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USS ANCHORAGE (LPD 23) TOUR

Homeported in San Diego, California, the USS Anchorage was commissioned on May 4th, 2013. The San Antonio class amphibious transport dock USS Anchorage (LPD 23) is the second ship of the United States Navy named after the city of Anchorage, AK. Its predecessor, the Anchorage class dock landing ship USS Anchorage (LSD 36) completed 19 deployments in the western Pacific during its 34 years of service.

USS Anchorage represents the expeditionary character and versatility of maritime forces that the San Antonio class amphibious ships was built to deploy, implementing forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security, responses to crises worldwide, and humanitarian assistance/disaster response wherever and whenever needed.

These expeditionary forces mix highly mobile air and ground, re-powered with self-sustainable forces that can quickly project compelling power, withdraw rapidly, and then reconstitute to re-deploy for follow follow-on missions.



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MARINE MAMMAL PROGRAM DEMONSTRATION

The Reconnaissance and Interdiction division at Navy Information Warfare Systems Command (NIWC), Pacific manages the Navy Marine Mammal Program, which trains bottlenose dolphins and California sea lions to detect, locate, mark, and recover objects in harbors, coastal areas, and deep in the open sea.

Nearly everyone is familiar with security patrol dogs, and how some service dogs use their keen sense of smell to detect explosives on land. But what some may not know is that since 1959, the U.S. Navy has trained dolphins and sea lions as teammates for our Sailors and Marines to help guard against similar threats underwater.

Caring for, and working with, the Navy's marine mammals has generated over 1500 scientific publications in the open scientific literature on their health, physiology, sensory systems, and behavior. The Navy Marine Mammal Program has been headquartered on Point Loma since the 1960's.



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MESG-1 DISPLAY

The Maritime Expeditionary Security Group (MESG) operates in harbors, rivers, and bays across the region both inland and on coastal waterways.

The primary mission of MESG is to conduct maritime security operations across all phases of military operations by defending high value assets, critical maritime infrastructure, ports, and harbors against enemies.

Additionally, when commanded, Maritime Expeditionary Security Group ONE (MESG-1) provides offensive combat operations. MESG 1 provides centralized planning, controlling, training, coordination, equipping, and integration of units trained to operate in high density, multi-threat environments.



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SEAL TEAM 17 DISPLAY

The Reserve Naval Special Warfare (NSW) force provides a unique capability for Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command, and plays an important role within the United States Navy and United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM).

The Reserve component of the NSW community comprises nearly 1,000 highly skilled SEALs, special warfare combatant-craft crewmen (SWCC), and combat service support personnel, representing nearly 10 percent of the entire special warfare community.

With the increasing global demand for Naval Special Warfare, Reserve Sailors fill mission critical requirements, often alongside active duty counterparts, around the globe for theater and special operations commanders. They are trained to operate in complex environments often building partner nation capacity in areas where terrorism, crime or instability threaten regional and U.S. interests.

Overseen by N S W Group 11, members are assigned to either SEAL Team 17 in Coronado, Calif, or SEAL Team 18 in Little Creek, Va.



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NR NAVWAR DISPLAY

NAVWAR Reserve Program sailors provide relevant skills to enhance Navy cyber warfare capabilities from seabed to space.

The NAVWAR Reserve Program provides engineering, training and fleet readiness expertise via the programs to support the NAVWAR mission of enhancing the fleet's warfighting capabilities.

Currently, NAVWAR has 400 estimated mobilization ready reserve sailors within fleet concentrated areas to closely align with supported commands ensuring combat readiness.



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MILITARY WORKING DOG DEMONSTRATION

Naval Base San Diego is home to Navy Region Southwest's Military Working Dog teams.

These teams support drug, bomb, and protection requirements for various Department of Defense events and force protection evolutions.



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VR-57 AIRCRAFT DISPLAY

Fleet Logistics Support Squadron FIVE SEVEN (VR-57) was established at Naval Air Station North Island, San Diego, California, in November 1977. Formal commissioning ceremonies were held in April 1978 with the delivery of their first C-9B Skytrain II. In 2005, VR-57 stopped operating the C-9B aircraft, moved to a new hangar, and began to fly the C-40A Clipper. The acquisition of this new airplane with superior range and performance allowed the squadron to more effectively complete its mission.

VR-57 Conquistadors receive mission tasking from Navy Air Logistics Office (NALO) and fly worldwide missions in support of the Fleet. A large portion of the CONUS missions support Carrier Air Wings, moving personnel and cargo to and from deployment and training locations.

The service VR-57 provides is invaluable because it is cost effective and directly enables Carrier Air Wings' readiness. VR-57 is able to immediately respond to changes in Carrier Strike Group schedules, delivering personnel and cargo to critical locations, quickly and efficiently.



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RECEPTION AT THE WORLD FAMOUS I BAR

Bachelor Officers Quarters Building “I” was part of renowned Detroit architect Albert Kahn’s 1918 master plan for United States Army Air Corps’ Rockwell Field. Building “I” was completed in 1933 by the Quartermaster General’s Office with the passage of the Emergency Rehabilitation Act of 1932. When NAS North Island acquired Rockwell Field in 1939, the “bar” in Building “I” was initially reserved for senior officers.

In 1956, the Tailhook Association held its founding meeting there—perhaps giving rise to bar’s reputation as being “World Famous.” From that moment, the bar slowly attracted more and more aviators until it became their exclusive hangout.

The I-Bar was first refurbished in 1969 with “sailing ship” decor that is still in use today. Not long after this renovation, the late Walter Simmons, a Pearl Harbor survivor and bartender, began the tradition of hanging custom built model airplanes from the bar.

Recently, the I Bar gained a different kind of fame—of the Hollywood variety. The legendary bar was recreated for the 2022 film TOP GUN: MAVERICK as ‘The Hard Deck.’ Scenes featuring the fictional bar were actually filmed on a replica of the I Bar that filmmakers constructed on nearby Breakers Beach. Much of the real bar was recreated or borrowed for the film, including historical squadron memorabilia, real framed photos of Naval personnel, and the bar’s ‘secret rules.’

Today, The World Famous I Bar is open to military personnel and their approved guests. The bar and neighboring spaces can be reserved for special events through the MWR Catering office.



REAR ADM. RICHARD S. LOFGREN
ACTING CHIEF OF NAVY RESERVE
ACTING COMMANDER, NAVY RESERVE FORCE

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Rear Adm. Richard S. Lofgren is a 1993 graduate of The University of Texas at Austin where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. He was commissioned an Ensign after completing the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps curriculum at Texas. He is a third generation Naval Officer - the Son and Grandson of Naval Aviators. Upon completion of Surface Warfare Officer School and Steam Engineering School in Newport, Rhode Island, he reported onboard USS WASP (LHD-1) in Norfolk, Virginia.

Rear Adm. Lofgren affiliated with the Navy Reserve (NR) on September 11, 2001, joining NR Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet Detachment ONE ONE ONE (CINPACFLT 111) as Training Officer. Other assignments include tours as Intelligence Officer for Naval Embarked Advisory Team ONE ONE ONE (NEAT 111); Executive Officer of Inshore Boat Unit FOURTEEN (IBU-14); N7 for NR United States Pacific Command Detachment ONE ONE ONE (USPA-COM Det 111); Training Officer and plankowner for Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron ELEVEN (MSRON 11); Senior Assessor (N7R-TEU) for Coastal Riverine Group ONE (CRG-1); Reserve Deputy Commodore for Coastal Riverine Group TWO (CRG-2) and Chief Staff Officer for Camp Titan, Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

His Command tours include Recruit Support Unit ONE ONE FIVE ZERO (RSU 1150); Inshore Boat Unit FIFTEEN (IBU-15); Maritime Expeditionary Command and Control Division THREE ONE (C2DIV31); Maritime Civil Affairs and Security Training Squadron ONE (MCASTRONONE); NR Commander LCS Squadron ONE (COMLCSRON ONE) Surface Warfare Mission Module; Coastal Riverine / Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron EIGHT (CORIVRON / MSRON 8); and NR Commander Fourth Fleet (C4F/USNAVSOUTH). He also served as the Co-Director for the Coastal Riverine Force within the Surface Warfare Reserve Enterprise. In his initial flag assignment, he served as Vice Commander, C4F/USNAVSOUTH and assumed the role of Acting Chief of Navy Reserve and Acting Commander, Navy Reserve Force on September 2, 2025.

Rear Adm. Lofgren is a graduate of the Navy Senior Leader Seminar Course at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California; and completed his Joint Professional Military Education at the Naval War College's Command and Staff College in Newport, Rhode Island. A qualified Surface Warfare Officer, he is authorized to wear the Command at Sea, Command Ashore and Small Craft Officer-in-Charge of combatant craft insignias. He is deeply honored to have served in both operational and leadership capacities, receiving numerous unit and campaign awards in recognition of his contributions to national security and naval operations.

A M E R I C A ' S
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CAPT. CHRISTOPHER PETRO

COMMANDING OFFICER
USS ANCHORAGE (LPD 23)

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Captain Christopher W. Petro hails from Fort Worth, TX. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1993, completing basic training in Orlando, FL. He served as a Machinist's Mate in USS Asheville (SSN 758) in San Diego, CA from 1994 to 1999. In 1999, he was selected into the Seaman to Admiral program, graduating from the University of San Diego in 2002, with a Bachelor's in Business Administration. He completed Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL in 2003.

Sea duty includes service on USS Philippine Sea (CG 58) in Mayport, FL from 2003 to 2006, USS Chasin (CG 65) in Pearl Harbor, HI from 2011 to 2013, Early Command in 2013, serving as Executive Officer of MCM Crew Dominant on USS Gladiator (MCM 11) in Manama, Bahrain and USS Champion (MCM 4) in San Diego, CA from 2013 to 2015. He served as Commanding Officer of MCM Crew Dominant on USS Champion (MCM 4) in San Diego, CA from 2015 to 2016. In support of the Cruiser Modernization program in San Diego, CA, he served as Commanding Officer of USS Chasin (CG 65) from 2016 until 2019 and simultaneously as Commanding Officer of USS Cape St. George (CG 71) in 2018. He served as Executive Officer of USS Porter (DDG 78) in Rota, Spain from 2020 until 2021 and served as Commanding Officer of USS Porter (DDG 78) in Rota, Spain and Norfolk, VA from 2021 until 2023. Assumed command of USS ANCHORAGE in APR 2026.

Shore duty includes selection to the Surface Warfare Officer MBA program in 2006, graduating from the University of California, San Diego's Rady School of Management in 2008. He served as an instructor at Surface Warfare Officers Schools Command in Newport, RI from 2008 to 2010 and the Prospective Executive Officer (PXO) course director at Surface Warfare Schools Command, Newport, RI from 2023-2025.

Personal decorations include Meritorious Service Medal (4 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (5 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3 awards) and various unit and campaign awards.



CAPT. SARA J. TAYLOR
COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVY RESERVE NAVEUR-NAVAF HEADQUARTERS

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Captain Taylor is a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado and a 2001 graduate of the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. She was commissioned through NROTC in 2001 and was designated a Naval Flight Officer in October 2002. In 2008 Taylor earned an MBA from the College of William and Mary, and she completed JPME at the Naval War College in 2022.

Taylor served in operational assignments flying the F-14B Tomcat and F/A-18F Super Hornet with Fighter Squadron Thirty-Two (VF-32) and Fighter Attack Squadron 32 (VFA-32) with Carrier Air Group Three on board the USS Harry S Truman (CVN 75) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in the Arabian Gulf. Shore assignments include VFA-106, Commander Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic, Commander Third Fleet Maritime Air Operations Detachment Tucson, AZ, Squadron Augment Unit at Training Squadron Ten (VT-10), Training Squadron Four (VT-4) Squadron Augment Unit, and U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Her command tours include Squadron Augment Unit (SAU) Training Squadron Four, Pensacola, Florida; U.S. Third Fleet Naval and Amphibious and Liaison Element (NALE), Las Vegas, NV; U.S. Fleet Forces Command N3 Fleet Command Center, Greensboro, NC; Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa; and Navy Reserve NAVEURNAVAF Headquarters, Jacksonville, FL.

Taylor has accumulated approximately 1300 flight hours in various military aircraft. Taylor's awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various campaign and unit awards



LCDR JASON PECK
U.S. NAVY RESERVE



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Hailing from Irvine, California, Jason Peck was recruited by the United States Naval Academy to play Division I Water Polo, graduating and commissioning as a Naval Officer in 2011. He began his career as a Surface Warfare Officer (2011–2013), responsible for major transits and training new officers in shiphandling. He transferred in 2014 into Naval Special Warfare, where he served for nearly a decade on active duty, completing four deployments in Special Operations.

Since 2024, Jason has been a reservist, still heavily involved in training and developing Officers on their tactical and operational proficiency while helping commands seek and implement new technology from the private sector.

On the civilian side, Jason served as Head of Operations for HAVIK from 2023 to 2024, a Special Operations driven company focused on portable, self-contained VR and AR training solutions. From 2023 to April 2026, he served as an Operations and Change Management Consultant for Lineage (\$LINE), the world's largest temperature-controlled logistics REIT, coaching senior leaders and supporting large-scale energy savings initiatives enabled by AI cloud-based systems.

In late 2024, Jason founded JP Solutions, a consulting arm that provides performance coaching, operational design, and bespoke talent placement for founders and executive teams.

In 2026, he joined Brent Spohrer, a former Navy enlisted helicopter aircrewman turned commissioned Naval Aviator, at Leading Edge Advisory Services as Managing Partner. Brent and Jason work as operating partners with business leaders to help shape capital and talent formation; process-wise, Leading Edge goes into everything growth. Additionally, Jason serves as a Strategic Advisor to Headlamp, a veteran talent platform that connects companies with vetted operators through a scalable, subscription-based hiring model.

He resides in San Diego, California, with his wife Diana and two daughters, Kylie and Lyla (10 and 8). When he is not traveling, on base, or working on projects, he is driving the shuttle bus or his girls' activities. In his free time, he enjoys taking his girls camping, playing Masters Water Polo in Coronado, riding mountain bikes in Poway, and watching UFC fights with his USNA classmates once a month.





FORCE MASTER CHIEF NICOLE C. RIOS **NAVY RESERVE FORCE MASTER CHIEF**

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Force Master Chief Nicole C. Rios, a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, serves as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of Navy Reserve, focusing on the well-being and readiness of 59,000 Reserve Component personnel supporting the Navy, Marine Corps and joint Force.

She enlisted in the U.S. Navy in February 1996. Following graduation from basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, she reported to Logistics Specialist Accession Training in Meridian, Mississippi.

She completed sea duty assignments at Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 62, Brunswick, Maine, and Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 12, Williamsburg, Virginia. Her shore tours include Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region 13, Great Lakes, Illinois; Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Providence, Rhode Island; Naval Air Station Atlanta, Georgia; Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois; and Navy Reserve Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia.

She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and is a graduate of the Senior Enlisted Academy; Naval Leadership and Ethics Center Command Master Chief/Chief of the Boat Course; Executive Leadership Symposium; Navy Senior Leader Seminar; Keystone Course; New Flag and Senior Executive Training Symposium; and Flag and Executive Leader Implementation Course.

In 2016 she was selected as a Command Master Chief and reported to Navy Reserve Center Ventura County, California. Her follow on Command Master Chief tours include Commander Maritime Expeditionary Security Group 1, San Diego; Navy Reserve Region Readiness and Mobilization Command Jacksonville; and Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia.

She is designated Master Training Specialist, Aviation Warfare, Expeditionary Warfare, and Information Warfare Specialist. Her decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medals (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals (five awards) and various unit and campaign awards.