during a fleet exercise and could transfer cargo between merchant ships and combat logistics force ships at the same rate as skilled active Navy personnel.

Navy Reserve Sailors played a vital role in providing logistics support to fleet units during exercises in the North Atlantic/Norwegian Sea during the cold war and in the success of Desert Shield/Desert Storm.
In the 1800s, Matthew Fontaine Maury, the Pathfinder of the Seas, developed the first wind fields of the earth, helping Sailors minimize time at sea and make transoceanic voyages faster and smarter. Navy forecasters started delivering weather forecasts for safety of flight during the early days of naval aviation in the early 1900s. The capability, professionalism and mission have grown through the decades, with two world wars and countless regional conflicts that have attracted U.S. Navy attention. The information and technology age has brought us satellites, multi-beam sonar systems, high performance computing centers, and unmanned systems with payloads collecting all types of environmental information. The highly trained and expert Sailors within the Naval Oceanography component – active duty and Reserve component – are able to deliver forecasts of the ocean and atmosphere to enable warfighting decisions better and faster than ever. This longstanding key to Navy operations and leadership decisions – now called Physical Battlespace Awareness or PBA – is a critical component of Information Warfare.

Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (COMNAVMETOCCOM) is the one-star operational commander aligned under U.S. Fleet Forces that executes the Navy’s operational oceanography program. COMNAVMETOCCOM directs and oversees the collection, processing, exploitation, dissemination, fusion and analysis of assured, relevant, and timely oceanographic, meteorologic, hydrographic, precise time and astrometric information. COMNAVMETOCCOM’s Reserve Force consists of Oceanography officers (1805s) and aerographer’s mates providing strategic depth and operational capability through its 10 Reserve units aligned to Echelon IV and V active duty commands.

As part of the Information Warfare Community (IWC) whose strategic plan focuses on assured command and control, enhanced battlespace awareness, and integrated fires, COMNAVMETOCCOM and its Reserve Force deliver Physical Battlespace Awareness to fleet...
commanders. This critical mission shortens decision cycles through superior knowledge of the operating environment providing a distinct warfighting advantage from the bottom of the ocean, through the water column, at the air-sea interface, through the atmosphere, and into space.

The aerographer’s mate rating celebrated its 90th year of service in 2014. The rating began as Aerologists providing weather forecasts in World War I and then evolved into Aerographers in World War II with its primary focus being aviation safety. While safety and weather forecasting also remain a key part of the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Reserve Force, the last 15 years have seen considerable advances in the rating’s mission. Today, Aerographer’s Mates continue to serve as the Navy’s weather experts. They also provide oceanography support and analysis to anti-submarine warfare and mine warfare missions as well as conduct oceanographic, bathymetric and hydrographic surveys aboard the USNS Pathfinder (T-AGS 60) class of survey ships and with the Fleet Survey Team.

These new missions have required a transformation of COMNAVMETOCCOM’s supporting Reserve units. In 2015, three new units were established to focus the Reserve Force at the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO), the Naval Oceanography Operations Command (NAVOCEANOPSCCM), and the U.S. Naval Observatory (USNAVOBSY). The first two units distinctly align Reserve personnel to oceanography and hydrography missions. The USNAVOBSY unit joins the NAVOCEANO Intel unit as a truly IW Reserve Unit where multiple Information Warfare ratings and designators combine to deliver an even broader range of operational capabilities.

These three new units expand the breadth and depth of Reserve support and provide our Reserve personnel exciting opportunities. Two long-standing units continue supporting Fleet Weather Centers in San Diego and Norfolk, leading the way in operational forecast support by augmenting 24/7 watchfloors and deploying as weather forecasters for various missions and exercises. Reserve Sailors at these units are filling operational maritime and aviation weather forecast requirements. They support the traditional aviation forecast safety mission as well as keep ships safe from hazardous winds, seas, and tropical cyclones. In addition to supporting NAVMETOCOM watchfloors and battle watches, reservists have begun deploying as members of Strike Group Oceanography Teams onboard aircraft carriers and large deck amphibious ships and as Mobile Environmental Teams on independent deployers.

An additional significant development over the past year was the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Reserve Force integration with the Naval Information Force Reserve (NAVIFORES). As the Type Commander for all Information Warfare Reserve Forces, NAVIFORES, oversees the manning, training, and equipping functions and coordinates the mobilization of IW reservists to the Fleet. All Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Reserve Force units are aligned under one of six regional Naval Information Force Reserve commanders. This alignment solidifies the final piece of IW Reserve integration and mirrors the active duty Type Commander alignment with Naval Information Forces.

The Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Reserve Force is Ready Now, Anytime, Anywhere. Its operational alignment under COMNAVMETOCCOM allows it to maximize support and deliver Decision Superiority through Physical Battlespace Awareness.
What does a normal drill weekend look like for a Navy Reserve Sailor? Some may find themselves in a classroom for General Military Training, others at the gym for the Physical Fitness Assessment. For the Sailors of SEAL Team 17, December drill weekend took them deep into the mountains of southern California.

Over 150 west coast-based Reserve operators and combat support service personnel participated in the semi-annual SEAL Team 17 field training exercise, the largest Naval Special Warfare Reserve Team FTX in recent years.

“We invite anyone who is willing to meet Naval Special Warfare’s standards to join our group of highly trained, uniquely qualified members,” said Cmdr. Ed Rohrbach, commanding officer, SEAL Team 17. “We are a family made up of diverse, dedicated professionals who understand the impact that our command makes as a force multiplier and the individual contributions we make to the overall NSW mission.”

The four-day FTX focused on combat fundamentals and refresher training that a NSW SEAL Operator and CSS Sailors are likely to encounter in an expeditionary environment.

“It was great,” said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class David Partida, assigned to a SEAL Team 17 CSS unit. “The training was well received by everyone because it was set up in a way that was enjoyable but didn’t take away from the seriousness of why we were there. As civilians in the medical field, there are many of us who haven’t always been able to get the in-depth, hands-on training with the equipment that would prepare us for a wide-range of situations down range.”

The curriculum for this specific FTX, which was created and taught by battle-tested SEALs, included tactical combat casualty care, close quarter combat, land navigation, joint operations center fundamentals and weapon familiarization courses for the M-4 carbine, P226 pistol and the 870 shotgun.

“We put a lot of rounds on target,” said a Special Warfare Operator Second Class assigned to a SEAL Team 17 CSS unit. “Technical competence is extremely important and this weekend is a perfect example of how we continuously develop our warriors. The small things we do here are critical to operational success when we deploy.”

Following each full day of training, members of the Team
shared experiences and discussed best practices by talking through a number of both real and hypothetical situations.

“Sharing knowledge is an institution in our community,” said a Special Warfare Operator First Class assigned to the SEAL Team 17 training department. “This type of drill weekend is a tremendous opportunity for camaraderie and to incorporate the lessons learned that make us more dynamic and more effective.”

A force-wide orientation to theater issues and problem sets emphasizes the Reserve components’ critical support in meeting a wide-range of operational requirements across all NSW capabilities.

“We know our personnel can be dropped into any theater at any time,” said Master Chief Special Warfare Operator Steven Viola, command master chief, SEAL Team 17. “By design, we are ready to integrate into any special and expeditionary warfare mission. That’s how we conduct business.”

Naval Special Warfare Group ELEVEN organizes, mans, trains, equips and deploys Reserve SEAL platoons, boat detachments and combat service support teams on special operations missions in support of active-duty NSW commands worldwide.
Catherine Hix
Naval Station Everett
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

Catherine works as the Naval Station Everett Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and provides refresher training for all Navy Operational Support Centers in the Northwest Region. Only the NOSC Victim Advocates attend, and it’s customized for SELRES. The SAPR VA training includes 32 hours of classroom time. Last year, she started the “Chalk the Walk” campaign for Navy Region Northwest RCC Everett.

“Entrusted with an 11-state AOR, an important element of my job is to serve as an integral part of the CNRNW, NRNW RCC, CNRFC SAPRO, CNIC, and OPNAV team, which serves to clarify policy and provide resources in order to reduce confusion for Navy Reserve Sailors and their families. I am honored to spend every day dedicated to ensuring that all the Reservists across 11 states are properly trained and provided with monthly program updates that, in turn, promises the delivery of quality care and services for commands, service members, their families, and all victims of sexual assault,” said Catherine.

“Serving those that serve our country is the least I can do to show the amount of respect I have for our Armed Forces. My grandfather was part of the invasion of Omaha Beach and served in the Coast Guard from December 1941 - June 1946.”
Naval Leadership and Ethics Command
Capt. Paul Jensen. Capt. Jensen is the national operations officer at Naval Leadership and Ethics Command Newport, Rhode Island. Jensen was in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to give a lecture at NOSC Hawaii when a helicopter went down in the water near him at the USS Arizona memorial. Working with four volunteers, Jensen used his training as a Navy diver to swim down to free a trapped passenger. Jensen and the volunteers struggled in limited visibility for about a minute at a time to free the young man. After several attempts, they succeeded in freeing the young man and bringing him to the surface.

Reserve Component Command Jacksonville
Personnel Specialist 1st Class Anthony J. Justiniano. PS1 Justiniano, as the RCC Jacksonville N7 Training Department LPO, was responsible for the management and execution of a $41 million budget in AT/ADT/IDTT for 19 NOSC’s, as well as a $100 thousand budget in regional ADT for CPO selectees during CPO 365 Phase II. He skillfully managed over 7,600 GTCC accounts with a delinquency rate of only 2 percent and led the processing of over 20 sets of NROWS orders to set up force protection security and support at NOSC Chattanooga. As the Asst. Regional CCC, he performed two assist visits and provided support to 19 NOSC CCCs and their Unit CCs.

Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve
Logistics Specialist First Class George P. Lozada. LS1 Lozada was named Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve Sailor of the Quarter. Lozada was recognized for his technical expertise as the Maritime Support Wing Government Commercial Purchase Card Agency Program Coordinator. In addition, as administrative department leading petty officer, he provided administrative assistance to 85 personnel, managed 47 service records, and supervised the processing of 75 pieces of correspondence, 22 evaluations and fitreps, nine awards and two directives. He also organized numerous volunteer efforts in the Hampton Roads community.

Reserve Component Command San Diego
Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Mary Joy Samaniego. PS2 Samaniego currently serves as the assistant career counselor for NOSC San Diego. She consistently performs her duties with enthusiasm and vigor. Additionally, PS2 is also actively involved with the command as a member of the color guard, command assessment team, diversity committee, and she is the assistant family care plan coordinator. Her outstanding efforts directly resulted in NOSC San Diego receiving the Reserve Retention of Excellence Award for the last two consecutive years. Her work ethic has recently resulted in her nomination as Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

Reserve Component Command San Diego
Electronics Technician 2nd Class Nate Webb. ET2 Webb began his Navy Reserve career in January 2012 following ET “A” school in Great Lakes, Illinois. Webb drilled at NOSC Pensacola, eventually moving to NOSC Louisville. ET2 Webb attended command career counselor and 2M “C” school, before going on ADSW orders as NOSC Louisville’s funeral honors coordinator where he has coordinated over 600 funerals with no discrepancies. In addition to his position as FHC, he was NOSC Louisville’s 2015 JSOY and serves as NOSC Louisville’s color guard coordinator, command duty officer, N6 department head, public affairs officer and 3M work center supervisor.

Reserve Component Command Great Lakes
Lt. Tim Cox. Lt. Cox began his Navy Reserve career in October 2013 following active duty assignments as a surface warfare officer. Cox currently drills at NOSC Louisville and is cross-assigned to COMDESRON 40 HQ at NOSC Jacksonville. As Surface/Maritime Interdiction Officer during PANAMAX 2014, the Chilean Navy noted his watch standing and knowledge of regional affairs as exceptional. Additionally, he was recognized for excellent performance during UNITAS 2015. In January 2015, he volunteered to serve as executive officer for NOSC Louisville. Recently, Cox was accepted into the Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies.
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