



# Team Souda Connection Family Gram

PRODUCED BY  
NSA SOUDA BAY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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## COMMAND CONTACTS:

### Quarterdeck:

011-30-28210-21806

### Ombudsman:

011-30-697-334-0071

soudaombuds-  
man@hotmail.com

### Command Master Chief:

011-30-28210-21361  
(office)

011-30-697 207 9818  
(cell)

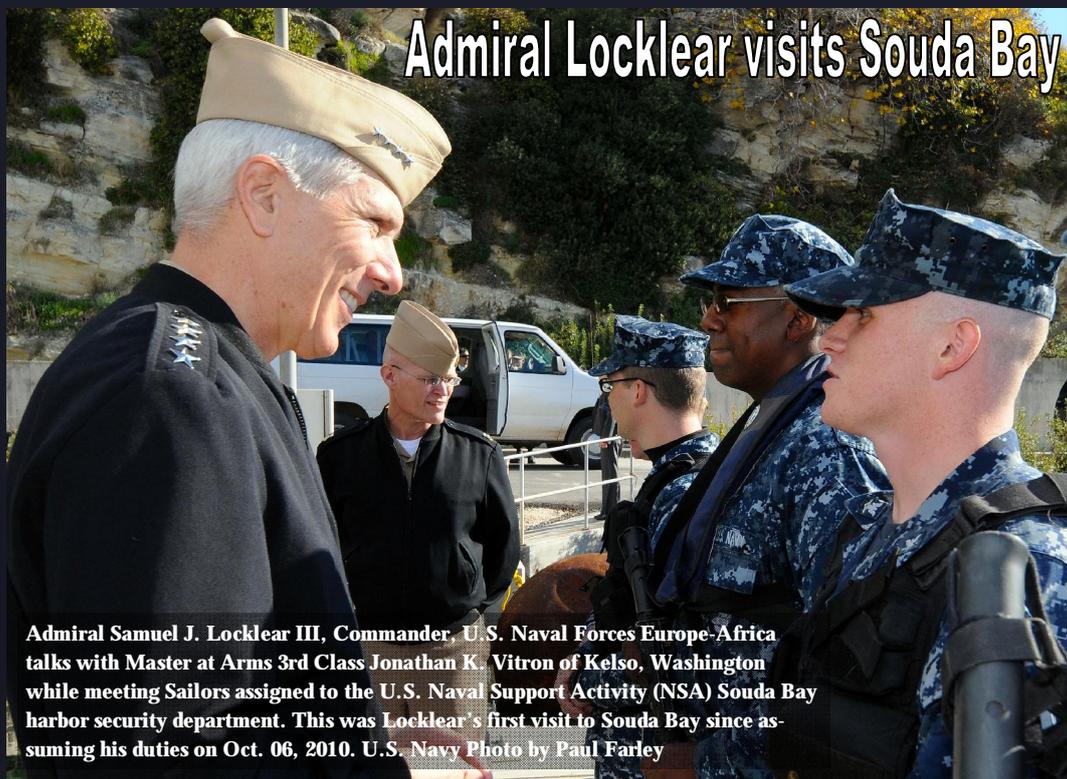
cmc@eu.navy.mil

### Public Affairs Department:

011-30-28210-21244

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## Admiral Locklear visits Souda Bay

Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa talks with Master at Arms 3rd Class Jonathan K. Vitron of Kelso, Washington while meeting Sailors assigned to the U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay harbor security department. This was Locklear's first visit to Souda Bay since assuming his duties on Oct. 06, 2010. U.S. Navy Photo by Paul Farley



## From the Commanding Officer



**Scott M. Hogan**  
Captain, U.S. Navy

Happy New Year to the family and friends of U.S. Naval-Support Activity Souda Bay!

I welcome this opportunity to communicate with you through our Team Souda Connection family-gram which has the sole purpose of providing you with information on a variety of subjects

and events.

First, let me say that it is an honor for me to be able to work with your loved ones on a daily basis here at the U.S. Navy's eastern-most Mediterranean installation.

I can assure you that each member of this command is a valued Navy professional who helps us perform our mission with pride and professionalism on a daily basis.

I am happy to report to you that we got 2011 off to a great start with a visit from Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa on 14 January. Admiral Locklear had a couple of comments regarding his visit that I would like to share with you.

Admiral Locklear's visit to Souda Bay included a command brief, a tour of facilities, and an all hands call. At the end of his visit he emphasized that "The most important asset here are the Sailors. The same is true in all the areas here throughout the Mediterranean. I mean first of all, they're ambassadors for our Navy, ambassadors for our nation, ambassadors for our NATO, and they do the hard work that makes Souda Bay what it is."

Here at Souda Bay we have a vital mission to provide support to all U.S. and allied forces transiting and operating in the eastern Mediterranean. Our mission of supporting ships, aircraft and a wide

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## CMC Corner

Souda Bay Family and Friends,

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 I personally became aware of why the former Command Master Chief, Master Chief Engles had recorded as part of his greeting on his answering machine "...the luckiest Master Chief in the Navy". I have been witness to nothing short of a spectacular group of Sailors and Civilians that make up "Team Souda". You can all be proud of your Sailor or family member who is stationed over here in the fantastic job that they do day in and day out.

Since my arrival, we have had one high visibility visit after another. From Four Star Admirals and Generals, the Master Chief

Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON), our Region Commander, Rear Admiral Gaiani and countless ship visits. They all have one common theme, "what a great group of professionals". I am truly proud to serve as YOUR Command Master Chief. I only hope that the 26+ years of service in the United State Navy that I have will provide the experience for you and your Sailor or family member justice as the Commanding Officer's representative on matters that concern you.

As my wife of almost 24 years, Julie and our youngest daughter Sarahanne settle in and get familiar with the area, I ask that if an opportunity makes itself available to you, please take the time to visit

and see what the rest of the Navy is seeing what your Sailor or family member is accomplishing everyday. Not to mention the sites and wonderful hospitality the island of Crete has to offer.



CMDCM(AW/SW)  
Todd Prayner



## From the Chaplain's Corner...



As we step into 2011, I am reminded of a Hebrew Biblical text about a character named Job. He was the richest man living in the land of Ur. Life according to this saga, hits Job real hard. In a matter of moments everything Job had was gone. He lost his finances, his children, he even developed boils all over his body.

In spite of it all Job never lost sight of his hope, his integrity or his joy! Why because Job had faith, a preserving faith - a faith which allowed Job to say, "All of my appointed times, I am going to wait until my change comes!"

Job in essence decided: I have to endure these hard times with patience; knowing troubles won't last always. He did not know how long it would be nor what type of relief he would receive - from suffering or return to some state of happiness. But what he did know was the current state he was enduring could not last al-

ways.

Because he had faith, he concluded the best thing for him to do was to sit down and quietly wait for any change.

This year in March (11, 12 and 13) 2011, NSA Souda Bay will host a FREE three day Spiritual Retreat at Lefkoritis. Meals and housing plus transportation to this retreat site are FREE!

This retreat uses both personal and group exercises that are oriented around rest, recreation and reflection to aid personnel spiritual growth. Being Spiritual is broader than any particular faith tradition, so participants may come from various faith backgrounds.

During this time we will explore spiritual resources and experience a more meaningful religious faith for daily living based on the belief that we are all spiritual beings experiencing the common human condi-

tion. We hope to accomplish this through readings, music, journal writing, and small group discussions.

**THE GOOD NEWS IS...** While we are participating in the CREDO program here, CREDO programs are available to you, our family members stateside ~ YEAH! As a family member you are eligible to attend for FREE as well! As some retreats have age requirements for family members, please contact the nearest CREDO program near you for additional information. Participants are responsible for their own child care arrangements.

So what are you waiting for? Contact your nearest CREDO site TODAY!

CREDO RETREATS are open for: Active duty military, reservists, DoD/DoN retirees/civilians, and their authorized family members (dependents).

**Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen!**  
- Hebrew 11:1

# Motorcycle Safety Course



Story and Photo by MC3 Cayman Santoro

According to the Navy Safety Center, there have been 19 motorcycle-related fatalities so far in fiscal year 2010. In a podcast released by said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Rick West, "With a number of motorcycle fatalities [the majority] from sport bikes, so we developed specific training to cater to that specific cause. Like anything in the Navy, training is paramount."

U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay hosts annual motorcycle safety courses for the servicemembers stationed here, however, the command recently invited servicemembers of the host nation of Greece to participate too.

Over the course of three weeks, students participated in classrooms, simulations, and hands-on experience on a course designed to show riders different situations they may encounter.

"We offer a variety of different courses, from basic rider, which covers the essentials, an advanced riders course, for those who have received their motorcycle licenses, and finally a motorcycle safety instructor course. We essentially teach them to crawl, then walk, then run," said the European Region Motorcycle Safety Course Instructor, Jim Dickinson.

"It's a good experience, they're going to help teach the Soldiers and Sailors, their peers. They are looking for something to help train their people and save some lives," said Dickinson.

**Left: Petty Officer 2nd Class John Young leads officers of the Hellenic Army, who are participating in the Advanced Rider's Motorcycle Safety Course at NSA Souda Bay.**



## From the Commanding Officer

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variety of units and personnel is demanding and keeps us very busy.

The near future promises to keep us all busy here at Souda Bay meeting a variety of challenging operational support requirements

I truly appreciate the hard work and sacrifices of our Sailors as well as those you are making back home.

We are a great team here at Souda Bay and friends and family back home are an extremely important part of our team.

I personally thank you for your continued support and sacrifices.

Sincerely,  
Captain Scott Hogan



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Rick West, speaks to Sailors at an All-Hands call at NSA Souda Bay Fitness Center.

# MCPON visits Souda Bay

Story and Photos by MC3 Cayman Santoro

The faces of Sailors stationed at U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay looked attentive and focused as they stood by in ranks waiting for the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West to arrive for an all-hands call. Anxious for the arrival of the top enlisted ranking Sailor of the Navy and wondering exactly what they would hear?

The MCPON strode into the gym, where the all-hands was held, and the Sailors snapped to attention. With a warm smile, the MCPON called everyone “at-ease” and suggested that everyone take a seat and relax.

“I could go into great lengths about the details of the mechanics behind submarine nuclear reactors, but I am here to answer questions,” said the 12th MCPON.

West traveled to NSA Souda Bay, for the first time in his career, Oct. 23 to interact with service members and tour installation facilities.

He held an open forum, he invited service members to ask any question, he then followed this with allowing for Sailors to pose for photos.

“This is my first time here and I see NSA Souda Bay is doing a phenomenal job... your mission, to provide support to our fleet... you all are doing exceptional work,” said West, who ended the All-hands with the group cheering

“HOOYAH!”

“I thought it was really cool to meet the MCPON. It was also convenient for him to give clear, concise answers to the questions we had,” said Aviation Boatswain’s Mate 3rd Class Daniel Brown.

After leaving NSA Souda Bay, West will continue his tour around the European Region, including Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily; and Supreme Headquarters Allies Powers Europe in Casteau, Belgium, before he returned to Washington, D.C.



MCPON Rick West challenges Petty Officer 2nd Class Hamilton Smith in a competition to see who can complete more Mountain Climbers.

# Fun and Friendship Day

Story and Photos by  
MC3 Cayman Santoro

As the busses arrived at U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay, the inclement weather seemed to have been whisked away by a zephyr. Storm clouds gave way to beams of sunlight and bus doors opened and from them emerged smiling faces. These were the faces of participants in NSA Souda Bay's 9th Annual Fun and Friendship Day.

The event, organized by Public Affairs Officer, Paul Farley and a committee of volunteers, is a community relations event in which three different special needs facilities head to the base to partake in events designed around fun. There were over 60 participants this year.

"Remember, our number one goal is for everyone to have fun," said event coordinator, Maria Prassakis.

The centers that participated this year included the Daily Care Center for Children with Special Needs, the Autistic Children's Center and the Therapeutic Center for Chronic Illnesses. The participants were divided into four teams, easily identified by the color of their tee-shirts Yellow, Red, Blue and Orange and were transported to various locations around the base.

The participants were assigned a "buddy" that helped escort the participant and also helped get involved in various activities. The buddies included various servicemembers and civilian volunteers. At the end of the day, a barbecue was held and medals were passed out to all participants.

The event was paid for entirely by fund raising events held over the last few months that included car washes, bake sales, breakfast burrito sales and softball tournaments.

"I would particularly like to thank all of you personally involved in making this event come together... you all pulled it off flawlessly," said NSA's commanding officer, Capt. Scott Hogan after the barbecue was finished.



Petty Officer 1st Class Lisa Keding and Petty Officer 2nd Class Alexander Gamble show Effie, who is part of the Therapeutic Center for Chronic Illnesses, how a video camera works during the 9th Annual Fun and Friendship Day, a community relations event.



Airman Brandon Felton helps Manolis, who is part of the Daily Care Center for Children with Special Needs, play Ping Pong during the 9th Annual Fun and Friendship Day.

# Awards and Recognition

The following personnel have been recently recognized for their accomplishments through hard work and dedication. Bravo Zulu to all!

## NAVY AND MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL

CMDCM TODD PRAYNER (ADMIN)  
MA1 ROY ADAME (SEC)  
MAC JOHN RICHARDSON (SEC)  
NCC RONALD MARMOLEJO (ADMIN)  
MAC SCOTT VENTRICE (SEC)  
LN1 DAMLLAH BREWER & NA (LEGAL)  
LS1 JOVAL NANCE (OPS)

## NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

MAC DARRELL SHELTON (SEC)  
LS1 JOSE FUENTES (SEC)  
MA1 EMILIO VERDUGO (SEC)  
MA2 MATHEW SIMONINI (SEC)  
MA3 JONATHAN CALES (SEC)  
MA3 CHRISTOPHER CRISPIN (SEC)  
MA3 JUSTO GARCIA (SEC)  
MA3 JOSEPH LYTER (SEC)  
MA3 AMBER ORTEGA (SEC)  
MA3 JARED SALGADO (SEC)  
MA3 SILVIO RUDELLI (SEC)  
MASN URIAH ENGLE (SEC)  
MA2 JESSICAROSE THURBER (SEC)  
PS2 AIDAN TOBIN (CSD)  
RP2 JOE WYLY (CHAP)  
MA1 MICHAEL HOUSLEY (SEC)  
LS1 SOMCHITCH PHOMMAVONGSA (OPS)  
LS2 FRANCISCO CORDERO (SUP)  
UT2 JOSHUA COLLMER (PW)  
MA2 MORRIS HIBBITT (SEC)  
MA2 JAMIE JASSO (SEC)  
LS2 YASSIN MOHAMED (OPS)  
MA2 JEREMY HINES (2 NA) (SEC)  
MA2 RAFAEL DOMINGUEZ (SEC)  
MA2 RONALD NORRIS (SEC)  
MA2 MATTHEW POLAND (SEC)  
ABH3 GEORGE JOSEPH (OPS)  
SWC WILLIAM FULLER (SAFETY)

ICC THOMAS PEDERSON (AFN)  
MA1 RONNIE RAY (SEC)  
MA1 HORACE WINN (SEC)  
MA2 ALYSSA FOSTER (SEC)  
MA2 RICHARD HAMMETT (SEC)  
UT2 JONATHAN MARTINEZ (PW)  
MA2 SEAN MINNICK (SEC)  
MA2 MATTHEW PARKER (SEC)  
MA2 MICHAEL WOODWARD (SEC)  
UT2 JOHN YOUNG (PW)  
MA3 ADAM THOMSON (SEC)

## FLAG LETTER OF COMMENDATION

MA3 ALLISON CHANG (SEC)  
MA3 DEJA GRISSOM (SEC)

## LETTER OF COMMENDATION

MA2 JOURDAN MOORE (SEC)  
MA2 REBECCA WOLFBRANDT (SEC)  
MA2 EBONI JOYNER (SEC)  
ABH3 LATEAF BUSH (OPS)  
MA3 CHRISTOPHER HILL (SEC)  
MA3 MARQUIS HOWARD (SEC)  
MA3 MYRL SCHROEDER (SEC)  
MASN ROBERT FRITZ (SEC)  
MASN LOVENSKI STERNS (SEC)  
MA2 JEREMY HINES (SEC)  
MA2 MATTHEW POLAND (SEC)  
MA2 MATTHEW SIMONINI (SEC)  
MA3 DANIEL CALLAGHAN (SEC)  
MA3 ANDRES OCAMPO (SEC)

## SENIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

MA1 TERRANCE STALLINGS (SEC)

## JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

MA2 ALYSSA FOSTER (SEC)

## BLUEJACKET OF THE QUARTER

MASN LISA MCGUIRE (SEC)

## DOD AND LN CIVILIAN OF THE 3rd QUARTER

MS. SOPHIA MANOS (MWR)  
MRS. MARIA PRASSAKIS (LEGAL)

## DOD AND LN CIVILIAN OF THE 4th QUARTER

MS. DONNA DEW (COMP)  
MR. LOANNIS KARAMPETSOS (SEC)

# Auto Hobby Shop Grand Opening

Story and Photos by MC3 Cayman Santoro

U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay recently commemorated the grand opening of the Auto Hobby Shop with a ribbon cutting ceremony, on Tuesday, November 23.

Commanding Officer, Capt. Scott Hogan spoke at ceremony as servicemembers and DoD civilians alike stood attended to witness the event.

“The overall cost of the project was almost a half million and there is about 150,000 dollars plus worth the equipment in there. It is a nice state of the art facility for our servicemembers and civilians to use,” said Hogan.

The new facility includes: A car lift, a motorcycle lift for bike repairs, a diagnostic computer, tire change equipment (including a balancer), oil change equipment, parts washer, car repair library, and a full line of Snap-on tools.

The Auto Hobby Shop building has been in the building process for almost two years and began on 26 September, 2008.

“It has been a long time coming and I’m glad the Auto Hobby Shop is finally here,” said Hogan, finishing his remarks.

Classes will be available through the auto hobby shop to teach “everything automotive” including how to change a tire or how to change your oil.



Representatives of Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Construction Contractors Tsontas cut the ribbon with Commanding Officer, Capt. Scott M. Hogan signifying the opening of the Auto Hobby Shop.



Command Master Chief, Todd Prayner and Chief Petty Officer Roy Kingston take a look at a Harley Davidson Motorcycle on display in the new Auto Hobby Shop that was recently opened.



**NSA SECURITY ALWAYS STANDING VIGILANT**  
Petty Officer 3rd Class Ashlee South stands post at U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay.

Commanding Officer  
NSA Souda Bay  
PSC 814 Box 1  
FPO, AE 09865

## WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Tell us how we can improve our family gram!

Mail your comments to the return address above or e-mail: [SoudaPAO@eu.navy.mil](mailto:SoudaPAO@eu.navy.mil)

For the latest news and updates on NSA Souda Bay visit <http://www.cnic.navy.mil/soudabay/index.htm>

### Carrier at Souda Bay

December 2010

**THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) ARRIVES IN SOUDA BAY, CRETE, FOR A PORT VISIT. THE TRUMAN WAS ON A SIX-MONTH DEPLOYMENT AND OPERATING UNDER THE U.S. 6TH FLEET.**



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Cayman Santoro