George Washington Sailors volunteer at Busan orphanage

Story and photo by MCSN Alysia R. Hernandez, USS Geaorge Washington Public Affairs

BUSAN, Republic of Korea – More than 40 Sailors from the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS *George Washington* (CVN 73) visited the Sung Ae Won Home for Children during a port visit to Busan, Republic of Korea, Oct. 2.

The Sailors shared the opportunity to enrich the lives of dozens of underprivileged infants, toddlers and young children up to eight years of age who live at the home by volunteering one day of their four day port visit in Busan for a Community Service Project (COMSERV).

Upon their arrival, Sailors were welcomed and briefed by the orphanage staff and later divided into six separate rooms to play with the children.

"The best part of doing this COMSERV was seeing the smiles on the kid's faces… I plan on doing a COMSERV for every port we hit," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Andrew Williams, from Peoria, Ill.

While Williams' goal was to make a difference in a child's life, others members of the George Washington crew signed up to experience another culture.

"I volunteered because I thought this would be a good learning experience," said Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handler) Airman Stephen Sobocinski. "Instead of hitting all the MWR tours, I wanted to see another side to their culture."

The trip to the orphanage was just one of five COMSERVs *George Washington* Sailors participated in during the visit to Busan.

Sung Ae Won means garden of holiness and love. The orphanage was founded in 1948 and is one of 150 in the Republic of Korea. The orphanage's mission is to provide shelter for children who need immediate help, protect them from any hazard and guide them to become good members of society.

Sailors stationed aboard nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS *George Washington* (CVN 73) play with children at Sung Ae Won Home for Children during a Community Service Project in Busan, Republic of Korea, Oct. 2. Sung Ae Won is an orphanage for infants, toddlers and young children up to eight years old. This port visit marks *George Washington*'s third time in Busan, previously pulling into the port July 21, 2010.

Fleet Readiness Directorate established

By Nicole Collins, SPAWAR Systems Command Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO – With a renewed focus on command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) installations and fleet maintenance support, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) established the Fleet Readiness Directorate (FRD) Oct. 1.

In a response to a directive from Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research Development and Acquisition (ASN RDA), the FRD, led by Fleet Readiness Deputy Commander Rear Adm. Chuck Rainey, will proactively engage the fleet by providing a single point of entry to SPAWAR and it's affiliated program executive offices (PEOs) for all matters of installation delivery, in-service sustainment and C4I readiness.

"The critical importance of timely, accurate information in recent combat operations is a concrete example of information becoming a main battery of warfighting capability," said Adm. P.M. Walsh, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Adm. J.C. Harvey, Jr., commander, U.S. Fleet Forces, in a joint message. "Navy initiatives, like the establishment of the information dominance corps, the CNO's information dominance vision and the stand-up of 10th Fleet, clearly show the Navy's direction."

The FRD will be a key component in providing the same level of accountability, technical rigor and time-tested, combat-proven readiness standards for C4I systems.

"The realignment of resources will improve the focus on the fleet by providing them with a SPAWAR 'one-stop' shop for maintenance, repair and sustainment," said Rainey. "SPAWAR is committed to delivering and supporting critical warfighting capabilities and ensuring fleet readiness."

As an entry point to SPAWAR and its affiliated PEOs, the FRD is not intended to replace established fleet maintenance roles of help desks, regional maintenance centers or surface type commander staffs, but to provide a flag-led point of entry.

The establishment of the FRD will ensure the fleet receives seamless readiness support ensuring superior warfighting capability by installing and sustaining information dominance systems for the Navy.

For more news from Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/spawar/.

Navy orders personal contact information verification

From Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn.– The Navy is currently conducting a semiannual Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) verification requiring all Navy personnel to verify and update their personal contact information in NFAAS, officials said Sept. 27.

"We cannot stress enough the importance of maintaining the most accurate and up-to-date contact information in NFAAS," said Fred Chambers, director, Customer Relations Management at Navy Personnel Command. "It is not only beneficial to those of us running NFAAS, but extremely beneficial to personnel because it can help determine how quickly they will receive assistance during a disaster."

NFAAS is used to account, manage, and monitor the recovery process for Navy personnel and their families affected by wide-spread catastrophic events. It was most recently used to account for more than 300,000 Navy personnel and families affected by Hurricane Irene and 40,000 Navy personnel and families affected by the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Outdated contact information can delay Navy's ability to account for and assist affected personnel.

Navy Administrative Message (NAVADMIN) 275/11 requires all active-duty and Reserve Sailors and Department of the Navy civilian employees to log in to https://navyfamily.navy.mil to verify and update contact information for themselves and their dependents. Navy contractors outside the continental United States are also required to complete the assessment. All verifications must be completed by Oct. 31.

Commanding officers are responsible to ensure compliance with this verification. NFAAS officials will submit the names of commands not in compliance to the office of the chief of naval operations for review. The message also directs commands to incorporate NFAAS updates into the command check-in and check-out process during permanent change of station move. Ensuring NFAAS accuracy can assist commanding officers in carrying out their mission after a wide-spread catastrophic event according to Chambers.

"It allows commanding officers or regional commanders to quickly assess the command's ability to perform their mission."

For more information read NAVADMIN 275/11 and contact the NPC customer service center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC or visit the NPC website at www.npc.navy.mil.