



# NEWS

## naval meteorology and oceanography

April 11, 2014

### Commander's Corner

#### Executive Council Wrestled with Several Challenges

This month, I assembled an Executive Council gathering Echelon IV and Echelon V Captain (O6) Commanding Officers and their technical directors in addition to key senior enlisted leadership across Naval Oceanography – a long overdue, in-person meeting to present FY15 spend plans and discuss the future of the Navy's Operational Oceanography Program.

As you are aware, the Navy, and subsequently our program, has been significantly pressurized by the impacts of sequestration, furloughs, FTE caps, and a number of other issues. Despite these external pressures, as part of the Navy's warfighting team, we have to keep moving forward by sustaining critical Operational Oceanography capabilities, which are also critical to the Navy's Information Dominance strategy - our strategic direction. My goal was to ensure that your leadership walked away with both increased alignment with our strategic direction and situational awareness at an enterprise level. I believe we succeeded. We have a plan to ensure that we can provide predictive, physical battlespace awareness across the entire spectrum of warfighting disciplines; provide the Navy with trained, combat-ready Naval Oceanography forces and foster and sustain relationships with allies and international partners to enhance security cooperation.



This Executive Council also gave Naval Oceanography's future leaders an opportunity to see first-hand the challenges we face. It was my intent to ensure your commanding officers got the exposure they needed to think as an enterprise and not just from a single command perspective. It's a challenge I levied to all at the beginning of the Executive Council, and I believe everyone rose to meet that challenge. I encourage you to engage with your leadership and become part of the dialogue. Everyone's voice is important; the best ideas I truly believe are circulating at the deck plate level – make sure we are aware!

As always, the individual commands did a great job with their spend plans, and they confirmed those concerns and opportunities that have been on my mind. We have a plan for FY15, action items for follow-up, and a way ahead to cover the shortfalls. The plan also includes an FTE management strategy to move the enterprise to our lower personnel caps while working to shape the future workforce. It's a delicate balance.

I want our EC actions to be transparent to our workforce both in our oceanography commands and out in the fleet. I know that you've been stressed in the past year, and we're all trying to do more with less. We're working hard to alleviate some of those burdens where we can. I don't anticipate the fiscal pressures to subside, so while this is not a long-term solution, our EC work does ensure that next year's resources are balanced and focused on our highest priority missions.

On that note, I want to thank you all. Your patience, adaptability and resilience make me proud to be a part of the Naval Oceanography team. We will continue to work together to meet the challenges of the future, and continue to be acknowledged as the Navy's physical maritime battlespace authority.

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## From the Deputy/Technical Director

### Listen, Think Before You React

By Dr. William H. Burnett

It was the way he said it. Arrogant. Confident. Dismissive. "Action... Reaction!" He said it in his long, drawn-out manner. Scott and I were sitting on the beach with Michelle and her boyfriend, "Dave," when we heard the words from Dave's mouth. He was making fun of the way Scott and I joked with each other, which was mostly making fun of Dave. It was his only option to joke back. However, for some reason his words and manner of saying them keep coming up in the back of my mind from time to time.

"Action... Reaction." I usually hear Dave's words in meetings where two people are agreeing with each other but they don't realize it, so they keep going past each other. My initial reaction to this is to tell them to stop and listen to each other, but they are so engaged in what they are saying and so dismissive to the other that they don't realize that they agree with each other. One person will say something ("Action") and the other person will come right back ("Reaction"), usually saying the same thing in a different way.

Rear Adm. Brian Brown told the Executive Council recently that we were given two ears and one mouth for a reason – so we can listen twice as much as we talk. This is advice that we should all practice. Especially me.

Before reacting to someone's speech or mannerisms, take a pause to see if you understand the meaning and intent behind the other person's words. Before lashing out in anger to get your words in, breathe for 10 seconds and collect your thoughts. Practice "active listening." That is, restate the speaker's points with phrases, "what I'm hearing is" and "sounds to me like you're saying." Ask questions to clarify what the speaker has just said, such as "What do you mean when you say . . .?"

I failed at this miserably recently during the Executive Council, and I wish I could have another chance to react to the situation differently. Practice makes perfect. Call me out if you see me react without thinking. I'm tired of hearing Dave's voice in the back of my head.



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## From the Oceanography Detailer

### Still Working Under Four-Month Lead Time on Orders

Hello from the Mid-South!

Spring and warmer weather gradually are working their way across the country, which means the summer PCS season is right around the corner! We are still operating under a four-month lead time on orders, although as the fiscal situation continues to improve, we're seeing orders issued earlier. However, for planning purposes, continue to temper expectations to four months.

## DECISION SUPERIORITY through BATTLESPACE ON DEMAND

After a few months as senior detailer, I have noticed that many problems we encounter can usually be traced back to a lack of communication. I want to stress that Lt.Cmdr. Pawlenko and I are available to discuss any career issues you may have. Please do not hesitate to call on us early and often to help you work through any problems, whether it be general career guidance, FITREP bullets, retirement, or PCS timing. We cannot always guarantee that we will have an ideal solution, but we cannot help you if we don't know there is a problem. We are here to assist you in making the best decisions for yourself and the Navy while ensuring the maximum career benefits for your hard work.

Another advantage of the improving fiscal environment is that we will be able to make some detailer visits this summer. We are looking to be at San Diego and Norfolk in the near future. Talk to your local OCEANO chain of command or senior officer for more details on when we may be in your area. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

Upcoming OCEANO Opportunities:

O5/6	NRL	Washington, D.C.	Available Now
O5	ASN RDA	Washington, D.C.	Available Now
O4	JTWC JTOPS	Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	Available Now
O4	AFWA	Offutt AFB, Neb.	Available Now
O3	ASW FORCES C7F	Yokosuka, Japan	April 2015
O3	NOOC N6	SSC, Miss.	Available Now
O3	AFWA	Offutt AFB, Neb.	December 2014
O3	FST CAT A	SSC, Miss.	July 2014
O3	MIW OIC	Bahrain	November/December 2014

If you are interested in any of the jobs above, or have any questions please contact myself or LCDR Pawlenko.

V/R, Cmdr. Ron Shaw  
Oceanography Detailing and Placement  
PERS 475

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## News

### Gallaudet Nominated for Rear Admiral

The president has nominated Capt. Timothy C. Gallaudet for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half), according to an announcement by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel on April 1. Gallaudet's announcement was included in a release with a number of Navy flag nominations.

Gallaudet, former Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C., is serving as Executive Assistant to Rear Adm. Jonathan White, Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy.

### VCNO Announces Flag Officer Adjustments, Eliminates Oceanographer Rear Admiral Billet

By Defense Media Activity - Navy

The Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Mark Ferguson announced the next phase of flag officer billet adjustments last month, including the elimination of the Oceanographer of the Navy, Navigator of the Navy, and Director, Space and Maritime Domain Awareness (OPNAV N2/N6E) two-star billet and merger with Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command. The billet will be filled by a U.S. Navy rear admiral (lower half) and located at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

## DECISION SUPERIORITY through BATTLESPACE ON DEMAND

The adjustments announced last month are in addition to the reduction of 35 Navy flag officer positions announced in August 2013 and are projected to bring the Navy into compliance with Office of the Secretary of Defense guidance.

The phased reduction, elimination, or consolidation of flag officer billets is scheduled to be complete by March 2016 and will occur as the officers effect permanent change of station moves or retire. This plan will allow for 151 flag officers to fill Navy-specific billets and 64 Navy flag officers to fill existing requirements for joint billets.

"The overall flag billet plan balances these adjustments across officer communities, including line, restricted line and staff corps. It also enables the Navy to provide more stability and predictability in the flag officer promotion process while meeting statutory requirements," Ferguson explained.

Specific billets affected by this plan, including the Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy, include:

### Eliminations

- Deputy Chief of the Navy Reserve. The current billet is filled by an active duty rear admiral (lower half).
- Director of Intelligence Operations (N2/N6I). The current billet is filled by an active duty rear admiral (lower half).
- Director, Maritime Headquarters, U.S. Fleet Forces Command. The current billet is filled by an active duty rear admiral (lower half).

### Shift from Active Duty to Reserves

- Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet will transition from an active duty rear admiral (upper half) to a recalled reservist of the same rank.
- Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command for Global Logistics Support will transition from an active duty rear admiral (lower half) to a recalled reservist of the same rank.

### Increase in Seniority

- Commander, Navy Cyber Command will increase in seniority from a rear admiral (lower half) to a rear admiral (upper half). The command will also become Information Dominance Forces Command, the Echelon II type commander for the Information Dominance Corps. This increase in seniority allows for better management of senior officers in the Information Dominance career field.
- Program Executive Officer for Air Anti-Submarine Warfare, Assault and Special Mission Programs (PEO-A) will increase in seniority from a rear admiral (lower half) to a rear admiral (upper half). This increase in seniority is commensurate with the scope of responsibility for the billet and helps balance the acquisition corps billet structure.

### Billet shift

- Commander, Navy Air and Missile Defense Command, a rear admiral (lower half), will shift to a new command, the Navy Surface Warfare Development Command and remain at the same rank.

"Our goal remains to operate more efficiently and effectively while strengthening our warfighting capabilities. Shifting two billets to the Reserve Force recognizes their significant contribution to combat operations, their operational expertise, and their integrated service with the active duty component," Ferguson said. "As warfare requirements evolve, we will continue to assess our flag officer billet structure while seeking opportunities to further integrate our Reserve and Active Duty components."

## **CNO Establishes Information Dominance Type Command, Includes NMOC**

Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations, established the new Information Dominance Type Command (TYCOM) on March 4 in a directive to Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (CUSFFC).

The Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command will become a part of that new TYCOM.

Greenert wrote, "I approve the establishment of Navy Information Dominance Forces as an echelon III command under your administrative control. As the immediate superior in command, oversee the command's implementation...with an initial operating capability of 1 October 2014."

The TYCOM will report directly to CUSFFC and have supporting relationships with the rest of the Navy, focusing primarily on the Navy's information environment.

Commander, Navy Cyber Forces will be re-designated as Commander, Navy Information Dominance Forces (NAVIDFOR) and will provide the initial infrastructure, resources and assets for the TYCOM.

Rear Adm. Diane Webber, Commander Navy Cyber Forces, noted that the new TYCOM's mission will be to "support combatant commanders and Navy commanders ashore and afloat by providing forward deployable, sustainable, combat-ready Information Dominance forces."

Full operational capability for NAVIDFOR is expected by the end of the calendar year.

A TYCOM supports the man, train and equip (MT&E) functions for specific communities within the Navy. For example, Commander, Naval Air Forces exercises administrative control over aviation forces and Commander, Navy Surface Forces does the same for the surface warfare community. NAVIDFOR will serve in that capacity for the Information Dominance Corps (IDC).

The IDC was formed in 2009 and built on the deep expertise and strengths of the officers/enlisted, active/reserve, and civilian workforce from the oceanography/meteorology, information professional, information warfare, naval intelligence and space cadre.

Vice Adm. Ted N. "Twig" Branch, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Dominance (N2/N6), is the lead for the Navy's IDC,

"The continuing evolution of Information Dominance as a Navy warfighting discipline demands a single, integrated TYCOM to provide relevant and effective capabilities, including a highly trained and motivated workforce," Branch said. "I'm confident the new NAVIDFOR will provide the fleet and the entire Navy the ID capabilities needed to deter, fight and win within this information domain."

Previously, those MT&E functions for the various communities within the IDC were executed by OPNAV N2/N6, Fleet Cyber Command/Commander Tenth Fleet, Navy Cyber Forces, the Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Navy Meteorology and Oceanography Command.

Commander, Navy Information Dominance Forces will be based in Suffolk, Va.

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## Personnel

### **FNMOC Team Member Joins Community Leaders in Local School's Career Day**

Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC) climatologist Megan Hutchins joined 13 other prominent women in the Monterey, Calif., community as guests of honor at the annual College and Career Perspectives Journey Day, hosted by Santa Catalina School in Monterey.

The event for the young women at the girls-only high school serves to, "highlight successful women who share their educational and professional wisdom with the student body."

The day included a panel discussion focusing on college and career advice and a series of group mentoring sections.



Hutchins, a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Asheville and the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), interned at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Climatic Data Center on the Global Observing System Information Center project, where she helped modernize the website. She earned her master's degree in meteorology at NPS through a two year internship at Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Detachment (FNMOC) Asheville. She was also instrumental in the development of the FNMOC Asheville's climatology website and associated products at FNMOC during her internship. She became a climatologist at FNMOC following her internship.

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## Items of Interest



### **NAVO Sailors Help in Louisiana**

Military personnel with the Naval Oceanographic Office (NAVO) joined the Saint Bernard Project (SBP), which focused on rebuilding damaged homes in the New Orleans area, particularly in Saint Bernard Parish. The group worked Feb. 14 on interior trim, cutting and laying tile, exterior caulking and interior/exterior painting.

### **April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), a time when the Navy reinforces its efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual assault. It also provides Sailors an opportunity for personal involvement in communicating key messages.

While the Navy has made great progress in adopting a more proactive and comprehensive approach to tackling the problem of sexual assault, the need to continue to change our culture surrounding this issue persists. SAAM is a part of that effort.

The goal is to eliminate sexual assault by: fostering a culture of prevention that includes effective education and training, delivering a 24/7 response capability to ensure victim support, providing world-wide reporting procedures, and reinforcing accountability that enhances the safety and well-being of all.

Sexual assault is a highly underreported crime; therefore, April and SAAM are not the only times of the year when this subject must be discussed. Victims are always encouraged to report via either restricted or unrestricted options.

This year's theme declares: "Live our Values" every day, all year long; "Step Up" by intervening when appropriate, reporting crimes and supporting victims. If we do, we can help stop sexual assaults." Remember, sexual assault is a crime that destroys trust, divides teams and degrades operational effectiveness.

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## Command Spotlight: Fleet Weather Center Norfolk

Fleet Weather Center (FWC)-Norfolk is one of two Navy centers providing weather support, optimal track ship routing (OTSR), and reachback product support for maritime aviation and naval installation operations around the globe. FWC-Norfolk's mission is to keep the fleet safe from hazardous weather and enable effective operations and planning decisions by providing timely and accurate weather forecasts, warnings, and recommendations. One such example is the role FWC-Norfolk played in supporting military assets during the 2014 Winter Olympics held in Sochi, Russia.

On Jan. 25, FWC-Norfolk's Mobile Environmental Team (MET) flew to Naples, Italy, to embark on 6th Fleet's flagship, *USS Mount Whitney* (LCC 20), in company with *USS Taylor* (FFG 55), to support fleet operations in the Black Sea during the Winter Olympics in Sochi. To reach the Black Sea, *Mount Whitney* and *Taylor* sailed across the eastern Mediterranean and through the tightly controlled waterways of the Turkish Straits. The ships were deployed into the Black Sea in order to provide rapid support to U.S. civilians and athletes in the event of a crisis. The MET consisted of a lead forecaster and assistant; for this mission, Chief Aerographer's Mate Ryan Goodrich and Aerographer's Mate 3rd Class Todd Jones. The team provided daily 72-hour weather forecasts supporting safety of navigation and aviation, as well as non-acoustic sensor performance analysis to *Taylor* and its embarked helicopter detachment. All the while, FWC-Norfolk's watch floor provided reachback support and OTSR surveillance for the ships.

The support FWC-Norfolk provided to *Taylor* and *Mount Whitney* was especially important, given the limited presence of U.S. assets in the region. The Montreux Convention of 1936 grants Turkey control over the Bosphorus Straits and the Dardanelles to regulate transit of naval warships into the Black Sea. Under the convention, non-Black Sea states are allowed access for 21 days at a time, at a combined weight of 46,000 gross tons. Thankfully, there were no major incidents during the Sochi Olympics, and *Mount Whitney* and the embarked MET departed safely after a job well done.

Another way FWC-Norfolk is completing its mission and developing its personnel is through grooming and mentoring Sailors through the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) 365 program. CPO 365 is a program where chief petty officers train first class petty officers and junior officers in order to build them as future leaders. CPO 365 was established by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West in 2010 and was made mandatory for all first class petty officers one year later by MCPON Mike Stevens. Stevens opened the training to junior officers, as well. FWC-Norfolk's chief petty officers have embraced the program and are using their over 400 years of combined naval experience to give Sailors and junior officers the best training in the fleet.

CPO 365 is an integral part of FWC-Norfolk's weekly routine. Built on continual engagement through physical training sessions every Tuesday morning and leadership training every other Tuesday afternoon, the chief's mess has completed over 50 hours of CPO 365 training and participated in six community relations projects since September 2013. The chief's mess states, "A chief petty officer is more than a rank; it is a responsibility to the Navy, to their command, and to their Sailors." In this case, it has become clear that a great chief's mess makes for a great CPO 365 program.

### **AG3 (IDW/AW/SW) Shamekia Javon Brinson**



Aerographer's Mate 3rd Class (IDW/AW/SW) Brinson has spent her entire career striving to excel. While at Fleet Weather Center Norfolk she was the driving force behind the establishment of its Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) chapter and was elected as the organization's first president. Professionally, she earned her Information Dominance Warfare Specialist pin, and was selected Blue Jacket of the Quarter for a second time in her career, all while climbing from aerographer's mate airman to aerographer's mate third class.

AG3 Brinson joined the Navy in 2009 as an undesignated airman aboard *USS George Washington* (CVN 73). She earned the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and was recognized as Blue Jacket of the Quarter at that command.

In 2012 she transferred to AG-A school. When asked why she chose the AG rate she replied, "It seemed very different and an exciting rate and something I didn't know, a very informative rate." AG3 is awaiting orders to Cryptologic Technician Collection (CTR) - A School where she hopes to gain new experiences and perspective in another mission area of the Navy. She says, "there is always something new to learn and improve upon."

### **Mr. Casey Kimmel**

For the past eight years Mr. Casey Kimmel has been a subject matter expert in the N6 department at Fleet Weather Center-Norfolk. Kimmel maintains the command's Windows environment, C2OIX, NIPR/SIPR token systems, and most notably, he is the only NITES 4 systems manager in the Norfolk region. As the NITES 4 manager, he was instrumental in NITES implementation for deploying Strike Group Oceanography Teams and Mobile Environmental Teams. The NITES program reduced costs and improved flexibility by replacing installed permanent workstations on ships with portable laptop systems.



Kimmel is a prior enlisted Sailor and retired from active duty as a Navy electronics technician first class. He says he is excited to be working with the extraordinary Sailors and civilians at FWC-Norfolk and has no plans to leave. "I'd like to stay as long as I can and help the command implement and adapt to new changes."

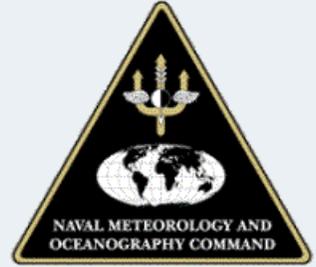
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## **Social Media**

Follow Naval Oceanography on Facebook and @navyoceans on Twitter to keep up with all the latest news and images from the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography community.

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