

the Naval Reservist

Vol. 28, No. 9

Support to the Fleet . . . Ready and Fully Integrated

September-October 2003

AIR WARRIORS
Forward-deployed to various locations throughout the Arabian peninsula since March, HCS-5 Reservists have flown 255 missions, 465 sorties and more than 900 hours of combat operations support for Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Naval Reserve squadron HCS-5 maintainers AT1 John Pokrzywa and AT1 Alan Trulock swap out a threat warning system on their HH-60H helo at Ali Al Salem, Kuwait, between mission flights.

Photos by U.S. Air Force Combat Camera



NIGHT MISSION—Equipped with an infra-red camera, Hellfire missiles and mini-guns, an HH-60H helo (above) flown by Naval Reserve squadron HCS-5 crosses the Iraqi border in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. HCS-5's primary missions are Naval Special Warfare support and Combat Search and Rescue. The helo can insert and extract troops via landing, fast rope, rappelling or parachute drop.



FLEET SUPPORT
Morale remains high for the detachment made up of Helicopter Combat Support Squadron HCS-5 "Firehawks" from San Diego and HCS-4 "Red Wolves" from Norfolk. These Reservists are continuing to fly fleet missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

For news of more Reserve and active helo support to OIF, see story on page 3.

Force needs thousands of Sailors to serve as Masters-at-Arms

In this time of transformation, the Naval Reserve Force is creating new Reserve Naval Security Force (NSF) units, to be manned by thousands of new Reserve Masters-at-Arms.

For the Reserve Force, this opens a new window of opportunity. With permanent NSF responsibilities being added to the list of Reserve missions, the Force now can offer tremendous advancement opportunities to those who would join the ranks of the Security Force, specifically the Master-at-Arms (MA) community.

NSF manning requirements greatly outweigh the current Reserve MA population. To build an inventory of Sailors to fill those requirements, Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) is taking steps to make the conversion process particularly appealing.

CAPT Lisa N. Meunier, Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and Personnel, COMNAVRESFORCOM, said, "SELRES are going to win in several ways. One is that they're going to go into a rating offering

wonderful advancement opportunity, plus the Navy will train them in a skill very marketable for civilian work. And then, of course, the third part is that we're providing a very necessary part of Navy's overall force protection mission."

CAPT Mark E. Donahue, Reserve Liaison Officer of Commander, Fleet Forces Command, said the Navy was not previously equipped for such large security requirements.

Donahue speaks highly of the Reserve Force's ability to handle the situation. "It's become a major function and a major mission, and it's one Reservists very logically fit into to fill this requirement," said Donahue.

Currently, the challenge is in creating the necessary number of Reserve MA personnel to meet the requirements. The plan, as outlined by Donahue, is to pull MAs from four areas. First, current MAs will be assigned to NSF units in order to capitalize on the skills they already have.

Continued on page 5

Mobilization Update

Approximately 4,749 Naval Reservists are serving on active duty, for a total of 22,000 Reservists mobilized since Sept. 11, 2001, in support of Operations *Noble Eagle*, *Enduring Freedom* and *Iraqi Freedom*. Reservists' capabilities and expertise continue to be called upon to fill certain requirements.

In mid-September, all U.S. military services showed a decrease in number of Reservists on active duty in support of partial mobilization. The net collective result is 7,095 fewer Reservists than last week.

At any given time, services may mobilize some units and individuals while demobilizing others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease.

The total number of Reserve and National Guard currently on active duty in support of the partial mobilization is 174,403 including both units and individual augmentees.

—COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs

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Pensacola, FL

LEADERSHIP

SAILORS MATTER



FORCM(AW/NAC)
Tom Mobley
Force Master Chief

Today's Navy and Naval Reserve are experiencing some of the best retention numbers in our history.

In the last two years, we've enjoyed our best retention ever. Many of you tell me that your desire to stay comes with your feeling of adding value to the Navy's mission. I agree! Satisfaction in a job is a personal reward for everyone. Mobilizations of the last two years have given many a chance to participate in day-to-day Navy missions. To be a part of the noble fight in the Global War on Terrorism instills even a greater sense of pride in our service, ourselves and our nation.

We can never assume we've won the war with retention or attrition. The moment we assume we don't need to watch something is when a problem will arise. We juggle a number of issues such as civilian employment, managing two careers and family responsibilities, to mention just a few. All are important and all need appropriate attention.

We have adopted policy and procedures to help balance these responsibilities, improve our processes to make them easier, and make our services more available to the fleet.

We are all aware that a large part of our career decision process is made at home. Our loved ones play important roles in the pursuit of our second career. Our families need to feel a part of the Navy family also. When they have a sense of belonging, they are more supportive of our career choices. Consider sharing with your family the benefits you both share.

Over the years, our benefits packages have improved greatly. Are you and your family aware of those benefits? If not, become familiar with them. Talk with your Career Counselor or Command Senior Enlisted Leaders.

Our Navy careers give us a rewarding experience that can't be found anywhere else. We see and experience new people, places and memories that will last a lifetime.

If you are at a decision point, think of all the Naval Reserve has to offer. If you are in a leadership role, take time to talk with those at that decision point.

We all have a lot to offer to the Navy. Our country has never needed a strong military more than now, and we are trained and qualified.

Let's continue to stay and make great things happen.

T. W. MOBLEY
Force Master Chief, U.S. Naval Reserve

LEADING CHANGE

Why Reservists stay Navy

Reservists responding to an online survey say the number one reason they stay in the Force is because of unit morale. Likewise, it is unit morale that is fourth on the list of why Reservists quit. If retention is achieved at the unit level, as VADM Totushek says, then clearly unit morale is a leadership issue.

Bravo Zulu to the top FY-03 echelon IV Naval Reserve commands achieving retention excellence: REDCOM Mid-South, REDCOM Mid-West, NR CINCUSNAVEUR, NAS JRB Atlanta, NAR Pt. Mugu, NAS JRB New Orleans, NAS JRB Willow Grove, NAR Brunswick, Commander, Naval Reserve Intelligence Command, CRPW (VP), CNAP (HM-15) and Cargo Handling Battalion. Reservists in those commands are staying because their Naval Reserve experiences, especially at the unit level, are satisfying.

Leadership is effective. But know this: Leadership is every Reservist's responsibility. That's right! Don't wait for someone else to lead the way. Get online and get informed about exciting new Naval Reserve Force (NRF) initiatives, then share them with your unit members.

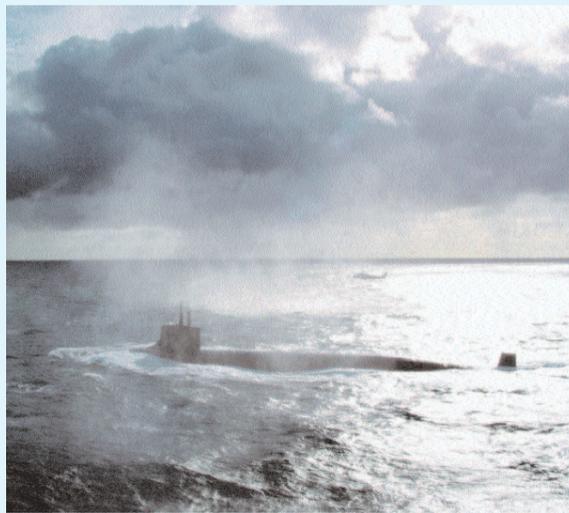
Your actions will get Reservists talking about innovative distance learning programs and the five-vector model that is making advancement testing obsolete. Share the good news about new information technology capabilities that are putting Reservists in control of their own career paths.

This is an exciting new era for the NRF, and yet, there remains a communication dead zone. Get smart. Be a leader, improve unit morale, improve retention.

New initiatives are screened by COMNAVRESFOR's Executive Steering Committee (ESC), a group of spirited leaders who use "Leading Change" business practices in an effort to change the Force into a world-class customer service organization. ESC members know that today's Reservists are smart and savvy people who have other places they can apply their talents than in the NRF.

The ESC is working to ensure Reservists receive meaningful training, treatment as professionals, and have a true sense of accomplishment, because retaining good Reservists is good news for America.

Comments? E-mail me at jean.roberts@navy.mil.—CAPT Jean Roberts, Public Affairs Officer, Naval Reserve Force Executive Steering Committee



"Emerald Knights" fly in Norway sub exercise

NORWAY—The quiet port of Stavanger came alive when Reserve and active duty anti-submarine forces joined together to conduct a simulated wartime exercise in the cold waters of the North Sea.

The "Emerald Knights" of U.S. Naval Reserve squadron HS-75 grasped the spirit of the Norse god Odin and hunted allied and NATO submarines during Exercise *Odin-One*. HS-75 logged nearly 50 hours of sub contact time and countless simulated "kills" in three days.

VX-1 and COMSUBRON TWELVE were tasked by COMSIXTHFLT to conduct the exercise, and they ran the evolution 24/7. Norwegian participation included the diesel ULA class submarine *Utstein* as an opposing force, and surface vessels *HNOMS Narvik*, *Bergen* and *Trondom*. The other opposing sub was the stealthy nuclear-powered *USS Seawolf* (SSN-21). Things started quietly as P-3s from VP-62, VX-1, and VP-10 worked to gain initial contact, but the tempo quickly picked up when a pair of HS-75 dippers arrived on scene.

CDR Mike Branco, squadron commanding officer, said, "Anti-submarine warfare is an art, and hopefully not a lost one, because any sub, no matter how old, can create havoc when nobody's looking for it, and that obviously presents a threat to the Battle Group. As a Reserve Anti-Submarine Squadron and the fleet's repository of ASW expertise, we consistently train towards that mission. We've shown how effective that training can be."

Throughout the exercise, P-3s would initiate the hunt with sonobuoys, followed by HS-75 helicopters localizing and tracking with dipping sonar. Once that contact was made, it was "game over" for the subs.

When the exercise was completed, thoughts of the *Odin* still danced in the heads of the Emerald Knights as they departed for home, knowing what the *Odin* warrior spirit felt like after a successful battle.

HS-75 is made up of fleet-experienced pilots and crew who average 2,700 flight hours each.

—Story and photos by LCDR Michael Fox of HS-75



COMMANDER'S VIEW



VADM John Totushek
Commander,
Naval Reserve Force

Dear Shipmates,

You all have seen the announcement: The President has nominated RADM John Cotton for promotion to the rank of vice admiral and to relieve me as Chief of Naval Reserve, Commander, Naval Reserve Force and Director of Naval Reserve next month, pending Senate confirmation.

This is great news for the Naval Reserve. John has the dynamic leadership skills, knowledge of our programs and energy to lead you to new heights. I could not be more pleased for him or for you.

The topic of the month is retention. While we have done well in the past three years, I caution us all to keep our efforts engaged and resist lapsing into complacency as we did in the early 90s. As the Global War on Terrorism has changed our attitudes and some of our processes, we must look at what is causing our people to leave us in a new light. True, we will continue to have some who will leave because we have not met their expectations, but we now have over-use issues, whether real or potential, as well. This will take some additional mentoring to get to the root of what is motivating each individual in our Force. This work is for all of us and it is like weeding a garden—you have to keep at it.

We have been able to deliver some tools that have eliminated administrative burdens and set us on a path toward being a world-class customer service organization.

We will be delivering more good news over the next few months. Web-based Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS), which will finally give us a single pay and personnel system for the entire Navy, will be up and running this year. You will start using the next version of Naval Reserve Order Writing System (NROWS) very shortly. This version will give you e-mail notifications and other functions that will prove beneficial. We will nearly complete Navy and Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) connectivity this year, and I believe all those who have received it see what an important part it will play in bringing us closer to our gaining commands.

We completed the Appreciative Inquiry (AI) Conference in July and many of 14 pilot programs are well underway. For an update, or to learn more about AI, click the AI button on the Commander, Naval Reserve Force Web page. In summary, we have a lot of exciting programs that should continue to make things better for the Force and the Navy.

In closing, I want to convey what an honor it has been serving with you for the past five years. Each time I get out to see you in action, I am more impressed with your patriotism, dedication and commitment to making our institution one of the best on earth. Your performance has been inspirational.

Jan and I would like to thank each of you personally for your tireless efforts and caring. We will watch with the pride of parents as you continue to improve our Navy. Fair winds, following seas and may God continue to bless each of you every day.

Do your mentoring and take care of each other.

J. B. TOTUSHEK
Vice Admiral, U.S. Naval Reserve

Note: Please see the TNR interview, "VADM Totushek salutes Force" on page 9 of this issue.

RADM Cotton nominated to lead Force

NEW ORLEANS—RADM John G. Cotton has been nominated by the President to be the next Commander, Naval Reserve Force, Chief of Naval Reserve and Director of Naval Reserve. Cotton will succeed VADM John B. Totushek in ceremonies scheduled in Wash., D.C., on Oct. 10 and in New Orleans on Oct. 18.

RADM John G. Cotton graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in June 1973 with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. Earning his wings in October 1974, he became a third generation pilot—his father was a Naval Aviator and his grandfather flew with the Lafayette Flying Corps in WW I.

Cotton currently serves as Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Requirements and Programs (N6/N7R). He served forward-deployed to Japan through April 1978, flying the A-7 Corsair II with VA-93 aboard *USS Midway* (CV-41). He then served on the Commander, Light Attack Wing U.S. Pacific Fleet staff at NAS Lemoore, Calif., from April 1978 to January 1980.

Cotton became a commercial airline pilot and affiliated with the Naval Reserve in April 1980. In the Naval Reserve, Cotton served in a variety of aviation units at Naval Air Facility Washington and Naval Air Station New Orleans.

He was selected for flag officer in 1997 and served his initial flag officer assignment as Deputy Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet from October 1997 to September 1999 in Norfolk.

He was recalled to active duty from November 1997

to March 1998 to serve as Deputy Commander, Joint Task Force Southwest Asia, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, supporting Operations *Southern Watch* and *Desert Thunder*. He was again called to active duty from October 1999 to July 2000 as Deputy Director of Naval Reserve (N095B), and in March 2000, was appointed by the Secretary of Defense to a three-year term as a member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board. In August 2000, he assumed duties as Deputy Director of Air Warfare (N78B) and assumed his current duties in October 2000.

Cotton's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service, Meritorious Service, Navy Commendation and Navy Achievement medals. He has logged more than 4,200 hours of military flight time.

Cotton is a graduate of Executive and Reserve Component Programs at the Naval War College, Naval Postgraduate School, National Defense University, Army War College, Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In his civilian occupation, Cotton is an American Airlines pilot based in Wash., D.C.—COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs



RADM John Cotton
Prospective Commander,
Naval Reserve Force



President leads nation in remembering, reaffirming, resolving

On Sept. 4, 2003, the President of the United States of America proclaimed Sept. 11, 2003, to be Patriot Day. Here are excerpts from his remarks:

Two years ago, more than 3,000 innocent people lost their lives when a calm September morning was shattered by terrorists driven by hatred and destruction.

On that day, and in its aftermath, we saw the greatness of America in the bravery of victims; in the heroism of first responders who laid down their lives to save

others; in the compassion of people who stepped forward to help those they had never met; and in the generosity of millions of Americans who enriched our country with acts of service and kindness.

Since that day, we have seen the greatness of America further demonstrated in the courage of our brave men and women in uniform who have served and sacrificed in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and around the world to advance freedom and prevent terrorist attacks on America.

As we remember Sept. 11, 2001, we reaffirm the vows made in the earliest hours of our grief and anger. As liberty's home and defender, America will not tire, will not falter, and will not fail in fighting for the safety and security of the American people and a world free from terrorism. We will continue to bring our enemies to justice or bring justice to them.

—George W. Bush

For complete remarks and related information, visit Web site www.whitehouse.gov.

Active-Reserve Helo Squadron plays integral role in Iraq

Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 (HM-14), a combination Reserve and active duty squadron, has played an integral role in the success of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

HM-14 "Vanguard" provided support for U. S. and British forces in the areas of Airborne Mine Countermeasures, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, SPECWAR personnel insertion and Vertical Onboard Delivery.

Using a permanent detachment of 85 personnel and four MH-53E aircraft, with an augmented force of 121 additional personnel and three additional aircraft, HM-14 Det. ONE and newly established Det. TWO performed mine-clearance operations in Iraqi waters, flew insertion sorties into hostile Iraqi territories and delivered extraordinary amounts of passengers, mail and cargo to over 30 different U. S. ships in both the Central and Northern Arabian Gulf waters.

Det. TWO deployed aboard *USS Ponce* (LPD 15) for a seven-week period. On Mar. 23, they began Iraqi-waterway towing in direct support of OIF. As part of CTG 55.4, tasked with clearing the Kwar Abd Allah River of Iraqi-laid sea mines, HM-14 worked in concert with Surface Mine Countermeasures and Underwater Mine Countermeasures assets to clear the harbor and associated approaches.

The entire operation required 18 missions and resulted in 40.9 hours under tow with either the MK 106 configuration mine sweeping or side-looking sonar hunting devices.

Det. TWO also hunted 12 nautical miles of waterway directly north of Umm Qasr. Both areas were considered hostile environments while tow operations were conducted. Det. ONE, based in Bahrain, successfully bottom-mapped approximately 30 miles of shipping channel leading to Kuwaiti ports.



While Det. TWO performed combat-AMCM, Det. ONE flew insertion flights into the city of Umm Qasr, flying 16 sorties into the hostile region delivering EOD personnel, cargo, and Marine Mammal Systems. During the initial two weeks of OIF, Det. ONE transported over 350 passengers and 129,550 pounds of cargo during flights into Umm Qasr. After AMCM operations were completed, Det. TWO personnel flew 20 combat sortie flights, carrying 455 passengers and 221,700 pounds of cargo aiding Det. ONE in completion of its assigned tasking.

Specialized tasking did not preclude HM-14 from achieving staggering numbers while performing shipboard delivery missions in support of OIF.

From January to April, HM-14 aircraft transported over 2,000 passengers, 407,494 pounds of mail, and 870,210 pounds of cargo in over 200 sorties to Navy ships in the Arabian Gulf.

—LCDR Ed Lizak, HM-14

Thanks go to LCDR R. A. Bennett, CNAR N32, for information about helo news on pp. 1-3 of this issue.

Editor Bids Farewell

Serving as your editor has been an honor and a privilege for me. On Sept. 30, I will retire from *The Naval Reservist* (TNR) to begin work on several projects. I shall never forget you and your remarkable contributions to our country.

Thank you again for your incredible support. Exciting changes in the coming year are planned to continue improving your Force publication, and we hope you will enjoy them.

Please send the Force Public Affairs team your action photos, news and stories about Reserve Sailors to navesfor_tnr@navy.mil.

Best wishes,

Pat Antenucci

PATRICIA S. ANTENUCCI
Editor, *The Naval Reservist*

Note: Please send e-mail for me to COMNAVRESFOR_PAO, CDR Jack Hanzlik, at jack.hanzlik@navy.mil.

We Observe:

POW/MIA Recognition Day
Sept. 19

Hispanic Heritage Month
Sept. 15 to Oct. 15

the Naval Reservist

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Contributors may send news and images to *The Naval Reservist*, COMNAVRESFOR (NOOP), 4400 Dauphine Street, New Orleans, LA 70146-5046.

Materials may be e-mailed to navesfor_tnr@navy.mil or faxed to (504) 678-1925 or DSN 678-1925. Phone is (504) 678-6058 or DSN 678-6058.

Submission deadline for stories is six weeks prior to month of publication—i.e., Oct. 15 for consideration in the December issue.

The Naval Reservist seeks action photos throughout each month. Color images of junior Reserve Sailors (glossy prints or high-resolution digitals, 300 dpi) that tell a story of Reserve training or support to the fleet are needed for current and future issues. Articles and pictures will not be returned.

NEWS ONLINE

• *The Naval Reservist* current and past issues can be accessed online at <http://reserves.navy.mil>.

• *Naval Reserve News Service* [electronic wire service] can be accessed online at <http://reserves.navy.mil>.

• *Naval Reserve NewsStand*, a Web site featuring Reserve news and photos, plus links to Navy Fleet pages, can be viewed at www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Selected Reservists with address changes need to provide updates to their database diary entry (via their unit commanding officer) to Full Time Support personnel at local Naval Reserve Activities. Other change-of-address requests should be accompanied by a mail label from *The Naval Reservist*.

Quick Tip

Who can help me with life insurance problems after demobilization?

Experiencing problems with Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) or Family SGLI after mobilization?

If so, please see your local Naval Reserve Activity personnel office to log a service request. They can get your problem solved and refund processed in less than 30 days.—PNCS(SW) Darren M. Darby, COMNAVRESFORCOM N11A, DSN 678-8681, commercial 504-678-8681 or toll-free 1-877-4RESPAY.

Tucson center welcomes home Reservists

TUCSON, Ariz.—After being mobilized to active-duty status to support the Global War on Terrorism and Operation *Iraqi Freedom*, MM1 Tina Bragdon, BU1 Ruben Rodriguez and HM3 Anthony Montoya from Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center Tucson have returned home.

Montoya spent two drill weekends with the unit before orders sent him straight to the front lines of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*. After catching up with Marine Weapons Company 223 at Camp Pendleton, the unit was first sent to Kuwait and then to Baghdad.

"Being with the Marines from Kuwait to Baghdad is an experience I will never forget," Montoya said.

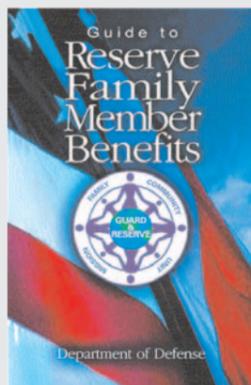
Montoya had no previous combat or active-duty experience, but proved to be a valuable member of Marine Weapons Company 223. He has 14 years of medical experience in his civilian employment working in southern Arizona hospitals.

Bragdon has served seven years on active duty and 11 years in the Naval Reserve, but deployments overseas are always difficult, especially for this mother of two.

"Being away from my kids was the hardest part of my nine-month mobilization," Bragdon said. She was sent to Chin-hae, Republic of Korea, where she was attached to base security and served as the watch commander for the night section. During her deployment, Bragdon completed an Emergency Vehicle Operator Course (EVOC) and qualified on the M-16, shotgun and 9mm pistol.

Rodriguez was also in South Korea where he served as a watch commander in the base security detachment. With more than 25 years in the Reserves, Rodriguez says he brought his Seabee "can do" mentality to his position and takes pride in completing the mission.

—LTJG Dave Hecht, NAVMARCORESCEN Tucson



More news of family resources such as this toolkit are online at www.defenselink.mil/ra/family/ and related links.

Coastal Warfare Reservists return from Middle East

ASH SHUAYBAH, Kuwait (NNS)—Naval Coastal Warfare (NCW) Reserve forces recalled to active duty and deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operations *Enduring Freedom* and *Iraqi Freedom*, returned home when their eight-month deployment ended Aug. 23.

Harbor Defense Command Unit (HDCU) 114 from Los Angeles, Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit (MIUWU) 106 based in San Diego, and Inshore Boat Unit (IBU) 15 from Corpus Christi, Texas, also returned home in September, after providing anti-terrorism and force protection assets for U.S. and coalition maritime forces in the Arabian Gulf.

"These units provided all of the port security and harbor defense for ships carrying more than 90 percent of the tanks, trucks, helicopters, ammunition and supplies for the forces that went to Iraq," said CAPT Mike Shatynski, commanding officer of HDCU 114 and Force security officer for the Port of Ash Shuaybah in Kuwait. "They did a remarkable job of protecting hundreds of ships and ensuring

that not one life or piece of equipment was lost to hostile action."

The Port of Ash Shuaybah, the principal seaport of debarkation for coalition forces, is where the majority of these NCW forces were based. MIUWU 106 provided seaward surveillance capability and provided tactical control of the boat units operating in the port, which included IBU 15 and IBU 17 from San Diego, and U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit 309 from Port Clinton, Ohio.

Prior to the beginning of hostilities in March, the amount of supplies and equipment off-loaded at Ash Shuaybah exceeded the amount of war material brought into the region during the entire duration of Operation *Desert Storm* in 1990-91. Total military off-loads at the port included more than 150,000 trucks, tanks, helicopters and containers weighing in excess of 1 billion pounds.

"When we arrived in Kuwait, we hit the ground running," said CDR Patrick Cooley, commanding officer of MIUWU 106. "The NCW operations tempo was un-

precedented, and our people rose to the challenge."

During the war, the three units operated under command of Commander, Naval Coastal Warfare Group 1, who was designated Commander, Task Group 51.9, and augmented by HDCU 114 and MIUWU 106 personnel. "The NCW forces operating in our second detachment provided a tremendous amount of talent and versatility," noted CAPT Allen Painter, commodore of the NCW forces operating in Southwest Asia.

While Sailors from MIUWU 106 and IBU 15 protected the Port of Ash Shuaybah for the duration of their eight-month deployment, HDCU 114 also provided security for Mohammad Al Ahmad Kuwait Naval Base.

Operating at Camp Patriot, HDCU 114 personnel were responsible for both seaward and landward security operations for the off-load of the largest amphibious force assembled since the Inchon landing during the Korean War.—LCDR John Garofolo, Naval Coastal Warfare Group 1 Public Affairs



Photo by Journalist David P. Coleman

Guantanamo Bay, Cuba—IT1 Billy Griffin surveys the coastline during a General Quarters drill at a lookout coastal watcher site in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, on lookout coastal watcher site in June. Griffin, a member of Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare 212, a Reserve unit from Gulfport, Miss., was activated in November 2002 for one year.

Expeditionary Force Reservists come home

YORKTOWN, Va.—After eight months in Kuwait, Atlantic Ordnance Command (LANTORDCOM) Expeditionary Force (LEF), returned to Norfolk on Aug. 21 to commence demobilization processing. The unit is made up of 97 percent Reservists.

LEF brings together a combination of Deployable Ammunition Reporting and Handling Teams (DART/DAHT) from LANTORDCOM detachments located at Naval Weapons Stations Charleston, S.C., Earle, N.J., and Yorktown, Va.

One Marine Expeditionary Force requested LEF's support for the buildup of ordnance stockpiles before Operation *Iraqi Freedom* (OIF).

During hostilities, LEF participated in ordnance-level loading throughout CENTCOM's area of operations and remained after Baghdad fell to support ordnance rollback operations.

LEF Reservists completed their mission without any ordnance safety incidents or mishaps. They handled and reported ordnance which was off-loaded from three Military Sealift Command (MSC) break-bulk ships (over 12,000 lifts), and ensured its safe transport to Ammunition Supply Points (ASPs) in the Kuwaiti desert.

In the desert, LEF Reservists assisted Marines at the ASPs with most of their aviation ammunition for OIF.

LEF fly-away teams also

went to Bahrain and United Arab Emirates, where they supported ordnance logistics for carrier battle groups in the gulf. For rollback operations, LEF again handled and reported ordnance prior to loading ordnance onto three MSC break-bulk ships in Kuwait.

During Operation *Desert Storm* and in Kosovo, rollback of ordnance was compromised due to the limited knowledge and technical proficiency of the handlers. This lesson learned was not repeated this time because LEF provided this invaluable service, which will be incorporated into future contingency operations.

The inaugural deployment for LEF marked an important transition point for ordnance

logistics. Never before has the Navy moved forces forward to perform receipt, storage, and issue functions of a Naval weapons station.

"It is great to be a part of making history, knowing that LEF contributed to LANTORDCOM's successful mission by helping supply ammunition to one Marine Expeditionary Force and the 3rd Marine Air Wing. I'm glad to be home," said MM2 John Kaczynski, LEF ordnance handler.

"We are happy to have contributed to the success of OIF and thrilled to be back in the United States with family and friends," said CDR James Rooney, LEF officer-in-charge.

—LCDR Art Robinson, NR AOC York Det. Earle DAHT-10

FAMILY FOCUS



Yonna Diggs
Force Ombudsman-At-Large

The Ombudsman Program has proven to be an invaluable program in assisting commands in dealing with Reserve families and their issues.

Have you ever thought about being an ombudsman? Let's look at what it takes to volunteer. An ombudsman needs to:

- Be the spouse of an active duty or Selected Reservist.
- Show willingness to help people
- Possess good oral and written

communications skills.

- Have ability to work with command families and the command.
- Dedicate the time required to do the job.
- Attend four days of specialized Ombudsman Basic Training.

Commands around the country are recruiting men and women to work with families. To become an ombudsman, you must be willing to attend required training, which is offered in various locations around the country at least three times a year. If you feel you would be an asset to the command family support team, con-

tact your spouse's command to express your interest.

Commander, Naval Reserve Force is currently seeking locations in which to conduct training for FY 04. If your command is interested in sponsoring this training, please contact me at Yonna.Diggs@cnet.navy.mil or (800) 675-5728 for additional details on sponsorship.

Newly-appointed ombudsmen who have not had opportunity to attend Ombudsman Basic Training are invited to visit <http://www.lifelines2000.org> for a preview of the new *Online Distance Learning* version of this class. This format does not take the place of the on-site training. It is a tool to assist a new ombudsman until he or she can obtain on-site training.

FLEET SUPPORT

WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash.—The VP-69 “Totems” of Naval Reserve Maritime Patrol Squadron 69 (VP-69) recently completed a 12-week cycle of fleet support. The VP-69 “Totems” provided air crew, aircraft and maintainers in support of Commander Task Force 72 (CTF-72) and Joint Interagency Task Force (JIATF).

Conducting counter-narcotics missions in support of JIATF, VP-69 air crews deployed to operating locations in Central America. Totem crews flew over 170 hours during these missions, locating and tracking numerous suspect vessels. They assisted in the successful capture of a drug smuggler carrying approximately 6,000 lbs of cocaine (valued at \$175 million).

During the same detachment cycle, the Totems also provided air crew and maintainers to CTF-72, halfway around the world.

Air crews operated out of Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, and out of Naval Air Facility Misawa, Japan. Crews based in Guam flew over 48 hours in support of Exercise *Tandem Thrust 03* and 60 hours in support of battle group operations. Crews based in Misawa flew 166 hours during surveillance and reconnaissance, anti-submarine warfare, training and logistics missions. The Totems were in theater during the turnover of regular Navy Patrol Squadrons (VP-9 and VP-4) providing valuable transitional assistance. The Totems will next detach in September for six weeks of counter-drug operations in the Caribbean and in November to Argentina.

—VP-69 Public Affairs



Photo by PH1(AW/NAC) Thomas Brennan

START YOUR ENGINES—AT3 Nance of VP-69 signals a P-3 Orion pilot during training flights prior to deployment from NAS Whidbey Island.

‘Totems’ patrol skies

Reservists help identify terrorists using facial recognition technology

NEWPORT, R.I.—LCDR Hoa Ho is helping the Sixth Fleet develop the capability to identify terrorists and other criminals during routine ship boarding inspections and for base access control. Personnel on Sixth Fleet ships routinely board commercial and private vessels to look for individuals in connection with crimes.

Commercial facial recognition tools already exist that can generate a digital image of an individual’s face and compare it with a database of thousands of faces to check for a match. The goal of the Sixth Fleet effort is to bring a portable and wearable camera unit with a secure wireless connection, shipboard database and search software to units that need it for force protection, including defense against terrorist attacks.

The Army and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency developed many of the initial parameters for facial recognition for a similar project for military po-

lice in the late 1990s. The Navy started developing a capability for Navy use following Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Ho, a direct commissioned engineering duty officer, is assigned to the Office of Naval Research Science and Technology Reserve Unit 201 (ONR S&T 201) based in Newport. As a civilian, she is a senior network software engineer at Intel Corp.’s network processor division in Hudson, Mass., and has participated in Reserve projects involving littoral combat future naval capability and several fleet battle experiments.

As part of the effort, Ho has identified a camera well suited for the facial-recognition task. The camera can be used in conjunction with a database and software search engine. Successful demonstration of the wearable camera and software could bring it to Fleet and Marine Forces within the next year. In July, Ho demon-

strated the camera for Sixth Fleet units in Gaeta, Italy. She showed the system to the vessel boarding search and seizure team aboard *USS La Salle* (AGF 3) and the Marine Corps fleet anti-terrorist security team. She helped train units, which provided valuable feedback on use of the wearable camera for current operations and which components should be replaced or improved.

For the demonstrations in Europe, Ho has worked with ONR Sixth Fleet Naval Research Science Advisor, Mike Halloran, and with Reserve Liaison Officer, CAPT Todd Morgan, a member of the project team. Morgan and Halloran identified the project as a good match for Reserve support. He and CAPT Doug Coe of NR ONR HQ 106, based in Wash., D.C., who monitors all Reserve support to science advisors, recommended Ho to serve as the project lead.

—CAPT Paige Saunders, NR ONR Science and Technology Unit 201

Thousands of Masters-at-Arms needed to support new units

Continued from page 1

In the event that MAs are not available, the second plan of action is to use Reservists with the 9545 (Security) Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) to fill the billets.

Third, Donahue said that many Reservists possess the requisite competencies to make them successful in these units, even if they aren’t MAs or in possession of the 9545 NEC. These Reservists, many of whom may have been mobilized in the past couple of years to carry out security functions, can be trained on almost any installation that has a “security academy” in which auxiliary security forces receive training. There will also be some training capability within the unit from MA1s and MACs who are already trained and can pass along their knowledge. Lack of training or experience in the security field should not deter anyone who is interested from taking advantage of this great new opportunity.

Last, Naval Reserve recruiters will be targeting security professionals and law enforcement officers and offering them the opportunity to come into the Force as MASN and MA3s, based upon their civilian experience.

RESFORCOM is currently trying to establish units to support each installation. “Ideally,” said Donahue, “We would have each Reserve unit collocated with the installation that it supports, so that they can do every one of their drills at that installation and be a true extension of the installation security force.”

Given the demographics of the Naval Reserve Force, that wasn’t possible at all locations, but where it could be done, it

was. Where it wasn’t possible, it was decided it’s better to have a unit that has unit integrity and that drills at the same location. At that point, Inactive Duty Training Travel funds will be set aside to ensure they can drill together on a regular basis at the gaining command.

The need for new Reserve MAs to fill the NSF manning requirements reaches into the thousands, and while that number may seem daunting, Meunier seems highly positive about the opportunities being offered to those Sailors willing to convert.

“We have a number of Sailors in ratings that are very overmanned, and we can offer them a conversion into the Master-at-Arms rating that will literally give them wide-open advancement opportunity, and that’s exciting,” said Meunier.

Donahue had similar comments about the prospects for new NSF members.

“It’s a great opportunity for any Reservist. We’re going to be growing the Master-at-Arms rating. If you’re looking for upward mobility, promotion opportunities in the MA rating are going to be very high. We have billets in these units from E-3 all the way up through chief, and it’s a great opportunity to slide into it and get in on the ground floor of what’s sure to be a key mission area for the Naval Reserve for years to come,” said Donahue.

The mission area is one that, for the Reserve Force, will be a high-profile way to show how resilient they can be in a time of need for the nation and for the Navy. It’s an opportunity to show ownership of another significantly vital national defense role.

—JOSN J. Hastings McIver, COMNAVRESFOR Public Affairs



Photo by LTJG Christina Skacan

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain—ABH1 James Vaiciulis of Chicago, Ill., wears a “sleeve” while training military working dog Barit to subdue suspects on board *NAVSTA Rota*. Vaiciulis was recalled from NR Rota Support unit 0169 at NAVRESCEN Great Lakes.

Anti-Submarine Warfare

VP-66 Supports Icelandic Exercise

ICELAND—AT1 (AW/AC) Bart Allgeier hadn't set foot in Iceland in eight years. The in-flight technician with Reserve Patrol Squadron (VP) 66 was back in the anti-submarine warfare (ASW) capital of the world to participate in the ninth annual Keflavik Tactical Exchange (KEFTACEX 2003), and was amazed to see the flight line looking almost exactly like it did when he was an active-duty crew member nearly a decade ago.

"To see all of these P-3s Orions on the ramp makes it feel like old times," Allgeier beamed, "back in the days when we were going hard, looking for Soviet submarines, and then it all collapsed. To come

back up here and to be a part of this again gets the blood rushing."

Though the Cold War dynamic is a thing of the past, the submarine threat is still very real. So much so, in fact, that seven nations signed on for this year's KEFTACEX.

"Anti-submarine warfare is one of the most perishable skills we have in the military today," said RADM John Waickwicz, Commander, Fleet Air Keflavik. "Even though the Cold War is over, the number of submarines is increasing, both nuclear and diesel submarines, that could threaten us or our allies in the future."

Three U.S. Navy patrol squadrons (VP-10, VP-45 from Naval Air Station Sigonella, and a Reserve squadron from Naval Air Station Grove, Pa.) are participating in the exercise, contributing a total of five P-3C Orion aircraft.

Norway, The Netherlands and Canada also sent P-3s to Keflavik for the exercise. The U.S. also provides one of its Nimrod patrol aircraft, and the U.S. also provides an ATL2 Atlantique maritime patrol aircraft.

The surface component comes by way of the French nuclear submarine (the frigate HDMS Triton), and the prey of the weeklong hunt is the French nuclear submarine.



Photo by JO2 Mark O'Donald

ABOARD A P-3 ORION—Members of Naval Reserve squadron VP-66 participate in exercise KEFTACEX 2003 operations.

The 12 combat aircrew members of VP-66 brought a combined 147 years of experience to the front line, and almost 200 years of combined time in the Navy. This kind of experience enables the P-3 Reserve program to dedicate 45% of flight hours directly to fleet support. The seven Naval Reserve Maritime Patrol squadrons have provided 31,000 man days supporting the fleet this fiscal year (FY 03), including their primary mission of antisubmarine warfare, combatant crew member support, counter-drug operations and exercise support.



Photo by JO2 Mark O'Donald

AO3 Benjamin Cook of Philadelphia, Pa., closes bomb rack latches on the wing of a P-3 Orion.

Warriors

The Keflavik Tactical Exchange (KEFTACEX) is the largest anti-submarine warfare exercise in the Atlantic this year. It fosters a spirit of cooperation and teamwork as seven NATO allies come together to learn and practice ADSW skills. Sailors and aviators from Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States worked to show the world that the allies are as close as ever.

"Right now, we're engaged in a war on terrorism, we're still engaged in Iraq, and there have been many allies by our side as we have gone through this," said RADM John Waickwicz, Commander, Fleet Air Keflavik. "It's a testimony to the governments that want this training and this exercise to take place."—ENS Adam Clampitt, Naval Air Station Keflavik Public Affairs

forward Maine; VP-66, Willow Grove, Pa., and the USS Casabianca. "Right about now, crews are coordinating with the surface ship and the submarine itself; they've been doing that for the past two days, practicing tracking and attacking techniques with each other," said LT Jason Darish, Combined Force Keflavik's project officer for KEFTACEX 2003. The continued presence of KEFTACEX and participation by NATO countries within it, demonstrates the value of the training received here. Teammates for more than five decades, NATO countries have seen the fruits of ASW proficiency and vigilance in the past. —LTJG Ron Flanders, Commander Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs



Photo by JO2 Mark O'Donald

AO1 Mark Mainland (above) of Racine, Wis., loads underwater signaling devices into an ejection chute of a VP-66 P-3 Orion. The signal informs submarines that their location and movement have been recognized.



ICELAND OPS—Reserve Patrol Squadron VP-66's P-3 Orion (left) awaits a pre-flight inspection on the flight line at NAS Keflavik. Of seven international squadrons taking part in Keflavik Tactical Exchange (KEFTACEX), the annual anti-submarine warfare exercise, VP-66 of NAS Willow Grove, Pa., is the only one made up entirely of U.S. Naval Reservists.



Photo by JO2 Mark O'Donald

NORTH ATLANTIC OPS—Crew assigned to the "Liberty Bells" of VP-66 maneuver a P-3C Orion in search of an 'enemy' submarine during KEFTACEX 03.