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NAVAL SUPPLY SYSTEMS COMMAND

FLEET & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CENTER SAN DIEGO

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PPSO ready for peak moving season

Summer, the peak season for military household goods (HHG) move scheduling at the FISC San Diego Personnel Property Shipping Office, is fast approaching.

In an effort to more efficiently serve its customers, the San Diego PPSO is conducting counseling and application sessions for HHG moves by group appointment. "Due to the expected volume of moves from May through September, we are urging customers to make an appointment for a group counseling and application session as early as possible," said PPSO director Wayne Franklin. "It is anticipated that these sessions will fill to capacity very fast."

Because of space limitations, only the service member or spouse should attend the counseling and application session. "Attendance of both parties will be allowed only on a space available basis, said Franklin. "In addition, children cannot be allowed in the group sessions, so customers must arrange for childcare on the day of their appointment."

During the summer peak season, local commercial moving companies quickly become saturated and their capacity to accept moves on many peak summer days can be extremely limited. "Moving companies obligate their resources on a first come, first served basis, Franklin explained. "As a general rule, the last week of the month is the busiest time for moves. Our experience during previous summer peak seasons has shown that choice moving dates fill up very fast."

To avoid undue frustration for desired move dates, customers are encouraged to contact the PPSO as soon as possible after receipt of orders to schedule an appointment. "The PPSO requires as much time as possible, but no less than 30 days from the

date of counseling, to arrange a move," said Franklin. "To help better plan their move, we recommend that customers select a move date and two possible alternate dates."

Franklin stated that the FISC San Diego PPSO is committed to making household goods moves as smooth and efficient as possible. "Customers can schedule counseling and application appointments using our automated service by calling 619-556-MOVE and selecting option 3, then option 1. Or they can call our toll free number 1-888-216-5733 to access the automated system," he suggested.

Navy service members and their families can also arrange their HHG move over the Internet by using



SMARTWebMove. This user-friendly, Web-based program is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.smartwebmove.navsup.navy.mil.

General information on household goods and helpful topics for getting ready for a move are available on the FISC San Diego Web site home page at www.sd.fisc.navy.mil under Personal Property.

Smoking policy reminder

By Susan Civitillo, FISC Public Affairs

In accordance with the Navy and Marine Corps Tobacco Policy (SECNAV instruction 5100.13B), the Commander, Navy Region Southwest's Broadway Complex is a NO SMOKING installation, with the exception of one designated smoking area located behind building 1.

FISC San Diego employees are reminded that there is no smoking permitted on sidewalks, parking areas adjacent to building 1 and 12, or at any other location on the compound.

The Navy and Marine Corps Tobacco Policy prohibits smoking of tobacco products in all DON-controlled spaces except designated outdoor

areas. A DON-controlled space is defined as "any Navy or Marine Corps owned/controlled/leased/rented space, building, facility, floating unit, aircraft, or vehicle."

The policy is applicable to "all DON military and civilian personnel, including appropriated and non-appropriated fund employees, DON family members, visitors, volunteers, contractors and personnel of other agencies and businesses that operate or visit DON-controlled spaces."

It is the goal of FISC San Diego to provide a healthful working environment for all its employees and asks that smokers respect the concerns of non-smoking personnel and abide by the policy set forth by DON.

Editorial

During the last month we received visits from Rear Adm. William Maguire, Vice Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command; Mr. Jeff Orner, NAVSUP Executive Director; and Rear Adm. Michael Finley, Commander, Naval Inventory Control Point. We provided tours of segments of our operations and detailed presentations on overall operational status and significant issues. I believe all of these distinguished visitors left with a greater understanding of both the depth and quality of our day-to-day support to our Fleet and shore customers.

We are putting the finishing touches on our Activity Management Report (AMR) which will be presented at the next NAVSUP Corporate Board during the last week of April. The AMR is our annual update to NAVSUP Commander Rear Adm. Justin McCarthy. I will be sure to post this on the FISC San Diego Intranet Web site when completed.

The AMR presentation is structured to show how our primary actions are aligned with the NAVSUP strategic plan, discuss key metrics (especially those tied to our MEO efforts), highlight regional issues, illustrate how we support the Global Supply Chain, discuss the methods we use to obtain

customer feedback, and summarize our most significant initiatives and issues.

FISC San Diego has again received a community service award, the San Diego City Schools Exemplary Award for Partnership in Education. This award recognizes FISC San Diego's successful and valuable support to Roosevelt Middle School. For the many Sailors and employees who have donated their time, used books and other contributions, you should take great pride in this recognition. Your efforts are making a difference.

The new Commander, Navy Region Southwest, Rear Adm. Jose Luis Betancourt Jr., places a high priority on being constantly vigilant to force protection and security, ensuring contractors provide the level of support we have contracted for, and improving the general appearance and cleanliness of our bases and work spaces. I ask you to keep these priorities in mind as you conduct your duties.

Finally, our stellar executive officer, Capt. Rob Ritchie will be departing in early June to take command of DLA's major distribution and storage facility in



Capt. Ray Berube

Susquehanna, Pa. During his three years at FISC San Diego, he has made immense contributions to improving fleet support and Sailors' quality of life. I know he will do a superb job in command!

Please stay focused and keep safety and security at the forefront.

The Network

The Network is an authorized publication published bimonthly for the employees of the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, San Diego and its sites.

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Visit our web site at www.sd.fisc.navy.mil.



Photo by Rod Rodriguez

While visiting FISC San Diego April 2-4, Jeffery Orner, NAVSUP Executive Director, "flew" an F/A-18 during a tour of Naval Air Depot North Island.

Non-Monetary Award Program changes

As many of you are aware, we are in the process of changing our corporate FISC San Diego logo to the new Naval Supply Systems Command / FISC San Diego Single Enterprise logo. Our target for completion of this project is May 2002. Included in this change is the requirement to update our inventory of non-monetary awards displaying our new Single Enterprise logo.

At the same time, we are undertaking an effort to update our Non-Monetary Award Program to ensure this important and valuable employee recognition program is efficient and viable for the long term.

Under our Non-Monetary Award Program many of you have been awarded non-monetary awards in recognition of your outstanding contributions to the accomplishment of FISC San Diego's mission. Some, however, have not yet turned in their certificate and selected their award.

As we carry an inventory with our existing logo, good business practice dictates that we consume this inventory before we order any new items. In order to use up this inventory, we must restrict awards to the inventory on-hand when your certificate was issued.

Effective March 23, all personnel who presently have a non-monetary award will have 60 days in which to redeem their certificate, meaning that May 23, 2002 will be the last day to redeem certificates awarded prior to March 23.

All future non-monetary awards will be issued with numbered certificates. New certificates will additionally include an expiration date 90 days from the date of award, allowing ample time to redeem the well-earned award while having the added benefits of efficiency of operations and maintaining effective program controls, and thereby ensuring

this great program will be with us for many years to come.

Currently there is a great selection of sweatshirts, polo shirts, and many other great mementos for recognizing your outstanding efforts supporting FISC San Diego and our customers.

Please contact Mary Ellen Tejada

at 532-4703 for additional selections and information.

The Non-Monetary Award Catalog, visually displaying award items, is located on the FISC San Diego Intranet Web site at <https://Intranet.sd.fisc.navy.mil/index.html>. On the home page, click on the Non-Monetary Award icon in the left column.

ATM-at-Sea/Navy cash program transfers to FISC

By Susan Civitillo
FISC Public Affairs

On April 8, the ATMs-At-Sea and Navy Cash system support function officially transferred from Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command to FISC San Diego. The personnel, one civilian and one DKC, are co-located at building 116 with the Logistics Support Center, but fall under FISC San Diego's Customer Services department.

It is the responsibility of the ATM/Navy Cash Fleet Support Team to support the afloat community for ATM issues, implementation and training. If there is a problem with any of the ATM machines, hardware or software, the ATM/Navy Cash Fleet Support Group is there to troubleshoot and help resolve the problem. "We are on call 24/7," explained DKC Nilo Nunez, "they even call me at home."

Dating back to 1988, the ATMs-At-Sea program was developed by NAVSUP as a quality-of-life enhancement for Sailors and Marines aboard ship who receive their pay electronically. The ATMs

are highly reliable and accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It has eliminated pay lines and provides a secure place for cash.

The first online ATM transaction took place aboard the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) on Nov. 21, 1996 and today ATM machines are found on all Pacific Fleet ships except frigates and smaller ships.

The Navy Cash system evolved from the ATMs-at-Sea program and involves a new state-of-the-art debit card. Sailors and Marines would have capability to use the card to make purchases and to withdraw cash from ATM machines. Navy Cash is currently being prototyped aboard the USS *Rentz* (FFG 46) and the USS *Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6). If all goes well, fleet-wide implementation will begin this year.

For more information, contact San Diego Fleet Support Group personnel Arsenio Vergara and DKC Nilo Nunez at 443-1861, Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., or at 1-877-41-Touch on weekends and holidays.

DoD creating new all-service pay system

By Rudi Williams
American Forces Press Service

The Department of Defense (DoD) and the military services are getting rid of outdated personnel systems, business practices and personnel structures, but creating a new system will take time.

The jettisoned practices will make room for simple, accurate, accessible, timely and relevant Web-based systems for service members and their leaders. When the DoD fields the congressionally mandated Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System, or DIMHRS, sweeping changes will occur in the way personnel and pay are handled.

DoD is establishing one personnel and pay system for use by all the services. The project is a transformation effort; that is, one intended to provide the U.S. military with new defenses, new methods, new equipment and a different way of thinking.

As it stands today, the military services still have hundreds of "legacy systems" written in 1970s and 1980s computer languages that today's computers don't "speak," according to Army Reserve Maj. Gen. B. Sue Dueitt, who is overseeing the Army's implementation of the program.

For example, Dueitt said, the Army has separate personnel databases for active-duty enlisted, active-duty officers and Army Reservists and National Guard. They neither talk to each other nor to Air Force, Navy or Marine Corps systems, she noted.

Consequently, the general said, to keep track of Guard and Reserve personnel upon mobilization, their data must be combined with active Army data through a cumbersome process. If not done, she continued, warfighting commanders couldn't tell how many

FISC reserve units awarded the Leo V. Bilger Award

Congratulations to FISC San Diego reserve units NR FISCSD 319, Encino, Calif., and NR FISCSD 519, San Diego, Calif., for being named winners of the Leo V. Bilger Award. This award, named for the late Capt. Leo V. Bilger, a longtime leader in the Naval Reserve Association, is presented annually to those reserve units that achieve the highest levels of excellence in mission effectiveness.

NR FISCSD 319 is comprised of 23 members and commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Randall Ramian of Belmont, Calif. NR FISCSD 519 is comprised of 12 members and commanded by Capt. Jim Makofske of Fresno, Calif.

FISCSD reservists provide a surge capability under mobilization

conditions to assist in meeting the increased demands of fleet, shore and industrial commands for logistics, business and support services.

During other than mobilization conditions, they focus on providing contributory support while training for mobilization, by supporting FISC internal codes, partners and customers.

A primary focus for FISCSD reservists' contributory efforts is the direct support to fleet units at the waterfront. These efforts are coordinated through the FISCSD reserve coordinator, Mary Schuster, Code 80, and the Logistics Support representatives at FISC San Diego's Logistics Support Center.

active, Guard and Reserve personnel they have, their skills, their rotation dates and other details. Then the data must be re-separated when Reservists demobilize.

Navy Capt. Valerie Carpenter, program manager, said the Navy is the executive agent for DIMHRS, but the Army will be the first to implement the program.

DoD is footing most of the bills, but all the services will pay shares, such as for training and the detailed implementation, according to Dueitt, assistant Army deputy chief of staff for personnel for mobilization and Reserve affairs.

Norma St. Claire, director of DoD's Joint Requirements and Integration Office, said system development is scheduled to start in July 2002 with the Army starting testing in 2003. She said plans call for the Navy to be on board

in 2004, the Marine Corps sometime in 2005, and the Air Force last.

St. Claire said a key piece of DIMHRS is commercial software called PeopleSoft 8. When everything is in place, the application would allow service members to go onto the Internet at any time from anywhere to access personal information and take care of everything from administrative matters to pay issues, she said.

DIMHRS is an opportunity to consolidate personnel and pay activities instead of having separate offices in each service, St. Claire noted. It will also be a godsend for service members leaving the services.

"They'll no longer have to wait weeks or months to obtain information from DoD for Veterans Affairs benefits. Since DIMHRS is being designed to input data within 24 hours, the information will be available almost immediately," St. Claire pointed out.

OPM kicks off long-term care insurance program

By Brian Friel, GovExec.com

Federal employees, military personnel, retirees and their family members can sign up for long-term care insurance during an early enrollment period that started March 22. Office of Personnel Management officials announced.

Premiums for the long-term care insurance run from \$50 a year for workers under 30 to \$6,893 a year for 99-year-olds. The insurance covers nursing home stays and other types of day-to-day care for people with chronic illnesses or disabilities.

The early enrollment period, which runs to May 15, is aimed at people who are already familiar with long-term care insurance. OPM and Long-Term Care Partners, the Portsmouth, N.H.-based contractor that will administer the program, will not launch a major education campaign about the new benefit until the official open season,

which will run from July 1 to Dec. 31. People who don't know much about long-term care insurance should wait until the open season to enroll, officials said.

Paul Forte, CEO of Long-Term Care Partners, said the premiums available to federal employees are an average of 15 to 20 percent less expensive than premiums available to individuals on the open market. Lawmakers who sponsored the 2000 legislation that authorized the long-term care insurance program predicted at the time that premiums would cost 15 percent to 20 percent less.

According to the Health Insurance Association of America, the average annual premium for long-term care insurance for individuals is \$1,677. The average for employer-sponsored long-term care insurance is \$722. But long-term care insurance premiums can be difficult to compare because the benefits included vary from company to company.

Early enrollees in the federal long-term care insurance program will be able to pick a daily benefit amount (the amount of money available for care per day during a chronic illness or disability) of between \$50 and \$300 in \$25 increments; a benefit period of either three years or five years; and a waiting period for benefits to kick in of either 30 days or 90 days. Enrollees can also select an inflation protection option. A 55-year-old federal employee who signs up for a \$150 daily benefit amount, a three-year benefit period, a 90-day waiting period and inflation protection would pay an annual premium of \$1,368.

An option with an unlimited benefit period will be available during the regular open season, but not during the early enrollment period. People who sign up for long-term care insurance during the early enrollment period will be able to upgrade their policies in July.

Federal employees, postal employ-

Letters of Appreciation

Cmdr. Randy Grau for planning and coordinating Rear Adm. Maguire's visit.

Cheryl Marsh for customer service support to the Naval Hospital.

Nestor Marcelo for customer service support to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

Ernest Wright for support provided to the Defense Naval Attache of Chile.

Jo Escalera for support provided as a member of the Large Contracts Review team.

Deborah Gray for support provided as a member of the Simplified Acquisition Procedures team.

Robert Douglas for support provided to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service in handling one of their contracts.

Retirements

Maria Lewis, 35 years of service.

Sheila Pollard, 20 years of service.

Shades of Green closed temporarily

The Shades of Green hotel at Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla., will be closed for 18 months beginning April 1.

The shutdown will allow construction of 299 more rooms at the 287-room Armed Forces Recreation Center hotel.

During the closure, service members and families eligible for Shades of Green will receive the same room rates at other Disney hotels. However, they will have to pay an additional 11 percent in state and local room taxes.

AFRC hotels are open to military active-duty members, reservists, retirees, and their families, as well as DoD civilian workers and their families. Room rates are determined by pay grade.

ees, military personnel and their spouses can sign up for the insurance by answering fewer than 10 questions about their medical history. Retirees; their spouses; retirees' surviving spouses; the parents, parents-in-law or stepparents of federal employees or military personnel; and the adult children of federal employees, postal workers, military personnel or retirees must answer up to 22 questions about their medical history. Because they have to answer more questions, the second group is more likely to be denied coverage.

Unlike standard health insurance premiums, which can be paid from pre-tax income, federal employees must pay long-term care insurance premiums with after-tax income. But they can deduct the cost of the premiums at tax time if their medical and dental expenses for the year, including the premiums, add up to more than 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income.

Meet Phuong Hua



Occupation: Computer Programmer, Code 030.

Birthplace: Vinh Binh, South Vietnam.

I graduated from: San Diego State University (SDSU).

What brought me into civil service: I heard about the job opportunity from my brother-in-law.

Hobbies: Shopping and gardening.

Nobody knows: I'm very sensitive.

Pet peeve: People racing late at night in their cars and roaring their engines loud.

If I could, I would change: World hunger.

Secret to success: Learning new things and accepting the changes.

If I could do it over, I'd: Have learned Oracle and web sooner.

I've never been able to: Learn to skate or swim.

The last good book I've read: "Old Path, White Clouds" by Thich Nhat Hanh.

I'd give anything to have met: My grandmother.

Favorite singer/group: Carpenters and some Vietnamese singers.

I wish I could stop: World terror.

The one thing I like best about myself: Is the ability to achieve personal and professional goals.

Favorite quote, motto or phrase: "Learning is forever" or "Learning is never ending."

I am most proud of: My parents.

My most embarrassing moment: When my brakes gave out on my bicycle and I crashed into a tree.

New era begins in Navy education with STA-21

By Lt. j.g. Amy K. Pitts, Naval Education and Training Center Newport Public Affairs

On February 25, a new era in Navy education began for Sailors who want to become commissioned officers. On that date, the first class of the Navy's newest fleet accession program, Seaman To Admiral-21 (STA-21), checked aboard Naval Education and Training Center (NETC), Newport, R.I., for five months of instruction.

STA-21 is the latest evolution in the enlisted commissioning vehicle, combining the previous STA program with several other programs. The original STA program was created by the late Adm. Jeremy Boorda while he was Chief of Naval Operations.

The STA-21 program is designed to meet the officer accession goals of the Navy in the 21st century, while at the same time creating a fair and equitable system for outstanding active-duty Sailors to receive a top-notch college education and become commissioned officers in the Unrestricted Line, Nurse Corps, Supply Corps or Civil Engineer Corps.

STA-21 combines the original Seaman To Admiral program; Enlisted Commissioning Program (ECP); Aviation Enlisted Commissioning Program (AECP); Nuclear Enlisted Commissioning Program (NECP); Civil Engineer Corps Enlisted Commissioning Program (CECECP); Fleet Accession to Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) — including the Nurse Corps option — and the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) program.

STA-21 selectees will spend eight weeks in Newport as students at the Naval Science Institute (NSI), collocated at NETC, and some will spend three to six months of academic preparation as BOOST students prior to NSI training.

NSI's first STA-21 class reported

on March 4, one week after the first NSI BOOST class. NSI will provide instruction in six classes offered at NROTC units including naval science, sea power, engineering, weapons systems and navigation. BOOST will prepare other fleet Sailors for the rigors of academia.

The NSI program allows Sailors to concentrate on their other collegiate courses once they get to college, particularly important now that the Sailors must complete their degree plans in a 36-month timeframe.

The STA-21 program makes college extremely cost effective for Sailors. The program allots up to \$10,000 per year to the Sailors, to be used for tuition, books and fees incurred by students attending college full time for the entire year.

This sum will cover the total costs of many of the colleges that STA-21 students are authorized to attend; however, the school must have an NROTC unit for Sailors to attend.

In addition to the \$10,000 annual voucher, Sailors receive their base pay and Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH), are eligible for advancement, and many will be eligible for fleet housing units as well.

Although Sailors are not eligible for tuition assistance or GI Bill benefits as STA-21 undergraduate students, they can use these benefits later for graduate school, if desired.

In short, students can attend school for free — in most cases — and enjoy their active-duty pay and benefits; the Navy gets new officers faster than ever, and the streamlined process save money across the board.

Approximately 505 Sailors will study in Newport each year before going to their prospective schools.

For more information on the STA-21 program, go to <http://www.sta-21.navy.mil>; see NAVADMIN 128/01; call DSN 922-9451/9447, (850) 452-9451/9447, or 1-800-NAV-ROTC; or send an e-mail to <mailto:sta21@cnet.navy.mil>.

Training coordinators play a key role

FISC training coordinators play a key role in improving the Command's training program by identifying the development needs of personnel in their codes, sharing new ideas, raising concerns about training, and providing critical feedback to the Training Division.

Training coordinators are responsible for actively communicating training information; coordinating training activities; nominating/confirming employees for training; monitoring training budgets; ensuring DD-1556s are prepared; reporting completed training; monitoring the completion of IDPs and training hours; updating training records; and ensuring employees attend class.

Current training coordinators for each code are: Liz Taylor-Hooker, 030; Gene Hepler, 040; Alejandra Stepho,

050; Glenda Devaney, 060; Craig Boehringer, 071; Tina Porter, 090; Ray Garcia, 100AA; Zita Oubre, 100D; Louise Kemp, 100F; AKI Chet Denton, 100FW; Dan Riem, 100J; Linda Huretas, 100K; Theresa Magnuson, 100N/112; Allan Libby, 100NO; Capt. Chad Dean, 100ST; SK1(SW) Denise Depozo, 100V; Pam Young, 100WG; Tim Higdon, 111; Deyana Caldwell, 113; Greg Levarado, 120/121; Rich Harvey, 122; Sharon Balch, 123; Monet Bernhardt, 124; Dick Traversie, 125; Tom Nelms, 140C; Ricardo Barragan, 140C; Margie Hontucan, 200; Debby Reynolds-Estrada, 280; Ray Gomez, 700; and Colleen Quintero, 800.



Photo by Kim Longstaff

Training coordinators, left to right, standing, Craig Boehringer, Dan Riem, Ricardo Barragan, Theresa Magnuson, Colleen Quintero. Sitting, Alejandra Stepho, Sylvia Carcamo and Louise Kemp.

For contact information go to the training section of the FISC Intranet at <https://intranet.sd.fisc.navy.mil>.

Training calendar for May 2002

To enroll in any of the following classes call (619) 532-2038 (DSN 522) or send an email to fiscsd_training@sd.fisc.navy.mil.

To find more information on training courses and programs, online learning, and your training record log on to the FISC Intranet at https://Intranet.sd.fisc.navy.mil/training_set.html.

Windows NT 4.0 Workstation

May 1, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr

Tapping Into Your Creativity

May 7, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, Pacific Rm

Introduction to Word

May 7, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Intermediate Word

May 9, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Introduction to Excel

May 14, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Requisitioning by MILSTRIP

May 14-16, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, Nautical Rm

Lotus Notes Mail

May 15, 8 a.m. – noon
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Defense Logistics Agency PC Link/ Web Link

May 15, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, Synergy Rm

Intermediate Excel

May 16, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Introduction to Power Point

May 21, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Instructor Training

May 21-23, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, Eagle Rm

Making the Most of the Internet

May 22, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Intermediate Power Point

May 23, 8 a.m. – noon
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Introduction to Access

May 28, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Raving Fans

May 29-30, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, Eagle Rm

Intermediate Access

May 30, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
FISC, Bldg. 1, 3rd Floor, PC Learning Ctr.

Anthrax vaccine announcement expected within the month

By American Forces Press Service

Defense officials expect to announce within a month what shape the new anthrax vaccine immunization program will take.

In 1998, DoD began an aggressive program to vaccinate all service members against the disease — a potential biological warfare agent. The vaccination program came under public criticism because of some service members' fears about the vaccine's safety.

Critics became more vocal when DoD officials scaled back the program several times due to vaccine shortages. Bioport, the sole manufacturer of the vaccine, worked with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for over three years to gain approval of its renovated facilities as supplies of FDA-released anthrax vaccine dwindled.

Bioport received final FDA approval in January to resume production and distribute more vaccine. Defense Department officials are now looking at how, or even whether, to continue the previous program of full vaccination of all service members.

"We've undergone a very thorough process over the last several weeks looking at options and have discussed those with people both on the military medical side as well as the non-medical side (and) civilian leadership, and we will soon be making some announcements," said Dr. William Winkenwerder, the assistant secretary of Defense for health affairs. He said he understands the concerns service members have, and wants to allay any fears among the troops and the American public.

DoD is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga., on clinical studies into how the vaccine is administered. Currently, the FDA-approved regimen is six shots over 18 months.

DoD officials would like to find out

if that could be reduced to five or even four shots over a shorter period of time, said Army Col. Randy Randolph, director of the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program Agency. Randolph said the CDC is ready to begin enrolling volunteers for clinical studies designed to determine if the number of doses can be reduced, while maintaining the same level of immunity. Any change will require FDA approval.

The study will also look at the method of administering the vaccine to see if it's possible to reduce the injection site reactions currently reported. The most common side effect associated with the anthrax vaccine is a localized, minor reaction at the site of injection. Randolph said roughly 30 percent of men and 60 percent of women report minor reactions less than an inch in size.

More serious reactions are rare, he said. Less than one percent of men and women receiving the vaccine report a local reaction of larger than five inches.

Today, the only FDA-approved method of injecting the vaccine is to do so subcutaneously — meaning it is injected just below the skin. A pilot study indicated injecting the vaccine into muscle tissue, called intramuscu-

larly, might reduce such reactions tenfold, Randolph said.

Local reactions are not dangerous, but Randolph said they are still worth trying to reduce. "No one likes swelling, and no one likes pain and redness," he said.

Winkenwerder said DoD began vaccinating troops "in response to a perceived threat of anthrax being used as a biological terror agent." Anthrax-laced mail delivered to various government and media offices in October 2001 show those concerns to have been well-founded.

Whatever form the military vaccination program takes now, Winkenwerder said he is confident this vaccine works and is safe.

"Our primary concern is the safety and the health of the service men and women and their families," Winkenwerder said. "On the basis of the FDA's review and the basis of very extensive work we've done and others outside of DoD have done to look at the safety and effectiveness (of the anthrax vaccine), we believe — and I personally believe — that this is a safe and effective vaccine."

For information on anthrax, go to <http://www.anthrax.osd.mil>.

Project SAIL: Sailor Advocacy through Interactive Leadership

By Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

Project SAIL, a program unfurled at the recent All-Flag Officer conference in Orlando, Fla., is transforming the way detailing works for mission readiness, while making Sailors the focus of the detailing process.

Project SAIL (Sailor Advocacy through Interactive Leadership) has been developed in response to fleet and individual Sailor input. It combines changing the philosophy of how Sailors are detailed with capturing Web-based

technology to improve communications between the fleet, detailers and Sailors.

"Our Sailors have dedicated themselves to a lifestyle of service," said Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark. "Project SAIL will, in return, ensure they and their families have more resources, information and options to help shape their careers."

A key feature of Project SAIL is Team Detailing, the integration of detailers with each command's retention team. Team Detailing relies on a

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Surface force to begin sea swap initiative this summer

By Naval Surface Force Pacific
Public Affairs

This summer, the Surface Force will begin an initiative to test the effectiveness of deploying a single ship for 18 months while swapping out crews at six-month intervals.

Called Sea Swap, this initial two-phased initiative will involve three Spruance-class destroyers (DDs)—USS *Fletcher* (DD 992), USS *Kinkaid* (DD 965) and USS *Oldendorf* (DD 972), and three Arleigh Burke-class destroyers (DDGs)—USS *Higgins* (DDG 76), USS *John Paul Jones* (DDG 53) and USS *Benfold* (DDG 65).

During a time when the Navy's force structure is stretched increasingly thin by operational requirements around the globe, it is expected to produce significant increases in forward presence and on-station time.

Here's how it will work:

For the DD phase, *Fletcher* and her crew will deploy with their battle group this summer, but after six months, only the crew will return. The ship will remain deployed and be manned by the crew from *Kinkaid*. After completing their training cycle and decommissioning *Kinkaid*, these Sailors will fly to a port in either Australia or Singapore to assume ownership of *Fletcher* and steam her back on-station.

After six months, they will be replaced by the crew from *Oldendorf* who will have completed the same training and decommissioning schedule with their ship before flying out to relieve the *Kinkaid* crew. After four more months on station, the *Oldendorf* crew will then bring the ship (*Fletcher*) back to the United States where it too will be decommissioned.

Additionally, by executing this plan, the Navy will be able to eliminate the deployment of USS *Paul F. Foster* (DD 964) because the additional on-

station time generated by swapping out the crews means a ship will already be in theater meeting that requirement.

The leader of the Surface Navy noted that's exactly what makes the initiative worth doing.

"Basically, we're getting three additional months of forward presence when compared to what we'd get out of a standard three ship deployment," said Vice Adm. Tim LaFleur, commander, Naval Surface Forces.

"When you look at three standard six-month deployments from the West Coast to 5th Fleet, the transit time there and back results in ships being on-station for about 100 days. With Sea Swap, because we're flying two crews out, we can take the time we save from eliminating some of those lengthy transits and apply it to on-station time. What we get is a ship in a specific AOR (area operating region) for approximately 90 days longer than we would have had if we did standard deployments."

LaFleur said a Navy force structure stretched thin by global requirements puts additional emphasis on the importance of the Sea Swap initiative.

"Everyone agrees we need more ships than the 300 plus we have right now. But the reality is that it's going to take awhile for our force structure to grow to where we need it to be," said LaFleur. "Until then, we need to explore other options that will help us to meet the forward presence requirements Americans have come to expect from their Navy."

While this will be an entirely new way to deploy, LaFleur believes there will be quality-of-service benefits for the surface Sailors involved in the initiative.

"We frequently hear from Sailors that they don't like the transits that come with a deployment. They say doing the real-world missions once they're on station are very rewarding but the transits can be long and

tedious. With Sea Swap, that's gone. Sailors will get on station a lot quicker."

And like standard deployments, Sea Swap Sailors will still get quality port visits going into and coming out of the theater of operations. They just might fly there instead.

LaFleur said he also expects the Sea Swap experiment will produce efficiencies in fuel costs.

"We won't use the transit fuel we normally would, and will apply those savings toward some of the unique costs associated with the initiative such as flying the crews to the turnover port and putting them up in berthing facilities."

Because the *Fletcher* and *Higgins* hulls will not be going through the standard maintenance availabilities that would typically follow a six-month deployment, other options are being planned to ensure the material readiness of the two ships remains high throughout the 18-month periods.

"We're looking at things such as completing additional preventive maintenance on both ships prior to their departures to reduce the need for in-theater repairs and certifications," said LaFleur.

"We're also planning on having additional maintenance teams ride the ships during their transits to and from station to support any minor repairs that are required."

Does LaFleur see this concept expanding to other classes of ships?

"Yes, and that's really why we're doing this. To see what works and what doesn't, so if the Navy decides, for whatever reason, that we need increased forward presence in a certain part of the world, we'll know whether swapping out crews is a viable option." LaFleur concluded, "You can't know that unless you do it and find out."

For additional information on the Pacific Fleet Surface Force, go to <http://www.surfpac.navy.mil>.

Lt. Cmdr. Aidan Talbott Royal Navy



Born in North East England, Lt. Cmdr. Aidan Talbott joined the Royal Navy in 1988.

After training at Britannia Royal Naval College, he went to Hong Kong for six months to serve in the patrol craft HMS *Plover*. After professional training as a junior supply officer, he was appointed to the destroyer HMS *York* as the captain's staff officer and assistant supply officer. During this period, the *York* deployed to the Mediterranean, Gulf and Adriatic and Talbott qualified as an officer of the deck. He was then appointed as the flag aide to Commander UK Task Group, the deployable battle staff commander dual-hatted as NATO's Commander ASW Striking Force. Two years later, he reported to the Initial Sea Training Staff, training young officers at sea.

His first proper shore duty followed at the Maritime Warfare Centre, the centre for maritime doctrine and instruction, as the executive assistant to the director. This was followed by six months in Bosnia as a civil-military co-operation officer based with an armored infantry regiment in Central Bosnia over the winter of 1998/99, a very challenging job that was rewarded with deep selection to lieutenant commander in March 1999.

In July 1999, following department head courses, Talbott reported to the frigate HMS *Lancaster* as the supply officer. A very busy 20 months saw the Supply Department receive the best departmental assessment for a Type 23 frigate for two years, including a 'Good' at her final inspection by Flag Officer Sea Training.

Talbott is accompanied in San Diego by his wife, Julia, and two sons, Cameron and Rory. Julia was born in Coronado whilst her father was also on exchange in San Diego, flying the E-2 Hawkeye with USS *Constellation's* (CV 64) Air Group. Back in the UK, they retain a house in Bembridge on the Isle of Wight, three miles off the coast of southern England. Family pastimes include exploring southern California and learning to surf with his sons.

Enterprise News Briefs

The Navy recently announced that Supply Corps Captains **Michael S. Roesner** and **Mark D. Harnitchek**, have been selected for promotion to the one-star rank of Rear Adm. (Lower Half). In addition, Reserve Supply Corps Captain **Thomas L. Andrews, III** was selected for promotion to Rear Adm. (lower half) in the Reserves.

The Department of the Navy eBusiness Operations Office is funding an initial group of seven eBusiness pilot projects for fiscal year 2002. The initial seven pilot projects include **Navy Headquarters Web Readiness Display**, for the Chief of Naval Operations; **Unit Level Performance and Readiness Prototype Web site**, for the Naval Warfare Assessment Station, Naval Surface Warfare Center Division; **Integrated Technical Data Center**, for the NSWC, Crane Division; **e-Facilities Support Services**, for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Headquarters, Washington, D.C.; **Naval Construction Forces Table Of Allowances Replenishment**, for the Naval Construction Battalion Command, Port Hueneme; **Automated Data Capture System**, for the Naval Air Systems Command, Naval Aviation Depot North Island; and **e-Performance Based Logistics**, for the Naval Inventory Control Point Mechanicsburg.

More guests at the **Navy Lodge** in Mayport, Fla., will have the opportunity to experience the beauty of the Atlantic Ocean while on permanent change of station (PCS) status or vacation. The Navy Lodge held a groundbreaking ceremony on April 2, 2002, on its 36-room addition. The new addition is expected to open in November 2002.

Sailors living in the five barracks at Naval Submarine Base New London, Conn., have a new option for dinner or late-night snack, thanks to the new mobile Subway. Dubbed the "**Subway Fast Attack**," this mobile Subway is the first such venture in the **Navy Exchange System**.

SK1(SW/SS) **Roger Gordon** has been selected as **FISC Pearl Harbor's Sailor of the Year for 2001**. He serves as the division LPO with FISC Pearl's Supply Support Department.

Fitting Out and Supply Support Assistance Center's Contractor Provision Onload program broke new ground by starting services in the first ports outside of the United States - Yokosuka and Sasebo, Japan. This program substitutes contractor personnel for shipboard working parties for loading of food stores. These two ports were the final planned phase one implementation sites for the program, which is now an available service at all major Navy homeports.

FISC Yokosuka participated in Northwest Pacific 02 at the Naval War College in Newport R.I. Northwest Pacific is a joint bilateral war-gaming exercise that is designed to develop and strengthen the bilateral support concepts between United States Forces and the Japanese Self-Defense Forces during a regional conflict. FISC Yokosuka was the logistical expert at the game, providing the expertise in logistics that is required to develop and execute campaign plans for all mission areas.

CSB and Redux the choice is yours

By Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

The option to revert to the Redux military retirement system and receive a \$30,000 Career Status Bonus (CSB) is open to Sailors and officers who entered the Navy after 1986. But personnel officials recommend Sailors study long and hard before deciding if it is the right choice for them.

As of Feb. 15, only 5.2 percent of eligible officers and 23 percent of eligible enlisted Sailors have elected to take CSB and reduce their retirement pay with Redux.

CSB offers \$30,000 to Sailors and officers at their 15-year service mark as an incentive to stay for another five years. Coupled with receiving a CSB, Redux reduces retirement pay to 40 percent if Sailors transfer to the Fleet Reserve after 20 years of service. It also provides for a lower cost-of-living adjustment each year than those who retire under High-3 receive.

For each year short of 30 years of active duty, monthly retirement checks will be less than the High-3 retirement pay, which starts at 50 percent of basic pay for 20 years of service.

Sailors should thoroughly review their financial needs and long-term goals before opting for CSB and Redux.

For more information on CSB and Redux, click on "Pay and Benefits" at <http://www.staynavy.navy.mil>, or go to <http://www.bupers.navy.mil> under Career Status Bonus information.

Just ask me

Are you going to get a tax refund?
And if so, how are you going to spend it?

If you would like to answer a
"Just ask me" question, call Kim Longstaff at 532-3673.

I am getting a
tax refund and I
am going to
spend it as fast
as I can on CDs
and video
games!



Robby Robinson
North Island



Marty Daugherty
Seal Beach

This year we are
getting a tax
refund and we
are going to
purchase new
carpet and go on
a golf trip in
northern
California with
some friends.

I am getting a
tax refund and I
plan to use it
towards buying
my new home.



Barbara Forester
North Island



Dar McCullough
Broadway

I am getting a
large tax refund
and I plan to save
it for a rainy day.

I'm getting a
refund and I
plan to take
my wife on a
vacation
cross-country
to New York



David Marquez Jr.
Broadway



Mila Ocular
Naval Station

I am getting a
refund and I
am going to
use it to pay
off some bills,
put some in
my savings
and also buy
myself a new
computer that
has every-
thing.

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Project SAIL

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spreadsheet of all Sailors transferring within one year. The teaming spreadsheet includes Sailors' preferences, special competencies, family and career considerations and additional comments from the command's career development board.

The goal is to exchange information early in the detailing process. This is accomplished by importing this spreadsheet information into the Job Assignment and Selection System (JASS). This is the first in a series of planned upgrades to turn JASS into "Super JASS," and make it more useful with a wider range of Sailor options. Detailers are now becoming part of the mentoring process. Early, planned communication with detailers and command career development boards is making Sailors aware of important information concerning their future options.

Working in conjunction with the Sailor's command retention team, detailers factor in the needs of the Sailor and family, location options and billet desires.

Matching the needs of the Navy with the desires and abilities of Sailors isn't difficult in most cases, according to Shuford. The end result will be expanded options for the Sailor, greater trust and satisfaction with the detailing process and better fleet readiness because detailers are more likely to match each Sailor with an assignment he or she is motivated for and views in a career context.

Additional tools, such as technol-

Better health a click away

By Darlene Shaw, Code 040

It's spring - and with the season of renewal comes the annual focus on one's health. As the attendee numbers for our Weight Watcher's at Work group demonstrate, many people are toning down and firming up. This objective is admirable because it improves an individual's health as well as their self-esteem.

What many folks don't know is that there is a great Web site . . . a free Web site . . . a *Government* Web site that will help you succeed with your health objectives.

The site is sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). The url is www.nhlbi.nih.gov.

This site has great information and a large number of applications that are interactive. It even has some downloadable Palm applications. The



applications and special Web pages are found on the following topics: high blood pressure, healthy weight, women's health, cholesterol, asthma management, Body Mass Index (BMI), heart, and sleep.

I haven't reviewed all of the different areas but I can highly recommend the healthy weight section. It includes a BMI calculator, physical activity

guides, behavioral change guides, shopping guides, sample menus, food exchange lists, and daily food and activity diary. A great thing on the site is the interactive menu planner. This allows you to create a menu for a whole day and calculates the calorie totals with every selection; anyone who has done this manually will tell you that for this feature alone makes a site visit worthwhile.

Check this site out, you'll find all I've mentioned and a lot more that will help your journey towards better health!

ogy, are being used to ensure Sailors' success. San Diego's Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) is currently using the pilot program for a new classification system called Rating Identification Engine (RIDE). The program looks at a recruit's aptitude, personality and interests before classification decisions are made. RIDE improves the likelihood that prospective Sailors will begin their Navy careers in the right rating for them.

The Navy's 3,400 master chief petty officers will become the first Sailors to be detailed using Web-based technology beginning in September. In many cases, detailing will focus on their leadership abilities within certain skill areas, as opposed to rating specific assignments.

This flexibility opens up billets not previously available. An important byproduct of this initiative will be a reduction in the number of E-9 billets

gapped at sea. Detailing master chiefs based on leadership and management skills, rather than just more narrowly defined rating skills, will better serve fleet leadership needs.

SAIL includes several major initiatives that will move the Navy to a Web-based, incentive-driven, technology-enabled distribution system over the next several years. An example of future initiatives within Project SAIL is Distribution Incentive Pay.

What happens when orders show up on requisitions for which no one wants to reenlist? Distribution incentives, like the recently enacted Location Selective Reenlistment Bonus (LSRB) pilot program, offer monetary bonuses to Sailors who are willing to transfer to less popular, yet career-enhancing assignments.

For more information on Sailor Advocacy go to "Squawk Box" at <http://www.staynavy.navy.mil>.