

JUNE-JULY 2012

THIRD EDITION

THIS ISSUE INCLUDES:

Promotions and Awards Sailors In The Spotlight Expeditionary Warfare Half Way Night The Commodore's Call Commanding General Run Open Mic Night JEA Party Fun At Bravo Air Force EOD Training Get Someand much more

GROUP COMMANDER

To the NAVELSG FWD Sailors, Families, Friends and other Shipmates - Greetings from Camp Arifjan Kuwait! By the time you read this edition of the Newsletter, we will be within 60 days of redeploying. The time is indeed going by quickly, although the days are still long and our sailors are working very hard indeed.

We reached our halfway point of the deployment and held a few celebratory events to mark the occasion. In light of this, I want to express my sincere admiration of your Navy sailors -- they have done an outstanding job supporting the joint war-fighter in Afghanistan, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Oman, UAE, and soon Kazakhstan. The entire forward team of November Nomads has performed brilliantly despite being spread across 21 sites in 6

countries. Below are some of the significant achievements of your Navy sailors since arriving in theater:

- Inspected over 54,892 passengers and 129,654 bags
- Cleared for customs shipment 7,281 vehicles, 21,377 containers, and 105,183 pieces of equipment
- Confiscated over 39,820 contraband items
- Conducted 592 Remote Area Assembly missions supporting redeploying units
- Support to U.S. Marine Corps resulted in over 22,000 items and 5.5 million lbs of air cargo valued at \$1.2 billion.
- Support to the Navy Warrior Transition program of over 2,000 sailors and \$7.2 million in gear recovered.
- Mission miles driven includes over 79,000 kilometers

I continue to see exemplary performance of all sailors at all levels in support of our mission. The ESS Headquarters team has done a stellar job keeping it all together and providing support to the rest of Group which allows our mission-focused organization to do their job supporting the joint war-fighter. For example, our team of Navy sailors was instrumental as a bridging force in Afghanistan at nine different Redistribution Property Accounting Team (RPAT) sites located in nine Provinces until the deployment of the CENTCOM Material Recovery Element (CMRE). In a very difficult and challenging environment, our your Navy sailors established the process for customs inspection to support retrograde from the RPAT sites that will have a lasting positive impact on retrograde operations in Afghanistan.

Our Navy sailors have also been the backbone of the Multi-Modal customs operations in Jordan, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates from early proof-of-principles to sustained operations. The Navy leadership team one of the best I have seen in any Service. They have responded amazingly despite an extremely high op tempo, uncertain as well as dynamic changing theater requirements, and short fused orders.

I am proud to have your Navy sailors as part of my team. Please accept my sincerest thanks for your support of them so they can focus on the mission at hand.

CAPT Daniel Roman Pionk, SC, USN





Shipmates,

Transitions happen to each of us. We went through a major transition to do our pre-deployment preparations and then mobilize to travel to the Middle East and work our respective mission areas. We faced another transition once we were boots on ground. We started learning our new jobs, what our duties and responsibilities were and meeting new expectations.

These transitions were fast-paced and many things were thrown at us all at once. The first three months of our respective mobilizations were filled with many changes, many events and learning to work with new people in jobs that we were not used to yet. For some, the time probably passed quickly...for others it may have went agonizingly slow. Regardless of the pace, we all made it through that period.

Fast forwarding to our time in theater now things have grown a bit more routine. You are used to seeing the same people around you now. You know your schedule, where you're supposed to be, what you're supposed to be doing and there are few surprises and fewer transitions. While it is difficult to call it a comfort zone while you're away from friends and family, it is at the very least a routine.

Soon we will all be faced with more transitions whether they are the transition home, the transition of new leadership, the transition of customs augments, or the transition of extending and training new personnel. It will be a dynamic period that will be hectic at times and confusing at others. No matter what happens the eventual part of a transition is the resolution---how it all ends up.

As this will perhaps be the last newsletter of the November rotation deployment, it is my hope that all of our transitions end with a positive resolution. If there is one thing that the U.S. Navy trains each of us to do, it is to work in dynamic missions and find creative ways to resolve our issues. It is our unique ability as Sailors to make things happen and get things done that is so impressive. With each passing day on this deployment we have a Sailor out there making a difference to move our missions toward continued success. I hope each of you have had a day like that. Do not worry about the transitions---just focus on the resolutions.

I'm proud of this team and it has been my privilege to serve with each and every one of you. Thank you.

Excelsior!

Deputy





-For information regarding the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, go to http://www.public.navy.mil/BUPERS-NPC/CAREER/EDUCATION/GIBILL/Pages/default. aspx. The FAQ section is very informative, especially if you want to transfer your benefits.

-You can carry over leave from this mobilization. In other words, if you don't want to use all of your leave upon de-mobilization, you can bank it and use it on your next mob, ADSW, etc. See NAVADMIN 163/112 for more details.

-The Navy began testing for Spice and Bath Salts in March. These substances are part of the Zero Tolerance Policy. Don't be fooled by thinking that if they are sold legally they are legal to use. You will be subject to discipline if you test positive for the substances.

-Ramadan is in full swing. There is no eating or drinking in public during daylight hours. If you go off base, make sure you are dressed appropriately. Show consideration and respect for other peoples culture and religion.

-Volunteer Sea Duty Pay (VSAP). For our AC Sailors, you can extend your sea duty tour or cut your shore duty tour to go back to sea duty. This could defer your PTS window during the period for which the sea duty orders are negotiated. It does not affect Sea Duty Incentive Pay. See NAVADMIN 043/012 for more information.

-Did you know that Anna Der Vartanian was the first female Master Chief, selected in October of 1959. She was also the first woman promoted to E-9 in all the services.

-A security clearance is required by the Navy Advancement Manual, BUPERSINST 1430.16F. All ratings and pay grades listed in Para 204 of the manual require a clearance. There is no waiver for this requirement.

-IA sailors can find all of the instructions for IA Duty and the NAVADMINS at www.ia.navy.mil.

-Mobilized Reserves can find answers to mobilization guestions in BUPERS 1001.39/ Chapter 22. All Reserve Program information can be found at www.navybmr.com/BUPERS%20100139.html.

I hope you find some of this information useful. Thank you for your service to our country and Navy.

V/R, Master Chief Garcia AOCM (AW) Bob Garcia

NAVELSG FWD NOVEMBER HQ CO







Only in the dictionary does "Success come before work." NAVELSG FWD sailors have been raising the bar with their work ethic and accomplishments during the deployment. The PAO team is proud to bring you, your family, and friends some of the highlights from across the NAVELSG FWD Theater of operations.

The sailors have been hard at work on their mission requirements. In addition to their work load, 14 Air Cargo and ESS Sailors have earned their Expeditionary Warfare Qualification. Ten percent of the crew has participated in Tuition Assistance taking 116 classes working towards their college degrees. A third of the members have attended ARCENT University acquiring skills and certifications to assist them in their navy and civilian careers. Many Sailors have devoted lots of energy and time to their physical fitness. Congratulations to the NAVELSG FWD Second Quarter Sailors of the Quarter: SOQ BU1 Phu Nguyen of MRAP Marshalls in Bagram, Afghanistan; JSOQ AWR2 Daniel Snapp of Bravo Company RAA missions Team and the BJOQ was awarded to QM3 David Cloer of Training/Safety Department with ESS. BU1 Nguyen and AWR2 Snapp were selected as the CTF 56 Senior and Junior Sailors of the Quarter for the second guarter. Congratulations on your selections!!!

BRAVO ZULU to all the newly advanced Petty Officers!! Make sure you are studying if you are eligible to take the next exam. Good luck. We have finished the Cruisebook and are forwarding it for printing. It is our goal to provide all the members of NAVELSG FWD with a "FREE" Cruisebook. The individual cost of Cruisebook is going to be \$30 a book. We have been fundraising during the deployment to defray the cost. Please continue to support our efforts. We have command coins, t-shirts for sale. They make great gifts to send home to your family and friends.

Stay busy, safe and hydrated!!

Note From The Editor

ALPHA & ESS PROMOTIONS





GM2 HILLARD HAMILTON



HM2 TIMOTHY SMITH



AD2 CRISTOBOL RODRIGUEZ





CS1 GARVEY CHARLES



AZ2 PABLO DREXLER



FC2 JOHN HEMBREE



AM2 CARLOS PALOMOLEMUS





BM1 MICHAEL TABAKA



A01 CLAUDIA CANNON

BM1 DAVID SWEET



STG1 CHRISTOPHER JONES





GM1 NATHAN ATKINSON

AT2 ALEJANDRO ESCONTRIAS





GM1 VINCENT CIANCIARUSO









GM1 CRAIG STEFFE



A01 JAVIER MENDIOLA



ABH2 STEVEN RODRIGUEZ

AM2 LATEEP ADETUNJI



Awards



BRAVO COMPANY

MM3 CORY MUSHAKIAN CS1 GARVEY CHARLES PR2 STEVEN BURCHETT AC2 KEVIN GUTIERREZ OS2 EMORY KING CS2 TUONG VIEN



PR1 Voss for his performance as Mail Petty Officer, Supply Petty Officer, and gear drop mission to assist WTP with redeploying military members.

EM2 Johns for her performance not only as a SPOD CBCA, but for her additional responsibility and dedication helping to coordinate an EXW Training Program for Charlie Company. Actively involved in the MWR committee, helping to plan and organize Charlie Company MWR events, and t-shirt sales.

AZ2(AW) Cooper for her performance not only as a Sterile Lot CBCA, but also as a Charlie Company Assistant Career Counselor assisting multiple sailors in preparing thier Full Time Support packages and applications. She is also the Company Mentorship Program coordinator, and is active on the MWR committee in planning many of the events for Charlie Company.

EN2 Carter for his performance, attention to detail and professionalism as a washrack CBCA ensuring zero discrepancies in the pre-clearance of DOD containers, vehicles and equipment as part of the NAVELSG FWD mission.



BU1 PHU NGUYEN SENIOR SAILOR OF QUARTER (SECOND QUARTER)



AWR2 DANIELS SNAPP JUNIOR SAILOR OF QUARTER (SECOND QUARTER)



OM3 DAVID CLOER BLUE JACKET OF THE QUARTER (SECOND QUARTER)

CHARLIE HARD CHARGERS

Berthing Coordinator. Additional efforts as the lead for Charlie Company's weekly



Junior Sailor (E5) Rate First and Last: BM2 Adam Parrott Status Active or Reserve : Reservist Hometown: Amherst, Wisconsin



Years of Service: 2005-Present, 2005-2009 Active Duty. 2009-Present Reserves

Deployment Goal: My deployment goal is to focus on getting my Expeditionary Warfare Pin. I have dedicated numerous hours on and off duty to make this goal a reality.

Most rewarding /significant experience on deployment: As a cargo handler, my main mission is to ensure the Marine commands receive mission critical parts. When not moving cargo I work in the Maintenance Yard ensuring our MHE stay's 100% mission capable. It feels good to do my part and knowing that I had a hand in keeping our equipment up to par.

Mission billet: MHE Operator/Cargo Handler/Maintenance

Favorite guote:"Tamdiu discendum est, guamdiu vivas." We should learn as long as we may live. (Seneca Philosophus)

Blue Jacket Sailor (E4) Rate First and Last Name: AO3 Peter Kwong Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Sacramento California

Years of Service: Four Years

Deployment Goal: To earn an Early Promote on his evaluation by taking on collateral duties and doing the best he can at his job.

AO3 is working on his Associates degree in phycology and wishes to transfer to a university to receive his Bachelor's degree in International Studies. He speaks Cantonese, a form of Chinese, as a second language.

Most rewarding /significant experience on deployment: AO3 enjoys his schedule working as a RAA mission inspection agent. This is his first deployment and is happy that he volunteered for this mobilization.

Mission billet: Team Leader for the RAA mission.

Favorite quote: Every morning you wake up, question yourself, what are you doing for others?



Blue Jacket Sailor: (E4) Rate First and Last: BM3 (AW) MAHRENHOLZ. ANDREA Status Active or Reserve: RESERVIST

Hometown: NORTH ST. PAUL MINNESOTA

Years of Service: 9 YEARS

MAKE 2ND CLASS

THAT WE MAKE THEIR JOB A WHOLE LOT EASIER.

Favorite quote: "LIFE IS GOOD!"

BM3 ANDREA LYNN MAHRENHOLZ

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

For commendable achievement in superior performance of her duties, while serving as a junior Air cargo router BM3 Mahrenholz possesses qualities that are prerequisite for personnel seeking greater responsibility in a leading position. She supervises junior marines and sailors in safe and efficient equipment operations. Petty Officer Mahrenholz is highly qualified and licensed on all Air Cargo MHE including 15ton cargo truck, 7 ½ ton, MMV, MTVR, M-ATV. Her expertise allows dynamic customer service ensuring timely conclusion of all evolutions. She is motivated and takes initiative in coordinating multi tasking to ensure all assignments are thoroughly completed over and beyond the customer standards. BM3 organized OJT for several marines and sailors on all MHE, which led to 11 personnel successfully completing practical examinations and becoming licensed. As a precise administrator she acquired NALCOMIS, which has led to higher productivity from supply personnel and provided safer, more efficient resolution to parts nomenclature, price, and facilitated streamlined solutions for RUC Line, Small Packs, and MTC/ADACG. Petty Officer Mahrenholz is a strong self starter whose performance exceeds beyond expectation. She endures, and perseveres in willingly remaining on station to ensure her duties are not left unfinished. Her drive is not warranted by recognition, but her attitude to fulfill her duties and commitment as an asset to this Air Cargo Unit. BM3 Mahrenholz should be emulated by her peers and deserves the SPOTLIGHT!

Deployment Goal: MY GOAL FOR DEPLOYMENT IS TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER APPLY MYSELF TO

Most rewarding /significant experience on deployment: THE MOST REWARDING AND SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE ON DEPLOYMENT IS TRAINING THE MARINES ON MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT. MY FULFILLMENT IS IN ALL THE APPRECIATION THEY DISPLAY FOR WHAT MY TEAM HAS HELPED THEM ACCOMPLISH AND INFORMING ME





Expeditionary Warfare Specialist: The Tradition Continues...

By IT1 (EXW) Melinda Judson & BM1 (EXW) Corey Braxton

he Expeditionary Warfare Specialist (EXW) qualification was created in 2006 for enlisted Sailors attached to Naval Expeditionary Combat Commands. The qualification demonstrates when a Sailor has acquired a level of proficiency in specific defensive combat skills as well as knowledge and experience in direct support of the Expeditionary Warfare Mission. Potential candidates must complete and demonstrate a sound knowledge of the common core and unit specific personal qualification standards. Topics of the standards range from Expeditionary Tent Camp Layout, Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Defense, Contingency Operations, Waterborne Tactics, Naval History, Chain of Command, Expeditionary and Unit Specific Supply and Logistics and so on just to name a few. The first EXW qualification was awarded to MA2 Hurt in December 2006; one month after the program was instituted. Since then, thousands of Sailors have earned their EXW Qualification and Pin.

NAVELSG FWD EXW Board members include BM1 (EXW) Corey Braxton as the Command's EXW Program Coordinator, FC1 (EXW) Gary Thompson, OS1 (EXW) Shane Carrano, BM2 (EXW) Kyle Dahlke and BMC (EXW) John Aguayo. The Board Members have worked diligently to get the program up and running, dedicating many off-duty man-hours setting up classes, designating Subject Matter Experts (SME) and creating records for the 49 candidates enrolled in the program. Classes were taught by Board Members and SME's on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the deployment of NAVELSG FWD.

After completing their PQS books, candidates must prove they are ready for the Board by passing a 100 question written exam and a Land Navigation skills test. Once the candidates have passed the exam and land navigation exams they are then required to demonstrate their proficiency before an oral examination board presided over by at least three EXW qualified sailors. Oral boards are designed to test the overall knowledge of EXW material covered in the Common Core, Unit Specific courses and weapons fundamentals of the sailor. For most candidates, this is the most stressful part of the entire process, and their sighs of relief can almost be heard once the board is complete. This may be due to the fact that there is no set time limit and the board session will continue until either the sailor demonstrates their knowledge to their satisfaction, or the board is stopped due to lack of preparedness on the part of the sailor being boarded. During an interview, BM2 (EXW) David Frick said "Before going in to the board I felt nervous but excited, and after I was relived and proud to be one of the first members from NAVELSG FWD to earn my EXW qualification."

If the candidates have passed the written and oral examinations, the Command Master Chief then recommends the Sailor to the Group Commander who will sign off the final qualification. After the signature of the Group Commander the candidate is then presented with their EXW Pin during an EXW Pinning Ceremony.

NAVELSG FWD members who have earned their qualifications and pins while deployed include, BMC (EXW) John Aguayo, IT1 (EXW) Melinda Judson, BM2 (EXW) David Frick, BM2 (EXW) Kyle Dahlke, YN1(EXW) Joan Thomas, YN1 (EXW) Deyvonndra Pitts from ESS, and YNC (EXW)Aswad Esscoffery from Bravo Company. ABH1 (EXW)Timothy Sherman, LS1(EXW) Marshall Klevorick, BM2(EXW) Michael Ricks, LSC(EXW) Michael Ruputz, and LS2 (EXW)Patrick Luley from Air Cargo Detachment Four in Afghanistan have recently completed their qualifications and were pinned by NAVELSG FWD Deputy CDR Patrick Hayden.



Expeditionary Warfare (EXW) Recipients



BMC JOHN AGUAYO



YNC ASWAD ESCOFFERY



YN1 DEYRONNDRA PITTS



ABH1 TIMOTHY SHERMAN



LS1 MARSHALL KLEVORICK



BM2 KYLE DAHLKE



BM2 DAVID FRICK



IT1 MELINDA JUDSON

YN1 JOAN THOMAS

BM2 MICHAEL RICKS

LSC MICHAEL RUPUTZ



LS2 PATRICK LULEY

SAILORS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

AWF2 JOCOB SAUGET 1 JUNE LS2 KEVIN SMITH 1 JUNE LT ADAM SCOTT 7 JUNE **MM2 DOMINGO RAMOS JUNE 8 AS2 CARLOS DOUGLAS JUNE 9 AT2 ERIC LOPEZ 10 JUNE ET3 COLTON RENDON 12 JUNE PR3 JEROME ABUNDO 12 JUNE** MA1 CRYSTAL JARRETT 12 JUNE **HTCS MARK WATTS 14 JUNE HMC DENNIS OSHEA 15 JUNE CDR JENNIFER LEDNICKY 16 JUNE CS2 GARVEY CHARLES 18 JUNE ET2 DONALD MAMULA 18 JUNE BM3 QADIRY WINSTON 18 JUNE YN2 REGINA JOHNSON 20 JUNE LT MATTHEW LIPSKY 20 JUNE** LS1 MARSHALL KLEORICK 22 JUNE

BM3 KYLE DAHLKE 27 JUNE SH2 AYMAT VERDEJO 29 JUNE CS1 JASON FABER 29 JUNE AZ3 PABLO DREXLER 29 JUNE LNC ROWENA TOLEN 30 JUNE

AE3 JAKE AMAYA 3 JULY GM1 JAMES BELL 4 JULY YN2 DARCY KELLY 4 JULY DC3 NOE VASQUEZ 6 JULY ET3 JENNIFER GREGG 7 JULY BM2 LAURIE SELIGA 10 JULY GM1 VALAR E WILLIAMS 10 JULY PS2 TEENA PORTER 11 JULY QM1 WILLIAM AVERHART 11 JULY **CAPT DANIEL PIONK 11 JULY AC2 KEVIN GUTIERREZ 12 JULY** AS2 CRAIG YASKOW 12 JULY **BM1 DOYLE MELTON 14 JULY A01 MAURICE GRAHAM 14 JULY** YN1 SCOTT AMBROSE 15 JULY **LSCS LEAH GENTRY 15 JULY AM1 ANTHONY HUTCHISON 17 JULY YN1 LARHONDA FUSILIER 20 JULY**



OS1 JOLEE ZANES JULY 20 YN1 DARREN FALLAS 21 JULY HT3 DAVE COUSINS 24 JULY GMC TERRY TRUMMER 25 JULY GM2 CRAIG STEFFE 25 JULY YN2 KENNETH TURNER 26 JULY BM2 CRAIG BISHOP 28 JULY HM3 BRYNN DEWEY 29 JULY **BM2 DAVID SWEET 31 JULY STG2 STEPPHEN HUTYRA 31 JULY ET1 HAE KIM 31 JULY**

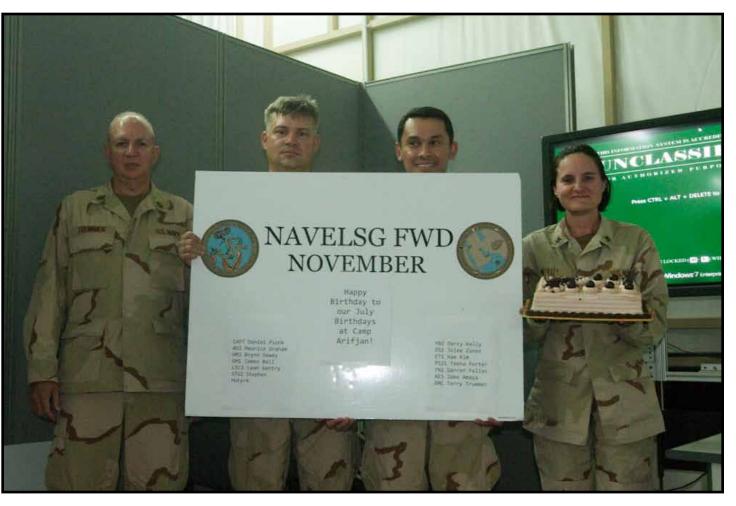






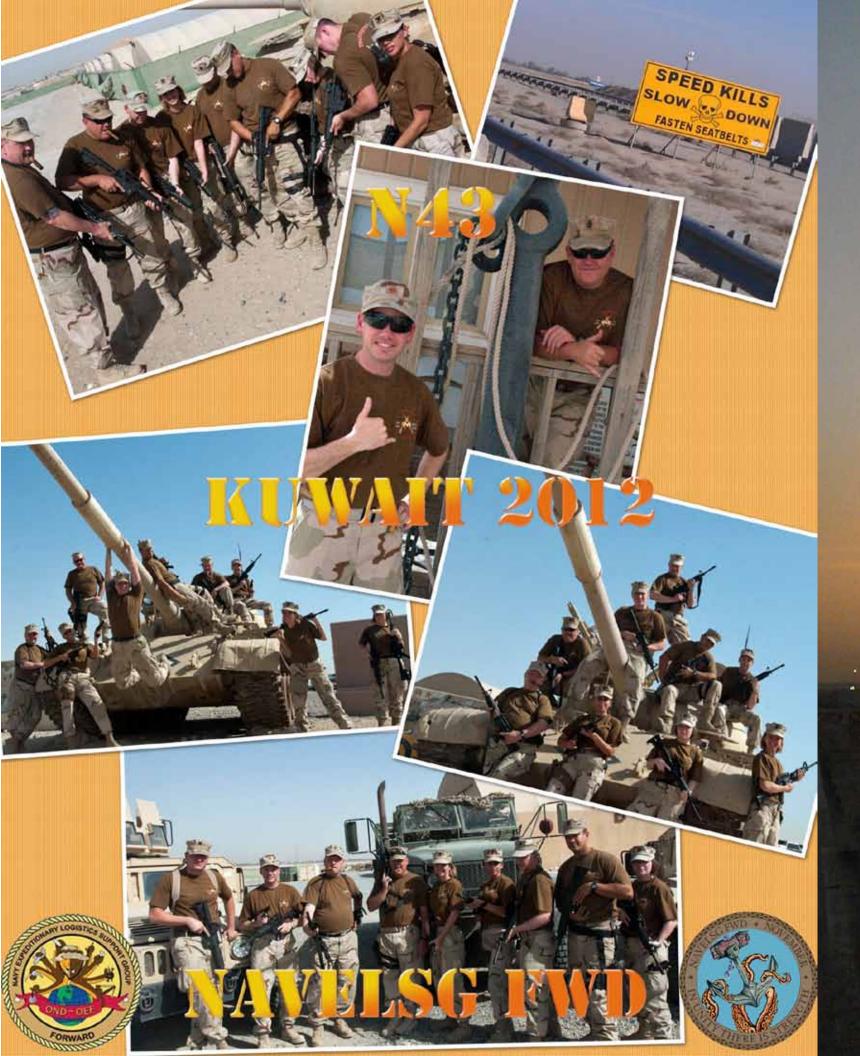












"Thank you for choosing N43 for all your Transportation needs!"

Transportation's team is not much different from a well oiled machine. This department deals with all things that go "voom". Motor pool fleet management, transportation of sailors throughout Kuwait, CESE (Civil Engineering Support Equipment) gear maintenance and repairs, care and upkeep of all NTVs (Non-Tactical Vehicles), Distinguished Visitor driving, and tracking and upkeep of all NAVELSG weapons.

The team has many Sailors that act as the essential parts to keep the machine running:

OIC

LCDR Douglas Turner- The supreme meeting attender. He keeps the gears running in all things administrative.

LCPO

MACS Michael Strong- The oil for the gears. Ensures the engine runs at max speed, using high octane gas. Little time for braking, pedal to the metal!

LPO

MA1 Crystal Jarrett- Prevents the repo man (Army) from taking vehicles. Applies the brakes when possible! Ensures traffic flow is smooth running.

Mission Coordinator

FC1 Gary Thompson- Do you have a very important date? He'll ensure that you're never late! Call him the NAVELSG travel agent. He'll even give you a driver and we'll pick you up!

OPM (Off-Post Memo) Coordinator

GM2 Rebecca Ropp- Need off base? She provides the release papers to leave the impound lot. She gets the release papers signed and approved!

Armory LPO

AO2 Claudia Cannon- Bang Bang! Need a weapon for your travels? She'll hook you up! She keeps the weapons in supreme working condition.

Licensing Examiner/Mechanic

CM1 Barahona- Want to drive in Kuwait? You have to go through him. Oh and don't forget your seat belt! Provides the oil for the gears and turns the wrenches!

Yard Boss/Mechanic

ET2 Erik Paulsen- Need a forklift? HMMWV perhaps? This is your go to guy. Master wrench turner. Don't tell him it can't be fixed! The machine's on board computer, if there is a problem, he'll tell you what the problem is!

NTV Upkeep Coordinator

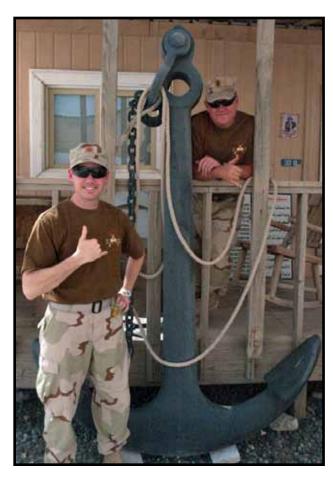
LS2 Kevin Smith- Mister Clean! NAVELSG's own vehicle detail service. Get it dirty and he'll get it clean. Makes part orders and picks up supplies from AJ's version of Auto Zone.

While each person has their own purpose in the Transportation mission, ALL sailors are mission drivers. We are the Masters. Skilled and safe while navigating Kuwait roads. We'll get you there safely and on

time. We are the moving parts of the NAVELSG FWD mission.

NAVELSG FWD N43 TRANSPORTATION/ARMORY

















ADMIRAL HEINRICH visit to Camp Arifjan and Kuwait Naval Base





























Dubai Dream Teams Sweat in the Big City By BM1 Oskins

the November Nomads solely took over operations at United Arab like wave, and began sending CBCA teams to conduct pre-ctions. Using a rental van as a mobile office the teams deal pargo between the port of Jebal Ali and Dubai World Center air s cargo consists of large rolling stock, individual pieces of equipment and s, all of which are bound for CONUS coming out of the CENTCOM area as art of the DOD Sea & Air pro

blishing contacts and developing working the primary shippers, their sub-contractors, port personnel, and All. Other efforts included a 'fly-away' kit with all the eam to operate out in the field. During the May mission a special team was sent in and the Nomads completed the redeployment of MESRON 8, the maritime security contingent at the port, which consisted of more than 250

ersonnel and their associated equipment and bags tures are slightly less than Kuwalt but the humidity at the port is a killer which results in soaked cover-all's and boot socks within 60 minutes. A typical t of CBCA's will go through a case of water and Gatorade every other day. Shade is non-existent at both locations and breaks from the heat are taken inside the van. es soar inland at the air cargo terminal and most of the inspections tak place within a secured area ... so no van for relief is allowed As the fly-away missions continued into the coming months work processes were refined, the operational tempo increased, and the UAE mission became a well-oiled machine producing ever increasing volumes of work. But the UAE experience is much more than sweat in the big city... One challenging aspect of living and working in the UAE is learning the transportation





routes which are spread out over a large geographical area. Plus if you're lucky to be the designated driver for a mission, you quickly learn how to drive like an 'emirati', which is not much different than what the driving experience is like here in Kuwait! Traffic round-abouts in UAE are truly a work of art, where one should not be timid or faint-hearted when attempting to navigate. Road marking are challenging.

Off duty time consists of shared rooms at a local lodging establisment. A pool awaits you after a long day in the sun, and shopping at some of the world's most famous malls is only a short taxi or shuttle ride away. 'Bling' is the operative word of the day, and if you don't have good self-control your hard earned money seemingly fly's out of your wallet of its own accord. Aside from the dynamic architecture of the





buildings in Dubai, other local must-see sights include the Gold Souk in the old business section of the city (something for the wife or significant other perhaps?) where wheeling and dealing in gold, diamonds, and other gemstones is the plan of the day. There's also the indoor ski and snowboarding slopes at 'Ski Dubai' in the Mall of the Emirates (off limits to Nomads), the Burj Al Khalifa the world's tallest building at 2,723 feet, and the Burj Al Arab the famous 'sail' design 7 star hotel on the water at Jumeirah Beach. If your into mass transit with the locals you can save money by riding 'The Metro' which is the sleek monorail system that travels the length of Dubai for only a few Dirhams.



The local culture is conservative Islamic-centric, where a sailor who is not mindful and responsible can end up in a very bad situation quickly. Improper conduct can lead to serious consenquences. While the UAE is unique, with many beautiful mosques and cultural heritage sights to visit, team members must always keep in the forefront of their minds that it is their country with their laws and norms which we must respect. We are ambassadors of the greatest naval force ever to sail the seven seas and as such we must act accordingly.

Remember, any remote mission, including the UAE, is a privilege to be assigned to and while there's a lot of hot work in the sun, there are also opportunities to relax and enjoy an exotic land. Work hard, be responsible, and you'll have stories to tell your grandchildren from your rocking chair.





















Senior Sailor (E6) Rate First and Last : MM1 Henry Dudek Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Clinton Township, Michigan



Years of Service: Thirty Three year affiliation

Deployment Goal: To do the best job that I can and see this deployment out till the end.

Most rewarding/significant experience on deployment: PO1 acquired a Remote Control Flight Simulator from his flying club to donate to Bravo Company to act as a learning and training aid. Petty Officer Dudek commented on how great a command Bravo Company is and that everyone helps each other to achieve the mission at hand.

Mission billet: Maintenance Leading Petty Officer

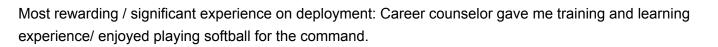
Favorite quote: Mid'es well be walking on the Sun!

Family: He has a lovely wife Carol, married fourteen years, together twenty four years. His son Ryan and his wife Raquel who he is proud of for just buying a new house. Dudek was his sons best man in his wedding.

Junior Sailor Alpha Rate First and Last: YN2 Charles Cody Smith Status Active or Reserve: Active Hometown: Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Years of Service: 7 years 1 month

Deployment Goal: Pursue educational goals.



Mission Billet: Custom Border Agent Favorite quote: "JUST DO IT"



Blue Jacket Sailor Alpha Rate First and Last: ABF3 Jeremy Pelfry Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: West Portsmouth, Ohio

Years of Service: 4 years Deployment Goal: Save money, study and learn new skills

Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: Active duty benefits. Mission Billet: Custom Border Agent Favorite quote: Things aren't going to change but there will be a few tweaks.

Junior Sailor ESS Rate First and Last: YN2 Darcy Kelly Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Mechanicsville, Va

Years of Service: 8 years active/ 1 year reserve Deployment Goal: To obtain my EXW Pin.

Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: Being able to meet new people and seeing a country I have never been to before. Mission Billet: Yeoman Admin Favorite quote: "You must do the thing that you think you can't do!"





Half Way Night

NAVELSG FWD rolled out the Red Carpet on June 30 to commemorate the reaching of the half way point of the lengthy FWD November deployment. A Hollywood Theme Party provided an opportunity for an operational pause to relax, have some laughs and take a break from the routine.

This Hollywood Star Event featured the smooth sounds of DJ "DOC" Smith, creative costumes, lively entertainment, Papa John's Pizza and subs, a fabulous popcorn bar from the Pittsburgh Popcorn Company, games and prizes. The highlight of the evening was the Costume Contest.

Sailors dressed up in various costumes depicting favorite characters from movies. Movies are part of the routine for many folks on deployment. Characters in attendance included Thor, Captain Jack Sparrow, Hunter S. Thompson, Master Chief from Halo, Dorothy and Glenda the Good Witch, Santa Clause, Hannibal Lector, Mohammed, A Dodger Fan, Marianne From Gilligan's Island, Pippin Long Stockings, Geisha Girl and Lady Terminator,

A panel of judges consisting of LCDR Turner, LNC Tolentino, GSE1 Bardowell, and YN2 Kelly were treated to the outstanding antics of the characters on the red carpet. They spent quite a bit of time conferring and deliberating on the winners. Captain Daniel Pionk awarded prizes for the costume contest. For the males BM1 (EXW) Corey Braxton won third place as THOR. AO2 Justin Redger was awarded second for his captivating performance as Captain Jack Sparrow. LT Mitch Hoskins performance of Hunter S. Thompson earned him first place.

The Lovely Miss Marianne, AKA HM2 Angelica Riebel captivated the judges to win third place. MA1 Crystal Jarrett was incognito as the Geisha Girl from Memories of Geisha and wooed the judges with her amazing grace. The creative and ingenious AZ2 Shereda Thompson impressed the judges with her recycling project of Lady Terminator to win first place for the ladies.















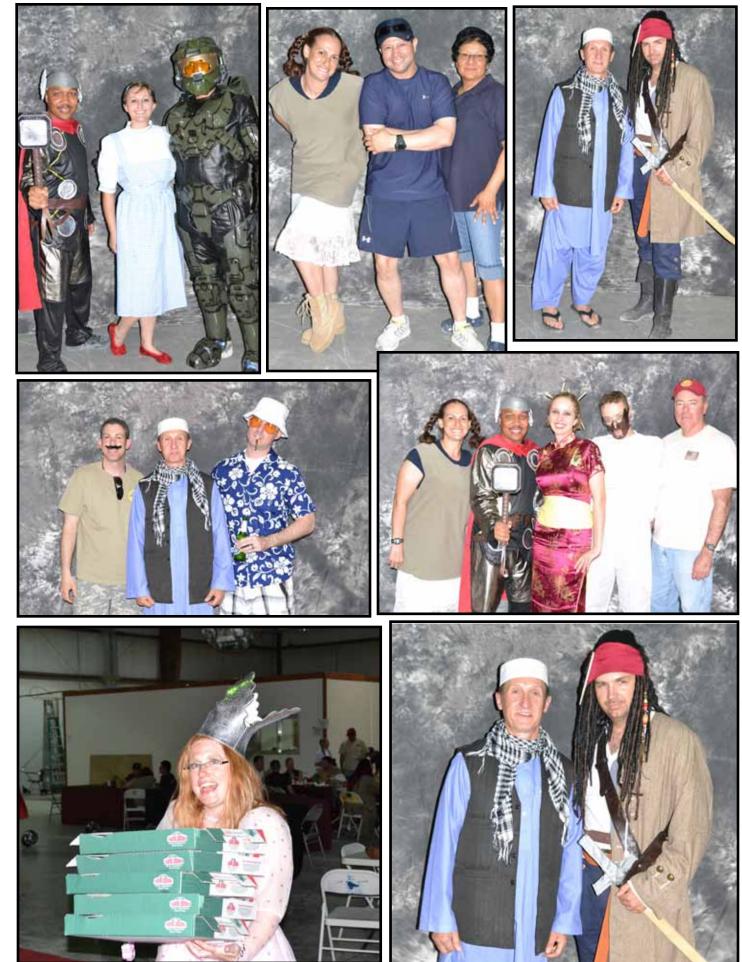




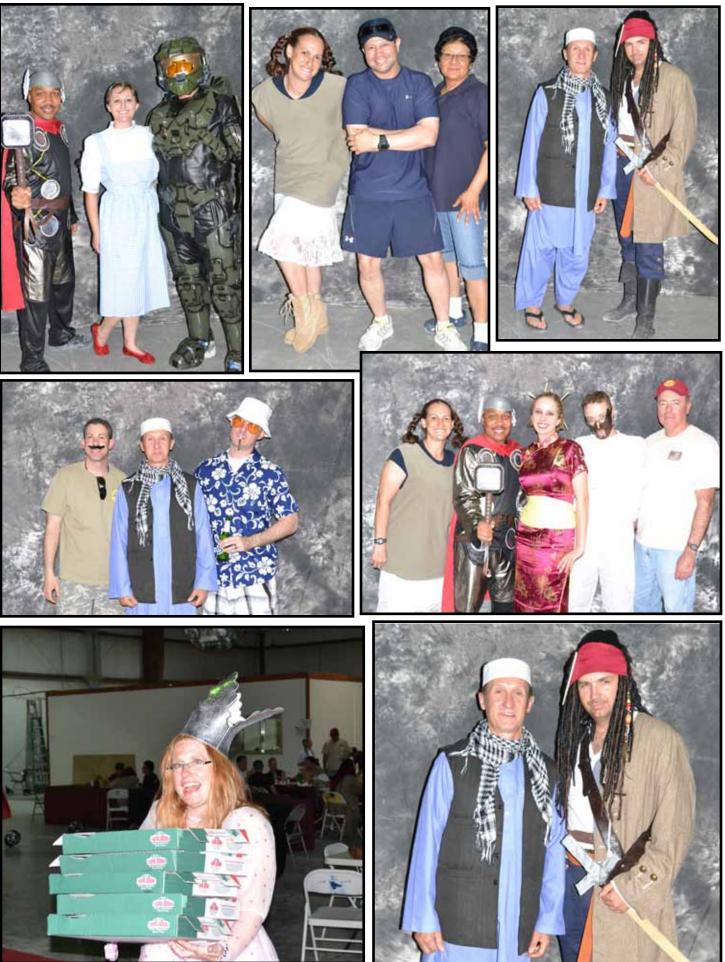






































Camp LSA Kuwait Petty Officer First Class Lisa Rowe

Public Affairs Representative Navy Customs

On June 21st 2012 the American Gladiators Steal, Siren, Militia and The Wolf visited Camp LSA to meet with the troops and thank them for serving our country. For Gladiators The Wolf and Siren it was a great honor to be able to come, this visit was their first trip to the Middle East. They were given a tour of base and explained the primary mission of Camp LSA, which is to support personnel transiting to and from the Middle East.

The four toured Camp Burhing on Wednesday, and were scheduled to make experiences at Camp Arifjan on Thursday and wrap up with Kuwaiti Naval Base on Friday. Gladiators started their tour of LSA compound with a trip to the Army Command Cell Conference room where they were greeted by Camp Canada, Army units, and the Navy Customs unit. During the introduction Wolf shared some background information on himself. He grew up in southern Nevada where he was a rodeo bull rider before landing a gig on the TV series American Gladiator which is now in its second season of filming. Steal is a professional boxer in Mixed Martial Arts. Gladiators took group photos before leaving the Command Cell to start the tour though LSAs Gateway tents, hosted by Petty Officers Mann and Ufkus. Stopping along the way the crew met with everyone they could to take pictures and thank them for their services.

They enjoyed Navy Customs Amnesty department where they were met by Commanding Officers Captain Pionk and Bravo Company's Lieutenant Commander Anthenson. Petty Officer First Class Dudek from Navy Customs challenged the Wolf to a thumb wresting contest in the Freedom yard, Dudek proudly won that challenge.

The Gladiators met for dinner at the dining facilities along with Lieutenant Colonel Fowler and his Command Cell executive officer, base Chaplin Jones and Canadian Army. They wrapped up their tour with a tug-a-war competition and Gladiators stunts.







Command Cell meets Gladiators, with Canada forces, US Army and Navy personnel.

THE COMMODORE'S CALL

he Commodore of CTF 56, Daniel Colman and Master Chief Craig Marsh hosted a Commodore's Call for the NAVELSG FWD Sailors at the PAX Sunshade on Friday, July 27 at 1730. CDRE Colman discussed the Navy's Core values and values and expectations of CTF 56 with respect to excellence, leadership and mission accomplishment. He praised the sailors of NAVELSG FWD for their contributions towards the various missions and their service towards our country. CDRE Colman discussed the decision of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to keep the Navy on board for at least one more Customs rotation. The Navy has set the standard of excellence for the Customs Missions.

CDRE Colman coined eight sailors for their outstanding efforts and contributions to the mission.

Two Sailors, BU1 Phu Nguyen of MRAP Marshalls at Bagram Airbase in Afghanistan and AWR2 Daniels Snapp of Bravo Company, were selected as the Senior and Junior Sailors of the Second Quarter for NAVELSG FWD. Master Chief Bob Garcia forwarded BU1 Nguyen and AWR2 Snapp SOQ packages to CTF 56 to compete with component commands sailors for the CTF 56 Second Quarter Sailor of the Quarter. The NAVELSG FWD Petty Officers were selected as CTF 56 Second Quarter SOQ and JSOQ. CDRE Colman presented AWR2 Snapp with a certificate and plaque for this impressive accomplishment.





AT2 Wiste, Lucas Alpha Co.

As LPO of Alpha Pax Retrograde, his team inspected over 29,000 pieces of equipment, 50 connex boxes valued at \$6.4 million, and 1868 CBCA Quality Assurance inspections on equipment valued at \$534,221. Also manages Mentorship Program for the PAX department resulting in improving the careers of 20 Mentors and Protégés.

SH2 Verdejo, Aymat Alpha Co.

As Wash-rack and Sterile Lot Section Leader, he supervised 12 personnel in the flawless inspection of over 1,000 pieces of equipment and rolling stock valued at \$200 million. Also, Alpha Company Contraband Control Assistant, ensured all contraband was seized and disposed of in a timely and proper manner.

AO2 Rafique, Muhammed Bravo Co.

As Remote Area Assembly Schedule Petty Officer, he has scheduled over 60 missions with outstanding customer service. He also volunteers with Resilience Center and has already served over 100 hours.







YN2 Thomas, Dion Bravo Co.

As a Custom Border Clearance Agent Petty Officer, she volunteered at the NAVELSG FWD Bravo Company Mid-Party and was one of the major components in its successful outcome. She single handedly presented over 100 various gifts to Army, Canadians and Navy personnel.

HM2 Reibel, Angelica ESS

Utilizing her civilian skills, she made contact with Army Dental and made arrangements to assist them 2 days a week so that NAVELSG personnel would have more access. Has single handedly raised dental readiness from 56% to over 90%. To assist the Army, has covered for them while their dental techs were on leave, all while performing her duties as Medical LPO.

LS1 Roy Cunningham ESS

N4 LPO for 8 sailors. Manages 2 contracts valued at \$800,000 and saved the government \$40,000 in overbilled fees. Facility Maintenance Officer and has assisted in resolving over 500 trouble calls. Government Purchase Card Representative who liaisons directly with ARCENT G8.

HT3 Cousins Charlie Co.

As Charlie Company SPOD Customs Border Clearing Agent HT3 Cousins displayed commitment to mission accomplishment by maintaining 100% inspection integrity 740 pieces of equipment and vehicles worth millions of dollars that were processed through the SPOD final verification process. His dedication, reliability and leadership played an intricate part to the success of the Army processing and redeploying government property back to the US.

BM2 Mancha Charlie Co.

As Charlie Company Sterile Lot Customs Border Clearing Agent PO Mancha displayed commitment to mission accomplishment by maintaining 100% inspection integrity 2,035 pieces of equipment processed through the Sterile Lot at Kuwait Naval Base. His dedication, reliability and leadership played an intricate part to the success of the Army Ammunition movement through the Sterile Lot, processing and redeploying over 1 million tons of Class V ammunition valued at over \$100 million dollars.









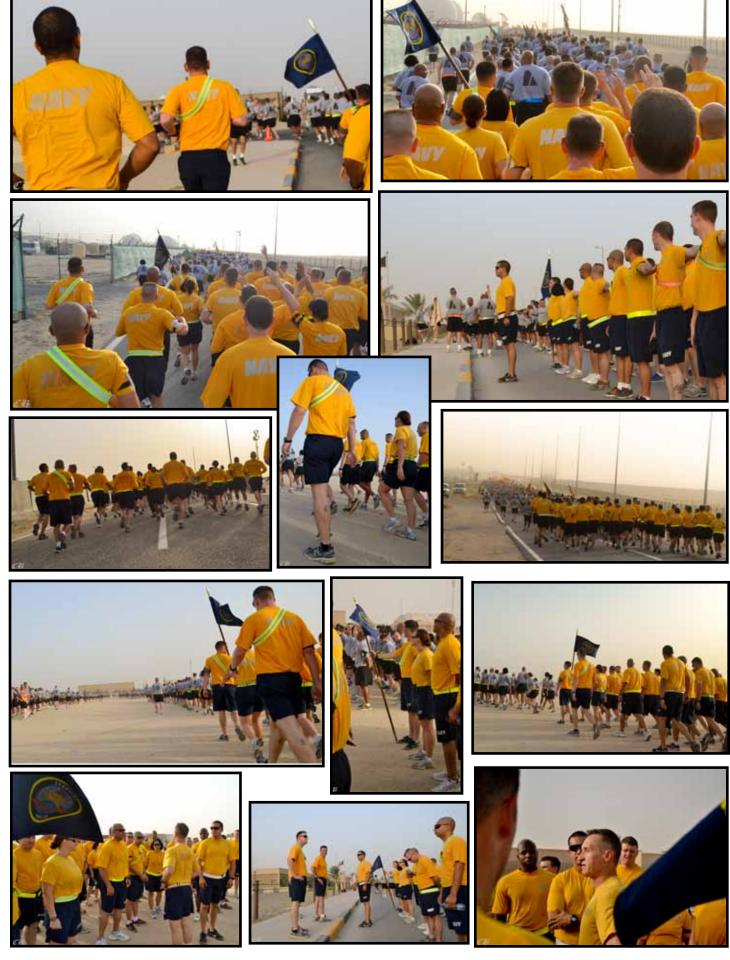


COMMANDING GENERAL FUN RUN

On June 23rd 2012 the First Theater Sustainment **Command (1st TSC) said farewell to Commanding** General Dowd, and in his honor every tenant command of 1St TSC participated in a fun run formation march.

For NAVELSG FWD formation, AM1 Ian Hanson from **Alpha Company led the formation and CM1 Carlos Barahona from Transportation called cadence.**









Open Mic Night

Every Sunday the Starbucks on Camp Arifjan hosts a Poetry Night from 7-9pm. It is ran by the Poetry Night Crew (PNC) which consists of a couple civilian personnel and Army and Navy military volunteers. Shows are generally one and a half to two hours in length. A sign-up is done before the show begins, so that the host has a list of names to call from. Poetry/spoken word open mikes are laid back, serene, and contain lively conversation in between readers and/or performers. However, there are many musicians who play instruments or sing/rap to backing tracks.

YN1 Darren Fallas





The NAVELSG FWD Junior Enlisted Association is made up of Sailors of E-5 and below. It has over 20 dedicated members who attend meetings regularly and volunteer for numerous MWR happenings. These events include: 5K runs, events setups, burger burns, and many other Camp Arifjan events.

Since the beginning of the November rotation, we have volunteered for over seven 5K runs and also have done four burger burns among many other events that foster command cohesion. The NAVELSG JEA is very diverse with Sailors from countries as far away as Nigeria. This diversity makes the us very unique, more so than any other NAVELSG organizations.

The Junior Enlisted Association is currently preparing for The Navy Ball which will be held on September 30, 2012. The theme is "Sailors in the Sand". Additionally, we will be celebrating the Navy's 237th Birthday; our comity is committed to supporting the mission here in the Middle East. We have already started preparations for the Navy Ball. Fundraisers, ordering food, selling tickets and appointing a guest speaker are just some of the steps that the JEA has taken towards the preparation for the Navy Ball. We are excited and hope this will be an event to remember, The Navy Ball will be held right before our first wave of Sailors return home to their families. We hope this will also serve as a nice sendoff party for them. It will definitely be the best Navy Ball that Camp Arifjan has ever seen.





Blue Jacket Sailor (E4) Name, Rate First and Last: HM3 Earl Turner Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Reno, Nevada

Years of Service: 4 years Deployment Goal: To get home safe and make money.

Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: Taking care of service members from different military branches and different units. Mission Billet: Charlie Company Corpsman

Senior Sailor (E6) Name, Rate First and Last: YN1 Sandra Williams Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Orlando, Florida

Years of Service: 24 years

Deployment Goal: 75% of Sailors entrusted under my leadership will have a rewarding tour in Kuwait.

Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: Getting sailors involved with writing in the Pal Program and mentoring Primary Grade students in Reading. Mission Billet: Charlie TOC ALPO Favorite quote: "I have noticed that even those who assert that everything is predestined and that we can change nothing about it still looks both ways before they cross the street. "- Stephen Hawking



Junior Sailor (E5)

Name, Rate First and Last: EN2 Wayne Carter Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Jacksonville, Florida

Years of Service: 20 years

Deployment Goal: To do a good job, make my section the best section at the Washrack, get home safe and on time. Dix and getting through the heat here Kuwait. Mission Billet: Wash rack, Section 1 Favorite quote: "Small things to a Giant"



Blue Jacket Sailor (E4) Name, Rate First and Last: Geoffrey Gutierrez- Lagunda Status Active or Reserve: Reservist Hometown: Va Beach, Va

Years of Service: 7 years Deployment Goal: EXW, College Courses, Fitness

Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: The ability to travel and experience the Islamic culture. Visit Jordan and see Petra Mission Billet: CORPSMAN 8404 Favorite quote: "There is no try, only do"



- Most rewarding / significant experience on deployment: Making it through training at Ft.

PARTY FUN AT BRAVO COMPANY

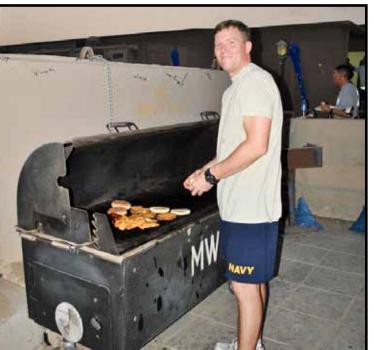


















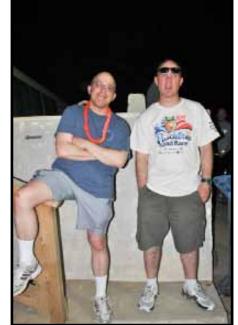


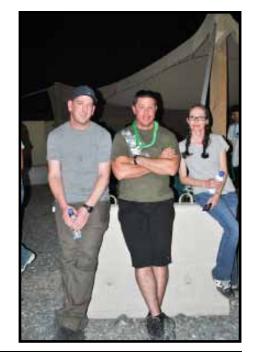






























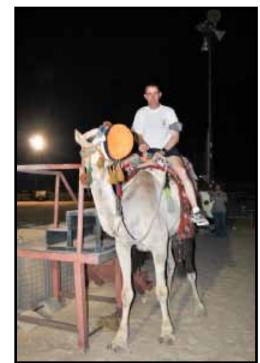
































BRAVO'S LEGO MAN









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SAILORS **CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN** AUGUST



EN2 TAMARA BECKLES 1 AUG LSC TAWANNA FOOTE 5 AUG AD3 CRISTOBAL RODRIGUEZ 7 AUG **ET2 WALTER McCARTY 8 AUG SH2 MAVIS LYNAM 8 AUG** YNC ASWAD ESCOFFERY 8 AUG LS2 PATRICK LULEY 10 AUG **AO1 MIKE HEUSER 10 AUG MA2 TREVOR CLARKE 11 AUG A01 CORTEZ HARDMAN 13 AUG** HM2 ANGELICA RIEBEL 14 AUG **LS2 ANTOINE HARRIS 16 AUG PS2 CHARLES WILLIAMS 17 AUG OS2 ANTONIO WILLIAMS 17 AUG ITC MICHELLE BROSKOVICH 23 AUG**

LS2 SHERIA MCKOY 28 AUG AS3 JONATHAN ATOR 29 AUG **YN1 AMBER TENNANT 30 AUG CS2 XAVIER DELAROSA 31 AUG MR2 JUAN PIEDRA 31 AUG**



ET3 TIMOTHY WALKER 1 SEP AO2 DAVID PRIETO 5 SEP STGCS BRIAN HAVENER 5 SEP AO2 JESUS SANDOVAL 5 SEP ET2 ROBERT LEEP 7 SEP GM1 CHARLES MORVANT 7 SEP BM1 CARLOS EGUIA 10 SEP BMC JOHN AGUAYO 10 SEP AE3 SERGIO MENDOZA 12 SEP BM2 ADAM PARROTT 15 SEP AE2 JOSEPH PAPIN 16 SEP YN2 DION THOMAS 16 SEP BM3 ANDREA MAHRENHOLZ 17 SEP AD1 EDWARD YOSHIKAWA 17 SEP OSC FRANCES OLDFIELD 17 SEP

SAILORS **CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER**

ABH1 TIMOTHY SHERMAN 18 SEP AO1 ERIC BEATTIE 19 SEP EM2 JOAO NEWCOMB 19 SEP AO2 JAVIER MENDIOLA 21 SEP QM3 DAVID CLOER 22 SEP BMCS JOHN MATUZA 23 SEP IT1 MELINDA JUDSON 23 SEP LCDR DOUGLAS TURNER 24 SEP GSE2 ANGELA HALL 26 SEP BM2 EDGARDO NILAYAN 27 SEP AME3 AGUSTIN MORENO 28 SEP

MWR TRIP

On July 9th several Sailors from NAVELSG FWD gathered to take a much anticipated MWR Trip. The trip itinerary included the Grand Mosque of Kuwait, the Maritime Museum, and lunch at the Mais Alghanim.































Air Force EOD Trains Navy Customs In Identifying Harands

Camp LSA-Kuwait YN1 Lisa Rowe

Al Ali Salam Air force Explosive Ordnance Disposal team, or EOD, Squadron 285 from Charleston South Carolina visited Bravo Company's Navy Customs to hold training for Bravo company custom inspectors.

EOD Technician Sergeant Jonathan Tolley brought training devices such as pipe bombs, expended shell casing, along with C-4 explosive devices and homemade improvised explosive devices IEDs. The Squadron possesses two remote control roving robots sent into action to investigate and handle explosives. These robots allow EOD techs to navigate into hazardous situations while remaining at a safe distance.

It is important that EOD training be held with Navy Customs so that the Customs Boarder Clearance Agents or CBCA's can identify and prevent the introduction of potential hazardous material into the United States.















Deployments are a prime opportunity for setting personal and professional goals. When Captain Pionk took command in February he challenged the Sailors of NAVELSG FWD to improve themselves professionally, personally and physically during the course of the deployment. Forty two members of the NAVELSG FWD have taken participated in the Tuition Assistance Program. These forty two Sailors of NAVELSG FWD have collectively taken 116 classes totaling \$82, 365.99 worth of free tuition. 101 Sailors have taken 111 ARCENT University Computer courses, improving their skills and earning valuable civilian certifications. Sailors might want to Get some.....

Tuition Assistance

Enlisted members can benefit from up to 16 credits of Tuition assistance per fiscal year. The Navy will pay up to \$250 per credit hour, a grand total of \$3000 of free money to utilize for your education. To take advantage of this benefit while on active duty you must follow several procedures to ensure everything is on point: 1. Get a copy of your degree plan, a list or print out of the courses you need for

- your degree from your university.
- tion orders including the date of your demobilization date.
- out and sign the page.
- power point to LT Hoskins in N7 in tent three.
- ition Assistance Officer at the Navy College Office in Bahrain.
- 7. Start your classes when scheduled.

2. Fill out a special request chit NAVPERS 1336/3 requesting permission to participate in the Tuition Assistance Program. Once your chit is signed and approved by your immediate chain of command, attach a copy of your mobiliza-

3. The next step in the process is to log on to the NAVELSG FWD portal to the N7 page and view the power point on "How to complete an electronic TA (eTA) application. After reviewing the power point print the last slide and fill

4. Turn in your degree plan, chit with copy of orders and printed last page of the

5. LT Hoskins will review the necessary documentation and forward to the Tu-

6. The member will receive a notification email from the Navy College Office stating you are approved for TA. A TA Voucher then arrives whereby you must fill in the personal information, sign it and scan a copy to the university.

8. Once you have completed your class, email send a copy of your transcript to the VEC.

Tuition assistance can be utilized for online courses at accredited universities. Sailors may also use TA to take traditional classroom courses at the education center on Camp Arifian through University of Maryland University College, Central Texas College and Embry Riddle Aeronautic University.

College Level Examination Programs (CLEP) Tests

CLEP tests help you recieve college credits for a fraction of the cost of a college course.

There are 33 exams offered covering five academic areas. A sailor needs to contact their college or university to verify that the college in which they are enrolled will accept the CLEP exam and what is the necessary score needed to qualify for credit hours in their particular degree program. Colleges have a limit of how many transfer credits they will accept.

The CLEP exam: Sailors are eligible to sign up for the CLEP exam with N7. The Education Center offers free CLEP testing services, however Sailors are eligible to take the exam once free of charge. The scores are sent to the Sailor's respective school to receive college credit. In effect, the sailor is saving the initial \$80 cost of the exam and the cost of the tuition for three credit class which could be in the neighbor hood of close to \$800 and saving the time of taking a three credit college course. This is a major a perk to take advantage of on your deployment in that it saves you time and money. Check out the CLEP website and stop by N7 for more information. <u>http://clep.collegeboard.</u> org/exam/



Located at building T516 in Zone 2, the ARCENT Signal University offers a great opportunity for sailors and soldiers, alike, to get the necessary training to help prepare for a wide variety of technical civilian certifications. ARCENT offers one week courses, ranging from introductory classes such as Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Access, Intro, etc.) to more advanced classes such as ICND 1 and 2 (Interconnecting Cisco Networking Devices). All training is fast paced and instructor led.

At the end of your week long class and successful completion of a 100 question exam, students are awarded a certificate of achievement. If the sailor is an ET/ FC/IT/CT/OS (or other approved technical rate), neither the class nor ARCENT Signal University's Certificate are required to obtain a voucher through https://www. <u>cool.navy.mil/</u> to pay for certification exams but it is highly recommended and a good way to test your knowledge. CompTia approved training material is provided in class taught by course certified instructors who can answer your exam related questions. Many of the certification exams are required under the guidelines and procedures outlined in DoD Directive 8570.01.

To find out more or to view the latest schedule of classes, visit: https://www.cflccsignaluniversity.arifjan.arcent.army.mil/



LCDR NICHOLAS TICHICH

Sailors stationed at CHARLIE Company are continuing their success and keeping an ever-watchful eye on all vehicles, equipment, and cargo that pass through Kuwait Naval Base and the Port of Shuaiba in support of the Customs Mission. Being close to the water means more trees and bushes, and every now and then a nice breeze, but it also means extremely high humidity during the hot summer months.

A Message From

Charlie Company

In addition to the operations in Kuwait, many of the Sailors are expanding their reach and accomplishing missions in locations such as Oman and Jordan. These temporary assignments give the Sailors a chance for a change of scenery as well as the opportunity to challenge themselves and contribute to a critical aspect of our mission.



The Next's Issue Features:

NAVELSG Deployed Sailors

Hurray for Oscar

and much more

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Sailors in the Spotlight

Unit in the Spotlight

Remote Missions

Chief Petty Officer Selections

EXW Qualifications

Birthdays

Awards