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Fair Winds to a Good Friend

By PH2 V. Birmingham,
Staff Writer

After a job well done, Polish coalition forces headed home to friends and family August 2 after completing their mission in

the Arabian Gulf and the Arabian Sea.

In July, 2002, President Aleksander Kwasniewski, National Command Authority of Poland, sent the warship *ORP Kontradmiral X. Czernicki*

(OWL-511) from the 2nd Transport and Mine Laying Ships Squadron based in Swinoujscie, Poland, to the Gulf in support of the global war on terrorism.

During its tour in the region, the logistics ship spent over 14 months at sea and completed 24 interceptions of suspect vessels. *Czernicki's* original mission was to provide logistics support for Commander, Task Force 53 for only six months. That short mission became a long-term commitment when the coalition's focus turned from Operation Enduring Freedom to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"Originally, the plan was to stay here only a half-year," said *Czernicki's* commanding officer, Lt. Cmdr. Jacek Rogalski.

When its original tour ended, Polish Navy Headquarters initiated a crew-swap due to a maximum six-month deployment requirement. *Czernicki* swapped 36 of her 50 crewmembers in January before accepting a new set of orders from Commander, Task Force 55.

"The new crew was airlifted into Bahrain and a 10-day training evolution began," said Lt. Cmdr. Robert Wereszko, Polish Navy Liaison Officer to CTF 55. Since *Czernicki* was commissioned only two years ago, it only had one crew trained to operate the ship.

"Swapping crews was a real challenge," said Wereszko, "There is not another single ship
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Photo courtesy of ORP Kontradmiral X. Czernicki

CG Patrol Boat Holds Change-of-Command

By PA3 Kyle Niemi, USCG
Coast Guard Forces Southwest Asia
Public Affairs

Lt. Anthony W. Williams relieved Lt. Holly Harrison as commander of Coast Guard Cutter *Aquidneck* July 31 during a change-of-command ceremony held at Naval Support Activity Bahrain.

Aquidneck is a 110-foot patrol boat homeported in Atlantic Beach, N.C. The cutter has been operating out of the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom since the onset of the war.

The various missions of the patrol boats in theater included force protection for landing craft and special forces during the amphibious assault of the Iraqi peninsula of Al Faw, safeguarding mine sweepers as they cleared the channels of Iraqi ports, and the escort of ships carrying humanitarian supplies.

Harrison was one of four Coast Guard

patrol boat skippers to receive the Bronze Star Medal in a presentation, July 17. The medal is for meritorious achievement in connection with combat operations and has not been awarded to Coast Guard personnel since the Vietnam conflict almost 30 years ago.

Williams had just completed a tour as operations officer aboard Cutter *Acushnet*, a 213-foot medium-endurance cutter homeported in Ketchikan, Alaska, prior to assuming command of *Aquidneck*.

Harrison, a native of Vienna, Va., will depart for a new post at the Coast Guard Maritime Law Enforcement Boarding Officer School in Yorktown, Va.

While under her command, *Aquidneck* represented the first line of defense for Coalition Naval Forces as they provided protection for the coalition mine hunters within established mine danger areas in Iraq's internal waters.

Harrison's Bronze Star citation read that,

"her impressive tactical skill and unparalleled leadership were demonstrated when escorting humanitarian assistance shipping to Umm Qasr, ensuring the expeditious flow of food and medicine to the people of Iraq."

Harrison supports the decision of using the Coast Guard in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"We had the right asset – the 110," said Harrison, "and our crew had the right skills—we adapt."

"We're used to handling risky scenarios. The mission is very similar to what we do in the states."

She further praised her crew by adding, "Force protection, guarding assets, navigating rivers – we're the experts."

Williams, who lives in Fairfax, Va., said the three challenges he and his crew face are separation from their loved ones, the heat, and a demanding patrol operation tempo.

But, he said he will do all he can to, "fulfill the mission to make America safer." 🇺🇸

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in the Polish navy of this type. It is a brand new ship, and there were no other Sailors trained to deal with this equipment, or who knew this type of ship." He added that a point was made to send only senior Sailors who would be capable of manning and operating the new ship in a short time.

Under new command and crew, the ship began taking on more challenging responsibilities.

Their mission changed from mostly patrolling and logistics to escort duties and providing berthing for special forces who were boarding suspect vessels in the Northern Arabian Gulf.

"The crew was seeking different opportunities," said Wereszko

"We were very happy to give our support and join together with the destroyers, cruisers, and frigates," Rogalski said.

"I had never conducted boardings in the Gulf, which was new for me. The Americans helped us understand the procedures," said Lt. Bogdan Tomaszycy, *Czernicki's* operations officer. "It was a very good experience working with American boarding teams," he said. "We had the opportunity to use our English, and learn new procedures. I'm sure this experience will help us train our boarding teams when we return to Poland."

During its tour with the coalition, *Czernicki* became a popular sight in the Gulf and at the pier. She was affectionately nicknamed *Princessa* by coalition

forces due to her small size. The Polish Sailors' reply – their princess, bristling with missiles, guns and experienced Sailors packs a real punch and has proven itself time and time again to be a valuable part of the coalition effort. 🇺🇸



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Veronica Birmingham
Lt. Cmdr. Jacek Rogalski, stands on the bridge of the Polish warship ORP Czernicki, which just completed its deployment in the 5th Fleet region.



Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet, is **Vice Adm. Timothy J. Keating**.

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Questions and comments can be directed to the Public Affairs Office. The Editor of the Scimitar can be reached at 724-510 or 724-027. Stories and input may be submitted via e-mail to: scimitar@cusnc.navy.mil.

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NAVCENT Intel officer receives Vice Adm. Taylor award

By **JOSN Erica R. Gardner**,
Staff Writer

The world of military intelligence is full of hard working people who take pride in their craft. They live in a world of secrecy, so how do you reward them for a job well done?

The answer is the Vice Admiral Rufus L. Taylor Award, recently given to Capt. Alex Butterfield, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, United States Naval Forces Central Command.

The National Military Intelligence Association (NMIA) gave Butterfield the award for his contribution to the leadership of intelligence personnel during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. During that period, he served as the maritime component's head of naval intelligence efforts in the 5th Fleet theater of operations.

"It is nice to be recognized for the work we do during combat operations," Butterfield said when asked how he felt about being chosen for the award. Butterfield was also quick to acknowledge the people he works with and noted that they should also receive some well-deserved recognition for their contributions

to the effort during the operation. "The award could have gone to any one of these people," he said, "I just happened to be in the right place at the right time."

Butterfield specifically emphasized the value of positive leadership in any field of the military. "Leaders, no matter what field of expertise, should articulate for their people the essential meaningfulness of what they are doing in peace and war. A sense of history and the vocabulary to connect history to what they're doing contributes to successful leadership."

NMIA was founded in 1974 by the then Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, five other Army general officers, one U.S. Senator, as well as two officers who would later become generals.

NMIA's awards program was started in 1985 by Col. Roy K. Jonkers, U.S. Air Force (retired), and awards are now presented annually to members of all military services, including the "Coast Guard, DIA, NSA, CIA, NMIA, and NRO as a means of providing a testimonial to professional excellence and exceptional dedication to duty and to country," according to a NMIA web site. Selections are made by service intelligence chiefs and directors of various U.S. intelligence agencies, including the CIA. 🇺🇸



<http://www.cusnc.navy.mil/afn/tvsked.pdf>

Rating Surveys Critical to Success of Sea Warrior

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Enlisted Sailors in all ratings and pay grades are being encouraged to improve Navy training and future readiness by participating in a unique round of surveys under the Improving the Navy Workforce (INWF) Study.

The INWF study, ongoing since June of last year, is designed to improve training across the spectrum of Navy enlisted classifications and ratings by capturing all the knowledge, skills, abilities and tools Sailors need to do their jobs. The study is a fundamental element of making Sea Warrior effective, and the results will have a dramatic effect on how the Navy trains its Sailors in the future.

“INWF forms the very backbone of our efforts to streamline the development of our people,” said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. “If we can get an accurate picture of what is required for each Sailor to do his or her job, then we can get an even better picture of how to train to those skills. It’s all about closing those gaps. The collec-

tion of these surveys is a monumental undertaking, but it will be well worth the effort.

The rating surveys actually comprise phase two of the INWF project. Phase one involved collecting basic information about each rating from specific subject matter experts. This phase now asks Sailors to validate those findings.

The surveys are available online for many ratings at www.navyskills.net, and the Web site will feature more each week. Sailors in the Cryptologic Technician ratings, Aeorographer’s Mates, Information Systems Technicians, Mess Management Specialists, Aviation Boatswain’s Mates (Fuel and Handling), Storekeepers, Quartermasters and those in several other ratings can take the survey now. Eventually, all ratings will be represented.

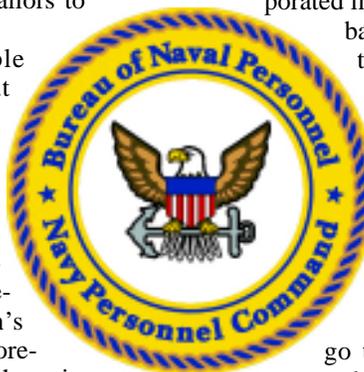
Commenting on the project and the vital role Sailors play in completing the surveys, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry Scott said, “It is so important for Sailors to complete this survey, and give us

feedback from the deckplates. What we learn from Sailors now will drive occupational standards and training in years to come. This is another example of how Sailors are our most important resource.”

The results of each survey will be incorporated into the Sea Warrior database, which will continue to refine the scope of Sailor skills, so training matches future readiness needs.

“Everyone’s input is crucial,” added Hoewing. “The success of Sea Warrior depends on it.”

To access the surveys, go to www.navyskills.net/surveymodule, click on “Register,” type “2003NAVY” in the company code block, click register and follow instructions. When the registration portion is completed, Sailors must save their information and the system will generate a user name and password; this will help Sailors logon in future aspects of Sea Warrior data collection.



Command Religious Program Naval Support Activity Bahrain



Weekly Schedule of Events

Monday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain’s Office Chapel Annex 1700 - Gospel Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility
Tuesday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain’s Office Chapel Annex 1830 - Gospel Bible Study, Chaplain Parker’s flat
Wednesday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 1630 - Catholic Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1730 - Protestant Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1830 - Gospel Choir Practice, Chapel/Training Facility 1830-2000 - Alien Youth Group Bible Study (grades 9-12), Bahrain School Room NTC 2000 - Gospel Praise Dancer’s rehearsal, POC Elder Sorrells
Thursday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain’s Office Chapel Annex 1630-1700 – Confessions, Chapel/Training Facility 1730 - Catholic Vigil Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 1830 - Gospel Intercosy Prayer Ministry, POC Evangelist Shabazz-Fentress
Friday	0930 - Catholic Mass, Chapel/Training Facility 0930 - Protestant Adult Friday School II in the CPO Lounge at the Dome 1100 - Protestant Worship Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1130 - Gospel Friday School Class, Navy College Classroom #2 1300 - Gospel Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1330 - Gospel Children’s Church ages 5-10 in the CDC, POC Mrs. Fulson 1800 - Protestant Evening Worship/Fellowship/Potluck at Chaplain Parker’s flat 1830 - Catholic Study Group, Chaplain Borger’s flat
Saturday	0730 - Protestant Single and Geo-Bachelor Men’s Study in the Dome Conference room
Sunday	1200 - Catholic Mass, Chaplain’s Office Chapel Annex 1700 - Church of Christ Service, Chaplain’s Office Chapel Annex 1800 - Protestant Evening Worship Service, Chapel/Training Facility 1900 - Gospel Praise Dancer’s rehearsal, POC Elder Sorrells

Laypeople:
 Muslim- CTCIM Young
 Church of Christ- SSG Veasey
 Int’l Church of Christ- PH2 Lapiere
 Latter Day Saints- CDR Hansen
 Jewish- LTJG Frey
 United Pentacostal- CW3 Moody

NSA Chaplain Staff:
 Capt. (Sel.) Parker, Command Chaplain
 Lt. Borger, Catholic Chaplain
 RP1(SW) Jefferson-Brooks
 RP2 Harris

NAVCENT Chaplain Staff:
 Capt. Tidd, Command Chaplain
 Cdr. Parisi, Catholic Chaplain
 RP2 Redfield
 RP2 Mosqueda

Questions regarding Command Religious Programs, please contact NSA Bahrain Chaplain’s office at 439-4235/4303 or 724-235/303, Sunday – Thursday.

Event participation contingent upon Force Protection Conditions

BUCS(SCW) Ruediger retires from service after 23 years

Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/ Commander 5th Fleet bid farewell Thursday to what he called one of his finest Sailors during a retirement ceremony for Senior Chief Builder (SCW) Hans U. Ruediger. "He has the can-do spirit that Seabees represent," said Vice Adm. Timothy Keating to the Seabee who is looking back on 23 years of service in the Naval Reserves.

Ruediger, who immigrated to the U.S. from Germany in 1960, enlisted in the Reserves in 1980 as a Builder after a career in the construction industry.

Before accepting active-duty orders to Bahrain in 1998, Ruediger served in various billets from Virginia to Rhode Island to New York.

In Bahrain, he has served as assistant to the Force Civil Engineer, planning and executing

construction and maintenance projects at COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT headquarters and other locations in the region. He also worked as the Emergency Response Team Coordinator, Disaster Preparedness Chief and Environmental Compliance Chief.

Keating noted that as COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT's safety officer, Ruediger established the command's Naval Occupational Safety and Health program.

Completing his farewell, Keating presented Ruediger the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service while on the COMUSNAVCENT/COMFIFTHFLT staff.

His son, Operations Specialist 1st Class (SWCC) Hans Ruediger, traveled from Stennis Space Center, Miss. for the ceremony. During his remarks, he



U.S. Navy photo by PH1(AW) Ernest Hunt
BUCS(SCW) Hans U. Ruediger is piped ashore as he passes through side boys after his retirement ceremony at NSA Bahrain's chapel.

stepped forward and spoke about what his father meant to him. In closing, he turned and thanked his father for the lessons he taught him when he was growing up.

Senior Chief Builder (SCW) Kris Baughman presented Ruediger with a shadow box of memorabilia along with letters of appreciation for his service from

former presidents Ford, Reagan and Bush. He also presented him with a hand-carved wooden statue of an eagle.

After many thanks to shipmates for many years of friendship and service, Ruediger closed by explaining to his guests that his retirement was not just the end of a chapter, but the beginning of a new one.

IMCSF 1st Sgt. retires after 25 years in Corps

Fellow Marines, Sailors, friends and family gathered Tuesday for a ceremony marking the end of a career that started in July, 1978 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. After 25 years of service, 1st Sgt. Kevin R. McMillan,

Interim Marine Corps Security Force, is retiring from the Marine Corps.

After introductions, Maj. Michael Thomas, IMCSF commanding officer, presented McMillan the Meritorious Service Medal for his dedication

and leadership while serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following the award, 1st Sgt. Sylvester Daniels read letters of appreciation for outstanding service from President George W. Bush, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps and Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, Sergeant Major of the After thanking everyone in attendance, McMillan turned and called Lance Cpl. Robert Warchuck from formation and presented him with a pair of 1st Sgt. Chevrons. The chevrons are traditionally given to an outstanding junior Marine as a goal to strive for in their career.

McMillan then pointed to a member of the audience, introducing his brother, Lt. Cdr. Herndon "Mac" McMillan and his family, who traveled all the way from Singapore for the event. He explained that he and his brother had not seen each



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Shawnee McKain
1st Sgt. McMillan salutes during the playing of the national anthem opening his retirement ceremony.

other in nine years.

Afterward, fellow non-commissioned officers presented McMillan with a shadow box containing an NCO's sword and other memorabilia.



U.S. Navy photo by PH1(AW) Shane Wallenda
1st Sgt. Kevin R. McMillan presents a pair of 1st Sgt. chevrons to Lance Cpl. Robert Warchuck,

NSA Paradise Theater

NOW SHOWING

THURSDAY

- 7** 1530 The Jungle Book 2 (G)
 1730 The Wedding Singer (PG-13)
 1930 X-Men 2 (PG-13)

FRIDAY

- 8** 1330 Treasure Planet (PG)
 1530 Jonah: The Veggie Tales Movie
 1730 Wild Thornberrys (PG)
 1930 X-Men 2 (PG-13)

SATURDAY

- 9** 1530 Tuck Everlasting (PG)
 1730 Agent Cody Banks (PG-13)
 1930 Fatal Blade (R)

SUNDAY

- 10** 1730 Pool Hall Junkies (R)
 1930 Bringing Down the House (PG-13)

MONDAY

- 11** 1730 Anger Management (PG-13)
 1930 Dream catcher (R)

TUESDAY

- 12** 1730 Identity (R)
 1930 Deliver us from EVA (R)

WEDNESDAY

- 13** 1730 Fatal Blade (R)
 1930 Pool Hall Junkies (R)

TREASURE PLANET(PG) Emma Thompson & David Hyde Pierce: Follow a young cabin boy aboard a glittering space galleon as he and the crew set off on an intergalactic treasure hunt for the legendary "loot" of a thousand worlds." Based on Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island." (96 min)

WILD THORNBERRY'S (PG) Lynn Redgrave & Marisa Tomei: A long time ago, a shaman granted Eliza the ability to talk to animals in return for a good deed she had done. This ability has gotten her into many wild adventures. When poachers snatch a cheetah cub that is traveling with her, she is on the case to retrieve the cub and an even bigger mystery involving a herd of elephants. (86 min)

X-MEN 2(PG 13) Patrick Stewart & Ian McKellen: Based on the Marvel comic book characters. A mutant is drawn closer to his past when the escaped leader helps halt a plot to destroy every other mutant on the planet. (134 min)

AGENT CODY BANKS(PG) Frankie Muniz & Hilary Duff: To his family and friends, Cody Banks is a typical teen who loves skateboarding, hates math, and feels like a complete idiot around girls. But Cody's got a secret. He's part of a special CIA youth program and is assigned to befriend a fellow student whose father is developing a fleet of nanobots for the evil organization ERIS. (101 min)

FATAL BLADE(R) Gary Daniels & Eric Lutes: Slick fighting and martial arts action take center stage in this Los Angeles based movie about the battle for control of crime in the city by the Japanese Yakuza, drug lords and the LAPD. (98 min)

POOLHALL JUNKIES(R) Chazz Palmintieri & Rick Schroder: A young man obsessed with the game of pool decides to break with his mentor, give up pool sharking, and maybe begin a real life. When his younger brother follows in his footsteps and lands in jail for stealing money to pay a debt to his former trainer, he is forced to once again, pick up his cue and play for big money. (98 min)

BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE(PG-13) Steve Martin & Queen Latifah: A divorced, straight laced and uptight attorney who still loves his ex-wife and can't figure out what he did wrong, decides to move on with his life when he is smitten by a brainy, bombshell barrister he's been chatting with on the internet. His world is about to be turned inside-out because his web mate turns out to be an escaped convict. (105 min)

ANGER MANAGEMENT(PG-13) Adam Sandler & Jack Nicholson: After a misunderstanding that escalates out of control, a mild-mannered New Yorker is ordered to attend anger management classes run by a doctor whose unorthodox approach to treatment is confrontational and abusive. The situation gets out of control when the doctor decides to move in and intensify his unique form of therapy. (101 min)

DREAMCATCHER(R) Morgan Freeman & Thomas Jane: Based on the popular novel by Stephen King, four young friends perform a heroic act and are changed forever by the supernatural powers they gain in return. Years later, on their annual hunting trip to the Maine woods, they are challenged again when they encounter a deadly alien force attempting to infect and take over our world. (134 min)

IDENTITY(R) John Cusack & Ray Liotta: When ten strangers with secrets are brought together during a savage rainstorm, they take shelter together at a desolate motel run by a nervous night desk manager. But relief is quickly replaced by fear as one by one the travelers begin to die in bloody, mysterious ways and the others must uncover the killer and discover his deadly secret. (90 min)

DELIVER US FROM EVA(R) LL Cool J & Gabrielle Union: When the family of an uptight young woman can no longer take her constant meddling in family affairs, they pay a local playboy \$5,000 to date and distract her. At first the plan goes smoothly, but trouble soon returns when the playboy actually falls in love with her. (105 min)

