



Blue Angel F/A 18 makes final flight; arrives at new home at NAS Kingsville

By *Fifi Kieschnick, NASK Public Affairs*

A Blue Angel F/A-18 made her final flight on active duty, Feb. 22, with Marine Corps Lt. Col. Len Anderson at the controls. The F/A 18 came from the north, banked, and took a final flight over the air station prior to landing and taxiing to the Air Operations tarmac.

Blue Angel 161967 (bureau number), has been part of the Blue Angels since November 2002. Prior to that, the aircraft served as an active jet in the fleet. It has flown in more than 200 air shows over the past 7 years. Anderson, who is a former Blue Angel pilot himself and was winged here 14 years ago, had mixed emotions about piloting this historic journey and was glad to have the opportunity to fly the jet.

"It's bittersweet," Anderson said of the flight. "There were no problems. It was a great flight, but it's sad knowing this was the

final flight."

Once the jet's engine is removed, she will be placed at the front entrance of the air station, welcoming all visitors to the base -- starting with the tens of thousands of visitors expected to attend the 2010 air show.

The Blue Angels represent the pinnacle of precision flying and serve as ambassadors for the U.S. Navy. This F/A-18B Hornet was flown by Blue Angel #1 Cmdr. Kevin Manix during the 2008 Kingsville air show and will be on permanent loan to the base from the National Museum of Naval Aviation.

"We're excited to be adding an F/A 18 Hornet to our list of static display aircraft," said Capt. Phil Waddingham. "After the air show, this Blue Angel jet will serve as the premier aircraft in our new Esplanade Air Park that all visitors will see as they drive onto the base. It's a great addition to the 'Saddle of Naval Aviation.'"



Aircraft 161967 touches down on the NAS Kingsville flightline Feb. 22, marking the final flight for the aircraft. The former Blue Angel will now become a permanent display aircraft at NAS Kingsville. See more photos of the arrival on page 12. (Photo by Jon Gagné, NASK Public Affairs).

USAF Viper East team added to 'Wings Over South Texas' Air Show line-up

Another spectacular act has been added to the Naval Air Station Kingsville 2010 "Wings Over South Texas" March 27 and 28 air show lineup – Viper East.

The US Air Force Air Combat Command's Viper East team is an F-16 aerial demonstration squadron. The F-16 Fighting Falcon, more commonly known to military pilots as "the Viper," is a compact, extremely maneuverable multi-role fighter aircraft. It provides a relatively low-cost, high-performance weapon system for the air forces of the United States and other allied nations.

"Viper East will perform precision aerial maneuvers demonstrating the unique capabilities of this multi-role fighter," said Capt. Phil Waddingham. "I'm thrilled that South Texans will be able to see their act here."

The team, commanded by Capt. Ryan "Rider" Corrigan, flies the F-16CJ, a single-seat aircraft that has the ability to switch from an air-to-ground to air-to-air role at the touch of a button. With its lightweight airframe and



powerful engine generating 31,000 pounds of thrust, the F-16CJ can fly at speeds in excess of Mach 2.

The F-16A, a single-seat model, first flew in December 1976. The first operational F-16A was delivered in January 1979 to the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing at Hill Air Force

Base, Utah.

The F-16B, a two-seat model, has tandem cockpits that are about the same size as the one in the A model. Its bubble canopy extends to cover the second cockpit. To make room for the second cockpit, the forward fuselage fuel tank and avionics growth space

were reduced. During training, the forward cockpit is used by a student pilot with an instructor pilot in the rear cockpit.

USAF F-16 multi-role fighters were deployed to the Persian Gulf in 1991, in support of Operation Desert Storm, where more sorties were flown than with any other aircraft. These fighters were used to attack airfields, military production facilities, Scud missiles sites and a variety of other targets.

During Operation Allied Force, USAF F-16 multi-role fighters flew a variety of missions to include suppression of enemy air defense, offensive counter air, defensive counter air, close air support and forward air controller missions.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the F-16 has been a major component of the combat forces committed to the Global War on Terrorism flying thousands of sorties in support of Operations Noble Eagle (Homeland Defense), Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraqi Freedom. (Courtesy of USAF Air Combat Command)



Capt. Phil Waddingham
Commanding Officer,
NAS Kingsville



From the Bridge

Greetings, Team Kingsville! As of this publication, we are now less than one month away before the arrival of the Blue Angels, and only 29 days until our "Wings Over South Texas" air show kicks off on Saturday, March 27. I don't know about you, but I am really excited about hosting this world class event on board our naval air station, and I can't wait to see the blue and gold jets streaking across the backdrop of our South Texas sky. Also, seeing the Blues parked on our ramp has a tendency to take me back to my youth, and the days when going to air shows made a lasting impression on me and began my life-long love affair with machines that can slip the surly bonds of Earth.

Feb. 23, I had the opportunity to combine a regularly scheduled student training

event with a brief stopover at our outlying field at Orange Grove to meet with the Blue Angel Fat Albert crew, who were conducting air show training at the field. The Fat Albert crew, made up of U.S. Marine officer and enlisted personnel, does not normally get the same attention that their fast-flying teammates do. They play more of a supporting cast role, but their professionalism and mastery of flying is no different. What impressed me the most was hearing from them just how excited they are about coming to NAS Kingsville, their third show of the 2010 season. I learned after talking to the crew that there is a chance this year that Fat Albert will not be available. There is only one such aircraft, and it is undergoing some maintenance work. There will be a C-130 aircraft to support the logistics requirements of the team, but it won't fly in the air show if that is the case. Hopefully Fat Albert will be able to make the show, but if not, we will have plenty of performances for all to enjoy.

On Monday, Feb. 22, NAS Kingsville was visited by a special aircraft. If you were wondering if you saw what looked like a Blue Angel F/A-18 entering the break during lunch time, you were not mistaken. Bureau Number 161967 broke at 12:45 CST and landed

for the last time at NAS Kingsville. This aircraft had flown as Blue Angel Number One for the last 200 air shows going back to 2002. Now, she will be safed and de-militarized, and turned into a static display for our new esplanade airpark located at the intersection of Forrestal and Nimitz avenues. Welcome to your new home, Blue Angel I!

As we previously discussed, there's a lot going on around the base, and much of it will continue throughout the year and well into 2011. Keep informed by referring to upcoming issues of the Flying K, as we will continue to provide updates to all of the major projects for 2010.

In the meantime, look for the air park to be completed soon, and for the Chapel to be ready for operation in May.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that we have entered the season for our annual Navy Marine Corps Fund Drive. This is a very important non-profit and it exists solely to serve Navy and Marine Corps service members and their families. Your donation dollars go directly to support Marines and Sailors in need. If you would like to contribute this year, see your departmental key person or contact GMC(SW) Thomas Taylor at X6333.

Wings Over South Texas Air Show Events

Friday, March 26:

9-11 a.m. **Air Show Pep Rally** for area elementary, middle and high school students. Texas A&M Kingsville Javelina Stadium. Free admission.

7-9 p.m. **"Meet The Blues"** Hosted by the City of Kingsville at JK Northway Coliseum, Kleberg Park. Event includes introductions of Air Show performers, music by the band 'Latin Talk,' and photo opportunities with the performers. Free Admission.

Wings Over South Texas

Air Show

Saturday, March 27: 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Gates open at 10 a.m. Following the show will be a free concert Grammy-nominated country music band Emerson Drive. Free admission.

Sunday, March 28: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Gates open at 10 a.m. Free admission.

Deckplate Leadership:

Sea Notes From the Command Master Chief



CMDCM (SW/AW/FMF)
Charlie Ratliff
Command Master Chief



Team Kingsville,

What an outstanding Black History Month Celebration at the Captain's Club this week! My sincere appreciation goes out to Al Lewis, our guest speaker, Reverend Jesse Battle for offering the benediction, and to all the members of our Command Diversity Committee who put this great event for all of us!

The ceremony made me realize just how far our Navy has come with regard to cultural diversity. As I listened, I thought about MA3c (Mess Attendant Third Class) Doris "Dorie" Miller. The story of Miller earning the Navy Cross for his heroic actions aboard USS West Virginia (BB 48) during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor is truly fascinating. Miller helped rescue many shipmates who were wounded and trapped in the wreckage - including the ship's captain. Miller also manned a 50 caliber machine gun, firing on Japanese aircraft until ordered to abandon the bridge because of uncontrollable fires. But



Petty Officer Doris "Dorie" Miller

it's the story behind Dorie Miller's story that makes you realize how far we've come in reaching the goal of successful cultural diversity in our Navy.

The real story is MA3c Miller's Naval service before the attack on Pearl Harbor. He enlisted in the Navy in September 1939 as a Mess Attendant (MA) because that was the only rate open to Blacks at the time. And MAs of that time weren't the same as the Culinary Specialists (CS's) of today's Navy. They weren't involved in food preparation at all. Instead, they cleaned clothes,

Mess Attendant (MA) Doris "Dorie" Miller (October 12, 1919 - November 24, 1943) was the first African American to be awarded the Navy Cross, the third highest honor awarded by the U.S. Navy at the time, after the Medal of Honor and the Navy Distinguished Service Medal (today the Navy Cross precedes the Distinguished Service Medal).

Miller was born in Waco, Texas, the third of four sons. He was a good student and a fullback on the football team at Waco's A.J. Moore High School. He was called the "Raging Bull" because of his size (5 ft 9 in, over 200 lb).

Miller was assigned to USS West Virginia at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor. In 1943, Miller reported to the escort aircraft carrier USS Liscome Bay. Following training in Hawaii for the Gilbert Islands operation, Liscome Bay participated in the Battle of Tarawa. The ship was sunk by a Japanese submarine on Nov. 24. There were 242 survivors, but Miller and many of his shipmates, were lost.

shined shoes, and cleaned staterooms for officers. They were considered the bottom of the rank structure - regardless of how senior they were. No matter how junior someone in another rate might have been, they still outranked even the most senior Mess Attendant. To me, that is the real story - how a Sailor with such limited opportunity went on to become such an American hero.

Opportunities for Blacks serving our Navy at the time of MA3c Miller were greatly limited. However, today's Navy offers unlimited opportunities for African Ameri-

cans. More importantly, African American Sailors are excelling at the opportunities being offered them. One who comes to mind is a personal friend of mine, HMCS(SS) Byron Rowe. Between Nov. 10-11, 2004, while serving with the U.S. Army's Multi-National Security Transition Command in support of the Iraqi 1st Brigade, troops came under intense fire from terrorists trying to drive them from their positions and de-synchronize Coalition Force operations. Braving small arms fire, rockets and mortars, Rowe exposed himself to enemy fire, going man-to-man encouraging the Iraqi troops to hold their ground. His encouragement and leadership to the troops ensured that they did not withdraw. Senior Chief Rowe was awarded the Bronze Star for his actions in Iraq.

I know MA3c Miller, who went on to lose his life in a torpedo attack on USS Liscome Bay (CVE 56) on Nov. 24, 1943, would be happy to see that in today's Navy, Black Americans, like Senior Chief Rowe, have such great opportunities. And knowing Senior Chief Rowe, I'm sure he would love the opportunity to shake hands with MA3c Dorie Miller, his fellow hero and shipmate.

Thanks for your service MA3c Miller and Senior Chief Rowe!

And thanks to the NAS Kingsville Diversity Committee for putting together such a great event - "Well Done!"



In The Break

Cmdr. Gerry Murphy
Commanding Officer
Training Squadron 22 (VT-22)

First, a correction to my last article (see Feb. 12 issue). I forgot a very important “not” in one sentence. This omission is a dramatic example of how one word can mean a lot. I meant to convey that Naval Aviation is *not* all about chasing numbers -- the 1,000 hour, trap count, etc. So, to set the record straight, and I hope it was clear by the end of the article, what we hold dearest and most important in accomplishing our vital mission, is watching in awe and supporting always, the hard-working Sailors and Marines we have the privilege of serving with.

This week I have the privilege of explaining a little about what is going on with our wingings and “whitespace.” Most of you have probably heard a lot of, and may have taken part in, some discussion on these two

subjects. The good news up front is, we’re not returning to circa 1991, when military aviation went through a dramatic drawdown that resulted in many student aviators having to find other employment. As a result of that sharp reduction, military aviation spent most of the 1990’s catching up and eliminating what we called the “T-Notch” - quite simply, a big hole in the aviation force structure where those 1991 students would have been. We’re *not* going in this direction.

We have changed, this time, timing more than simply gross quantity. And this is the right adjustment for Naval Aviation. It is very important that we ensure fleet squadrons are ready for combat with highly-qualified expert aviators. And, we need to do this at an affordable cost to American taxpayers. For Navy students, that means we want to wing you, send you to SERE school, and have you check into the FRS (Fleet Replacement Squadron) in a mandated 7-week time period. USMC has similar guidance, but not as stringent. Keeping this time short saves taxpayer dollars and keeps you progressing expedi-

tiously towards becoming a combat aviator.

What we will do in the short-term is adjusting timing, especially for advanced students, in order to align with the new winging dates. You may have already noticed that wingings are now conducted, in general, once a month. The good news is, these are easier targets to hit, and you should have a better idea of when your winging will be. However, you have to be absolutely prepared for every training event and focus hard on the business at hand. Kingsville is going to continue to see 180 or more T-45 flights per day overhead, and with four T-45C simulators in the near future, every student needs to be 2-3 flights ahead of the scheduler.

So the bottom line is, there’s a change in how we’re timing wingings. And, that’s the right change to make. There are some short-term adjustments. But in the long-term, the goal is consistent high-quality training, at the right pace, for the next generation of Naval aviators.

Be ready for every flight and simulator event. Have fun, and be safe.

The Flying K

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NAS Kingsville
Commanding Officer
Capt. Philip L. Waddingham

NAS Kingsville
Executive Officer
Cmdr. Scott Allen

Training Air Wing TWO
Commander
Capt. Mark Brooks

NAS Kingsville
Public Affairs Officer
Jon Gagné

Flying K Staff
Managing Editor
Jon Gagné

Deputy PAO / Editor
Fifi Kieschnick

Staff Photographer/Writer
AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum

Comments, letters, or suggestions should be sent via e-mail to:
kgngv-pao@navy.mil.

Commanding Officer’s Direct Line Input:
Submit questions or comments for the Commanding Officer to:
kgngv-pao@navy.mil
on the info line add: Direct Line

Student aviators earn ride with Blue Angels

Courtesy of Capt. David Shipley, USMC, VT-21

Lt. j.g. Erin Rosinger of VT-21 and Ensign Gregory Meisinger of VT-22 received a real treat recently when they were rewarded for compiling the highest scores for their squadrons during Training Air Wing TWO’s January Weapons Detachment to El Centro, Calif. The pair got the rare opportunity to fly with members of the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, who were conducting their annual winter training in El Centro, in preparation for the 2010 air show season, which gets underway this month.

Weapons detachments to El Centro are conducted by Training Air Wing TWO on a regular basis. Students complete cross country flights to the site and spend nearly two weeks earning their weapons delivery qualifications. The students are graded on a number of events, including weapons delivery, low-level flying, road reconnaissance, tactical information and combat maneuvering.

During the weapons phase, students drop training bombs on a weapons target and receive a Circular Error of Probability (CEP) score. This score reflects the number of feet in which 50 percent of the bombs would be expected to fall.

Rosinger compiled a CEP score of 50-feet during one bombing run, and Meisinger compiled a score of 110. 1st Lt. Zachary Baskara of VT-22 turned in the best score during the second half of the weapons detachment with two sorties and 74-feet.

Overall, Training Air Wing TWO completed 611 individual sorties during the detachment, with 36 students qualifying.

Rosinger took her ride with the Blue Angels on Feb. 1, riding with Maj. Chris Collins in Blue Angel 7 in the slot position. Collins is flying the Blue Angel 4 for the 2010 season.

Meisinger took his ride with Lt. Cmdr. Frank Weisser, Feb. 3 in Blue Angel 7 flying the lead solo position. Weisser is flying Blue Angel 5 this season as Lead Solo.



Above: Lt. j.g. Erin Rosinger is all smiles as she gets ready for flight with Major Chris Collins. Below: Gregory Meisinger goes over a pre-flight checklist with one of the Blue Angels maintenance personnel. Top photo by Ensign Gregory Meisinger, bottom photo by Lt. j.g. Erin Rosinger.



All survive helo crash in West Virginia

By MC1 (SW) Scott Cohen, Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) -- The commodore of Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Atlantic held a press conference with local media to announce all 17 personnel on board the Navy MH-60S Nighthawk from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26 based at Naval Station Norfolk, were successfully rescued from the aircraft.

The helicopter crashed Feb. 18 shortly after 1 p.m. on the side of a mountain in West Virginia in more than four feet of snow.

"Our primary focus has been the safe evacuation of all the aircrew and passengers," said Capt. Steve Schreiber, commodore, Helicopter Sea Combat Wing Atlantic. "As of this morning all personnel have either been evacuated from the crash site or are being evacuated."

There were injuries reported, ranging from minor bruises to fractures, but none of the injuries are considered life-threatening.

Those aboard the helicopter included 11 Navy, four National Guard personnel and two Marines. Nine of the passengers have been treated and released at Elkins Medical Facility.

Three were admitted for treatment and four were transported to UVA Trauma Center in Charlottesville.

Schreiber lauded the heroic efforts of the crew and passengers, as well as the rescuers first on the scene.

"I'd like to thank the West Virginia National Guard and the local responders for their heroic work. Their efforts were extraordinary and took place under the most difficult of situations," said Schreiber.

"The rescuers had to traverse more than three miles from the nearest road through heavily wooded and mountainous terrain to reach the crash site. A special thanks to the Snowshoe Mountain Ski Resort for providing Snowcats that enabled first responders to reach the site."

The crew spent the night on the mountain and had to wait for rescuers to reach them, but they were prepared to weather the adverse conditions.

The cause of the crash is currently under investigation.

U.S. forces support demand drops in Haiti

By John J. Kruzal, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- The need for U.S. military forces in Haiti is dwindling as Haitian authorities and nongovernmental organizations begin to accept a greater share of relief efforts in the ravaged country, an American military official said Feb. 17.

About 13,000 U.S. troops are involved in the earthquake-relief effort -- with 7,000 forces on the ground -- down from a peak overall level of about 20,000 at the start of this month, Army Lt. Gen. P.K. "Ken" Keen, the top U.S. commander in Haiti, told Pentagon reporters Feb. 18.

"As we see this transition occurring, we see our civilian partners increase their capabilities -- both the government here in Haiti as well as the nongovernment organizations -- and we see the need for our military assistance dwindling," Keen said via video teleconference from the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince.

The update on Haiti's recovery comes about a month after a magnitude 7 earthquake struck the Caribbean nation, creating what an official called one of the greatest humanitarian emergencies in the history of the Americas. U.S. aid began pouring into affected areas in the immediate aftermath, but a greater share of relief efforts has been transferred to partners as conditions progress.

The American commander declined to describe a timeline or expected scope of the

U.S. military presence in Haiti, saying conditions in the country would determine the response.

"As we look at our military requirements in supporting [the U.S. Agency for International Development] and the government of Haiti," Keen said, "we're dialing it back where unnecessary as we right-size the force as requirements are needed on the ground, and we're dialing it up where it's necessary, based upon the needs on the ground."

Keen estimated military operations to date have totaled about \$250 million.

As of Feb. 18, U.S. military forces had delivered more than 2.6 million bottles of water, 2.2 million food rations, 15.1 million pounds of bulk food and 125,230 pounds of medical supplies into Haiti.

In addition to running ongoing humanitarian assistance missions, Keen said U.S. forces also are assisting in procuring shelter for Haitians affected by the earthquake. Troops also are working to provide medical care, removing rubble from damaged sites and assisting in engineering and logistics.

Keen said the U.S. military is working under USAID, the lead American component, and alongside partners such as the United Nations.

"So we will continue to be involved in those two entities until [operations are] completely transferred to either the government of Haiti or other organizations," he said.

Haitians find hope aboard Hospital Ship

By MC2 Shannon Warner, USNS Comfort Public Affairs

USNS COMFORT, At Anchor (NNS) -- The crew of the Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) gathered Feb. 12 on the vessel's mess deck for a service of remembrance and hope honoring Haitians and relief workers affected by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake which devastated Haiti last month.

Comfort is currently involved in humanitarian aid and disaster relief in support of Operation Unified Response, a joint venture established to provide assistance to Haitians after the Jan. 12 earthquake in the Caribbean nation.

What started as a solemn service to remember the estimated 200,000 individuals who lost their lives and 300,000 injured in the earthquake turned to inspirational singing led by Haitian patients and their escorts.

"It really motivated and inspired me," said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Rasheda Anderson, a surgical technician in the operating room aboard Comfort. "It really gave me hope and made me believe in the mission even more. It really touched me inside and seemed to bring up everyone's morale and spirits."

Comfort chaplains, several Red Cross workers and patients felt a service conveying a feeling of hope would be beneficial to everyone aboard the hospital ship.

"This service was important for everyone who has been through so much," said Comfort Command Chaplain David Oravec.

The memorial was attended by service members, civilian volunteers and Haitian patients who were well enough to attend with their escorts.

The service included prayers and singing as well as a public reading by Lt. Yonnette Thomas of a letter of appreciation from a former Comfort patient.

"I know if you weren't here, many of us would be dead," Thomas read from the letter from former patient Leveille Valmir. "This is the biggest proof of love the U.S. could offer the Haitian people. You have given us life."

Prayers were lead by Comfort chaplains and Red Cross volunteer Rev. Noster Montas. Singing was led by The Joyful Noise Choir and Red Cross translator Simpson St. Fort.

"It was really inspirational. I felt my eyes get watery," Anderson said.

-- Story courtesy of Navy News Service

Training Air Wing TWO's Commodore's List



Training Air Wing TWO Commander Capt. Mark Brooks, left, presents a letter of commendation and plaque to Lt. Robert Adam Paul noting his selection to the "Commodore's List," for being the student aviator with the highest grades in his winging class.

Paul, who was born in Greensboro, N.C., and raised in Plano, Texas, is a graduate of Penn State University, earning a degree in aerospace engineering. After completed aviation indoctrination, Paul reported to NAS Corpus Christi and the "Boomers" of VT-27 for primary training. He reported to NAS Kingsville and VT-21 in December 2008.

(Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)

Exercises ensure air show planners, first responders are ready when needed

By Fifi Kieschnick, NASK Public Affairs

It would be a worst-case scenario at any installation – an aircraft crashes into a crowd during an air show.

Air show planners at NAS Kingsville are preparing for any eventuality, including a worst-case scenario. This planning is a mandatory requirement prior to conducting an air show, and preparations include coordinating these measures with city, county and state officials - as well as the Federal Aviation Administration.

A table-top exercise was held earlier this month, followed by a mass casualty drill, involving Kingsville principals to help ensure all parties respond in an orchestrated manner to such an event. The scenario was created by Chris Code, installation training officer.

“The exercise was set up to integrate NAS Kingsville, federal, city, county, and volunteer members in a realistic scenario that would require mutual assistance from all parties in preparation for the upcoming air show,” Code said.

“The table top exercise lets all emergency response agencies – both base and city – know how we are going to operate during a disaster,” emphasized Monette Walker, NAS Kingsville emergency manager. “It also sets the tone for the command’s priority of life safety.”

“We are responsible for the public trust,”



said Cmdr. Scott Allen, Naval Air Station Kingsville executive officer. “Time is of the essence (in the event an incident occurs) and we will not wait, but act -- making the best decisions we can with the information we have.”

Allen’s eyes moved around the room lighting on each and everyone assembled. “We must keep faith with each other that we are doing what we are supposed to do and take order from chaos,” he said.

Air show planners assembled for the table-top exercise looked to the air field mock-up

placed on the table with Matchbox vehicles, planes and helos arranged as they would be for the air show. They discussed how they would respond in an emergency situation that involved an aircraft mishap during the air show.

The NASK Fire and Emergency Rescue Department would be the first responders. “The fire fighters responding to the first alarm would get control of the scene, put the fire out and mitigate all affected by the incident,” said NAS Kingsville Fire Chief Ruben Perez.

Security personnel would set up a “hot

zone” around the scene and keep spectators out, minimizing the number of people affected by the accident.

“Security personnel in the area would form a perimeter around the crash site,” said MAC William Worthen. “We would safeguard the area and protect additional spectators from wandering into the vicinity.”

According to Cesar Cavazos, Security Officer, local law enforcement are prepared to assist as needed, especially in dealing with the exodus of vehicles from the base and traffic control for the emergency vehicles that need to come on board.

The discussion around the table turned to “communication,” which according to Walker is the biggest obstacle to overcome should an accident occur.

“We have some of the best emergency responders around,” Walker said, “but without communication even a simple incident can break down the response and turn into a disaster.”

Based on lessons learned from previous incidents, she added, “Never hold back. If you see something that looks wrong, speak up.”

There is risk in all we do. “Large crowds and planes doing acrobatic maneuvers will add to that risk,” Walker said. “Our plans will help us recognize and mitigate that risk. In Emergency Management we always plan for the worst and hope for the best.”

Air Show volunteers needed

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Department is looking for volunteers to assist with the 2010 “Wings Over South Texas” air show.

This will be one of the largest air shows in the South Texas region. MWR is seeking 250 volunteers to work the food and merchandise booths each day for this year’s show.

Each volunteer group will be paid the same percentage of the profits that are made from the air show, regardless of the type of booth that you work, minus cash and inventory shortages from sales.

A food voucher will be supplied to each volunteer per day and will only be valid for food purchase. It may not be used for merchandise or beer purchase. A cup will also be supplied, and unlimited soft drinks will be available during the work day.

Volunteers must be 18 years of age

or older to work at any booth. They must be 21 years of age or older to work at the alcohol booths. No alcohol may be consumed during the shifts. Beer servers must comply with all Texas and United States Navy requirements.

All food booth staff must have a valid Texas Food Handler’s Sanitation Card and they must meet all Texas and Navy requirements.

MWR will be offering this class to volunteers on board NAS Kingsville. MWR will provide a parking pass for each day.

MWR is currently accepting applications from volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Delia Martinez at (361) 516-6449 or by e-mail at delia.martinez@navy.mil.

Applications will be accepted through March 15.

A date in Black History: Dec. 26, 1944

Navy commissions first African-American female officers

By Regina Akers, PhD Historian and Naval History and Heritage Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- “Navy admits Negroes into the WAVES” read the newspaper headlines announcing the Navy’s Oct. 19, 1944 decision to integrate its female reserve program.

Black History Month - 2010 - provides an opportunity to highlight the historic early integration by the Navy of two African American women twenty years before the Civil Rights Act.

The announcement during WWII came somewhat as a surprise. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the National Council for Negro Women, and other organizations met the announcement with skepticism born of the military’s history of institutional racism and its discriminatory policies toward black service members.

The original plan for admitting black women was to have them serve separated from the rest of the fleet. However, when only a few African American women enlisted in the WAVES corps, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal integrated them into the force.

The first two African-American women to answer the Navy’s call were Frances Eliza Wills, a social worker, and Harriet Ida Pickens, a public health administrator and the daughter of William Pickens, one of the founders of the NAACP. They entered the last class of WAVES officer candidates to be trained at Northampton Training Station at Smith College, New Hampshire. Upon graduation on Dec. 26, 1944 they became the Navy’s first African-American female officers.

Wills taught naval history and administered classification tests and Pickens led physical training sessions at the Hunter Naval Training Station in Bronx, N.Y., the main training facility for enlisted WAVES recruits.

From the very beginning, the WAVES were an official part of the Navy, and its members held the same rank and ratings as male personnel. They also received the same pay. When the war ended on Sept. 2, 1945, there were 2 black officers and 72 black enlisted personnel among the Navy’s 86,000 WAVES.

Overall, African American women constituted less than one percent of the nearly 300,000 military women in the “greatest generation,” making their number statistically insignificant. However, their fight for inclusion and equal treatment were significant chapters in the Civil Rights movement.

Diversity Committee presents Black History celebration

By AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum, NASK Public Affairs

The newly formed NAS Kingsville Diversity Committee presented an African-American History Celebration Feb. 22, at the Captain's Club. Guest speaker for the event was Al Lewis, food service officer for Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Other speakers included Edgar Williams and Rev. Jessie Battle.

The program began with Master of Ceremonies IC1 Jessica Booth speaking about the history of African-American Medal of Honor awardees, followed by an invocation by Chaplain Mark Haley.

"It's a blessing to be able to come together over a truly great event like this," Haley said. "Black History Month should truly be called 'American History Month.'"

ABE2 Mikaela Jackson, ABE2 Kendall Armstrong, and CS1 Erasmo Guerrero each read a poem following the Chaplain's invocation. Williams then introduced the event's special guest speaker.

Lewis opened his remarks by thanking one of his high school teachers who had in-



Guest speaker Al Lewis, Texas A&M Kingsville

formed his class one day that only one out of 10 African-American boys would graduate from high school, and 4 out of 10 would go on to be productive in society. Lewis spoke of how those words motivated him to succeed, and talked about his subsequent time serving in the Marine Corps. "A small kid from nowhere had the chance of a lifetime to grow up," he said of his time in uniform.

Yet even while serving his country, Lewis said he was still a victim of racism, recalling an incident at a restaurant in South Carolina when a waitress refused to serve him. "We, as a people, have never gotten over the two biggest hang-ups in America," he said, "religion and racism."

He also discussed the impact the Civil Rights Movement has had on our modern nation and mentioned that although everyone gets along well during the work week, we still tend to go our different ways come Saturday and Sunday. "Still separated," he said.

Lewis ended his remarks by agreeing with Chaplain Haley's sentiments, saying "contributions of African Americans to this great nation are numerous and infinite. Black History does need to be labeled 'Black History;' it needs to be labeled 'American History.'"

Following Lewis' remarks, LS2 Jason Sigler gave a slide presentation on the "Harlem Hellfighters," a group of African-American soldiers who fought with the French during WWI. The highly-decorated unit, which spent over six months in combat, is



Edgar Williams, MWR Department

also credited with introducing jazz music to France and the rest of Europe.

The program closed with remarks from Command Master Chief Charlie Ratliff and a benediction by Rev. Battle. Diversity Committee president ABE1 Maurice Thigpen thanked the special guests for their participation in the ceremony and presented them plaques and command mugs as a show of gratitude on behalf of the command.



Guest speaker Al Lewis, center, poses for a group photo with the members of the NAS Kingsville Diversity Committee. From left are CS2 Chris Crocker, CS2 Robert Toler; QM2 Monica Crump; RP1 Christine Tamag; CS1 Erasmo Guerrero; IC1 Jessica Booth, CS3 Erick Soliz; ABE1 Maurice Thigpen; ABE2 Mikaela Jackson, ABE2 Kendall Armstrong, and ABEC Bernie Diaz. The Diversity Committee serves as a direct liaison for the command with direct access to the Command Master Chief. They are tasked with spreading information and awareness of diversity in the work place by celebrating the contributions and accomplishments of a diverse work force. Membership is open to all activities and commands assigned on board the Naval Air Station. Photos by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum, NASK Public Affairs.



Diversity Committee president ABE1 Maurice Thigpen thanks Rev. Jesse Battle for his participation in the ceremony.

Looking for members

If you'd like to be a part of the NAS Kingsville Diversity Committee, contact ABE1 Thigpen at 516-6349 or IC1 Jessica Booth at 516-6734.

Military and civilian personnel are invited to join the team - the more diversity on the committee - the more successful it will be.

The committee is already looking forward to next month's "Women's History Month" event.

Join the team - and help us share our heritage!

10-year old Gregory, Texas youth is February Pilot For a Day

Story and photos by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum,
NASK Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Kingsville and Training Air Wing TWO welcomed 10-year old Gregory, Texas, native Joe Richard Martinez as their February Pilot For a Day Feb. 18. The youngster was joined by his parents, Joe and Roxanna, his brother Jacob, and cousin Kendrick, for his special day on board the base.

Training Air Wing TWO sponsor pilot for the evolution was Lt. Maxwell Keith, who escorted the family throughout the day, along with TW-2 program coordinator Marine Capt. Matt Beers. Training Squadron 22 (VT-22) was the sponsoring command for this month's evolution.

A full day of activities was planned for the 10-year old, including tours of Air Operations, Air Traffic Control, the Ground Training complex and flight simulators, and the base Fire Department. The family was also treated to a military working dog demonstration by Security Department personnel at the Captain's Club.

The Pilot For a Day program is a joint community outreach program between the air station, Training Air Wing TWO and Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi. The program has been active here since May 2006.



Busy day on board the Air Station

Top left, Joe poses for a photo with his family on the catwalk of the NASK Air Traffic Control Tower. Top right, Joe sits on the tail of a T-45 Goshawk with, from left, Lt. Maxwell Keith, cousin Kendrick, brother Jacob, and duty driver Ensign Denny East. Bottom left, Joe poses for a photo with military working dog, Kit. Bottom right, Joe fingerprints his brother Jacob at the NAS Kingsville Security Department under the close supervision of MA3 Jessica Jimenez.



Tempo takes toll on Navy, Marine equipment

By Lisa Daniel, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy and Marine Corps are performing at top level and maintaining high morale, but the high operational tempo is seriously overtaxing equipment and vehicles, service leaders told Congress this week.

Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead and Marine Corps Commandant Gen. James T. Conway provided overviews of the Navy and Marine Corps during hearings before the Senate Armed Services Committee Feb. 25 and the House Armed Services Committee Feb. 24. Both hearings addressed the Defense Department's proposed fiscal 2011 budget.

Mabus outlined the operational tempo and accomplishments of the two services, beginning with the 15,000 Marines "at the forefront of our nation's defense" in Helmand province, Afghanistan. That number will grow to 20,000 this spring, he said.

"It is a testament to the responsiveness and combat capability of the Marine Corps that the first troops to depart for Afghanistan in the wake of the president's Dec. 1 announcement [for a plus-up of 30,000 troops in Afghanistan] were 1,500 Marines from Camp Lejuene," Mabus said.

To date, 73 percent of Marines have deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, and the tempo has increased dramatically in recent years, Conway said. In 2002, the number of Marines who had

deployed for at least 120 consecutive days over two years was 4,845; as of last month, the number was 100,760.

While morale remains high among deployed Marines, Conway said, operations in Iraq and Afghanistan have accelerated wear and tear on equipment and, in effect, degraded readiness. Of particular concern, he said, is that equipment left at home stations cannot sustain adequate training for other contingencies.

"Equipment stocks are at an all-time low," Conway said. "Our ability to perform and train for deployment and our ability to respond to an unknown threat is greatly hindered until this is addressed. We cannot wait for the guns to fall silent in Afghanistan to address this critical issue."

The Navy has 12,000 Sailors on the ground in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility and 9,000 Sailors at sea supporting combat operations, Mabus said. Outside the combat theaters, the Navy maintains a ballistic missile defense force of cruisers and destroyers routinely deployed to the Mediterranean, Arabian Gulf and Western Pacific regions to maintain deterrence, a mission that will be expanded, Mabus said. The Navy leads 24 nations combating piracy in the Gulf of Aden, and closely supports the Coast Guard-led counter-narcotics effort with 13 nations in the Caribbean.

The Navy and Marine Corps are conducting training in Africa, South America and the Pacific; have treated more than 110,000 patients aboard

USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) and fleet auxiliary USNS Richard E. Byrd; and have been the front-line humanitarian response for natural disasters in Indonesia, the Philippines, American Samoa and Haiti, Mabus said.

"The Navy and Marine Corps are flexible, responsive, and everywhere that our nation's interests are at stake," he said. "I have been constantly inspired by the high morale, courage and commitment to serving our country displayed by every one of them as they conduct our missions."

Full funding of the services' \$160.7 billion budget request is necessary to prevail in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, prevent future conflicts, prepare for contingencies and preserve and enhance the all-volunteer force, Mabus said.

The budget request includes funding for nine new ships, including two additional Virginia-class submarines, two destroyers in the restarted Arleigh Burke line, a lower-cost version of the mobile landing platform, and two Littoral Combat ships, among others. On the aviation side, the request would fund 206 aircraft, including F-35 joint strike fighters, MH-60R's and P-8A's for maritime patrol, MH-60S's for logistics support, H-1 variant helicopters and MV-22 Ospreys for the Marine Corps. The budget also funds 564 new tactical vehicles for the Marines, and development of the Navy Unmanned Combat Aerial System and Broad Area Maritime Surveillance UAV.

"I continue to focus on ensuring our Navy is

properly balanced to answer the call now and in the decades to come," Roughead said. "Last year, I stated our risk was moderate trending toward significant because of the challenges of fleet capacity, increasing operational requirements and growing manpower, maintenance and infrastructure costs. This risk has increased over the last year as trends in each of these areas have continued."

In the last decade, the Navy fleet has decreased by 30 ships, or about 10 percent, and active duty end strength dropped 13 percent, while operational demands have grown, Roughead said. Due to the high ops tempo, "we are consuming the service life our fleet at a higher than expected rate," and longer deployments with shorter dwell times [at home stations] is stressing sailors and families and increasing maintenance requirements, he said.

"Regular maintenance of our ships and aircraft, and training and certification of our crews between deployments is essential to our ability to sustain our force," Roughead said. "For our Navy, continuous reset translates into decades of service for each ship and aircraft, a significant return on our investment."

Mabus listed as Navy and Marine Corps priorities as taking care of servicemembers, civilian staff and their families; treating energy consumption as an issue of national security, improving acquisitions and optimizing unmanned systems.

Story courtesy of Navy NewsStand

VAQ 141 holds 'safe for flight' ceremony for EA-18G Growler

By MC2 Tucker M. Yates, Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Det. Northwest

OAK HARBOR, Wash. (NNS) -- The "Shadowhawks" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 141 held a flyover and a ceremony commemorating their designation of "Safe for Flight" in the EA-18G Growler on Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island in Oak Harbor, Wash., Feb. 12.

The event marked the culmination of an eight-month training phase for VAQ 141 under the tutelage of VAQ 129, the fleet replacement squadron, as they transitioned from the EA-6B Prowler to the Growler.

VAQ 141 is the second operational squadron to have achieved the qualification after the "Scorpions" of VAQ 132.

"June 1, 2009, is a day we all remember very well; it was the day we started our actual transition training over at VAQ 129," said Cmdr. David Bryson, VAQ 141 commanding officer. "Throughout the past summer and fall, both maintainers and air crew have worked extremely well. A lot of long hours have gone into both preparing for in-flight training in simulators and working towards qualifications for the maintainers so that we can maintain these beautiful aircraft."

The guest speakers for the event were Capt. Patrick Cleary, commander, Carrier Air Wing 8, and Capt. Tom Slais, commander, Electronic Attack Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"It's a pretty phenomenal accomplishment to do that much work and reinvent yourselves in [less than] one year. I'm very proud of what you've done, and I'm very impressed with what you've done," said Cleary. "This airplane [the EA-18G] is the most capable airplane the U.S. Navy has today. I would argue that it is probably the most capable aircraft in the U.S. inventory today, which means it's the most capable aircraft in the world."

Bryson said he is proud of his crew's accomplishments over the course of the transition and is confident they will maintain their high standard of proficiency in the future.

"One thing I've noticed throughout this entire process in all the 'Shadowhawk' Sailors is this; even though the entire squadron was in the process of transition, the Sailors never actually changed," said Bryson. "They never went away from what makes this group of people great in my opinion, what I call the 'Shadowhawk Spirit,' and their work ethic; a great job on both accounts by these folks. This day would have never arrived, nor would the squadron have performed as well as it did during this transition without these Sailors and their work ethic and spirit. These are the people who got us to where we are today."

In recognition of the event a 2-year-old female Red-tailed Hawk, renamed Shadow



WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. - An EA-18G Growler lands at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. The Growler is replacing the fleet's current carrier-based EA-6B Prowler. The next-generation electronic attack aircraft for the U.S. Navy, it combines the combat-proven F/A-18 Super Hornet with state-of-the-art electronic warfare avionics. Photo by MCI Bruce McVicar.

for the occasion, was in attendance. "Shadowhawks" were afforded the opportunity to hold the raptor during the event. Shadow, owned by Whidbey Island local Joel Gerlach, was made available as the squadron mascot to represent them for this special occasion.

VAQ 141 will be the first Growler squadron to go on a ship-based deployment when they embark on the aircraft carrier USS George H. W. Bush (CVN-77) in spring of 2011.

"After all the well-deserved thank you

that I've gladly passed on today to a number of folks, my biggest thank you is reserved for the 'Shadowhawks' because without you, this day would not be possible," said Bryson.

"I cannot be more proud of your accomplishments, well done, congratulations and may God bless your continued success," said Slais.

The next squadron scheduled to complete the transition from the Prowler to the Growler is the VAQ 138 "Yellow Jackets" in August 2010.



Winging Ceremony

Five student pilots were designated as Naval Aviators and presented their Wings of Gold at a Training Air Wing TWO winging ceremony Feb. 12 at the Captain's Club.

The event marked the end of nearly 13 months of advanced jet training in the T-45 Goshawk for the students, who will now on to Fleet Replacement Squadrons to learn their fleet aircraft.

From left are: Cmdr. Ed Harshany, VT-21 executive officer; Cmdr. Gerry Murphy, VT-22 commanding officer; Lt. Col. Terrence Latorre, VT-22 executive officer; Lt. Jonathan Farley, VT-22; Lt. j.g. Jordan Kehrer, VT-21; 1st Lt. David M. Harris Jr., VT-22; Lt. j.g. Bryan Stoniecki, VT-22; Lt. j.g. Robert Adam Paul, VT-21; Cmdr. Chip Kelsey, VT-21 commanding officer; and Capt. Mark Brooks, Training Air Wing TWO commander.

(Photo by Richard Stewart, CNATRA Public Affairs)

Orange Grove team hosts local landowners, Blue Angels' Fat Albert Airlines team

Story by Jon Gagné, photos by Fifi Kieschnick, NASK Public Affairs

For the second straight year Navy Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF) Orange Grove opened its doors to local landowners for a barbecue and orientation visit Feb. 23. The annual event, designed to solidify the relationship between the landowners and NAS Kingsville - which owns the Orange Grove airfield - also included a special visit by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels' Fat Albert Airlines team, which used the airfield for air show training last week.

The landowners were given briefs on current NALF Orange Grove operations and planned facility upgrades and the command Bird/Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) program, introduced to NAS Kingsville and Orange Grove officials, and then treated to a barbecue lunch with the staff and members of the Fat Albert team. The visitors also met the Fat Albert team members and were given tours of the C-130 aircraft.

"We have a unique relationship with the people who own land around our Orange Grove field," said Orange Grove Officer-in-Charge Lt. Michael Wildman. "This relationship is unlike any other in the Navy, and by holding orientation visits like these we're able to keep the lines of communication open on both sides of the fence and help protect the flying environment in and around the airfield."

NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham was also on hand for the visit, arriving at the field in a T-45 Goshawk complete with student aviator in tow.

After the brief, Waddingham spoke about how important the orientations are from a command perspective.

"Because of the unique relationship we have with the people who own land around the airfield, we view ourselves as family," Waddingham said. "It so happens that this field is somewhat isolated, surrounded by private landowners who have genuine concerns and interests in our mission here. Social interaction like this helps us foster that relationship by sharing the interests and concerns that we have in a compatible way, working together to accomplish our mission here."

Waddingham added that the orientation visit was planned around the scheduled Fat Albert training at the field, as a means of providing the landowners a view of how the facility provides services to Big Navy assets, thus contributing to the mission of the Blue Angels and other fleet aircraft.

"It's really fun when we're able to combine our landowner visits with the training detachments by the Fat Albert team," Waddingham added. "Having the aircraft and team here adds another element to what we do, and our friends get to see how important this field really is - not only for NAS Kingsville in training student naval aviators - but on a much bigger scale by providing a training facility for the Navy and Marine Corps' flight demonstration team."

The bigger picture of Naval Aviation comes to light for the landowners when they have the opportunity to meet and talk with



"Ernie," the back-up Blue Angels' C-130 cargo transport aircraft, taxis down the runway at NALF Orange Grove. The Blue Angels Fat Albert Airlines support team conducted air show training at the Orange Grove site Feb. 18-26. Photos by Fifi Kieschnick, NASK Public Affairs.

proven fleet professionals such as the Marine Corps officers and enlisted personnel who comprise the roster of Fat Albert Airlines, and it drives home a sense of "ownership" to the mission of the field.

"Having attended this orientation barbecue last year I have an understanding of the role of this particular airfield," said Joe Paschal. He and his wife Vickey own about 300 acres adjacent to the field, and sit outside and watch the aircraft fly over their property, and conduct touch-and-goes on the airfield. Joe says that he often wonders about the students who are in the cockpit and how far along they are in their training, knowing that someday they will leave the area and head off to the fleet.

"Vickey and I enjoy watching the planes fly overhead," Joe said with a chuckle. "I'm a big kid at heart and I love the fact that I get to witness this on a routine basis. I come over to the field and talk with the staff here every now and then, too, just to check-in with them and see how they're doing. I'm very impressed with their dedication and their professional approach to their mission."

Vickey feels pretty much the same, admitting that she gets a kick out of watching the planes fly overhead. She also appreciates the opportunity of meeting members of the most prestigious of all military flight demonstrations team face-to-face in a social set-

ting.

"How many other people get to miss a day or work because they're going to have lunch with the Blue Angels?" she asked. "I think that's pretty special."

The only thing missing from this orientation visit was the star of last year's evolution - Fat Albert. The massive blue and yellow icon is currently undergoing maintenance and preparation for the 2010 air show season, and wasn't available for the South Texas training detachment.

In its place, the Blues brought its brother-ship, aptly dubbed "Ernie." According to team members, the fleet gray C-130 will more than likely be the aircraft the Blues bring with them to the NAS Kingsville air show March 27-28, unless Fat Albert is deemed "ready-to-go" sooner than expected. Either way, the Fat Albert team is looking forward to being a part of the air show line-up and supporting the Navy and Marine Corps' recruiting efforts throughout the country.

"We are excited to be here in South Texas," said Major Brendan Burks, Fat Albert pilot. "We appreciate the way the Orange Grove staff takes care of us when we train here, and we're all looking forward to coming back at the end of March for the 'Wings Over South Texas' air show."

For updates on the 2010 show, visit www.wingsoversouthtexas.org.



Lt. Michael Wildman, NALF Orange Grove officer-in-charge, talks with Jim Wells County landowner Vickey Paschal in the Touch 'N Go cafeteria.



Chaplain (Lt.) Mark Haley
NASK Command Chaplain

Bringing Faith, Hope and Life into our New Year.

Faith keeps a person on God's track for their life; this gives hope in God's provision that gives strength and wisdom to overcome the distractions in this world, and also leads us to life, as we cross over from death to life. We are alive to experience life-changing love.

Another way to say this is to bring forth life changing love. Love is good! Most people I know enjoy being loved, as love always springs forth life from death. Do you want to add spice or life in your relationships? Just add one ingredient - life-changing love. Ask anyone who is happily married what they enjoy about spending the rest of their lives with someone else. The answer? To love and to be loved. That makes life!

We build relationships that turns into life. Our first human relationship is with our mothers who nourish and comfort us. As our relationship grows we pass from being nourished to experiencing life-changing love.

Military Census preparations underway; make your voice heard

From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs
WASHINGTON (NNS) -- NAVADMIN 001/10, released in January, is the second in a series of military census newsgrams which provide guidance for Sailors to make their voices heard during the 2010 Decennial Census.

Beginning March 15, the Census Bureau will conduct the nation's 23rd decennial census to gather a complete count of the population of the United States to include personnel living on board naval installations and ships with a U.S. homeport.

The decennial census is an in-depth survey used to gain population counts which fuel government decisions on how approximately \$400 billion per year of federal funding is spent in your neighborhood on hospitals, schools, senior citizen centers, emergency services and public works projects. In addition, the enumeration determines the number of seats a state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sailors will be asked to complete a short military census report containing six questions.

"By participating in the 2010 Census,

The love of being alive gives us purpose, and gives us drive to strive for more life. God has placed this purpose in our lives teaching us how to gain and give this life-changing love. This is where our Faith comes from -- life changing love. "We love because [God] first loved us." 1 John 4:19.

Devotion from www.heartlight.org, talked about this life-changing love. "It's all very simple. God is love. He is love's origin, example and architect. I love because he loved me first. I know how to love because he has demonstrated it. I can love because he made me in his likeness to share his character. He is the fountain, the motivation, and the pinnacle of love. I love because he does, first, last, and always."

Giving love without any conditions nourishes our love. Accepting love on a condition leaves no room for life-changing love to continue its growth. God's unconditional love provided a miracle of feeding 5,000 with five loaves of bread and two fish in John, chapter 6. Once they were full many followed God, not because of their love for God but because of what God could do for them. God feeds them because God loves them, unconditionally.

Love me for who I am, not for what I can do for you. This builds life as we share our love with others, as we want others to share their love with us. To love is to be loved - that makes life! This builds our faith and gives us hope to live our lives for one another in community. God always provides a way for love

to grow, continuously. We have purpose to share this life-changing love, with God and others, that will strengthen us and give us the best year ever.

Enjoy God's Blessings, Chaps



NAS Kingsville Religious Ministries Chapel Services:

Sunday: Family Bible Services with Children's Church, 9:30 a.m.

Catholic Mass, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Noon Bible Study

Wednesday: Catholic Noon Lent Season Mass; Officer Christian Fellowship, 7 p.m.

Thursday: Catholic Choir practice, 5 p.m.; Music Prayer Fellowship, 6 p.m.

All events take place in the Chaplain's multipurpose room, Bldg. 2741.

Come Join Us!



Sailors of all ranks have an opportunity to help create a better future for those they care about," said Chief Melanie Kinchen, of Navy's Personal Readiness and Community Support Branch, and responsible for coordinating Navy's Census efforts. "I can't imagine any Sailor who wouldn't want to make that difference."

Commander, Navy Installations Command is the lead for executing census procedures on board shore installations and Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command is the lead for afloat commands.

Ship crew members will be required to complete a regular census questionnaire for their shore address as well as a shipboard census report on board the ship. The completion of both forms is required by the federal government.

In addition, military personnel assigned to a group quarters, to include bachelor's quarters, will be counted at the group quarter, even if it is located on a non-naval installation.

Census questionnaires will be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service to all housing units on military installations beginning March 15. If you live off-base, you will receive a census questionnaire at that address.

Afloat commands may obtain additional information and guidance by referencing ALFLTFOR message DTG 042038Z JAN 10, released by Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces.

All commands may obtain information specific to their command by contacting their command's census project manager.

For additional information visit <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/Census2010/>.

Beach-N-Biker Fest 2010 April 16- 8

The 7th Annual Beach-N-Biker Fest motorcycle rally will be held on South Padre Island.

Event includes a Poker Run, Field Events, Concerts, Parade, Vendors, Bikini Biker Wash, and lots of fun!

Contact the South Padre Island Convention Center for more information visit the event web site at:

<http://www.beachnbikerfest.com>.

Focus on Safety

Motorcycle Riding Courses

March:

Basic Riders Course (BRC)
(Two day class)
March 10-11; March 23-24

Experienced Riders Course (ERC):
(One day class)
March 17, March 31

Military Sports Rider Course
(Must have already completed BRC or ERC class) March 1, March 15

For information on these courses contact Charles Young at the NAS Kingsville Safety Office at (361) 516-6397, or by Cell at (361) 726-7686, or e-mail charles.e.young1@navy.mil.

Ride Safe and Enjoy the Ride

Air Show 5K 'Fun Run'

A 5K fun run will be held on board NAS Kingsville prior to gates opening, Saturday, March 27, for the "Wings Over South Texas" 2010 Air Show.

The 5K fun run is open to all ages and will begin at 7 a.m., at the NAS Total Fitness Connection.

Entry fees are: \$10 for military and their family members; \$15 for civilian youth ages 8 to 17; and \$30 for civilians. Civilians can enter for \$25 if they register prior to March 15. The entry fee includes a "Wings Over South Texas" 5K T-shirt and a goody bag filled with items from air show sponsors.

The final day to register is March 22. Open registration will also be held at the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce on March 23 and 24, from 5 to 7 p.m.

For more information and to download the registration form, visit the "Wings Over South Texas" website, www.wingsoversouthtexas.org, or call (361) 516-6171.

Bowling Standings

In the Dog House League (2/25)

Pos.	Team	Won/Lost
1.	Lane Breakers	68-40
2.	Triple X's	59.5-48.5
3.	Three Minds	56.5-51.5
4.	The Guys	54.5-53.5
5.	Tumbalos	51-57
6.	The Hounds	34.5-73.5

Weekly High Scores:

Bryan Hastings, 216 game, 519 set
Jerry Brooks, 199 game
Lindy Conner, 539 series

Wed. Nite Mixed League (2/25)

Pos.	Team	Won/Lost
1.	DUH's	53.5-34.5
2.	Pete's Angels	51.5-36.5
3.	Pin Bangers	49-39
4.	Slow Rollin'	44-44
5.	Laugh Out Loud	44-44
6.	Big K Rollers	42-45
7.	Sixty Forty	34-54
8.	Guttermouths	28-56

Weekly High Scores:

Rodney Malin, 228 game

Flight students takes part in bike races

Morale, Welfare and Recreation sports recently sponsored a flight student from VT-21 in two recent cycling competitions. Ensign Josh Webb was among a strong field of riders who competed in the annual Kenny Hill Autoworks Spring Classic and the University Oaks Criterium.

In the Kenny Hill event, Webb competed against 41 riders in a 40-minute race around a closed, 2-mile track. Webb said the racers were bunched up throughout most of the race, but with three laps to go the pace started to pick up quite a bit.

On the final lap with three turns to go, Webb found himself about 8 places back from the leader. Then, with about 20 seconds from the finish Webb was going up a small hill when the racer in front of him slammed on his brakes, causing Webb to turn off the course to avoid a collision.

Webb lost ground on the leaders because of this and finished in 18th place, just 4 seconds behind the leader.

The average pace of the race, according to Webb, was about 25-miles per hour.

In his second race, about 35 riders joined Webb for a half-hour race around a 1K loop that included about 40-feet of climbing.

During the first 15 minutes of the race the pace was pretty steady, according to Webb.

At the 16-minute mark, race officials announced a prize lap, with the first person back to the start line receiving a cash prize. Webb said he immediately attacked and eventually built up a 10-second gap between him and the rest of the field.

Unfortunately, Webb's attack was a bit early because the field was slowly able to gain ground. With about 300 yards to go to the finish line, a couple of riders broke away



Racers remain in a tight group during the first part of the race, keeping a steady pace but conserving energy for the finish.

from the field and passed Webb by.

As the race entered its final lap, Webb said he didn't have the strength to push-on and win, so he just did the best he could, staying close to the front runners and eventually finishing 12th, just 5 seconds off the best time.



Leaders break away from the pack as they head for the finish line. (Photos courtesy of Josh Webb, VT-21).

Intramural Basketball Standings

Team	Wins	Losses
Lettuce Taco	2	0
Red Hawks	2	0
Unknown	1	0
The Cooks	1	1
Border Patrol	1	1
Trauma Dawgs	1	2
ATC B.B.	0	2
Bang 'Em Boyz	0	2

Upcoming schedule:

Monday 3/1:

6 p.m. Border Patrol vs. Unknown
7 p.m. Bang 'Em Boyz vs. Lettuce Taco
8 p.m. ATC B.B. vs. The Cooks

Wednesday 3/3:

6 p.m. Trauma Dawgs vs. ATC B.B.
7 p.m. Red Hawks vs. Unknown
8 p.m. Lettuce Taco vs. Border Patrol

Racquetball Tournament:

A one-day racquetball tournament was held Feb. 23. Congratulations to champion Kartik Malhotra and runner up Binay Sharma!

A big thank you to everyone who came out and participated!

Upcoming sports events:

Soccer tournament, Saturday, March 13.
Sign up at the Fitness Center!

College Hoops Contest:
March Madness Bracket Challenge begins March 15. Fill out a bracket to win!

Racquetball Ladder Tournament begins March 22. Sign up at the Fitness Center.

Fleet & Family Support Center Class Schedule

Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

March 15-19; May 10-14
July 12-16; Sept. 13-17

Executive TAP

April 12-16

Command Financial Specialist

August 9-13

First term CONSEP:

June 7-10

Mid-Career CONSEP:

Sept. 20-23

Military Saves:

March 1-5

Trading Post

For Sale: 2001 Nissan Frontier truck. Silver with bed liner and cover, automatic. Well-maintained and in good condition. \$4,000 OBO. Call Jackie at 847-975-2790 for inquiries or jschuman_78@yahoo.com.

Home For Sale: 3 BD/2 BA home in Paulson Falls. Beautiful hardwood and tile floors throughout, covered deck in fenced yard, all appliances stay, updated faucets and fixtures, ceiling fans in every room. A must see!! \$146,999 OBO. Available FEB. Call 847-975-2790 or e-mail jschuman_78@yahoo.com.

For Sale: 1985 Jeep CJ-7, Inline-6 cyl, automatic transmission, Dark green. \$4,000 firm. Runs like a CHAMP! Perfect for off-roading! Clear Texas title. Well-loved vehicle, lovingly maintained, brought to Texas from Hawaii. 100,000 miles. Looks like it was originally a hard top, has full steel doors w/rolling glass windows. Some rust along the floor, minor cracks and rust on exterior of body, rust on hood - hey it's 25 years old! Call Tara at (cell) 675-0373.

For Immediate Sale: 2006 4-DR 6-cylinder Ford Escape. Silver gray in color, 60,000-plus miles. Asking \$11,500 (Blue Book value). Good Condition - new front tires. Contact Rosa at home, 592-0776 or @ VT-21, 516-6165

AD POLICY:

Active-duty military, retired military, and NAS Kingsville civilian employees may place ads in the Trading Post. Only for sale, or rent. No personal business ads will be accepted. Send your ads to the Public Affairs Office via e-mail (kngv-pao@navy.mil). Ads will run for two issues.

All commercial ads must be placed through our publisher, Alice Newspapers, Inc. Call 361-664-6599, for details.

Blue Angel arrival (from page 1)



A member of the Field Support team directs NAS Kingsville's newest aircraft on the tarmac behind Air Operations. (Photo by Fifi Kieschnick).



Field Support personnel wore bright yellow shirts for the arrival of Blue Angel One. From left are ABH2 (AW) Emilio Ortiz, ABH2 (AW) Jesus Martinez, ABH3 (AW) Luis Aguilar, and civilian contractor Noel Flores. Below, Capt. Phil Waddingham poses for a photo with Dr. Steve Tallant of TAMUK, pilot Lt. Col Len Anderson, and Dick Messbarger, Kingsville EDC director. Photos by AC3 Kiana Kahlbaum.



Re-Enlistments

ET1 (SW) Jose Partida

Electronics Technician 1st Class (SW) Jose Partida, a native of Harlingen, Texas, re-enlisted for an additional six years of service on Feb. 12.

Partida, who has already served in the Navy for almost 12 years, was sworn back in by NAS Kingsville Commanding Officer Capt. Phil Waddingham who presented Partida with a base pen and coin.

Partida's family was present at the ceremony, with his wife Crystal and son Jaylen also receiving certificates of appreciation from the Skipper.



MM2 (SW) Jaana Hahn

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Jaana Hahn, a native of St. George, Utah, re-enlisted for an additional two years in the Navy on Feb. 19, having already served 11 years. FISC Jax Det Kingsville Site Manager Lt. Brent Simmons was the re-enlisting officer.

Hahn's son Rocco, and aunt Melody were present for the ceremony, with Rocco receiving a certificate of appreciation and a base coin from Lt. Simmons, as well.



AC2 (AW/SW) Joshua Hight

Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class (AW/SW) Joshua Hight, a native of Hazel Park, Mich., re-enlisted at Air Ops on Feb. 19 for an additional six years of service.

Hight, who has already been in the Navy for four years, had his family present at the ceremony, with his wife Kristina and son Tyler also receiving certificates of appreciation.

EN1 (SW) Benjamin Carnes

Engineman 1st Class (SW) Benjamin Carnes added four more years with his re-enlistment at Escondido Ranch. NAS Kingsville Executive Officer Cmdr. Scott Allen was the re-enlisting officer.

After the ceremony, the pair got to do a little shooting on the ranch.

