

Assistant Secretary of the Navy visits Atsugi

Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Vivian Blakely

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MORALE

NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI, Japan – On Aug. 28, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Juan M. Garcia III met with Sailors on board Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi to thank them and their families for their service, provide the ground truth on the recent personnel policy changes throughout the Navy and roll out the new 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative.

Garcia held an all hands call at the NAF Atsugi's Cinema 77 theater where he rolled out the new 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative after discussing the enormous changes throughout the Navy and Marine Corps including a new budget, a new national defense strategy and significant personnel policy changes. The new initiative is designed to provide our service members with the information and support they need for future success.

Highlighting the five key areas, Garcia emphasized the importance of holding high standards in physical fitness, safety, readiness, and the significance of inclusion, and continuum for military personnel.

“After multiple deployments, we have been asking much of our Sailors and their families,” said Garcia. “The goal is to provide our Sailors and Marines with the best tools to succeed and excel.”

Opening the floor to questions, Garcia answered inquiries from Sailors ranging from sea duty pay to implementing home porting in overseas locations.

“We will continue to make small adjustments at the margins to ensure we achieve the right balance,” said Garcia. “The right Sailor at the right place and at the right time.”

Garcia started his day congratulating Sailors of the Quarter over breakfast and ended his stay at NAF Atsugi conversing over lunch with the new class of Chief Petty Officer Selects.

The assistant secretary is touring naval installations throughout Japan to promote the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative.

For more information about the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative, visit www.21stcentury.navy.mil.