

The Beachhead Gazette

STAND

AND

FIGHT

Volume 1, Issue 7

November/December 2011

Message from the Commanding Officer



Dear ANZIO Families and Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you all happy and healthy, reunited over a wonderful holiday season with your families, friends -- and more importantly, your ANZIO sailors. December has obviously brought ANZIO's seven-month cruise to an end and a welcomed return home to loved ones. The crew has accomplished a lot

of remarkable things these past months, and I am proud of the safe and professional way in which they have performed and all the hard work they have put in to making this a successful cruise.

Our final six weeks of deployment were busy but good ones for the ship. We visited Muscat, Oman, for our final port visit in the FIFTH Fleet area, allowing us to relax a bit before commencing the journey home. Once fare-welling the CTF 151 staff in Djibouti, we headed back through the Suez Canal and into the Mediterranean Sea. There, we were fortunate to have our last port call of the deployment in the beautiful city of Palma de Mallorca, Spain, over the Thanksgiving holiday. The city is beautiful and has many sites the Sailors were able to tour, including a Cathedral downtown. Additionally, many of our sailors helped out at a local animal rescue shelter, cleaning the grounds and walking the animals.

The highlight of our cruise, however, was a December stop in Mayport, Florida, which allowed many family and friends

to join the ship and for a two day underway enroute Norfolk. It was nice having friends and family onboard to share the last few days with the Sailors and provides the opportunity to show them what ANZIO and the strike group have been doing the past several months. And it was truly my pleasure to be able to meet so many of the fantastic family members who have supported us while away.

While separations are not often welcomed, the deployment has helped many of your Sailors reach personal and professional goals. Many Sailors returned with their hard earned Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS) insignia, many have advanced in grade, completed the professional qualification which boisters their professional resumes to continue forward, while still others completed college and outside educational courses while at sea.

As we enter the New Year, much of we expected to do in 2012 has changed in the last several months. While we expected to spend much of the year in a shipyard, that has now been delayed as the government settles the future years budget, allowing us to continue to operate at sea in the coming months. We expect to spend the spring and summer in combination of pier side maintenance and at sea, helping to train the strike groups getting ready to deploy. This will give us ample opportunity to repair the ship as needed but to continue our own training and making sure our Sailors meet their advancement needs. All in all, I think a good deal for our ANZIO team.

In closing, I want to extend our sincere thanks for your amazing support throughout the deployment. We could not have done what we have done without you and the constant support you provided. I hope the New Year brings you the peace, success and time with loved ones you deserve.

Sincerely,

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

USS ANZIO enjoys Muscat, Oman

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

Guided-missile cruiser USS ANZIO (CG 68) visited the port of Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, Nov. 9-13.

The Sailors had the opportunity to enjoy the sites, culture and adventures of Muscat after being at sea more than 30 days.

"I really liked Oman," said Operations Specialist Seaman Daniel Sherwood. "I speak and understand a little Arabic, so it was a little easier for me to communicate with the locals. It was nice to see and use in reality what I've been studying."

ANZIO's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) set up a "Mystic Muscat" tour where Sailors were able to visit places such as the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, the Sultan's Palace and the local fish market. The tour also took Sailors to the Mutrah Souq where they could shop for local items,

spices and various Omani antiques.

"The Grand Mosque was a very beautiful place to visit," Sherwood said. "You can see the entire facility was designed from the ground up and around sunrises and sunsets."

MWR also offered a rock climbing tour for those Sailors looking for a more physical challenge down the path known as "Via Ferrata." "Via Ferrata," translates to 'iron road' in French or 'climbing path' in German. The original "Via Ferrata" path was used by the Germans in WWI as a way to move troops and supplies through the Alps' mountainous regions and today presents an extreme adventure for those willing to make the trek.

"I was a little nervous about the tour but once I got there and saw the zip lines and path we would take, I had a surge of energy and was ready to take on the challenge," said Damage



ANZIO Sailors climb along a cliff face during a Morale, Welfare and Recreation sponsored tour of "Via Ferrata," Nov. 10.

Controlman Seaman Alex Burgos.

The "Via Ferrata path," visited at Snake Gorge, consisted of a steel cable path that traverse, ascend and descend along the cliff face and five zip lines to cross from one side of the gorge to another at more than 100 meters above the ground.

"After I completed the course I was a little tired but I wanted to do it again," Burgos added.

'I was a little nervous about the tour but once I got there and saw the zip lines and path we would take, I had a surge of energy and was ready to take on the challenge.'

- Damage Controlman Fireman Alex Burgos



Photo courtesy of Operations Specialist Seaman Daniel Sherwood

From left to right: Operations Specialist Seaman Daniel Sherwood, Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate Edwin Ortiz, Lt. Lesa Welliver, Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) 2nd Class Cecil Chapman and Electronic's Technician 1st Class John Winters pose for a photo in one of courtyards of the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque during a Morale, Welfare and Recreation tour, Nov. 10

CTF 151 Disembarks USS ANZIO

Guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) bid farewell to Combined Task Force (CTF) 151, led by Pakistan Navy Rear Adm. Kaleem Shaukat, Nov. 17.

Flagship command duties for CTF 151 shifted from Anzio to guided-missile destroyer USS Kidd (DDG 100) as Anzio completes its deployment and makes preparations to head home.

"It has been an honor and privilege to have been Rear Adm. Shaukat's flagship," said Capt. John Dorey, Anzio's commanding officer. "The ship enjoyed working with and getting to know him and his staff. We wish them the best of luck in the remainder of their tour as CTF 151."

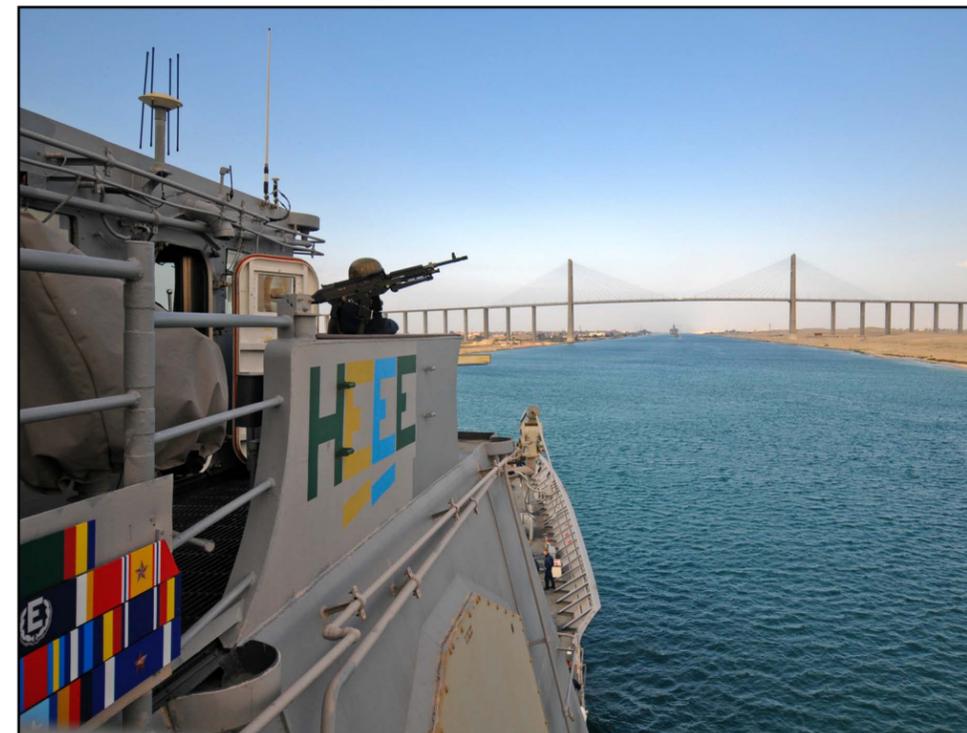
During Anzio's flagship duties of four and a half months and two different CTF 151 led commands, first by Royal New Zealand Navy Capt. Jim Gilmour followed by Rear Adm. Shaukat, Anzio's visit, board, search and seizure team conducted several maritime interdiction operations, to include a piracy disruption and several humanitarian assists missions.

Anzio went onto rejoin the rest of the George H.W. Bush Strike Group and began the transit to her homeport, Norfolk, Va.



Pakistani Navy Rear Adm. Kaleem Shaukat, commander of Combined Task Force 151, left, salutes as he departs USS ANZIO for the last time, Nov. 17.

USS ANZIO Enters U.S. 6th Fleet and Begins Journey Home



USS ANZIO prepares to pass under the Egyptian-Japanese Friendship Bridge as the ship transits north through the Suez Canal en route to the Mediterranean Sea., Nov. 20.

Guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) departed U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR) and enters U.S. 6th Fleet AOR, Nov. 20, to make the journey to its homeport, Norfolk, Va.

Anzio, along with the other ships from the George H.W. Bush Strike Group, transited from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea by way of the Suez Canal.

"It was a fast and furious transit," said Lt. j.g. John Camp, Anzio's navigator. "It feels good to be back in the Mediterranean Sea and headed back home."

Anzio departed Norfolk May 10 and was the flagship for Combined Task Force (CTF) 151, a counter-piracy operations coalition task force, for more than four months in the 5th Fleet AOR.

"Although the Sailors are happy to be closer to home, they fully understand the deployment is not over and they must stay focused and be safe," said Anzio's Command Master Chief Donnie Novak.

USS ANZIO Departs Palma de Mallorca

Guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) departed Palma de Mallorca, Spain, Nov. 27 after a three-day port visit.

The port visit gave the crew of Anzio the chance to enjoy the local food, culture and history of the island city. The ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) committee scheduled tours of the Drach Caves and a wine-tasting tour in the nearby town of Costa Nord, while Lt. Lesa Welliver, chaplain, led a community relations (COMREL) project at a local animal shelter.

"The wine-tasting and tour of the town were amazing. The more than 3,000 year old town is a piece of history, and I would love to come back to see more," said Seaman Zachary Seals.



USS ANZIO Sailors perform landscaping to one of the dog play areas during a community relations project at SOS Animal Mallorca, Nov. 25.



Ensign Kelsey Cellon pets a dog at a community relations project with SOS Animal Mallorca, Nov. 25.

Seventeen Sailors participated in the COMREL at the SOS Animal Mallorca shelter where they assisted in walking dogs, painting dog houses and landscaping the play areas for the dogs.

"Working with the animals was a different change of pace. It was something new and quite fun," said Electronics Technician 1st Class John Winters. "It was really neat to be able to play with the dogs for a little bit. I feel like we were able to get a lot accomplished."

This is the first time any U.S. Navy ship has participated in a COMREL at the SOS Animal Mallorca shelter.

"I cannot thank the

Sailors enough for all of their hard work," said Vikki Metcalfe, one of the volunteers at the animal shelter. "They helped us out tremendously, and we look forward to working with other Sailors in the future."

SOS Animal Mallorca was founded by a mixed group of Spanish and European nationals in 1995. The founders felt it necessary to create an organization that helped domestic animals after bearing witness to the cruelty, neglect and lack of understanding towards domestic animals. SOS Animal Mallorca has come a long way since its beginning and has established itself as a recognized ambassador for the rights and protection of animals.

In honor of the Sailors' assistance, the animal shelter allowed them to name two dogs the shelter recently rescued - Bravo for the male dog and Zulu for the female dog.

This was Anzio's final port visit for its 2011 deployment and Anzio has begun the journey back to its homeport of Norfolk, Va. 🐾

USS ANZIO'S Worldly Musician

Being deployed on a U.S. Navy ship is a great way to see the world and visit countries some people may never have a chance to see. Most Sailors want to remember their travels by purchasing a souvenir such as a coffee cup, tee-shirt or shot glass. For one avid music-lover aboard guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68), the local novelties didn't pull at his heartstrings. Electronics Technician 1st Class (SW) John P. Winters made it a point to find and purchase musical instruments indigenous to country the ship visited.

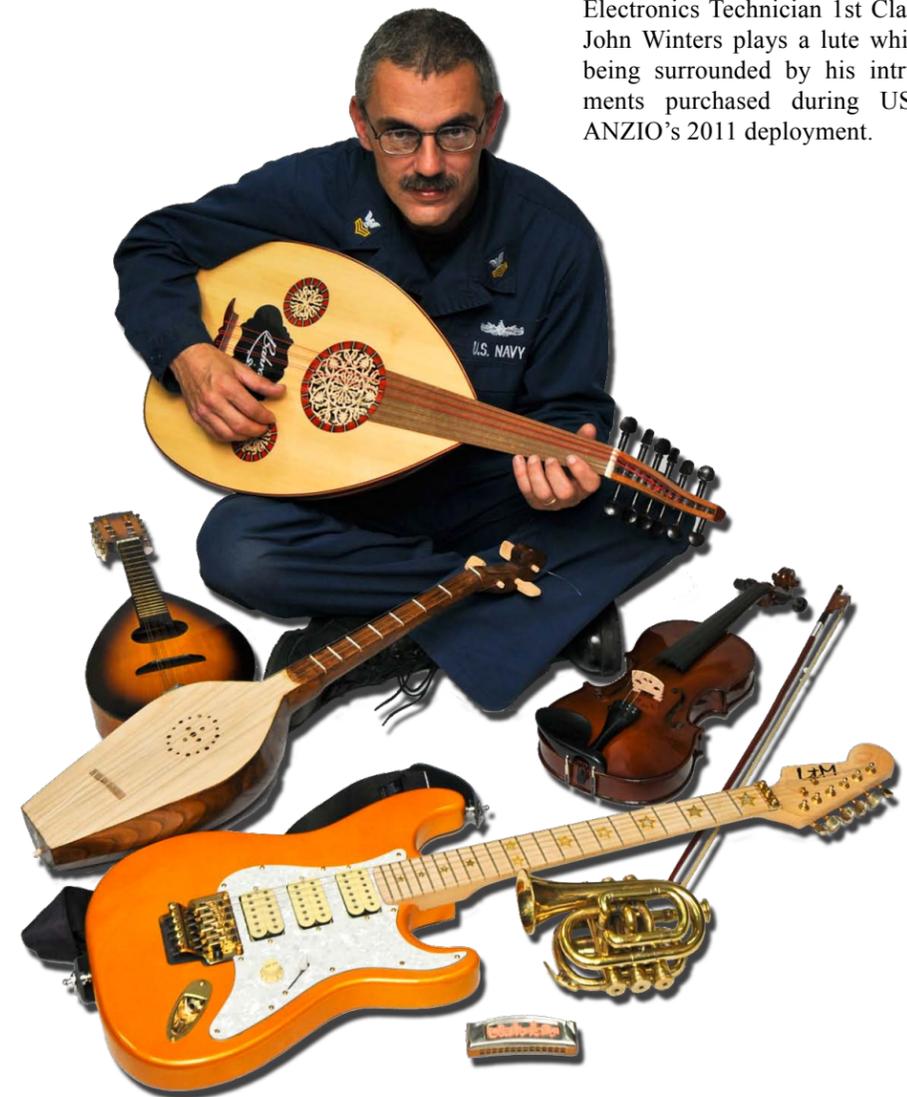
Winters has been enlisted in the Navy for 16 years and has completed three previous deployments; however, this is the first time he has chosen instruments to remember each port.

"You're always looking for something to remind you of where you've been," he said. "One deployment I purchased different crucifixes from the various ports. I even remember helping out one of my buddies look for small Greek and Roman statues."

Winters was able to purchase instruments from five out of the seven ports visited by Anzio during its 2011 deployment. The instruments include a Russian made harmonica from the Ukraine; a mandolin and a three-stringed instrument called a Phanduri, from Georgia; a lute and violin from the Kingdom of Bahrain; a soprano trumpet from Oman; and an electric guitar from Palma de Mallorca.

"I know that the trumpet and the electric guitar were not local, but they were too good to pass up," he said with a smile.

Winters, age 46, has been playing music for 39 years. He started with piano at age seven, switched to trombone and eventually settling on



Electronics Technician 1st Class John Winters plays a lute while being surrounded by his instruments purchased during USS ANZIO's 2011 deployment.

guitar as his instrument of choice.

"I have plans to learn some of the instruments I bought like the lute, mandolin, violin and maybe the phanduri but, I'm not sure where to find music for it," he said. "As for the harmonica, that's definitely a keepsake. You can find plenty of harmonicas in the United States but it's cool to have one that was actually made in Russia."

Winters plans on sharing his stories about the instruments with his

wife and two children upon returning from deployment. He also mentioned that this may be his last deployment so he wanted to make it a memorable experience.

He also offers advice for any Sailor looking to purchase unique souvenirs during their travels in the Navy:

"Don't get stuck in one spot. Get out and see the country, talk to the local people. A lot of times that is how I found new places and items I was looking for," he said. 🐾

A close-up view of the Russian-made harmonica purchased in Odessa, Ukraine by Electronics Technician 1st Class John Winters.



Smooth Sailing... Headed Home!



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1. Boatswain's Mate Seaman Apprentice Jabari Hosten stands as signalman aboard USS ANZIO during a replenishment-at-sea with USNS Leroy Grumman (T-AO 195), Nov. 19.

2. Naval Air Crewman 1st Class Phillip Chavers, left, and Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Lester Rivera, both attached to Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 46 Detachment 4, review Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist training on USS ANZIO's flight deck, Nov. 29.

3. USS ANZIO transits through the Atlantic Ocean during sunrise, Dec. 3.

4. Lt. Nicole Scherer, assigned to HSL-46, keeps track of pallets received inside the landing safety officer shack during a vertical replenishment-at-sea with USNS Sacagawea (T-AKE 2), Nov. 23.

5. Sailors enjoy a Thanksgiving meal on the ship's mess decks, Nov. 23.

6. Machinery Repairman 2nd Class Jerome Hill uses the lathe machine to shape a metal canister in the general workshop, Nov. 8.

7. Seaman Apprentice Scott Kinley looks through a night-vision scope as the ship transits through the Strait of Gibraltar, Nov. 28.

December Birthdays

DCFN DWAYNE BAKER
SN LEHI CALDWELL
ET2 TIMOTHY CARTER
ENS JAMES DELDOTTO
BM2 JONATHAN DRAKE
STG2 JASON DUNAWAY
GMS2 DON FANFAIR
IT3 CURTIS FRANKLIN
GSMC CHARLES GENERAL
FC2 SAHIED HAGGAG

SA ERIC HELD
GM1 KEVIN HELMS
GM2 JESSE HERMAN
FC2 CHRISTIAN HILL
LSSN CHRISTIAN JONES
LT MORDOCAI KIFLU
LT THOMAS MCCANDLESS
CSSA RALPH MCCASKILL
EM2 DEREK MCSWAIN
QMC WILLIAM MUTHIG

OS2 CHRISTOPHER PRICE
FC3 CHRISTOPHER RADFORD
SR ANDREW RALPH
AWR3 KEVIN SAMPSON
GSM3 KARL SLIVER
FC1 MICHAEL STOKES
IT3 DILLAN TABARES
CS3 JOSHUA TUSLER
LTJG ANDREW VANN



Promotions



FC1 HERSCHEL LEWIS
AM2 KEVIN BARNETT
ET2 ADAM BLACKWELL
PS2 DUSEAN BROWN
GM2 MARCUS COFFMAN
OS2 DANIEL ENGLISH
BM2 JEAN GUERRA
GM2 JESSE HERMAN
DC2 JONATHAN JENSEN
IT2 JOSEPH LEWIS

CTT2 JOSHUA LYNCH
FC2 MATTHEW MEREBA
YN2 CRAIG METZ
STG2 PHILLIP SPARROW
GSM2 GEOFFREY SPILLERS
DC2 TRACY THATCHER
IC3 MARCUS BRIDGES
DC3 ALEX BURGOS
AT3 JOSEPH HAUBENSTEIN
OS3 JOSEPH JAMES

GSM3 GREGORY JOHNSON
IC3 MICHAEL KNUDTSON
EN3 KENNETH LACROIX
QM3 JOHN MAXWELL
CTR3 ERIN SIMS
GSM3 KARL SLIVER
GSM3 HOWARD STEPHENS
EN3 SHANE SWEARINGEN
GM3 RYAN SYNOWIETZ
GSE3 SUPARUEK TECHABORIKITI



New Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists



AM2 (AW/SW) KEVIN BARNETT
IT2 (SW) ROBERT BENNET
FC2 (SW) CHRISTOPHER BLACK
IC3 (SW) MARCUS BRIDGES
SHSN (SW) TYRONE BROCKMAN
MC2 (SW) BRIAN M. BROOKS
PS2 (SW/EXW) DUSEAN BROWN
GSMFN (SW) RUEL CLARKE
GSM3 (SW) DAVIN COOK
CTTSN (SW) MICHAEL DEVAN

GSMFN (SW) LUKE EMMANUEL
ET3 (SW) DAVID FALAPPINO
QM3 (SW) JOSEPH GREGORY
OS2 (SW) ROBERT HENRY
IT2 (SW) JOSEPH LEWIS
QM3 (SW) JOHN MAXWELL
EN3 (SW) ANTHONY MEDINA
EN2 (SW) GREGORY MILLER
QM3 (SW) COLIN MURRAY
AWR3 (NAC/AW/SW) RYAN PARMAN

FC3 (SW) CHRISTOPHER RADFORD
STG2 (SW) DAVID RAY
AWR3 (NAC/AW/SW) KEVIN SAMPSON
GMSN (SW) LUCAS SANTERRE
FC2 (SW) BENJAMIN SHARPLES
CTT1 (SW) GUS SMALLS
ET3 (SW) ROBERT TAYLOR
CS3 (SW) JOSHUA TUSLER
HT2 (SW) ALAN WHEELER

Distance Traveled

In the month of October
Approx. 10,000 miles

Since May 10, 2011
Approx. 44,700 miles

Fun Shipboard Facts

Executive Department Admin Facts:

Your ANZIO Sailors have accomplished many goals throughout the entire deployment, be it professional qualifications or being a stand out Sailor. Here are some figures of accomplishments ranging from awards to promotions to qualifications:

Navy Commendation Medals - 6
Navy Achievement Medals - 72
Good Conduct Medals - 57
Promotions - More than 70 Enlisted and Officers
(To include 4 new chief petty officers)
Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists - 66
Surface Warfare Officers - 7

Commanding Officer:
CAPT John Dorey

Executive Officer:
CDR Nathan York

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

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