

REGION STANDARD

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E S S E N T I A L C O M M S

CNR EURAFSWA Transitioning to New Hiring System in May

From CNR EURAFSWA Public Affairs

NAPLES, Italy - Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia will begin transitioning to a new hiring system in May 2011 as part of a Navywide effort to better attract and retain the right talent for the right job.

The application process for U.S. civilians applying for Navy positions will move to USAJOBS, the federal government's official one-stop source for federal job announcements and employment information. USAJOBS will replace the Navy's use of Civilian Hiring and Recruitment tool (CHART) for applicants.

Hiring managers and human resources professionals will transition to USA Staffing, which will replace the Department of Defense Resumix tool and simplify the federal staffing process by automating and integrating recruitment, assessment, referral and notification processes.

The new hiring systems are

expected to reduce the time in which job vacancies are filled and strengthen collaboration between hiring managers and human resources professionals.

Improvements to applicant experience will include the automatic upload of USAJOBS vacancy announcements to the system's Facebook site; www.facebook.com/USAJOBS. The transition to USAJOBS will also enable applicants to receive e-mail notifications of job postings and application status.

Whereas CHART only allowed for the storage of one resume, USAJOBS will allow applicants to create and store up to five.

Category ratings in USAJOBS will be based on answers to assessment questions and updated by experience within a resume. The inclusion of answers to assessment questions will better provide a fair and consistent method for determining which applicants are best qualified for a position. CHART's rat-

ings only considered the skills and experience identified within a resume.

Category ratings are usually only factored when the largest pool of potential applicants are considered for a recruitment action or vacancy.

Until the Navy's transition from CHART to USAJOBS is completed Sept. 30, applicants are encouraged to keep active resumes in both CHART and USAJOBS.

U.S. civilians applying for Navy positions in the Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia area of responsibility are encouraged to make copies of existing resumes from CHART; update resumes to reflect current qualifications; create a USAJOBS account at www.usajobs.gov; and upload resumes and supporting documents to USAJOBS accounts.

During the transition to USAJOBS, all vacancy announcements will be posted on USAJOBS; however, in some situations, USAJOBS may direct applicants to

Front Cover: Marines attached to 5th Platoon Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team (FAST), Company Europe, and members from the Spanish Infantería de Marine and Fleet Marine Protection Group Royal Marines conduct drills during LISA AZUL. Photo by MC2 Travis Alston.

The Region Standard

The Region Standard is a Commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (CNREURAFSWA) publication disseminating national, regional and local news and information.

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www.facebook.com/cnreurafswa

CHART to complete the application.

For more information on the Navy's hiring reform effort, visit:

www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Employment/HiringReform/Pages/Toolkits.aspx

Decreased Funding Reduces Orders Timeline

From CNP Public Affairs

WASHINGTON -- Citing the impact of reduced funding, Navy announced Feb. 8 that Sailors should expect to receive orders with shorter lead times and based on operational priority.

NAVADMIN 049/11 informed the Fleet of the impact to permanent change of station (PCS) orders while operating under a continuing resolution (CR), which is a Congressional budget authorization that allows for continuous normal operations while a final budget is approved.

"Due to the way resources are phased and allocated under a CR, Navy currently does not have sufficient funds in our manpower accounts to allow for normal lead times for Sailors to receive

PCS orders," explained Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, chief of naval personnel. "The measures we are taking are absolutely necessary in order to remain within budget. Our goal remains to mitigate the impact to Sailors and their families as funds become available."

Navy Personnel Command's (NPC) ability to release approximately 10,000 orders at the end of fiscal year 2010 minimized the impact of the CR until now. To date, NPC has received 40% less funding than planned and is currently releasing priority orders for members with detachment dates between February and May 2011. Sailors detaching in the next few months who have not yet received orders will likely have less than two months lead time when the orders are

released.

Navy has utilized this prioritization strategy in previous PCS funding-constrained periods with the intent to minimize impact to Fleet readiness, career timing, and families. Emphasis will remain on global support assignment rotations, career milestone billets, critical readiness fills, minimizing gaps at sea for deployed units and those working up to deploy, and keeping the training pipelines moving.

"We remain committed to providing Sailors with as much information and lead time as possible," said Ferguson. "Thank you for your patience as we work through the continuing resolution funding challenges."

F E A T U R E D S T O R Y

U.S. AND ALLIED MARINES PARTICIPATE
IN LISA AZUL

Story By MC2 Travis Alston

ROTA, Spain -- Marines attached to 2nd Platoon Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team (FAST), Company Europe, began exercise LISA AZUL, with members from the Spanish Infantería de Marine and British Fleet Marine Protection Group Royal Marines, Feb. 15, at Naval Station Rota.

LISA AZUL is a training exercise that promotes partnership and maritime security while improving cultural understanding between the U.S., Spain and Britain.

"The purpose of this exercise is to improve and sustain unit core capabilities and increase interoperability amongst all participating units," said Marine Platoon Commanding Officer, Maj. William Weber. "It's a good opportunity to cross-train with our Spanish and British allies and to be exposed to different ways of approaching small unit combat operations."

During the exercise Marines and their counter-parts will conduct live-fire machine gun and marksmanship training, as well as convoy training and close-quarters battle training

Training and combat facilities at NAVSTA and the Spanish training ranges at Sierra Del Retin, enable training exercises, such as LISA AZUL, to promote the participating countries' maritime strategies, said NAVSTA Rota Commanding Officer Capt. Bill Mosk.

"Rota plays a crucial role in supporting our Nation's Maritime Strategy by providing the facilities and opportunities for evolutions such as this," said Mosk. "We want to ensure we are providing exceptional support to our warfighters."

LISA AZUL is held twice a year. The last exercise took place Oct. 25 to Nov. 5, 2010.

FAST Company Europe is a tenant command of Commander, Naval Expeditionary Task Force Europe and Africa (CTF 68). The task force is responsible for exercising tactical control and functional component command over assigned forces for the direction, control and approval of movements, maneuvers and operations necessary to accomplish Commander, 6th Fleet assigned missions and



tasks.

"Our partnership with these keys allies is essential in maintaining the edge in regional maritime safety and security," said Weber. "It also provides an opportunity for U.S. Marines to improve their cultural understanding of the other participating nations."



Top: Marines attached to 5th Platoon Fleet Anti-terrorism Security Team (FAST), Company Europe, and members from the Spanish Infantería de Marine and Fleet Marine Protection Group Royal Marines conduct live firing drills during Exercise LISA AZUL at Sierra Del Retin training area. Photo by MC2 Travis Alston.

Above: U.S. Marines, Sgt. Zachary Klassen (top) and Cpl. Johnathan Gentry, demonstrates close quarters combat tactics for U.S., Spanish and British Marine forces at the Sierra Del Retin training area. Photo by MC2 Travis Alston

Left: A U.S. Marine clears an obstacle wall while running a training course during exercise LISA AZUL. Photo by MC2 Travis Alston.

A R O U N D T H E R E G I O N

VCNO Visits Naples, Holds All-Hands Call

NAPLES, Italy— The vice chief of naval operations (VCNO) visited with military and civilian personnel in Naples, Italy, Feb. 25-28.

During his visit, VCNO Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert met with Commander, U.S. Navy Forces Europe-Africa/ Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet (CNE-CNA-C6F) senior leadership and held an all-hands call on Naval Support Activity (NSA) Capodichino.

"I am mesmerized by all that you do," said Greenert, during the all-hands call. "I wanted to come here and see where you live, what you do, and hear about what is important to you."

Throughout his visit, Greenert discussed topics such as stress, deployment tempo, suicide awareness, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) repeal, as well as Navy conduct and sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment usually involves drinking," said Greenert. "Everyday sexual assault crimes are reported in our Navy. We need to pay attention to what is going on and stop hurting each other. Our shipmates need to feel safe at work."

Sailors were given the opportunity to ask Greenert questions, which included concerns about budget cuts, permanent change of station (PCS) moves and the physical fitness assessment (PFA).

Greenert noted how PCS moves will be affected by the budget and that the Navy is working to regulate this through the cutting of expenses, and early retirement options for commanders and captains.

Greenert closed the all-hands call with words of motivation that emphasized his support of what military, Department of Defense civilians and their families in the regain.

"I see the many contributions you're making first hand," said Greenert. "You work in a very dynamic situation here and I thank you for what you do."

-CNE/C6F Public Affairs

FISC Sailor Selected as COMFISCS JSOY

SAN DIEGO, Calif. -- A Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (ISC) Sigonella Sailor has been named Junior Sailor of the Year (JSOY) for 2010 by Commander, Fleet

and Industrial Supply Centers (COMFISCS).

Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Jasmin N. Freeman, ISC Sigonella transportation supervisor and assistant leading petty officer was recognized by COMFISCS Rear Adm. Mark Heinrich, for her efforts in moving more than 4.5 million pounds of cargo, mail and provisions to more than 100 visiting and transiting ships within the U.S. European Command and U.S. African Command operational areas. She also delivered more than one million pounds of general cargo to Naval Station Rota and its tenant commands.

Freeman was a key player during U.S. Army's Intermodal Helo operations involving 103 helicopters and more than 3.7 million pounds of cargo. The transportation evolution was completed in a record two days and set the standard for rapid and safe movement of essential equipment to the front lines.

She was lauded by her command leadership for flawlessly delivering tailored logistical support to U.S. ships participating in the 2010 Africa Partnership Station, a premier international maritime program in Africa. Freeman also assisted EOD Mobile Unit 8 during their relocation to Spain, which included moving more than 1.5 million pounds of personal property and cargo.

Capt. Dana Weiner, FISC Sigonella commanding officer, said Freeman's contributions to the command's mission and workforce during this past year showcase her superb leadership ability and potential.

"Petty Officer Freeman is without question a results-oriented professional and top-notch Sailor who has earned the respect and admiration of her entire chain of command," he said.

-FISC Public Affairs

NMCB 74 Seabees Improve Rota Kennel

ROTA, Spain -- Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74, Seabees completed an expansion to a dog kennel aboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Rota, Spain, Feb. 16.

The space will be used by the NAVSTA Rota security forces to board working dogs in transit to and from theater.

"Originally, there was an actual military construction project to build them [secu-

urity forces] a new dog kennel area," said Lt. Matthew Baird, Naval Facilities Public Works Rota Seabee project manager. "Now that we were able to expand this one, they are actually getting their kennel a year or two sooner than they would have."

Builder Constructionman Payton Hardy said the project and hard work brought the crew closer together.

"It was tough sometimes, but overall it was a really good learning experience," said Hardy. "We were like a little family and worked really well together."

Baird said he has been happy working with NMCB 74 and has plans for many more projects for them in the coming months.

"They've been very responsible and very eager to get some work in the ground, so that's good since we've had a backlog of projects we're trying to feed to the battalion to keep them busy," said Baird. "It's nice to see a lot of work getting done by them. I've had nothing but good experiences working with NMCB 74."

-ROTA Public Affairs

Camp Lemonnier Opens Self-Help Shop

CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti - A few months ago, Senior Chief Builder Jon Koenig of the Public Works Department could barely make his way through the area behind Building 211 at Camp Lemonnier. The area had become a dumping ground for old tools, materials and discarded projects. And, though Koenig couldn't see most of the floor or what was buried under what, he could see the area had great potential; the potential to improve the quality of life for camp personnel with a self-help shop.

"This was just a storage area for tools," said Koenig, as he described the area after an opening ceremony, February 18. "Stuff was just thrown in here. Most of the materials weren't usable and some of the tools were in disrepair. The area was not configured to be a shop."

Koenig then set out at the end of January to clean up the area and after several weeks of cleaning, rearranging and discarding, with the help of volunteers from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 74 and the U.S. Army's 243rd Engineering Support Platoon, the

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self-help shop is now open to serve the personnel of Camp Lemonnier. The piles of rusty tools and materials have been replaced by clean tools neatly hung on tool boards and stacks of materials arranged in an orderly fashion. Various types of power tools sit in cabinets and are ready to be used to build shelves, bookcases, boxes, unit signs or repair furniture.

Recently, Lt. Cmdr. Marian Gardocki, a chaplain at the Freedom Chapel, hired the shop to do some furniture repair. It was after a recent community relations visit to a local orphanage that the chapel staff learned that several of the cribs were in need of wheels. After the staff transported the cribs back to base, Gardocki went to work measuring, sawing and drilling to make the cribs mobile again with the tools and equipment available at the self-help shop.

The self help shop features more than just wood working tools and materials. Customers will be able to work on projects that involve electrical work, plumbing, welding, mechanical repairs, concrete and masonry. Since supplies are limited, it is requested that customers supply their own materials, such as paint, or special supplies of any kind. Tools and equipment can be used in the shop or checked out on a daily basis.

-CLDJ Public Affairs

Exercise Citadel Shield 2011

NAPLES, Italy -- Installations in Navy Region Europe Africa Southwest Asia (EURAFSWA) joined Navy installations worldwide participating in Exercise Citadel Shield 2011 (CS-11) Feb. 22-24, an annual security training exercise coordinated by Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC).

The exercise focused on areas of the Navy's anti-terrorism program, to enhance the training and readiness of naval security force personnel to respond to real-world threats. The Navy aims to make the exercise as realistic as possible by executing field training events aboard its installations.

"The drill's purpose is to test the capabilities of our security forces and is not in response to any particular threat," said Lt. Ken Frauenthal, EURAFSWA director of training and readiness.



Above: Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Clay Sullivan treats a simulated gun shot during a drill involving a active shooter, and hostage scenario in Naval Air Station Sigonella's Fleet and Family Support Center The drill is part of Citadel Shield 2011, consisting of more than 250 individual training events across the country, designed to test different regional anti-terrorism and force protection operations. Photo by MC2 Gary A. Prill.

Participating installations throughout EURAFSWA minimized traffic congestion and any other inconveniences to local communities, which resulted from the exercise's field training events.

"Throughout our region, this evolution will provide a realistic training environment for personnel, allowing us to work on command and control as well as communication with our force protection tactical commanders," said Stan Scott, EURAFSWA lead exercise controller.

During the exercise, a regional assessment team collected information and looked for inconsistencies in reporting processes and tactical procedures.

"Then we will relay the lessons learned back to CNIC headquarters in an effort to improve how Navy Region EURAFSWA and our six installations may respond in the future," said Frauenthal.

-CNR EURAFSWA Public Affairs

B I G N A V Y N E W S

Construction Begins on Navy's Newest Aircraft Carrier

From Program Executive Office
Aircraft Carriers Public Affairs

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (NNS) -- Advance construction started on the nation's newest aircraft carrier Feb. 25 with a "first cut of steel" ceremony at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding Newport News, Va.

The steel plate cut will be used in the construction of the carrier, which has yet to be named, but will be designated CVN 79.

The carrier represents the second in a new class of ships designed to replace Enterprise and Nimitz-class carriers and save more than \$5 billion in total ownership costs during its planned 50-year service life when compared to Nimitz-class carriers.

"Today we mark the beginning of the advance construction of CVN 79, second of the Gerald R. Ford-class of aircraft carriers," said Rear Adm. Michael McMahon, Program Executive Officer (PEO) for Aircraft Carriers. "It's an important step in continuing carrier construction using advanced technologies and efficiencies to reduce both ownership and procurement cost in this new class of carriers."

Ford-class aircraft carriers, while retaining the same hull form as the Nimitz class, contain several advanced technology systems including Electromagnetic Aircraft Launching Systems, advanced arresting gear, dual band radar, a re-designed smaller island and a new propulsion plant. The first ship in the class, Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78), is also under construction at Northrop



Above: Robert Bowker, a structural welder with Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding, welds the initials of Susan Ford Bales into the keel of the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78) during a keel laying and authentication ceremony. Gerald R. Ford is the newest class of aircraft carrier. Photo by MC3 Cory Rose.

Grumman Shipbuilding-Newport News and is scheduled to be delivered to the fleet in September 2015.

The PEO for Aircraft Carriers, an affiliated PEO of Naval Sea Systems Command, focuses on the design, construction, system integration, delivery and life-cycle support of all aircraft carriers.

Below: Intelligence Specialist 2nd Class Richard Evitts, left, and Pfc. Rick Griesbach play chess on the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) during the ship's first-ever chess championship. Makin Island is participating in a training exercise off the coast of California. Photo by MC1 Andrew Wiskow.

Navy Announcements

Navy Accepts Delivery of Future USS William P. Lawrence

PASCAGOULA, Miss. -- The Navy officially accepted delivery of the future USS William P. Lawrence from Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding during a ceremony in Pascagoula, Miss., Feb. 23.

Black Engineer of the Year Awards Showcase Navy's Top Talent

WASHINGTON -- Three Navy members took top honors at the 25th annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Global Competitiveness Conference Awards Gala in Washington, D.C., Feb. 19.

NAVADMIN 066/11 - OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH 2011

NAVADMIN 051/11 - ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2011 ALL-NAVY CHESS TEAM

NAVADMIN 049/11 - EFFECT OF FY-11 CONTINUING RESOLUTION (CR) ON PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION ORDERS (PCS)



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

JFC NAPLES ARMY ELEMENT RETURNS FROM AFGHANISTAN

Story and Photos by MC2 Felicito Rustique

NAPLES, Italy – Thirty soldiers from the 2nd NATO Signal Battalion, Deployable Communications Module, Charlie Company (DCM-C) recently returned from a six-and-a-half month deployment to Afghanistan here, Feb. 18.

A bus brought the group to Naval Sup-

ern Europe Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Jerry L. Wood. “And on behalf of Lt. Col. Kevin Kilburn, Commander, 2nd NATO Signal Battalion, and their senior Army officer and Allied Joint Forces Command (JFC) Operations Director, Maj. Gen. William Wade II, welcome home.”

According to DCM-C’s senior non-com-

“Soldiers stay focused on their missions, but homecoming is the day they’re always looking forward to.”

–Sgt. 1st Class James Jones

port Activity Naples and parked behind the Navy Lodge, where loved ones and fellow comrades greeted the soldiers with hugs and kisses, flowers and signs.

“We’re very proud of them,” said U.S. Army Allied Forces South-

missioned officer-in-charge, Master Sgt. Michael Kirkland, he and his group were responsible for providing communication capabilities for Commander, U.S. Forces Afghanistan, U.S. Army Gen. David Petraeus and his staff at the headquar-



ters of NATO’s International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul.

“The deployment went well with a lot of success. We implemented some new measures and made them happen,” said Kirkland. “It was a safe and routine deployment; the soldiers did

very well, and I’m very proud of them. We’re glad to be back, and the support here is great.”

Army Spc. Andrew De La Cruz was among the many supporters who showed up for the homecoming. He made the return of his girlfriend, Sgt. Sandra Lugo, especially mean-

ingful by proposing to her immediately after she got off the bus.

“This proposal took me about two months to plan, but I said to myself, let’s knock this out and do it,” said De La Cruz.

Sgt. 1st Class James Jones, the Battalion’s Career Counselor, was especially thrilled with the return of the unit’s soldiers.

“It was great to see the look on the soldiers’ faces and the families’ smiles,” said Jones. “Soldiers stay focused on their missions, but homecoming is the day they’re always looking forward to.”

“I didn’t know what to expect until I saw the roses and the ring,” said Lugo. “It’s good to be back and now I’m looking forward to spending time with my fiancé.”



Top: Soldiers from the 2nd NATO Signal Battalion, Deployable Communications Module, Charlie Company (DCM-C) depart from their bus after arriving at Naval Support Activity Naples.

Left: Spc. Andrew De La Cruz proposes to Sgt. Sandra Lugo from the 2nd NATO Signal Battalion, Deployable Communications Module, Charlie Company (DCM-C) moments after the company arrived at Naval Support Activity Naples.