

***Greeting Shipmates!***

***I am currently visiting some of our units here in Hawaii. I had an all hands call with Sailors from the USS Crommelin, VR- 51 and ETD Pacific. I cannot help but to be impressed with their professionalism, attitude and leadership. Each command is fully engaged and fully ready to provide support wherever and whenever needed. They are truly living examples of what it means to be "Ready Now. Anytime, Anywhere!"***

***I also had the opportunity to address 44 Chief Select's at the kick off of the 5<sup>th</sup> convening of the USS Missouri CPO Legacy Academy. Just like the USS Constitution, these Chief Selects will spend the week aboard this mighty Battleship learning leadership lessons and participating in CPO Heritage projects.***

***From Chief Selects to the young Sailor with six months, all are true professionals! It was an honor to meet with and talk about current issues and receive feedback on what we can do better. Thanks Shipmates, and as I always say:***

***Remember, you matter! Make a positive impact on someone's life today!***

**Latest Updates**

***Application Window Opens for Reenlistment Bonuses.*** The Navy released an updated selective reenlistment bonus award plan Aug. 22 in Navy administrative message (NAVADMIN) 253/11 which officially opens the application window for Sailors to seek those benefits in fiscal year 2012.

While the Navy has 31 overmanned ratings there are 91 specific critical skills that use SRBs as a special incentive pay to help meet critical skill reenlistment benchmarks. The intent of the SRB is to reward those who attain special training in skills most critical to current needs and mission requirements.

"We continue to provide incentives for our most critical skills and top-performing Sailors. However, constant review and occasional change is required to ensure the program is as efficient and effective as possible," said Rear Adm. Tony Kurta, director, military personnel plans and policy. "This update will continue to maximize retention behavior in our most critical skills within the constraints of our budget."

The changes contained in this update include the return of five skills that were removed in a previous update due to reaching their FY11 reenlistment quotas, while four skills were deleted from the Intelligence Specialist (IS) rating. All other SRB award levels remain unchanged from NAVADMIN 166/11, released in May 2011.

The quota management policy established in NAVADMIN 166/11 is still in effect and requires Navy Personnel Command's (PERS 811) approval of SRB requests based upon the availability of reenlistment quotas. Sailors should be aware that within 30 days of a particular skill reaching the needed quota for reenlistments, a "shutdown date" is posted on the PERS-811 webpage of the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) website.

**PRIMS 2011 Streamlines Physical Readiness Reporting.** The Navy has released a new version of Physical Readiness Information Management System (PRIMS), updating the Web-based application used to manage physical fitness data of more than 340,000 active-duty and Reserve Sailors, officials said Aug. 22.

"PRIMS 2011 was designed with user-friendliness in mind, and incorporates physical readiness program policy changes announced in the past year," said Bill Moore, director, Navy Physical Readiness Program. "We worked with developers and took Sailor input into consideration when we updated the program application to create PRIMS 2011."

The new version features a disconnected option for command fitness leaders (CFL) who may have limited connectivity. "The disconnected option is a great benefit for command fitness leaders at sea," said Moore.

The new version will allow CFLs to download a spreadsheet and save it to a computer in their work center. The CFL can populate the data during deployment as they conduct their physical fitness assessment (PFA) cycle and then upload the information when they return to an operating area with the required bandwidth, according to Moore.

**Joining Forces Community Challenge.** Dr. Biden and the First Lady announced it a couple weeks ago. It's a way to reward the great projects people are already doing to support military families - in base communities or elsewhere. Hoping to get a large pool of submissions so we can reward some great projects - the winners will be announced at the end of the year, and they will be recognized by Dr. Biden and the First Lady in Washington in early 2012. This initiative will also help us reach into communities that you all know so well to get our finger on the pulse of what people and small organizations are doing to support military families.

You can nominate a person or group here: <http://joiningforces.challenge.gov>

People can also submit their own projects, but so often the folks doing this work don't seek any recognition for themselves. So, please nominate people you think are deserving and pass the prize site on to others who may deserve - or know people who deserve - recognition!

### **Family programs exist to assist and empower our Reserve leaders to care for service members.**

#### ***Federal Department of Veterans Affairs:***

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs is a federal government agency. VA is the second largest cabinet-level agency behind the Department of Defense. The primary function of VA is to provide veterans' benefits to eligible military veterans and service members.

#### ***State Departments of Veterans Affairs:***

In addition to your federal VA benefits, individual states offer completely separate and additional state benefits to veteran residents and/or their dependents. State veterans' benefits and eligibility requirements vary by state. Visit <http://www.nasdva.net/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=14> to learn more about benefits available in each state.



### **County Veterans Services Officers:**

County Veterans Services Officers provide assistance to veterans, their family members, and/or survivors with obtaining any county, state, and federal benefits that they may be entitled to based on military service. To locate a County Veterans Services Officer, visit <http://www.nacvso.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=10>

### **Campus Veteran Services Offices:**

Many college and university campuses have a "veteran affairs" or "veteran services" office to assist veteran students.

**The First Tee National Guard and Reserve Program.** A Nationwide Free Life Skills and Golf Instruction Program for Children of the National Guard and Reserves. Locate your nearest chapter of The First Tee at [www.thefirsttee.org](http://www.thefirsttee.org).

**Navy Reserve Policy Board Issue Submission.** Every Sailor has the opportunity to participate in shaping policies which guide our Reserve Force. The Navy Reserve Policy Board (NRPB) meets in Norfolk to address issues provided from the field. The Policy board reviews issues throughout the year and is your direct line of communication to the Force policy makers. Electronic inputs are the preferred method and can be emailed to [NRPB@navy.mil](mailto:NRPB@navy.mil). For initial inputs, a blank issue submission form and additional guidance is available on the NRWS (private side). Just click on the link below. Thank you for your input and bringing Deckplate issues to senior Navy Leadership.  
<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n5/Shared%20Documents/n5a.aspx>

### **The Weekly NR Employment Scorecard:**

<https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/3447B/n3/NR%20Employment%20for%20OCNR/Forms/AllItems.aspx>

### **August Ready Now! Newsletter:**

<http://www.navyreserve.navy.mil/Ready%20Now/Shared%20Documents/Newsletter.aspx>

### **Administrative Procedures for Navy Reservists [BUPERSINST 1001.39F](#)**

### **Administrative Procedures for the Drilling Reserve and Participating Members of the Individual Ready Reserve [COMNAVRESFORINST 1001.5F](#)**

Please use the above links if you have any questions regarding Administrative Policy. Make sure you are up to date regarding any changes to current policy regarding your Sailors!

### **NAVADMIN**

252/11 [VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS CHANGE OF OFFICE](#)

253/11 [SELECTIVE REENLISTMENT BONUS UPDATE](#)

254/11 [FY-12 SCHEDULE FOR SENIOR ENLISTED LEADERSHIP COURSE](#)

256/11 [ORDER TO ACCOUNT FOR THE NAVY FAMILY](#)

### **Around the Force**

**Flight Navy Trainer Completes Biofuel Flight at Patuxent River.** The Navy's alternative energy program expanded Aug. 24 when a T-45 training aircraft completed a successful biofuel flight at Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River, Md.



The "Salty Dogs" of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 23 flew the high-performance jet trainer on a biofuel mixture of petroleum-based JP-5 jet fuel and plant-based camelina. The high oil content of the camelina seed makes it a valuable source of renewable and sustainable energy.

"This successful test flight brings us a step closer to meeting the Navy's energy security goals," said Vice Adm. David Architzel, commander, Naval Air Systems Command. "My congratulations to the Navy fuels team here at NAVAIR for playing an instrumental role in proving the viability of biofuels to power naval aircraft."

The T-45 "Goshawk" is a tandem-seat aircraft used by the Navy and Marine Corps to train pilots on carrier and tactical mission operations. This is the fifth aircraft successfully tested using biofuel at NAS Patuxent River and showcases the Navy's commitment to achieve energy independence by reducing the need for foreign oil. Previous aircraft tested include the F/18 E/F, MH-60S, F/A-18 D, and most recently, the MV-22. Navy Secretary Ray Mabus' goal is to cut the Navy's oil usage in half by 2025.

"This test of the T-45 with a 50/50 blend of biofuel represents another significant milestone in the long list of detailed flight test and demonstrations of the F-18 Super Hornet, the MH-60S, and the V-22," said Rear Adm. Phil Cullom, Director of the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division. "Our commitment to the aggressive test schedule for drop-in replacement fuels for JP-5 and F-76 keep us on pace for the 2012 demonstration and 2016 deployment of the Great Green Fleet."

Three additional Navy aircraft are scheduled for biofuel test flights before the end of the year. This initiative is one of many throughout the Navy and Marine Corps which will enable the Department of the Navy to achieve Secretary Ray Mabus' energy goals to improve our energy security and efficiency afloat and ashore, increase our energy independence, and help lead the nation toward a clean energy economy.

**This month in History:**

- Office of Naval Research was est. Aug 1, 1946.*
- Medical Service Corps est. Aug 4, 1947.*
- First atomic bomb dropped, Hiroshima, Japan Aug 6, 1945.*
- U.S. Naval Academy est. Aug 15, 1845.*
- Dental Corps est. Aug 22, 1912.*
- Marine Corps Reserve est. Aug 29, 1916.*
- BUMED est. Aug 31, 1842.*

**Event Outlook**

\* CPO Legacy Academy, HI (25-31 Aug)

<b>As of 26 August 2011:</b>			
<u>Operational Support Snapshot</u>		<u>RC Medical Readiness</u>	
FY11 Pres Bud End Strength	65,500	Fully Medically Ready:	86.0% (from 85.8%)
RC Sailors (FTS/SELRES) Onboard:	64,785	Partially Medically Ready:	4.0% (from 4.1%)
RC Sailors Performing Operational Support:	20,410	Total:	90.0% (from 89.9%)
RC Sailors Mobilized or Deployed:	4503		
RC CPOs Mobilized	719		
RC Flag Officers on Active Duty:	33		