



# The Atlantic Observer

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division

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# John Roark named NAVFAC Executive Director

John E. Roark, Jr., a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) at Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), was named to the newly created position of Executive Director January 7. Roark is the first to fill this new billet.

“John has been a leader at NAVFAC for many years and his insight, experience and wisdom will be an invaluable asset to the future of our team,” said Rear Adm. Michael K. Loose, commander of NAVFAC.

The Executive Director is second in command of NAVFAC, a civilian position that replaces the Vice Commander military position recently vacated due to the routine reassignment of the previous military incumbent.

Roark, a native of Lowell, Mass., began his federal service with NAVFAC in 1971 as a management analyst. He was promoted to the SES in 1981 and has worked in various assignments at NAVFAC. His previous positions include deputy assistant commander for public works centers, assistant commander for facilities and transportation, deputy comptroller and comptroller.



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## LANTDIV team on the ground in Iraq

**IRAQ**—The Atlantic Division has both military and civilian personnel on the ground in Iraq.

LANTDIV civilians are working in the Coalition Provisional Authority's Project Management Office (PMO) in Baghdad. The PMO is managing reconstruction projects throughout the country, under the direction of former NAVFAC Commander Rear Admiral David Nash.

In February LANTDIV established MEG OICC Det. This team is serving under the Marine Expeditionary Force Engineer Group (MEG), commanded by Rear Adm. Chuck Kubic, supporting the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force that is part of our military's rotational force to stabilize Iraq. It includes both active and reserve Civil Engineer Corps officers and Seabees, but will rely heavily on our reserve component EFA Atlantic. The deployment is expected to last a year.

## On the cover

**ROICC SEWELLS POINT**—Riggers from W.O. Grubb, Richmond, Va. place a cantilevered roof truss on an Aircraft Maintenance Hangar under construction in the LP area of Naval Station Norfolk. Each of the five trusses in the hangar is 155 feet long, weighs 110,000 pounds. The trusses span the length of the hangar bay, approximately 85 feet, to support the entire roof as well as interior cranes. The \$10 million hangar, designed by TranSystems Corp., of Norfolk, is being built by James N. Gray Co., Richmond, Va.

# NAVFAC realignment kicks off in July

**LANTDIV HQ**—Beginning in July, significant changes will occur as the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) transforms to align itself with Navy Regions worldwide.

Last year NAVFAC began evaluating how to become a more efficient and effective organization. One that is better aligned with the Chief of Naval Operations' priorities and supports Fleet, Marine Corps and Commander Navy Installations (CNI) requirements. This evaluation, in effect, was an aggressive review of NAVFAC global operations focused on standardizing business processes, eliminating duplication, and driving out costs. After an extensive assessment process, culminating with CNO conceptual approval, NAVFAC is ready to commence a transformational reshaping of its worldwide organization.

"This new organization will deliver our products and services more effectively and efficiently to NAVFAC clients, and at the same, generate long-term savings that can be reinvested in our Navy-Marine Corps combat team to win the global war on terrorism," Explained Rear Admiral Michael K. Loose, NAVFAC Commander. "Our transformation will be fully consistent with CNO's orders to operate 'smaller and smarter,'" he said.

In most areas there have been two organizations providing NAVFAC products and services to clients, a Public Works Center (PWC) and either an Engineering Field Activity (EFA) or an Engineering Field Division (EFD). While each provided different services, there was some overlap.

This reshaping combines and aligns NAVFAC component commands into Facilities Engineering Commands (FECs) under two Echelon III commands: NAVFAC Atlantic in Norfolk and NAVFAC Pacific in Pearl Harbor. The Engineering Field Divisions/Activities and Public Works Centers will be consolidated to create Echelon IV Commands within a region to provide the regional com-

mander a single touch point for all NAVFAC products and services. FECs will enable NAVFAC to better align and focus on Regional requirements, surge support across regional boundaries, globally implement common business processes, eliminate redundancy and duplication, eliminate nine flagpoles, and return substantial savings to the Navy.

For several years NAVFAC has been working to standardize its business practices and organizational structure across the EFDs and EFAs. Although each EFA and EFD provided similar products and services, clients experienced differences when dealing with more than one organization. Public Works Centers report to the regional commander and again, tend to operate differently as they provide similar services.

In February, the Chief of Naval Operations approved the NAVFAC realignment concept creating a single activity that will provide all NAVFAC products and services to Navy clients in each region. The commanding officer will also be the Regional Engineer.

"This presents a tremendous opportunity to do great things for the Navy and NAVFAC," said Rear Admiral Richard E. Cellon, Atlantic Division Commander. "We will move from a

command-centric organization to a business line-centric organization."

"We will create an entirely new organization," Rear Adm. Cellon emphasized. "The PWCs and EFAs/EFDs will be disestablished and the new activity stood up. This will not be one taking over the other."

In July PWC Washington and EFA Chesapeake will be disestablished and NAVFAC Washington will be established. Also in July PWC Norfolk will be disestablished and will form NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic with an expanded Hampton Roads Integrated Product Team (IPT) and the Hampton Roads ROICC offices from the Atlantic Division. Also this year, NAVFAC Far East and NAVFAC Midwest will stand up, PWC Pensacola will become a detachment of PWC Jacksonville and EFA West will become a forward-deployed IPT of Southwest Division. Next year NAVFAC Hawaii, NAVFAC Guam and NAVFAC Southwest will stand up. NAVFAC Southeast, Northeast and Northwest will stand up in 2006.

A lot of the specific details remain to be worked out. Rear Admiral Cellon met with first line supervisors on March 16 and has scheduled an all-hands meeting with employees in early May.

## Roosevelt Roads closes

**Naval Station Roosevelt Roads** was disestablished March 31 after 61 years of service to the Navy. Congress directed the closure as part of the FY-04 Defense Appropriation.

Naval Activity Puerto Rico (NAPR) is now the cognizant activity. The primary mission of NAPR is to dispose of the property and preserve facilities, infrastructure, and grounds in their existing physical condition to support a timely disposal process. NAPR will absorb residual base functions and will assume control of official visitor access to the installation.

The Atlantic Division will maintain a reduced ROICC Office staffed with two Civil Engineer Corps officers and three civilians.

On March 15 LANTDIV awarded a new \$7.2 million Base Operations Support Contract for NAPR. LANTDIV and Southern Division are working with other military services and federal agencies for the transfer of some base property.

# EFA Ches' Gwen Kirlin named 2003 Atlantic Division Employee of the Year

HQ—Atlantic Division Commander, Rear Admiral Richard Cellon, announced the 2003 Employees of the Year in several categories in February.

**Gwen Kirlin**, an Interior Designer at Engineering Field Activity Chesapeake, was named Employee of the Year. She was nominated by Lt. Cmdr Mark Edelson who praised her assistance to the U.S. Naval Academy relocating more than 60 people following Hurricane Isabel, developing space programming and planning for the move of Commander Navy Installations to the Anacostia Annex, and locating the Dept. of Homeland Security at the Navy's Nebraska Ave. Complex. She was also instrumental in renovations to the Presidential Retreat at Camp David and the home of the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Also nominated were Patricia Hankins, HQ; Giuseppe Damiano, EFA Mediterranean; and Tony Teti, EFA Northeast.

**Paul Briegel**, Supervisory General Engineer at ROICC Gricignano, was named Field Employee of the Year. He was nominated by Lt. Cmdr. John White, who said Paul was instrumental in construction oversight for the new Navy Hospital that opened in 2003 at the Naples Support Site and for developing a follow-on operations and maintenance contract for the facility.

Also nominated were Dawn Cail, ROICC Oceana, Joseph Carmine, ROICC Quantico, and Christopher Shukis, ROICC New London.

**Tim Reisch**, Hq Environmental, was named the LANTDIV Civilian Engineer of the Year. He successfully fostered a synergistic relationship among federal and state regulators, the local community and other agencies for the clean up of the New Gosport Landfill and the Atlantic Wood Superfund site.

Also nominated were Malraj Dhokai, EFA Ches, Jim Hogenson, EFA Med, and Nick Souchik, EFA NE.



**Gwen Kirlin**

**Lt. Cmdr. Marshall Sykes**, HQ AQ, was named the LANTDIV Military Engineer of the Year. He was recognized for his performance as Public Works Operations Officer for Naval Support Activity (NSA) / Support Services Program Manager, where he oversaw a facilities infrastructure worth over \$1 billion across seven bases; and as the LANTDIV Deputy Director of Acquisition, where he had oversight on design, construction and contingency contracts throughout the

AOR.

Also nominated were Lt. Cmdr. Brian Moore, EFA Ches, Lt. Cmdr. John Alberghini, EFA NE and Lt. Steve Stasick, EFA Med.

**Tina Santorelli**, a Management Assistant at EFA Med, was named the Administrative Employee of the Year (GS-6 and below). She assumed a leadership role, far beyond her current position, in resolving issues to close out old contracts and task orders for a  
*Continued on page 5.*



**Paul Briegel**



**Joseph Dougherty**



**Tina Santorelli**

## Employee Recognition

*Continued from page 4.*

variety of clients. In the first month, she reduced the backlog by 53 percent. After HRSC Europe installed new software, she was instrumental in correcting DAWIA information for all GS-1102's in EFA Med.

Marcia Beaudoin, ROICC North Maine, was also nominated.

**Joseph Dougherty**, a Purchasing Agent at EFA Northeast, was named the Administrative Employee of the

Year (GS-7 and above). He independently manages the Supply function and is the primary purchasing agent for purchase card transactions, GSA delivery order purchases and GPO ordering for both EFA NE and the Navy Crane Center.

Pauline Espinoza, EFA Med, was also nominated.

### Team Awards

In the Process Improvement category, ROICC Keflavik received a Gold Team Award for successfully managing a three-year transition to competitive bidding for construction contracts in Iceland. The team's efforts resulted in significant cost

reductions and broadened the contractor base.

The EFA NE Environmental Restoration Program Team and the NSWC Carderock Renovation Team received Silver Team Awards.

In the Products and Services category, the Rota Enroute Projects Team, the USNA Hurricane Isabel Recovery Team, the DHS Relocation Team (ROICC Bethesda) and ROICC Bahrain received Gold Team Awards.

The EFA NE NMCI Implementation Team, the EFA NE Cutler Team and the Quantico OCS Projects Team were awarded Silver Team Awards.

## Brian Crowder named VSPE Young Engineer of the Year

**LANTDIV HQ**—Structural Engineer Brian Crowder was named the Tidewater Chapter Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE) Young Engineer of the Year at the local Engineers Week Banquet Feb. 20.

As Antiterrorism Force Protection (ATFP) Coordinator, he is responsible for directing and coordinating all activities in the technical guidance and design of facilities for compatibility with ATFP measures throughout the Atlantic Division's area of responsibility. He also conducts technical seminars and lectures to provide ATFP related training for both Atlantic Division personnel and architectural/engineering consultants.

Brian has been at LANTDIV since 1995. Prior to that time he was in the PDC Program at NAVFAC Headquarters. He earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1995 from the University of Virginia and is pursuing a master's degree in Structural Engineering at Old Dominion University.



**Brian Crowder**

# OICC Naples and the NII Team earn Meritorious Unit Commendation

**LANTDIV HQ**—Officer in Charge of Construction (OICC) Naples and the Naples Improvement Initiative Team have been recognized with a Meritorious Unit Commendation from the Chief of Naval Operations. This team was instrumental in leading the planning, acquisition and construction for the \$680 million Naples Improvement Initiative, one of the largest, most complex and challenging facilities construction programs ever undertaken by the Navy. The period covered by the award is from Jan. 1, 1998 to May 31, 2003.

“This team’s visionary leadership, unswerving commitment to seeing this project through and their devotion to improving the quality of service for our Sailors and their families exemplifies the professionalism and highest standards of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command,” said Rear Admiral Michael K. Loose, NAVFAC Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers.

The team included military and civilian personnel from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) headquarters, NAVFAC Atlantic Division, in Norfolk, Va. and NAVFAC Field Activity Mediterranean in Naples, Italy; Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, in London; Commander, Fleet Air Mediterranean, in Naples; Naval Support Activity Naples and U.S. Naval Hospital Naples.

“Prior to this effort, Naples was one of the least-desired assignments in the Navy, because of poor quality facilities, traffic congestion, unreliable utilities, high costs and long commutes to and from school,” explained Rear Admiral Richard E. Cellon, Atlantic Division Commander. “NII transformed Naples into a world-class duty station with quality facilities where Sailors and their families live, work, play and go to school. Everyone associated with this project can be justifiably proud of their accomplishment.”

In the 1980’s the Navy committed



**Because space is limited, Capodichino is laid out much like a college campus encouraging pedestrian traffic. Parking structures are located at either end of the complex.**

to Naples as the center for its operations in Europe and for logistics support to the Middle East and Africa. Existing facilities were inadequate for the approximately 10,000 active duty, civilian employees and dependents in Naples, and would not accommodate the planned growth. A comprehensive long-range facilities plan was needed. Initially, plans were to build a completely new base using Military Construction appropriations. However, this turned out to be unworkable because of high costs and the unavailability of suitable land owned by the Italian government.

The Naples Improvement Initiative Team solved the problem by breaking the project into two separate pieces, each to be built with different funding. The first part of the project, begun in 1990, relocated operational and bachelor support facilities from Agnano, a Naples suburb, to a military site at the Capodichino Airport. This Military Construction program included administrative facilities, a new command and control center, warehouses, aviation support, and parking facilities. Capodichino also

supports unaccompanied personnel with bachelor quarters, dining facilities, a limited medical/dental facility, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) facilities.

OICC Naples was established in January 1998 to manage the fast-paced construction of facilities at the Naples Support Site in Gricignano. The Support Site is a modern self-contained, lease-construct complex north of Naples, easily accessible by a modern highway. The Support Site includes family housing, schools, a hospital, MWR facilities, a commissary and exchange. Families live in safe neighborhoods with energy-efficient homes. Recreational facilities, schools and shopping are all within walking distance. With the exception of the hospital, the land and facilities are owned by an Italian developer and leased by the Navy. OICC Naples was disestablished in May 2003.

The Support Site includes four major increments. The first increment, begun in 1996, included 876 housing units, elementary and  
*Continued on page 7.*

# Naples

*continued from page 6.*

high schools, plus the land for the entire project. The first families moved in during May 1997 and the schools opened in August 1997. Increment II included a Village Center, community support facilities and a 96-room Navy Lodge. Increment III was the new Naval Hospital and Increment IV includes recreational facilities, Commissary and Navy Exchange. The Naval Hospital opened on April 23, 2003. The retail complex, including the exchange and commissary will be completed during the summer of 2005. Construction of the remaining MWR facilities will be completed in the fall of 2005 along with additional housing. The project will be complete by the end of 2005.

“In managing this complex project, these professionals overcame extraordinary challenges, employed innovative non-traditional planning and acquisition methods, and developed



**This aerial view of the Support Site highlights the Village Forum.**

a unique partnership among the Navy, the developer, the local community and the U.S. and Italian governments,” Rear Admiral Cellon continued. “Their efforts minimized

the Navy’s capital investment and business risk while accelerating facilities recapitalization. This project has become the model for facilities improvement at other bases.”

## Aviano School wins AF Design Award

**AVIANO AB, ITALY**—The Department of Defense Dependent’s School at Aviano AB won an Honor Award for Facility Design in the 2004 Air Force Design Awards competition. The announcement was made March 17 by the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence at Brooks AFB, Texas.

Mitchell-Giurgola Architects in New York designed the school, which opened in 2002. The \$33 million facility supports 1,400 students in grades one through twelve, with 87 classrooms, two gymnasiums, two libraries, a cafeteria/performing arts hall, music and other special use rooms.



# Naval Station Rota, Spain

## *Enroute Infrastructure project increases value*

By JO3 Amanda Hotz,  
Naval Station Rota Public Affairs  
ROTA, Spain (NNS) — A project launched by the U.S. Air Force and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) at Naval Station Rota, Spain, is beginning to take shape.

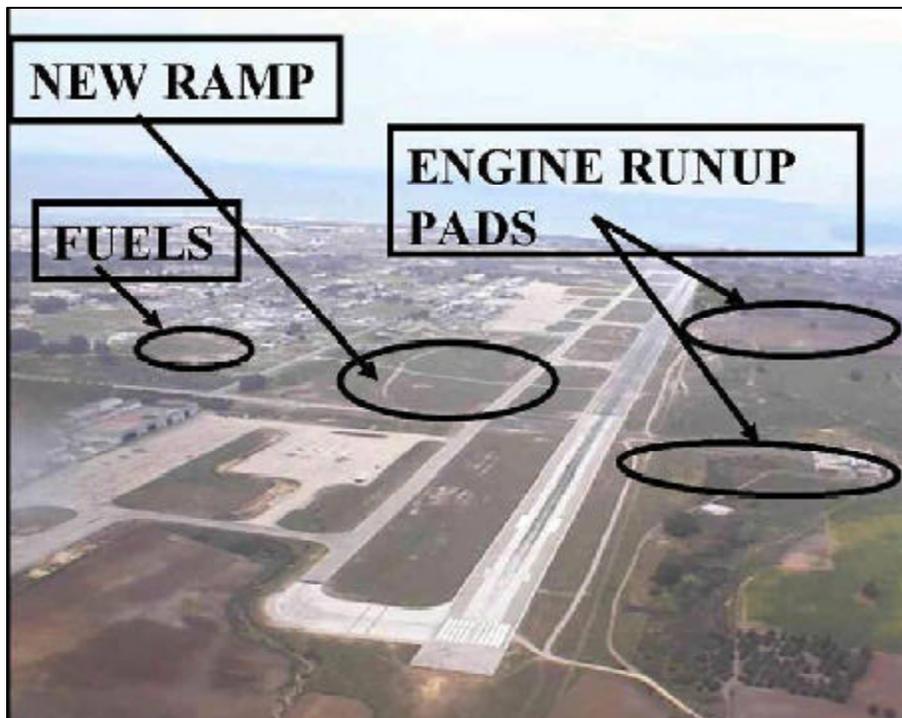
Rota's Enroute Infrastructure construction project, a \$74.9 million improvement program designed to enhance logistic capacity for the U.S. military and NATO forces, has begun moving mounds of earth in what will eventually mean increased fueling capability, a larger parking ramp for wide-body aircraft and improvements to aircraft service facilities.

The actual planning of the Enroute project began in 1996. Funding and authorization for the program was completed in 1999. Since then, survey teams and engineers have been gearing up for groundbreaking. Once complete, the base will offer military leaders a strategic and tactical edge on contingency operations in the European theater.

"A study of peacetime and contingency plans demonstrated a need for additional capability to service wide-body aircraft. Rota, Spain, was identified as the logical place due to the strategic location of the naval base. The facilities will include parking for 16 wide-body parking spots, an engine run-up pad and a hydrant fueling system," said Ron Black, Enroute program manager.

"The program identifies Rota as one of two bases that make up the Southern European hub of Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) operations," Black said. "Our mission here is vital to the ongoing operations in Southwest Asia and Africa."

An Enroute base is defined as a logistical air hub that can be reached from CONUS [continental U.S.] and exists to service the military airlift command to continue its mission



**The Rota Enroute Infrastructure Project is a \$74.9 million improvement program that will enhance logistic capacity for the U.S. military and NATO forces. It will eventually bring increased fueling capability, a larger parking ramp for wide-body aircraft and improvements to aircraft service facilities to the Spanish base.**

downrange. The main European Enroute bases are Fairford and Mildenhall, England; Ramstein and Spangdahlem, Germany; and Moron and Rota, Spain.

Rota's Enroute project is multi-phased, and will take part in three separate phases.

The first phase, currently under construction, is called the Flight Line Facility and is scheduled for completion by the end of this fiscal year. This project will clear the way for construction of the ramp. The first phase is about 70 percent complete, said Black. This phase includes the construction of a new morgue, refueler, new Fleet Mail Center, Air Mobility Support Services Center and a new light hangar. The cost of the first

phase was \$5.4 million.

The second phase will build 10 parking spots, the engine run-up pad and the new fueling systems. Funding for the \$55 million second phase of the project was awarded Nov. 25, with expected completion in 2006.

The third phase and final project phase, costing an estimated \$14.2 million, will build the last six parking spots and demolish the old fueling facilities.

According to Black, the contractors are a joint venture of three separate Spanish firms. The project will be completely finished by the year 2007 and will offer the base airfield more parking for C-5 and C-17 aircraft, while doubling the current fueling capacity.

# Named Navy's best overseas base

By Lt. Corey Barker

**Naval Station Rota Public Affairs**  
**ROTA, Spain (NNS)** — It is no wonder with the endless blue skies, white sandy beaches, rich history and sociable culture that U.S. Naval Station Rota, Spain, was selected as Navy Times' 'Best Overseas Base' for 2004. The announcement came in the Feb. 9 issue of the paper.

Last year was an exciting year for the base and marked the 50th anniversary of the signing of the treaty with the Spanish government that created a joint Spanish/U.S. naval facility. Because of the strong level of cooperation fostered by two of the world's most professional naval organizations, the base thrived and grew into one of Europe's most strategically important U.S. Navy bases.

Many Sailors consider the quality of life in Rota to be unmatched. They consider Spanish people to be among the friendliest in the world, and their culture and language are both exotic and easy to learn.

"For Americans in Southern Spain, an assignment to Naval Station Rota is among the best duties our military and government civilians will get in their entire career," according to Naval Station's Commanding Officer, Capt. John Orem. As a result, Rota enjoys a high level of retention, as well as extended and repeated tours.

"I spent my first assignment with VQ-2 [Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron 2] in Rota and tried to return ever since," Orem said. "Now, I am fortunate to return 20 years later to command the base."

The Navy base in Rota, along with its 27 tenant commands, was key in preparing for and sustaining Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Millions of tons of equipment passed through Rota's full-service airfield and seaport on its way east from the United States.

Rota was a focal point of airlift and sealift support for Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force and multinational forces. The location of the base made it particularly strategic for both military



**The guided missile destroyer USS Cole (DDG 67) sits moored at Pier 3 Naval Station Rota, Spain. U.S. Navy photo by Chief Journalist Dan Smithyman.**

aircraft and ships. Since the base is situated halfway between America's East Coast and the Middle East, it is a perfect refueling stop for military aircraft and ships.

The base recently initiated the first steps to bring Rota Vision 21 to reality. Not since 1964 has the base seen this much physical change. Rota Vision 21 is the long-term re-capitalization master plan to reduce operation and maintenance costs, while improving quality of life and services throughout the base. The project kicked off with the successful award of several major projects, including a \$19 million security complex with the consolidation and upgrade of existing security and emergency services facilities; \$22 million command

operations headquarters; improved transient bachelor enlisted quarters; and a signed memorandum of understanding to begin construction of a new \$32 million Navy Exchange and Commissary mall complex.

"It's our turn," said Cmdr. Scott Higgins, public works officer, discussing Rota Vision 21, the plan to "focus money and efforts to rebuild the base from the ground up."

During Operation Iraqi Freedom, Naval Station Rota became home to Fleet Hospital 8, a deployable, rapid-assembly hospital. The 250-bed hospital began treating wounded March 26. The hospital pulled up stakes July 17, after treating almost 1,400 patients and performing more than 250 surgeries.

## Tom Harris named Specialty Center Engineer of the Year

**NAVFAC HQ**—Tom Harris, Engineering Innovation and Criteria Office, was selected as the NAVFAC Specialty Office Engineer of the Year for 2004. He was selected from nominees from NAVFAC's various specialty engineering centers.

He is the Mechanical Engineering Technical Discipline Leader. He was recognized for work with a DoD team that studied ASHRAE standards, International Mechanical Code and International Plumbing Code for use by DoD activities rather than maintaining separate DoD Criteria in these areas, ensuring consistency among the services.

## Staff Corps Junior Officer of the Year

# David Bailey earns reserve honor

Automotive Transportation Specialist David E. Bailey has been selected as the Naval Reserve



Association Staff Corps Junior Officer of the Year for 2003.

A Supply Corps Lieutenant, he was activated for 11 months between December 2002 and October 2003 as a Logistics Readiness Center (LRC) watch officer with Commander Naval Forces, U.S. Central Command at Naval Support Activity Bahrain.

During this time he provided logistics support to CENTCOM and coalition forces engaged in contingency engineering, logistics and infrastructure planning operations in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Southern Watch and Maritime Interdiction Operations. He served concurrently as the LRC Operations Officer, Training Officer, Senior Watch Captain and assistant Munitions Officer.

"We handled logistics support for fuel, ammunition, food, water, parts, passengers and anything else that needed to be moved within the theater of operations," Bailey explained.

As Senior Watch Captain he provided leadership and direction coordinating the actions of LRC watch

sections during high-tempo, critical operations.

"In general, my deployment was great. I was lucky to have been deployed to Bahrain," he said. "It is an interesting place with many western attributes. Many reservists were deployed to more remote locations lacking the infrastructure, security, and host-nation goodwill we enjoyed in Bahrain."

"It can be extremely challenging to stand-up a key operational unit in a short timeframe," he continued. "Unit members have to be focused when they arrive in theater and be ready to hit the ground running. In the case of the LRC, we were comprised of approximately 90 percent reservists, which meant a majority of our members had just recently been pulled from their

families and civilian jobs to join our team. Not surprisingly, however, our unit found itself staffed with an extremely talented group of professionals."

"Many of these reservists had more than 20 years of military service," he continued. "So in addition to bringing a wealth of military training to the LRC team, they also brought an incredible amount of experience from their private sector jobs. The synergy created in that environment is incredible."

As with most long deployments, family separation was the toughest part.

"I missed my family most," he said. "The birthdays, baseball games, soccer games, movies, and just spending time together. The internet was a great tool for staying in touch. We communicated daily either by phone or email. My wife would regularly send digital photos of her and the kids. In exchange, I would send photos from Bahrain so they could envision my environment and have pictures to share with our family."

David feels his greatest

contribution was nothing he did specifically, but rather something he facilitated.

"My aunt, an elementary school teacher in Georgia, had her second grade class send cards to the entire unit. The kids sent hand-made cards with notes addressed to each of our members individually. Many said the cards were their most treasured mail during the war. I was extremely proud since these cards not only came from my hometown, but they also came from the elementary school I attended as a kid. We hung a picture of the class on our wall."

He also feels his military experience has helped him in his civilian job with LANTDIV.

"I have served the Navy in many roles...active duty, reservist, enlisted, officer, afloat commands, ashore commands, and as a civilian," he explained. "In doing so, I have gained a broad perspective from which I can approach given situations. This has been a tremendous asset in my career at LANTDIV. As both an Activity Liaison Officer and a Transportation Specialist, I have drawn on my military experiences to help me better understand the importance and impact LANTDIV's products and services have on the client."

"As a LANTDIV Transportation Specialist, I had conducted assist visits to NSA Bahrain ensuring the necessary CESE (Civil Engineering Support Equipment) inventory was in-place to meet the requirements of their mission. When I was recalled during OIF, I became an end-user of those very assets."

"Initially, I joined the reserves to accomplish a goal I had set for myself years ago...to earn a commission. As I continued to serve and gain more knowledge about the critical role of the reserve force, I became more aware of the significance and impact the reserve force has as an integrated part of the military. Like all reservists, I know at the end of the day I've made a difference."

# Bahrain Ops Center opens

ROICC BAHRAIN (NNS) — Navy and Army Corps of Engineers officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Jan. 4 at Naval Support Activity Bahrain to open the new headquarters for the commander and staff at U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet and Naval Computer Telecommunications Station, Bahrain.

The new headquarters is the technological nerve center for COMUSNAVCENT's Operational Control (OPCON) Center, and is designed to support regional command and security requirements. Requirements for the OPCON center were identified in 1999 and the contract for the building was awarded in June 2000, with a groundbreaking in December.

The new headquarters was designed and constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers Transatlantic Programs Center (TAC) in Winchester, Va., under the Navy military construction program. TAC engineers designed the facility, working with the Navy's program managers at LANTDIV and in Bahrain to ensure the structure met all operational requirements. Greg Wilderman is LANTDIV's Project Manager. As the DoD Construction Agent for the region, he Corps has been the Navy's design and construction agent for an aggressive program at the Naval Support Activity, with \$67 million in facilities built to date.

The work is accomplished by a Navy and Corps project delivery team with members who, for the most part, have worked together for the past four years. Team members come from multiple organizations located in the United States, as well as Bahrain.

The NAVCENT program manager, Capt. Charles Chandonnet, describes the facility as a "very sophisticated, upscale, state-of-the-art building."

"In fact, 'impressive' is the word I most often hear when describing the design and workmanship of the building," Chandonnet said. "This is



**The new OPCON building is part of a \$25 million project designed to support regional command and security requirements for Commander Naval Forces Central Command / 5th Fleet.**

truly an outstanding facility that the Corps and the Navy can be proud of."

"Right now, hundreds of 5th Fleet staff members are working in trailers scattered throughout NSA Bahrain. With the opening of the new building, we can get everyone under one roof," he added.

"This is a highly technical facility built in two phases over a three-and-a-half year period," said Jack Ham, TAC program manager. "The facility is actually two separate projects for two Navy organizations under one roof."

"A design challenge was to satisfy the tenants in terms of their preferred placement in the building and in conjunction with their operational considerations – in a very large building to be built on an irregular shaped building site," said Crawford Horne, TAC architect. "The resulting solution featured unequal floor areas for each of the three levels, with corresponding 'step-backs' to the building façade. This approach helped to soften the building profile.

"In addition, the Navy Public Works Office asked that the façade express design elements that are consistent with some of the more traditional local architecture in Bahrain," Horne said.

The base's next project,

scheduled to open February 2006, will be the Installation Service Support Center, which will house the NSA's ship's store, food courts, post office, and Morale Welfare and Recreation offices.



**Vice Adm. David C. Nichols, Jr., Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/Commander, 5th Fleet and U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers, Chief of Engineers/Commanding Gen. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, cut the ribbon marking the opening of the new headquarters. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 1st Class Shane Wallenda.**

# ROICC Northern Italy gives the Air Force three new facilities in a two-week period

By Lt. Jay Tulley,  
ROICC Northern Italy

ROICC Northern Italy recently turned over three new Quality of Life facilities to USAF Services Squadron within a two week period, with ribbon cutting ceremonies of the new Base Collocated Club, Visiting Quarters, and Golf Course Clubhouse.

These beautiful facilities represent the first wave of quality of life projects to be completed on the Flightline in support of the Aviano 2000 Base Expansion program, and mark the end of a very successful year of execution during which eight facilities were accepted bringing the program to 44 percent completion.

"You can look around the Aviano Air Base and see it starting to come alive," commented Lt. Cmdr. Cindy Manning during the Visiting Quarters' ceremony.

These facilities couldn't have come at a better time for the Base. Early December 2003 came with a huge deployment for the 31st Fighter Wing, and the base commander directed that it was critical for the Collocated Club to open prior to Thanksgiving to ensure all family members knew they had a place to go and socialize and would feel supported by their military community.

The €5.3 million Collocated Club is mainly a dining facility with officer and enlisted bars, and a slot machine room. It's a high quality facility that was completed prior to the client's required delivery date, thanks to a highly dedicated team: Lt. Jay Tulley, project engineer, Joseph Panigutti, engineering tech., Jim Hogenson, fire protection, James Becker, TABS/scheduler, and continuous partnering with the contractor.

The second ribbon cutting occurred a week later, when the new 40,000 sq. ft., €5.8 million Visiting Quarters opened its doors Dec. 2. The timely opening of this beautiful facility



The €5.3 million Collocated Club at Aviano AB, Italy was one of three facilities opened within a two-week period.

was the result of outstanding execution of the "Red Zone" team concept. Close coordination between all affected parties on all requirements, starting 90 days from the projected opening, allowed the 31st Services Squadron to dovetail critical activities into the construction schedule including communication/data lines, drapery installation, and some equipment to ensure all work was completed in time for the advertised opening date.

The Client is already calling the Visiting Quarters "the best VQ in DOD." The Visiting Quarters provide the Air Force with a much-needed short-term hotel-type facility with 80 suites, each consisting of a kitchen, living room and separate bedroom and bath.

Project engineer Luke Jackson commented that "Visitors have the sense they are staying at a well furnished 5-Star hotel with Italian cappuccino awaiting them in the lounge area, a breath-taking mountain view outside their windows, and a number of base services within walking distance of their lodging."

Engineering technician Maurizio Zorat agreed, adding that the architecture of the building matches the base standard, but the quality of the interior is a notch above.

The third facility, the Golf Course Clubhouse, opened Dec. 5 with a best-ball tournament directly following the ceremony. The €1.9 million Clubhouse has a pro-shop, locker rooms, kitchen, and a dining room which looks out onto the course and also opens to a terraced patio with additional seating. Once again it was outstanding collaboration between the ROICC, contractor, and client that brought the facility to completion.

Engineering Technician Renzo Basso complimented the superior quality from the tile and marble work to the installation of all utilities above ceiling. "It is truly a beautiful facility that we can all be proud of."

The year 2003 may have ended in an execution bang for ROICC Northern Italy, but it was only a preview of the explosion of 16 operational and QOL projects projected to be turned over to the Air Force throughout this fiscal year.

# Resident survey leads to better housing

**NAPLES, Italy (NNS)** — From Keflavik, Iceland, to Sigonella, Sicily, residents of housing facilities in the Commander, Navy Region Europe (CNRE) area were, overall, more satisfied with their military housing in 2003 than they were in 2002, according to the results of the military housing "Resident Satisfaction Survey," received by Commander, Navy Installations.

The survey, distributed late last year to residents of all CNRE military housing facilities, as well as other facilities Navy-wide, asked residents to answer questions and express their feelings and thoughts regarding military accommodations.

CNRE housing falls in line with the Navy averages from other regions in the United States. Residents in Iceland, Great Britain and Rota, Spain, rated their housing between average and outstanding. While residents in some housing areas in Naples, Sigonella, Gaeta and La Maddalena, all in Italy, also rated their homes as average or higher, there were negative responses for other neighborhoods at these locations.

"Some of the low scores make sense, because they are communities we are trying to replace or restore," said Rich Johnston, CNRE housing program manager. The Navy is already aware of many areas needing improvement and has been taking proactive steps to remedy them.

"The Navy has been focused on replacing older leased *parcos* with new lease construct housing," said Johnston. "By providing some American specifications to Italian developers, lease construct housing has proven to be successful and provides more amenities for our residents. These projects are coordinated by the Engineering Field Activity Mediterranean and required both Navy and Congressional approval." Lease construct housing is built by a private developer and subsequently leased by the Navy.

Sigonella, for example, is scheduled to receive 205 replacement units for Gli Ulivi, a housing area that residents rated very low, within the



**Mineo Housing at NAS Sigonella.**

next two years. In comparison, Sigonella's new *Marinai* lease construct housing area that has incorporated American specifications, was rated good.

In Gaeta, one *parco* rated particularly low, and Naval Support Activity Gaeta immediately took steps to call each resident individually to address their concerns, especially in light of the fact that an equivalent Gaeta *parco* rated very good.

Residents of *Parco Crispino*,

Naples' lowest ranking housing in 2003, are scheduled to move to a new facility by March 2005. Naples is also receiving 119 additional lease construct units at the support site and 69 new leased homes in Teverola at *Parco Eva*.

In La Maddalena, "we are incorporating major improvements to the superceding lease for Trinita Housing and building new lease construct housing (43 homes) at a new location there," said Johnston.

## NAVFAC patents waterfront barrier design

**NAVFAC HQ**—The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) has signed an exclusive license for two Navy-patented Waterfront Barrier Systems with Harbor Offshore Inc., located in Ventura, Calif. The license accelerates the dissemination of important Navy-patented technology to the commercial sector.

The Waterfront Barrier Systems were developed as Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Systems under the sponsorship of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Office of Naval Research. The Port Security Barrier (PSB) and the Near Shore-Port Security Barrier (N-PSB) are designed to enhance the security of ships and port facilities.

"NAVFAC takes the issues of anti-terrorism/force protection as a fundamental task," said Dr. James W. Wright, NAVFAC's chief engineer and director of capital improvement. "Licensing these Navy patents for commercial use will help make our waterfronts safer."

The PSB is a floating barrier system designed to prevent unauthorized surface craft from entering a port area. The barrier is designed to weather heavy seas, and to stop a wide range of threats in a variety of sites and security requirements. The N-PSB is an independent structure designed to be more mobile and provide protection around individual vessels. The PSB and N-PSB have been installed at several Navy installations to date and will continue to be installed at Navy ports worldwide.

## Summer finds CEC officers on the move

*New LANTDIV Vice Commander, EFA NE gets new CO and XO, EFA Med gets new XO*

**LANTDIV HQ**—Summer is coming and that means many military personnel will be moving to new assignments.

In April, Atlantic Division Vice Commander Capt. Michael Conaway heads to the First Naval Construction Division as Chief of Staff. Capt. Bert Ramsay, formerly CO of Amphibious Construction Battalion Two, will become Vice Commander. He has been at LANTDIV HQ since March working on transition issues related to the NAVFAC realignment.

Capt. Robert Raines, CO of EFA Northeast will become Commander Southern Division in July. He will be relieved in June by Capt. James Stader, currently at PWC Washington. Capt. Thomas Calhoun, CO EFA Chesapeake will retire in July when EFA Ches is disestablished. Cmdr. Cameron Manning, Executive Officer at EFA Northeast will report to Commander Naval Forces Japan. He will be relieved in May by Cmdr. John Nesius, who returns to EFA NE following a previous tour on the BRAC Team. Cmdr. Paul Webb, ROICC Sewells Point reports to EFA Med in



**NEW FLAG OFFICER**—Gary A. Engle, left, Commander NAVFAC Pacific Division was promoted to Rear Admiral in a ceremony at the U.S. Pacific Fleet headquarters at Pearl Harbor. Admiral Walter Doran, U.S. Pacific Fleet Commander, presided at the Jan. 5 ceremony. Engle assumed responsibilities as Commander, Pacific Division on Sept. 26. He previously served as Chief of Staff for the First Naval Construction Division and before that, as Commander NAVFAC Southwest Division, in San Diego. He served briefly as the LANTDIV Vice Commander before reporting to San Diego.

August as Executive Officer, relieving Cmdr. Don Chandler, who reports to CNI this fall.

LANTDIV Division Operations Officer Capt. Mason Crum heads to Camp Lejeune, N.C. in June as Assistant Chief of Staff for Facilities. He will be relieved by Cmdr. Kelly Schmader HQ Operations. Cmdr.

Cindy Ebert, Marine Corps IPT head, is retiring this fall. She will be relieved by Cmdr. Jean Dumlao, currently Public Works Officer at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Lt. Cmdr. Marshall Sykes, Deputy Acquisition, will report to the Army War College as a student. He will be relieved in July by Lt. Cmdr. Greg Lundsford.

## Lakehurst named Navy's outstanding base

**EFA NORTHEAST**—Naval Air Engineering Station (NAES), Lakehurst, N.J. has been named the Navy winner in the Commander in Chief's Installation Excellence Awards announced March 29.

The award recognizes the outstanding and innovative efforts of the people who operate and maintain U.S. military installations. The five recipients of this highly competitive presidential award were selected for their exemplary support of Department of Defense missions.

Excellent installations enable better mission performance and enhance the quality of life for military men and women and their families. According to DoD, each winning installation succeeded in providing excellent working,

housing and recreational conditions.

NAES Lakehurst hosts NAVAIR and over twenty other tenant activities. With a rich heritage as the nation's lighter-than-air center, Navy Lakehurst is now the DoD's aircraft platform Interface expert. Sharing common borders with Fort Dix and McGuire Air Force Base, this 42,000 acre Joint Installation Partnership is strategically located in the populous northeast corridor, near New York City and Philadelphia.

Other winners included Fort Stewart, Hinesville, Ga., Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, San Diego, Calif., Beale Air Force Base, Marysville, Calif. and Defense Supply Center Columbus, Columbus, Ohio



## Patty Kellihan returns as LANTDIV Acquisition Director

**LANTDIV HQ**—Patricia Kellihan has been selected as Acquisition Director, replacing David Lamoureux who retired in January.

"Patty brings to this job an extensive amount of NAVFAC acquisition experience from many years at LANTDIV, as well as her most recent experience with the Coast Guard and FISC Norfolk," said Rear Adm. Richard Cellon, LANTDIV Commander.

Patricia returned to the Atlantic Division in March from the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Norfolk. She began her career at LANTDIV in 1993 and was branch manager of the Construction/A&E branch in 2002 when she left to become Chief of Contracting for the Coast Guard, Facilities Design and Construction Center in Norfolk.

A native of Hampton, Va. she earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Christopher Newport College and a master's degree in Contract and Acquisition Management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

## Plant upgrades generate energy savings for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

**ROICC PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD**—The Naval shipyard in Kittery, Maine used an Army Corps of Engineers Regional Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) on two projects to generate a total annual savings in excess of \$5.3 million.

In August 1999 the shipyard signed the first task order with Select Energy Services, Inc. (SESI), a division of Northeast Utilities. At that time, SESI invested \$10.9 million to install a five-megawatt combustion turbine cogeneration system for year-round electricity and steam generation, and make improvements to the Shipyard's heat distribution systems. This project generated \$1.9 million in annual savings.

On June 29, 2002 a second task order was signed in which SESI invested an additional \$32 million in upgrades at the shipyard. This "design-build" Energy Cost Savings Project comprises a major upgrade of the power plant by raising its overall efficiency and streamlining plant operations. It also provides needed improvements and increased reliability and eliminates in excess of \$ 19 Million in future required repair and replacement projects for old systems. This project, completed six weeks

early, resulted in \$3.4 million in annual savings.

Select Energy Services Inc. designs, installs, finances, and maintains these improvements over the 15-year contract term. Under the terms of the ESPC contract, the costs

of the project will be recovered during the contract term through verified energy cost reductions. These \$5.3 million savings come from avoided costs of energy, operations, maintenance, and equipment repair/replacement.

## Navy, EPA and Pennsylvania sign environmental partnership

**NAVFAC Field Activity Northeast**—For the past year, representatives from Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), EPA Region III, EFA NE and DoD facilities in the State of Pennsylvania have been meeting to craft an environmental partnership.

Although the partnership was initially set up to address pollution prevention opportunities, it was agreed by all parties to broaden the role of the partnership to include other environmental compliance issues. The intended mission of the group is to promote innovative environmental stewardship, sustainability and mission readiness within the state. The partnership has conducted three meetings to date, during which valuable information was exchanged and a Charter was developed.

A highlight this year was the Charter signing ceremony held Dec. 18, at the Defense Distribution Center near Harrisburg. PADEP Secretary Kathleen McGinty, and other high level officials attended the ceremony. The Naval Activities in Pennsylvania and EFA NE were represented by their commanding officers at the signing ceremony.

# Parting shots



**A REAL POLAR PLUNGE**—Reacting to an item in the LANTDIV Plan of the Week promoting a dip in the Atlantic to raise money for charity, ROICC Keflavik says “ya’ ain’t plunged if ya’ didn’t do it in the North Atlantic!” ROICC Iceland was well represented at the annual Polar Bear Plunge in January with Lt. Cmdr. Norman Stiegler (far left), Ens. Andrew Olsen, and Catherine Ballinger (center) taking a frosty dip.



“Project Santa”, a long-standing tradition at EFA NE, was held Dec. 16 after our all hands holiday gathering. We hosted 102 pre-K through 4th graders from the St. Katherine Drexel School in Chester PA. Command volunteers “adopt” a student and provide an age appropriate gift for the student and a book for the school library, which Santa distributes.



**SEABEES IN QATAR**—Former LANTDIV AROICC, Lt. Cmdr. Paul McComb, center, is pictured with fellow Seabees celebrating Christmas at Camp Saylayah, Qatar. McComb is assigned to U.S. Central Command. With him are (L to R) BU2 Garry Buffenbarger, Lt. Tom Blanchard, Lt. David Culcasi and CE1 Douglas Hamilton.



**RED SOX FAN**—MWR at New London was to begin selling tickets for a Boston Red Sox game at 7 a.m. Saturday. So being a big fan, Lt. Cmdr. John Alberghini, ROICC New London, got in line at 11:45 a.m. Friday. He had his wife bring in food and a sleeping bag for the night. Not only is he first in line, but there’s no one else there!