

# TNR

THE NAVY RESERVE

MAR 2011



**From Ships of Wind and Sail to  
Ships of Steel and Steam**



## Total Force Heritage

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# Ready Now!



*Patriots, Pioneers, and Presidents: Navy Reserve Sailors have served our Nation in war and peace as an essential part of our Navy Total Force for 96 years.*

Volume 3, Issue 03

Total Force Heritage

March 2011

Shipmates,

Each March, we celebrate the anniversary of the establishment of the Navy Reserve, which could also be regarded as the beginning of what we now call the Navy Total Force. Since March 3, 1915, when Congress established the Federal Naval Reserve, our Sailors have served our Nation proudly in peace and war.

It wasn't long before the Navy Reserve was called to duty. During World War I, more than 300,000 Reserve Sailors served, including 12,000 pioneering women. Joy Bright Hancock, who served as a Yeoman (F) during WWI, rose to the rank of Captain, where she led the integration of the WWII-era WAVES into the Navy.

The Navy Reserve played a vital role in the early days of Naval Aviation, with graduates of the Naval Aviation Cadet program and the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at the leading edge of an exciting and powerful new technology. These pioneers developed the tactics and procedures that would soon be tested in war.

When World War II erupted in Europe in 1939, the Navy Reserve was ready. By the summer of 1941, nearly all Reserve Sailors were serving on active duty. After the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941, these Sailors formed the core of the wartime Navy, which grew from 383,150 to 3,405,525 Sailors. More than 80% of those who served in World War II were Reserve Sailors, including five future U.S. Presidents and thirteen recipients of the Medal of Honor., such as Pharmacists Mate 2/c William David Halyburton, Jr.

The Korean conflict mobilized more than 130,000 Reserve Sailors, including many World War II veterans. Navy Reserve aviators flew an impressive 75 percent of the Navy's combat sorties, including Ensign Jesse L. Brown, the first African-American Naval Aviator, who gave his life providing close air support at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. During the Vietnam Conflict, one out of every seven Sailors on active duty was a Reserve Sailor. As the conflict escalated, two Reserve Construction Battalions and several aviation squadrons were mobilized.

More than 22,000 Reserve Sailors were mobilized for the first Gulf War in the first post-Cold War test of the Force, providing valued capabilities in a wide variety of specialties. Contingencies in Bosnia and Kosovo employed more than 1,500 Reserve Sailors called to duty under Presidential Recall Authority.

And since September 11, 2001, there have been more than 63,000 Selected Reserve mobilizations, along with an additional 4,600 deployments by Full Time Support Sailors. In addition to our front-line service, the Reserve Component provides mission-critical skills and on-demand expertise. In any given week, more than 20,000 Navy Reserve Sailors, or approximately 31 percent of the Selected Reserve Force, are on some type of orders. Our Sailors serve at home, across the country, at sea, overseas and even in space!

For 96 years, Navy Reserve Sailors have served our Nation proudly as an essential part of the Navy Total Force. We value both our unique history and our shared Navy identity, proudly celebrating both the anniversary of our establishment in March and the Navy Birthday in October. The service of our shipmates – patriots, pioneers and Presidents – inspires us to live up to our Force Motto: Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere.

VADM Dirk Debbink  
Chief of Navy Reserve

FORCM Ronney A. Wright  
Navy Reserve Force Master Chief



# TNR

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The Navy Reserve is always looking for good action photos of Navy Reservists (minimum 300 dpi) that tell a story of Reserve training or support to the fleet. Please provide full identification of all individuals in the photograph, including their respective rating, rank and command. Photos should also include a visual information record identification number or VIRIN. Information about VIRINs is available online at [www.mediacen.navy.mil/vi/virin.htm](http://www.mediacen.navy.mil/vi/virin.htm). Submissions should be received eight weeks prior to publication month (i.e. November 1st for the December issue). Material will not be returned.

NEWS ONLINE ... The Navy Reserve current and past issues can be accessed online at <http://navyreserve.navy.mil>. Navy Reserve News Stand, a Web site featuring Navy Reserve news and photos, plus links to Navy fleet pages, can be viewed at [www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf).

CHANGE OF ADDRESS ... Selected Reservists with address changes need to provide updates to the NSIPS (Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System) via their NOSC Personnel Office.

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cover photo: Caption

# Letter from the Editor



Readers,

In this month's in TNR, we focus on the great history of our Navy Reserve Force. As you read this, your shipmates are providing operational support at levels I have never seen during my thirty-year career in the Navy. It is amazing what you do. And now as we mark the anniversary, or birthday, of the establishment of the Navy Reserve, it is a great time to reflect on the service we provide to our Navy, and our nation, past, present and future.

We, as a Reserve force, are 20 percent of the total force, yet we fill 50 percent of all Navy force billets for overseas contingency operations. Those are amazing numbers if you ask me. Truly historical in my eyes.

When I began my Reserve career in 1986, we were viewed as a strategic force. We trained on weekends so we could be ready when needed. The history YOU are making today is much different. Certainly the weekend training continues, but along with that, our Navy Reserve Sailors are providing operational support every single day of the year. This is more than being involved with operations around the globe—it means we are involved with daily operations in all facets of the Navy mission.

Navy Reserve leadership has worked tirelessly to make it possible for us to change lanes during our careers. By doing that, we have the opportunity to make a greater contribution to the success of our Navy mission.

As you read through TNR this month, please note how Reserve Sailors have contributed to our total force in the past, and continue to do so today. For instance, this year marks a great milestone in Naval aviation. Navy Reserve pilots, enlisted aviation specialists, and support personnel should be proud of their contributions to make the Navy Reserve Force a large part of that history.

Thanks for what you do shipmates. Go out and make history!

Jim Vorndran  
Editor-in-chief  
The Navy Reserve

## NOTABLE

# New Uniform Components and Rules

Written by CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**The chief of naval operations approved Navy Uniform Board recommendations Jan. 25.**

The recommendations include a new cutlass for chiefs, an overblouse for female officers and chiefs, updated rules for portable communication devices and clarification on the manner of wear for flight suits.

“Whether addressing new proposals or updating old regulations to the current operating environment, the Uniform Board has taken input from the fleet and provided the best recommendations and proposed solutions for CNO’s approval,” said Capt. William Park, head, Officer Personnel Plans and Policy, who also oversees the Uniform Matters Office. “The result is a set of adaptive uniform regulations that maintains the professional appearance of our Sailors.”

Designed to be worn by members of an official party during ceremonies requiring officers to wear swords, the chief petty officer (CPO) cutlass may be the most visible of the announced uniform changes. With a twenty-six inch stainless steel blade and four laser engraved CPO anchors (CPO, SCPO, MCPO and MCPON) on the base, the new cutlass is expected to be available for purchase in August. As an optional uniform item, the Uniform Board sought to ensure uniformity in appearance by directing the cutlass to be worn only when all members of an official party are wearing swords.

The next change was the approval of an overblouse option for female officers and chiefs when wearing the poly/wool service khaki uniform. Since the roll-out of the service uniform for junior enlisted, the Office of Women’s Policy had received regular feedback from the fleet, requesting a similar overblouse option for female officers and CPOs to wear with their service

khaki uniform. When this change takes effect March 25, female officers and CPOs will be able to wear the overblouse with slacks or skirts.

Portable electronic devices were another topic of concern for Sailors, which prompted the Uniform Board to make several noteworthy changes. Effective March 25, Sailors will be authorized to use these devices while in their service or working uniform, to include when walking. Although authorized, the device must be conservative in color and design, cannot distract from the appearance of the uniform, must be worn on the belt aft of the elbow and cannot interfere with the rendering of military courtesies and honors.

The final set of changes announced in the update were regarding the manner of wear for the aircrew flight suit. While in the continental United States, the green flight suit will be worn with a black undershirt, while overseas, aircrew may wear tan flight suits with brown undershirts as determined by the Navy component commander.

To support the Centennial of Naval Aviation, CNO is allowing flight suits to be worn at designated events in calendar year 2011. A list of these approved Centennial of Naval Aviation events will be released quarterly by Commander, Naval Air Forces.

To learn more about these uniform changes, read NAVADMIN 025/11, at <http://www.npc.navy.mil/NR/rdonlyres/713FA622-A1A1-46FE-9CB5-3DAF854ECAD5/0/NAV11025.txt>

For information on obtaining uniform items contact NEX Uniform Support Center toll-free at 1-800-368-4088, or by going to [https://www.navy-nex.com/command/about\\_us/p-uniformsupport.html](https://www.navy-nex.com/command/about_us/p-uniformsupport.html).



## LEADERSHIP

# Navy History, Heritage and Leadership

Written by Cmdr. STEPHEN P. FERRIS

Many of the values that guide today's Sailors can be attributed to customs and traditions that began in the Navy long ago. The practices, vocabulary, and etiquette that have been passed from one generation to the next are as powerful as the ships in today's fleet.

As Sailors become aware they are part of something larger than themselves they gain organizational pride. The customs and traditions Sailors learn from their exposure to Navy heritage builds a bridge between generations. Sailors realize they are part of a team that started before them and will continue after them.

Leadership should encourage Sailors to learn the history of their Navy and to take part in heritage events throughout the year. These efforts will produce Sailors who have increased confidence in their skills, stronger

unit cohesion, and greater creativity in problem solving. By gaining a historical perspective of their Navy's heritage, Sailors will be able

to react to change while simultaneously anticipating it. The final result will be a unit with Sailors better able to meet their mission.

Leadership should use history to help Sailors understand that the values of tradition, loyalty, discipline, and moral courage have carried the Navy through both peace and war. Leaders must strive to preserve these values and pass them on to succeeding generations of Sailors. Leadership should recognize this obligation is paramount and these values are the bedrock of Navy service.

Leadership can help Sailors benefit from Navy history in two important ways. First, history shows what doesn't work and how errors were made in the past. Leaders can help Sailors learn from the mistakes of their predecessors and avoid replicating them. Second, leaders should train to identify historical parallels to current issues or problems. This will allow them to develop solutions to today's problems more quickly.

Each year the Navy dedicates a number of months to public recognition of the national security contributions made by a variety of groups. The purpose of this program is to acknowledge the service to national defense provided by individuals in these groups. Leadership should promote awareness of these celebratory months and encourage participation in events. Leadership can sponsor activities in support of a particular month as a way to facilitate teamwork.

**HERITAGE IS WRITTEN IN A SPECIAL INK THAT BLENDS THE BLOOD OF SACRIFICE, THE SWEAT OF HARD WORK, AND THE TEARS OF PRIDE SHED BY SAILORS OF THE PAST.**

The events associated with these heritage months strengthen the bond between service members and those who have served before. Heritage months include African-American in February, Women's History in

March, Asian Pacific Americans in May, Caribbean American in June, National Hispanic in September, and Native American and Alaska Native in November.

The presentation of Navy heritage programs is ineffective if it is organized as a list of names and dates. Heritage is written in a special ink that blends the blood of sacrifice, the sweat of hard work, and the tears of pride shed by Sailors of the past. Leadership must encourage Sailors to reflect on their heritage, be proud of it, learn from it, and preserve it. The unit, the Navy, and the nation will be the better for their efforts.



## MONEY MATTERS

# Military Pay: Past and Present

Written by Cmdr. CAROLINE TETSCHNER,  
COMMANDER, NAVY RESERVE FORCES COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

When I was a young junior Sailor I transferred from Misawa, Japan to Washington, D.C it was during this move where I had my first case of both sticker and culture shock. Everything was much more expensive in Washington. The area was more complicated and harder to navigate compared with the few square miles that made up my home, work and most of my social life at the Navy air base in Japan. These new, uncharted waters in D.C. were exciting but provided me with some serious financial struggles. I distinctly remember days where I would think, "have lunch or wash my dirty clothes at the coin-op laundry?" However, as we Sailors do, I quickly incorporated new methods for survival. Macaroni and cheese, carpooling, and a second job at a downtown deli ensured my checking account stayed in the black.

The late 80's was also a time when military compensation in general lagged behind that of our civilian counterparts. Those of us old enough can recall headlines about service members, especially those with children, qualifying for welfare and other government financial aid. I can recall several occasions when my young shipmates went to Navy Relief; a non-profit organization that helps Sailors with financial support in times of need.

Starting in the 90's, military pay has finally elevated to its' current competitive levels. Today, an active-duty E-5 with dependants and six years of service receives approximately \$50,000 in annual salary and allowances. As a drilling SELRES that person would make approximately \$350 per drill weekend or \$22 an hour. Not bad for a part-time job! Those figures are higher if incentive pay, reenlistment bonuses and other special

pays is received. The compensation package is substantially greater if you add medical benefits afforded to active-duty and Reserve Sailors and their families.

That change was long overdue and highly welcome for an organization that is never "off duty." Our Sailors and other Service members are the first folks to help out in international disasters. We were there for Hurricane Katrina, Haiti Relief, and most recently our Sailors provided support to the Gulf oil spill. Currently, some 5,000 of our fellow Reserve Sailors are "boots on the ground" in Afghanistan, Iraq and in other overseas contingencies. We respond on a moments' notice, train for the mission and work hard at balancing the demands of two jobs, family and life. There is an old saying for Reserve Sailors—if your spouse, your civilian job and your Navy Reserve unit aren't simultaneously upset with you for splitting your time, you're not doing your job!

As we celebrate the 96th birthday of our Navy Reserve force, it's important we understand our history to appreciate our present and future. If you're thinking about getting out of the Navy Reserve (prior to retirement) or if you're on active-duty and thinking about joining the Navy Reserve, consider the many benefits you gain by "staying Navy." I urge you to discuss the Navy Reserve with a Navy career counselor or meet with a Navy Reserve recruiter. The rewards are many and you'll be part of a patriotic "greater good," while serving in a time-honored organization that's, "Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere!"



**Cmdr. Caroline Tetschner**  
Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command  
Public Affairs Officer

## CAREER COUNSELOR CORNER

# How Much Does Your Career Mean to You?

Written by CNRFC CAREER RESOURCES AND INFORMATION OFFICE



**Your Navy career starts with you! You need to know what to do to take care of yourself during your Navy career. If can't take care of yourself you won't be able to take care of others. You need to know what systems and databases need to be updated, how and when they get updated, and what information needs to be updated.**

The following information can be found on the BUPERS online application menu: <https://www.bol.navy.mil>

**FITREP/Eval Reports.** This is the continuity and cumulative average reporting website. The performance evaluation continuity report allows you to view the continuity of all performance evaluations submitted going back to January 1, 1996. This report identifies breaks in continuity, rejected reports, and selection board convening dates.

**Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) Status.** IMR is an integral component of force health protection and indicates a Sailor's ability to deploy rapidly. IMR is also a direct reflection of a unit's capability to fulfill its mission. Tracking IMR benefits the service member and unit. It ensures service members are protected against infectious and endemic diseases and can safely receive prophylaxis and treatments. It also ensure they have the required medical equipment (glasses, medical warning tags), and are in a state of dental readiness

**ODC, OSR, PSR, ESR.** This is the enlisted personnel record summary.

**Part I** is known as the enlisted summary record (ESR). It lists information concerning rate, education, Navy enlisted classification certification, duty station data, service and retention history dates, pay incentives and programs, and personal awards.

**Part II** is known as the enlisted performance summary record (PSR). It summarizes performance evaluation reports for enlisted personnel in pay-grades E-5 and above between 1983 and January 1, 1996.

**Part III** is known as the performance summary report (PSR). It contains performance fitness and evaluation information since January 1, 1996.

**Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) – My Record.** This was previously referred to as microfiche or web enabled record review. The OMPF reflects documents that have been received, reviewed, and accepted as an official record document. The OMPF contains electronic images of documents generated throughout the career of every Navy officer and enlisted member, from time of entry until final separation. Documents from the OMPF are the primary images used by selection boards when considering a member for promotion. OMPF documents reflect your fitness for military service, performance of duties, and entitlements. OMPF documents affect or influence your Navy career and benefits. The primary documents submitted to OMPF include:

- NAVPERS 1070/601 – Immediate Reenlistment Contract
- NAVPERS 1070/602 – Dependency Application/Record of Emergency Data
- NAVPERS 1070/604 – Enlisted Qualifications History (no longer used)
- NAVPERS 1070/605 – History of Assignments
- NAVPERS 1070/606 – Record of Unauthorized Absence
- NAVPERS 1070/607 – Court Memorandum
- NAVPERS 1070/613 – Administrative Remarks (Permanent Page 13s)
- NAVPERS 1070/615 – Record of Discharge from the U.S. Naval Reserve (Inactive)
- NAVPERS 1070/622 – Agreement to Recall or Extend Active Duty

- NAVPERS 1070/621 – Agreement to Extend Enlistment
- NAVPERS 1070/880 – Award Record
- NAVPERS 1070/881 – Training Education and Qualifications History
- NAVPERS 1616/26 – Evaluation Report and Counseling Records
- DD 4 – Enlistment/Reenlistment Documents
- DD 214 – Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty
- DD 215 – Correction to DD 214

Most of the documents above are submitted to the OMPF when created, but the following documents are submitted only at the end of your enlistment/reenlistment:

- NAVPERS 1070/605 – History of Assignments
- NAVPERS 1070/880 – Award Record
- NAVPERS 1070/881 – Training Education and Qualifications History

The ESR has replaced the paper-based field service record (FSR). Information that used to be entered on documents filed in the FSR is now entered as electronic data in the ESR. When required, ESR data is printed on documents and submitted to the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) for filing into your OMPF. The ESR allows a Sailor to view information contained within the Navy standard integrated personnel system (NSIPS). NSIPS contains pay and personnel information entered by the command or your personnel support detachment. Access to the ESR can be found at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil>.

**ESR VIEW** allows a Sailor to verify information contained within the Navy Integrated Personnel System (NSIPS). If errors are found, the Sailor is authorized to request corrections through their command.

**ESR TASKS** allows a Sailor to update ESR self-service items.

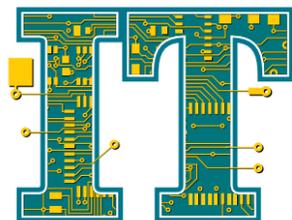
**PRIMS.** Another web based career management resource is the physical readiness information management system (PRIMS). To view your physical fitness assessment (PFA) records, select "PFA", the select view PFA Records". All forms and reports are printed from the Member Reporting option (the last option on the menu). Your PFA results are also printed from this menu.

In-depth information on all of the above systems can be found at <https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n1/FSR%20ESR%20PSR%20OMPF/Forms/AllItems.aspx>. Get to know and understand the systems. Most importantly, make sure your records are kept updated and accurate.



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead administers the oath of reenlistment to 11 Sailors while visiting Naval Air Station Sigonella in Sicily, Italy. Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst

## GETTING IT TO THE SAILOR



# SharePoint Document Libraries

Written by Lt. Cmdr. JEFFREY BENNINGTON,  
COMMANDER, NAVY RESERVE FORCES COMMAND SHARED SERVICES

The Navy Reserve Homeport is built upon the Microsoft SharePoint software system. The Homeport provides access to a variety of Navy Reserve corporate database applications, reporting capabilities, and collaboration features.

One component of the Homeport is its “document libraries” feature, which provides web-based storage for electronic files. Using libraries, you can organize files into folders and maintain file control. A document library is similar to using the network share drive. Placing files into a document library is a simple process, using a web browser. Library files may be accessed by other users who are authorized.

Initial creation of document libraries may require “site administrator” access privileges. Contact your command’s information technology point of contact to have a library set up with version control.

## Once a document library is established:

- Navigate to your organization’s document library main page.
- Click “Upload Document” from the SharePoint menu bar.
- In the “Upload Documents: Document Library” dialog box, browse your local computer to the document to be uploaded, and click OK. Alternatively, you may click on Upload Multiple Files...” for bulk uploads.
- If your site administrator has enabled file version control, you may also enter version comments.
- Click OK, then you will have the opportunity to change the document’s display name. You may also provide a title (used in some views of your library). Finally, you must indicate whether your document contains personally identifiable information.
- Click on “Check In” (if the version control feature is enabled) or “OK” (if no version control is in use).

Other users may now begin reviewing or editing these documents.

Note: Users are highly encouraged to use Internet Explorer (version 7 or later) as some features may not work as expected with other browsers.

## Checking a document out:

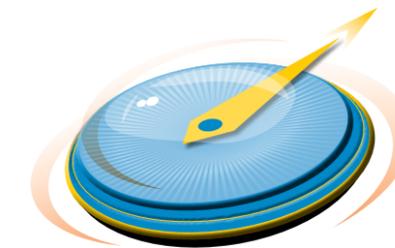
The following instructions assume your site administrator has enabled file versioning for your document library, and Microsoft Excel is installed on your computer.

Once a document has been checked in to a library, it may be reviewed (read-only) or updated (read-write).

- Navigate to your document library and double click the icon for the spreadsheet.
- Note the following message is displayed near the top of the screen: “Server Workbook: To modify this workbook, you must check it out.”
- If no changes are required to the spreadsheet, close Excel when you’re done reviewing the document.
- If changes are necessary, click “check out.”
- Make changes to the spreadsheet and save the file as you normally would.
- When you quit from Excel, a “check in” message is displayed: “Other users cannot see your changes until you check it in. Do you want to check in now?”
- Click “Yes” to check in your changes. Note: Others cannot make changes to this document until it has been checked in.

Be sure to close whatever applications you’re using when you’re done editing your documents. If you leave your application idle for more than a few minutes, your session may “time out” due to security controls. If this occurs, save your document to your local computer disk drive and re-upload it to the Homeport.

## SPIRITUAL NAVIGATION



# Faith Motivates Service

Written by Capt. BARRY CRANE, CHC,  
DEPUTY CHAPLAIN,  
NAVY REGION NORTHWEST RESERVE COMPONENT COMMAND

Recently I had an opportunity to explore my family roots with a trip to the United Kingdom. Church after church in little towns and larger cities were explored for signs of my ancestors. I had time to think about the legacy left to me by my grandparents who immigrated to the United States 100 years ago. I also thought of all my family members who went before them. Legacies are important.

This month we celebrate our legacy as members of the Navy Reserve. We have a birthday! This is a wonderful time to ponder those who have gone before us as “citizen Sailors” and the sacrifices they made for our Navy and our nation.

The movie the Chronicles of Narnia, written by C. S. Lewis, is in theatres and it makes me think of another work by Lewis.

Lewis was an Oxford scholar of medieval literature, but he is best known for his children’s books, science fiction, and writings about the Christian faith. In his book The Weight of Glory, published in 1952, he writes:

“... our Lord finds our desires, not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

This observation by Lewis penetrates to the heart. It asks each of us to stop and think seriously about our lives. Are we filling our days “with drink, sex, and ambition” and missing the infinite joy that God intends for us? In The Weight of Glory there is the powerful image of a child who is content with mud pies when she could experience the wonder and beauty of a seaside vacation.

As we honor our Total Force Heritage, we consider the privilege of standing on the shoulders of the brave men and women who have gone before us. Their legacy should encourage each one of us not to be content with the status quo, but to seriously look at our lives, our contributions to our Navy, and what we give back to our nation. We do not want to be content with putting in our time when those who come after us will need to stand on our shoulders. We don’t want to finish our enlistment and career and say, “I could have done so much more with my time in the Navy Reserve.”

**BIRTHDAYS ARE A TIME TO CELEBRATE ... BUT THEY ARE ALSO A TIME TO LOOK AHEAD.**

Birthdays are a time to celebrate ... but they are also a time to look ahead. Let’s not settle for giving less than our best. Happy Birthday Navy Reserve!

# History of the Navy Reserve

## 1915

### March 3

Naval Appropriations Act established “a United States naval reserve”, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) which eventually became NASA.



## 1916

### June 3

National Defense Act gives the President the authority to mobilize the Naval Militia in the event of War or National Emergency for duty outside the continental limits of the United States.

### August 29

Amendment to the National Defense Act creates the U.S. Naval Reserve Force (USNRF) of six classes, including the Naval Reserve Force Flying Corps, The National Naval Volunteers and the Marine Corps.

### December 31

U.S. Naval Reserve manpower is less than 200 officers and enlisted men.

## 1917

### March 19

Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels authorizes the enlistment of women into Class 4 of the Naval Reserve Force. Loretta Walsh enlists and becomes the first female Chief Petty Officer. All women are enlisted. There are no female officers.

### April 6

The United States declares War on Germany. The State Naval Militias are mobilized. Over 10,000 Naval Militia men are transferred into the National Naval Volunteers.



## December 1

The total manpower of the U.S. Navy, including the Reserve Force, is 15,000 officers and 254,000 enlisted men and women. The total number of Reservists mobilized is nearly 60,000.



## 1918

### January 14

Bureau of the Navy circular letter 13-18 establishes new cap ribbons of “U.S. Navy” for active duty personnel and “U.S. Naval Reserve” for inactive duty personnel. The superseded “U.S. Naval Reserve Force” cap ribbons can be worn by Reservists on inactive duty until the current supply is exhausted.

### April 1

Naval Reserve Force manpower is over 86,000.

### August 27

General Order 418 stipulates the uniforms of Naval Reserve force officers and enlisted men shall be identical to the uniforms worn by officers and enlisted men in the Regular Navy.

### November 11

An Armistice was signed that ended the fighting in WWI.

### November 30

Naval Reserve Force manpower is over 290,000 which includes 26,000 in Naval Aviation.



## 1919

### July 31

All women on active duty, with a few exceptions, are released from active duty to complete their enlistments in an inactive status prior to discharge. Women are not authorized to reenlist.

### November 1

More than 315,000 U.S. Naval Reserve Force personnel have been released from active duty since the war ended.



## 1920s

### September 21, 1921

All Navy message (ALNAV) 67-21 announces the transfer of 225,000 members of the Naval Reserve force, in inactive pay status, to the Volunteer Naval Reserve in a non-pay status. The transfer was due to budget constraints.

### June 30, 1922

Naval Reserve force training is carried out through volunteer drills and volunteer weekend cruises without pay of any kind.

## 1923

Department of the Navy begins to rebuild Naval Reserve Aviation. The aviation units are established at Squantum, Mass, Rockaway, N.Y., and Great Lakes, Ill.

### February 25, 1925

Naval Reserve Act reorganizes the Naval Reserve Force into the U.S. Naval Reserve. The new Naval Reserve is organized into three classes: Fleet Naval Reserve, Merchant Marine Reserve and the Volunteer Reserve.

## September 1926

The first Naval Reserve Officer Training units are established at six colleges: Harvard, Yale, Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Washington, University of California, and Northwestern University. Over 1,000 students enroll.



## 1930s

### June 30, 1931

The Naval Reserve manpower includes more than 7,500 officers and nearly 35,000 enlisted enlisted.

### July 1, 1932

The Naval Reserve budget is cut by 34 percent due to the Great Depression.

## 1933

All two-week training cruises are cancelled due to lack of funding.

### June 30, 1938

The Volunteer Naval Reserve strength is 7,700 officers and 13,000 men.

### July 1, 1938

The Naval Reserve Act of 1938 reorganizes the Naval Reserve into four classes: Fleet Reserve, Organized Reserve, Merchant Marine Reserve, and the Volunteer Reserve.

## 1940s

### June 30, 1940

Nearly 2,000 Naval Reservists are on active duty from the Organized Naval Reserve. There are also 3,500 Reservists from the Fleet Reserve on active duty.

### October 5, 1940

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox authorizes the involuntary recall of Naval Reservists.



## May 27, 1941

The President declares an unlimited national emergency and all Naval Reservists not already on active duty are mobilized.

## December 8, 1941

The United States declares war against Japan. Three days later Germany and Italy declare war on the United States.

## April 7, 1942

The Navy Department announces African American males will be accepted for enlistment for general service in the Reserve component of the U.S. Navy.

## July 30, 1942

The Women's Reserve (WR) is established. Women Accepted for Emergency Volunteer Service (WAVES) enter the Navy as officer and enlisted personnel. Mildred H. McAfee is commissioned as a lieutenant commander and appointed as the director of the Women's Reserve.



## November 9, 1943

Public Law 183 provides for one captain in the Women's Reserve and entitles all WR personnel the allowances and benefits available to men. Lt. Cmdr. Mildred H. McAfee is promoted to captain.

## February 1944

The first 13 male African American officers are commissioned in the Naval Reserve. They come to be known as the "Golden Thirteen."



## November 1944

The Navy begins enlisting African American women for general service in the Women's Reserve.

## December 1944

The first two female African American officers are commissioned in the Naval Reserve.



## March 1, 1945

The first African American nurse is commissioned in the Naval Reserve.

## June 30, 1945

More than 3,000,000 Naval Reservists are serving on active duty. The total includes 8,385 female officers and 73,790 female enlisted in the Women's Reserve. Naval Reservists account for 84 percent of the war-time Navy.



## February 28, 1946

Bureau of Personnel (BUPERS) circular letter 44-46 announces an identification card for Naval Reservists on inactive duty.

## August 10, 1946

2,982,462 Naval Reservists have been demobilized since August 15, 1945.

## September 1946

Ex-WAVES who have been discharged from active duty are authorized to reenlist for inactive duty in order to maintain a nucleus of WAVE personnel in the Naval Reserve.

## December 31, 1946

The reenlistment program that allows WAVES to remain on active duty through July 1, 1947 is closed. Fiscal year (FY) 1947 WAVES active-duty authorization reaches 5,000.

## January 1947

Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal announces plans to accept vocationally trained non-veteran personnel into the Naval Reserve.



## June 29, 1948

A Naval Reserve non-disability retirement plan is authorized for members of the Naval Reserve upon reaching age 60 and completing 20 years of service.

## June 30, 1948

BUPERS circular letter 116-48 announces female Navy Reservists on active duty may apply for discharge to reenlist immediately in the Regular Navy.

## June 1949

46 WAVE Reserve officers and former WAVE Reserve officers are selected for commissions in the Regular Navy.

## July 1, 1949

The Navy announces a record 100,000 Reservists participated in active duty for training during FY 1949.

## September 1949

The Navy announces Naval Reserve aviators will soon have access to jet-fighter planes.



## 1950s

### January 1950

The Naval Reserve manpower consists of 174,000 Sailors in the Organized Reserve, 53,000 in the Volunteer Reserve, 19,500 on active duty, and 18,000 enrolled in correspondence courses.

### May 1950

The Navy announces the end of a four-year construction project to build Naval Reserve Training Centers (NRTC's). The center in Daytona, Fla. was the last of 316 built.

### July 1950

The Naval Reserve established a two-week recruit training course at Naval Training Centers patterned after the Regular Navy recruit training course.



## July 1950

A Naval Reserve airship squadron is commissioned at Akron, Ohio. It is the fifth of its kind to be activated. The new squadron will support anti-submarine training and creates 25 Reserve officer and 125 enlisted billets. The squadron will operate K-type airships.

## September 22, 1950

USS Haynsworth (DD 700) is recommissioned. Seventy-five percent of the petty officers in the ship's complement are Naval Reservists.



## November 1950

The first WAVES involuntarily recalled to active duty are hospital corpsman in the petty officer first, second and third class rates. The plan was put into effect as a result of the Korean crisis.

## March 1951

ALNAV 4-51 authorizes Navy and Marine Corps Reserves on active duty to drop the "R" from the USNR and USMCR designations while mobilized or serving on active duty for reasons other than training.

## March 1951

Between July 1, 1950 and March 1951, 230,000 Sailors were added to the Navy. Half of the personnel added were Reservists. Seventy percent of the men were serving in the fleet by March 1951

## June 1951

The Navy reports 115,000 Reservists had been mobilized during the previous year. The size of the Navy increased from 381,000 in June 1950 to 705,000 in June 1951 which included Regular Navy and Reserve personnel.

## September 30, 1951

BUPERS circular letter 167-51 authorizes the new Armed Forces Reserve Medal can be awarded to Naval Reserve personnel in lieu of the Naval Reserve Medal. Both medals require 10 years of continuous service in the Naval Reserve.

## November 1951

The Naval Reserve consists of 2,000 Volunteer Reserve Units and another 2,000 Organized Units. 54,000 Volunteer Naval Reservists drill without pay. 146,800 Naval Reservists drill in Organized Units with pay.

## December 1951

The Navy announced the new Armed Forces Reserve Medal could be awarded to Naval Reserve personnel in lieu of the Naval Reserve Medal. The announcement states the Naval Reserve Medal would be phased out in 1958.



## January 1952

36,800 Naval Reservists were released from active duty during the last six months of 1951.

## January 1953

140,000 Naval Reservists were still mobilized on active duty and more than 500,000 were serving on inactive duty.

## January 1953

The Navy announced changes to the Naval Reserve as a result of the Armed Forces Act of 1952. The new law imposed an eight-year military obligation on every youth in the United States who becomes a member of the armed forces. The law required men to spend a minimum of two years on active duty followed by six years in a Reserve component. The categories of Ready Reserve, Standby Reserve, and Retired Reserve were created.

## June 1954

Identification cards are authorized for dependents of active duty personnel but not for dependants of Reserve personnel.

## August 1954

The Navy announced Reserve retirement without pay for former service members who reached age 37 and completed 8 years of service (active and inactive duty). Members placed retired without pay were entitled to wear their uniform at military functions and had permission to use their military title in connection with a business enterprise.

## April 1958

The Navy announced a new concept in Naval Reserve training--the Selected Reserve Forces--would provide added strength to the fleet's antisubmarine warfare (ASW) program in the event of mobilization. Two segments of the Selected Reserve were established--the ASW Surface component and the Selected Air Reserve.

## May 1959

The Navy announced the activation of Reserve crews for Destroyer Escorts (DE). The ships were to be manned by Naval Reservists and a reduced complement of active-duty personnel. A total of 30 DE and six Destroyers (DD) were initially designated as Selected Reserve ships. Each ship was placed in an "in service" status. They were manned with an allowance of two active duty officers and 33 enlisted men. The Reserve crew included 10 officers and approximately 165 enlisted.

## 1960s

### October 1961

Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, with approval of the President, ordered the mobilization of forty selected Reserve training ships and eighteen Naval Air Reserve Squadrons.



### August 1962

8000 Naval Reserve personnel, recalled in 1961, were scheduled to be released from active duty.

### December 1962

There are more than 300 Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Training Centers, 12 Naval Reserve Training Facilities, 140 Naval Reserve electronics facilities, and over 20 Naval Air Reserve Training Units located in the United States.

### December 1962

The Navy began transferring Training and Administration of Reserve (TAR) billets to the Regular Navy. The only TAR billets remaining would be those under the cognizance of the Chief of Naval Air Reserve Training and men in the yeoman, personnelman, disbursing clerk, and storekeeper billets under district commandants.

### August 1964

Naval Reserve authorized strength for personnel in drill pay status is 126,000. The number of personnel in drill pay status is approximately 119,000.

### March 1965

The Navy announced Reservists on active duty no longer had to serve on active duty for 12 months before becoming eligible to enlist in the Regular Navy.

## 1970s

### Jan. 1, 1971

Reserve Destroyers transfer to fleet command.

### Summer 1971

USS Gearing (DD 710) goes on three month deployment with active and Reserve fully integrated. This was the first such deployment the Navy had ever tried.

### March 17, 1976

SECNAV announces 45 Naval Reserve facilities and centers for closure.

## July 30, 1977

President Carter approves an end strength of 87,000 SELRES.



## 1980s

### 1980

Training and Administration of Reserve (TAR) billets open to Female officers.

### 1982

Four Knox class frigates are transferred to the Naval Reserve during a phased introduction to modernize the Reserve force.

Reservists invited to fill billets at the Senior Enlisted Academy.

The Naval Air Reserve Force sets a Navy record when it completed a full year of flight operations without an accident.

### 1983

The Sea-Air Mariner program is established. The non-prior service program opens an additional 8,000 Reserve jobs.

An organizational move within the Naval Reserve Force places the Reserve air and surface forces under separate commands.

### 1987

Three Naval Reserve Force frigates are homeported in the San Francisco area. They are the first NRF frigates to be stationed in the area.

### 1988

Minesweeping specialists, intelligence personnel and other Reservists deploy to the Persian Gulf to serve in the latest area of international tensions.

## 1990s

### 1990

The Cold War ended

### August 2, 1990 - March 6, 1991

Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm

### 1992

Navy Reservists help in the clean up after Hurricane Andrew.

### 1994

Reservists mobilized to Haiti to provide port security following an overthrow of the Haitian government.

## 1996

Air Reservists of VR-53 respond to support Operation Assured Response. The Reservists assisted with evacuation and insertion of Navy and Marine Forces in Africa.

## 2000 to Present

### 2000

Naval Coastal Warfare units recalled to the middle east following the attack on the USS Cole (DDG 67).

### September 11, 2001

Terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



### March 20, 2003

Operation Iraqi Freedom begins ongoing Reserve support of overseas contingency operations.

### January 2010

Reservists mobilize to support Haiti earthquake relief efforts.

### April 29, 2005

President George W. Bush signed a "memorandum for the Secretary of Defense" approving the redesignation of the United States Naval Reserve to the United States Navy Reserve.

### February 1, 2011

Navy Reserve Force end strength is 64,766. Reserve Sailors providing global operational support is 17,279. There are 125 Navy Operational Support Centers.



# U.S. NAVY RESERVE FORCE MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS 1973-2011



Richard P. Johnson  
Aug 1973 - Aug 1975



Joseph Lalley  
Aug 1975 - Aug 1976



Harvey L. Murphy  
Aug 1976 - Jun 1979



Don W. McDow  
Jun 1979 - Jul 1981



Kenneth L. Gallaher  
Aug 1981 - Jun 1985



Larry L. Sorenson  
Jun 1985 - Sep 1988



Jeffrey A. Brody  
Sep 1988 - Oct 1992



Paul R. Gauthe  
Oct 1992 - Jun 1995



Michael Krbec  
Jun 1995 - Apr 1998



Christopher C. Glennon  
Apr 1998 - Jul 2001



Tom W. Mobley  
Jul 2001 - Jun 2005



David R. Pennington  
Jun 2005 - Jun 2008



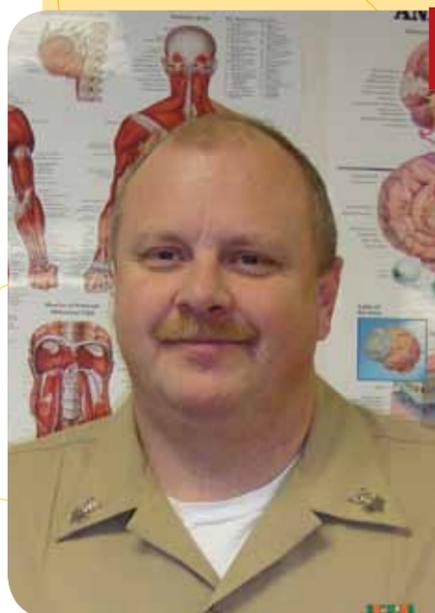
Ronney A. Wright  
Jun 2008 - Jun 2011



**NAVY RESERVE**  
*Ready Now. Anytime. Anywhere.*

# PROFILE IN PROFESSIONALISM

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. To nominate a Sailor, e-mail the editor, [james.vorndran@navy.mil](mailto:james.vorndran@navy.mil), for a submission form. Please include a high-resolution (300 dpi) 5"x7" digital photo of the candidate.



**Billy Joe Heap**  
HOSPITAL CORPSMAN 1ST CLASS

**Hometown:** Sioux Falls, S.D.

**NOSC:** Sioux Falls

**Unit:** Operational Health Support Unit Det. R Bremerton

**Brief description of your Navy job:** I was the leading petty officer of OSHU Det R. I have recently transferred to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 14. I conduct monthly physicals and ensure dental readiness for deploying Reserve Sailors. I am responsible for unit training in corpsman basics and CPR. I coordinate training using SINMAN—a computerized mannequin

that simulates breathing, heart rhythm, and medical emergencies that could take place in the human body.

**Brief description of your civilian job:** I am a paramedic with Rural Metro Ambulance, Sioux Falls, S.D. I respond to 911 emergency calls and transfer patients to and from medical facilities. I am a field training officer and conduct training in advanced cardiac life support, pediatric advanced life support, prehospital trauma life support, certified emergency vehicle operations.

**What has been your greatest Navy achievement?** First would be my promotion to HM1. A very close second would be going to sea on both the USNS Mercy in 2008 and the USNS Comfort in 2009. The humanitarian effort these ships put forth affects literally thousands of individuals in need. Serving on these ships in under-privileged countries was both an eye opening and rewarding opportunity. The living conditions and medical problems the individuals living in these areas face is as bad as, if not worse, than media has portrayed. The

ability to help them was an extremely daunting task. We would arrive on site and have thousands waiting for our help. The task to see them all seemed insurmountable. Yet each day, Sailors and civilians banded together to administer care. There were a few instances where we might have fallen slightly short of that goal simply due to time constraints. The countries were so thankful for the help.

**Who has been your biggest influence since joining the Navy?** It is hard to put a single name to this answer. There have been several people at the NOSC in Sioux Falls who have been instrumental in furthering my career both professionally and personally. It's a group of people who care about their shipmates and assist in any way possible with or without being asked. A few individuals would be Chief Baruth (Ret), Cmdr. Muldbakken, Cmdr. Chris Rossing, Capt. Isaacson and HM2 Axsom.

**What do you enjoy most about the Navy?** Being a part of creating history. The long history has helped form this country to what it has become today. Our generation has the opportunity to expound on that history and write our own history to pass onto our children. (The travel ain't bad either).

**Most interesting place visited since joining the Navy?** The Islands of Micronesia. They are filled with World War II history such as the caves where Japanese hid their search planes in and the piers the Japanese had constructed. The sites and sounds there were very intriguing and full of educational value.

**Current hobbies:** Spending quality time with wife, daughter and son. Downhill and cross-country skiing, weight lifting and riding my 1996 Harley Davidson Road King.

# New Navy Reserve Force Master Chief Selected

Written by Capt. ROBERT DURAND, COMMANDER, NAVY RESERVE FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS



▲ Vice Adm. Dirk Debbink, Commander, Navy Reserve Force, Command Master Chief Christopher Wheeler and Navy Reserve Force Master Chief (FMF) Ronney Wright.

The next Navy Reserve Force master chief was announced by the chief of the Navy Reserve Jan. 6.

Chief of Navy Reserve Vice Adm. Dirk Debbink announced that Command Master Chief Christopher T. Wheeler was selected as the next Navy Reserve Force master chief.

Wheeler will relieve Navy Reserve Master Chief (FMF) Ronney Wright as Navy Reserve Force master chief in June 2011.

"Command Master Chief Wheeler was chosen for this important job from a group of highly motivated, professional and qualified candidates," said Debbink. "I will rely on his insight and counsel to ensure that our Sailors, their families and their civilian employers have what they need to carry out our mission and to live up to our Navy Reserve Force motto - 'Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere.'"

Wheeler's focus as force master chief will be taking care of the Navy Reserve Sailors he works for.

"Taking care of Sailors is what this job is all about, and Master Chief Wheeler is a deckplate leader who knows and cares deeply for our Sailors," said Wright. "Serving in this job is a tremendous honor and an awesome responsibility. Command Master Chief Wheeler is eager to take on this challenge."

Stewardship to the citizen-Sailors who man the Reserve Force is high on Wheelers priorities.

"I believe this job is about being an honest steward for the Navy Reserve Force, and I pledge my stewardship to Vice Adm. Debbink and all of our Navy Reserve Sailors," said Wheeler.

Wheeler currently serves as the command master chief of Naval Air Force Reserve and as staff command master chief for Naval Air Force.

The Navy Reserve Force master chief is responsible for advising the chief of Navy Reserve on matters affecting the morale, retention, Sailor development and general well-being of the 53,000 enlisted personnel of the Navy Reserve. The force master chief is also charged with ensuring active communications throughout the force and instilling a sense of heritage and active support of Navy core values to all Sailors.

Wheeler will be the 14th Navy Reserve Force master chief. The mission of the Navy Reserve is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to our Navy and Marine Corps team, and Joint forces, from peace to war.

# The Adversary Role in Total Force Heritage

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist RYAN HILL, CNRFC PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Members of VFA 204 “River Rattlers” squadron conduct daily maintenance procedures on an FA-18 Super Hornet aircraft.

If you were to talk about the Navy Reserve’s contribution to total force heritage, it would be difficult to have the conversation without mentioning Navy Reserve Strike Fighter squadrons. Reserve fighter squadrons typically provide a different kind of role than their active-duty counterparts. Usually playing an adversary role, Reserve squadrons provide realistic air-to-air and air-to-surface combat training for the fleet. This means more often than not, their job is to act as the enemy in the sky, giving active-duty ships and aircraft a simulated air threat. This ensures active-duty pilots are well prepared when sent to actual combat missions.

Unique among the adversary squadrons is Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 204, operating out of Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, New Orleans, La. Known as the “River Rattlers,” this FA-18/A Hornet squadron is the only adversary command that also trains for “blue” scenarios. Meaning they also train as the “good guys” filling in where needed in the fleet. This type of dual capability keeps them continually active—supporting the fleet in various ways throughout the year.

“We deploy roughly every other month, to support eight detachments a year. We’re mission ready. Our Sailors are ready to deploy and provide training to fleet squadrons,” said VFA 204 Executive Officer, Cmdr. Greg Rielly.

Making this dually capable squadron run are dually capable Reserve Sailors. VFA 204 is largely supported by selected Reserve (SELRES) Sailors who bring their civilian job skills into the squadron. There are maintenance specialists who work as maintenance controllers in their civilian jobs, computer programmers who work on the River Rattlers software programs, while some intelligence specialists work as civilians for the Department of Homeland Security.

“The integration between our full time support (FTS) and SELRES is seamless,” said VFA 204 Command Master Chief (AW) John Harlin. “That’s the way it should be. Our Reservists bring a lot to the table. For example, we have a SELRES chief who works as a defense contractor in his civilian job. He’s able to bring that experience to his Reserve position making us a stronger squadron.”

With VFA 204 constantly on deployments, the 40 SELRES in the squadron have plenty of opportunity to get annual training (AT) and active duty training (ADT). This ensures the River Rattlers are highly skilled, regardless of whether they are full or part-time Sailors.

Many of the SELRES of VFA 204 go beyond 48 annual drills and two weeks of AT to support the River Rattler’s mission. There is a family atmosphere among those in the squadron, providing Sailors a strong drive to commit themselves to the mission.

“Last year, I went on three deployments with the squadron,” said Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd Class (AW) Emily Seal. “The learning curve is short and there’s so much to do, it’s impossible not to learn. There are so many qualifications to get so there’s always something you can put on your evaluation. Since it’s an integrated



A VFA 204 FA/18 Super Hornet aircraft with a retro paint job celebrating 100 years of naval aviation.

squadron, the SELRES learn more effectively. It's very encouraging because they really promote professional development, so being with this command helps with advancement."

Beyond the importance of increased job knowledge for better advancement opportunities, is the fact that doing their jobs well, ensures the safety of the pilots and the people who train with them. The unsung heroes of VFA 204 include the many FTS and SELRES Sailors who perform maintenance on all the aircrafts' systems. Sailors such as Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Cassie Zanders, whose responsibilities include working on the aircraft's ejection seats.

"We help save lives," said Zanders. "The FTS and SELRES work together pretty well for that. Whenever something is needed to be done, we do it."

The Reserve Sailors of the River Rattlers are proud to add their influence to the total force heritage. They do it day by day with their top-notch job performance. Recently they showed a visual representation of the pride they have in the River Rattler's part in total force heritage. To celebrate the 100-year milestone of Navy aviation this year, the River Rattlers painted one of their aircraft to resemble the paint jobs Navy aircraft received in the early days of aviation.

This type of credit towards the Navy aviation history shows the pride VFA 204 has contributing to total force heritage, and the work River Rattler's Sailors contribute today shows their efforts toward the continuing growth of this heritage.

▼ Members of VFA 204's maintenance team: (R to L) Aviation Electronics Technician Airman Mariah Lemaster, Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Dominic Herring and Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Kyle Arnold.



# A Different Kind of Adversary Exercise for an Adversary Pilot

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist RYAN HILL, CNRFC PUBLIC AFFAIRS



It's in the vast, open area of Fallon, Nevada, where another adversary squadron conducts their missions. Fighter Squadron Composite (VFC) 13 is there, and their mission is simple: train fleet pilots to be the best.



VFC 13, also known as the “Saints,” has some of the most experienced pilots in the world. The majority of these Reserve pilots serve as commercial airline pilots in their civilian jobs. When they support and work at their Reserve job, they have a single focus – act as adversaries to active-duty pilots training for combat missions. Aircrew from the Saints are the best around. They help train active-duty pilots in a variety of ways—including training the fleet’s best pilots at TOPGUN. The Saints fly the F-5 aircraft, which helps add realism to the training.

“We provide a dissimilar aircraft,” said Cmdr. Craig Sorensen, a selected Reserve pilot with the Saints. “For a normal fleet squadron, they fly against other aircraft in their own squadron. It’s more realistic for them to be out operating against dissimilar aircraft for more realistic training.”

The “Ready Now. Any time, Anywhere” level of training the Saints provide for the rest of the fleet is occasionally done internally, as well. Sorensen received a lesson on being prepared for anything one cold recent morning during what he thought would be a normal training exercise. As he walked toward his aircraft to participate in a typical adversary training scenario, he and another Reserve pilot were pulled aside - there would be a change of plans.

“They drove us out to a place called Grimes Point where we were dropped off, simulating an ejection from our aircraft,” said Sorensen. “We were out there and going to be rescued by a helicopter, so we had our signaling gear ready to go. The helicopter came in and landed and the air crewman came in and assessed the situation. I had a simulated broken leg, so I had to be hoisted up onto the helicopter with a cable.”

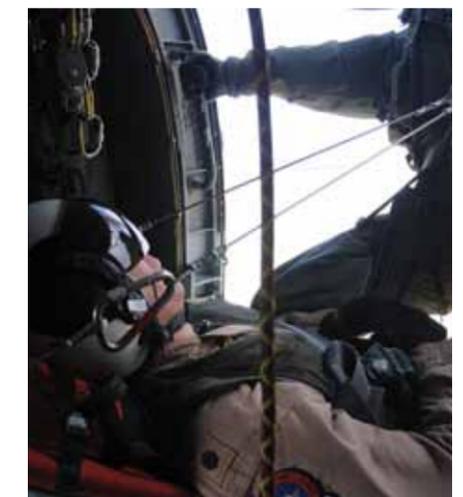
The helicopter was airborne when the helicopter crew began to bring up Sorensen, who was strapped to a stretcher connected to the winching cable. Dangling from the helicopter as it flew away from the area, Sorensen could do nothing but spin helplessly in the stretcher while being slowly winched up into the aircraft. The cold wind whipped at Sorensen as he dangled from the helicopter in temperatures below freezing. When Sorensen made it into the flying helicopter, his face showed the effects of the frigid temperatures while being flown through the air on a cold day.

As part of an adversary squadron that helps train the rest of the fleet to be prepared for anything, this learning opportunity was not lost on Sorensen.

“They’re trying to bring home the point that in a rescue scenario such as this, you’re going to be cold,” said Sorensen. “Even if you are well prepared and outfitted with cold weather gear, you still feel the harsh weather.”



Photos (previous page and this page): Members of NAS Fallon’s search and rescue team conduct a recovery exercise in the Nevada desert with pilots from VFC 13.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



## ANCHORS IN THE DIRT

PART 13

MCC Brian Naranjo



Chief Mass Communication Specialist Brian Naranjo enlisted in the Navy in Dec. 1990 and is a graduate of the Defense Information School. While on active duty he was stationed in Guam and Japan. Naranjo earned his anchors Sept. 16, 2002. He has been mobilized twice since Sept. 11, 2001, serving in Chinhae, Republic of Korea and Kabul, Afghanistan. Naranjo has written two novels, and resides in Manhattan, Kan. with his wife and two children.

One of my favorite Bible verses is part of a collage that hangs on the wall in my home office. It reads, “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.”

More than a year had crawled, walked, ran and then flown by. After the full range of seasons on the calendar, came the season I’d dreamed and prayed about.

It was the season of sweet reunion and relief. Looking back at those final moments of separation, I see me walking off that small airplane in my dirty, faded soldier’s uniform, crossing the bridge (both physical and metaphorical) to safe familiarity. Seeing the faces of my friends and family. Oh, that sweet anticipation as I waited for all those people to get their luggage out of the overhead compartments.

The word homecoming has such a wonderful, tear-jerking ring to it. I still get choked up when my mind’s eye replays the faces of the dozen or so who came to greet me at the small Manhattan, Kan. airport. They even brought homemade signs and balloons! The three most important faces in that crowd? My wife and our two children, of course.

The scene marked a culmination of a difficult and extremely challenging season. But

suddenly I was home. Weary, damaged and ragged, but home. There were hugs, kisses and tears.

Ironically, it was not all that different from my farewell dinner in Afghanistan—minus the kisses, of course. But aside from the warm camaraderie and fellowship of those with whom I served, I experienced my darkest days in Afghanistan. I hope to never smell the air of that place, feel the dull, clumsy weight of a Kevlar helmet and Interceptor body armor, or fear the threat of a roadside bomb again.

An M16A2 rifle weighs about 14 pounds, and some days I can still feel its downward pointed barrel slapping against my butt when I walk, slung for chow. The last three digits of my issued rifle were 6-2-8, coincidentally

**AFTER THE FULL RANGE OF SEASONS ON THE CALENDAR, CAME THE SEASON I’D DREAMED AND PRAYED ABOUT.**

the same numbers that correspond to my daughter’s birth month and day. I wonder who has my rifle now? I hope they are taking good care of it. Sometimes after a bad dream, I wake up, covered in sweat, reaching for it. That’s kind of strange, because after desert training in Kuwait, I never fired my rifle again. But I am told post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is funny like that.

The significant weight of a deployment isn’t only felt downrange. For more than a year, my kids were without a father. My wife was a single parent, juggling a full-time job with wrestling meets, doctor appointments, school activities, family meals and the minor crises associated with raising two teenage children. On top of that, she sent me a package every week. Every single week. And yes, I cried like a baby when I received the first one.

I have come to realize a year-long deployment is really a two-year, two-part process. After that sweet homecoming honeymoon period, things don’t just snap back to the way they are remembered. People change and grow—particularly teenage kids. Both the Sailor and family have a fair set of baggage to go through after all those hugs and kisses level out.

In Afghanistan, there’s nothing more precious than “Me Time.” For this Sailor, that Me Time



▲ L: Sign at the entrance to the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Headquarters complex in Kabul. R: One of the many bunkers at ISAF Headquarters.



was about two hours before going to sleep after work. I would quietly arrive back to my luxury CONEX box or tent (I lived in both during different stages of my deployment), put on the headphones and watch a movie or television shows on my computer, read a book, or just blare some loud music into my brain. That time was precious, and people left me alone. I did the same for them during their “me time.” Everyone knew and respected each other’s limited privacy.

One night, I remember finding myself alone in the tent. It was around 7 p.m., and all my tent mates were either still at work, out doing PT, or at chow. I showered, came back to my small bed, put on the headphones and lay back, letting the music work out the kinks of another long day. I guess about 45 minutes went by. I was quite relaxed.

Suddenly, the door of our dwelling flew open, and an Army captain was standing in the doorway, yelling and gesturing at me. I couldn’t hear a dadgummed thing he said, but noticed he was decked out in the latest body armor fashions. Finally, I took off the headphones, and realized he was saying, “ROCKET ATTACK,

CHIEF! GET TO THE TERMINAL NOW!!!!” I shook my head, said a couple of unprintable words, hopped up, nodded in affirmative to the officer, threw on my shower shoes, grabbed my rifle and headed to the terminal, which was the only hardened building nearby.

Wasn’t I freaked out a mortar had landed just 50 feet from my tent? Sure, a little. But hell, they missed didn’t they? Leave me alone! That’s my Me Time!

On another day, I stood outside with my Army Sgt; a motivated young guy who could have a bright future. I was offering him some deckplate leadership that may have included some polite suggestions from me on how he might improve his attitude. I was right in the middle of this discussion with my young non-commissioned officer, when BOOM, we were both nearly knocked off our feet from a large explosion very close by.

No gunfire or other explosions immediately followed, and I considered what to do next. “Sgt. O” looked at me, and I shrugged, then we got back to business. “See Sgt. O, you gotta get it to together.” He good-naturedly nodded

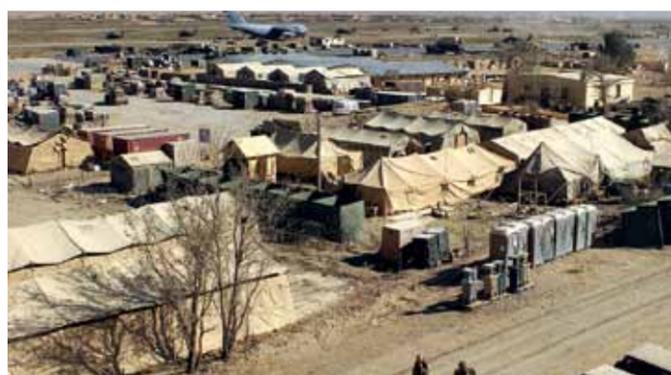
his head. We simply ignored the fact a mortar round had just blown up so close to “home,” and continued our discussion. The Taliban wasn’t invited to our mentor session out there on the porch, and I would be darned if they were going to make me lose my train of thought.

The most scared I have ever been in my life was when my guys were out on the road during a suicide bomber attack on multiple targets in the city. When we heard and felt some of those explosions, my heart tried to escape through my throat. After realizing the futility of trying to reach the drivers by cell phone or radio for a sanity/accountability check (due to the electronic jamming equipment used to impede using phones as trigger devices), I hauled butt out to the North gate. I impatiently waited behind some sandbags with some very motivated (and very heavily armed) Belgian soldiers manning their post. We kept our eyes open for bad guys and friendly vehicles incoming, and eventually my guys showed up safe and sound, albeit understandably a little rattled (like their chief).

These are the memories I brought home with me. The fact that those memories bother me



▼ L: Instructors simulate a rocket-propelled grenade attack on Sailors during a convoy exercise. R: Bagram Air Base.



◀ Chief Mass Communication Specialist Brian Naranjo poses on the back of an Afghan National Army pick-up truck with Cmdr. Benjamin Nicholson, commander of Provincial Reconstruction Team Farah Province, Afghanistan, during a fact-finding patrol.

has me seeking treatment from the Veteran’s Administration (VA). Contrary to popular stereotype, there are some good caregivers at the VA, and they are helping me get through part two of my deployment to Afghanistan.

Like so many before me, I tried to just get back to business right after I came home. But after several months and a number of postcards in the mail prompting me to do so, I finally filled out the post deployment health re-assessment questionnaire, which is required for Reservists returning from deployment.

Immediately after coming home, I went to my civilian family doctor for issues with my lower back, directly related to my time in Afghanistan. I just trusted her more than the reputation of the VA system, and was willing to pay for her care.

However, the diagnosis and treatment of my back became really expensive, really quick; and I reasoned that taking the online questionnaire, doing the follow-up phone interviews, and seeing some government doctors would give my Uncle Sam a chance to fix it. But it turns out my back may be the least of my short-term problems. Today I’ll tell you with a grimace and a yawn that the system is working for me, though it is a long, long process.

What caused my PTSD? Was it the suicide bomber that blew me out of bed? Was it the trip to a site where people had violently died, and the grisly images my professional eye captured with my camera? Was it simply the daily tally of

coalition deaths? Maybe all of the above, and then some. Honestly, I don’t give a crap. I just want to put all this behind me, sort of. Some of it. Most of it.

At my farewell dinner, I tried to express my thoughts on that year of my life that my comrades and I had spent together. I said some pretty funny stuff, good-naturedly roasted a few good friends, and then I got serious.

I expressed to those people, some who were in their first week of their year-long journey, the importance of not selling yourself short; to always, ALWAYS do your best; and never be the weak link in the chain. I wanted to be the guy who could be depended on to get it done, in a room full of people with the same motivation. Looking back that night, my knees buckled as I realized it was all almost over. Finished. Single Digit Midget! Short! And I hadn’t let myself or others down. I hadn’t quit. I’d made it through without compromising my work ethic, integrity or resolve to contribute fully. It is amazing to me the quality of those Sailors, soldiers, Marines and airmen who serve so well, and with such pride, in adverse conditions, every single day.

What amazes me more, is there’s not a Sailor serving today who hasn’t enlisted or re-enlisted without understanding the current ongoing need for our service on that side of the world. As I write this, the rotating schedule continues. There are Sailors on active duty, being issued gear and preparing to leave the borders of the

United States; there are those with freshly-issued orders getting their home affairs taken care of; and there are those already in Iraq and Afghanistan, preparing to wrap things up and come home. There are literally tens of thousands of our Reserve shipmates who have deployed, or are getting ready to re-deploy. And they keep on coming. Gives me goose bumps.

Afghanistan will always be a part of me. Always. And the people with whom I worked will always be close to my mind and heart. Any of my fellow cohorts reading this are welcome for a nice visit to Naranjo Manor anytime. And I promise to serve you something better than microwave food and Coke Zero. That’s an inside joke; just one of many that make me smile.

As I write this, I see that same biblical quote in the framed collage on my wall. And I know that it’s time to close this season of columns.

But, before I put the cap on the pen, I would like to say thanks to the editorial staff at TNR magazine for their support and encouragement these past 16 months. Thanks especially to my CPO brother Jim Vorndran for approaching me about doing a column, way back when. Also, thanks to you, the reader; you, the Sailor; you, the family member. You are what makes our Navy community what it is today. Hoorah! Thank you, shipmates!

# 'Bees in the Box

Story and photos by  
Chief Mass Communication Specialist  
Terrina Weatherspoon

So now that I was an official Bee, with my pocket embroidered and everything, I made it my mission to learn as much about being a Bee as possible. But being a Bee wasn't nearly as interesting as learning about those who have already been Bees. Have I lost you?

Until this point the only real contact I had with Seabees was occasionally walking by a group of them while they were hard at work; or seeing a logo that identified something as being built by some construction battalion. But I looked at them as a whole and never as the sum of their parts. That changed when I met Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Nick Seiber.

On the outside the 24 year old is 6 feet 3 inches and weighs about 230 pounds. He's a big guy. His eyes are bluer than most skies on the clearest of days. You should know that I am not trying to sell him. Trust me when I say he's loud, and he sells himself.

I really started talking to Seiber one day while at the rifle range. I was listening to music, he approached and asked what I was listening to. "A little bit of everything," I replied.

He handed me his player and I began looking through his songs. I was surprised to see a large variety of religious music. There was other stuff in there - rap, rock and even Vanilla Ice, but a large part of his playlist was dedicated to songs that dedicated themselves to God.



"Don't worry," he said. "A lot of people look at me and assume."

I could only imagine what they assumed. But I'm sure no one would assume this guy had hopes of becoming an active-duty chaplain. But he does. They might assume he was a young kid who liked to drink, party and get in trouble.

They would be right, in a way.

As he put it, when he was younger, he was running from his calling because knowing you are meant to serve God is a lot of pressure. He didn't yet have his own answers, so how could he have someone else's? So before joining the ministry, he decided to join the Navy Reserve to clean up his act. And it worked.

He has advanced to E-5 in less than three years and was the regiment's Sailor of the Quarter for the second quarter. He started a fitness program for the regiment immediately after touching ground in Afghanistan. He also doesn't like doing anything unless he's sure he can do it well.

Did I mention he can sing?

He was humming next to me that day on the range and occasionally hitting a few high notes. He noticed me staring and apologized, afraid he was disturbing me. He wasn't. It wasn't the fact he could sing I found interesting. It was that he sang in a classical, almost opera-like, way that intrigued me. His range was as large as his collection of religious music.

We talked a lot that day. We talked about his beautiful girlfriend he plans to marry. We talked about his job in the Navy, which is currently "embark." (A person of the landing force who advises the commander on matters pertaining to embarkation planning and loading.) We also talked about his job outside the Navy as a landscaper.

I asked him why he chose the Navy as his service of choice and he said it was because he figured he'd have the least likely chance of ending up in Afghanistan. I had to laugh.

As I observe him now on deployment I can see he's getting closer to becoming the person he wants to be. He's quick to offer help and he's honest. I see bars in his future, and not the kind that serve beverages.



▲ Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Nick Seiber and Intelligence Specialist Wes Ferguson take a break from tent tear-down in Gulfport, Miss.

◀ Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Nick Seiber.

MCC Terrina Weatherspoon left active duty as a Chief in January 2008 after 13 years of service, and affiliated with the Navy Reserve in March of 2009. She is currently deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan with the Third Naval Construction Regiment "The Leaders" out of Marietta, Ga. The regiment heads up Task Force Keystone, one of the largest engineering efforts in Afghanistan.

# RC PHONE DIRECTORY

If any information in this Navy Reserve RC Phone Directory is in error, please E-mail the editor at [james.vorndran@navy.mil](mailto:james.vorndran@navy.mil) with the correction.



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