

Observance Month Spotlight Series: 'Our job is to get things done'

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Clyde B. Laster | NSA Panama City Public Affairs

PANAMA CITY, FL – Naval Support Activity Panama City recognizes Sailors and civilians in a series of feature articles during observance months. The month of February is designated as Black History Month, the installation spotlights Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Brandon Johnson, command staff, NSA Panama City.

Johnson is a native of Perry, Florida and joined the Navy in 2014 to help pay for college and build his professional experience.

Upon graduating from boot camp, he spent two months in school studying logistics.

"A lot of people think we are keyboard warriors," Johnson said.

He reported to his first duty station, Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 70 in Jacksonville, Florida, which was part of Carrier Strike Group 2 attached to the USS George H. W. Bush, CVN 77 out of Norfolk, Virginia.

The duties of a logistics specialist varies from buying supplies, understanding codes and supply parts and much more.

"Our job is to get things done," Johnson explained. "If you need something to do your job, I'm your man. Whether it's a pencil or a flight coat, I'm your man. Whatever you need to fly this aircraft, I'm your man."

Johnson said he enjoys helping people.

"We have a thankless job. Our job is customer service. We meet a lot of people and make good connections and friends," Johnson added.

Much of the taskers that fall in his lap require quick turnarounds.

"You have to be able to multitask and shift priorities as needed," Johnson remarked. "Everything is an emergency. The CO needs this, the XO needs that ... this happens all day, every day."

Johnson is constantly juggling different requests that require him to be detail oriented without losing sight of the mission.

"Sometimes you have to be brave enough to say no," Johnson remarked.

Johnson's duties were impacted by the pandemic.

"COVID made my job a lot harder," Johnson explained. "Trying to order masks and cleaning products was hard. If you found a vendor that had what you needed, you had to order it immediately or it would be gone."

In addition to his job, Johnson steps up for other responsibilities aboard the installation ranging from standing watch, handling mail and transportation and managing the Defense Property Accountability System.

During the week, Johnson is dedicated to the mission but the weekend is a different story.

"All my free time is dedicated to my wife, Mychara ... On the weekend, it's all about home" Johnson said.

African-American and Black History Month is an annual celebration, which recognizes the significant contributions of African-Americans throughout our nation's history, through their contributions in arts, entertainment, law, politics, sciences, sports and so much more. In 1976, President Gerald Ford issued the first African-American History Month proclamation, calling upon the Americans to celebrate this observance each February. Since that time, U.S. presidents have issued proclamations to pay tribute to African Americans.

To read more about Black History Month, [click here](#).

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