

Commander,



# U.S. Naval Forces Central Command U.S. Fifth Fleet Combined Maritime Forces



CTF-IA Monthly Newsletter

Issue 19, January 2012

## CTF-IA COMMANDER'S CORNER



**RDML Charles Gauette**  
Commander, Task Force IA

This past year represented one of the more challenging periods in recent naval history, as both the economy and the politics of the nation caused widespread change and adjustment in the way the military currently does business, and how it will proceed in the future. The fiscal realities resulted in the necessary reduction of billets at all levels of our service. Leadership decisions led to the accelerated withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan in a compressed timeframe.

But it was also an exciting year. We have a new Secretary of Defense, a new Chief of Naval Operations and a new Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. Support for service members by both Congress and the public remains high. IA personnel continue to perform exceptionally, winning high accolades from the Army and other Joint units to which they are assigned.

2012 promises to bring continued challenges. Phase II of the Afghanistan Surge Recovery is already underway, undoubtedly reducing more IA billets. The Navy footprint in Kuwait continues to draw down. Inbound IA personnel will transit to Afghanistan via the Manas Transit Center

beginning in early February. The Warrior Transition Program is in the process of finding a new location and should move sometime in Spring/Summer 2012. The bottom line – change is inevitable.

This means that you can expect more of what the end of 2011 looked like some; billets being shut off with little or no notice and Sailors going home early because of it. The benefit is that this will result in less Navy Sailors being deployed in Army jobs, allowing those Sailors to return to the Fleet, where they are desperately needed. Rarely has there been a time which will call for more flexibility, situational awareness and patience than what is to come. I know you will rise to the occasion and demonstrate the same continued professionalism and Navy pride that has been the hallmark of the IA presence in the CENTCOM AOR. I look forward to meeting these challenges with you.

Most of you should have just completed the IA Billet Survey that was sent out by U.S. Fleet Forces Command. This important tool is just a first step, and will aid the Navy and the Joint Staff in identifying the billets which still require IA sourcing to pave the way for right-sizing the overall CENTCOM force. Thank you for your participation in this important undertaking.

I am honored to serve with all of you and proud of the incredible work each of you is doing as the Navy supports its fellow services. There will be obstacles to overcome, but I have no doubt that we will continue to surmount them just as we have done in the past. We are the greatest Navy the world has ever known, and the work done by all of you - out of rate, on land, and in environments strange to Sailors - is the most obvious testament to this simple truth. You are living, breathing proof of the adaptability and dedication of a U.S. Navy Sailor. Keep up the great work, keep your head on a swivel, stay safe and have a Happy New Year!

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**LCDR Jamie Stall-Ryan**  
Fifth Fleet Deputy Chaplain

*"I don't know who, or what put the question, I don't know when it was put. I don't even remember answering. But at some moment I did answer Yes to Someone, or Something, and from that hour I was certain that existence is meaningful and that, therefore, my life, in self-surrender, had a goal." - Dag Hammarskjold.*

Every New Year we go about making goals to better ourselves. We love to set goals, and those who achieve them are often considered the best among us. The larger the goal achieved, the greater the pride. But what do we really gain if we see our goals as a way to reach new heights or new levels for personal success? It is like giving something up for Lent so that we can be closer to God. What would it be like if instead of giving up sweets, alcohol, fast food etc..., we devote some of our time to someone else, to be closer to God? What would it be like if instead of making so many personal goals, we make a goal to help someone else reach a goal? Year after year we set new goals in the area of health, finances and education. All of us could do better in these areas of our lives, and this is exactly my point. How much greater would it be to assist a shipmate reach new heights? Maybe there is someone near you who is really in debt and does not know how to budget. Can someone else's goal, or struggle, be our goal?

The above quote reminds me the real goal for my life is to say yes to someone or something, and to devote my energies to its success. It is here in my self-surrender that I will discover that I have lived according to my purpose, and in finding my purpose, I have reached the goal that was set for me.

## Kuwait

### Camp Buehring



### Taking Care of the Troops Naval Air Ambulance Detachment, Kuwait

The 2515<sup>th</sup> Naval Air Ambulance Detachment (NAAD) is responsible for providing Aero-Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) for U.S. and Coalition Forces and local nationals in the area of operations within Kuwait, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Since the Navy assumed the mission from the Army in Nov. 2005, the 2515<sup>th</sup> NAAD has transported more than 2,700 patients.

In December, the NAAD's two separate detachments consolidated when the Northern detachment stationed in Basrah, Iraq relocated to Udairi Army Airfield at Camp Buehring, Kuwait as part of the U.S. withdrawal from Iraq.

The NAAD is comprised of approximately 150 Sailors from two Navy helicopter Squadrons; HSC-21 homeported at NAS North Island, San Diego CA and HSC-25 homeported at Anderson Air Force Base, Guam. Sailors deploy from each command for a standard six month rotation. Additionally, seven Navy Search and Rescue Medical Technicians (SMTs) and three Army Flight Medics (FMs) are IA to the NAAD to provide medical support, and render care to patients transported by the MEDEVAC aircraft.

With each squadron having only two to four organic SMTs assigned, the NAAD

receives additional support from IA Sailors and Soldiers, who hail from several different commands, to help augment the NAAD. The SMT community comprises 74 Hospital Corpsmen who have volunteered for additional flight and advanced medical training. SMTs support the Navy's Search and Rescue units and HSC squadrons, enhancing the medical care provided to survivors rescued and patients transported by Navy helicopter squadrons. It is quite natural that SMTs are well suited for this traditional Army MEDEVAC mission as embodied by their motto, "SO OTHERS MAY LIVE".

### WTP Sailor in the Spotlight



Aviation Administration Man Second Class Fredrick Schmidt is WTP's Sailor in the Spotlight this month. He has been a part of NAVCENT FWD HQ Kuwait since November, and is currently on nine month orders.

Surviving on coffee, he works hard in the registration and travel office at WTP where some of his responsibilities include managing the registration process for re-deployers, and arranging travel for them through SATO.

Schmidt is from Sanford, Fla., and is on Active Duty, stationed with the HSL Wing in Mayport. He has been in the Navy for five ½ years, and will soon be celebrating his first year of marriage to his lovely wife, Korynn.

Some of his hobbies include spending time with friends, surfing, and cars. He hopes to put on Petty Officer First Class soon and plans to apply for a commission through the Seaman-to-Admiral 21 program, possibly making a career out of the Navy.

Schmidt is a hard worker who is a constantly positive influence on those around him. He is a great addition and asset to both WTP and the NAVCENT FWD Kuwait team!

### Camp Arifjan



Theater Field Confinement Facility (TFCF) Detachment Juliet has recently completed its assigned mission at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait from April 2011 to December 2011. While assigned to the TFCF, Detachment Juliet personnel provided theater commanders across the CENTCOM AOR a safe, disciplined and secure military environment for the confinement of Pre-Trial/Post-Trial U.S. service members and DOD Civilians. The TFCF serves as a deterrent and disciplinary tool to CENTCOM AOR theater commanders.



# Afghanistan

## BAGRAM:



The **NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission (NROLFSM)** is tasked with assisting the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in building a sustainable Rule of Law structure as a sovereign nation. Commanded by U.S. Navy Rear Adm. James W. Crawford III, JAGC, the command is a combined-joint environment, consisting of U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps personnel partnered with representatives from NATO nations and civilian law enforcement professionals.

A variety of U.S. Navy personnel serve as part of this command, supporting the focus on Rule of Law, a key component in the success of stability operations in Afghanistan. Navy personnel with expertise in logistics and construction, lead initiatives to build sustainable infrastructure in support of the Rule of Law.

Additionally, as the name implies, the command employs a number of Navy Judge Advocates (JAGs), including the commander himself. These JAGs, along with experienced line officers from various communities, serve as Rule of Law Field Support Officers (ROLFSOs), providing essential field capabilities, liaison, coordination and security to Afghan and international civilian providers of technical Rule of Law assistance. ROLFSOs are strategically positioned by the command in areas designated by the Afghan government as requiring assistance. They live and work with forward deployed U.S. and Coalition units, often in austere conditions, providing expertise and assistance to build both infrastructure and human

capacity for a long-lasting and sustainable judicial system to provide peace and stability for the Afghan people.



*SVM's atop a mountain peak in Dehsabz, Kabul during a ROLFSA Academy teambuilding exercise in December.*

In December, NROLFSM hosted its third "ROLFSO Academy" to train its new field officers, educate partner Rule of Law practitioners and provide a forum for Rule of Law actors from throughout Afghanistan to share best practices. The Academy was honored to have several distinguished guest speakers including U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Ryan Crocker, and Commander of Combined Joint Interagency Task Force-435, Lt. Gen. Keith M. Huber. Among the students, six Navy JAGs and three Naval Aviators assigned as ROLFSAOs attended the successful week-long course. In addition to classroom training, these naval officers observed an Afghan national security trial, and participated in an intensive defensive weapons course.

Along with their Army, Air Force and Marine Corps counterparts, these new Navy ROLFSAOs will return to districts in all five Regional Commands in Afghanistan, providing support and expertise for Rule of Law activities in the Provinces of Nangarhar, Khost, Kunar, Kandahar, Kunduz, Balkh, Herat and Helmand.

For his outstanding contributions to the NATO Rule of Law Field Support Mission (NROLFSM), BU1 (SCW/SW) Eric C. Dirk has been officially nominated by his parent command, Naval Facilities Southeast, to compete for receipt of the prestigious Stethem award.

Dirk has served with the Rule of Law Field Force/NROLFSM since March 2011. Primarily stationed in the province of

Herat in the western region of Afghanistan, Dirk quickly became NROLFSM's "go-to" engineer for some of the most important infrastructure projects to support sustainable Rule of Law programs. Dirk's capabilities were recognized beyond the command -- he was sought out by both special operations task forces and NATO partners in the area to lend his expertise to their projects. A true joint leader, Dirk also lent a hand to first aid, MRAP and CPR training for not only Sailors, but Marines, Soldiers and Airmen, alike.



*BU1 Eric Dirk pictured with Afghan justice sector officials in Herat Province.*

The Stethem award is given annually to the CEC officer or enlisted Seabee who exhibits outstanding moral courage in support of the traditions and legacy of the Seabees while in the course of actual operations.

Dirk is a native of Pennsylvania, and is stationed with Naval Facilities Southeast at Joint Reserve Base New Orleans with his wife, Jennifer, and two daughters, Savanna and Victoria.



## Afghanistan

### KANDAHAR: Role III Hospital



(Above) CAPT Bruce Meneley (Right), Commanding Officer Role 3 Hospital Kandahar Afghanistan, welcomes LCDR Michael Oras, Preventive Medicine Physician from Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit (NEPMU) 6, Pearl Harbor as he joins his wife, LCDR Sunny Hwang-Oras, trauma nurse at the Role 3 for a three-day layover in Kandahar before he deploys to a Forward Operating Base near Kabul.

### Navy Couple Reunites in Kandahar over Holidays

Dual military couples face many challenges. One of the most significant is the difficulty in acquiring co-location orders in order to maintain a normal family life in the face of frequent deployment-related separations. One such dual military couple is LCDR Sunny Hwang-Oras, a Nurse Corps Reserve Officer from Pearl Harbor who is presently deployed as a trauma nurse at the Role 3 hospital at Kandahar Air Field (KAF) in Afghanistan, and her husband LCDR Michael Oras, also from Pearl Harbor, a Preventative Medicine physician assigned to a Forward Operating Base (FOB) near Kabul.

They met at Bangor, Wash., but soon after their wedding in 2005, the first of their separations began as he started residency in San Diego, and she returned to her job in Anacortes, Wash. In 2010 they were reunited in the beautiful Hawaiian Islands, but this proved to be a short-lived pleasure when LCDR Hwang-Oras received mobilization / deployment orders to KAF. Pre-deployment training began at Ft. Dix, N.J., July 2011, and she arrived with a large contingent of people assigned to the Role 3, Aug. 16. Shortly thereafter, she received news that her husband might also deploy to theater, which only meant

that the couple would have to be apart longer than originally anticipated.

Always positive and smiling, LCDR Hwang-Oras was tracking her husband's pre-deployment training, hoping for, but uncertain about being able, to see him when he arrives in Afghanistan. They kept in touch with phone calls, e-mails, letters and "care packages". She received the best Christmas "care package" of all, Dec. 21 with the news that her husband would be coming through and staying at KAF for three days (Dec. 22-24) on his way to his deployment destination.

Kandahar is not on anyone's wish list as a good place to spend the Christmas holidays, but for a couple who is very familiar with being apart, this was a very special reunion, and a Christmas season they will never forget.

### KANDAHAR: Role 3 Hospital



Staff members pay respect to a fallen service member at the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit.

The Role 3 staff has maintained an amazing survival rate for incoming U.S. casualties since arriving in August. The heroic and extraordinary efforts of the trauma teams have brought several back from the dead, saving victims who were in full cardiac arrest with resuscitation in progress upon arrival. However, sometimes troops have sustained injuries that are fatal, often only determined after the staff has expended every effort and poured their hearts and souls into trying to save them. It becomes very personal, and when someone dies, a guard is posted, and the remains

are covered with a flag. The deceased is then escorted out of the room by the chaplain, during the while, the staff gathers in the passageway to pay their final respects, and reconcile their feelings.

Members of the person's unit who have been injured in the same incident join them, some on gurneys or in wheelchairs. Between saluting ranks, the chaplain says a few departing words. The staff learns their names and sometimes where they are from. Their sacrifices are recognized as are the efforts to save them. Then three bells sound.

Ding. Ding. Ding. "Warrior, departing."

Recently, the staff received a gift from a woman who, after suddenly losing her brother, painted a picture of an angel that brought her peace.

After reading a series of articles in the *Virginian-Pilot* (A Chance in Hell, <http://hamptonroads.com/achanceinhell>) she felt compelled to send the picture in the hope it might provide some peace for the staff as well. Upon unrolling the first picture, what everyone noticed was the Purple Heart. There was no question where this would go. The Seabees were asked to frame the picture and took the project to heart, producing a frame inlaid with Purple Heart wood along with a framed poem and a banner "Fallen Angels" across the top, unveiled on Dec. 7.

During this holiday season we remember and honor our national heroes, our "fallen angels." Although separated from their families, the Role 3 staff feels privileged to be taking care of the wounded, recognizing their sacrifices, honoring their service and sending them back to their families.



## Afghanistan

### KABUL:

#### Operation Outreach gives Fuel for Fire

Thousands of people in Afghanistan live in impoverished conditions, surviving day-to-day with limited resources. The Afghan government estimates that 42 percent of the country's total population lives in poverty. During the winter, surviving becomes even more difficult with decreasing resources and colder temperatures. Many families in refugee camps are forced to burn trash and old tires to keep warm, as conventional heaters and electricity are not available.

To assist in this need, the North Kabul, Afghanistan International Airport (NKAIA) chapter of Operation Outreach Afghanistan is providing Afghan refugees with material, known as "fuel pucks," to burn for warmth and to cook meals.

"Fuel pucks," a term coined because of their resemblance to hockey pucks, are a recycled form of paper, cardboard and saw dust that can be used to build fires. The fuel puck project at NKAIA is an ongoing effort that started about a month ago when Maj. Michael Barnett noticed the opportunity to provide more assistance to refugee camps in Kabul.

"I had seen it done at Camp Phoenix when I was there. When I came to NKAIA, I noticed we weren't making them and I thought, 'We can do that,'" he said. "We had a lot of supply, and a lot of demand, but no manufacturing means."

Barnett quickly got to work with the Operation Outreach team, devising a plan to start making fuel pucks to hand out at refugee camps and orphanages. He used scraps of PVC pipe and old furniture to make molds and utilized the self-service wood shop at Camp Phoenix to build a press.

"The process is quite simple," explained Barnett. Shredded documents from offices, and saw dust from the Camp Phoenix wood shop, are collected and broken down with water. When the mixture becomes the consistency of oatmeal, it is put into a mold, pressed to remove as much water as possible, and dried in the

sun. Each fuel puck will burn for 20 to 30 minutes. According to recent tests at a local women's center, they burn hot enough to boil water.

"Giving out fuel pucks compliments the humanitarian assistance mission of Operation Outreach Afghanistan very well," said Barnett. Keeping warm is a basic human necessity, especially during cold winter months.

"The fuel pucks provided by Operation Outreach offer a healthier and more efficient source of heat," said Spc. Gabriela Martinez, who volunteers weekly to make fuel pucks.

"Burning old tires and trash puts a lot of pollutants into the air that we then have to breathe. This is a healthier option for everyone," Martinez said. "The resources are available," Barnett explained. "All it takes is a little time."

"It's a great way to use shredded paper that would normally end up in a trash pile somewhere and it's also fulfilling a need for the Afghan community," Barnett said. "Every military compound in Afghanistan creates and destroys documents daily. Why not use what would normally be wasted to help those in need?"

The process of making fuel pucks is also something that can be handed over to the Afghan community very easily.

"It's not hard to do and our intent is to empower the Afghan community," Barnett said. "Our ultimate goal is to show them how this works and give them the tools they need to sustain and, hopefully, improve production."

One of the missions of Operation Outreach Afghanistan is to improve the living conditions of children. According to Maj. Gustavo Ramirez, who spearheaded the formation of the NKAIA chapter in September, 60% of the refugees living in camps that NKAIA gives to are children.

"Most of these kids don't even have shoes," said Ramirez. "They need a lot and we're going to provide as much as we can."

Ramirez said he hopes that Afghan children will see U.S. Soldiers helping them and form a positive outlook on the work that troops are doing in the region.

"Most of them only see one side of the story," he said. "Seeing us provide the

other side of that story might just change their opinion for the better in the future."

Operation Outreach now boasts more than 400 volunteers in several chapters throughout Kabul, Afghanistan and is quickly growing. The NKAIA chapter has gained more than 100 of those members since its establishment. To donate school supplies or children's clothing, go to: <http://www.opoutreach.org/> or email: [op.outreach.afg@gmail.com](mailto:op.outreach.afg@gmail.com) for more information.

### FOB Pasab:



At Forward Operating Base (FOB) Pasab, two Expeditionary Disposition Remediation Team (EDRTS) head to the soak-yard to retrieve their charges. Two flatbed trucks, driven by locals employed by a scrap contractor, slowly edge their way through a maze of concrete and follow their escorts to the scrap metal yard. There, for the next several hours, the EDRT team directs a force of construction equipment and on-site personnel to perform the following tasks: load items on the trucks that are safe and prepared; segregate out any items that require demilitarization and cannot leave; and turn away unsafe items, such as hazardous materials, that cannot be accepted in their present condition.

In 2011 alone, 8,407,818 pounds of scrap have been successfully removed and sold to contractors, saving millions of dollars in costs and protecting the environment at the same time.

## Afghanistan

### Farah, Afghanistan



The Communications (S-6) Department is one of the most important departments of Provincial Reconstruction Team Farah. The S-6 department helps keep the mission afloat.

"Without communications we would be dead in the water," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Peter Stone, a member of the S-6 team. "There would be no way for our Tactical Operations Center (TOC) to know if something happened to our people on mission. Whether they need to evacuate wounded personnel or let them know their position."

PRT Farah has over 6.7 million dollars

worth of communication equipment, which the S-6 shop is responsible for maintaining. This includes a variety of radios designed to facilitate communications in vehicles, satellite communications and data encryption hardware.

"Everything we maintain is important in its own way. Each kind of radio serves its own role," said Stone.

The PRT conducts missions all over the province and sometimes travels to places that can only be reached by helicopter.

Needless to say, sometimes those places are not reachable through regular communication methods. When PRT members are so far away, communication with home-base can make or break the success of the mission.

Before those missions, the communications personnel check every radio and system to make sure they will work in every situation.

Recently, the PRT went to the distant and mountainous Purchaman District to meet with key leaders of the village.

Within five minutes of landing, Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven Davis had set up

a mobile TOC and established communications with homebase.

"If something had gone wrong with the equipment, it was my responsibility to troubleshoot and fix the problem and to make sure if we needed help from homebase, we would have the ability to call for it," said Davis.



With every mission, especially ones so far away, communication is key. Without it, mission personnel would be on their own, with no way to receive help. As with tasks in everyday life, communication is the key to success.

## From Around the AOR

### KANDAHAR, Afghanistan



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick D. West takes center stage as CAPT Bruce Meneley, Commanding Officer, HMCM(SW/FMF) Keith Staples, Command Master Chief, enjoy the moment as the MCPON enlightens the rest of the hospital crew on Dec. 7, at the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Kandahar Afghanistan.

### KABUL, Afghanistan



Navy Lt. James Mccue, a public affairs officer at ISAF HQ, Kabul recently took western and regional media on a battlefield media engagement to Arghandab in Kandahar. Media correspondents met with the district governor, tribal elders and local villagers to assess how security has drastically improved in the district over last couple of years." Photo by Cpt. Chris Hawkins (Australian Army)

### PAKTIKA, Afghanistan



Logistics Specialist 1st Class Adrian Hernandez, and Yeoman 1st Class Peter Deschene, from Provincial Reconstruction Team Paktika, salute after lowering the colors following a Fallen Heroes Dedication Ceremony on FOB Sharana, Afghanistan, on Christmas Day. More than 60 people attended the ceremony in honor of Chief Petty Officer Raymond Border, PRT engineer and Seabee, and Staff Sgt. Jorge Oliveira, PRT Security Forces infantry squad leader from the New Jersey National Guard, who were killed Oct. 19 by an improvised explosive device. The PRT laid stones with each service member's name in remembrance of their sacrifice.

## New Policy/Guidance

### CHANGE TO U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS IN LIGHT OF U.S. V. SERIANNE 373/11

THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES THAT U.S. NAVY REGULATIONS NOW REQUIRE THAT ALL PERSONS IN THE NAVAL SERVICE SELF-REPORT CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS, INCLUDING FOREIGN CONVICTIONS. THIS CHANGE REPOSED TO THE DECISION BY THE COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES IN U.S. V. SERIANNE, IN WHICH THE COURT INVALIDATED A SELF-REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS POLICY GUIDANCE CONCERNING POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS

**382/11** THIS NAVADMIN PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE ON POLICIES FOR ELECTION YEAR SUPPORT. REQUEST WIDEST DISSEMINATION WITHIN YOUR COMMANDS.

### CNO HOLIDAY MESSAGE 384/11

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, I WANT TO TELL YOU HOW PROUD DARLEEN AND I ARE OF THE WORK YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES ARE DOING THROUGHOUT THE FLEET. BECAUSE OF YOU WE REMAIN THE WORLD'S GREATEST NAVY. BECAUSE OF THE EFFORTS OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES, WE OPERATE AROUND THE GLOBE, 365 DAYS A YEAR, PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO PROTECT OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS AND PROVIDING THE PRESIDENT AN OFFSHORE OPTION. THIS WORK DOES NOT COME WITHOUT SACRIFICE AND THEREFORE, WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL, AND THANK YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON FOR YOUR SERVICE.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TIME WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, ENJOY THE TIME OFF, YOU HAVE EARNED IT. BUT LET'S NOT FORGET OUR SHIPMATES WHO ARE CURRENTLY STANDING THE WATCH SO THAT WE CAN ENJOY THE TIME WITH OUR FAMILIES. IT

IS CHALLENGING TO BE APART FROM LOVED ONES THIS TIME OF YEAR.

IT IS BECAUSE OF SAILORS LIKE UTILITIESMAN 3RD CLASS CRYSTAL MCDUGAL, SERVING WITH NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION FOUR'S CONVOY SECURITY ELEMENT IN SOUTHWEST, AFGHANISTAN; ENGINEMAN 1ST CLASS KENNETH GOSSETT SERVING WITH EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL MOBILE UNIT TWELVE IN SOUTHWEST AFGHANISTAN; QUARTERMASTER 3RD CLASS GRACE THUERKOFF, ABOARD USS DEWEY (DDG 105) IN THE FIFTH FLEET; AND SEAMAN HAYDEN HUMPHREYS ABOARD USS DONALD COOK (DDG 75) IN THE INDIAN OCEAN, THAT AMERICANS ARE ABLE TO SPEND THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH THEIR LOVED ONES.

REGARDLESS OF WHERE YOU FIND YOURSELF DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON KNOW THAT YOUR DECISION TO SERVE IS THE HEART, SOUL, AND STRENGTH OF AMERICA. IT IS WHAT SETS YOU APART AND MAKES YOU SPECIAL.

DARLEEN AND I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT AND REMIND YOU TO TAKE CARE AND BE SAFE. YOU ARE ALWAYS IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS, ESPECIALLY DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

### BATTLE OF MIDWAY COMMEMORATION PLANNING ORDER 398/11

THIS NAVADMIN PROVIDES INITIAL GUIDANCE AND TASKS FOR THE GLOBAL EXECUTION, PLANNING, AND DECONFLICTION OF THIS IMPORTANT COMMEMORATION. NHHC WILL PLAN AND OVERSEE THE EXECUTION OF A COORDINATED GLOBAL NAVY WIDE BOM COMMEMORATION TO INCLUDE A NAVY WIDE SIMULTA-

NEOUS WREATH LAYING CEREMONY IOT IMBUE OUR SAILORS WITH THE IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF OUR NAVY'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE AND THIS DECISIVE VICTORY IN PARTICULAR. HONOR OUR SHIPMATES WHO FOUGHT AND SACRIFICED AT THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY.

### POST DEPLOYMENT HEALTH RE-ASSESSMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

**007/12** THE POST-DEPLOYMENT HEALTH RE-ASSESSMENT (PDHRA) (DD 2900), A VITAL PART OF THE DEPLOYMENT HEALTH ASSESSMENT (DHA) PROCESS, IS DESIGNED TO IDENTIFY PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH INJURIES DURING THE CRITICAL TIME PERIOD FOLLOWING CERTAIN DEPLOYMENTS. THIS NAVADMIN ANNOUNCES NEW PDHRA ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES AND PROVIDES A REVIEW OF THE DHA PROCESS. THIS NAVADMIN ALSO DIRECTS NAVY COMMANDS CONDUCT A ONE-TIME SCREENING OF MEDICAL RECORDS FOR DHA COMPLIANCE FOR ALL PERSONNEL WHO HAVE COMPLETED A QUALIFYING DEPLOYMENT.



## Command Information

### Mission and Vision

We are a forward deployed Echelon II/III Naval Component Command/Fleet Command of Naval Forces conducting Maritime Security Operations in support of OEF/OND; Partnership-Strength-Presence; and Struggle Against Violent Extremists within the COMUSNAVCENT Campaign Plan. We continue to provide a dedicated service component support to all IA Sailors Boots on Ground (BOG) in the COMUSCENTCOM Area of Responsibility (AOR) in order to optimize mission readiness and to manage mission risk during deployment.

### About CTF-IA

We are located on NSA Bahrain in the COMUSNAVCENT Building, and we can be contacted at the following email address: [AUG-DIV@ME.NAVY.MIL](mailto:AUG-DIV@ME.NAVY.MIL). Visit our website at <http://www.cusnc.navy.mil/ctf-ia/>

### Contact information for NAVCENT FWD HQs

#### NAVCENT FWD HQS AFGHANISTAN:

[navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:navcentfwdafghan@afghan.swa.army.mil)

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<b>CMDCM:</b>	CMDCM David Anderson	<a href="mailto:cmc@afghan.swa.army.mil">cmc@afghan.swa.army.mil</a>	<b>DSN</b>	318-421-7498
<b>CAREER COUNSELOR:</b>	NCCS Erwin Hunter	<a href="mailto:erwin.b.hunter@afghan.swa.army.mil">erwin.b.hunter@afghan.swa.army.mil</a>	<b>DSN</b>	318-431-0158

#### NAVCENT FWD HQS KUWAIT:

[vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil](mailto:vrgn.niasu.det@kuwait.swa.army.mil)

<b>OIC:</b>	CAPT Adrian Garcia	<a href="mailto:adrian.a.garcia@kuwait.swa.army.mil">adrian.a.garcia@kuwait.swa.army.mil</a>	<b>DSN</b>	318-430-7809
<b>CMDCM:</b>	CMDCM Cheryl Cloud	<a href="mailto:cheryl.d.cloud@kuwait.swa.army.mil">cheryl.d.cloud@kuwait.swa.army.mil</a>	<b>DSN</b>	318-430-7939
<b>CAREER COUNSELOR:</b>	NCC Angela Keen	<a href="mailto:angela.keen@kuwait.swa.army.mil">angela.keen@kuwait.swa.army.mil</a>	<b>DSN</b>	318-832-2146

**CTF-IA is looking for ways to tell your story. If you have a story and photographs you want published in next month's newsletter, please send your inputs to TF-IA STAFF, BAHRAIN: [AUGDIV@me.navy.mil](mailto:AUGDIV@me.navy.mil) no later than the 1st of each month. There is no better way to share your experiences with fellow IA's than through your IA Newsletter.**

We highly encourage you to share these newsletters with your friends, spouse, or significant others.

GSA NOTE: As you prepare to redeploy, ensure that you are in contact with your ECRC to arrange follow-on travel to your PCS destination.

## Important Phone Numbers

### COMMAND HOTLINE INFORMATION

The mission of the DON/NAVCENT Hotline is to provide a method to receive and investigate reports of fraud, waste, mismanagement and other related improprieties, when the chain of command cannot, or will not, take appropriate action. Below are ways to contact the hotline:

Telephone:	(DSN) 318-439-3574 (COM) 011-973-1785-3574
Fax:	(DSN) 318-439-9116 (COM) 011-973-1785-9116
Email:	<a href="mailto:IG.Hotline@me.navy.mil">IG.Hotline@me.navy.mil</a>

### SAPR—Sexual Assault Prevention Response

Cell Phone: 011-973-3940-3906