



# THE NAVY SUPPLY CORPS Newsletter

Summer 2024

## Our People are Everything





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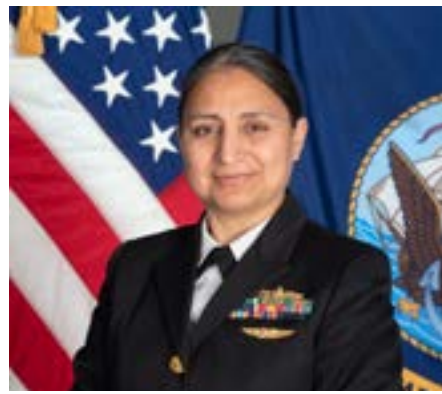


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**Around NAVSUP**

*Cover photo: j.g. Kayla Harris, a  
native of Annapolis, Maryland, Supply  
Officer aboard USS Boxer (LHD 4),  
reviews the plan of the day with  
Sailors in her division during quarters  
on the flight deck. -photo by Mass  
Communication Specialist 1st Class  
Kelsey J. Eades*



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# Los Angeles Fleet Week Wrap-Up

By Lt. Zachary Budda  
USS Carl Vinson  
S-8 Division Officer



## “Moored, Shift Colors”

America's Favorite aircraft carrier, USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) hosted the city of Los Angeles for fleet week, May 21-27. Not only did Vinson Sailors reach out into the community, participating in multiple outreach programs, but also hosted over 16,000 civilians and distinguished guests. Bringing almost 90,000 tons of American democracy to the shores of Los Angeles (LA) was no easy feat and took the effort of all departments aboard Vinson as well as representatives of the squadrons of CARRIER AIR WING TWO who coordinated static aircraft displays for the public.

## Reception Success

Vinson's Food Service Division had the pleasure of hosting more than 300 visitors to officially kick off LA Fleet Week. Vinson's superb S-2 team put on a show for COMMANDER, THIRD FLEET, COMMANDER, 1st MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, CARRIER STRIKE GROUP ONE, and other distinguished guests. The Food Service Division received high praise by all attendees and the reception was a complete success.

## Expeditionary Sustainment Exercise

Vinson's Materiel Division (S-8) proved why they are America's favorite S-8 division by providing proof of concept for the versatile receipt of materiel and resupply via the port of Los Angeles. S-8, one of the pillars of the Supply Department, handles the coordination of delivery and receipt of all materiel received aboard the ship along with the ship's inventory of consumable materiel.

Vinson received 54 pallets of food, 20 pallets of general stock, three pallets of critical CASREP materiel, and one 414 engine canister. They also offloaded 29 pallets of materiel to be disposed of via the ship's shore based team. Vinson's S-8 team brought aboard all materiel expeditiously and safely while managing all shipboard rigging for crane operations. Without the versatility and the expert training of our Sailors, Vinson would not be able to complete her missions while in port or underway!

By proving that a large surface combatant such as Vinson can be successfully resupplied at a non-Navy port, we further emphasized the flexibility and innovation in logistics that the Navy and Vinson prides itself on.



*Above: SS Carl Vinson Carrier cake. -photo by Lt. Zachary Budda*

*Lt. Zachary Budda and his trusty companion “Nelly” who visited Vinson as part of the USO presence for Fleet Week.*



# Strengthening Bonds: The Strategic Impact of PEP Tours on the Navy Supply Corps

By Lt. Cmdr. Heather Ireland, PACFLT LOGCOP Program Manager and Lt. j.g. Mike Flowers, PACFLT N4 Knowledge Manager

In the vast expanse of the Indo-Pacific, the Navy Supply Corps plays a vital role in sustaining U.S. joint and naval operations. Amidst the complex logistics, an enduring program, known as Personnel Exchange Program (PEP) is fostering critical partnerships with like-minded countries, especially with our allies in Australia. These are unique tours that not only enhance logistics; but serve as a linchpin in the broader strategy of national defense and international cooperation.

PEP tours offer junior officers in the Navy Supply Corps an unparalleled opportunity to work directly with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). These exchanges are much more than professional development—they are a strategic imperative. By embedding officers with the ADF and the RAN, the U.S. Navy cultivates a deeper understanding and appreciation of diverse military

cultures and practices. This cultural fluency is essential as these officers progress in their careers, enhancing their ability to collaborate effectively in multinational operations.

U.S. Navy Lt. Nash Nickerson, a Supply Corps officer, is currently participating in a PEP tour with the ADF's Joint Logistics Command (JLC) Headquarters in Canberra. The JLC reports to the Vice Chief of the Defence Force and is responsible for delivering Defence Strategic Logistics support to the ADF; think of it as the equivalent of a combined NAVSUP and DLA for the Australian military. Nickerson says, "The experience has been transformative. I have learned about how the Australians plan for logistics and have a deeper understanding of how coalition forces operate and integrate. This understanding will be invaluable in future joint operations."

The strategic value of PEP tours is multifaceted. On the ground, these exchanges enable the Navy Supply



Corps to synchronize logistical practices with Australian allies, ensuring seamless support during joint missions. This operational harmony is crucial for exercises and missions in the Indo-Pacific theater. At a higher strategic level, these tours align with the Navy's commitment to the U.S. National Defense Strategy, emphasizing the importance of strengthening alliances and partnerships in the region to sustain and strengthen U.S. deterrence against our adversaries. By fostering personal relationships and mutual respect amongst junior officers, the Navy lays the groundwork for enduring military cooperation. These bonds are not just formalities; they are the bedrock of trust and reliability in times of crisis.

For the Navy Supply Corps, these tours also bring practical benefits. Officers gain firsthand experience with different logistical systems and technologies, broadening their technical expertise. This cross-pollination of ideas leads to innovations

and improvements in the Navy's own supply chain management. Nickerson elaborates on his tour, "Through my experience here, I've gained a deep respect for the logistical hurdles the Australian Defence Force overcomes. While external factors, including U.S. influence, push the ADF to achieve similar operational goals as the U.S., they do so with considerably fewer resources. Learning their logistical planning strategies and how to effectively coordinate with them has been one of the most valuable takeaways from my time here."

Recognizing the value and importance of PEP officers, Pacific Fleet Command (PACFLT) N4 has recently worked with PACFLT N1, who oversees the Navy PEP in INDOPACOM to establish PACFLT N4 as the Reporting Senior for 3100 PEP officers fitness reports (FITREPs) in the AOR. While PEP participants receive instructions and tasking from their Australian chain-of-command, PACFLT N4 maintains responsibility to

professionally develop these Supply Corps officers ensuring they stay connected to the Navy Supply Corps through professional development opportunities and battle rhythm events.

Rear Adm. Kristin Acquavella, director, Logistics, Fleet Supply & Ordnance (N4) at U.S. Pacific Fleet, emphasizes the long-term benefits: "Joint training with foreign counterparts builds strong personal bonds and professional trust, which are vital for successful collaboration in joint and combined operations. They are the cornerstone of our alliances and partnerships."

Moreover, PEP tours have a profound impact on the officers themselves. The exposure to different cultures and operational environments fosters adaptability and resilience. These qualities are indispensable as they take on more senior roles, where strategic decision-making and leadership are paramount. Lt. j.g. Dustin Miller, currently embedded with the Royal

PEP tours offer junior officers in the Navy Supply Corps an unparalleled opportunity to work directly with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN). These exchanges are much more than professional development—they are a strategic imperative





Australian Navy at HMAS Stirling, the primary Submarine Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) facility, near Perth, Australia, reflects on his experience: “Living and working in a different country has been fulfilling both personally and professionally. I had to adapt quickly and find common ground with my Australian counterparts. These skills will serve me well throughout my career.” The connection with Australia holds distinct strategic significance. The long-standing alliance between the U.S. and Australia is a cornerstone of Indo-Pacific security. PEP tours in Australia solidify this bond, ensuring our military strategies are aligned and our forces can operate seamlessly during joint missions. In 2021, the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom announced the formation of the “AUKUS” partnership. This trilateral security alliance focuses on enhancing defense capabilities, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region. AUKUS aims to strengthen cooperation in areas such as technology sharing, cybersecurity, and naval capabilities. The centerpiece of this partnership is Australia’s acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines, which will significantly enhance regional security and deter potential threats. Capt. Patrick Brown, who coordinates with the Supply Corps PEP officers in the Indo-Pacific AOR, adds, “These exchanges are invaluable. They not only allow us to share best logistics practices to enhance our operational capabilities but also build a shared sense of purpose and camaraderie. At the end of the day, it’s about learning from each other and growing stronger together.”

Lt. Cmdr. Kristopher Spencer, an Australian officer on exchange, has

spent the past year and a half as a Logistics Planner embedded in the U.S. Pacific Fleet N4, in his second stint working alongside a foreign navy as a PEP Officer. Lt. Cmdr. Spencer is enthusiastic about the program’s benefits and emphasizes that the program allows for collaboration on planning efforts while offering a fresh perspective. “The program’s strength lies in its ability to combine integrated planning with a new viewpoint on challenges,” he explains. “Coming from a different background than the U.S. Navy, I can bring a unique perspective to the table.” He further highlights the value of learning U.S. operational planning methods, “Australia doesn’t have a dedicated program for operational planning,” Spencer says. “Being exposed to this level of operational planning has significantly boosted my professional development, and it’s an area I am eager to hone.” Spencer plans to leverage his new experience back to Australia. He believes participating in another PEP opportunity embedded with the Joint Headquarters Joint Operations Center (JOC), would provide similar access and support from operational planners. “This experience has exposed me to a wider range of problems,” he concludes, “allowing me to ask more insightful and valuable questions.”

As we continue to deepen our ties with Australia, PEP tours play a crucial role in fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and joint planning. By understanding how the Australian Defence Force approaches logistics, we can enhance interoperability and ensure seamless coordination in future operations. The AUKUS partnership represents a significant step forward in strengthening

security ties among these three nations and underscores the importance of cross-national collaboration in addressing shared challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

The ripple effects of PEP tours extend beyond individual development. By creating a cadre of officers with international experience and perspectives, the Navy builds a more cohesive and effective force. This interconnectedness enhances the Navy’s ability to operate in coalition environments, ensuring that it remains a formidable and agile force on the global stage.

By fostering expertise in critical regions like the Indo-Pacific, Personnel Exchange Program tours serve as a strategic asset for the Navy Supply Corps and the broader U.S. Navy. This focus aligns perfectly with the Secretary of the Navy’s update to promotion board precepts which now emphasizes Indo-Pacific area expertise and directs that, “special consideration shall be given to officers who have excelled in their knowledge of the political-military affairs, U.S. strategic interests in the Indo-Pacific region, and operational contingency planning for the Indo-Pacific war plans.”

Exchange officers embody the principles of the National Defense Strategy, fostering strong alliances and preparing officers for the complexities of multinational operations. As these junior officers rise through the ranks, the relationships and skills they develop through PEP tours will be instrumental in maintaining the U.S. Navy’s dominance while fostering global stability. These tours are not just about sharing knowledge—they are about building the future leaders of a connected and collaborative naval force.

## THE NEW NAVY SUPPLY CORPS NEWSLETTER

# Online Now





# Sustaining Others as a CS

By Hannah Rainey,  
Public Affairs, NAVSUP  
Headquarters

Driving down the freeway at the start of 2020, Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (CS2) (SW) Rey Vincent A. Martinez, then a 27-year-old civilian from Galveston, Texas, saw a billboard recruiting for the United States Navy. “YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE”, the sign declared.

“I took the billboard as God’s sign for me to go to that recruitment office,” Martinez explained.

Within the month, Martinez had met with a recruiter, passed the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and shipped out to boot camp.

“Growing up, I’d always respected the military in general.” Martinez recalled, “The way people in the military wear the uniform... you can tell it means a lot to them.”

Little did Martinez know that his skill, authenticity, and dedicated service would come to mean a lot to the crews he sustained, and that making a difference would prove to be more than a slogan on a billboard. For a Culinary Specialist, it’s the daily bill of fare.

Martinez was born in the City of Iriga, Philippines. In 2014, at the age of 21, he immigrated to Texas with his family, where they have lived ever since. When his sister joined the U.S. Army in the summer of 2019, she and Martinez decided that he would enlist in the U.S. Navy and together they would encourage their younger siblings to join the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Marine Corps.

“It was our 2020 sibling goal,” Martinez explained. “We really wanted to serve our nation and make ranks.”

Spurred on by the recruitment billboard, Martinez put the plan into action and followed his passion for cooking to the rate of CS. In doing so,

**“Growing up, I’d always respected the military in general.” Martinez recalled, “The way people in the military wear the uniform... you can tell it means a lot to them.”**

he carries on a family tradition of service passed down by his parents, both of whom work in a hospital, and one day (Martinez hopes) to be continued by his younger siblings. Unfortunately, due to the constraints of a global pandemic, Martinez’s



*Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Rey Vincent Martinez prepares food with the Navy Culinary Arts Team of 12 Navy Culinary Specialists during the final challenge of the 48th annual Joint Culinary Training Exercise at the MacLaughlin Fitness Center on Fort Gregg-Adams, Virginia.*



*Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Rey Vincent A. Martinez*

family was unable to attend his graduation from boot camp.

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 environment, Martinez continued to excel, earning leadership awards in “A” School and learning the skills to become an effective CS. Additionally, Martinez was quick to recognize the feelings of dejection and disconnection many around him faced during the pandemic. As a CS, Martinez knew better than most what it took to sustain others. Going beyond the galley, he spread a sense of true connection among a crew with very limited surface contact.

“My shipmates describe me as a motivator because I always try to make people laugh and I encourage them to push themselves and be the best.” Martinez said, “For me, morale means working to be the best, together and individually, to support our nation’s mission and be ready to face any adversity.”

Additionally, Martinez used social media and community outreach to inspire others and share his experience as an openly gay Sailor.

“I made it to where I am by being who I am,” stated Martinez. He encourages others to do the same. Aboard his first command, USS ESSEX (LHD 2), Martinez became a proud cabinet member of GLASS (Gay, Lesbian and Supportive Sailors), an organization formed to provide education, mentorship, and support to the Navy LGBTQ+ community. Now

continuing his sea tour aboard USS OKANE (DDG 77), Martinez remains involved in his community, adapting to the needs of his new galley and dedicating himself to his crew and his craft.

“I can say, being good at your job makes a lot of difference. Especially being a CS in a small ship. If you put out a delicious and amazing meal, others will talk about it in the mess deck. They’ll know your name,” Martinez stated plainly. “The CS prepares breakfast for the crew every morning and cleans up at the end of each day. Because of this, we’re the first group of people in the ship, and the last.”

Martinez especially enjoys preparing for special events and official visits, embracing the opportunity to develop further knowledge and hospitality skills and hoping one day to take those skills to the next level. “I want to be a certified chef and get an order to work for the White House.” Martinez shared, “I want to say before I leave the Armed Forces that I was a cook in the White House.”

Looking to his future career in the Navy, Martinez hopes to pass on his knowledge and passion as a CS to

the next generation of Sailors.

“I want to teach in a school to prepare new graduates for what they can expect once they go to the fleet and how to survive their first deployments,” Martinez declared. “I want to improve the knowledge that the Navy and the CS rate can offer.”

From 2019 to his current deployment and onward, Martinez’s goal remains the same. He wants to make a difference; leaving the people and places he serves better than when he found them. As CS in the US Navy, every day from breakfast to dinner, morning to night, he does just that. Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) provides operational and financial policy guidance for Navy chefs to efficiently and confidently execute the food service mission. Navy Supply Officers along with senior enlisted CSs assigned to ships and ashore galleys across the fleet manage the careers of CSs. NAVSUP is a stakeholder, sponsor and key player in the overall training process.

NAVSUP is headquartered in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, and employs a diverse, worldwide workforce of more than 25,000 military and civilian personnel. NAVSUP and the Navy Supply Corps conduct and enable supply chain, acquisition, operational logistics and Sailor & family care activities with our mission partners to generate readiness and sustain naval forces worldwide to prevent and decisively win wars.

Learn more at [www.navsup.navy.mil](http://www.navsup.navy.mil), [www.facebook.com/navsup](https://www.facebook.com/navsup) and <https://twitter.com/navsup>.



# Navy Chefs Shine in Chicago

By Russ Stewart, Office of Corporate Communications, NAVSUP Headquarters

**“These annual awards encourage excellence in Navy Food Service programs with the objective of improving the quality of life for our Navy personnel,” said Honorable Carlos Del Toro.**

U.S. Navy chefs from around the world converged at the prestigious Palmer House in Chicago to attend advanced training and receive their Captain Edward F. Ney awards for preeminence in Navy Food Service, 17-19 May.

“These annual awards encourage excellence in Navy Food Service programs with the objective of improving the quality of life for our Navy personnel,” said Honorable Carlos Del Toro, Secretary of the Navy. “I commend the Navy Undersea Enterprise, Surface Warfare Enterprise, Naval Aviation Enterprise, CNIC, and individual commands for their hard work and commitment to excellence.”

The Ney awards are significant because they are the highest honor a Navy galley can receive for excellence in food service. It’s a way to say their hard work is the best of the best. The award program itself was created to encourage better food service across the Navy. This means tastier, more nutritious food for Sailors, which boosts morale and overall well-being. The Ney Awards create a friendly competition between different galleys on ships and shore stations and pushes everyone to constantly improve their service, sanitation, and food quality.

During one of the weekend’s workshops hosted by the National Restaurant Education Foundation, Rear Adm. Ken Epps, commander Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) and Chief of Supply Corps, shared anecdotes from his time spent as Supply Officer (SUPPO) on an aircraft carrier.

*The military food service awards displayed in preparation for the awards ceremony hosted by the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation at the Palmer House, Chicago, 17 May. –photo by Russ Stewart*



“My commanding officer sat me down and said, ‘The most important thing that you will do on this carrier is take care of our Sailors, that starts with your food service, SUPPO,’” Epps recalled to a packed room of 103 chefs from across the uniformed services.

For most Sailors, the Ney awards might not be a direct achievement they strive for, but they can still have a positive impact on their daily lives. The awards recognize galleys that provide high-quality, nutritious meals. This means tastier food options and a more varied menu for Sailors. A well-run galley contributes to a better overall atmosphere on a ship or base. Knowing their food service is award-winning can give Sailors a sense of pride in their surroundings.

The Ney Awards acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Navy’s Culinary Specialists (CS). Sailors likely appreciate the effort put in by the food service team to provide them with good meals. While Sailors themselves might not win the Ney Awards, they can experience the positive effects on the quality of their food and the overall morale on their ship or base.

“For those of you in this room who cook for your fellow service members, I thank you,” said keynote speaker Chef Opal Poullard, Chef Instructor for Auguste Escoffier School of Culinary Arts. “When your military service is done there are many opportunities waiting for you.”

The Ney awards are primarily relevant to the U.S. Navy, but civilians might find them interesting for a couple of reasons; the awards offer a glimpse into the importance of a seemingly mundane aspect of military life – good food. Reliable, nutritious meals can contribute to a Sailor’s morale and well-being, which ultimately impacts their ability to serve effectively. The awards recognize top-notch food service practices within a large organization. This can be interesting to anyone in the food service industry, as it highlights methods for ensuring quality, safety, and efficiency in large-scale food preparation.



Also, Navy Food Service programs play a surprisingly significant role in promoting naval readiness, and have a direct impact on Sailor performance, including:

**Physical Fitness:** Well-nourished Sailors have the stamina and strength needed for demanding physical tasks. Balanced meals with enough protein, carbohydrates, and healthy fats provide the energy needed for long shifts, physical training, and combat situations.

**Mental Acuity:** A Sailor's diet can affect their focus, alertness, and decision-making abilities. Food programs that prioritize nutrient-rich options can help Sailors perform better mentally, both in training and during operations.

**Improved Morale:** Good food can boost morale and overall well-being. When Sailors feel their basic needs are being met with quality meals, they're more likely to be content and motivated.

Navy Culinary Specialists, the Sailors who are the face of Navy Food Service, have an important and direct role in providing for national security. A healthy and well-fed crew is essential for a successful Navy. Navy ships often operate in remote locations with limited access to fresh food. Efficient food service ensures Sailors have the necessary provisions for extended deployments.

It all boils down to: a strong Navy means a safer nation. A well-prepared Navy deters aggression and protects national interests. By supporting Sailor health, food service programs contribute to a stronger national defense.

Additionally, as the Navy constantly seeks ways to improve its food service programs. The Navy's innovations in food service can sometimes translate to the civilian sector, leading to better food practices in restaurants, schools, and other institutions.

NAVSUP provides operational and financial policy guidance for Navy chefs to efficiently and confidently execute the food service mission. Navy Supply Officers along with senior enlisted CSs assigned to ships and ashore galleys across the fleet manage the careers of CSs. NAVSUP is a stakeholder, sponsor and key player in the overall training process.

"Fleet leadership is continuously encouraged to reach out to the NAVSUP team at any time for assistance with all issues related to the development of Culinary Specialists," explained CWO5 Harrison Wright III, NAVSUP Food Service operations officer. "Personnel assigned to the NAVSUP Food Service program are equipped with contacts and resources to immediately solve training deficiencies."

In conclusion, U.S. Navy Food Service programs are more than just cafeterias. They play a crucial role in keeping Sailors healthy, focused, and ready to defend the nation. The Ney awards are a key part of NAVSUP's strategy to promote and permeate Navy Food Service programs with an always improving mindset and a constant striving for excellence.

*The winners of the Captain Edward F. Ney awards stand together as one united team after receiving their awards at the Military Food Service Awards ceremony hosted by the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation at the Palmer House, Chicago, 17 May. Standing with the winning teams are Rear Adm. Ken Epps, Commander Naval Supply Systems Command and Chief of Supply Corps and NAVSUP Command Master Chief Mark Schlosser (center). —photo by Russ Stewart*





# Theodore Roosevelt culinary specialists square off in “Battle of the Mess Decks”

By Lt. j.g. Jacob Mandish

*Sailors serve their dishes during a cook-off between the mess decks aboard the Nimitz-class Aircraft Carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). –photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Ryan Holloway*

Supply Department aboard Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) held a cooking competition, the “Battle of the Mess Decks,” June 9, 2024.

Four teams of ‘Roughrider’ culinary specialists gathered in the aft mess decks aboard Roosevelt to showcase their culinary talents and creativity to their chain of command, including the Executive Officer, Capt. Kyle Aduskevich. “This was absolutely amazing, I’ve been on aircraft carriers since 2004, and I can honestly say this is some of the best food I have eaten on a carrier,” said Aduskevich.

The four teams were tasked with making an appetizer, an entrée and a dessert. A secret ingredient, honey, was mandatory for the teams to incorporate in each of their dishes. Judging was based on presentation, aroma, level of difficulty, and taste.

The winning team, from the forward galley, consisted of Culinary Specialist 2nd (CS2) Class Sharia Morfin-Reynolds, Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Destiny Aranda, Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Courtland Edwards.

The “Mighty Morfins” team created an egg drop soup as the appetizer, chicken curry over rice for the entrée, and lemon cake as the dessert. CS2 Morfin-Reynolds, when asked about receiving first place, said “I didn’t know my skills were ever going to be recognized. I am very satisfied knowing as a team leader I’m successful in guiding my team.” The first-place trophy is displayed in the forward mess decks of the ship until next year’s competition. The team also received 24 hours of underway liberty.

Roosevelt is the flagship for Carrier Strike Group Nine, a multiplatform team comprised of CSG-9 staff, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 23 staff, USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 11, and DESRON 23 ships; Arleigh

Burke-class guided-missile destroyers USS Russell (DDG 59), USS Daniel K. Inouye (DDG118), and USS Halsey (DDG 97). CSG-9 ships and aircraft can carry out a wide variety of missions around the globe to include combat missions, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief response.

For more information about Carrier Strike Group Nine and USS Theodore Roosevelt, please visit:

Website: <https://www.surfpac.navy.mil/ccsg9/>

DVIDS: [www.dvidshub.net/unit/USSTR-CVN71](http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/USSTR-CVN71)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/usstheodoreroosevelt](http://www.facebook.com/usstheodoreroosevelt)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/usstheodoreroosevelt](http://www.instagram.com/usstheodoreroosevelt)

*Lt. Cmdr. Mitchell Hennessy samples a dish during a cook-off between the mess decks aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). – photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Ryan Holloway*



*Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Sharia Morfin-Reynolds, Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Destiny Aranda, Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Clara Grace, and Culinary Specialist Seaman Apprentice Courtland Edwards receive a 1st place trophy from U.S. Navy Capt. Kyle Aduskevich, Executive Officer of the Nimitz-class Aircraft Carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) after a cook-off between the mess decks. –photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Ryan Holloway*



# Naval Hospital Bremerton dishes it up at Armed Forces Day Culinary Arts Competition

By Douglas Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton Public Affairs

*Serving it up...Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Paul, a Gretna, Louisiana native assigned to Naval Hospital Bremerton, shares a serving of sticky ribs to a spectator during the annual Armed Forces Day Culinary Arts Competition held in Olympic College, May 4, 2024. —photo by Douglas H Stutz, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton public affairs officer*

On a damp Pacific Northwest Saturday morning, Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Paul dished up prepared appetizers to ward off – and warm up – from the chill.

“Started the chili three days ago. Let’s keep all the ingredients a mystery. Ribs were slow-cooked. They have a small kick in each bite and a nice taste. Both will warm anyone up

and have a good flavoring experience,” said Paul, a Gretna, Louisiana native assigned to Naval Hospital Bremerton (NHB).

Paul was serving up the fare at the annual Armed Forces Day Culinary Arts Competition held in Olympic College, May 4, 2024.

Paul and a handful of others from NHB competed with teams from Naval Base Kitsap, Naval Station Everett, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, USS Michigan (SSGN 727), USS Nevada (SSBN 733), USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735), USS Sampson (DDG 102), and USS Nimitz (CVN 68) to showcase their culinary skills in such categories as desserts, wings, chili, ribs, and a Battling Chef Competition.

“This is exciting for us. It’s a great chance for our team to shine, have fun, and show what we all can do. The meals we serve are great morale boosters for our Sailors,” exclaimed Paul.

NHB also gave an epicurean shoutout to medical emergency preparedness, labeling their honey glazed wings as ‘code magenta’ for hot, ‘code green’ for s’mores cheese-cake, ‘code red’ for their smokey chipotle chili and ‘code blue’ for their sticky ribs.

Master of Ceremony responsibility was handled by local celebrity and comedian Cris Larsen. Yet before addressing spectators and taste-testers, the veteran of over 500 United Service Organization performances around the world took a few minutes to share his thoughts with the culinary teams.

“I know a little bit about what you’re doing but all those dishes you prepare, in the cooking competition and those other on display [such as the chili and ribs] there’s people here who want to know what the heck you actually do and why what you do is so special,” related Larsen.

The Sailors showed their cooking chops.

For Culinary Specialist Submarine 2nd Class Justin Key, assigned to Pennsylvania, their presentation in the chili category meant more time and effort on their part.

“We went a little extra for wagyu – meat from Japanese beef cattle - chili.

This is exciting for us. It’s a great chance for our team to shine, have fun, and show what we all can do. The meals we serve are great morale boosters for our Sailors,” exclaimed Paul.





Hopefully it's to everyone's liking," said Key, from Greenbrier, Tennessee.

Joining Key was Culinary Specialist Apprentice Aaron Rojas, a Chicago, Illinois, native with less than a year of Navy experience. Yet confident and willing to share his cuisine competence.

"Love cooking. Being able to be here as part of my command is special," Rojas said. Awards were given for the top three in each category. As an example, from the judging perspective, each chili was considered on its own appetizing merit. The goal wasn't to compare but to make an initial decision. "Fine chili should look good, smell good and taste good," stated the instructions. Each example was evaluated by aroma, color, consistency, taste and aftertaste.

For the Battling Chef Competition, judges graded each presented dish and then judged on general appearance; presentation and creativity; display of skill; most originality; and taste and texture. The secret ingredient was Cornish game hens and bison.

NHB's Battling Chef team was manned by CS2 William Roberts, Jr., CS2 Mark Anthony Fernandez and Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Jada Zellars, with assistance by Retail Specialist 1st Class Angelo Tabayoyon.

For their efforts, NHB placed first overall in ribs and wings, and claimed second in chili and the dessert category.

Navy culinary specialists attend specialized Navy schools to receive comprehensive training in cooking and baking, along with how to operate kitchen and dining facilities, manage food budget and supplies needs. A few of NHB's have even attended Army-centric field exercise training exercises. Some culinary specialists improve in their chosen career, which can lead to serving on senior officer and senior government executive staffs, as well as get assigned to the White House Mess for the Commander in Chief.

A former NHB staff member who took first place winner in the ribs category added that achievement to his application package to serve on a Navy flag (admiral) staff.

He was selected.

The competition was held in conjunction with the annual Bremerton Armed Forces Day celebration which culminates with the Armed Forces Day Parade, billed as the largest west of the Mississippi that will take place on May 18, 2024.

The actual origin of the competition varies. There's historical evidence from over seven decades ago that listed seven commands taking part in a baked beans and cornbread cook-off in 1950 that was initially associated with Navy Day in October. The date switched from fall to spring to be included in the inaugural Bremerton Armed Forces Day celebration to honor Bremerton's own Medal of Honor recipient, Bud Hawk, returning from the European Theater in the Second World War.

Despite the occasional lapse, the event has continued and grown from just a spirited, seasoned, and spicy chili cook-off into a much more refined venue held at the Bremer Student Center of Olympic College.

"A phenomenal culinary day for our military heroes at Olympic College. Kudos to the greater Kitsap Chamber of Commerce and Naval Base Kitsap for their support," added Larsen.

Larsen wrapped up his chat with the culinary teams in high humor, sharing a tall cooked-up-tale how one year a service branch pulled a scandalous gastronomic move to sweep the competition. This senior enlisted leader showed up... "With a corndog. It was horrible. There was peanut butter and sriracha everywhere. Just have never gotten that out of my head," lamented Larsen.

Nor his taste buds.

Until a proffered bowl of chili that damp morning warmed him- and others - right up.



Cmdr. Jatan Bastola has achieved distinction of becoming the first known Nepalese O-5 across all branches of service in the United States military. Nepal, the birthplace of Buddha, is a landlocked country wedged between India and China and home to the Himalayan mountains, including the world's tallest, Mt. Everest. The youngest of three children, Bastola was born in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal.

"I have wonderful childhood memories of growing up in Nepal," said Bastola.

Born in a country then ruled by a king, she reflects fondly on her younger years.

"Back then, there were social norms that did not give girls the same freedoms as boys. There were clothing restrictions – we had to be home before dusk – and we were not allowed to work. Instead, we learned how to cook and do household chores. Despite these social norms, my parents were different, and they let us be who we wanted to be. I would not have left Nepal if I did not have their support."

Seeking opportunity, independence, and a life free of social restrictions, Bastola came to the United States in 1995 when she was 20 years old, joining her older sister and her enlisted Navy brother-in-law, homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

"That was my first international flight. I was nervous, but at the same time excited for my better future," said Bastola.

# Navy Commander takes pride as first known Nepalese O-5 in the United States Military

By Matthew Morrison, Office of Corporate Communications, NAVSUP Headquarters

With inspiration from her submariner brother-in-law, she started her Navy career in 2001 when she joined the Navy Reserves.

During boot camp, Bastola learned the importance of teamwork. She also learned that mission success takes priority.

"All that mattered was teamwork and unity to execute the mission," said Bastola.

Bastola earned her commission in 2006 through the Navy Officer Candidate School after graduating from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

Bastola deeply appreciates the Navy's diversity. "After joining the Reserves, I was inspired by the culture of the Navy where it didn't matter your race, culture and background or where you came from," said Bastola.

"I wanted to do something for the United States that gave me an opportunity to be who I wanted to be."

In June 2015, she earned her master's degree in Contract Management from Naval Post Graduate School.

Bastola's sea duty assignments include duty as the Disbursing/Sales Officer and Assistant Supply Officer aboard USS Chafee (DDG 90); Wardroom and Stock Control Officer aboard USS Harry S Truman (CVN 75); and Assistant Supply Officer aboard USS Wasp (LHD 1).

Her shore assignments include the Business Financial Management Program at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, PMA-280 Tomahawk

Weapons Systems Program Office; Contracting Officer at Naval Supply Systems Command Weapon Systems Support Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; and Flying Hour Program Manager at Pacific Fleet, Hawaii.

Bastola is proud to be the first known Nepalese O-5 in the United States military.

"Nothing is impossible if you have the determination to achieve your dreams," said Bastola. "The sky is the limit and I feel proud for my family and Nepalese community. I hope my accomplishments will be an example to the generation ahead, especially for women. I realized the pride that my family takes after seeing my dad cry when he saw me in uniform for the first-time during OCS graduation."

Bastola's plans include continuing to thrive as a United States naval officer and making her family proud. She is grateful for the support of Prabal Bastola, her husband of 20 years. She enjoys world travel, having visited over 30 countries, and plans to make time for future adventures.

"Nepal has eight of the highest mountains in the world, including Mt. Everest. I plan to trek to base camp of Mt. Everest either in the fall or next spring," said Bastola.

Bastola is currently serving as a Maritime Supplier Operations Officer at Defense Logistics Agency Land and Maritime in Columbus, Ohio.



The Taste of Success... Culinary Specialist 2nd Class William R. Roberts, Jr., Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Jada Zellars and CS2 Mark Anthony S. Fernandez, all assigned to Naval Hospital Bremerton take a epicurean pause to showcase their collective team efforts, along with CS2 Christopher Paul and assistance by Retail Specialist 1st Class Angelo Tabayoyon, in placing first overall in ribs and wings, and claiming second in chili and the dessert category in the annual Armed Forces Day Culinary Arts Competition held in Olympic College, May 4, 2024. –photo by Chief Culinary Specialist Mitchell Reed, NHB/NMRTC Bremerton



# Rim of the Pacific 2024— Carl Vinson MWR goes all in

By USS Carl Vinson Team

## RIMPAC and MWR

America's Favorite aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) pulled into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in late June and served as flag ship for 2024's Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise. The world's largest maritime warfare event occurs biennially with participation from 29 countries and over 25,000 Sailors. RIMPAC's 14 day in port period provided Vinson's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) division an opportunity to plan and execute memorable events on a large scale with our RIMPAC partner nations.

## RIMPAC Sports Champs!

USS Carl Vinson CVN 70, Carrier Air Wing 2 (CVW 2) and Destroyer Squadron 1 (DESRON 1) assembled 22 teams comprised of 236 athletes that competed in 14 sporting events throughout an intense two-week period of international competition. Vinson teams faced off against strong international competition and were

able to secure wins over New Zealand and India in basketball, Brunei in soccer, Japan and the Netherlands in softball, and the Germans in bench press. Overall, first place winners included Vinson's basketball, swimming, bench press, and E-sports teams. Strong showings from Vinson's softball teams, an impressive second place finish from the golf pairing of Lt. Will and Lt. Mauer of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 78 (HSM 78), and a second place overall 5K finish from Vinson's Commanding Officer, Capt. Matthew Thomas, pushed Vinson to the top of the overall standings, easily beating out the closest competitors to secure the RIMPAC sports crown.

## Command Luau

Vinson's MWR team hosted over 1,400 Sailors and their families to a command-wide luau celebration on July 1, 2024. The Mauka Warriors Company treated the crew to a traditional Polynesian luau and feast,

beautiful views of Hawaii, and a show stopping fire and dance show. Guests were also given the opportunity to participate in a variety of interactive cultural activities before the show to include traditional hula lessons, headband weaving, temporary tattoo artistry, flower bracelet weaving, cooking lessons, Polynesian games, and photo booths. MWR raffled off prizes to participating Sailors including everything from wireless speakers to hotel gift cards and airfare credit. A truly memorable evening was enjoyed by all!



*Top photo: USS Carl Vinson competes against the Royal Brunei Navy on the soccer pitch.*

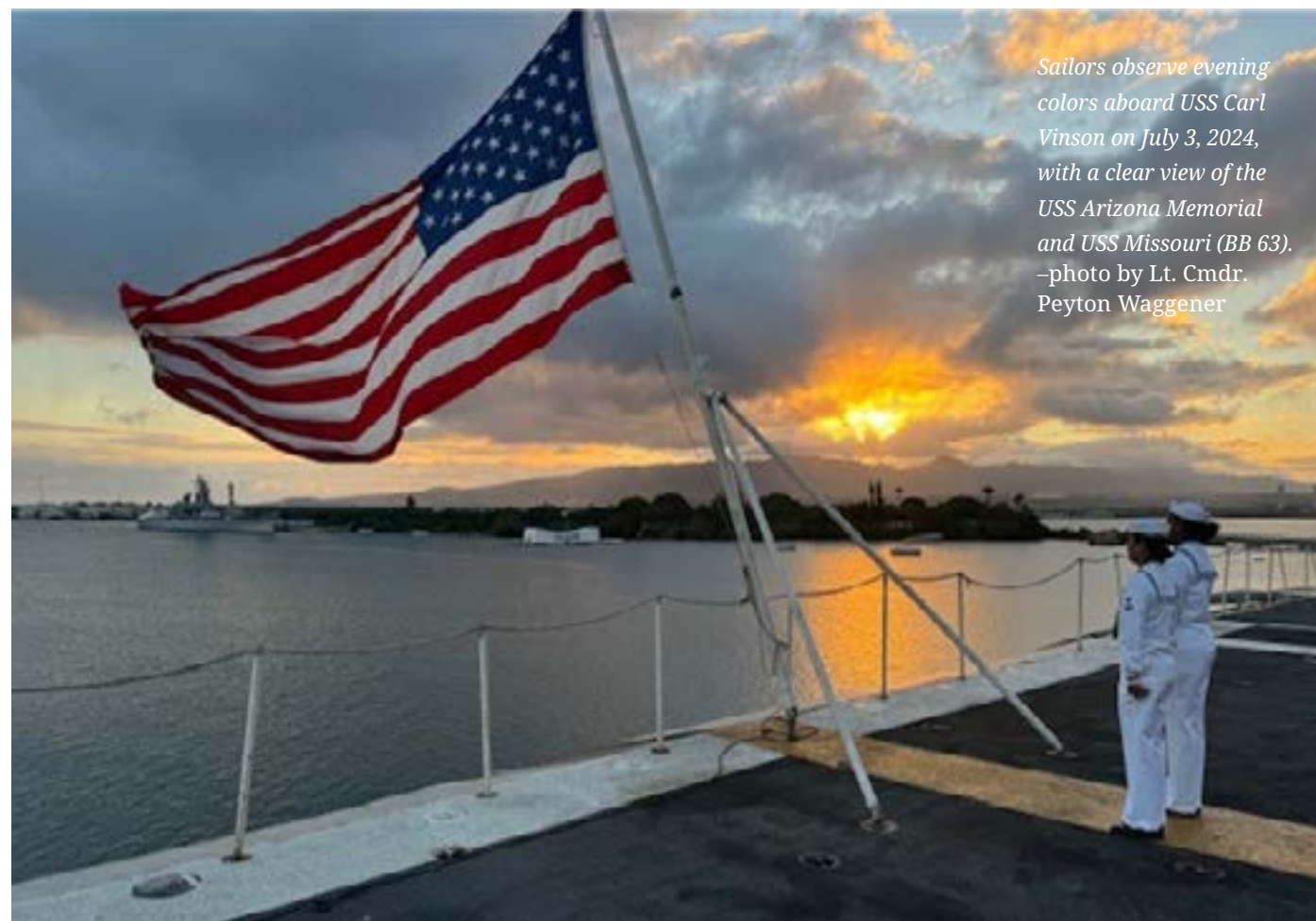
*—photo by MC2 Michael Mensah*

*Above: CVN 70's "Fun Boss" stands in front of a crowd of happy Sailors as they enjoy the Mauka Warriors fire and dance show on the main stage.*

*—photo by MC2 Michael Mensah*



*Sailors observe evening colors aboard USS Carl Vinson on July 3, 2024, with a clear view of the USS Arizona Memorial and USS Missouri (BB 63).  
—photo by Lt. Cmdr. Peyton Waggener*





# INSURVMART- Predicting Demand, Decreasing Lead Time

By Ens. Luke Danko, USS Harry S. Truman

Onboard USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75), the Supply Department took innovative strides in decreasing lead time to optimize material readiness. Beside the barber-shop, what once served as a secondary Ship's Store took on a new purpose: providing a one stop shop for commonly ordered parts in support of habitability, livability, and the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV).

It all started in June 2024 during HARRY S. TRUMAN's Planned Incremental Availability (PIA), when the command strove to set the Fleet standard for habitability and livability. For habitability, HARRY S. TRUMAN focused on sanitary and functional berthings, heads, and galleys - items needed to support duty section move aboard. Once certified by Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic as habitable, HARRY S. TRUMAN moved toward livability, applying the most stringent standards to bring the 1,093-foot warship's living spaces to a state where Sailors want to drop anchor and stay awhile. Understanding a material strategy would be a key ingredient to success, Stock Control Division (S1) saw the curve and got ahead of it. Around the ship, the former Ship's Store space became known as the Habitability Mart, or HABMART for short. Using historical data, the Supply Department was able to anticipate what material was required to be stocked. The result: more than a makeover, a foundation for success and enhanced Sailor morale. The idea worked so well, Supply Department decided to revamp the idea to get ready for INSURV.

LSCS Camilo Silva, S-1's former LCPO, sparked the initiative starting with the creation of the HABMART and then converting it into an INSURVMART. LSCS Silva's years of logistics experience allowed him to notice trends in INSURV related material deficiencies and create a list of material to be stocked in bulk. "Small discrepancies, big impact" says LSC Stefon Hanson, HARRY S. TRUMAN's S-1 LCPO who played a key role in INSURVMART's success.

Around the ship, there is commonality between deficiencies and most of the projected INSURV discrepancies were minor hits that could be quickly remedied through readily available replacement parts. Examples included kick-out panels stickers, knobs, handles, chains, tools, ladder-well treads, DC fittings, cable way components, and rack curtains. These identified materials were ordered as direct turnover items and stocked in bulk to decrease lead time and optimize HARRY S. TRUMAN's material condition. The Supply Department gathered data from Shipyard Fire Safety discrepancies, Ship's Fire Marshal reports, Zone Inspection Deficiency Lists (ZIDL), and other common discrepancies to build a catalog of over 200 items accessible to the entire command. INSURVMART started with an initial bulk order at \$350,000 and was later restocked with three reorders averaging at \$95,000.

Opened on January 5th, 2024, INSURVMART aimed to predict the demands of INSURV on a Nimitz-class Aircraft Carrier and decrease overall customer lead time. Under the leadership of HARRY S. TRUMAN's Supply Officer, Commander Jake Whiteley, former Principal Assistant for Logistics LT Chris Delli Paoli, Stock Control Officer, LT Joshua Ratliff, and the deck plate perseverance of LSCS Camilo Silva and LSC Stefon Hanson, INSURVMART supported inspection preparations and evolved to fill emerging needs.

Manned by Supply Sailors, INSURVMART was open inport Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 0830-1030 and daily from 0830-1030 while at sea. An INSURVMART catalog was created and published to the command, detailing what items were available. To procure items from INSURVMART, Sailors needed only to fill out an INSURVMART request chit with the items they wished to acquire and present it to the Supply Sailor on station. The Supply Sailor would then issue the items and create an entry into a centralized log. The space was organized, well-maintained, and inventoried weekly. Most importantly, the program vastly decreased lead times on items that enabled immediate resolution.

On day 1 of INSURV, June 3rd, 2024, Rear Admiral Todd Whalen, President of INSURV, toured INSURVMART. Supply Department explained processes and discussed how INSURVMART contributed to the ship's readiness. The tour was followed by a coin presentation to LS2 Summer Deeson and LSSN Kenya James, two sailors from S1 Division who went above and beyond running and maintaining INSURVMART.

HARRY S. TRUMAN successfully completed INSURV on June 7th, 2024. The creation and execution of INSURVMART reflects HARRY S. TRUMAN Supply Department's talent and determination, traits manifested by a successful INSURV. Efforts like this continue the positive legacy of the Navy Supply Corps and inspire the community to continue to deliver combat capability through logistics. In meeting the Navy standard, HARRY S. TRUMAN proved to be Ready For INSURV and "Ready For Sea."





# Training with Industry: The Home Depot Difference

By LCDR Lucas Horan, SC, USN

Training with Industry (TWI) offers a rare and invaluable opportunity for Supply Corps officers to immerse themselves in the private sector’s supply chain for a full year. This experience provides insights into industry’s best practices that can then be brought back to the fleet. For someone like me, whose entire professional life has been within the Navy, TWI represented a chance to broaden my understanding of the business community and to use that knowledge to enhance fleet operations. My objective was to leverage this experience not just for my personal growth but to act as a channel, disseminating industry knowledge to our fellow officers in the Supply Corps. The more return-on-investment (ROI) I could generate for our community, the better. Additionally, I aimed to bring value not only to the Navy but also to Home Depot and myself.

### Why Home Depot?

Founded in 1979 with just two stores in Atlanta, The Home Depot (THD) has grown into a retail giant with

over 2,300 locations across three countries. Despite its massive expansion, THD has managed to retain a unique culture that permeates every aspect of its operations. This culture is centered around two key concepts: the “Inverted Pyramid” and the “Values Wheel.”

The Inverted Pyramid symbolizes Home Depot’s commitment to servant leadership, a principle that resonates deeply with military values like “Officers Eat Last.” This concept places the front-line associates at the top, with leadership at the bottom, emphasizing the importance of supporting those who are on the front lines. The Values Wheel, created by THD’s founders, encapsulates timeless principles that echo our Navy core values of honor, courage, and commitment. These cultural synergies make Home Depot an ideal company for a Supply Corps officer to embed with, particularly given their highly dynamic and complex supply chain operations.

### Analytics Summit

Before beginning my fellowship at Home Depot, I engaged with 10-12

Supply Corps commands across the fleet to identify specific challenges that my experience at THD might help address. Through these discussions, I compiled a list of focus areas, which I called “Fleet Topics.” These topics guided the course of my ROI initiatives, ensuring that the knowledge and practices I gained could directly benefit the fleet. One of the most prominent themes that emerged from these pre-fellowship engagements was the critical need for enhanced data analytics.

To bridge this gap between fleet needs and industry insights, I organized the TWI THD Analytics Summit. This daylong event, held at Home Depot’s headquarters in Atlanta, brought together 11 NAVSUP participants from NAVSUP BSC, NAVSUP WSS, and NAVSUP HQ, along with several leaders from THD’s Supply Chain Analytics organization. The summit featured presentations and discussions on a wide range of analytics topics, providing a platform for both groups to exchange ideas and solutions.

The key takeaway from this summit was the realization that, despite the apparent differences between the Navy and Home Depot, we face many similar challenges, particularly in the realm of supply chain analytics. Issues like validating and cleansing data are common hurdles for both organizations, underscoring the value of such cross-sector collaboration.

### Associate for a Day

To further extend the benefits of my TWI experience to a broader audience, I created the “Associate for a Day” program. This initiative was designed to share the proverbial “TWI wealth” by allowing a Supply Corps LCDR or senior LT to shadow me for a day at Home Depot’s headquarters. The idea was simple: even in just one day, our officers could gain valuable insights, spark innovative thoughts, and have those “eureka” moments that could be brought back to the fleet.

The program has been a resounding success, with participants gaining firsthand exposure to private

industry’s best practices, which they can then integrate into their roles within the Supply Corps. It’s a prime example of how a single day of immersion can translate into meaningful, long-term benefits for the fleet.

### Key Takeaways

The TWI program is a remarkable opportunity, and for any officer selected for or considering TWI, here are my top tips to maximize the experience:

- 1. Contact your predecessors:** Home Depot is the Supply Corps’ longest-running TWI partnership, with a “Long Orange Line” of fellows dating back to 2005. The insights I gained from these naval officers before and during my fellowship were instrumental in helping me make the most of this opportunity.
- 2. Come prepared:** Engage with commands across the fleet to understand the contemporary challenges we face. Building a list of “Fleet Topics” by consulting with experienced Supply Corps officers will provide a focused direction for your initiatives. These relationships should be maintained throughout your tour to receive ongoing guidance and feedback.

**3. Become the emissary:** Use your TWI experience to benefit others by sharing the knowledge and insights you gain. The initiatives I developed, such as the Analytics Summit and Associate for a Day, were designed with this in mind, but there’s limitless potential for ROI when you focus on “sharing the wealth.”

**4. Have fun:** TWI is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to immerse yourself in a new environment, learn, grow, and bring back valuable insights to the Navy. Make sure to enjoy the journey and take full advantage of every opportunity that comes your way. By following these tips, TWI fellows can ensure they not only gain from the experience but also contribute meaningfully to the Supply Corps’ future, leaving a lasting impact on our operations and culture.



The Inverted Pyramid symbolizes Home Depot’s commitment to servant leadership, a principle that resonates deeply with military values like “Officers Eat Last.” This concept places the front-line associates at the top, with leadership at the bottom, emphasizing the importance of supporting those who are on the front lines.



The Values Wheel, created by THD’s founders, encapsulates timeless principles that echo our Navy core values of honor, courage, and commitment. These cultural synergies make Home Depot an ideal



Associate for a Day photo one possible caption: LCDR Adam Pace, April 2024 “Associate for a Day”



Associate for a Day photo two possible caption: LCDR Nick Mays, June 2024 “Associate for a Day, with the author”



Analytics Summit



# Navy Captain honors Filipino heritage through career achievements

By Matt Morrison, Public Affairs, NAVSUP Headquarters

Capt. Ernan Obellos is one of four remaining active-duty Filipino Sailors that enlisted through the United States Navy Philippine Enlistment Program (PEP). Filipinos were able to enlist through PEP at Naval Station Sangley Point and Subic Bay, Philippines, without the requirement of United States immigration credentials. From 1901 until the time the program ended in 1992, approximately 35,000 Filipinos enlisted in the Navy.

Obellos joined the Navy December of 1988 onboard Naval Base Subic Bay, Philippines inspired by his uncles that were active-duty Navy and Air Force.

“It was a tough acceptance competition and screening process, of around 600 applicants in my batch, only 16 were selected who subsequently reported to Recruit Training Command in San Diego,” said Obellos.

The eldest of three siblings, Obellos was born in Iloilo City, Philippines. The Philippines, an island country located in Southeast Asia, known for its abundance of picturesque beaches, consists of more than 7,000 islands and islets located about 500 miles off the coast of Vietnam.

Obellos’ upbringing shaped his motivated approach.

“It was a carefree, laid-back islander lifestyle, but at the same



**Obellos joined the Navy December of 1988 onboard Naval Base Subic Bay, Philippines inspired by his uncles that were active-duty Navy and Air Force.**

time intense as I am the eldest and had family-oriented responsibility to keep up with,” said Obellos. “The almost non-existent technology back then, no smart phones or social media, helped with my well-fortified future goal-oriented mindset.”

Serving in the United States Navy was always a goal for Obellos.

“Growing up, I always wanted to do something ‘meaningful and big,’ something that would have a global impact for mankind and humanity,” said Obellos.

Obellos noted that a highlight of his storied career is the journey from E-1 to a commissioned officer responsible for national security decision making.

Perhaps the most unique aspect of Obellos’ career has been serving alongside his family, also in the Navy.

“A career crowning capstone, very proud to be able to serve side-by-side on active duty with my two sons Kris and Elvin, both lieutenants, as a Naval Aviator and Surface Warfare Officer,” said Obellos.





# My Experience at AMP Class

by Lt. Cmdr. Crette Hendricks, SC, USN

During my 18-year military career, both as a Naval Supply Corps Officer and an enlisted Supply Marine, I've attended a plethora of leadership and professional development courses. I find that most of these Department of Defense-sponsored courses focus on outward performance, external leadership and change management. I've noticed that we receive sparse training on emotional intelligence, value systems and self-reflection from the leadership perspective.

The NAVSUP enterprise offers a wide range of education and training opportunities for active-duty personnel and the civilian workforce. One day, I ran across an announcement from the Workforce Development Office about the Advanced Management Program (AMP) course. I was intrigued, so I asked my supervisor about it. He told me that I should definitely invest the time like he had done more than a decade ago while he was in Athens, Ga. I immediately signed up. I was expecting the usual "Death by PowerPoint," focus on external metrics and then a culminating event, such as a group presentation to a senior flag officer on the last day of the course. I had no idea what I was in for. Happily, AMP is something totally unique and completely different than what I'd experienced in the past.

The training turned out to be phenomenal and maybe even life-changing, that is... if you apply the techniques, advice and guidance

*Below: At the class luncheon on the first day. Lt. Cmdr. Crette with Lt. Cmdr. Mike McCall (behind Crette) and Ruben Calderon (foreground) and Lt. Cmdr. Jake Skipper on the right.*



*Left: At the class luncheon on the first day. Lt. Cmdr. Crette with Lt. Cmdr. Mike McCall (behind Crette) and Ruben Calderon (foreground) and Lt. Cmdr. Jake Skipper on the right.*

taught over the two-week course. AMP focused on change from the inside out – self-awareness and self-reflection as a way to achieve true happiness, both in a professional setting and life in general. The instructors were energetic, entertaining and well-organized. I enjoyed them all: Mr. Kevin Stacey and his Mental Toughness session; Mr. Casey McNeal, who boasts a PhD in behavioral psychology (and who moonlights as professional comedian with his own Amazon Prime video special!); Naval Aviation Combat veteran Vice Adm. Lou Crenshaw (ret); living legend Vice Adm. Keith Lippert (ret) – the 41st Chief of Supply Corps and longest-serving Defense Logistics Agency Director; and the plethora of authors, psychologists and coaches who also taught. They all made an impact and really got me thinking.

It wasn't that the concepts presented were widely unfamiliar, since there really haven't been any new leadership concepts invented recently. But they were concepts that I hadn't taken enough time to think

deeply about, and so I never internalized and implemented them into my own life and my own leadership style.

I was pleasantly surprised when I discovered on the first day of AMP that we were headed to a team-building luncheon, included as part of the class, where everyone socialized and got to know each better on a personal level. We were also all relieved to find out that there was no end-of-class project, which allowed us to relax and just absorb what was being taught!

I honestly believe that the lessons I learned – specifically the value system exercises – are going to make me a better father and husband, not to mention a better leader of Sailors.

You know you've had some great training when you find yourself continually reflecting on all the lessons you learned and are always searching for ways to implement it into your life and leadership style.

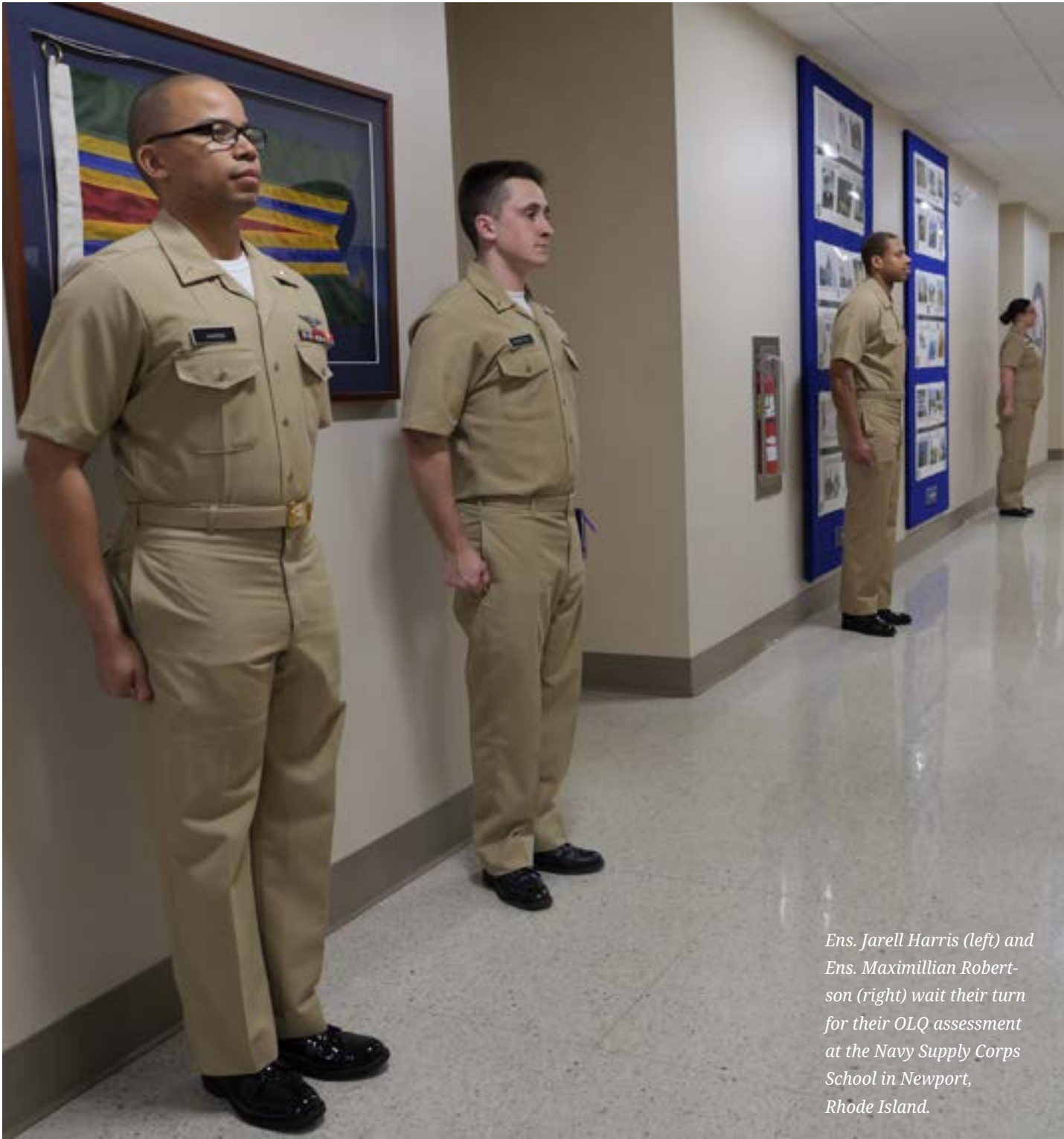
I can't recommend AMP highly enough! Phenomenal staff, phenomenal course, phenomenal experience!

HOOYAH AMP!



# Leadership, Integrity, Professionalism: Assessing Leadership through OLQs

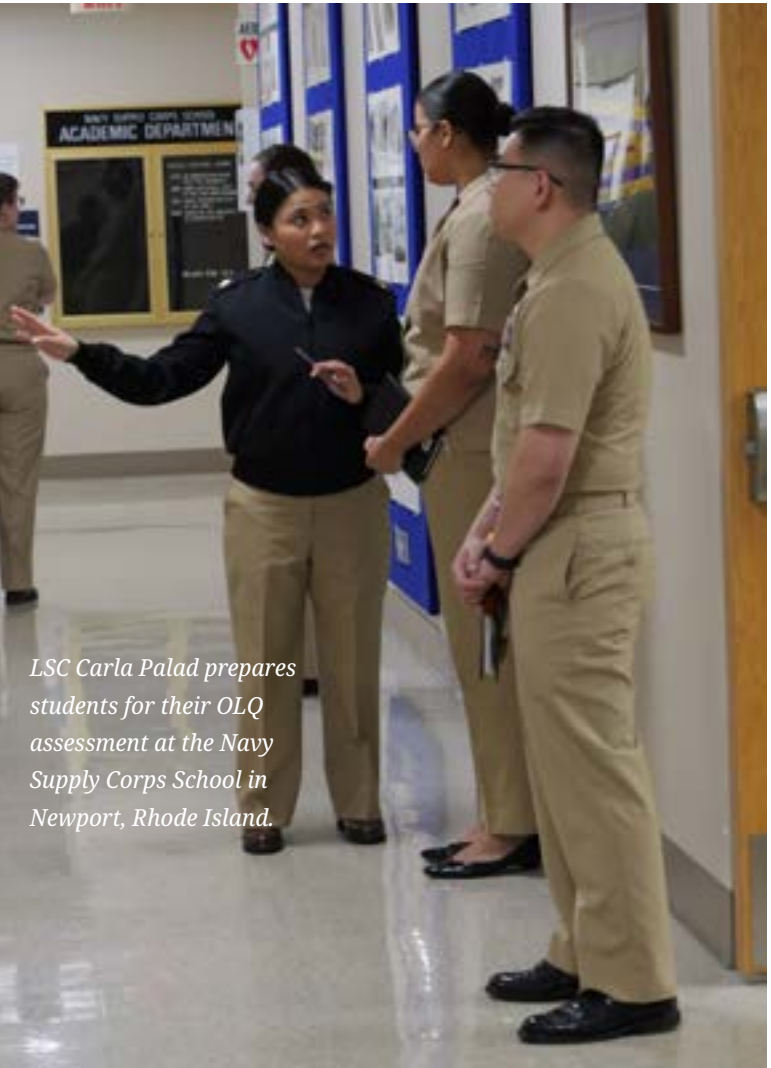
By Jessica Nilsson, Public Affairs, Navy Supply Corps School



*Ens. Jarell Harris (left) and Ens. Maximillian Robertson (right) wait their turn for their OLQ assessment at the Navy Supply Corps School in Newport, Rhode Island.*



*Ens. Jaydon Hall explains his solution to a supply problem during his OLQ assessment at the Navy Supply Corps School in Newport, Rhode Island.*



*LSC Carla Palad prepares students for their OLQ assessment at the Navy Supply Corps School in Newport, Rhode Island.*

The Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) held Officer Like Quality (OLQ) assessments in March to test the - admittedly a bit nervous - Basic Qualification Course (BQC) 2nd Battalion students on their ability to perform as naval officers. These interviews play a crucial role in enabling NSCS staff to assess the unique abilities of each student and ensure that when the time comes for their first duty station assignment, they will be placed in a position that aligns best with their individual skill sets and capabilities.

So what exactly are OLQs?

OLQs are essential attributes that the U.S. Navy values in its officers, emphasizing leadership, integrity and professionalism. Officers are expected to possess a high degree of initiative, decisiveness and the ability to inspire and lead others.

Leadership is a cornerstone OLQ, encompassing qualities such as responsibility, confidence and the capability to make effective decisions under pressure.

Integrity is another critical attribute, emphasizing honesty, loyalty and a commitment to ethical conduct.

Professionalism, involving a dedication to continuous learning, adaptability and a strong work ethic, is paramount. Effective verbal and written communication skills are also crucial for officers to convey orders clearly and maintain a cohesive team.

The Navy Supply Corps School is dedicated to fostering the development of officers who embody these essential qualities, vital for success in their roles.



# NAVSUP Vice Commander Inspires Navy Supply Corps School Students with Blueprint for Success

By Jessica Nilsson, Public Affairs, Navy Supply Corps School

The Navy Supply Corps School was privileged to hear from Naval Supply Systems Command Vice Commander Kurt Wendelken during his visit to the schoolhouse in April. Wendelken shared invaluable advice for a successful career in the Navy Supply Corps, emphasizing the importance of mastering one's craft while embodying leadership from the start.

"You are a leader right now," Mr. Wendelken affirmed, encouraging students to embrace leadership roles early on. He urged them not to shy away from challenges, emphasizing the importance of transparency. "You don't want to be the senior one in the room with a secret," he cautioned.

Setting clear goals and working diligently to achieve them was another key point in Wendelken's blueprint. He advised attendees to "set a North Star for yourself" and emphasized the importance of having a mentor to guide them along their career paths. "You can do this right now," he stressed.

Recognizing the importance of giving back, Wendelken encouraged students to become mentors themselves. "We are all part of a team. If you don't think you are, you are wrong," he stated, highlighting the collaborative nature of success.

When Sailors are faced with problems and before going to leadership, they should first devise Courses of Action - and possible answers - to propose. Providing possible paths forward instead of presenting the roadblocks will make a positive impression on leadership. And that's a good thing.

Wendelken's visit left a lasting impact on the students, informing, inspiring and encouraging them as they embark on their journey as U.S. Navy Supply Corps officers.

Right: Mr. Kurt J. Wendelken answers a question from a Navy Supply Corps Student during his visit to the schoolhouse on Apr. 11, 2024, in Newport R.I.



Left: Mr. Kurt J. Wendelken answers a question from a Navy Supply Corps Student during his visit to the schoolhouse on Apr. 11, 2024, in Newport R.I. —all photos are by Ms. Jessica Nilsson, Navy Supply Corps School Public Affairs Officer



**“Mr. Wendelken advised attendees to “set a North Star for yourself”.**

**“We are all part of a team. If you don't think you are, you are wrong,” Wendelken stated, highlighting the collaborative nature of success.**



# Stars, Stripes and High Fives: NSCS Marches in Nation's Oldest July 4th Parade

By Jessica Nilsson, Public Affairs, Navy Supply Corps School

On Thursday, July 4, 2024, amidst a backdrop of history and vibrant patriotism, the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) proudly participated in the nation's oldest continuous Independence Day parade, as part of the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration. The parade, marking its remarkable 239th year, wound through Bristol, R.I., along a jam-packed, two-mile route. The NSCS contingent, comprising excited students and staff, marched with enthusiasm, embodying the spirit of service and dedication that defines the U.S. Navy. Immersed in a setting of fluttering flags, smells of barbecue and cheers of "USA!", they engaged with the boisterous crowd, exchanging high fives, hugs and warm greetings.

As they navigated the parade route, NSCS members embraced the opportunity to connect with spectators and share their patriotism and pride in Naval service, each step affirming their commitment to safeguarding the freedoms celebrated by the day.

For the students and staff, participation in such events extends beyond mere symbolism. It underscores an unwavering dedication to the principles upon which the United States was founded, and serves as a reminder of the ongoing commitment to excellence and of their part in safeguarding the nation's interests, both at home and abroad.

As the parade concluded and the echoes of celebration lingered, the NSCS stood proud — not just as participants, but as guardians of the liberties cherished by all Americans. Their presence amidst the festivities reaffirmed their pledge to ensure that the Stars and Stripes will always wave proudly over the "Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave" for generations to come.



Staff and students proudly display who they are during the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration parade.



An NSCS student hugs a spectator on the route of the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration parade.



BQC students give fives to children lined up along the parade route during the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration parade.



Senior Enlisted Leader AZC Chris Allen (left), NSCS CO CAPT Jason Warner (center) and NSCS XO Jennifer Charlton (right) pause during the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration parade.



Navy Supply Corps School Executive Officer CDR Jennifer Charlton gives a child five during Bristol's 239th Independence Day Parade.—all photos by Jessica Nilsson, Public Affairs, Navy Supply Corps School



# Navy Supply Corps School names Civilian of the Year

By Jessica Nilsson, Public Affairs, Navy Supply Corps School

“My teaching partner, Lt. Ian Baggarly and I worked throughout the year to improve our portion of the BQC. It is a wonderful to have that work recognized by Capt. Warner and the NSCS staff.

In a ceremony on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024, Brian Mitchell was named as the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) Civilian of the Year for 2023 and was awarded the prestigious Civilian Service Commendation Medal. The recognition, bestowed by the NSCS Commanding Officer Capt. Jason Warner, comes as a result of Mitchell's outstanding dedication and exceptional performance in his role as the Supply Management Lead Instructor.

Mitchell's extraordinary service was demonstrated by his achievement of providing 700 hours of instruction to 188 students in 2023. Also, Mitchell took the initiative to revamp the comprehensive testing plan, introducing seven one-hour quizzes and a final comprehensive test, which enabled the program to free up 26 hours that had formerly been used for tests and test reviews. These open hours have been subsequently filled with practical exercises and roleplays – such as mock port visits and basic deployed logistics facilitation – to provide students with real-life training before they head out to the fleet. This program restructuring demonstrated Mitchell's keen understanding of the

modern fleet's needs, aligning course content with ever-evolving requirements.

“My teaching partner, Lt. Ian Baggarly and I worked throughout the year to improve our portion of the BQC. It is a wonderful to have that work recognized by Capt. Warner and the NSCS staff. There have been many people who provided input in

the planning discussions and throughout implementation, and this is a tribute to their efforts as well,” said Mitchell.

In addition, Mitchell acts as the Command Master Training Specialist Program Coordinator and facilitated weekly

Instructor Sustainment Training for 21 military and civilian staff members, showcasing his leadership skills and commitment to professional development.

Mitchell's unwavering dedication, wise judgment and devotion to duty have not only made him a valuable asset to the NSCS, but have also earned him the utmost respect. Mitchell is truly deserving of these accolades, and his commitment to excellence serves as an inspiration to all who have had the privilege of working alongside him.



# Joint Aviation Supply and Maintenance Material Management course supplies vital training to aviation supply and maintenance professionals

By Lt. Cmdr. John Kamensky, JASMMM Team Lead

The Joint Aviation Supply and Maintenance Material Management (JASMMM) course, home-based and facilitated by the Navy Supply Corps School (NSCS) in Newport, Rhode Island, covers advanced aviation logistics management procedures and processes. The target audience for the course is naval aviation maintenance and supply personnel ranked E-6 and above. While most students are active duty Sailors or Marines, there is no specific service or duty type requirement.

The JASMMM instructor team is composed of one Professional Aviation Maintenance Officer, Lt. Cmdr. John Kamensky, one Aviation Maintenance Administrationman Chief Petty Officer, AZC Christopher Allen, and one Logistics Specialist Chief Petty Officer with extensive aviation supply experience, LSC Maan Carla Palad. The instructor team currently has one civilian vacancy who would serve as the team's second aviation supply subject matter expert. Since the start of 2024, the JASMMM instructor team has traveled to three fleet concentration areas - Jacksonville, Florida, San Diego, California, and Atsugi, Japan, bringing their in-depth knowledge of naval aviation maintenance and supply concepts to those who, for various reasons, are unable to attend the course in Newport, Rhode Island.

The Mobile Training Team (MTT) courses conducted so far in 2024 have reached 95 students – 59 percent from aviation maintenance disciplines and 41 percent from aviation supply disciplines.

Ultimately, the quality of MTT events hinges upon coordination with points of contact in the local area who schedule the training location and determine facility requirements needed to conduct the course of instruction. Lt. Cmdr. Eric DuBois, Lt. Cmdr. Adam Clay and Lt. Matthew Carbonel and Lt. Mark Nintrop were instrumental in the success of JASMMM events in their respective fleet concentration areas. Mobile events give course access to students who may otherwise be unable to attend due to travel funding shortfalls. Instead, local units provide travel funds for the JASMMM team's visit, instead of funding student travel to Newport to attend a resident course. In total, the three MTT events have resulted in travel cost savings of \$266,600 and counting.

MTT events also attract senior officers from around the fleet, who volunteer their time to visit the class and impart words of wisdom and unique perspectives. Capt. Anthony Jaramillo, Capt. Rick Rivera, Capt. Shannon Thompson and Capt. Mike Windom, Capt. (sel) Will Judd, Capt. (sel) Jason Martinson, Cmdr. Gavin Guidry and Cmdr. Mark Axinto contributed their time, talents and insight to help shape the next generation of naval aviation logistics leaders.

“The JASMMM course is vital for our supply and maintenance folks, because the curriculum helps strengthen an important core competency: the ability to build relationships. In our business, relationships are everything. Aviation supply and maintenance personnel support the same mission of aircraft readiness,



Above: Sgt. Skylier Thompson (left) and CWO2 Mark Noble (right) work on a group project together in the JASMMM course. –photo by Ms. Jessica Nilsson, NSCS Public Affairs Officer



but often follow very different processes. JASMMM builds procedural awareness ‘across the aisle,’ which leads to professional understanding and – most importantly – trust,” said Capt. Jason Warner, Commanding Officer of NSCS.

So far in 2024, the JASMMM team spent 41 days on the road with an additional two-week MTT scheduled for July 2024. The team will be traveling to Patuxent River, Maryland, to teach a class at the Naval Air Systems Command and provide real-world shipboard and flight line perspectives to decision makers at the program office level. The JASMMM curriculum covers a wide variety of topics relevant to the Naval Aviation Enterprise, ranging from basic naval aviation squadron and supply department organizational structures to complex weapons system acquisition and provisioning programs. Students attending the class have earned many years of work experience, but that experience is often very specialized. Course graduates leave the program with a broader perspective of where their units fit into the larger Naval Aviation Enterprise and a firm understanding of the NAE’s resource scope.

The JASMMM team generally conducts three to four MTTs and seven to eight home classes in Newport per fiscal year. Due to the limited nature of MTT events, units are strongly encouraged to fund travel for students to attend Newport classes. Commands interested in scheduling an MTT must meet certain eligibility criteria, which includes a student participation minimum and specific facility requirements.

Please submit MTT inquiries or general questions to the JASMMM team at NSCS\_JASMMM@us.navy.mil.

*Top right: JASMMM instructor LSC Carla Palad provides students details about their upcoming group assignment.*

*Middle right: A group of JASMMM students converse while figuring out how to solve the present problem set.*

*Bottom right: CWO2 Carlos Ayala works on an assignment for the JASMMM course. –all photos by Ms. Jessica Nilsson, NSCS Public Affairs Officer*



# NSCS Names 2nd Quarter Instructors of the Quarter and Civilian of the Quarter

Bravo Zulu to Leadership Management instructor LT Jake Williamson and Reserve Programs instructor LSC Noel Diaz for being named NSCS Military Instructors of the 2nd Quarter! Their enthusiasm and charisma make learning fun and engaging.

And congratulations also go to Food Service instructor Mr. Chris Nailon for being named the Navy Supply Corps School Civilian of the Quarter for the 2nd Quarter of 2024! Mr. Nailon’s extensive knowledge and experience are invaluable in equipping BQC students for the challenges they will soon face at sea.

These staff members’ unwavering commitment to excellence and dedication to duty, combined with positivity and a sense of humor, truly sets them apart. These recognitions reflect not only their professional achievements but also their significant contributions to the schoolhouse. Congratulations, LT Williamson, LSC Diaz and Mr. Nailon on these well-deserved honors!

*From top to bottom:  
Lt. Williamson Instructor of the Quarter;  
COQ Mr. Chris Nailon; Lt. Williamson  
Instructor of the Quarter*





# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center San Diego Change of Command

Courtesy story

NAVSUP FLC San Diego conducted a change of command on May 23 aboard the USS Midway Museum where Capt. Josh Hill (center) relieved Capt. Cory Schemm (left) as Commanding Officer. The ceremony hosted VIPs, friends, family members and Sailors of NAVSUP FLC San Diego. It was presided over by Rear Adm. Ken Epps (right), Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) commander and Chief of Supply Corps.

*Capt. Josh Hill (center) relieved Capt. Cory Schemm (left) as Commanding Officer. The ceremony was presided over by Rear Adm. Kenneth Epps (right). –photo by Frank Valdez*



# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor holds Change of Command ceremony

By Jessica McClanahan, Public Affairs, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville

During a traditional Change of Command ceremony held June 21 onboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Capt. Shawn Triggs, SC, USN relinquished command of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Pearl Harbor to Capt. Sean Andrews, SC, USN.

NAVSUP Commander and Chief of Supply Corps, Rear Adm. Kenneth Epps, presided over the event and spoke about the rich history, unique mission, and capabilities of NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor. Under Capt. Triggs' leadership, NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor played a pivotal role in providing critical logistics support to naval forces across the Pacific region, ensuring operational readiness and sustainment of forces.

Epps stated that FLC Pearl Harbor was fortunate to have had Capt. Triggs at the helm, congratulating Triggs on how he "led the robust mid-Pacific mission, served as the face of NAVSUP, and created a climate of inclusion and excellence" during his time in command.

During his remarks, Triggs thanked the nearly 450 military and civilian members of the NAVSUP FLC workforce. "The energy, enthusiasm, and professionalism that each of you brought to work every day served as a catalyst for our numerous accomplishments. We were committed, passionate, and principled in everything we did to deliver the full spectrum of integrated logistics services to our mission partners."

Epps advised Andrews to "continue to put your people first, and mission success will follow." He added, "Capt. Triggs has set you up for success, but there is work to do. There is a bond with the 'ohana across the island that we need to continue to fortify and strengthen. There is a trust that we need to maintain. It takes a lot of work, leadership, and human beings. You will be part of that team." Epps also stressed his confidence that Andrews "is the right person to get us where we need to be."

Andrews brings a wealth of experience to his new role, having served in various leadership capacities and demonstrating a strong commitment to excellence and mission accomplishment throughout his career. In his most recent assignment, Andrews served as Force Logistics Director and Fleet Logistics Director for U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet.

During his remarks, Andrews thanked Triggs for his leadership and directly addressed the members of the FLC workforce, stating, "Our mission is crucial and our responsibilities are great. Together, we will strive to uphold the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and dedication that Capt. Triggs and many before him worked so hard to instill." He continued, "We face some challenges and changes ahead, but I am confident that by working together as a cohesive and motivated team, we will overcome any obstacle to continue achieving our goals."

The Change of Command ceremony not only signified the passing of authority from one commanding officer to another but also emphasized the Navy's commitment to continuity of mission and leadership.



*NAVSUP FLC Pearl Harbor held a Change of Command Ceremony June 21 onboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. NAVSUP Commander and Chief of Supply Corps, Rear Admiral Kenneth Epps, presided over the event in which Captain Shawn M. Triggs, SC, USN relinquished command to Captain Sean M. Andrews, SC, USN.*



# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Bahrain Conducts Change of Command

By Margaret Algarin, Public Affairs, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Bahrain

Capt. Evelyn Lee relieved Capt. Alexander Wallace, III as commanding officer of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Bahrain during a ceremony onboard Naval Support Activity Bahrain, 30 June.

NAVSUP FLC Bahrain provides full spectrum operational logistics support and quality of life programs to the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, Joint and Coalition Warfighters, DoD civilians, and their families operating in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR). The diverse and resilient workforce of FLC made up of military, DoD civilians, contractors, and foreign national workforce, guarantee uninterrupted and outstanding supply support to ensure mission readiness.

Wallace assumed command in June 2022 after serving as the Director of Contracts at Strategic Systems Programs in Washington, DC. Throughout his career as a Navy Supply Corps officer and Joint Logistician, he has deployed across the globe in submarines, aircraft carriers, tenders and expeditionary teams.

During his time as commanding officer, Wallace led the team through numerous achievements while delivering vital mission support to the 5th Fleet AOR. He also played a key role in the successful launch and implementation of the Get Real Get Better (GRGB) Navy initiative at FLC Bahrain. The command has adopted this mindset in everyday practices. GRGB principles set the framework for establishing ownership, embracing the red, and escalating and fixing barriers.

“It has been a privilege to lead this team for the past two years. Their unwavering dedication, talent and collaborative spirit have been the driving force behind our success. The work that we have accomplished together has made a



meaningful impact on our organization’s mission and support to the 5th Fleet AOR, and I am incredibly proud of that legacy,” stated Wallace.

Rear Adm. Jacquelyn “Jackie” McClelland Deputy Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command, presided over the ceremony. During her remarks, she highlighted Wallace’s accomplishments while in command, noting the agility and excellence brought to the operating environment.

“You and your team kept the Navy ‘Ready for Sea’ while keeping your most important asset — your people — safe and prepared,” said McClelland. “I am proud of the tremendous value you have delivered to the Fleet and the many mission partners within this FLC’s area of responsibility during your time here at the helm.”

Wallace reports to his next role as Division Chief, Logistics Directorate, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Capt. Evelyn Lee assumes command as the seventh commanding officer of NAVSUP FLC Bahrain since its establishment in 2013. Before assuming her current role, she served as the OPNAV Branch Head, Logistics Information and Emerging Technology. Prior to earning her commission in July 2001 through Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Information Systems and Decision Sciences from The University of Memphis in 1993. In 1997, she later earned a Master of Education degree from Vanderbilt University. She is also a 2014 graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College.

Lee said, “I am honored to have the opportunity to lead this team. I am committed to building upon the strong foundation that exists here. Together, let us collaborate, innovate, and continue to strive for excellence while working toward our shared vision.”



# NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka Change of Command

By Ted Nichols

Capt. Frank D. Kim relieved Capt. Michael S. Carl of command to become the 40th commanding officer of Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Yokosuka during a change of command ceremony held onboard Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Aug. 2, 2024.

Capt. Carl became the 39th commanding officer of NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka on July 1, 2022, following an assignment as director, logistics readiness (N4C) at Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Capt. Kim comes to the position having previously served as assistant chief of staff for logistics, ordnance and sustainment, Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan.

Carl's tour as commanding officer was guided by a focus on people, leadership, mission readiness and operational excellence. He highlighted his accomplishments under three focus areas during his remarks that included people, partners and mission.

"During my tenure as commanding officer, we have faced numerous challenges and overcome them with resilience and determination," said Carl. "From supporting critical missions across the region to providing essential logistics support in times of crisis, our collective efforts have made a tangible difference in the lives of the Sailors and their families."

Carl summarized the FLC's accomplishments during his two years in command to include: awarding nearly 15,000 contract and

contract actions at a value of just under \$1 billion, support for over 1,900 port visits, issuing over 1.2-billion gallons of fuel to U.S. and partner nation assets, processing 250,000 requisitions in support of forward deployed naval forces of visiting ships and delivery of more than 50 million pounds of mail across the FLC's 17 mail facilities.

He reinforced his feelings of pride in his final message to the NAVSUP FLC Yokosuka workforce in

the command's biweekly "Fleet Up" newsletter published after the ceremony.

"Over the last two years, we have worked together as a team to continue to push this FLC and our support to the Fleet forward while strengthening vital partnerships in the region. That work has been inspiring and has allowed me to walk into the office each day with a smile," Carl wrote. "The memories made here with each of you any my family

will last a lifetime and our combined accomplishments will always give me a reason to smile."

Carl's next assignment is as chief of staff for the Director of Supply, Ordnance and Logistics, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV N4L) in Washington, D.C.

Kim comes to the position with a wealth of experience operating in this area of responsibility in his previous position based onboard Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

"I am honored to stand before you as your newest commanding officer — following in the footsteps of Capt. Mike Carl," said Kim. "As you can surmise, he set a very high bar and left me with the very best Fleet Logistics Center in the Navy's most dynamic and consequential area of responsibility."

Kim ended with a short message — paying homage to Japanese tradition — a haiku. "I care about you. Do your best, at home, at work. Gan bari masu." Gan bari masu means I'll do my best in Japanese.

Capt. Brian Anderson, director, fleet supply and ordnance, U.S. Pacific Fleet, presided over the ceremony. During his remarks, he highlighted his lengthy friendship with Carl and his accomplishments while in command, noting the agility and excellence brought to the operating environment while paying tribute to the FLC's dedicated workforce.

"Capt. Carl's success is only achieved by the efforts of this work-class organization of professionals. As a former Fleet Logistics Center commanding officer, and as a former customer of FLC Yokosuka, I know about the things this great organization does to support our warfighters, our allies and our joint partners," said Anderson. "Successful organizations succeed over and over again because of their people. The professionals of FLC Yokosuka are simply outstanding. Their dedication, their professionalism, their unwavering support have been the backbone of the U.S. Pacific Fleet successes."



NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Yokosuka hosted a change of command in the C2 Auditorium onboard Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, where Capt. Frank D. Kim relieved Capt. Michael S. Carl as commanding officer, —photo by Midoriko Morita

**"During my tenure as commanding officer, we have faced numerous challenges and overcome them with resilience and determination," said Carl.**



# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville provides integrated logistics overhaul for USS Farragut, USS Ramage

By Tyler Grimes, Public Affairs,  
NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville

When USS Farragut (DDG 99) began a nine-month planned maintenance availability April 15, the Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville's Southeast Regional Maintenance Center (SERMC) team at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, went to work.

The SERMC team began the integrated logistics overhaul by working with contractors to remove almost 13,000 items valued at more than \$19 million from the ship to a mock-up storeroom. Now the team is working with personnel from the Military Support Analysis Team to conduct inventories, verify configurations and remove excess material.

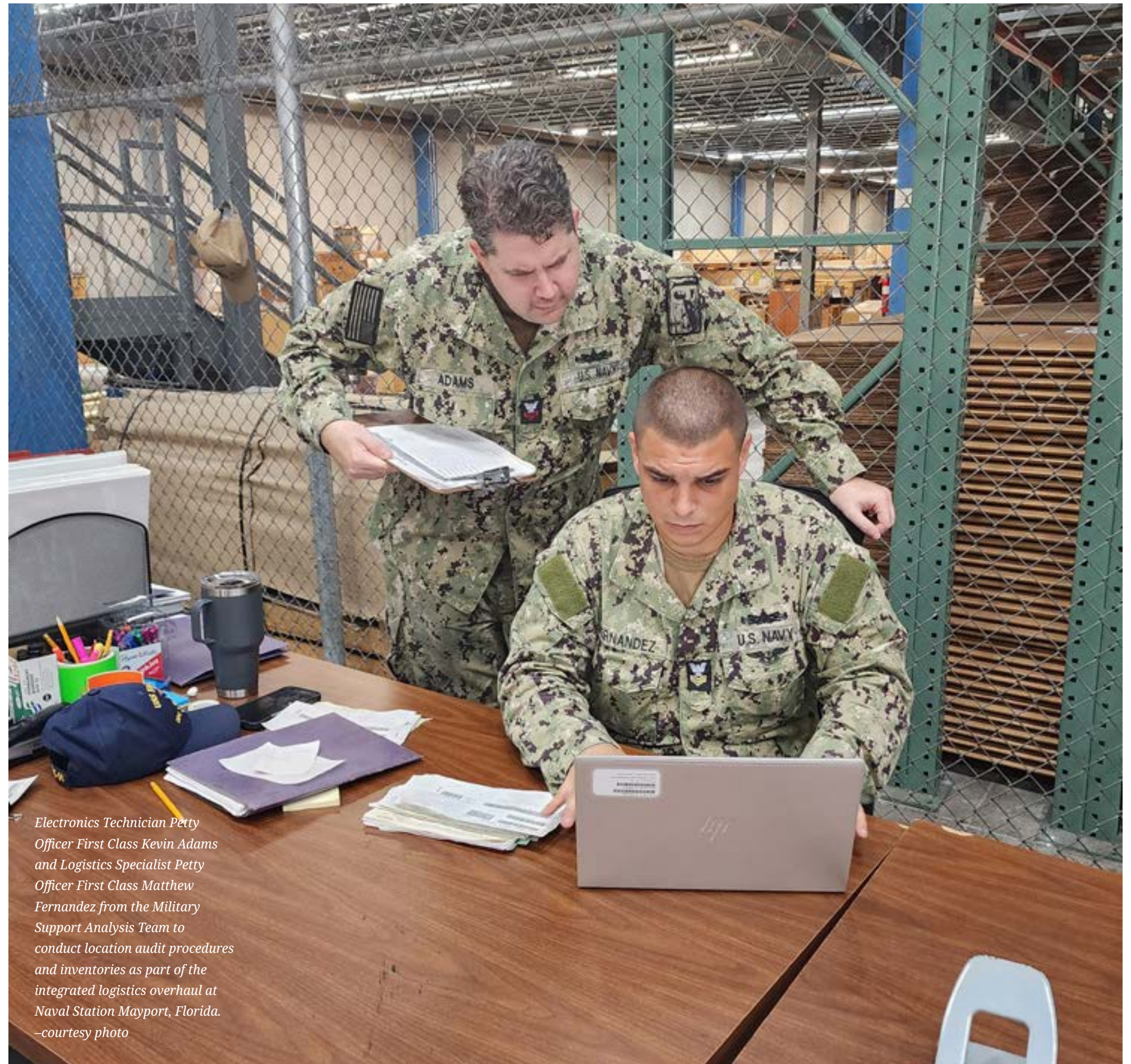
Instead of the manual inventory process using pen and paper, the team for the first time used a system called Relational Supply, which is the electronic database where Navy ships log and track their inventories. This new process allows the team to view and generate the ship's inventory reports, review losses and gains by inventory, and conduct causative research.

"The ILO process is used to groom the supply storerooms onboard Navy ships in order to make sure they are carrying the right parts to support the current systems onboard," said Lt. Cmdr. Joshua Mansilla, SERMC Supply Department Head. "The ILO is used to improve inventory accuracy, remove excess material with no demand, and improve the ship's ability to sustain operations at sea."

USS Farragut is the first ship in an ILO to benefit from the new process. R-Supply capability has significantly reduced the amount of time to complete the inventories. In fact, the ship's inventories are currently ahead of schedule and 97 percent complete.

Prior to the end of the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Farragut's maintenance availability in early 2025, the SERMC team will backload all the needed items aboard and ensure 100 percent inventory accuracy. During this same time period, the SERMC team is also performing an ILO for the Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia-based destroyer USS Ramage (DDG 61), which was dry-docked at BAE Systems Ship Repair in Jacksonville, Florida on May 29, 2024. For USS Ramage, the SERMC team worked with contractors to remove more than 17,000 storeroom items with a value of \$27.5 million.

Once the team backloads the material aboard USS Farragut, the material for USS Ramage will be placed in the mock-up storeroom and the ILO will begin using the R-Supply system. USS Ramage is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2025.



*Electronics Technician Petty Officer First Class Kevin Adams and Logistics Specialist Petty Officer First Class Matthew Fernandez from the Military Support Analysis Team to conduct location audit procedures and inventories as part of the integrated logistics overhaul at Naval Station Mayport, Florida. —courtesy photo*



# NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Sigonella Audits First Commercial Plant in Three Years as a Part of NAVSUP’s Ongoing Audit Campaign Plan

By Angela Palumbo, Regional Inventory Accuracy Officer, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Sigonella

NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Sigonella audits first commercial plant in three years as a part of Naval Supply Systems Command’s (NAVSUP) ongoing Audit Campaign Plan, ensuring precision oversight of Navy assets and guaranteeing accountability of Navy Working Capital Funds (NWCF) inventory and financial records. Three members of the FLC Sigonella Inventory Accuracy (IA) team, Regional Inventory Accuracy Officer (RIAO) Angela Palumbo, James Wagner, and Francesco Garozzo, performed an Existence and Completeness (E&C) Test June 4-7, 2024.

An E&C test is a 100% full inventory of all NWCF assets currently located at the plant to be repaired. They checked the physical condition codes of such assets and their matching reported condition code in Enterprise Resource Planning.

The contract the Navy has with these commercial plants in Europe has a Commercial Asset Visibility (CAV) Statement of Work (SOW). The commercial plant must be in compliance with the CAV SOW; therefore, during the audit, they also verify compliance with all regulations of the CAV SOW. A large amount of key supporting documentation is collected and reviewed by the IA team during an E&C.

Audit results are documented in a report called Asset Tracker, which must be completed by the last day of the audit and sent to “NAVSUP 0183 Audit and Testing.”

In 2018, NAVSUP IOC (Inventory Operation Center) was established with the scope of improving NWCF material accountability and Financial Improvement Audit Readiness (FIAR) compliance. In 2019, IOC decided to expand the audit area of responsibilities (AOR) to Commercial Plants holding NWCF assets while in repair. NAVSUP FLC Sigonella AOR increased from three organic plants to an additional 33 commercial plants. In 2020, the IOC became a Task Force and reached out to Independent Public Auditors such as Earnest and Young (E&Y), Deloitte, and KPMG to receive a broader view of “external audit” and to be able to establish a solid and robust audit program capable to improve accountability and FIAR compliance.

Three members of the FLC Sigonella IA team, Regional Inventory Accuracy Officer (RIAO) Angela Palumbo, James Wagner, and Francesco Garozzo, performed an Existence and Completeness (E&C) Test June 4-7, 2024. –courtesy photo



Since then, E&Y has conducted hundreds of external audits of NAVSUP’s plants.

KPMG and Deloitte helped task force in the development of Internal Control Aid, Line of Effort, Manager Review Control program and RIAO Qualification and provided remediation training to plants. In April 2021, NAVSUP’s Audit Campaign Plan put a temporary stop to commercial plant’s audit, establishing a four-year plan divided into four phases: Phase I: Audit of NAVSUP Organic Plants - April 2021- March 2022 Phase II: Audit of Navy Non-NAVSUP Plants - March 2022 - Jan 2023 Phase III: Audit of Non-Navy Plants - Oct 2022 - Sept 2023 (FY23) Phase IV: Commercial Plants - FY24-FY25

By then, FLC Sigonella RIAO’s team had already audited 10 Commercial Plants in the AOR. From May 2021, FLC Sigonella RIAO and team have performed more than 40 tests on the three organic plants in the AOR: CQ18 ASD Sigonella, CP48, and CNDA FLCSI Rota. In 2022, the six RIAOs were qualified, and in 2023, the NAVSUP Task Force was disestablished and became part of NAVSUP HQ, code 018.

FLC Sigonella RIAO was tasked to audit one commercial plant, Hamilton Soundstrand in Maastricht Netherlands, after a stoppage of three years. The FLC Sigonella RIAO team was very excited to be able to perform this audit and eager to receive more tasks to audit commercial plants in the future.





## NAVSUP WSS Awarded DoD Award for Financial Management

Courtesy story

NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support's Command Operations Budget Team has been awarded the prestigious 2023 Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller Financial Management Team Award for Contributions to Taxpayer Dollar Optimization.

Team members include: Dan Prian, Samuel Reisinger, Sean Kane and Jenna Adams.

Out of 152 nominations across 22 levels and six categories, the NAVSUP WSS team stood out for their dedication and hard work. They conducted a comprehensive zero-based budget review, resulting in savings of \$7.1 million and the realignment of \$21 million.

This achievement highlights the team's commitment and underscores NAVSUP's role in promoting financial accountability within the Department of Defense. The N82 Command Operations Budget Team's efforts are a testament to innovative and effective funds management.

Awardees will be recognized during the annual awards ceremony at the Department of Defense Financial Management Conference scheduled for Aug. 26-27, 2024, in Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and a special event at the Pentagon on Aug. 28, 2024.

## Jacksonville, Mayport Fuel Teams Honored as 2023 Best Navy Bulk Fuel Terminal

By Jeanette Steele, Office of Corporate Communications, NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville

The teams at Defense Fuel Support Point (DFSP) Jacksonville and DFSP Mayport won the title of best Navy bulk fuel terminal in the 2023 Excellence in Naval Fuel Management Recognition Program.

Winners were announced March 23, 2024, by Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP).

The Jacksonville and Mayport fuel operations sit on either side of the St. Johns River, near the river's opening to the Atlantic. The Jacksonville site is the Navy's largest deep-water fuel terminal in the Southeast, providing a strategic advantage to the Atlantic Fleet.

In 2023, the 35-person, military-civilian group operating the two locations received, stored, maintained and issued tens of millions of gallons of fuel. They replenished hundreds of U.S. and partner-nation ships, in

addition to supporting Naval Station Mayport aircraft via pipeline transfers. They also supported fuel requirements for Department of Defense units around the Southeast.

"While I'm not surprised, it's great for the Jax-Mayport fuel team to be recognized for its hard work," said Capt. Matt Bolls, commanding officer of NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Jacksonville, which has administrative oversight of the fuel personnel.

"They are the center of gravity for fuels in the region and the lifeblood that supports every warfighter, aircraft and surface combatant in the tri-base area," Bolls said.

The teams are led by Southeast Regional Fuels Officer Lt. Cmdr. Tyson Biddle, who was 2022 Navy fuels officer of the year. The management team includes Steve Schultz,

Kirk Moats, Romie Blackshear and Jack Bays.

Among the teams' accomplishments in 2023 was 100% product inventory accuracy while operating with only 70% of the allotted workforce. The group still provided full mission support with no impacts on customers. It also sustained zero safety mishaps.

In addition to regular work, 2023 also brought Hurricane Idalia and Tropical Storm Harold. The storms flooded critical facilities at the Jacksonville site and damaged fencing at Mayport. It tested the resiliency of the workforce, but the damaged spaces and fence lines were repaired and returned to full service. Additionally, in the 72 hours prior to Idalia, the teams issued 700,000 gallons of fuel to Jacksonville military assets in preparation for the rough weather.

"This is such a huge accomplishment for our team. They work so hard every day to support our warfighters, and it is great for them to be recognized for their contributions," Biddle said.

"The Navy fuels ecosystem is a complex supply chain and management structure. Maintaining sound operational practices, while keeping our infrastructure mission-ready, is a huge effort that requires extensive coordination between our mission partners at Defense Logistics Agency, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, the Naval Petroleum Office, Naval Station Mayport, Navy Region Southeast and many more. Our team does an incredible job of coordinating and executing the mission in this complex system each and every day," he said.

This win comes just after another prestigious honor for NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville's teams in Jacksonville. The supply and aviation support detachments at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Mayport and Naval Air Station Key West were awarded the Commander Naval Air Forces Ashore Supply Excellence Award (Blue E) in February.



## Team Work, Dream Work: Mayport Logisticians Now Connected to R-Supply

By Jessica McClanahan, Office of Corporate Communications,  
NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville

Thanks to a chance conversation, and hard work by technical experts at several commands, the supply portion of Navy ship maintenance in Jacksonville is faster and more efficient than before.

After years of relying on pen and paper, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Jacksonville logisticians working at Southeast Regional Maintenance Center - SERMC can now access the Navy wide computer program used to manage ship supplies and reconcile inventories.

Previously, logistics managers made a 35-minute drive from their Naval Station Mayport work site to the private shipyard across the St. Johns River to view the inventory reports and transaction ledgers that help them do their job. The difference is access to the system called R-Supply, or Relational Supply, which is the database where Navy ships log and track their inventories. Now our logisticians at the Mayport maintenance can connect to a ship's R-Supply database to view and generate reports.

Due to the sensitive nature of Navy ship information, this access required the cooperation of several commands, dozens of approvals and myriad technical changes, including access to a new server farm in Virginia.

But, after months of incremental progress, momentum picked up after NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville Industrial Support Department Director Glen Van Vorst mentioned the problem in a casual way to Capt. Dave Carnal, commanding officer of NAVSUP Business Systems Center, while Carnal was visiting Jacksonville.

After the technical work was done, our logisticians successfully tested the process with USS Farragut (DDG 99) while the destroyer was undergoing maintenance.

And there's more to come. Barcode readers, scanners, printers, and software that make up the system known as Integrated Barcode System-One will ultimately be integrated into the system and fully automate the process. Our thanks to NAVSUP Business Systems Center for its advocacy and to Naval Information Warfare Center Atlantic, Commander Naval Surface Force Atlantic and the Program Executive Office for Manpower, Logistics and Business Solutions for technical expertise during this process.



# Navy Exchange Service Command recognizes ‘Best of the Best’ Navy Exchanges

By Navy Exchange Service Command Public Affairs

The Navy Exchange Service Command named nine of its NEX locations as Bingham Award winners. The Bingham Award recognizes outstanding performance in operations, customer service and community support.

“Each year, the Navy Exchange Service Command recognizes those Navy Exchanges that have achieved service and operational superiority with the Bingham Award,” said Christopher Burns, Senior Vice President, NEXCOM Operations. “To ensure we are in lock-step and always ready when needed, our NEX locations work closely with their base commanding officers to support quality of life for the military community. Because of that close working relationship, the Bingham Award is presented to both the base and the NEX. Congratulations to everyone who worked each and every day to support our warfighters, veterans and families!”

**NEXCOM’s 2023 Bingham Award winners and runners up are:**

**Sales over \$50 million (Category 1)**

Winner: Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois

Runner Up: U. S. Naval Base Guam

**Sales \$26 - \$50 million (Category 2)**

Winner: Naval Air Station Pensacola, Aviation Plaza, Florida

Runner Up: Naval Base Coronado, California

**Sales \$17 - \$26 million (Category 3)**

Winner: Camp Lemonnier Djibouti

Runner Up: Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina

**Sales \$9 - \$17 million (Category 4)**

Winner: Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Greece

Runner Up: Naval Hospital Guam

**Sales \$4 - \$9 million (Category 5)**

Winner: Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, Naval Station Guam

Runner Up: Naval Base San Diego

**Sales \$2.5 - \$4 million (Category 6)**

Winner: Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport/Naval Meteorology and Oceanography, Stennis Space Center, Mississippi

Runner Up: Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, California

**Sales \$1.4 - \$2.5 million (Category 7)**

Winner: United States Merchant Marine Academy, New York

Runner Up: Naval Support Activity Panama City, Florida

**Sales \$700,000 - \$1.4 million (Category 8)**

Winner: U.S. Naval Joint Services Activity The New Sanno, Japan

Runner Up: Naval Support Activity Naples Italy, U.S. Embassy Rome

**Sales under \$700,000 (Category 9)**

Winner: Naval Support Activity Naples Italy, Gaeta

Runner Up: Naval Support Activity Crane, Indiana

Established in 1979, the Bingham Award is named in honor of the late Capt. W.H. Bingham, SC, USNR. Capt. Bingham was the Chief Executive Officer of R.H. Macy’s Company and was appointed by SECNAV in 1946 to lead an advisory board for the establishment of NEXCOM.



# NAVSUP FLC Jacksonville’s Logistics Support Team works with USS Wichita, USS St. Louis to Get Real, Get Better

By Tyler Grimes, Public Affairs, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville

From January to June of this year, the Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Jacksonville’s Logistics Support Team (LST) initiated an aggressive project to support and go onboard the USS Wichita (LCS 13) and USS St. Louis (LCS 19) to inventory and record all the parts that accumulated in the engineering storerooms of the two warships.

The two Freedom Class Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) are designed and constructed to include an engineering storeroom to keep on hand some low-cost, frequently needed items.

“Over time, these engineering storerooms accumulate additional parts and supplies, and it can be difficult for the ships to maintain an accurate inventory, or database, for accountability and efficient use,” said Cmdr. Jonah Petrinovic, LST Deputy Director at the FLC Jacksonville site on Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

The team worked with the Sailors of the two warships by removing and inventorying all the items from the engineering storeroom and marking the locations of the items in the storeroom for re-stow back onboard.

After the items were inventoried, there was an analysis to determine if any of the items logged can be used to fill any of the ship’s outstanding item requests. The hundreds of items were also added to a system called Relational Supply, which is the electronic database where Navy ships can log and track their inventories. This process allows the team to view and generate the ship’s inventory reports, review losses and gains by inventory, and conduct causative research.

In total, the team identified and inventoried 604 items valued at more than \$1 million for USS St. Louis and 699 items valued at approximately \$1.35 million for USS Wichita.

With reorganized storerooms and accurate inventories, these ships can now more fully utilize the material they have in their engineering storerooms, which improves shipboard operational readiness and saves taxpayer dollars.

*Naval Supply Systems Command Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville’s Logistics Support Team works to organize and inventory items from the USS Wichita at FLCJ’s warehouse at Naval Station Mayport, Florida. –Courtesy photo*





# Strengthening Collaboration: NAVSUP FLC Bahrain and Priority Material Office Integration

By Lt. jg. Samuel Consolo, Logistics Support Officer, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Bahrain

In the dynamic realm of supporting our warfighters in the 5th Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR), NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center (FLC) Bahrain and the Priority Material Office (PMO) Bahrain Detachment (Det.) demonstrate a unique partnership that has stood as a cornerstone for the past four years. PMO Det. Bahrain provides cradle-to-grave expediting and tracking services for all high-priority requisitions, providing timely updates of in-transit visibility to customers and decision-makers, and prompt local deliveries to ships and forwarding hubs. PMO Det. Bahrain directly supports the fleet at the tactical edge by promptly overseeing the arrival of cargo at the ships' destinations in coordination with commercial shipping partners (i.e. FedEx and DHL). This seamless coordination serves as a force multiplier in orchestrating the timely delivery of critical parts support to USS/USNS ships' supply officers (SUPPOs).

This unique construct originated in a Memorandum of Understanding between PMO Headquarters in Bremerton, Washington, and NAVSUP FLC Bahrain, initially signed in April 2020. Under this arrangement, the PMO HQ maintains three billets of Logistics Specialist personnel who work within NAVSUP FLC Bahrain's spaces, providing expediting services to all Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard units operating within the geographic region.

The NAVSUP FLC Bahrain and PMO Det. Bahrain integration extends beyond physical proximity. PMO Det. Bahrain military personnel are available on call 24/7, allowing them to swiftly process critical and high-priority materials for supported units. Moreover, PMO HQ commits to providing priority requisition information and training to NAVSUP FLC Bahrain personnel, ensuring seamless communication and teamwork.

In the last two years, PMO Det. Bahrain has tracked and expedited over 6,000 mission-critical parts for ships and tenant commands operating in the 5th Fleet AOR. This remarkable achievement emphasizes how a small team of dedicated Sailors can favorably impact engineering and weapons systems' operational availability behind the scenes.

The NAVSUP FLC Bahrain and PMO Det. Bahrain's partnership embodies a shared commitment to excellence in logistical support. By leveraging each other's expertise and resources, NAVSUP FLC Bahrain and PMO establish effective lines of communication and foster a robust, collaborative working relationship. Together, they enhance readiness and ensure that our warfighters receive the critical supplies they need when they need them, ensuring the Navy's operational success at sea.

*Priority Material Office Det. Bahrain directly supports the Fleet at the tactical edge by promptly overseeing the arrival of cargo at the ships' destinations in coordination with commercial shipping partners (i.e. FedEx and DHL). This seamless coordination serves as a force multiplier in orchestrating the timely delivery of critical parts support to USS/USNS ships' Supply Officers. —all photos by Margaret Alegerin*

