



SIMULATION

NSA Mid-South Conducts Active Shooter Drill

By MCSN Tyler Fraser
Navy Recruiting Command PA

Naval Support Activity Mid-South (NSAMS) held an active shooter drill June 12 at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Logistics Agency (ULA) and Navy Manpower Analysis Center (NAVMAC) as part of NSAMS readiness requirements.

NSAMS Installation Training Team (ITT), headed by Installation Training Officer Kenneth Andrews developed the active shooter drill with help from Randy Wilson, anti-terrorism manager and physical security manager for ULA and Senior Chief Aviation Warfare Systems Operator (Helicopter) George Marsinko, NAVMAC anti-terrorism officer and emergency management manager.

The purpose of the active shooter drill was two-fold. First, to train and evaluate the NSAMS first responder organization consisting of fire, security, and the Incident Management Team in the Emergency Operations Center operating together with outside agencies such as Millington Fire Department, Millington Police Department and Rural Metro Ambulance, challenging their ability to operate as a single response organization structured under the Incident Command System (ICS). Second, to assess the ULA and NAVMAC employee's actions in accordance with their active shooter training.

The drill was publicized internally to both ULA and NAVMAC employees but the exact time was not given. "The biggest element of surprise for employees in the building was the live gunfire shots produced by using a .38 caliber revolver with blanks," said Andrews. Commanding Officer of NSAMS,



Jackie Ratliff (left), an employee at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Logistics Agency, simulates being shot by Patrolman Dwight Green (middle) and Patrolman Michael Glass (right) during an active shooter drill at Naval Support Activity Mid-South (NSAMS). The drill was held as part of NSAMS's readiness requirements.

Capt. Stephen M. Fimple said that keeping the drill realistic was very important.

"The more realistic the training, the more value and experience will be gained from the drill, not only for our tenants, but also for our first responders and our mutual aid partners," said Fimple. "It is only through these drills that we have the opportunity to exercise our procedures and reflect on our actual performance."

Participants were chosen for their roles in the drill by Wilson and Marsinko.

Andrews said, "All the role players were informed that they were trusted agents, meaning they were given the

inner workings and details of the exercise and were trusted not share any details with coworkers so as not to disclose the drill."

NSAMS has conducted two previous active shooter drills in the past. The first one was held at Commander, Navy Personnel Command in October 2010 and the second was held at the US Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center in March 2012.

Andrews said there were many differences in this drill from the others.

This drill featured NSAMS first female shooter, Jackie Ratliff, an employee at ULA and it was held off base at a building enclosed in a fenced

in compound that is shared by two commands present in the same building but on different floors.

"These are minor differences, but they are complex considerations for the first responders to react to," said Andrews. "The biggest difference between this and the previous active shooter exercises was the efficiency and effectiveness of our first responder team working together and with outside agencies to handle this situation; our first responder team has improved leaps and bounds since that first exercise, enabling them to effectively work together during any crisis situation."

Participants of the drill said it was very effective and everyone involved

did a great job of making the drill a success.

"The ITT controlled the scenario from start to finish, ensuring all the training objectives were completed," said Andrews. "The first responder team's communications and procedures were stellar and the interoperability between all the organizations functioned flawlessly, operating as one cohesive unit."

Fimple said that it was the effort of every person involved in the training that made it successful.

"The success of these drills is ultimately dependent on the exhaustive preparation and oversight of the installation training officer, the commitment of the installation training team, and the cooperation of and coordination with the tenants onboard the installation," said Fimple. "Each piece is critical to planning and executing the drill, which ensures our preparation for a real world event."

Andrews said there are many lessons to be learned through this training.

"Take your active shooter training seriously, it can happen anywhere, at anytime," said Andrews. "Increase your awareness of your surroundings everywhere you go, noting as many exits as you can and always plan for a way out, especially in public places."

Following the success of the active shooter drill, NSAMS ITT will continue to conduct training in the future.

June 25 NSAMS will be conducting a tornado drill to exercise shelter in place procedures. This is a locally conducted exercise to get everyone to review and practice their shelter in place plans. With the tragic events in Oklahoma several weeks ago, Capt. Fimple wants to ensure that as a base, we are ready.

Life on NSA



ALL-EARS

Chief of Naval Personnel and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations Vice Adm. Scott R. Van Buskirk speaks to the Naval Sea Cadet Corp (NSCC) during an all-hands call. The 2013 NSCC Recruit Training is a two-week course where cadets receive instruction from active-duty and Reserve military personnel, and Sea Cadet officers. Chief of Naval Personnel and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations Vice Adm. Scott R. Van Buskirk speaks to the Naval Sea Cadet Corp (NSCC) during an all-hands call near Memphis, Tenn. The Sea Cadet program introduces youth to Naval life and strives to develop in them a sense of pride, patriotism, courage and self-reliance.

(Photo by MC2 Andrea Perez)

By MCI William Jamieson
The Bluejacket

Naval Support Activity Mid-South, in conjunction with various private enterprises in the community and the city of Millington, will host the Flag City Freedom Fireworks Celebration at Navy Lake July 3.

National budget cuts had put the fate of the event in doubt, but the timely help of local private enterprises and the coordination efforts of the city of Millington and the NSA Mid-South Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) department led to a waiver approval from Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) which allowed the event to be held on Navy installation property.

Capt. Stephen Fimple, commanding officer of NSA Mid-South said the community's response to the initial cancellation of the event is indicative of the type of support the installation enjoys within the city of Millington and the Mid-South region.

"We really hated to cancel the fireworks this year, but budget realities forced our hand," said Fimple. "That was when our MWR department started getting contacted by private sponsors in the community who had provided funding in the past. They told us they would be willing to provide more funding, if we could make this happen. So we were able to show CNIC that no Navy funds were going to be used for the event, and they approved our waiver to allow it to take place on installation property. This community has proven their support time and time again, and this time is no exception."

The Flag City Freedom Fireworks Celebration gates will open at 5 p.m. The night will include live music, food, a children's play area and, of course, fireworks. NSA Mid-South is anticipating 15,000 spectators which will include over 5,000 military personnel and their family members.

Master Chief Tuck Williams, NSA Mid-South command master chief, said the event will be one the entire family can enjoy.

"We want everyone to come out and take part in one of the premiere events we have at NSA Mid-South," said Williams. "This is a great opportunity for families, service members and civilians to come out and celebrate the 237th birthday of our nation. It would not have been possible without the hard work of our MWR department and all our supporters out there in the community, so we want everyone to come out and enjoy the fruits of all their labor. I can't wait. It is going to be a fantastic night."

All funding for The Flag City Freedom Fireworks Celebration has been obtained through outside sponsorships from private enterprises in the community including Homer Skelton Ford, Homer Skelton Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Allied Waste Services, Malco Theaters and Rock 103 and 600 WREC. No Department of Defense, Department of the Navy or Naval Support Activity Mid-South appropriated or non-appropriated funds have been or will be used in the funding of the Flag City Freedom Fireworks Celebration.



BOOM!

Community Support Allows NSA Mid-South to Hold Fireworks Celebration

NRC Conducts SAPR Training

By MCSN Tyler Fraser
Navy Recruiting Command PA

Following the all hands call Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) held May 23 addressing Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR), NRC began conducting its own SAPR training in conjunction with the Navy's SAPR stand down June 10 through June 26.

"This training [gives] Navy Recruiting Command the opportunity to be on the leading edge of establishing a culture change for the Navy," said Cmdr. Carol Kushmier, Director, Training and Quality Assurance for NRC. "[The training helps foster] a command climate of dignity, trust and respect where sexist behaviors, fraternization, sexual harassment and sexual assault will not be tolerated, condoned or ignored."

Each day, approximately 50 Navy and civilian personnel from NRC headquarters attended the training -- nearly 500 participants in all.

The training focuses on fraternization, sexual harassment, sexual assault and alcohol's role in sexual assault.

Representatives from NRC said the training had a big impact on Sailors and civilians involved with Navy recruiting.

Chief Navy Counselor James Flaherty, a SAPR representative for NRC, said when an issue like sexual assault is brought to the attention of top-level personnel, it makes it clear how important this problem is.

"When we see Sailors make mistakes in their work we immediately correct them and show them the right way that job is to be done," said Flaherty. "This is the same type of action that needs to take place while on liberty."

This training will not only help NRC Sailors and civilians but future Sailors in the Delayed Entry Program as well.

Part of this training addresses the implementa-

tion of SAPR-D, a SAPR training program for future Sailors in the Delayed Entry Program," said Lt. Candice Heck. Heck, the program manager for nurse corps reserve recruiting and SAPR representative for NRC, said this training allows NRC staff to be aware of what future Sailors will see during their training.

A number of Sailors and civilians who participated in the NRC training said that this new and focused training was much different from previous SAPR trainings they have attended.

"Even though you have been through SAPR training, you haven't been through training like this," said Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Trista Hammer, a waiver processor for NRC. "The training highlighted real-world scenarios; it really had a huge impact on me -- it made me sick to my stomach to know things like this actually happened."

And that's because the training focused on real stories including scenarios such as a senior enlisted member who sexually assaulted an eight-year-old child, a husband who raped his wife, and an incident during a foreign port visit where two Sailors sexually assaulted a local woman, to name a few.

Lt. Cmdr. Claude

McRoberts, director of Enlisted Programs for NRC, said "NRC did a great job of providing engaging training with great scenarios that caused some debate and critical thinking."

Chief Personnel Specialist Michael Serrano, enlisted human resources leading chief petty officer at NRC, said "The tone of this training was very different." "It's not just someone with a collateral duty who is giving this training; this is coming straight from the top of the command."

The training was conducted by NRC Chief of Staff, Capt. Norberto Nobrega and the staff Senior Enlisted Leader, Master Chief Navy Counselor Glenn Blair.

Training was also conducted across the NRC enterprise with Recruiting District leadership leading the way.

As Rear Adm. Earl L. Gay, the commander of NRC, stated during the all hands call, "Speak up when you see or hear of any issue; you are empowered and supported by leadership up and down the chain of command," said Gay. "Be sure to address the issue with the member in question regardless of rank; it's the right thing to do!"



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lisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

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The Bluejacket can be reached at (901) 874-7421 and e-mail at Mill_NSA_Bluejacket@Navy.mil or write the Bluejacket at Attn: PAO 5722 Integrity Drive Millington, TN 38054.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mid-South Commissary Tour by a registered Dietitian- dates are available upon request. Go on a free 90-minute interactive tour of the DeCA commissary with a registered dietitian for inside tips on how to identify tasty, healthful food choices and discover popular food and marketing trends. To register call 874-6178.

The Information, Tickets and Travel office (ITT) and, Navy Getaways has moved into the newly renovated Ellison Family Recreation Center (Bldg. S-499 [5671 McCain St.]) Our hours of operation are Monday - Friday 11 am - 9 pm, Saturday and Sunday 2-9 pm and holidays 2-7 pm. Date for our grand opening remains to be announced. Updates to this information will be available online at www.facebook.com/MillingtonITT.

Domestic Violence Awareness-The Memphis NCIS office is currently offering Domestic Violence Awareness Briefings for NSA Mid-South Commands. Interested Units and Commands should contact NCIS agent Chad Willie at 901-874-5387 to schedule a briefing.

Insider Threat Counter Intelligence Briefing Opportunities-The Memphis NCIS office is currently delivering "Insider Threat" Counter-Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism Briefings for NSA Mid-South Commands. Interested Units and Commands should contact Deborah Cross at 901-874-5387 to schedule a briefing by an NCIS Special Agent.

Tobacco Cessation Classes-(TBD) Monthly at Naval Branch Health Clinic. If you are unable to attend a class, individual appointments are also available. Call Beth McKinzie RN, CDE Health Promotion/Education at 874-6178 to register.

Child abuse and Exploitation Briefings- NSA NCIS office. Interested Units and Commands should contact Deborah Cross at 901-874-5387 to schedule a briefing by NCIS Special Agent Chad Willie.

The Rock- A teen bible study, every Sunday evening from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is a FREE, basic religious instruction for the military teen. Free food and drinks provided. Join us for a fun and informative time at the NSA Mid-South Chapel Center. Please call 874-5341/7232 for more information.

Hands Only CPR Class -One quarter of Americans say they've been in a situation where someone needed CPR. If you were one of them, would you know what to do? Studies have shown that being trained in hands-only CPR can make the lifesaving difference when someone suffers sudden cardiac arrest. If you are interested in completing this fifteen-minute manikin hands-on training, contact Cliff Oliver at the NSA Safety Office 874-5398 to sign up for an upcoming class. Groups of six or more can request the training be brought to their worksite on base.

At Eagle's Peak... We'll have your food ready and at your table in a jiffy! Give us 24 hours notice and we will give you ...our Speedy Southern hospitality group service! To reserve tables and/or place an order for your group call 874-5415/5372 or send email to marybalzell@navy.mil.

At Eagle's Peak... Every Friday 4-6 p.m. join us for Happy Hour. Come in for food, drinks and friendly conversation! For more information call 874-5415/5372 or send email to marybalzell@navy.mil.

At Eagle's Peak... We'll have your food ready and at your table in a jiffy! Give us 24 hours notice and we will give you ...our Speedy Southern hospitality group service! To reserve tables and/or place an order for your group call 874-5425/5372 or send email to marybalzell@navy.mil.

Every Friday - Trivia Night at Eagles Peak. Trivia night 7 - 9 p.m. Every Friday Night Team sign ups start at 7 p.m. (Teams 4-6 people.) Prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. Grill open 6:30 - 9 p.m. Call 901) 874-5415 for more information.

Every Wednesday and Thursday - Free Yoga Class If you can breathe, you can do Yoga. Free Coed Lunch Break Yoga class will be held Wednesdays and Thursdays at Joe Dugger Fitness and Sports Complex. For more information call 874-5497 or visit www.facebook.com/933Yoga.

Every Thursday - The NSA Mid-South Toastmaster Club Meeting The NSA Mid-South Toastmaster Club can help you: 1) become a better speaker and presenter, 2) communicate with more confidence, 3) develop bet-

ter leadership skills, and 4) listen more effectively. All military and civilians are invited to be guests at our weekly meetings held Thursdays, 1135-1235, Whitten Bldg (791), Rm B102. For more information on the benefits of joining Toastmasters, please contact Julieanna Walker at 901-874-6898 or Julieanna.walker@navy.mil.

JDFC 12 week Fitness Challenge! Join the Joe Dugger Fitness and Sports Complex 12 week Fitness Challenge! Reaffirm your commitment to working out and staying fit.

Registrations accepted Jan. 21 - Feb. 3. Registrations fee \$5 per person. Call (901) 874-5497 for more information.

The NSA Mid-South Splash Park is open for the 2013 summer season. The NSA Mid-South Splash Park is open 7 days a week 6 a.m. until sunset. The Splash Park provides the families of the NSA Mid-South community a place to gather and relax while children of all ages enjoy the water based activity during the hot summer days we experience here in the Mid-South. Splash Park is located near the baseball field just off Singleton Avenue.

Watercolor 101 with Barrie Foster

Barrie Foster, a nationally award winning artist, will be teaching beginning adult (age 13 and older) watercolor classes at the Ellison Recreation Center on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Ellison Family Recreation Center (Bldg. S-499 / 5671 McCain St.) No previous art experience necessary and no drawing! The class will explore all aspects of watercolor while having lots of fun! The cost of the 5 week course is \$60, payable to ITT Office in advance. Classes will be held: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Wednesdays (May 15, May 22, May 29, June 19, and June 26.) Class Updates to this information will be available online at <http://www.facebook.com/MillingtonITT>.

Friday, June 28 - Mongolian BBQ dinner

Mongolian BBQ dinner special served Friday, June 28, 5 - 7:30 p.m. at the Helmsman Complex (bldg. S-760 | 7611 Singleton Ave.) Menu includes an array of meats, vegetables and sauces cooked to your liking served with rice and rolls. Choose ... turkey, pork, beef, shrimp, green cabbage, bean sprouts, water chestnuts, celery, red/green and white onions, bamboo shoots, snow peas, carrots, mushrooms, pineapple and jalapeno peppers. Cost: 85 cents per oz. Call (901) 874-5132 for more information.

Friday, June 28 - "Concerts by the Green"

"Concerts by the Green" is a series of free concert events held every Friday in May 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Glen Eagle Golf Course. Admission is free and event is open to public. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs. Food and beverage items will be available for purchase. Picnic baskets will be allowed, no coolers please. Family friendly area will feature bouncy castle.

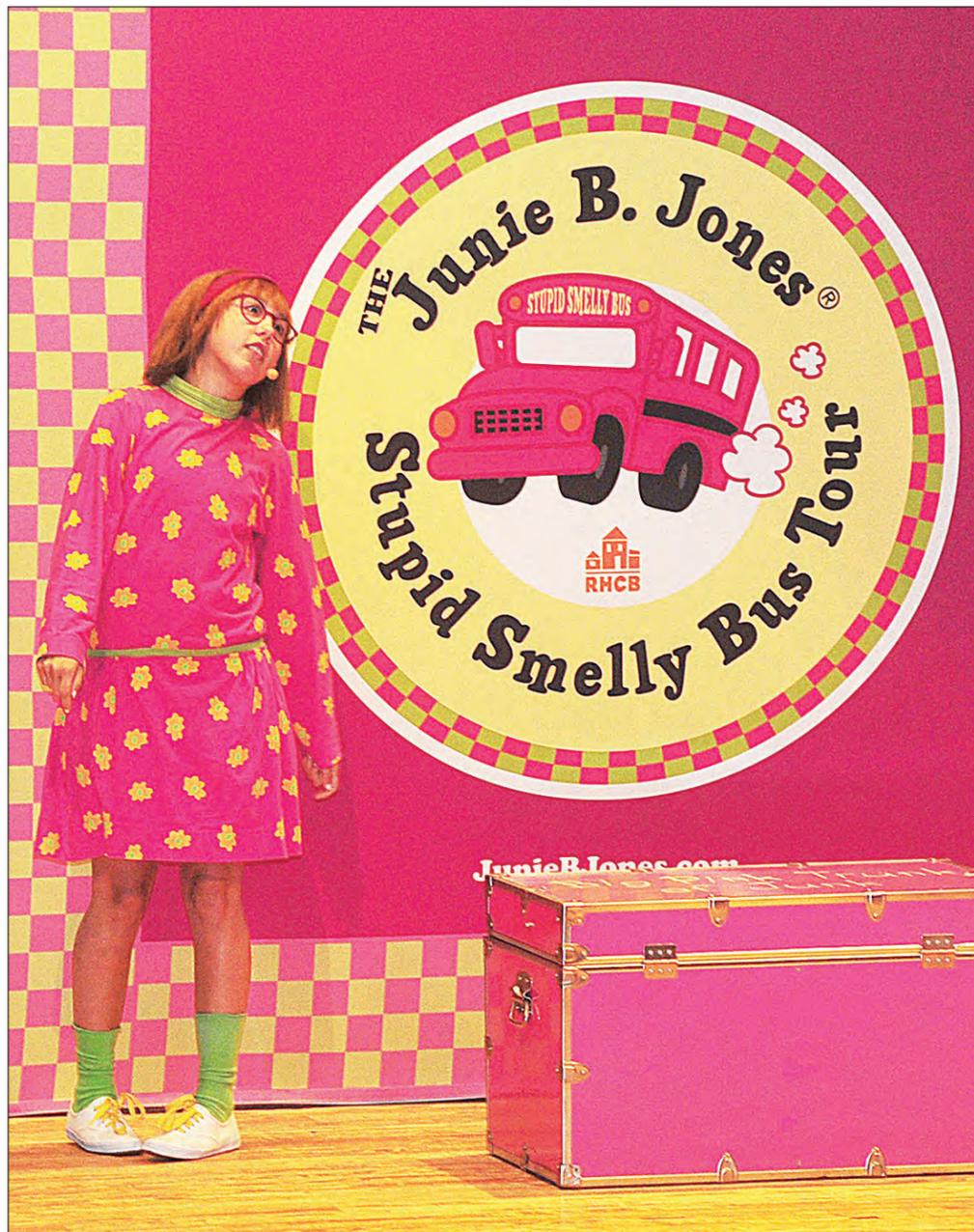
June 28 - "Concerts by the Green" - The Flying Monkeys (7 - 9 p.m.) For more information call 874-5168.

Wednesday, July 3 - Flag City Freedom Celebration

Waiver request for Flag City Freedom Celebration has been approved! Plans are in place. Contracts are signed. Naval Support Activity is partnering with the City of Millington to celebrate our country's birthday with a BANG! Residents from all over join us at Navy Lake July 3 for great live music, concessions, kids' activities, and the best fireworks show in the Mid-South! Our annual festival is open to the public. Location: Navy Lake (6234 Kerr-Rosemark Road Millington, TN 38053.) Cost: Gate fee \$5 per vehicle. The Gate opens at 5 p.m.

Sunday, July 28 - Champagne brunch

Champagne brunch special served Sunday, July 28, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Helmsman Complex (bldg. S-760 | 7611 Singleton Ave.) Menu includes Carved top round of beef with au jus, Southern fried chicken, Broiled tilapia, Whipped potatoes with gravy, Country style green beans, Broccoli casserole, Creamed corn, Scrambled eggs, Sausage links, bacon, grits, French toast with syrup, Soup and salad bar, Dessert bar, coffee, tea, orange juice and champagne. Patrons must be 21 years of age to be served champagne. Adults \$10.50, Children 5-10 \$5.75, Children under 4 eat free. Call (901) 874-5132 for more information.



What smells?

An actor playing Junie B. Jones performs during the Junie B. Jones Stupid Smelly Bus Tour performance at the Pat Thompson Center which was sponsored by the Navy Exchange Memphis. (Photo by MCI William Jamieson)

Former NSA Mid-South Fire Chief Honored



Current Naval Support Activity Mid-South Fire Chief Jason Lewis presents former Fire Chief Charles Peters with an induction certificate to the Navy Fire and Emergency Services Hall of Fame. (Photo by Yeoman 1st Class Luis Diaz)

Former Naval Support Activity Mid-South Fire Chief, Charles W. Peters was honored with a ceremony celebrating his induction into the Navy Fire and Emergency Services Hall of Fame at the Helmsman complex June 3.

Peters had been officially inducted into the Navy Fire and Emergency Services Hall of Fame in 2011, but was unable to attend the official ceremony in Denver for health reasons.

Peters began his Department of Defense fire service career in 1945 as a student at the U.S. Navy Fleet Fire School in Great

Lakes, IL. After a brief break in the Federal service while he served as a Lieutenant with the Jonesboro, Arkansas Fire Department, Chief Peters re-entered the federal fire service in 1950 and did not leave again until he retired, with 58 years of DoD fire service, in 2004.

Chief Peters instilled a sense of history and responsibility in all his protégés. He was a fundamentalist when it came to fire protection and always stressed basic firefighting skills.

He had an acute eye for talent and believed in giving tal-

ented people an early opportunity to succeed. He also allowed them to take chances and make mistakes. While his name is not associated with any DoD or Navy Fire and Emergency Services doctrine, his influence is reflected in the work of all those who worked for and with him. He was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award in 2002, the highest honorary award the Chief of Naval Operations may bestow on a civilian employee. His 58 years of service is believed to be the longest tenure of any DoD Fire Chief.

Chaplain's Compass

It's Possible

By Chaplain Dave Mowbray
NSA Mid-South Chaplain

But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible." - Matthew 19:26

It's hard to believe the college baseball season is almost over. So here's a baseball devotional. Enjoy.

A League of Their Own is a 1992 film about the women's professional baseball league that was created during World War II. At one point in the movie, the team's catcher tells the manager, Coach Dugan,

that she's quitting the team and going home.

"It's just got too hard," she says.

"It's supposed to be hard," Dugan says. "If it weren't hard everyone would do it! The hard is what makes it great!"

In the Bible, Christ spoke similar words to his disciples when he said, "If you love only those who love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that! If you are only kind to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. But you are to be perfect, even as your father

in heaven is perfect.

Dugan was talking about baseball of course, and Jesus was talking

about loving those who are hard to love. But the message is similar. Do you have a hard time caring and appreciating someone you work for? Someone you work with?

Our natural tendency is to explain away our unloving and rotten attitudes toward people because it is so

hard. And there are times when we need to reach out and ask for outside help with a difficult relationship.

But for people of faith, loving other people, especially the hard-to-love-ones, IS possible with God's help. Do we ask? Do we admit our prejudices and grudges that he is waiting to sweep out of the corners of our heart?

Who can God help you to love? And are there

other areas of our lives where we compromise God's will because "it just got too hard"? It's supposed to be hard! The hard is what makes it great!

What's happening at the chapel!

You're Invited!

There are many places of worship in the Millington and Memphis area. Make plans to attend and plug into the great community of faith here in the Mid-South. If you have questions about what is available, please call Chaps at 874-5344.

You are always welcome to visit our interfaith service at the base chapel at 1000 each Sunday morning!

Bible Quiz: How many of each animal did Noah carry on the ark?

Name that tune—"His tender words I hear; And resting on his goodness, I lose my doubt and fear; Thou by the path he leadeth, but one step I may see..."

And remember: "There is no crying in baseball!"

-Coach Dugan

What's Worse than Doing Something Dumb with a Gun?

1. Welcome to the latest edition of the Summary of Mishaps, more good examples of people being bad examples.

A. I'm scanning WESS reports and find a great one: "Member burned starting bonfire." Before I look up the full report, I'm going to guess what happened. You don't mind, do you? I've had a lot of experience leaping to conclusions. Several things come to mind, all guaranteed to liven up a bonfire: gasoline, alcohol, not paying attention and/or goofing around.

OK, now I'll look up the full report and see how I did. Let's see... he was an aviation electrician's mate third class. He burned his body b a d l y enough to miss three days of work and spend a week on light duty. But the report doesn't say exactly what he did. It merely says, "Activity engaged in: horseplay." It doesn't mention alcohol or accelerants. However, under "Event/exposure," it says, "Fires and explosions: fire—unintended or uncontrolled: forest, brush, or other outdoor fire."

A bonfire isn't a forest fire. It should be neither unintended nor uncontrolled. What you, as a prospective bonfire operator, can intend and control is your own behavior, and horseplay doesn't check the block.

B. An E-3 builder strolled into an MWR tent, where he ran into an E-4 builder and an E-3 steelworker. He asked if either of them thought they could disassemble and reassemble an M16 in less than a minute. Had this just been a simple question, it might have been fine. However, it seems that he was either challenging them or showing off.

He asked the second E-3 to lend him his rifle to demonstrate. Permission

granted, he grabbed the rifle, which was in Condition 3. Without verifying that the weapon was clear and safe (this would have cost him precious seconds), he sat down and proceeded with his pointless, non-combat-related demonstration.

After putting the rifle back together and inserting the loaded magazine, he put the selection lever on "safe" and pulled the trigger. Then he selected "fire" and pulled the trigger. Next he

the spur of the moment for no good reason"? Or "Get so involved in one non-mandatory task that you forget basic gun safety rules"?

Y'know what is worse than doing something dumb with a gun? Doing something dumb with it in a hurry on purpose.

2. That's all for this week, shipmates. Until we meet again, keep doing your best to avoid being outwitted by inanimate objects.

h e l d down the trigger, testing the trigger reset. He pulled back the charging handle and released it, which drove the bolt forward and brought the weapon to Condition 1.

Training time out. For you non-weapons folks, Condition 3 means chamber empty, bolt forward, magazine in weapon, safety on, cover closed. Condition 1 means that it is time for innocent bystanders to seriously worry where the weapon is pointing and perhaps hit the dirt.

Back to the demo. The E-3 selected "auto" and pulled the trigger. "Kerblammo-kerblammo-kerblammo-kerblammo!" all at a 45-degree angle through the side of the tent. The report didn't say how he did in terms of the 60-second challenge. I bet the Seabees had lost interest in that aspect of the demonstration.

Under "Courses attended" for the E-3, the mishap report listed "Small arms qualification." Is part of that qual "Demonstrate ability to borrow a rifle on



Clinic Corner

YOU'VE EARNED IT - DON'T WASTE IT!

By Beth McKinzie

Responsible drinking is part of your dedicated military service.

Just one bad decision can jeopardize everything you have worked for in your career no matter how many or how few years you have served.

There are signs that you may be drinking too much:

- not having control over the amount of alcohol you consume
- alcohol negatively affecting your work and/or your relationships with others
- poor judgment and risk taking
- confused thinking

-difficulty remembering details or events

- slow reaction time and reflexes
- distorted vision and blackouts
- angry and/or depressed mood

Drinking irresponsibly not only threatens your health and career, but it threatens the Navy's ability to be mission ready.

Need help?

Please contact your healthcare provider, chaplain, Drug and Alcohol Programs Advisor (DAPA), or Substance Abuse Control Officer (SACO).

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SUNDAY, JUNE 30

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

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Holiday hours of operation update
Thursday, July 4
8 a.m. - 12 noon
Friday, July 5
5 a.m.-5 p.m.

[NavyFitnessMidSouth](https://www.facebook.com/NavyFitnessMidSouth)

Glen Eagle Golf Course
6168 Attu St. Millington, TN 38053
Naval Support Activity Mid-South Millington
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breakfast available 7 a.m.-10:30 a.m only

Eagle's Peak Bar
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NSA Mid-South & MWR present
Summer Fun
Millington Family YMCA Summer Membership
May 25 thru September 3, 2013
Program is for Active Duty Military and their immediate family members only.

Summer membership will include:

- Indoor swimming pool, outdoor water park
- Sauna, steam room, whirlpool
- Kid zone/nursery/youth station
- Fit kids classes
- Free weights & techno gym circuit weights
- Fitness Orientation and evaluation
- Trekking
- Various aerobic classes (Pilates, abs, yoga, step, Y Cycle, Zumba, etc)
- Bikes, treadmills, stair climbers, cross trainers with touch screen technology.
- Family events
- Silver Sneakers, various Senior activities
- Healthy Living and Nutrition Topics; classroom education
- Diabetes and Chronic Disease Self Management Program

Millington Family YMCA hours of operation

- Monday-Friday 5:30 am 9:00 pm
- Saturday 7:00 am 5:00 pm
- Sunday 1:00 am 5:00 pm

"Summer Fun 2013" membership cost: (Millington Family YMCA only)

- \$199.00. Must be paid in full prior to membership activation

Purchase your Millington Family YMCA Summer Membership at:

- Joe Dugger Fitness and Sports Complex
- Questions? 901-874-5497; FAX 901-874-5657
- Cash, cashiers check, MasterCard, Visa
- If needed, 3 easy payments are available!
- Activation will take 3-5 business days.

Joe Dugger Fitness and Sports Complex will notify the member once YMCA is ready for membership processing.

FREE! Annual Concerts by the Green!
Friday, June 28
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Glen Eagle Golf Course



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Eclectic sound with something for everybody
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Admission is free and event is open to the public.
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Neither the Navy nor any other part of the federal government officially endorses any company, or sponsor, or their products or services.

Open to the general public.

Updates to this information will be available online at <http://www.facebook.com/NSAMidsouthMWR>

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Sports and Fitness Complex
Bldg. N-82 | 7915 Memphis Ave. | 874-5188

Monday & Wednesday
0600 - 0900/1100 - 1330/1600 - 1900

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
0600 - 0900/1100 - 1330

Saturday
1200 - 1600

Sunday and holidays Closed

[NSAMidSouthSports](https://www.facebook.com/NSAMidSouthSports)

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MAY 28 - JULY 31, 2013 SCHEDULE

Tuesday 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Instructor Robin Miles)
Wednesday noon- 12:30 p.m. (Instructor Robin Miles)
Thursdays at 4:30-5:30 p.m. (Instructor Eileen Kelm)

Location: Joe Dugger
Cost: FREE
Clothing: Wear comfortable, not too loose, clothing.
Footwear: We go barefoot in yoga.
Equipment: Bring your own mat or use one provided. If you have blocks and straps bring them!

No class on May 23, July 16 or 17.

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SPLASH PARK

Open 0600 - Sunset
7 days a week

2013 Show Year

Our 2013 Point Shows Are:
June 1, 15
August 17, 31st (DP show)
Sept. 14, 28
Oct. 12

If show cancelled due to weather, the following Saturday will be make up show.

Shows start @ 7:00 pm, weather permitting. In the event of show canceling, please call Ranch house, Ann @ 601-6032 or Julie Walker 835-4076

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NSA MID-SOUTH YOUTH CENTER SCHOOL-AGE CARE (SAC) PRIORITY PLACEMENT REGISTRATION
SUMMER DAY CAMP 2013 & BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (BASP) '13-14

Sponsors may register on or after the date listed for their category.
A Waiting List will be established for any SAC program that exceeds the registration limit.
Registration is held Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday between 9:15 am - 1:15 pm.
Alternate registration days & times are available through appointment only. Call 901-874-5155 to schedule your appointment.
Family Enrollment Fees: Summer \$52; Before School \$23; After School \$34; Before & After School \$56.
Family Enrollment Fee is non-refundable; however it is applied to first weekly/bi-weekly fee.

For further information, please call 901-874-5155.

CATEGORY	SMR CAMP 2013 REG.	BASP* 2013-2014 REG. BEGINS	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO REGISTER Sponsor's ID, up-to-date YC paperwork & copies of the following:
1	Currently enrolled CDC Pre-K participants	2-3 July	See below for the documents required for your category
2	IA, Wounded Warriors, Single Active Duty & Dual Active Duty	9 July	IA Orders; VA/command letter; LES(s); and Family Care Plan(s)
3	Active Duty w/working spouse & Active Duty w/student spouse	10 July	LES(s); paystub; and proof of school enrollment
4	Single DoD and Dual DoD	11 July	LES and separation or divorce papers
5	DoD w/working spouse & DoD w/student spouse	16 July	LES; paystub; and proof of school enrollment
6	Active Duty w/non-working spouse	17 July	LES
7	DoD w/non-working spouse	18 July	LES
8	DoD Contractors	23 July	Paystub(s) & supporting documents, as necessary
9	Military Retirees	24 July	LES(s); and pay stub(s)

*Before & After School Program
NOTE: In the event that two sponsors' priority is equal, date and order of enrollment will determine placement on list (active and/or waiting).

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Navy Band!



The Dallas Cole Band!

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Lunch served

Monday - Friday 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



Mongolian BBQ

Friday, June 28
5-7:30 p.m. in Oaks Dining Room

An array of meats, vegetables and sauces cooked to your liking served with rice and rolls. Choose ... turkey, pork, beef, shrimp, green cabbage, bean sprouts, water chestnuts, celery, red/green and white onions, bamboo shoots, snow peas, carrots, mushrooms, pineapple and jalapeno peppers.

Cost: 85 cents per oz.

It's a great time to play!



Check out our June specials

- Wed., June 26 Free 20 oz soda with purchase of a dinner
- Fri., June 21 Games 9 to 12 of the regular sixteen game program will pay \$200.00 per game
- Fri., June 28 Games 13 to 16 of the regular sixteen game program will pay \$200.00 per game

It's a great time to play Bingo!
Bring your friends and family for a night of fun and excitement. Cash bar and food service available each night. The MWR bingo program is open to all MWR authorized patrons. MWR authorized patrons are defined as all personnel who live and work onboard Navy Mid-South as well as Active Duty, Retired, and Reserve Military Personnel, Naval Support Activity Mid-South civilian personnel and their family members. Patrons must be 18 years of age to attend. Bingo is played in the Helmsman Complex (bldg. S-760) Navy Mid-South. For more information call 874-5443.

Champagne Brunch

Sunday, July 28
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Menu includes carved top round of beef au jus, southern fried chicken, Broiled tilapia, whipped potatoes with gravy, country style green beans, Broccoli casserole, Creamed corn, scrambled eggs, sausage links, bacon, grits, French toast, soup and salad bar, dessert bar, coffee, tea, orange juice, and champagne (must be 21 years of age to be served Champagne)

Adults \$10.50
Children age 5-10 \$5.75
Children 4 and younger eat free

Please note our holiday hours
July 3rd 11a.m.-7 p.m. July 4th 2-7 p.m.



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MWR DINING & EVENT HIGHLIGHTS!

JUNE 27 - JULY 6, 2013 MWR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Free movie shown daily!</p> <p>Bldg. S-499 (5671 McCain St.) (901) 874-5455.</p>	<p>MOVIE THEATER BIG SCREEN TV</p> <p>GAMES FREE WIFI</p> <p>VACATION PLANNING DISCOUNT TICKETS REC LODGING AND MORE!</p>	<p>Ellison Recreation Center</p> <p>MWR LIBERTY NAVY Getaways ITT CNIC</p>	<p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1815 Superman: The Movie (1978) (PG)</p>	<p>Helmsman Lunch Buffet 27 Carved roast beef Carved pit smoked ham</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Chef Choice</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1815 Superman: The Movie (1978) (PG)</p>	<p>Helmsman Lunch Buffet 28 Fried catfish Spaghetti with meat sauce</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Catfish</p> <p>Annual Concerts by the Green! 7 - 9 p.m. Glen Eagle Golf Course</p> <p>Helmsman Complex</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Evil Dead (R)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>FAMILY MOVIE MATINEES!!</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movies in Cinema 36 1430 Brave (PG) 1630 Mirror Mirror (PG) 1830 Jurassic Park (2013) (PG-13)</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movies in Cinema 36 1430 Tyler Perry's Temptation (PG-13) 1730 Oblivion (PG-13)</p>	<p>Helmsman Plated Lunch 1 Plate lunch special Hand battered chicken strip</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Sandwich and Soup</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Title to be announced</p>	<p>Helmsman Plated Lunch 2 Plate lunch special Country fried steak</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Taco Salad</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Title to be announced</p>	<p>Helmsman Lunch Buffet 3 Southern fried chicken Chef's choice</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special BBQ</p> <p>Flag City Freedom Celebration July 3 at Navy Lake Gates open at 5 p.m.</p> <p>COED YOGA @ Joe Dugger 12 noon -12:30 p.m.</p> <p>No Bingo Helmsman Complex</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Title to be announced</p>	<p>Helmsman Lunch Buffet 4 Closed Enjoy the holiday!</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Chef Choice</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Title to be announced</p>	<p>Helmsman Lunch Buffet 5 Fried catfish Lemon pepper</p> <p>Eagle's Peak Lunch Special Catfish</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movie in Cinema 36 1830 Title to be announced</p>	<p>6</p> <p>FAMILY MOVIE MATINEES!!</p> <p>Ellison Family Recreation Center Free movies in Cinema 36 1430 Title to be announced 1630 Title to be announced 1830 Title to be announced</p>

This week in Navy History

June 27

1813 - USS President anchors in Bergen, Norway
1950 - To support U.N. call to assist South Korea, Truman authorizes U.S. naval and air operations south of 38th Parallel, Korea

June 28

1794 - Joshua Humphreys appointed master builder to build Navy ships at an annual salary of \$2,000.

1814 - USS Wasp captures HMS Reindeer

1865 - CSS Shenandoah captures 11 American whalers in one day

1970 - USS James Madison (SSBN-627) completes conversion to Poseidon missile capability

June 29

1925 - Ships and men from 11th and 12th Naval Districts assist in relief after earthquake at Santa Barbara, CA

1950 - Truman authorizes sea blockade of the Korean coast

1950 - USS Juneau fires first naval shore bombardment of Korean Conflict

June 30

1815 - USS Peacock takes HMS Nautilus, last action of the War of 1812

1943 - Third Fleet Amphibious Force lands troops on Rendova Island while naval gunfire silences Japanese artillery

1951 - Naval Administration of Marianas ends

July 1

1797 - Naval Regulations passed by Congress

1800 - First convoy duty; USS Essex escorts convoy of merchant ships from East Indies to U.S.

1801 - U.S. squadron under Commodore Dale enters Mediterranean to strike

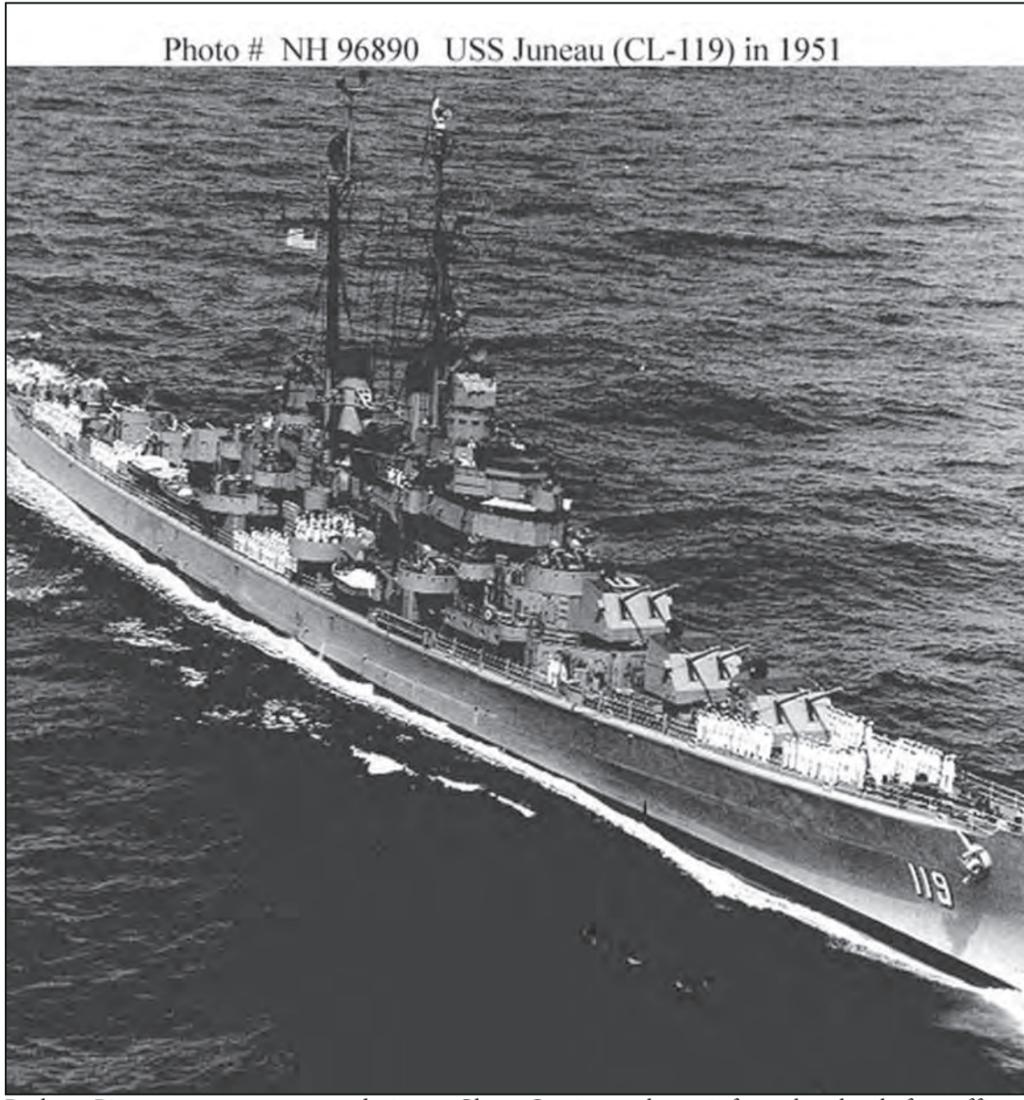


Photo # NH 96890 USS Juneau (CL-119) in 1951

Barbary Pirates

1850 - Naval School at Annapolis renamed Naval Academy

1851 - Naval Academy adopts four year course of study

1911 - Trial of first Navy aircraft, Curtiss A-1. The

designer, Glenn Curtiss, makes first flight in Navy's first aircraft, A-1, at Lake Keuka, NY, then prepares LT Theodore G. Ellyson, the first naval aviator, for his two solo flights in A-1.

1914 - Prohibition of alcohol begins in the Navy

1916 - Establishment of

informal school for officers assigned to submarines at New London, CT

1918 - USS Covington hit without warning by two torpedoes from German Submarine U-86 and sank the next day

1933 - USS Constitution commences tour of principal

U.S. seaports.

1946 - 1st of 2 detonations, Operation Crossroads nuclear test

1951 - Responsibility for the Government of Trust Territories transferred from Navy to Department of Interior.

1972 - Date of rank of Rear Admiral Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., who was first U.S. Navy Admiral of African-American descent.

July 2

1923 - Commissioning of Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC.

1926 - Distinguished Flying Cross authorized by Congress.

1937 - Amelia Earhart disappears in Pacific. Navy conducts extensive unsuccessful search

1945 - USS Barb (SS-220) bombards Japanese installations on Kaihyo Island, Japan; first successful use of rockets against shore positions.

1946 - Establishment of VX-3 to evaluate adaptability of helicopters to naval purposes.

1950 - USS Juneau and 2 British ships sink 5 of 6 attacking North Korean torpedo boats and gunboats.

1967 - During Operation Bear Claw, Seventh Fleet Amphibious Force conducts helicopter assault 12 miles inland at Con Thien.

July 3

1898 - At Battle of Santiago, Cuba, RADM Sampson's squadron destroys Spanish fleet

1950 - USS Valley Forge and HMS Triumph participate in first carrier action of Korean Conflict. VF-51 aircraft (Valley Forge) shoot down 2 North Korean aircraft. The action is first combat test of F9F Panther and AD Skyraider.

Former Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Kelso Leaves Legacy of Service, Integrity

From Naval History and Heritage Command

Adm. Frank Kelso II, 79, former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), died Sunday, June 23, 2013, following injuries sustained from a fall earlier in the week.

Kelso, a native of Fayetteville, Tenn., served as Chief of Naval Operations from June 29, 1990 until April 23, 1994.

As the Chief of Naval Operations and throughout his career as a naval officer, Kelso was renowned for his intelligence, integrity and upstanding character.

"Adm. Kelso was a submariner, an accomplished commander, and an unmatched leader known for his intelligence and integrity. The thoughts of the 900,000 Sailors, Marines and civilians who make up the Department of the Navy go out to our fallen shipmate and his family. Semper Fortis," said Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus.

"Adm. Frank Kelso's bold leadership and innovative thinking guided the Navy through times of war and significant draw-down at the end of the Cold War. The ability to cut against the grain and find new and creative solutions for the Navy are what set Admiral Kelso apart from his peers. It was his strength of character and sure-fire integrity that ensured his success as a former CNO and to a higher degree solidified the formidable legacy of a great life that Admiral Frank Kelso leaves behind. It was an honor to have served with him and we are a better Navy due to his leadership and faithful commitment to our Sailors, civilians and their families," said U.S. Navy Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert.

Kelso eventually returned to live in Fayetteville, Tenn., in 2003, a decade after retiring from the Navy.

He was the third of three submariners in a row who served as CNO in the 1980s and '90s. As CNO he led the Navy in a period of significant drawdown of U.S. naval forces in the wake of the end of the Cold War and the ballyhooed "peace dividend." Concurrently, he oversaw the introduction of new platforms and systems that improved capabilities, including precision strike operations. The nation persistently called on the naval capabilities throughout his tour, starting with Operation Desert Storm. As CNO, he also oversaw revolutionary changes within the

OPNAV staff and profoundly changed the means by which the Navy processed and made decisions. In keeping with joint staff practices, he changed "OP" codes to "N" codes, and the staff was reorganized to align with a "Napoleonic" arrangement used by both the Army and the Joint Staff. In a period of dramatic change, he helped to transform not merely the organization, but also the processes by which information could be shared and considered. He is credited with dramatically changing the means by which more informed decisions could be made by the Navy.

Kelso was a strong advocate for the integration of women, particularly in the wake of the 1991 Tailhook Convention during which numerous incidents of sexual assault and harassment were found to have occurred.

During his tour as Commander of the Navy's Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea, members of the Palestine Liberation Front hijacked the cruise ship Achille Lauro and had killed a disabled passenger. When their demands were not met, they negotiated safe refuge and were flown towards Tunisia aboard an Egyptian commercial airliner. The plane was intercepted by U.S. Navy F-14 Tomcats and forced to land in Sigonella, Sicily, where the hijackers were arrested and later tried for murder.

In March of 1986 the U.S. initiated a series of 'Freedom of Navigation' exercises in the Gulf of Sidra that challenged Libyan leader's Col. Muammar al-Qadhafi "line of death" that spanned the Gulf of Sidra. Then Vice Adm. Kelso deployed elements of Task Force 60 including America (CV 66), Coral Sea (CV 43), and Saratoga (CV 60) with upward of 250 aircraft and 26 ships and submarines across the line and triggered Libyan action. Ultimately naval aircraft completed 1,546 sorties in support of the successful operation.

Then in April of that year, following additional terrorist attacks sponsored by al-Qadhafi, the U.S. launched Operation El Dorado Canyon-attacks against Libyan military targets. Under Kelso, U.S. aircraft attacked three target areas near Tripoli. Jets also bombed the al-Jamahiriyyah barracks and Benina Airfield, both near Benghazi.

Kelso got his start in public school and the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., prior to entering the U.S. Naval Academy in 1952. Following graduation in 1956, he served in the cargo ship



An official U.S. Navy portrait of the 24th Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Frank B. Kelso II. The photo is dated Sept. 21, 1991.

USS Oglethorpe (AKA 100) before attending Submarine School in 1958. On completion of training, he was assigned to the submarine USS Sabalo (SS 302) before returning to Submarine School for nuclear power training in January 1960. He then served one year in the Nuclear Power Department at the school. Subsequent tours included the pre-commissioning crew of the nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Pollack (SSN 603), Engineering Officer aboard USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) and Executive Officer of USS Sculpin (SSN 590).

From January 1969 to August 1971, Kelso served as Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Nuclear Power School in Bainbridge, Md. Following tours included Commanding Officer, USS Finback (SSN 670); Staff of Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; and Commanding Officer, USS Bluefish (SSN 675). Adm. Kelso was then assigned as Executive Assistant to the Commander in

Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet and Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic from September 1975 to July 1977.

He served as Commander, Submarine Squadron SEVEN until reporting as Division Director, Submarine Distribution Division in the Naval Military Personnel Command, and Section Head of the Submarine Programs Section in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower, Personnel and Training) in September 1978.

He was selected for promotion to the rank of rear admiral in February 1980.

Upon selection for flag rank, Admiral Kelso served as Director, Strategic Submarine Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and then was assigned as Director, Office of Program Appraisal, Office of the Secretary of the Navy. On February 8, 1985, Adm. Kelso became Commander 6th Fleet and NATO Commander Naval

Striking Force and Support Forces Southern Europe. On June 30, 1986, Adm. Kelso was promoted to admiral and assumed the duties of Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Admiral Kelso became Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic and Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command on November 22, 1988. He became the Navy's 24th Chief of Naval Operations on June 29, 1990.

Adm. Kelso has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal (three awards), Legion of Merit (four awards), Meritorious Service, Navy Commendation and Navy Achievement Medals.

He is survived by his second wife, Georgeanna, his four children and numerous grandchildren. Landess McCown, his first wife of 56 years, passed away in 2012.

Kelso, who would have been 80 on July 11, 2013, will be buried in Fayetteville in the historic Rose Hill Cemetery on Saturday.



EYE ON THE FLEET

A rigid-hull inflatable boat from the guided-missile destroyer USS Gravelly (DDG 107) carries passengers towards the guided-missile destroyer USS Barry (DDG 52). Gravelly is on a scheduled deployment supporting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the 6th Fleet area of responsibility.

(Photo by MC2 James Turner)

VA Reduces Disability Compensation Claims Backlog

From a Department of Veterans Affairs

A Veterans Affairs Department initiative launched in April to expedite disability compensation claims decisions for veterans who have waited a year or longer has cleared more than 65,000 claims -- or 97 percent of all claims over two years old from the backlog, VA officials announced today.

Veterans Benefits Administration staff now will focus their efforts on completing the disability claims of veterans who have been waiting more than a year for a decision while completing the final batch of oldest claims in progress, officials said.

"Over the past two months, VA has been dedicated to providing earned benefits to the veterans who have waited the longest," said VA Secretary Eric K. Shinseki. "Thanks to our hard-working VBA employees, we have completed nearly all claims that have been pending two years or longer. We've made great progress, but know much work remains to be done to eliminate the backlog in 2015."

Allison A. Hickey, VA's undersecretary for benefits, said the success of this phase of the effort was due

in part to the implementation of mandatory overtime for the Veterans Benefits Administration's claims processing staff, as well as the support of physicians from the Veterans Health Administration, who expedited exams to provide medical evidence needed to rate the pending claims.

The remaining two-year-old claims will be finalized in the coming days, officials said, except for those that are outstanding due to unique circumstances, such as the unavailability of a claimant for a needed medical exam, military service, vacation or travel overseas.

In May, VA announced it was mandating overtime for claims processors in its 56 regional benefits offices to increase production of compensations claims decisions, a policy that will continue through the Sept. 30 end of fiscal year 2013. Today, VA has the lowest number of claims in its inventory since August 2011, officials said, and has reduced the number of claims pending for more than 125 days by 10 percent since the initiative began.

Under this initiative, VA claims raters may make final or provisional decisions on the oldest claims in the inventory, which will

allow veterans to begin collecting compensation benefits more quickly, if eligible, officials explained. Veterans are able to submit additional evidence for consideration a full year after the provisional rating before VA issues a final decision.

If no further evidence is received within that year, VBA will inform veterans that their ratings are final and will provide information on the standard appeals process. If a veteran disagrees with a final decision and chooses to appeal, the appeal is entered into the appellate processing system, and is not reflected in the claims inventory.

VA continues to prioritize disability claims for homeless veterans, those experiencing extreme financial hardship, the terminally ill, former prisoners of war, Medal of Honor recipients, and veterans filing fully developed claims, which officials said is the quickest way for veterans to receive a decision on their compensation claim.

Claims for wounded warriors separating from the military for medical reasons will continue to be handled separately and on a priority basis with the Defense Department through the Integrated Disability Evaluation

System. Wounded warriors separating through IDES currently receive VA compensation benefits in an average of 61 days following their separation from service.

VA's claims inventory is composed mostly of supplemental claims from veterans already receiving disability compensation who are seeking to address worsening conditions or claim additional disabilities, officials said. Regardless of the status of compensation claims, they added, veterans who have served in combat since Nov. 11, 1998, are eligible for five years of free medical care for most conditions from VA.



Saint Francis Hospital - Bartlett

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Cheryl Longshore, Surgery Scheduling Manager



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Saint Francis Hospital - Bartlett

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