Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

SEAHAWK 海鷹 UMITAKA

Serving Yokosuka Base for more than 60 years

Vol. LXIII, No. 30 www.cnic.navy.mil/yokosuka Aug. 3, 2012

Yokosuka-based Navy civilian helps drive humanitarian mission success in Vietnam

By MC3 Michael Feddersen,
***USNS Mercy* (T-AH 19)**
Public Affairs

A Yokosuka-based Navy civilian had a unique opportunity to work with people throughout the Asia-Pacific region by coordinating, contracting and working with local host nation and international agencies to assure logistical success efficiently during the humanitarian and civic assistance mission called Pacific Partnership 2012 (PP12).

Civilian Contracting Officer Michaella Olson worked closely with contractors from Vietnam and Indonesia to make sure PP12 personnel are able successfully fulfill the mission while balancing mission requirements and available funding.

"We are problem solvers," Olson said. "That is what contracting officers do. People call me with their problems, and it is my job to make a solution. It isn't always what they are looking for, but I still have to find a way to meet their requirements."

Olson oversees supporting contracts for the Indonesia and Vietnam portions of PP12. Some of these contracts include civil engineering materials, barges, transportation, pharmaceuticals, shipping, and translators. "I find the vendors and take action to make sure the customers from the mission get what they require," she said.

Civilian Contract Officer Michaella Olson writes notes supporting Pacific Partnership 2012 (PP12) at the main pier site at Vinh City, Vietnam. Vinh City is the third mission port for PP12, which has finished mission visits to Indonesia, Philippines, and will continue on to Cambodia. Now in its seventh year, Pacific Partnership is the largest annual U.S. Pacific Fleet sponsored humanitarian and civic assistance mission, which brings together U.S. military personnel, host and partner nations, non-government organizations and international agencies to build stronger relationships and develop disaster response capabilities throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Photo by Kristopher Radder

Despite logistical hurdles and site locations that can be separated by hundreds of miles, Olson said there is never a dull moment in her job, especially being a part of PP12 and having the opportunity to travel to four countries during her six month deployment.

"If I didn't have bills to pay, I tell everyone I would do it for free," she said. "It takes a lot of coordination and the rules of the game can change, but I get to come out from behind my desk and work with amazing people on this humanitarian mission to make a difference."

Olson works as part of a team year-round to support the Pacific Partnership mission by consulting with vendors in host nations, gathering details for fiscal mission requirements and is the representative responsible for all contract negotiations.

Government-civilian contracting officers are the only people authorized to spend appropriated tax dollars on missions, and Olson is one of two officers supporting PP12.

Now in its seventh year, Pacific Partnership is an annual U.S. Pacific Fleet humanitarian and civic assistance mission U.S. military, host and partner nations, non-governmental organizations and international agencies designed to build stronger relationships and disaster response capabilities in the Asia-Pacific region.

NAVSUP FLC横須賀から日本の研修生が卒業

文：スカイ･M･ラロン、
NAVSUP FLC横須賀コーポレート･コミュニケーションズ

NAVSUP横須賀艦隊補給センター(FLC横須賀)で研修を受けていた海上自衛隊研修生の卒業式が7月20日横須賀基地オフィサーズクラブにて執り行われた。

NAVSUP FLC横須賀では、補給業務の研修を受ける海上自衛官を1967年以来受け入れている。

「私は米海軍燃料業務の効率性を深く理解吸収して研修を終えることができました」NAVSUP FLC横須賀研修プログラムの卒業に際し海上自衛隊片岡隼平一尉はこう語った。

片岡一尉はFLC横須賀燃料部の一員として迎えられ、七ヶ月の研修期間中は西太平洋全域における迅速な業務遂行や燃料管理プロセスの観察、調査、参加などの研修に重点的に取り組んだ。

「ご存知のとおり、燃料は前方展開するために必要不可欠です」とNAVSUP FLC横須賀司令官クレイグ･ドイル大佐は言う。「前方配備軍への燃料支援こそが、まさに日米共通の目的である同盟強化、世界テロネットワーク打破、地域平和維持、自由貿易促進を手助けする鍵なのです。」

日米両国は数十年にわたり緊密かつ戦略的な同盟関係を築き上げてきた。海上自衛隊と米海軍の間で培われた個人個人の友情関係もまた、このパートナーシップの強さを下支えする大きな力となっているとドイル大佐は言う。

「この研修制度は補給科のパートナーである海上自衛隊との専門分野における二国間関係の証そのものです」とドイル大佐。

両国の司令官はこの研修制度の重要性を深く理解している。

「若い将校にとって、この研修はそれぞれのキャリアにおいて最も重要な任務のひとつです」と海上自衛隊艦船補給処長松浦清一等海佐は言う。

研修制度を卒業した後、名誉ある任務を担っていく将校も少なくない。中には将官となった研修生もいる。

片岡一尉のNAVSUP FLC横須賀における研修は幕を閉じたが、次期研修生である木野拓史一尉が研修先であるオペレーション部の新しい仲間たちに紹介された。

「木野一尉の活躍を期待しています」とドイル大佐。「艦隊支援に必要な米海軍の業務を学ぶ手助けをするのが楽しみです。それは同時に海上自衛隊との緊密なパートナー関係を今後も発展させる方法も教えてくれることでしょう。」

「この七ヶ月は私のキャリアの中でとても大切な期間となるに違いありません」と木野一尉は語った。

INSIDE

USS Blue Ridge welcomes its 25th commanding officer

***USS Blue Ridge* (LCC 19) held a change of command ceremony July 27, wherein Capt. Will Pennington relieved Capt. Daniel Grieco as commanding officer.**

Pg. 8

MWR Auto Skills Center helps enthusiasts' improve skills

For those who enjoy the challenge of auto repair or assembling, the Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka MWR Auto Skills Center is a place to go for all your service needs to be met.

Pg. 10