

Tropical Times

January 19, 2012



WOLFPACK

Air Force Air Transportation Craftsman Tech. Sgt. Liselle Bracey inspects the contents of an Army aircraft for hazardous material Jan 18. Hazardous material inspections are routine for safety protocol whenever aircraft are transported.



Submitted By
Lt. Cmdr. Robert Spencer
Command Chaplain, NSF Diego Garcia

Being a child of the 1960s, I grew up during the height of the American Civil Rights movement and the Vietnam War. Both events were always in the news. The Vietnam War happened in Vietnam while the American Civil Rights movement happened in my own back yard while I was growing up in Alabama. I remember how the movement seemingly centered around one person. He was always in the news and his picture was frequently in newspapers and magazines. Depending upon who you asked, some people saw him as a troublemaker while others saw him as the hero-spokesman for African-Americans. Of course I'm referring to the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. He became so prominent in his cause and belief, his birthday has become a

federal holiday as presidents Washington and Lincoln has. King was a very gifted orator. His speaking skills broadcasted his message across the world. His "I Have a Dream" speech is remembered as one of the greatest public speaking events in U.S. history. His voice began to gradually move the consciences of the American people, which began to unite folks of different beliefs, faiths and color. Some saw him as a threat to the status quo. His enemies erroneously believed that if they could stop his voice, figuratively and literally, they could then stop his cause. The plan backfired. His assassination instead galvanized the Civil Rights movement and it progressed forward. His

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

death woke up the American people and made them accountable to see that all of us are children of God. As I matured over the years I began to admire him for an additional reason. His behavior reflected that of Christ. Jesus refused to lash back at his enemies during his three year ministry. King did the same. Despite the assaults, insults, innuendos and demeaning behavior directed his way, King refused to lower himself to the same behavior as his attackers. His self-restraint was noteworthy. His leadership skills were also most impressive as he led his cause with grace and honor while maintaining his non-violent practices. He maintained a steady poise about him that slowly earned him international respect. His message was

simple: each person has a dignity about them regardless of their social status, race or ethnicity, and all people should be afforded a basic human respect. We had planned to celebrate his birthday aboard Diego Garcia with a 5K run. The rain temporarily blocked those plans. We'll do it some other time. Meanwhile, we'll reflect on the sacrifices that he has made that made America a better place to live, work and to achieve the American dream

"Let the prophet who has a dream recount his dream; let him who has my word speak my word truthfully!"
(Jeremiah 23:28)

Chaplain's
Corner



Joint Task Force Diego Garcia



Soldiers and Airmen stationed in Japan, Hawaii and California joined together in Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, for the Joint Task Force joint inspection. The team landed on island Jan. 5, and have been working continuously in preparation for their forward deployed mission.



Diego Garcia NEWS

18th Air Force Commander makes historic visit to Diego Garcia

By MC1(SW) Arthur N. De La Cruz

DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory – Commander, 18th Air Force paid a visit to Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory, to observe inter-service transportation operations on the island Jan. 12.

Lt. Gen. Mark F. Ramsay, commander of the 18th Air Force at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., visited Diego Garcia to get a first-hand look at transportation operations between the Army, Air Force and Navy supply corps.

"We're doing something with U.S. Transportation Command we haven't done before in this part of the world, which is a multi-modal operation," Gen. Ramsay explained. "It's essentially a unit swap. We have one unit going in to relieve another unit coming out of our theater of operation. We're also moving each unit's equip-

ment with them."

Multi-modal refers to the use of different modes of transportation employed to ship personnel or equipment from one location to another.

Equipment for the inbound unit was shipped to Diego Garcia by a Military Sealift Command (MSC) chartered-cargo ship. Next, the unit's equipment and personnel flew into their operation site via Air Force aircraft. Once on the ground, the unit and equipment was shipped to its final destination via Army ground transportation.

"In years past we would've flown most of this equipment all the way into our theaters of operations," Gen. Ramsay said. "But, it's almost as fast and less expensive if we conduct multi-modal operations by shipping cargo here first,



DIEGO GARCIA, British Indian Ocean Territory (January 12, 2012) - Commanding Officer, U.S. Navy Support Facility, Diego Garcia, Capt. David L. Tidwell (center) and British Maj. Royal Marine John Lugg, the executive officer for Commander British Forces (left), greet Commander, 18th Air Force, Lt. Gen. Mark F. Ramsay, as he arrives on the island of Diego Garcia, in the British Indian Ocean Territory, Jan. 12. Lt. Gen. Ramsay visited Diego Garcia to observe supply transportation operations on the island between the Army, Air Force and Navy. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Arthur N. De LaCruz)

and use other modes of transportation to move our units."

Diego Garcia is the fourth location U.S. Transportation Command has set up to act as a midway point for transporting personnel and equipment into, and out of, theaters of operation. The island's facilities are the staging platform to conduct the off load of inbound equipment from cargo ships, and then load it onto awaiting Air Force aircraft.

Conversely, when outbound equipment arrives from operations overseas, it is then loaded onto cargo vessels and transported back home.

18th Air Force has more than 43,000 active-duty Airmen and

1,300 airlift and air refueling aircraft. It manages a streamlined organization that focuses the air mobility war-fighting capability through the 618th Air and Space Operations Center (Tanker Airlift Control Center).

NEWS *from around the fleet*

Navy Solar Farm Construction Underway

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Joshua Cassatt, Public Affairs Center San Diego

CHINA LAKE, Calif. (NNS) -- The Navy made another leap into renewable energy integration Jan. 18 with groundbreaking on a new 118 acre solar farm in China Lake, Calif.

Construction of a SunPower Corporation 13.78 megawatt solar photovoltaic power system officially got underway at Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake following a mid-morning ceremony at the sprawling weapons development base.

"This is the largest solar project in the Navy," said Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installation and Environment Jackalyne Pfannenstiel. "It demonstrates tangible progress toward national energy independence and reaching the Department of the Navy's energy goals."

SunPower's Oasis Power Plant product, a fully-integrated, modular solar block consisting of 31,680 solar panels, is expected to generate more than 30 percent of NAWS China Lake's annual energy load.

"The weapons division here is the consumer, and with that consumption requirement comes responsibility," said Rear Adm. Mat Winter, commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division.

"This project gives us the opportunity as the major con-

sumer of the energy to look into our own processes and practices," Winter said. "As we are more efficient in executing and continuing to do our mission it frees up resources for us to provide to our war fighter."

The solar farm integration, which is made possible through a 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA), will allow the Navy to buy electricity below the retail utility rate and reduce costs by an estimated \$13 million over the next 20 years.

The PPA involves no initial out-of-pocket expenses for the Navy and will provide increased energy independence and reliable, emission-free solar power to NAWS China Lake beginning at the end of this year.

"The Navy has a longstanding record of identifying energy and water conservation opportunities across our facilities," said Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Southwest. "We are continuing to transform our culture from one of consumption to one focused on conservation."

NAWS China Lake's solar farm is representative of the Navy's energy initiative, laid out by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus in 2009, which aspires to achieve 50 percent of the Navy's shore-based energy requirements produced by alternative sources by the year 2020.

"We face a global energy challenge, which is for us a na-



Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (Oct. 22, 2011) A view of solar panels being installed at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The solar farm is being installed to provide electricity for the ongoing expansion of Denich Gym at the naval station's Cooper Field sports complex. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Bill Mesta)

tional strategic imperative that we solve," said Capt. Clifford Maurer, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest commanding officer. "There was an extraordinary level of effort that went into market research, industry partnering, preparing complicated acquisition documentation, navigating complicated regulations and incentives, and doing technical analysis."

Under the 20-year federal solar PPA, SunPower will build, operate and maintain the solar power system that uses the company's high-efficiency solar panels, and which it guarantees through a 25-year warranty. SunPower has worked with federal agencies since 1999 and has installed more than 25 megawatts of solar power systems at government facilities, including solar power plants at Navy installations in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and Coronado, Calif.

"We are so honored to be here today," said Howard Wenger, president of SunPower. "It really is a testament to the commitment and leadership of many people in the Navy, and the base here in China Lake, that we are here today celebrating this very significant groundbreaking."

NAWS China Lake is located in the Western Mojave Desert region of California. The installation is the Navy's largest single landholding, representing 85 percent of the Navy's land for research, development, acquisition, testing and evaluation of weapons systems. The two ranges and main site of NAWS China Lake cover more than 1.1 million acres, an area larger than the state of Rhode Island. For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy. For more news from Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, visit www.navy.mil/local/pacensandiego/.

NEWS *from around the fleet*

CNIC Holds 'Train-the-Trainer' Course for Command Fitness Leaders

From Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Naval Support Activity Mid-South held a command fitness leader (CFL) "Train-the-Trainer" certification course for more than 20 Navy fitness professionals from across the country and Guam Jan. 9-13.

"Our goal is to provide our Navy Fitness personnel with all of the tools and knowledge needed to deliver this course at their local installation," said CFL Instructor Debbie Deutsch, Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC). "This course ensures that we have qualified, certified instructors located on every base who are able to offer classes to Sailors around the world."

Topics covered during the week-long course included

instruction to conduct the Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA), nutrition, exercise physiology, anatomy, injury prevention, safety, public speaking and Physical Readiness Information Management System basics.

Deutsch said the course stresses the need for CFLs to provide smart, effective and safe physical fitness programming for their Sailors.

"Through effective training techniques and safe exercise programming, this course provides the necessary tools to ensure that our Sailors are trained properly and safely," Deutsch said.

Attendees participated in physical training each day and successfully completed all of the steps of the official PFA, including curl-ups, push-ups and 1.5-mile run/walk.



OAK HARBOR, Wash. (Oct. 17, 2011) Sailors conduct a group warm-up exercise during the Command Fitness Leader (CFL) course at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. The five-day CFL certification course consists of training on conducting the Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) test, injury preventions, safety and emergency response, nutrition education and physical readiness information management systems (PRIMS). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Nardel Gervacio)

"Throughout the week, our instructors are being taught everything from PRP [Physical Readiness Program] policy to proper military etiquette in addressing military personnel," added Deutsch. "We want to ensure that they leave this course fully educated and prepared to not only teach the five-day course at their installation, but to be the subject matter expert for local CFLs when questions or issues arise."

CNIC will host the course in Rota, Spain Feb. 6-10 to certify instructors for the Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia region.

"Last year, we trained nearly 2,000 CFLs," said Deutsch. "With more classes being offered this year, we're expecting to meet, if not exceed, that number."

For more information about the CFL course, visit www.navyfitness.org.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

For more news from Commander, Navy Installations Command, visit www.navy.mil/local/cni/.

NEWS *from around the fleet*

The Navy Joins Nation in Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

By Ensign Amber Lynn Daniel, Diversity and Inclusion Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- As announced by NAVADMIN 009/12, the Navy will join the nation to observe Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Jan. 16.

Navy commands are encouraged to reflect on the recurring theme, "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not A Day Off!" and increase their knowledge and awareness of Dr. King's contributions to American history and civil rights through participation in military and community events.

King was the chief spokesman for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law. In 1968, amidst a country embattled in a civil rights struggle, King was assassinated.

In honor of King's unfinished efforts, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was established by then-President Ronald Reagan in 1983. In 1992, then-President George H.W. Bush proclaimed the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday would be observed every year on the third Monday of January. Congress passed the

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday and Service Act, Aug. 23, 1994 designating the King Holiday as a day of volunteer service. The first observance was held Jan. 15, 1986, the anniversary of King's birthday.

Last year, Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Tiffany Jaros and Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Jacqueline Bucci celebrated Martin Luther King, Jr. Day volunteering with a group of Sailors from Naval Station Everett. Their local United Way was in need of adult volunteers to supervise teens during their county-wide Martin Luther King, Jr. Day volunteer project, and the call was put out to the Navy base to see if some of the local Sailors, despite having the day off, would volunteer.

"I decided to volunteer because I love to help people, whether it is to help someone clean and move their house, or just make them smile. If it helps them have a better day, then I will do whatever I can to help," said Jaros.

Serving as adult mentors for the day, the Sailors guided local teens to clean the homes of elderly persons in the community. Many of the elderly were unable to do even the



NORTH ARABIAN SEA (Jan. 25, 2010) John W. Miller, commander of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 11, addresses sailors during a celebration honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. aboard the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68). The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group is on a routine deployment to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Nichelle Noelle Whitfield)

most basic home care tasks without assistance.

"I love volunteering and making a difference in others lives," said Jaros. "I had so much fun with the kids just hanging out and bonding. It's great to see kids so young have such an interest in helping others."

Despite having the day off from work, both Bucci and Jaros felt it was important as Sailors to volunteer their time during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

"It helps build relations, but more importantly all people should help others out," said Bucci.

After the group finished the initial cleaning projects, they assisted the teens with a second volunteer project that hit close to home - writing letters of encouragement to Sailors, soldiers, and airmen serving in the wars of Afghanistan and

Iraq.

"That to me was pretty cool not only to do myself, but to see what the kids had to say, and to answer all of their questions about the military," said Jaros. "They really were interested and so eager to learn about it all."

Jaros and Bucci both plan to volunteer on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day again this year.

"Martin Luther King, Jr. Day means a lot to me. It's a day of freedom, a day of happiness and joy that someone was finally able to stand out and stand up for what they believe, just as I and every other military member do for our country every single day," said Jaros.

For more news from Chief of Naval Personnel - Diversity Directorate, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnp-diversity/.

Thursday
19

Friday
20

Saturday
21

Sunday
22

Monday
23

Tuesday
24

Wednesday
25

Wallyball
Tournament
Fitness Center
5 p.m.
Military Only

Texas Hold 'em
Tournament
Island Room
6:30 p.m.

21.5 Mile Individual
Time Trail Bike Race
Marina
8:30 a.m.

8 Pin No Tap
Bowling Tournament
Paradise Alley
12 p.m./3 p.m./6 p.m.

Chess Tournament
Island Room
6 p.m.
Military Only

Bunker Shot
Competition
Coral Sands
Golf Course
5 p.m.

Indoor Duathlon
Fitness Center
5 p.m.

**Pirates of the
Caribbean: On
Stranger Tide**
Adventure
PG 13
8 p.m.

Cars 2
Animation
G
8 p.m.

The Change Up
Comedy
R
8 p.m.

Street Kings
Action
R
8 p.m.

Never Back Down
Drama
R
8 p.m.

Cowboys and Aliens
Thriller
PG 13
8 p.m.

Bad Teacher
Comedy
R
8 p.m.

Zookeeper
Comedy
PG
10 p.m.

Untraceable
Thriller
R
10 p.m.

You can now find the Galley's menu in the top right corner of our CNIC homepage.

Tropical Times

United States Navy Support Facility
Diego Garcia British Indian Ocean
Territory

Commanding Officer

Capt. David L. Tidwell

Executive Officer

Cmdr. Stephen E. Petras

Command Master Chief

CMDCM(SW/AW) Robert L. Johnson

Public Affairs Officer

MC1(SW) Arthur N. De La Cruz

Tropical Times Editor

MC3 Benjamin J. Malvezzi

Command Journalists

MC2 (AW/EXW) Emmanuel Rios
MC3 April D. Adams

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SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Anyone can be a victim of sexual assault.

Resources are available if you need someone to talk to confidentially.

Contact the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) at 370-4421

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Pager 370-9300 ext. 1826 - 24/7

Page the on-call SAPR Victim Advocate at 370-9300 ext. 1825.

