

REGION STANDARD

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Issue 8



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

Navy Announces New Changes in July

Navy Reveals Changes to Physical Readiness Program

MILLINGTON, Tenn - In order to improve the overall health of Sailors and enhance the administration and execution of the Physical Readiness Program, Navy announced the revision of OPNAVINST 6110.1J in NAVADMIN 203/11, July 12.

The revised instruction will strengthen program compliance, improve physical fitness assessment (PFA) documentation and encourage Sailors to maintain the level of physical fitness required to support mission readiness. This is the first major revision to the physical readiness program since 2005.

"We reduced the instruction to just what leadership needs to know and the rest is contained in the Physical Readiness Program Operating Guide, which will be a how-to manual," said Bill Moore, Physical Readiness Program director. "It will provide information, procedural guidance, and supplementary information."

Several changes are reflected in the new instruction, including the reduction of the number of PRT scoring categories to five, ranging from "outstanding" to "failure."

-Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs

Enlisted Advancement Exams Restructured

PENSACOLA, Fla. - The Navy announced the restructuring of advancement exams to give greater focus on technical rating knowledge, July 8, in NAVADMIN 197/11.

"The primary reason for the exam structure change is to improve exam validity. We define exam validity as the adequacy with which the test questions successfully represent the content to be measured," said Captain Katharine Reed, commanding officer of the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center.

Starting in September 2012, the restructured exams will consist of 25 Professional Military Knowledge (PMK) and

150 job-specific technical questions for each pay grade. The biggest change will be seen by E-6 advancement candidates taking the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) exam. Currently, the 200-question CPO exam contains 100 job-specific and 100 PMK questions. E-4 exams will have the same number of job-specific questions, and 25 rather than 50 PMK questions.

-Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

Navy Revises Career Paths to Emphasize Sea Service

WASHINGTON - The Navy released a message announcing revisions to the sea/shore flow for enlisted career paths July 12.

NAVADMIN 201/11 provides the Fleet with the updated sea shore flow for every rating. Thirty-six ratings will see an increase in sea time, and 18 will now be classified as sea intensive. Sailors in these ratings can expect to spend more than half their careers at sea.

"Our nation knows the importance and effectiveness of our forward-deployed Navy, whether delivering aid to those in need, or hunting terrorists. The skills and capabilities of our Sailors are in great demand as an integral part of our national security and maritime strategy," explained Rear Adm. Cynthia Covell, director, Total Force requirements Division.

To meet the new sea/shore requirements, Navy Personnel Command may adjust some Sailors' projected rotation dates (PRD) based on the length of tour remaining. As a general rule, PRDs of March 2012 or earlier will not be adjusted.

-Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

NOTE:

Civilian Hiring and Recruiting Tool (CHART) will be permanently taken offline Oct. 12. Stored resume information will not be accessible. All resumes should be manually uploaded and transferred to an applicant's USAJOBS account by Sep. 30.

Click for Full NAVADMINS

219/11 - Interim Change to Navy Performance Evaluation Instruction

203/11 - Physical Readiness Program Policy Changes

201/11 - Sea Shore Flow Enlisted Career Path Revisions

197/11 - Restructure of the Navy Advancement Exam

Evaluations Updated for Lieutenants

MILLINGTON, Tenn - An interim change to the Navy Performance Evaluation and Counseling System Instruction BUPERS-INST 1610.10C, outlined in NAVADMIN 219/11, was released by Navy Personnel Command (NPC), July 19.

"In view of continued force-shaping pressures, NPC proposed stricter limits in the ranking of lieutenants," said Cmdr. Elisabeth Stephens, deputy director, Restricted Line/Staff Detailing and Special Placement Division.

Effective with the Jan. 31, 2012, periodic evaluations, lieutenant force distribution rules will change to the following:

Early Promote recommendation limit will remain at 20 percent.

The combined Early Promote and Must Promote recommendations must not exceed 60 percent. The Must Promote recommendation may be increased by one for each Early Promote quota not used.

According to Stephens, the change in policy provides a mechanism for controlling performance inflation and identifies top performer early for the selective detailing and selection board purposes.

The interim change will be followed by an official change in the next revision of BUPERINST 1610.10. An updated release of navfit98a is projected for January 2012 to incorporate this policy change.

-Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs

U N I F I E D P R O T E C T O R



Operation Update

MISSION: On March 27, NATO decided to take control over all military operations for Libya under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1970 and 1973. The aim of Operation Unified Protector is to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under attack or under the threat of attack.

The mission consists of three elements: an arms embargo, a no-fly-zone and actions to protect civilians from attack or the threat of attack. The NATO-led arms embargo covers the maritime approaches to Libya, the other elements cover the whole territory of Libya.

Air Operations: Since the beginning of the NATO operation, March 31, a total of 17,203 sorties, including 6,493 strike sorties*, have been conducted.

*Strike sorties are intended to identify and engage appropriate targets, but do not necessarily deploy munitions each time.

Arms Embargo: A total of 17 ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean.

A total of 2,018 vessels have been hailed, 199 boardings and 9 denials have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

Humanitarian Assistance: Total of humanitarian movements**: 687 (air, ground, maritime)

**Some humanitarian movements cover several days.

NATO- Led Coalition Includes:

*Based on NATO Facts and Figures Released April 5



For more information on NATO and Operation Unified Protector, visit the official NATO website [here](#).

Cover: A Norwegian F-16 flies over Souda Bay, Crete, as a part of the enforcement of the no-fly zone under Operation Unified Protector, May11. Photo by Lars Magne Hoyton.

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



SIGONELLA, Sicily - Capt. Scott Butler, Naval Air Station Sigonella commanding officer, left, gives a base tour to Vice Adm. Michael Vitale, Commander Navy Installations Command, right, and Rear Adm. Tony Gaiani, Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, July 19. Photo by MCSA Brian Glunt.

Later, the party attended a reception hosted by the Japanese Ambassador to Djibouti.

"Cooperation between the U.S. Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force has been key to anti-piracy efforts and ensuring greater security in the maritime environment in the Gulf of Aden and around the Horn of Africa," Harris said.

-Commander 6th Fleet Public Affairs

Rota's Independence Day Flag Raising Ceremony(VIDEO)

NAVFAC EURAFSWA Changes Command

NAPLES, Italy - Capt. Louis Cariello relieved Capt. Jeffrey Borowy as the commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (NAVFAC EURAFSWA), July 28, during a change of command ceremony at Naval Support Activity Naples.

Rear Adm. Tony Gaiani, commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, served as guest speaker.

-Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs

Naples Teen Center Summer Hire Program (VIDEO)

NAPLES, Italy - Rear Adm. Tony Gaiani, Commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, left, and Command Master Chief Robert White accept a check for \$36,513, July 22, from Renee Acosta representing the total money pledged to European installations during the Combined Federal Campaign. Photo by IC1 Brian Teneyck.

Seabees Renovate Facility in Support of Exercise

CONSTANTA, Romania - Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74, Detail Romania, are less than a month away from completing a building renovation in Constanta, Romania, supporting Special Operations Command Europe's Jackal Stone exercise.

Since April 14, a detail of 26 Seabees has been renovating a multi-wing, five-story facility for use by SOCEUR and U.S. Department of Defense personnel. According to Senior Chief Petty Officer Shawn Hollister, Detail Romania assistant officer-in-charge, the 30-year old facility was in a critical state, almost to the point of being condemned.

"When we arrived the Romanian Navy was using the facility, and as we began construction several sailors were moved," said Hollister. "After the work is completed the facility will be functional and sanitary once again. Not only will the Romanian navy be able to occupy more of their spaces, but they will be able to take more pride in their building."

A complete rehabilitation of the facility is underway, including new plumbing, heating and air conditioning, electrical systems and tile, as well as repairing stucco walls and hanging new doors.

"I am very proud of the fact that these Seabees will not only leave a beautifully restored building behind them, but have left the impact of a Seabee legacy that will last a lifetime," said Hollister.

-Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74 Public Affairs

Fast Company Marines Honored in Rota (VIDEO)

Commander Sixth Fleet Visits Camp Lemonnier

CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti - Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet began a five-day visit to Africa when he arrived at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, to meet with deployed Sailors and Marines, and to meet with command leaders, July 7.

Vice Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr., and his political advisor, Ambassador Jim McGee, were greeted by Rear Adm. Michael T. Fraken, commander, Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa; and Capt. Scott Hurst, Camp Lemonnier commanding officer; who provided an update on operational activities around the region and construction plans for the camp.



B I G N A V Y N E W S

USNS Comfort Brings Continuing Promise to El Salvador

ACAJUTLA, El Salvador - Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) arrived in Acajutla, El Salvador, for the seventh mission stop of Continuing Promise 2011 (CP '11), July 14.

More than two thirds of the way through its five-month mission, Comfort and the CP '11 mission team have visited Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Peru. The ship's crew of military personnel and non-governmental organization volunteers have provided medical services to more than 44,941 patients.

Comfort is operated by a crew of 70 civilian mariners from the Military Sealift Command.

"We are the landlords of the ship," said Comfort Chief Mate David Lieberman. "We do whatever is necessary to support the mission commander and Medical Treatment Facility in their endeavors."

As with previous port visits, a few service members em-

barked aboard Comfort claim El Salvador as their country of origin. Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Darwin Flores-Lopez spent 15 years in San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, and hopes to see the family and friends he said goodbye to before immigrating to the United States 19 years ago.

"Being a dental hygienist is what brought me out here to Comfort," said Flores-Lopez. "I feel very privileged to have this skill to make a difference, even if it's a small one, for the patients we'll be seeing."

Comfort's deployment to the region exemplifies the United States' commitment to cooperative partnerships in the Caribbean, Central and South America.

"I see myself as a positive role model for my community and especially for the native Salvadorans," said Lt. Cecilia Mendoza, a nurse and Salvadoran-American. "Making a difference by taking care of our patients and the community, and building strong relationships between both nations is very, very important to me."

-Continuing Promise 2011
Public Affairs



ACAJUTLA, El Salvador - Peruvian Navy Lt. Rossi Marian works on a dental patient as his sister watches during a Continuing Promise 2011 community service medical project at the Polideportivo medical site, July 15. Photo by MC2 Eric Tretter.

George Washington Crew Takes on Australian Special Forces' Challenge (VIDEO)

Service Members Offer Assistance to San Diego Area Homeless Veterans

SAN DIEGO - Sailors from the San Diego area and other active duty and retired service members lent a helping hand to San Diego's homeless veteran population July 15-17 during the Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD) Stand Down 2011.

The annual three-day event was held in a tent city erected by active duty military volunteers at San Diego High School's athletic field.

The VVSD Stand Down offered more than 1,000 homeless veterans with free services such as health/dental care, substance abuse counseling, legal and employment assistance and food and clothing distribution.

"This program helps people get on track, because there are so many (homeless veterans) who are helpless and hopeless," said Gary Cash, a homeless Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War with the 359th Transportation Company. "I see the vets that are being taken care of here that can't really be taken care of anywhere else. It's overwhelming, I really feel comfortable here."

Cash also expressed his

gratitude towards active duty service members volunteering their time on the weekend.

Retired Marine Sgt. Maj. Bill Paxton has attended the event for the past 24 years and said the services provided at the VVSD Stand Down give homeless veterans the opportunity to "feel like a human being again."

"They get fed, showered, a place to sleep, and can even get haircuts," he said. "They need to be appreciated for the service they've done. The purpose of Stand Down is to stand up and help them get that motivation they had when they were back in the military."

- Navy Public Affairs
Element West

Pacific Partnership 2011 Concludes in the Federated States of Micronesia (VIDEO)

[Click Here to visit the Navy Facebook Page](#)

USS Anzio Disrupts Pirate Activity (STORY)

S H A R E D H E R I T A G E

Navy, Coalition Partners Honor WWII Vets



GELA, Sicily - Cmdr. Bruce Black, commanding officer, NCTS Sigonella presents Col. Fredrik Bergman, commander, Swedish FL02 Detachment, left, and Col. Alain Pelletier, commander, Canadian TF Libeccio, center, with a traditional command challenge coin following the Ponte Dirillo WWII memorial ceremony in Gela, Sicily, July 10.

Story and Photos by Lt. Tim Page, Naval Air Station Sigonella Public Affairs

SIGONELLA, Sicily - Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) Sigonella Sailors and coalition partners from Sweden, Canada, and Italy attended the World War II Landing Memorial in Gela, Sicily, July 10, to honor 39 service members of the 82nd Airborne Division who lost their lives there 68 years ago.

The July 10, 1943, allied invasion of Sicily was codenamed Operation Husky and was the largest amphibious operation of World War II in terms of size of landing zone and number of divisions put ashore.

The ceremony marked the first time that coalition partners were able to attend the event.

"It's a pleasure to be here to commemorate the re-entry into world democracy after the success of Operation Husky," said Col. Alain Pelletier, commander, Task Force Libeccio. "This was a coalition operation just as we are doing again here today."

Sweden and Canada are among the countries operating aboard Naval Air Station Sigonella in support of Operation

Unified Protector.

"It is a great honor to be invited and to participate in this ceremony," said Col. Fredrik Berman, commander of Swedish FL02 detachment. "I think it's important to show our respect."

On the eve of the memorial, U.S. and coalition partners were met by ceremony organizers from the Gela Kiwanis Club for a tour of historic sites in Sicily, including stops at the Regional Archaeological Museum of Gela, the World War II Landing Museum and the palace where Gen.

GELA, Sicily - U.S. Navy and Italian navy sailors carry a wreath to place on the Ponte Dirillo Memorial as part of the WWII Gela Landing Memorial ceremony at Naval Air Station Sigonella, July 10. The ceremony is in remembrance of the 39 members of the 82nd Airborne Division that lost their lives on July 10, 1943.

George Patton made his headquarters after the landing.

The ceremony began after the traditional holy mass where Gela Mayor Angelo Fasulo addressed the audience.

"Today, we want to remember the sacrifices of those heroes that gave their lives for democracy and peace," Fasulo said.

The ceremony then made its way to Ponte Dirillo, the site of the monument inscribed with the names of all 39 Americans who died 68 years ago. Wreaths were laid at the monument by Sailors from the Italian navy and NCTS.

"When Col. Gavin and his men landed on Sicily 68 years ago today, they merely did what they were trained to do; they marched to the sound of the gunfire," said Cmdr. Bruce Black, NCTS commanding officer. "We are seeing the same thing in our coalition partners today. Sicily once again finds itself at the crossroads of the effort. The successes being had by the coalition partners involved in Operation Unified Protector would not be possible without the support of Sicily."

As part of the ceremony former 82nd Airborne member John Hoffpauir performed a role call for those who gave their lives and concluded it with the traditional shout of "Airborne!"

Wreath Laying Ceremony for Anniversary of Operation Husky (VIDEO)



RIDE SAFE, RIDE FOR LIFE

SEARCH FOR POTENTIAL HAZARDS

EVALUATE ANY POSSIBLE HAZARDS

EXECUTE ACTION TO AVOID HAZARD

Stagger Riders
when in groups
to avoid collisions



Only use helmets that are approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT)

Always Perform a tire check before riding. Foreign objects, leaks and improper inflation can lead to serious damages and injury



Sturdy materials like denim or leather give the greatest protection against abrasions

WARNING!!!
Debris Causes Crashes

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE NAVY SAFETY CENTER AT WWW.SAFETYCENTER.NAVY.MIL