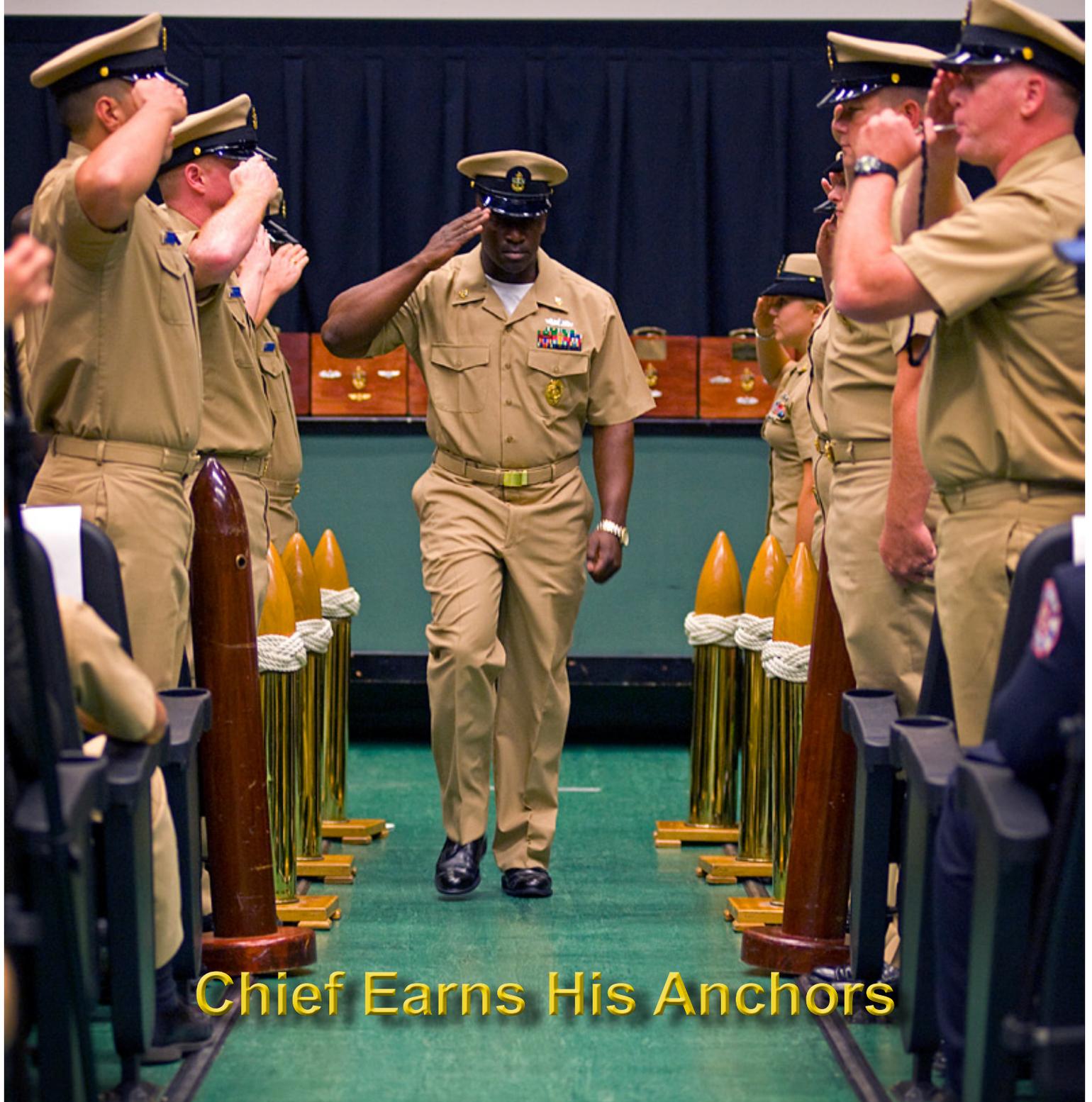


# REGION STANDARD

October 2011

Issue 10



## Chief Earns His Anchors

**Essential Comms:** Rear Adm. French Named Next CNIC

**Featured Story:** Chief Washington's Journey to Join the Mess

**Big Navy News:** Adm. Greenert Takes the Helm as CNO



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

## Rear Adm William French Nominated for Third Star, Named Next CNIC

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta announced this week that the President nominated Rear Adm. William D. French for appointment to the rank of vice admiral and for assignment as Commander, Navy Installations Command, Washington, D.C. French is currently serving as Commander, Navy Region Southwest in San Diego, CA. Rear Adm. Dixon Smith has been named as Rear Adm. French's relief, which will occur in early December 2011.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University with a bachelors degree in Mechanical Engineering, Rear Adm. French was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in May 1979. He earned a Master of Science degree from Naval Postgraduate School in 1986 and a Master of Arts from the Naval War College in 1999.

A submarine officer and graduate of the Navy's Nuclear Power Training, French has served at sea in USS Spadefish (SSN 668), as operations officer in USS Sea Devil (SSN 664), and engineer in USS Tecumseh (SSBN 628). Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Rear Adm. French.



POZZUOLI, Italy (Sept. 16, 2011) - Rear Adm. Anthony Gaiani, Commander Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, signs documents returning basing on Monte Vergine to Italy at the 28th Joint Military Commission (JMC). The JMC meets to discuss technical arrangements between U.S. and Italian military leaders. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jack Georges)

## Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repealed

### What Has Changed?

- In accordance with NAVADMIN 271/11 repeal is now complete; statements about sexual orientation or lawful acts of homosexual conduct will not be considered as a bar to service or admission to service academies, ROTC or any other accession program.

- Accordingly, Sailors who were discharged solely under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" may apply to re-enter the Navy and can expect to be evaluated according to the same criteria and service requirements applicable to all prior-service members seeking reentry.

### What Will Remain the Same?

- Sexual orientation will continue to be a personal and private matter. Current and future Sailors will neither be asked, nor be required to reveal, their sexual orientation.

- Standards of conduct remain unchanged. Existing Navy standards of conduct will continue to apply to all

Sailors regardless of sexual orientation. Enforcement of standards, including those related to public displays of affection, dress and appearance, and fraternization will be sexual orientation neutral. All members are responsible for upholding and maintaining the high standards of the U.S. Navy at all times and in all places.

- The diversity of the force will remain a strength. Navy's success is enabled by the diversity of our Sailors, representing many different racial, religious, ethnic and economic backgrounds, and by the expectation that all Sailors will be treated with dignity and respect.

- There are neither changes to policies regarding Sailors' exercise of religious beliefs, nor are there any changes to policies concerning the chaplain corps and their duty to care for all service members. Sailors will continue to treat each other with dignity and respect.

- All Sailors, regardless of sexual orientation, are entitled to an environment free from personal, social, or institutional barriers that prevent service members from rising to the highest level of responsibility possible.

## Holiday Mailing Dates

From Naval Supply Systems Command  
Office of Corporate Communications

MECHANICSBURG, Pa. - The Naval Supply Systems Command's (NAVSUP) Postal Policy Division mail-by dates for pre-Dec. 25 delivery of holiday cards, letters, and packages were announced Sept. 27.

The dates are as follows:

Shore APO/FPO/DPO AE zips 090-098 (except 093); AA zips 340; AP zips 962-966

- \* Express Mail: Dec. 17
- \* First-Class Mail (letters/cards and priority mail): Dec. 10
- \* Parcel Airlift Mail: Dec. 3
- \* Space Available Mail: Nov 26
- \* Parcel Post: Nov. 12

Shore APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093

- \* Express mail Military Service: N/A
- \* First-Class Letters/Cards/Priority Mail: Dec. 3
- \* Parcel Airlift Mail: Dec. 1
- \* Space Available Mail: Nov. 26
- \* Parcel Post: Nov. 12

For mail addressed from all shore FPOs (except 093):

- \* Express Mail Military Service: Dec. 17
- \* First-Class Mail (Letters/cards, priority mail): Dec. 10
- \* Parcel Airlift Mail: Dec. 3
- \* Space Available Mail: Nov. 26

Customers are advised that certain mail restrictions apply. If in doubt as to what can or cannot be mailed, contact your local civilian or military post office.

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

## To Be a Chief is to Never Give Up

Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jack Georges, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs

NAPLES, Italy - Master-at-Arms 1st Class John Washington had 19 years of military service and was facing retirement. For six years he was passed over for advancement. Finally, on his last chance, he was selected for chief.

A never-quit attitude is a required chief trait, but chiefs are made not born and the traits they possess must be developed.

Washington never believed he would be a chief when he first enlisted in 1992, he thought he would serve his four years and get out.

"I came in as a 21-year-old Airman Apprentice thinking I knew it all," said Washington. "I had a major attitude, hated being told what to do, I just didn't understand military life."

Adjusting to military life is hard, which is why the mentorship provided by a young sailor's leadership is so important.

With the birth of his daughter Jessica, Washington was in need of some direction, which he got from his leading petty officer (LPO). Washington said his LPO helped redirect his whole career.

"In 1993, [my] LPO, he was the first to sit me down and explain how I can make the Navy work for me and my family," said Washington.

Washington's LPO helped him get into corpsman school. From there he went



to Naval Hospital Pensacola where he made petty officer 3rd class and reenlisted.

Washington's career then began to take shape but he was not satisfied. He wanted to be a master-at-arms, but more specifically, a military-working-dog handler.

In 2001, while in Hawaii, he submitted an application for rate conversion and was promptly approved. Washington went to work in the security department where he earned an endorsement for dog handler school.

From Hawaii, Washington went on to successfully complete master-at-arms and dog-handler school. He completed an assignment in Afghanistan. He advanced to petty officer 1st class, then became a kennel master. He worked as a kennel master in Souda Bay, Greece and then became Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia's kennel trainer.

His goal was to be in khakis within 14 years, but those 14 years came and went.

"You see some guys quit, but I'm not like that. I was preparing for

retirement, but I was still taking on more. If I had just given up I wouldn't have been able to do that," said Washington.

There were many mentors that helped Washington get to where he is today but there are some in particular that had the most significant impact.

Master Chief Steven Dupree has been a mentor to Washington since 1994 when Dupree was a petty officer 2nd class. They have been stationed together in Florida, Japan and Hawaii. He always encouraged Washington to take tough assignments and to never be afraid of challenges.

Dupree was the first person, outside of Washington's command, to call and congratulate him on his selection to chief.

At Washington's current command, Master Chief Michael Mitchell reminded Washington of the need for attention to detail and to never give up even when hope seemed to be lost.

Through his own hard work, determination and the unfailing support of his mentors, Washington was selected for chief petty officer after 19 years of service.

Washington now looks to his Sailors, both past and present, with hope for their future and the knowledge that his leadership and mentorship are integral to their successes and failures.

Washington said, "If I have one piece of advice: Don't ever give up. You never know what is in store for you."



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

# Souda Bay Earns SECNAV Energy Conservation Award

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Chelsy Alamina, Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete Public Affairs

SOUDA BAY, Greece - U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay was recently named the 2011 Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Small Installation for Energy and Water Management Award winner based on fiscal year 2010 accomplishments.

The SECNAV Energy and Water Management Awards are presented each fiscal year to the Navy and Marine Corps activities and ships that achieve the highest percentage of energy conserved.

According to the Utilities and Energy Management Branch Head Antonio Leite,

NSA Souda Bay was successful in accomplishing award criteria by effective planning and execution of energy management projects, dedicated crew members, improvements to existing procedures and the hard work and commitment to energy conservation.

The most prominent project located on NSA Souda Bay is the photovoltaic (PV) solar panels constructed to use solar light to generate electricity.

"The 200 kilowatt PV carport currently under construction will produce approximately 10 percent of the electricity used at NSA Souda Bay entirely from 'green' solar energy," said Construction Electrician 1st Class (SCW) Clint Brinker, the project management professional and



SOUDA BAY, Greece (Oct. 3, 2011) - The completed PV solar panel carport.

certified energy manager of NSA Souda Bay. Brinker.

The command will be

authorized to fly the SECNAV energy flag for one year.



SIGONELLA, Sicily (Sept. 22, 2011) - Members of the Naval Air Station Sigonella Fire and Emergency Service assist a simulated victim during a mass casualty drill.

Story and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Gary Prill, Naval Air Station Sigonella Public Affairs

## Sigonella Conducts Mass Casualty Exercise

SIGONELLA, Italy - Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Team, Security and Naval Hospital Sigonella participated in

a mass casualty drill involving a collision of a 12-passenger van on the operational base, Sept. 22.

The drill consisted of nine simulated victims involved in a traffic collision. Each victim showed a different injury ranging in levels of severity in order to fully test NAS Sigonella's emergency room and on scene teams.

"The drill today was very important, we used it to integrate everyone on the base from fire, security, and medical," said Chief Gunner's Mate Jeremy Elmore. "Integration is important in the event that something were to really happen, we need to know that those three players can work together with ease."

"The drill allowed each player to train on their specific skill set," said Elmore.

This drill was just one of many scheduled and run through NAS Sigonella's training department. Each drill assessed capabilities, allowing for an environment conducive for training to ensure that NAS Sigonella is ready for any incident that may occur.



## Hispanic Heritage: Region Sailor Spotlight

Legalman 2nd Class George E. Layana was born March 28, 1977 in Manhattan, New York. He enlisted in the Navy Aug. 27, 2000 as a seaman apprentice.

He re-enlisted Dec. 7, 2008, and was subsequently approved for conversion to legalman.

LN2 Layana graduated from Naval Justice School in March 2009 and reported to Region Legal Service Office EURAFSWA, Naples Italy.

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

## COLA Reduced Reflecting New Index, Lower Euro Value

Story by Lt. Tim Hawkins, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs

NAPLES, Italy – Service members stationed overseas will see a reduction in their Overseas Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) due to a decrease in the annual spendable income index, the Defense Travel Management Office (DTMO) announced Sept. 29.

Spendable income pay tables, updated at the start of each new fiscal year, are among many factors used to compute COLA. Spendable income is the portion of income spent on goods and

services after taxes are subtracted.

In addition, the Euro's declining value against the dollar is also contributing to the new reductions in COLA for service members stationed in Europe.

An E-6 Sailor with 10 years of service, two dependents, and stationed in Spain, Italy, or Greece, is projected to receive approximately \$60 less than the COLA previously received for the Sept. 16-30 pay period.

Paychecks issued Oct. 16 will reflect COLAs for the Oct. 1-15 pay period.

According to DTMO, COLA amounts are not fixed and shift each pay

period to reflect changes in spendable income, shopping patterns, prices of goods and services, and currency fluctuations.

Two months ago, COLA amounts across Italy changed when DTMO revised the cost of living index Italy following completion of the annual Retail Price Survey.

COLA is a non-taxable allowance designed to offset higher overseas prices of non-housing goods and services for uniformed personnel. Each service member can calculate their specific COLA online by clicking [HERE](#).

### Navy Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

By Lt. Laura K. Stegherr, Diversity Directorate Public Affairs

WASHINGTON - The Navy joined the nation Sept. 15 in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, which will be observed until Oct. 15.

With a national theme of "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories...One American Spirit," the observance celebrates the histories, cultures and contributions of Americans who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

According to 2010 data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Hispanics comprise 16.3 percent of the total United States population, or 50.5 million people, forming our country's largest racial or ethnic minority. Additionally, it is projected that by 2050, a quarter of the nation's workforce will be Hispanic.

The Navy's workforce reflects this diversity - today, nearly 60,000 Hispanic active duty and reserve Sailors and officers and nearly 10,000 Hispanic civilians serve in the Navy Total Force, including three Hispanic flag officers and one rear admiral select, 158 Hispanic master chiefs and five Hispanic members of the Senior Executive Service.

The Navy's senior Hispanic flag officer, Rear Adm. Patrick Brady, commander of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), emphasized the contributions of Hispanic service members to the readiness of the Navy.

"America's strength lies in its diversity of backgrounds, experiences and skills," said Brady.

### EURAFSWA Hosts Security Conference

Story by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Jack Georges Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia

NAPLES, Italy – Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (EURAFSWA) held a two-day Security Officer Conference for installation security officers, Sept. 8 - 9, in Naples, Italy.

The annual conference allows various Navy security personnel from regional commands to discuss current and future efforts for providing effective and efficient security to overseas personnel, facilities, and fleet assets.

"The bottom line is safety – safety of families, safety of sailors and civilians. This [conference] helps us ensure that," said Lt. Cmdr. Don Crumpacker, security officer for Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella.

Conference attendees included not only installation security officers, but also representatives from the U.S. European Command, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and Commander, Navy Installations Command.

The conference took on added importance this year, enabling security professionals to enhance collaboration after schedule constraints prevented participants from meeting last year.

This year's conference agenda featured briefs and discussion topics on military working dogs, intrusion detection systems, legal procedures, security assessments, and upcoming anti-terrorism exercises.

"The importance of ATFP and overall awareness can't be overemphasized. EURAFSWA security forces are an example of our servicemen and women leading from the front to keep service members, civilians and dependents safe," added aid Regional Security Officer Gary K. Smith.

Navy Region EURAFSWA's six installations include NAS Sigonella; Naval Station Rota, Spain; Naval Support Activity (NSA) Naples, Italy; NSA Bahrain; NSA Souda Bay; and Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti.

Click [HERE](#) to view a slideshow on Hispanic Heritage Month.

# B I G N A V Y N E W S

## Navy Bids Adm. Roughead Farewell, Adm. Greenert Takes Helm as CNO

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Kyle P. Malloy, Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - With 38 years of service, Adm. Gary Roughead steps down from the position of chief of naval operations during the change of command ceremony at the U.S. Naval Academy, Sept. 23.

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus was the keynote speaker for the ceremony thanking Roughead for his leadership.

"I don't think anyone can ever fully express how much we're going to miss Gary Roughead's counsel and absolutely unwavering commitment to the Navy [and] the United States." said Mabus.

Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert, the newly appointed 30th chief of naval operations, took the podium, thanking Roughead for his service and bringing the Navy to where it is today.

Greenert said Roughead has done a magnificent job and the plan would be to keep it that way.

"My priorities, our course, are one, we've got to remain ready to meet the current challenges today, we've got to build a relevant and capable future fleet, and we have got to continue to care for our Sailors, our civilians and their families, and recruit and nurture a motivated, relevant and diverse force," said Greenert.



ANNAPOLIS, Md. (Sept. 23, 2011) - Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert participates in the CNO change of command where he relieved Adm. Gary Roughead during a ceremony at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst)

[Click HERE to watch Adm. Greenert address the Fleet](#)



ATLANTIC OCEAN (Oct. 3, 2011) - An F-35B Lightning II makes the first vertical landing on a flight deck at sea aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp (LHD 1). The F-35B is the Marine Corps Joint Strike Force variant of the Joint Strike fighter. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seamam Natasha R. Chalk)

### F-35B Completes Initial Shipboard Vertical Landing Aboard USS Wasp

From Joint Strike Fighter Program Office Public Affairs

USS WASP, At Sea - The Navy and Marine Corps Team made naval aviation history Oct. 3 as the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) test aircraft BF-2 landed safely on

USS Wasp's (LHD 1) flight deck, the first at-sea vertical landing for the Marine Corps' F-35 JSF version.

Marine Corps test pilot Lt. Col. Fred Schenk landed BF-2 at 3:12 pm.

"It was exactly like we

predicted," said Schenk. "But that's because of all the hard work and extensive preparation done by the Wasp and JSF team."

The F-35B is the variant of the Joint Strike Fighter for the U.S. Marine Corps, capable of short take-offs and vertical landings for use on amphibious ships or expeditionary airfields to provide air power to the Marine Air-Ground Task Force. The F-35B will replace Marine AV-8B Harriers and F-18 Hornets and is undergoing test and evaluation at NAS Patuxent River prior to delivery to the fleet.

In addition to being the first ship to successfully land the F-35B, USS Wasp was also the first ship to host the V-22 Osprey during shipboard trials in October 2007.

[Click HERE to watch the F-35B complete its first landing aboard USS Wasp](#)

### Fire Scout Completes First Navy Unmanned Flight On Biofuel

From Naval Air Systems Command Public Affairs

PATUXENT RIVER, Md. - The Navy reached a milestone in its quest to gain energy independence today, when an MQ-8B Fire Scout successfully flew the first unmanned biofueled flight at Webster Field in St. Inigoes, Md.

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Directorate piloted the helicopter fueled with a combination of JP-5 aviation fuel and plant-based camelina. The biofuel blend reduces carbon dioxide output by 75 percent when compared to conventional aviation fuel.

[Click HERE to watch a video of the Fire Scout in action](#)