

PLANESIDE

The Quarterly Magazine of the Maritime Patrol Association

2018: Issue 1



In This Issue

P-8s Assist in the Search for Missing Argentine Submarine

2018 MPA Symposium Online Registration Now Open!

News from VP Squadrons Around the Globe

PLANESIDE

Cover Photo



Aircrew operating the P8-A Poseidon aircraft of the U.S. Navy Patrol Squadron FIVE (VP-5) assisting in the search for the missing Argentine submarine *ARA San Juan*, after taking off from the Bahia Blanca naval base in Buenos Aires Province on Nov. 26, 2017. (Juan Sebastian Lobos / Argentina Navy Civilian Photographer)



PLANESIDE is a quarterly online magazine published for the Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. Copyright 2012-2018.



P.O. Box 147
Orange Park, FL 32067
info@maritimepatrolassociation.org * www.maritimepatrolassociation.org



P-8 PROVEN OVER LAND OVER SEA OVERALL



Surveillance and reconnaissance. Long-range, anti-submarine capabilities. Search and rescue. The P-8 is the most capable multi-mission aircraft deployed around the world, protecting seas and securing borders. With the global supportability of a 737, P-8 delivers confidence in an uncertain world—in any condition, anywhere, at any time.

Discover more at boeing.com/p-8



PLANESIDE

In this Issue

Features:

Welcome from the President	5
CPRG: Checking On Station	7

In the News:

VP-5 Aids in Search for Missing Argentine Submarine	10
2018 MPA Symposium Dates & Info	12
VP-10 Conducts Search and Rescue for Argentinian Submarine	13
VP-8 Joins Search & Rescue Efforts for Missing Mariners in East China Sea	14

Community:

VUP-19 Celebrates Significant Milestones	16
VP-47 Achieves P-8A Safe-for-Flight	17
VP-9 Transitions from Orion to Poseidon	19
VP-5 Participates in NATO ASW Exercise	20
2018 MPA Scholarship Golf Tournament Info	22
VP-8 Conducts Combined Operations with RAAF in Exercise Ocean Raider	23
2018 MPA Heritage Dinner	25
Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 Returns Home	26
LCDR Timothy Bierbach Receives 2017 Copernicus Award	28
VP-4 Caps Off 2017 with Successful Homeland Defense Detachment	29
VP-5 Completes Exercise Doğu Akdeniz 2017	30
2018 MPA Symposium Ticket Prices	32
VP-8 'Fighting Tigers' Join with Royal Thai Navy in SEASURVEX	33
'Mad Foxes' Volunteer at Shelter in Italy	37
VP-8 Exhibits P8-A Poseidon at Seoul International Air Show	39
VP-5 Conducts Operations in Keflavik, Iceland	41
VP-5 Conducts Media Familiarization Flight in Iceland	42
VP-5 Joins Sweden in Bilateral ASW/ASUW Exercise	44
MPA Fall Golf Tournament	46
Upcoming Events	47

History, Heritage & Of Interest:

Marlins Return to Moffett Field	50
---------------------------------	----

What's New

51



WELCOME

From the President

*M*aritime Patrol Warriors, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Greetings from the beautiful Sunshine State! I am incredibly honored to introduce myself, Jim Robinson, Commodore for COMPATRECONWING ELEVEN at NAS Jacksonville, as one of the presidents of the Maritime Patrol Association—along with co-president CAPT Rob Patrick, Commodore for Wing 10 at NAS Whidbey Island.

I have never been more thrilled to be a part of our esteemed community than I have at present. The relevance of our Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force continues to grow at an exponential rate, becoming an increasingly invaluable asset to national defense. We are on the cutting edge of aeronautical technological advance—seen in our latest addition of the unmanned TRITON, and the continued transition to P-8A—and we never fail to provide unparalleled tactical dominance in our legacy systems. It truly is an exciting time to be a part of this community!

As our country's premiere maritime fighting force, our MRPA crews and aircraft are standing the watch wherever threats to vital American and coalition interests exist. Aircrew, maintenance teams, and mobile tactical operation centers are operating at peak efficiency levels across the globe. Our home-cycle squadrons operate with unparalleled effort: conducting and supporting Argentinian SAR efforts, hurricane disaster relief across the Southern United States and the Caribbean, and supporting forward-deployed squadrons in 6th fleet out of Keflavik, Iceland and Gander, Canada. Our deployed squadrons are excelling in counterpiracy operations, drug interdiction, antisubmarine warfare, ISR missions, and building partnership capacity to provide freedom of navigation across the high seas – this ensures our Fleet Commanders, Forward Task Commanders, and allies are in the best position to make the best decisions.

The newest addition to the MPRA family, our TRITON program, has made huge leaps forward in its worldwide establishment. VUP-19 recently had a brand new TRITON aircraft fly into NAS Pt. Mugu (TRITON detachment site) before the holidays—and expects an additional TRITON aircraft, currently at Palmdale, to be flown to Pt. Mugu within the next month. The Pt. Mugu TRITON detachment site has also grown dramatically in terms of personnel—numbering over 150 at present. Naval Base Guam has recently become home to a newly constructed TRITON hangar, which is awaiting its first aircraft. At NAS Jax, VUP-19 should soon have their Mission Control Station (MCS) operational—awaiting final testing before all servers go on the Navy's operational network. Truly, it has never been a more exciting time in the advancement of our community!

As we look to the future, the changing scope of warfare and the new platforms that are being brought to the table, we can be certain in the unchanging perseverance, commitment, and sacrifice of our Naval Sailors. The tools we use may change, but the Sail-



CAPT James W. Robinson, USN

ors who wield them never will. We are unified across history in a legacy of dedicated and honorable Patriots—the heartbeat of our community and our Navy. Thank you, to all who have served and are serving.

And finally, we are excited to be hosting the MPA Symposium at NAS Jacksonville this year, scheduled for 25 and 27 April. This year highlights the significant milestone in the MPRA community as TRITON arrives in the FLEET. With this newest addition, future capabilities are united with the continued transition from the P-3C Orion to the P-8 Poseidon while introducing TRITON into the maritime mission. Our theme for this year's Symposium is "Family of Systems Unite: Triton, Poseidon, Orion, and Aries"—this will shape our 2018 events while honoring our tried and true heritage.

I look forward to seeing you at NAS Jax this April! Thank you for your support.

All the best and very respectfully,
Jim Robinson
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 11
President, Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. ★



What's In Your Wallet?

During these fiscally constrained times, we are often faced with difficult choices as to what the best use of our dollar, and our time, should be. *Since its inception in 2011, membership in MPA has truly been a incredible value.*

Dollar for dollar, you can't argue with the benefits of membership. A year-long membership at \$35 is more than off-set if you are able to attend the annual symposium events (total member savings in 2015 = \$45). PLUS, the association and its regional chapters (Jacksonville, DC, Patuxent River, Whidbey Island, Hawaii and Norfolk) also hold regularly scheduled FREE member events around the country.

Aside from the monetary benefits, the organization and its more than 1,000 members across the country enjoy a level of comradery anchored in Maritime Patrol history that shares no rival. The association boasts representation that spans the spectrum of pay grades, active and retired, uniformed and civilian, which creates invaluable networking opportunities.

Additionally, MPA has partnered with the Wings Over America Scholarship Foundation, which offers college scholarships to dependents of military members from the US Navy's aviation community, and awarded over \$15,000 to a number of outstanding students since 2012.

As time passes and old sea stories of glories past float away in the wind, the Association is a mechanism for the preservation of Maritime Patrol Heritage.

Whether it's the refurbishing of aircraft from a bygone era like the P-2V at NAS Jax or the PBY "Catalina" at NAS Whidbey, members and their dollars are what make it possible. When it comes to money and time well spent, membership in the Maritime Patrol Association stands out as important, beneficial and an *overall outstanding value.*



- 1) Monetary (membership pays for itself after one symposium)
- 2) Camaraderie (Chance to get together in our ever increasingly busy lives)
- 3) Networking (Industry partners are members as well)
- 4) Charity (Chance to make the world you live in better)
- 5) Preserving Maritime Patrol Heritage

mpa SCHOLARSHIP 2018

Taking off for college?

★ **This application is for you.** ★

We're looking to propel some promising students into their future with some extra funds to foot the college bill. If you are the dependent of Navy personnel who currently or formerly served in the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance community, we just might be your wingman.

For more details, eligibility requirements, and to apply, visit:

www.maritimepatrolassociation.org/scholarship.html

Wings Over America (WOA) administers the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) scholarship. Applicants who are eligible for the MPA scholarship will also be considered for available WOA scholarships. Application for the 2018 award year will open in October 2017.



CPRG

Checking On Station

*M*aritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Warriors, Past and Present,

As we usher in a new year with family, friends, and shipmates, I want to use this opportunity to reflect upon some of the accomplishments of your Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) in 2017, a true “banner year” for the MPR team, highlighted by the superb performance of our forward task forces, wings, squadrons, and TacMobile teams. I cannot say enough about the superb professionalism, toughness, and resiliency of our Sailors and our families.

With 8 of 12 VP squadrons complete with P-8A transition, the transformation of the community remains on a positive trajectory. We continue to achieve program milestones on schedule and successfully meet theater operational demand with a potent combination of P-8A, P-3C, EP-3, and BAMS-D resources. While there are certainly challenges to keeping the planned retirement of our remaining legacy aircraft on schedule, it is the on-station performance of our crews - independent of platform – where our real legacy continues to be forged.

2017 provided a full menu of “real world” operational opportunities, including multiple destructive hurricanes impacting the US mainland and Caribbean, extended Search and Rescue operations in response to loss of an Argentinian submarine, and increased Theater ASW operations in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Mediterranean. Responding to hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, our teams executed multiple events under the Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) and Foreign Disaster Relief (FDR) constructs. We also provided significant support to Southern Commander and Fourth Fleet during an intensive search for the ARA San Juan (S-42) that went missing in the South Atlantic. In response to the growing submarine threat worldwide, we found ourselves fully engaged, supporting the Theater ASW effort from multiple deployment and detachment sites, many which are reminiscent of the Cold War era. I expect the demand for MPRA in 2018 to be similar and we are poised to respond.

Significant MPRF Operational Milestones in 2017:

- Our 63rd P-8A was delivered to the Fleet.
- CPRW-2, MCAS Kaneohe Bay, HI disestablished in May and transferred responsibilities to CPRW-10, NAS Whidbey Island, WA. We are now a two Wing community.



Rear Admiral Trey Wheeler, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group.

- Our three Hawaii based VP squadrons (VP-4, VP-47, VP-9) completed homeport changes to Whidbey Island.
- CPRW-10 established a permanent Homeland Defense (HLD) detachment consisting of 2 aircraft/3 aircrews and one Tactical Operations Center (TOC) in Hawaii.
- The VP-30 Fleet Introduction Team (FIT) began west coast P-8A transition in Whidbey Island and has completed two of the six squadron transitions.
- VP-30 completed P-8A Air-to-Air refueling (AAR) training and introduced AAR to the first fleet squadron (VP-45).
- VX-20 successfully completed developmental P-8A HAAWC (Hi-Altitude ASW Weapons Capability) Airworthiness, Ground, and Safe Separation Testing.
- The first of two baseline MQ-4C Tritons was delivered to



VUP-19 at NAS Ventura County, CA on November 9th.

- The first two P-8A portable mission support “Fly Away Kits” (FAK) have delivered and received positive feedback from our teams. Our goal is to continue to improve our agility and get the “mobile” back into TacMobile.

In summary, your MPRF continues to report “Kilo-Alpha” on-station and I remain very humbled to serve with so many patriots and professionals. Our Sailors had a busy and productive 2017 and are off on the right foot for 2018. I remain their biggest advocate and am focused on maintaining the professionalism of the force while improving our agility and lethality. I wish you, and your families, a very Happy New year and look forward to seeing you at the spring MPA Symposium in Jacksonville, 24-27 April 2018.

Most Humbly and with Great Respect,

Trey Wheeler

*Rear Admiral
Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group
Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group Pacific*



We have an APP for that...



NOW AVAILABLE



Maritime Patrol Association
BuildFire



Download your
Maritime Patrol Association
mobile device app today
and experience your
member benefits
at the tip of your finger!

[www.app.buildfire.com/promo/#Maritime Patrol Association](http://www.app.buildfire.com/promo/#Maritime%20Patrol%20Association)





CFM56-7B

Rugged, reliable, responsible, ready

27,000 lbs. of thrust for the Boeing P-8A Poseidon
Global Engine Services, Materials, Customer Support

www.cfmaeroengines.com

CFM International is a 50/50 joint company between GE and Safran Aircraft Engines.



ORION THE HUNTER: ON WATCH AROUND THE WORLD.

AT LOCKHEED MARTIN,
WE'RE ENGINEERING A BETTER TOMORROW.®

From the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the North Sea to the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean, the Lockheed Martin P-3 Orion remains the global standard for Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance. High performance at low altitudes. Sophisticated multi-mission capability. The Mid-Life Upgrade (MLU) program is delivering state-of-the-art mission systems to maritime operators on four continents while affordably providing an additional 20,000 flight hours. Lockheed Martin will ensure the P-3 Orion remains in the hunt for decades to come.

www.lockheedmartin.com/p3

IN THE NEWS

VP-5 Aids in Search for Missing Argentine Submarine

BAHIA BLANCA, Argentina - For two weeks in late November, the “Mad Foxes” of Patrol Squadron (VP) FIVE conducted search and rescue operations out of Bahia Blanca, Argentina for the Argentine submarine ARA San Juan that went missing Nov. 15.

The San Juan had departed on a journey from Tierra del Fuego back to its homeport in Mar de Plata when approximately halfway through the transit the submarine crew ceased routine communications, at which point an international search began covering thousands of square miles along the submarine’s planned route.

Shortly after it became clear the submarine was missing, Combat Air Crew (CAC) 8 and CAC-12 of VP-5 were dispatched from El Salvador with a small component of maintainers to make the 3,500 mile journey through the night to Bahia Blan-

ca. Within 26 hours of the order to launch, VP-5 was on station conducting search and rescue operations.

The ‘Mad Foxes’ brought the P-8A Poseidon, the U.S. Navy’s premier long-range maritime patrol plane equipped with an array of sensors that allow for submarine detection and large-area surface search. The P-8A is a modified Boeing 737-800 specializing in anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), capable of quickly reaching its search area and remaining for many hours. The P-8A will fly in excess of 10 hours and cover thousands of miles in a single flight when the mission demands it.

The ‘Mad Foxes’ were joined by CAC-2 of VP-10, based out of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., with another P-8A shortly after, and the aircrews flew two missions daily in a race against the clock to locate the missing submarine. The crews logged 18 hours per day while searching for any possible



LTJG Brandon Russel, CAC-12 Co-tactical Coordinator, searches for possible debris from the ARA San Juan. Normally the aircraft’s radar is the best sensor for scanning the surface, but was in this case precluded by the high sea state, making eyesight the most effective tool. Photo courtesy of VP-5.

signs of the San Juan. Over the course of 20 missions and 177 flight hours, tens of thousands of square miles were scoured with radar. The two P-8A's also dropped over 700 sonobuoys, which are used by the P-8A to detect submerged submarines acoustically.

"We worked hard to make sure the submarine had the best chance of being found and with every radar return or possible acoustic contact, there was a palpable excitement that we might have found it and would be able to facilitate the crew's rescue," said Lt. Eran Wilson, "Mad Fox" CAC-12 mission commander. "Though every false alarm was a letdown, we never lost hope. The gravity of the situation was never lost on us."

Though the search and rescue operation did not locate the

missing submarine, the aircrews and maintenance teams have given their all to maximize the search effort. The "Mad Foxes" travelled across a hemisphere on short notice to help stand up this international search effort and proudly support the Argentine navy in its time of need and stand ready to answer any call.

VP-5 is currently on a split-site deployment to Sigonella, Italy, and Comalapa, El Salvador, where they have been conducting counter-narcotic operations in support of Operation Martillo.



By Lt.j.g. Ridgely Riggs, VP-5 Public Affairs



Two P-8As parked at the Argentine military ramp at the Comandante Espora airport in Bahia Blanca, Argentina. These planes and their crews would spend over 150 hours in the air over a two-week span, leaving only a few hours each day that a P-8 wasn't flying. Photo courtesy of VP-5.



APRIL 25-27, 2018 ON BOARD NAS JACKSONVILLE

*SPECIAL DISCOUNTED PRICING
TO ALL EVENTS FOR MPA MEMBERS!*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS TO INCLUDE:

MPA GENERAL MEMBERS MEETING
MPA HERITAGE DINNER IN HISTORIC HANGAR 117
MPA SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT & 5K
MPA FLIGHT SUIT SOCIAL
AND MORE!

***STAY TUNED FOR MORE 2018 INFORMATION AT:
WWW.MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG/SYMPOSIUM***



IN THE NEWS

VP-10 Conducts Search and Rescue for Argentinian Submarine

*H*aving recently supported detachments in support of Hurricane Irma humanitarian operations and Joint Warrior/Formidable Shield international exercises, the Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 “Red Lancers” once again packed their bags to answer the call to serve.

On Nov. 18, VP-10 launched a single P-8A Poseidon with a full crew and support personnel to conduct search and rescue operations for the Argentinian submarine ARA San Juan that was reported missing Nov. 15.

Shortly after leaving dock, the ARA San Juan reported malfunctions with the electrical system after water leaked through the submarine’s snorkel. Forty-four crew members were on board the submarine as it started its transit to its homeport of Mad del Plata, Argentina.

The search and rescue efforts began after several failed communication attempts with the ARA San Juan. The last known position of the submarine was several hundreds of miles off the eastern coast of Argentina.

Since its disappearance, 18 countries have sent both air and sea platforms in hopes of locating the missing ARA San Juan. Two P-8As, one from VP-10 and VP-5, have been actively searching for the ARA San Juan by using acoustic sensors on the airplane to locate its position.

The Red Lancers have been crucial in the search efforts as the P-8A is capable of investigating large areas in a timely manner in order to focus the search efforts to a more specific region. Lt. Garrett Middleton, patrol plane commander of the VP-10 crew in Argentina, stated that, “The reason we are here is very unfortunate but it has been extremely rewarding to work closely with the Argentinian navy and provide hope to the families of the missing crewmembers.”

Over the course of approximately two weeks, the Red Lancers have flown six missions for a total of 53 hours. While the detachment of Red Lancers missed Thanksgiving with their families, they answered our nation’s higher call to serve others in need.



*By Lt.j.g. Britana Cremean, VP-10 Public Affairs Officer
Published in the Jax Air News, December 13, 2017*



Patrol Squadron 10’s aircraft is prepared for launch in support of the missing Argentinian submarine, ARA San Juan. Photo by Cmdr. Chad Donnelly

IN THE NEWS

VP-8 Joins Search & Rescue Efforts for Missing Mariners in East China Sea

On Jan. 7, the U.S. Navy sent a P-8A aircraft attached to the “Fighting Tigers” of Patrol Squadron 8 to assist in an international search and rescue effort in the East China Sea following a collision between two commercial vessels.

After arriving on scene, the aircraft searched an area of approximately 3,600 square nautical miles before returning to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. None of the mariners were located.

Chinese-flagged cargo ship, CF Crystal, and Iranian-flagged MV Sanchi collided, Jan. 6. International search efforts are ongoing for MV Sanchi’s 32 missing crew members.

Seventh Fleet, which celebrates its 75th year in 2018, spans

more than 124 million square kilometers, stretching from the International Date Line to the India/Pakistan border – and from the Kuril Islands in the North to the Antarctic in the South.

Seventh Fleet’s area of operation encompasses 36 maritime countries and 50 percent of the world’s population with between 5,070 U.S. ships and submarines, 140 aircraft, and approximately 20,000 Sailors in the 7th Fleet.



From U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs

Published in the Jax Air News, January 17, 2018



A P-8A Poseidon assigned to the Fighting Tigers of Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 takes off from a runway at Kadena Air Base, Japan. VP-8 is currently deployed to the 7th Fleet area of operations conducting missions and providing Maritime Domain Awareness to supported units throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. Photo by MC1 Jerome D. Johnson



***THE VALUE OF
LEAVING NO STONE
IN THE OCEAN UNTURNED.***

When it comes to maritime intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance, mission flexibility pays off.

Northrop Grumman's autonomous, persistent, and multi-mission MQ-4C Triton is the ideal solution for the U.S. Navy's expanding ISR needs. Triton extends global reach by flying for up to 24 hours at over 55,000 feet, constantly identifying and tracking multiple threats over vast stretches of water. Equipped with a payload of advanced maritime sensors, Triton provides real-time maritime ISR to multiple users. *That's why we're a leader in the future of autonomous systems.*

THE VALUE OF PERFORMANCE.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

www.northropgrumman.com/triton

© 2017 Northrop Grumman Corporation

COMMUNITY

VUP-19 Celebrates Significant Milestones

The “Big Red” of Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19 have been hard at work over the last month with the arrival of their first aircraft in November and the qualification of their first aircrews in early December. These two accomplishments mark significant milestones on the road to VUP-19’s first operational deployment, currently scheduled for mid-2018.

The month of November saw the delivery of the first MQ-4C Triton aircraft to the fleet, with VUP-19 receiving the aircraft at Naval Base (NB) Ventura County, California. The aircraft and associated maintenance support will be located at NB Ventura County, while aircrew and information technology support personnel will remain aboard Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax).

While the maintenance personnel in California have been busy becoming accustomed to their new aircraft, aircrew members have been working diligently to become familiar with their new platform. The first week of December marked the qualification of VUP-19’s first aircrew, completing an in-depth course teaching operators how to control the aircraft and its sensors through all mission sets.

Cmdr. Benjamin Stinespring, VUP-19 commanding officer, expressed his excitement about the milestone saying that, “The qualification of these operators and the arrival of our aircraft mark one of the most important steps toward reaching the squadron’s safe for flight designation, and Triton’s early op-

erational capability.”

The introduction of Triton to the fleet will provide the Navy with the ability to conduct round-the-clock intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance flights across the globe. This capability will give commanders and Sailors at sea an unprecedented capability to see their area of operations like never before.

“Operating this aircraft requires a completely different mindset from an operator’s perspective,” said AW1 Pete Aarons, one of VUP-19’s newly qualified mission payload operators and a prior electronic warfare operator on the P-3C Orion aircraft. “The area that we can cover, and the interchangeability between operators gives this system more capability and flexibility than anything I had experienced in my previous platform.”

VUP-19 is a dual site command, with personnel located at NAS Jax and NB Ventura County. In the near future, Sailors from VUP-19 will be forward deployed to sites around the world in support of Triton operations. The first deployment for VUP-19 is scheduled to Guam in 2018.

Ultimately, VUP-19 will be operating aircraft simultaneously in the 4th, 5th, and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility.



By Lt. Eric Scott, VUP-19 PAO

Published in the Jax Air News, January 3, 2018



Unmanned Patrol Squadron 19 personnel continue to accomplish milestones with new Triton aircraft. Photo by VUP-19 Public Affairs

COMMUNITY

VP-47 Achieves P-8A Safe-for-Flight

After 52 years flying the venerable P-3C 'Orion', the "Golden Swordsmen" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47 have completed the transition to the Navy's premier anti-submarine warfare (ASW) aircraft, the P-8A 'Poseidon'.

In February, the Golden Swordsmen completed a deployment in the 7th Fleet and relocated from Kaneohe Marine Corps Base, Hawaii to Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington.

This relocation was more accurately a return since from 1960 to 1965, VP-47 called NAS Whidbey Island home.

"While we may no longer fly seaplanes, the Golden Swordsmen are honored to return to the beautiful waters of Whidbey Island," said VP-47 Commanding Officer Cmdr. James Imlah.

VP-47s return last February marked the beginning of the squadron's transition to P-8A.

The transition was divided into three phases which began with classroom and simulator training in Whidbey Island, followed by simulator, flight and maintenance instruction at VP-30 at NAS Jacksonville, Florida, and finally, a return to Whidbey Island for the final phase involving advanced tactical aircraft employment.

Upon completion of P-8A training, VP-47 went through a series of rigorous tests, drills and inspections to ensure that all squadron personnel were prepared for a multitude of aircraft and ground emergencies unique to P-8A operations.

Once these inspections were complete, the squadron was deemed "Safe for Flight", which certified the squadron to conduct autonomous operations with the new aircraft.

This is the fourth distinct aircraft type flown in its 73-year



Patrol Squadron 47 Martin SP-5B Marlin (BuNo 135474) on the ramp at the Oak Harbor Seaplane Base, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, circa 1965. U.S. Navy photo.

history. Previous aircraft flown include the PBM-3D/PBM-5 Mariner, P5M-2/SP-5B Marlin, and the P-3A/B/C/Ull/Ull/AIP 'Orion'.

The Golden Swordsmen will now begin readiness and training events prior to the first VP-47 P-8A deployment. While preparing for deployment, VP-47 will participate in Homeland Defense operations, exercise support and continue to refining squadron anti-submarine warfare warfighting capabilities.

The P-8A aircraft is a militarized version of the Boeing 737-800 designed predominately for anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions.



By VP-47 Public Affairs

Published in the Jax Air News, November 21, 2017



Two Patrol Squadron 47 P-8A Poseidon sit on the tarmac at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington. The squadron was recently deemed Safe-for-Flight after completing their transition from the P-3C Orion aircraft. Photo by Cmdr. James Imlah



COMMUNITY

VP-9 Transitions from Orion to Poseidon

*W*ith a new year comes unique challenges and pioneering opportunities. For the Golden Eagles of Patrol Squadron (VP) Nine, 2018 brings a new aircraft, a new home, and a new beginning.

After 54 years of relentless dedication and service in the illustrious P-3 Orion, VP-9 starts their new year with the transition to the P-8 Poseidon, the world's most innovative and technologically advanced maritime patrol aircraft.

The P-8 Poseidon marks the fourth distinguished aircraft flown by VP-9 since its commissioning in 1951. Preceding aircraft included the P4Y-2 Privateer, P2V Neptune, and all variants of the P-3 Orion (A/B/C/U11/U111/ and A1P). Patrol Squadron Nine originated in NAS Whidbey Island, and since then have had four homeport changes ranging all over the West Coast from NAS Alameda, California in 1952, NAS Moffett Field, California in 1963, NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii in 1992, and MCBH Kaneohe, Hawaii in 1999. After 66 years, the Golden Eagles have returned to their roots in NAS Whidbey Island, Washington.

In March 2017, VP-9 began its seven month deployment to 7th Fleet. Upon returning in October, the Golden Eagles relocated back to the Pacific Northwest to Whidbey Island and began working tenaciously to excel in their transition to the P-8 Poseidon.

The transition is comprised of three phases: Phase One began November 2017 in Whidbey Island, and included classroom academics and simulator training; Phase Two began January 2018 in Jacksonville, Florida, where the squadron is currently executing training flights, crew simulators, and extensive maintenance instruction; Phase Three will see the squadron back in Whidbey Island for tactical aircraft employment and qualifying "safe-for-flight," signifying the completion of the training syllabus.

When asked how the command is handling the stresses of establishing themselves in their new home while dealing with the intense training requirements inherent in the transition to a new Type/Model/Series aircraft, VP-9 Commanding Of-



ficer, Commander Jeff Bowman commented "The professionalism of the Golden Eagles is unmatched. We have planned, communicated and all levels of leadership have been actively engaged in the preparations so every Sailor and Officer can execute this dynamic evolution with confidence."

Over their storied history operating the P-3 Orion, the Golden Eagles have been honored with nine Battle Efficiency Awards, four Meritorious Unit Commendations, five Coastal Command Trophies, and two Golden Wrench Awards for aviation maintenance excellence.

As the Golden Eagles turn the page on the Orion and begin a new chapter as a Poseidon squadron, they are excited to continue their proud tradition of quiet professionalism and warfighting prowess as part of the world's finest Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance force.



By VP-9 Public Affairs

Released January 25, 2018

COMMUNITY

VP-5 Participates in NATO ASW Exercise

KEFLAVIK, Iceland – From Dec. 09 to 17, the ‘Mad Foxes’ of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 traveled to Iceland’s Keflavik International Airport for an Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Exercise with NATO allies. VP-5 sent two Combat Air Crews (CAC), CAC-6 and CAC-12 on the detachment to conduct seven ASW flights with NATO allied forces. The exercise was an excellent training opportunity for VP-5 to perform coordinated operations with different countries and to strengthen relationships between the U.S. Navy and its NATO partners.

The CACs operated in the North Atlantic Ocean along with British and French forces. . The exercise also incorporated VP-5’s P-8A Poseidon aircraft, the Navy’s newest patrol aircraft, capable of extended range operations to conduct its missions.

As the host nation, Iceland provided support for VP-5 operations out of Keflavik while CAC-6 and CAC-12 conducted flights in which they were able to practice realistic and well-planned scenarios. Throughout these mission flights, VP-5

was partnered with the British and French forces to locate and track the submarine targets.

“The target submarine was very evasive while we were tracking it but this exercise was an excellent opportunity to demonstrate how multiple platforms working together can provide positive results,” said Naval Aircrewman Systems Operator 1st Class (AWO1) Xavier Page. “We operated seamlessly with the other platforms to successfully execute each mission.”

The complex nature of the flights during the exercise tested VP-5’s ASW acumen, while working with NATO allies during this exercise proved successful in further advancing security, safety and stability in the region.

“The exercise provided an excellent opportunity for the crews to enhance their interoperability and increase their proficiency in ASW skills,” said Lt. Eran Wilson, officer in charge of the VP-5 detachment in Keflavik. “We look forward to any opportunity to return and participate in more exercises with our NATO partners.”



caption here

QUICK FACTS:

- US P-8A Maritime Patrol Aircraft regularly conduct routine maritime domain awareness operations and anti-submarine warfare training out of Keflavik, Iceland.
- VP-5 is on a dual deployment to Sigonella, Italy and El Salvador and on its first deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations with the P-8A.
- U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of Joint and Naval operations, often in concert with allied, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa.



By Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs

Photo right: KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Dec. 16, 2017) Acoustic Operator 3rd Class (AWO3) Peter Christensen observes (AWO2) Tiffany Escoffery of Combat Air Crew (CAC) 12, assigned to of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, conduct operations on the P-8 Poseidon, while operating on station during routine operations in north Atlantic. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Ridgely Riggs/)



KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Dec. 16, 2017) Naval Aircrewman Systems Operator 2nd Class Tiffany Escoffery of Combat Air Crew (CAC) 12, assigned to of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, operates the camera on the P-8 Poseidon during a joint anti-submarine warfare (ASW) exercise. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Ridgely Riggs/RELEASED)



KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Dec. 16 2017) Co tactical Coordinator, Lt.j.g. Sage Turner of Combat Air Crew (CAC) 12, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, enjoys coordinating communication between his aircraft, the P-8A Poseidon, during routine maritime domain awareness operations in the North Atlantic. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Ridgely Riggs)

What does your training future hold?



with ESP...

Exceptional engineering support services
Training that is ready, responsive and flexible
Innovative efficiencies, engineered to optimize training

ESP, Inc.

FOR THE WARFIGHTER



2018 MPA SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT



Thursday, April 26th at 1130
NAS Jacksonville Golf Course

SPECIAL DISCOUNTED PRICING FOR MPA MEMBERS!

Join us to benefit the MPA Scholarship Fund
and receive:

18 HOLES OF GOLF & CART
BOX LUNCH & FAJITA DINNER
BEER KEGS ON THE COURSE
SWAG BAG FILLED BY OUR SPONSORS!
HOLE CONTESTS AND PRIZES

Register now at:

WWW.MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG/SYMPOSIUM.HTML

The Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. is a Florida not for profit corporation. It was formed in 2011 and is tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (Tax ID No. 45-1968605). Copyright 2011-2017. The Maritime Patrol Association is a non-federal entity operated and controlled by individuals acting in their private capacities. It is not a part of the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status.



COMMUNITY

VP-8 Conducts Combined Operations with RAAF in Exercise Ocean Raider

QUEENSLAND, Australia – The “Fighting Tigers” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 traveled to Queensland, Australia to participate in Exercise Ocean Raider alongside their counterparts from the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and Navy (RAN). The exercise took place from Nov. 29 to Dec. 7 aboard Royal Australian Air Force Base Amberley and demonstrated the interoperability and adaptability of the U.S. and their Australian Allies in a variety of Anti-Surface Warfare (SUW) and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) scenarios.

Ocean Raider is an annual exercise comprised of a series of events designed to train naval and air forces in Task-Group-level, Joint, Combined sea combat. Led by Mission Commander Lt. Dallas Svrcina, Combat Aircrew Six (CAC-6) and the Tiger

maintenance team demonstrated the next-generation capabilities of the P-8A to the dozens of warships, submarines, and aircraft involved in the week-long exercise. VP-8 worked closely with several RAN and RAAF surface and subsurface assets, including HMAS Canberra (L02), HMAS Anzac (FFH 150), and HMAS Melbourne (FFG 05), as well as other maritime patrol aircraft from RAAF 92 Wing. CAC-6 logged over 50 hours of flight time while demonstrating their tactical proficiency and garnering ASW readiness.

The RAAF trains their personnel in the P-8A alongside the U.S. Navy at VP-30 in Jacksonville, Florida. “Close coordination with the Australians allows us to hone our skills, and our squadron benefits from the experience just as much as they learn from working with us,” Svrcina said. Ocean Raider was a unique opportunity to conduct combined on-station train-



BRISBANE, Australia (Dec. 1, 2017) Lt. j.g. Mike McCormick, right, assigned Combat Aircrew Six of Patrol Squadron 8, takes a photograph with Royal Australian Air Force Flight Lieutenant Greg Toft, aboard a P-8A Poseidon aircraft at Amberley Air Base, Australia. VP-8 is currently forward deployed to the 7th Fleet area of operations conducting missions and providing Maritime Domain Awareness to supported units throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. John North/Released)

ing operations with P-8A aircraft from multiple countries.

“Working with the Australians while they are new to the P-8A gives us a unique opportunity to not only teach our counterparts, but also to get a fresh outlook from them as they develop their own procedures for flying the same asset,” Svrčina said.

Patrol Squadron 8 is currently deployed to the 7th Fleet area of responsibility conducting intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions and providing maritime domain awareness to supported units throughout the Pacific theater.



By Lt.j.g. Mike McCormick, VP-8 Public Affairs



BRISBANE, Australia (Dec. 5, 2017) Aircrew and maintenance personnel from Patrol Squadron 8 pose for a group photo after preflighting their P-8A Poseidon aircraft for a mission during Exercise Ocean Raider. The aircrew conducted combined Anti-Submarine and Anti-Surface Warfare operations with their Australian counterparts during this week-long exercise. VP-8 is currently forward deployed to the 7th Fleet area of operations conducting missions and providing Maritime Domain Awareness to supported units throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Mike McCormick/Not Released)



BRISBANE, Australia (Nov. 30, 2017) Patrol Squadron 8 Combat Aircrew Six, conducts mission planning with Royal Australian Air Force Flight Lieutenant Greg Toft, right, at Amberley Air Base, Australia. VP-8 is currently forward deployed to the 7th Fleet area of operations conducting missions and providing Maritime Domain Awareness to supported units throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g John North/Released)



2018 MPA Heritage Dinner



Wednesday, April 25th at 1800
Historic Hangar 117

Special discounted pricing for MPA Members!

Join shipmates past and present as we gather in the historical Hangar 117 for drinks, dinner, dancing and words from our guest speaker, Admiral Bill Moran, Vice Chief of Naval Operations. The 2018 Hall of Honor inductees, as well as several community awards, will be announced and honored during the evening. Beer and wine are included, a cash bar will also be provided. Attire will be flight suits for active duty, or uniform of the day. Retired members are encouraged to wear their uniforms or business casual attire. Spouses and all other guest please wear cocktail attire.

BUY TICKETS EARLY - THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT!!



The Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. is a Florida not for profit corporation. It was formed in 2011 and is tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (Tax ID No. 45-1968605). Copyright 2011-2017. The Maritime Patrol Association is a non-federal entity operated and controlled by individuals acting in their private capacities. It is not a part of the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status.



COMMUNITY

Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 Returns Home

The men and women of Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 returned to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island after a six month deployment to the 5th, 6th, and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility (AORs).

While forward deployed, the “Grey Knights” simultaneously operated from four expeditionary detachment sites in Bahrain, Japan, Turkey, and Djibouti, where they provided intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), and conducted anti-submarine warfare (ASW) to advance U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) and U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) lines of operation.

The squadron is attached to Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 10, and was led by Commanding Officer Cmdr. Derrick Eastman, consists of 346 personnel and nine P-3C “Orion” aircraft.

“I couldn’t be more proud of this team’s performance over the past 6 months,” said Eastman. “Their laser-focus and total dedication to safely and effectively complete our mission across three numbered Fleets was nothing short of amazing! It’s a great honor to be associated with such a successful and storied organization.”

In CENTCOM, the squadron flew hundreds of missions in support of Operations Inherent Resolve in Iraq and Syria and Restoring Hope in Yemen. While in theater, the Grey Knights witnessed the coalition make significant advances in the fight against ISIS, including the liberation of Mosul, Iraq, and several Syrian cities.

When asked what he would remember most from this deployment, Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class Spencer Greer said, “The Grey Knight maintainers overcame a ton of logistical challenges to keep the planes flying, which made the deployment a great success.” He also added that he “liked being able to work at multiple [detachment] sites because it helped break up the deployment.”

In PACOM, operating from Kadena Air Base, Japan, 2 Orion’s and a detachment of 41 Grey Knights conducted ISR operations, ASW, and provided direct support to a Carrier Strike Group, which contributed to the increased maritime domain awareness and supported the fleet commander’s objectives. “It’s been an honor to work alongside the ‘oldest and the best’ throughout this deployment knowing that I am part of something greater than myself,” said Aviation Electrician’s Mate 2nd Class Javier Fernandez after spending most of his time in the 7th Fleet AOR.



A Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 Combat Air Crew (CAC) sets power on the takeoff roll at Isa Air Base, Bahrain.” Photo courtesy of VP-46.

By the numbers, the Grey Knights flew from 7 countries in 3 AOR's, safely executed 650 sorties that generated 5,046 flight hours (4,480 operational with a 99% mission completion rate), completed 8,133 maintenance actions that encompassed 30,423 man-hours, changed 10 engines, replaced 6 propellers, advanced 28 Sailors in rate (5 meritoriously), earned 86 Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist pins, made 27 collateral duty inspectors, 20 collateral duty/quality assurance representatives (QARs), 13 QARs, and 1 aircraft safe-for-flight controller.

VP-46 was able to rotate aircrew and maintainers between the four detachment sites, which enabled these Grey Knights to gain cross-AOR experience, and increased their capacity to effectively execute the mission anytime, and from anywhere.

"Being on deployment in the 5th Fleet AOR, executing the missions like we did, gives me a sense of pride in what we do to ensure freedom for our citizens and our allies," Said Naval Aircrewman (Operator) 2nd Class Brody Robertson, an acoustic operator. "It brings me great satisfaction knowing what we do matters."

One of VP-46's Patrol Plane Commanders, Lt. Nara Nelson added, "being on a quad-site deployment gave us many challenges but also many diverse opportunities. Many of our aircrews got to fly a variety of missions and our maintainers were able to work from different locations. Also, with the quad-site forcing us to spread out more than usual, they Grey Knights at each site were able to grow, bond, and really pull together to execute our mission well."

This deployment also afforded the Grey Knights an opportunity to travel to new places and experience new things.

Information Systems Technician Seaman Andrew Morgan said, "I found the deployment to be a great experience for a new Sailor. I was able to go off base and interact with different cultures."

Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Deion Masterson added, "one of the good things about this deployment was that I got the chance to explore other countries. Not only was this my first deployment, but it was also my first time traveling outside the United States. I got the chance to go out into Bahrain and meet new people from different backgrounds and religions."

Back in battery, the squadron will have a well-deserved opportunity to take leave and reconnect with family and friends. But as an operational squadron, the Grey Knights won't have too much time before the heavy lifting of Inter-Deployment Readiness Cycle (IDRC) kicks in. With several varsity-level ex-

ercises on the horizon, including the Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC) in Hawaii and Composite Training Unit Exercise/Ocean Command (COMPTUEX/OCEANCOM) in San Diego, the Grey Knights will spend the next year honing their warfighting skills.

"Deployments are tough, but when you practice against the best every day, you gain the confidence and ability to overcome any challenge," said Eastman "I am confident in my team, and I am positive they will prove once again why the Grey Knights are known as 'the oldest and the best.'"



By LTJG Layne Morrison, VP-46 PAO

Published on the NAS Whidbey Island FACEBOOK page, November 7, 2017



A Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 Combat Air Crew (CAC) celebrates the Fourth of July after a flight at Isa Air Base, Bahrain. Photo courtesy of VP-46.



A group of Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 aircrew and maintainers take a break post-flight in Al Udiid Air Base, Qatar. Photo courtesy of VP-46.



COMMUNITY

LCDR Timothy Bierbach Receives 2017 Copernicus Award

The Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) and the U.S. Naval Institute (USNI) have selected Patrol Squadron FOUR FIVE's LCDR Timothy Bierbach as a Copernicus award winner for the 2017 fiscal year. The Copernicus Award recognizes individual contributions to Naval Warfare in the disciplines of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I), Information Systems, and Information Warfare (IW).

During VP-45's seven and a half-month SIXTH Fleet deployment, LCDR Bierbach led an initiative of integration with Commander, SIXTH Fleet assigned surface warfare assets to conduct "detect to engage" training events.

These efforts were the first of their kind for P-8A's in the SIXTH Fleet AOR and they served to evaluate detection capabilities and enhance the inter-operability of the P-8A with surface combatants during maritime domain awareness operations. The training conducted provided P-8A aircrew an understanding of the value of inter-operability, the necessity for net-enabled assets, and the force-multiplying effects achievable when the P-8A's multitude of capabilities are maximized and correctly employed.

Currently in his Department Head tour as an ACTC Level 500 Weapons and Tactics Instructor, LCDR Bierbach has cemented himself as the leading expert on the P-8A weapon system. The P-8A weapon system is comprised of the P-8A aircraft and the Tactical mobile system. While the maritime patrol community has many experts on both the P-8A aircraft and the TacMobile system respectively, LCDR Bierbach is the only officer holding expertise in both arenas.

Now in his 24th year of naval service, LCDR Bierbach has spent his career driving innovation and teaching sailors a holistic approach to naval warfare. He embodies the Chief of Naval Operations Core Attribute of Initiative, instituting a training continuum within VP-45 to educate personnel on Lean Six Sigma, Joint Multi Tactical Data Link Schools, and Professional Military Education.

His dedication to continual process improvement constitutes a willingness to embrace the tenets of network-centric warfare, thereby enhancing air Anti-Submarine Warfare platforms mission effectiveness.



LCDR Timothy Bierbach

As a Copernicus Award winner, LCDR Bierbach will receive an invitation from AFCEA and USNI inviting him, his wife Colleen, and CDR Ryan Lilley Commanding Officer VP-45, to attend an awards reception and presentation ceremony held 6 February 2018 at the AFCEA/USNI WEST 2018 conference in San Diego, CA at the San Diego Convention Center.



By VP-45 Public Affairs



COMMUNITY

VP-4 Caps Off 2017 with Successful Homeland Defense Detachment

Oak Harbor, Washington - 2017 has proved to be an eventful year for Patrol Squadron (VP) 4. In the spring, the “Skinny Dragons” successfully finished the transition from the P-3C Orion to the P-8A Poseidon. This included several months in Jacksonville, FL under the guidance and instruction of Patrol Squadron (VP) 30. On May 5th, 2017, VP-4 was declared safe for flight and officially became the first operational P-8A squadron on the West Coast. They then hit the ground running for the rest of home cycle, focusing on crew readiness qualifications in the new aircraft and manning the Hawaii Homeland Defense Detachment (HLD).

From October through December, VP-4 continually supplied a contingent of two aircraft, three combat aircrews, and essential maintenance personnel to Oahu, Hawaii to fulfill U.S. Pacific Command’s manning requirement for maritime security in the region.

Operating out of Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) and Hickam Field, the detachment executed a wide range of missions, including Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) and Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance. In one exercise, Skinny Dragon aircrew had the opportunity to work with The USS Jacksonville (SSN 699), a Los Angeles-class submarine based out of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. VP-4 was able to achieve crucial ASW qualifications as Jacksonville transited the Pacific to the West Coast to begin its decommissioning process.

“Working with Jacksonville was an awesome opportunity for us to get hands-on training and practice employing the systems that we will be using on our upcoming deployment,” said Lt. Jon Taggart, a pilot assigned to Combat Aircrew (CAC) 3. “This provided VP-4 the opportunity to exemplify part of our squadron’s mission to ‘dominate from the air.’”

In addition, the Skinny Dragons participated in activities that extended beyond the normal scope of the P-8A mission set. VP-4 sailors had the honor of hosting a static display for Vice Adm. John Alexander, Commander of U.S. 3rd Fleet. “It was a cool experience to be able to share our job with the Vice Admiral and teach him a little something about what I do as an operator,” said Naval Aircrewman (Non Acoustic Operator) 3rd Class Isaac Martinez, a sailor assigned to CAC-2.

VP-4 was also able to facilitate equipment testing in sup-



port of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) research initiatives. This allowed the DARPA team to gather data that is instrumental in the development of future capabilities for the P-8A.

HLD was the squadron’s first return to Hawaii since their permanent duty station change from Kaneohe Bay to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island in 2016. For many sailors who experienced the move to Washington, returning to MCBH felt like returning home. “Going back to Hawaii brought back a lot of fond memories of when we were stationed there with as a P-3 squadron. It was awesome to return with our new aircraft and bring everything full circle,” said Lt. Pete Nguyen.

The Skinny Dragons turned over the ongoing HLD mission to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 on December 29, 2017 and returned home to focus on the final phase of pre-deployment work-ups. They will deploy to the U.S. 7th Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR) at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan this spring.



By Lt. j.g. Madison Buck, VP-4 Public Affairs



COMMUNITY

VP-5 Completes Exercise Doğu Akdeniz 2017

DALAMAN, Turkey – From Nov. 08 to 11, the ‘Mad Foxes’ of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 sent a P-8A Poseidon and Combat Air Crew (CAC) 3 to Dalaman, Turkey to participate in the Turkish-led exercise, Doğu Akdeniz 2017. This navy exercise incorporated multiple anti-submarine warfare (ASW) flights and proved to be an excellent opportunity to improve the interoperability and professional relationships between U.S. and Turkish forces.

Doğu Akdeniz kicked off on Nov. 9, in the eastern Mediterranean Sea with several dynamic ASW events. This was a bilateral exercise and included many Turkish navy assets such as Sikorsky helicopters, the Persuader maritime patrol and transport aircraft, and a Turkish Type 209 submarine. The U.S. Navy provided the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Donald Cook (DDG 75) and VP-5’s P-8A maritime, patrol and reconnaissance aircraft to accomplish this exercise. Throughout these events, U.S. and Turkey aircrafts and ships were partnered against a Turkish submarine.

“We were able to give a few Turkish naval aviators and operators familiarization flights and show them how we operate as a crew” said Acoustic Operator 2nd Class (AWO2) Stephane Castaneda. “They were noticeably impressed by the latest avionics and systems to the maritime patrol and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission.”

This was the first time the P-8A aircraft has participated in this exercise and CAC-3 was able to showcase the P-8A’s long-range endurance and advanced ASW tactics. The crew operated and gained invaluable training tracking the Turkish submarine alongside the Donald Cook and Sikorsky helicopters. CAC-3 welcomed and showcased the P-8A to Turkish navy passengers while flying out of Dalaman.

Doğu Akdeniz was successful in improving combined combat capability and strengthening relations among Turkey and the United States. The exercise further advanced the security, safety and stability of U.S. 6th Fleet.



DALAMAN, Turkey (Nov. 13, 2017) Combat Air Crew (CAC) 3 of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 prepare to give a familiarization flight on the P-8 Poseidon to Turkish Naval Forces during the Turkish-led anti-submarine (ASW) exercise, Doğu Akdeniz while on detachment in Dalaman Turkey. U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied, joint, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy photo by Patrol Squadron FIVE co-tactical coordinator Lt.j.g. Jesus Lamberti//RELEASED)



"I was proud of my crew that worked seamlessly together in a foreign environment to accomplish the tasking for the bi-lateral exercise" said Lt. Jake Daly, the officer in charge of VP-5 while in Dalaman. "We were fortunate to participate in the exercise and look forward to any opportunity to further advance NATO interoperability and fine-tune our ASW skills as a crew."

QUICK FACTS:

- VP-5 is on a dual deployment to Sigonella, Italy and El Salvador and on its first deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations with the P-8A.
- U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of Joint and Naval operations, often in concert with allied, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa.



By Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs



Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class (AWO2) Stephane Castaneda gives a tour of the P-8A Poseidon and exchanges combat crew patches with Turkish Naval Acoustic Operator while on detachment in Dalaman, Turkey for the Turkish-led exercise, Doğu Akdeniz. U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied, joint, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy photo by Patrol Squadron FIVE pilot Lt. Jake Daly// RELEASED)

TALENT COMMITMENT EXCELLENCE



TOMORROW'S SOLUTIONS . . . TODAY.

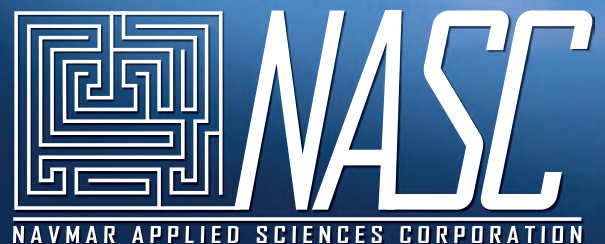


www.asec.aero

**Proud Sponsor of the
Maritime Patrol Association**

**MARITIME PATROL
RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**

**FLIGHT CREW
TRAINING & SIMULATION**



WWW.NASC.COM



2018 SYMPOSIUM[★] TICKET PRICES

EVENTS on April 25th - 27th	MPA MEMBER	NON- MEMBER
HERITAGE DINNER	\$50	\$60
THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT - DON'T MISS IT!		
SPOUSE SYMPOSIUM	\$5	\$5
SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT	\$70	\$85
INCLUDES GOLF, LUNCH AND DINNER, BEVERAGES, AMAZING SWAG BAG OF AND MORE!		
SCHOLARSHIP 5K	\$0	\$0
DONATIONS EXCEPTED AT THE RACE OR DONATE ONLINE!		
FLIGHT SUIT SOCIAL	\$30	\$45
BRINGING A DATE? PAYING FOR TWO PRACTICALLY PAYS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP!		

IT PAYS TO BE A MEMBER!

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY AT:
WWW.MARITIMEPATROLASSOCIATION.ORG

The Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. is a Florida not for profit corporation. It was formed in 2011 and is tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (Tax ID No. 45-1968605). Copyright 2011-2017. The Maritime Patrol Association is a non-federal entity operated and controlled by individuals acting in their private capacities. It is not a part of the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its components and has no governmental status.

COMMUNITY

VP-8 Fighting Tigers Join with Royal Thai Navy in SEASURVEX

U-Tapao, Thailand – The Fighting Tigers of Patrol Squadron EIGHT (VP-8) recently traveled to Rayong, Thailand to participate in Sea Surveillance Exercise (SEASURVEX) with the members of Squadron 102, Wing One, of the Royal Thai Navy (RTN) from Dec. 12-14. The exercise demonstrated the interoperability and tactical proficiency of the Allied nations in a variety of Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW), and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) scenarios.

Led by Mission Commander and Tactical Coordinator, LT Kerri Englert, VP-8 Combat Aircrew Twelve (CAC-12) and the Tiger Maintenance team utilized the next-generation capabilities of the P-8A Poseidon aircraft to serve as the lead platform in coordinated collection, prosecution, and strike scenarios against both surface and sub-surface targets of interest. The Fighting Tigers flew coordinated missions with the F27-200

MAR Fokker of RTN Squadron 102, proving the effectiveness of dissimilar platforms in achieving total mission success. The exercise also allowed the aircrews and maintainers of both squadrons to operate side by side and further their own training while demonstrating the capabilities of their own aircraft.

During the course of the exercise, the Fighting Tigers hosted various members of the RTN on flights simulating operational missions to offer first-hand experience of tactics, techniques, and crew coordination used by US Navy Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA) aircrews. The squadron personnel also participated in multiple goodwill events with Squadron 102, which were designed to strengthen bonds of fellowship and camaraderie between the two nations. These events included an Opening Ceremony hosted by Squadron 102, a number of VP-8 briefs on daily operations, and a celebratory cookout between the two squadrons that culminated in a 7-on-7 soccer match.



U-TAPAO, Thailand (Dec. 14, 2017) LT Andrew Herring demonstrates flight controls to LT Varanyu Puyoi (left) of the Royal Thai Navy during SEASURVEX. Patrol Squadron EIGHT is currently deployed to the SEVENTH Fleet area of responsibility conducting Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) missions, as well as providing maritime domain awareness to theater-level commanders. (U.S. Navy photo by LTJG Shamus McNamara/Not Released)

“The opportunity to work side by side with our Royal Thai Navy counterparts was both incredibly rewarding and a positive experience for both squadrons. Their professionalism and dedication to excellence is evident in everything they have contributed to this exercise. It was an honor for CAC-12 and the Fighting Tigers to serve with Squadron 102 in this capacity” said LT Kerri Englert, CAC-12 Mission Commander and Tactical Coordinator.

VP-8 Sailors took additional steps to leave a positive impact on the local population by participating in a community relations (COMREL) event. They helped deliver goods and supplies to school children in the Chonburi Province of Thailand. “Of all of the things we did on this detachment, that is the thing that will leave the most impact on me.”, says AWO2 Nick Balkus. “There was nothing quite like seeing the joy and amazement on the faces of all of the kids.”

Patrol Squadron EIGHT is currently deployed to the SEVENTH Fleet area of responsibility conducting theater and national level tasking in support of SEVENTH Fleet, U.S. Pacific Fleet, and U.S. Pacific Command.

★
By LTJG Shamus McNamara, VP-8 Public Affairs



U-TAPAO, Thailand (Dec. 13, 2017) LT Kerri Englert demonstrates the tactical capabilities of the P-8A Poseidon to LTJG Wattanachai Chaochon, PO1 Rapeepong Morsomboon, and CPO1 Putthipong Lekdi of the Royal Thai Navy during SEASURVEX. Patrol Squadron EIGHT is currently deployed to the SEVENTH Fleet area of responsibility conducting Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) missions, as well as providing maritime domain awareness to theater-level commanders. (U.S. Navy photo by LTJG Shamus McNamara/Not Released)



U-TAPAO, Thailand (Dec. 13, 2017) The Fighting Tiger maintenance team conducts preflight inspections in preparation for tactical operations during SEASURVEX. Patrol Squadron EIGHT is currently deployed to the SEVENTH Fleet area of responsibility conducting Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) missions, as well as providing maritime domain awareness to theater-level commanders. (U.S. Navy photo by LTJG Shamus McNamara/Not Released)



Order your 2018 MPA Symposium Golf Polo!

Don't miss out!

These items are available for pre-sale only!



**Mens & Womens Nike Golf
Dri-FIT Pebble Texture Polos:
With MPA or Symposium Logo**

\$39.99

2018 items available for pre-sale now online at:

www.maritimepatrolassociation.org/membergear.html





Who will join the ranks of these **MPRF** *honorees* in 2018?

Join us at the 2018 Heritage Dinner on April 25, 2018 to find out!

For more information, and to register online for Symposium events, visit:

www.maritimepatrolassociation.org/symposium

PAST HALL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS



Captain
Michael E. Lopez-Alegria



Captain
Vince Anania



Captain
Fernald Anderson



Mr. Jay Beasley



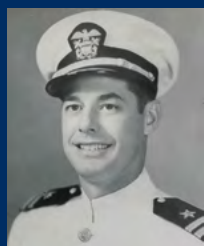
Air Commodore
Leonard Joseph Birchall
Royal Air Force



Squadron Leader
Terrence Bulloch
Royal Air Force



Commander
Scott Carpenter



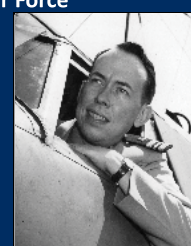
Lieutenant Commander
Louis Conter



Chief Petty Officer
Carl Creamer



Flight Lieutenant
John Cruickshank
Royal Air Force



Rear Admiral
Thomas Davies



Captain
Arnold J. Isbell



Commander
Paul Lloyd Milius



Captain
Norman "Bus" Miller



Admiral
Thomas Mooror



Rear Admiral
Paul J. Mulloy



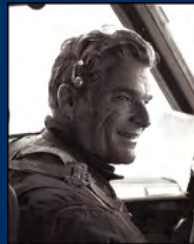
Master Chief
John Rosa



Captain
Byron "Jake" Tobin



Commander
Kenneth D. Walker



Vice Admiral
Edward Waller



Commander
David Weisbrod



Rear Admiral
Daniel J. Wolkensdorfer

COMMUNITY

Mad Foxes Volunteer at Shelter in Italy

SIGONELLA, Italy – The First Class Petty Officers (FCPOs) from Patrol Squadron (VP) FIVE volunteered to assist the Catania shelter for homeless and needy children and their mothers while on deployment to NAS Sigonella hoping to provide welfare to the local area and to promote and improve relations within the community.

During the month of December, the First Class Petty Officer's Association (FCPOA) raised money to provide individualized gift bags for five mothers and eight children that are currently placed in the shelter. These gift bags provided each child with necessities such as a winter jacket and warm clothes, and included a stuffed animal and a present for the child to open. The hard-working mothers were not forgotten, as they received personal items, a pajama gift set and sweet Christmas treats for their families.

"The first class mess sought out an organization this Christmas season that could use some help," said Aviation Electrician's Mate (AE1) Angelo Warnock. "We knew what we had to do when Dr. Lunetta, the NAS Sigonella public affairs officer (PAO), presented the background information on the families staying at the Catania shelter."

The FCPOs drove to the shelter to personally meet and drop off the gifts to the families and the families welcomed the 'Mad Foxes' warmly singing classic Christmas carols with them.

"The sincere appreciation and joy from each child was the best Christmas gift anyone could ask for. The families and community welcomed our mess with a wonderful meal," said AE1 Warnock. "We were made to feel like family, and for



SIGONELLA, ITALY (Dec. 21, 2017) The First Class Petty Officers (FCPO) of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 visited the Catania shelter for homeless and needy children and their mothers, on Dec. 21st, while on deployment to NAS Sigonella. The FCPOs provided gifts and winter necessities to these families during the holiday season. (U.S. Navy photo by VP-5 Aviation Electrician's Mate (AE1) Angelo Warnock Trejo/)

many of us who have small children, it felt for just that short amount of time like we were home.”

The VP-5 FCPOs intended to make a few local families’ holiday special and in turn, they were given overwhelming joy by those that the helped.

“Christmas is a time for giving and whether it’s a present to a needy child, mother or a stranger who treats you like family, even for just few hours, we all felt extremely fortunate that day,” said AE1 Warnock.



Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs



SIGONELLA, ITALY (Dec. 21, 2017) Patrol Squadron (VP) 5's Logistics Specialist 1st Class (LS1) Meghan Flannery joyfully met one of the children in the shelter that the First Class Petty Officer Mess (FCPO) of VP-5 provided gifts and necessities during the Holiday Season. VP-5 is currently operating out of Sigonella, Italy in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy photo by VP-5 Aviation Electrician's Mate (AE1) Angelo Warnock Trejo/)



37 Years Of P-3 EXCELLENCE



LSI



LSI, Inc. provides a full spectrum of training solutions that include training devices, desktop simulation, mobile device training, curriculum design, computer-based instruction, instructor services and electronic classroom installation.



Visit Us @
www.lsijax.com

Keeping Eyes in the Skies at Home and Abroad.

AMERICAN SYSTEMS provides and supports aircrew and aircraft systems and training to those who patrol and protect our shores at home and wherever freedom rings.

We know what's at stake.®



AMERICAN
SYSTEMS

AmericanSystems.com

COMMUNITY

VP-8 Exhibits P8-A Poseidon at Seoul International Air Show

The “Fighting Tigers” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 participated in the 2017 Seoul International Air Show and Defense Exhibition (ADEX) in Seoul, South Korea, Oct. 17-22.

As the only U.S. Navy unit represented at the exhibition, VP-8 and its advanced P-8A Poseidon aircraft demonstrated the capabilities and readiness of American maritime forces to dozens of multinational partners and thousands of military and civilian participants.

ADEX is northeast Asia’s largest aerospace and defense exhibition, and included representation from over 30 countries, with both aircraft and defense exhibits on display.

ADEX provides a unique opportunity to maintain and strengthen relationships with partners and allies throughout the Pacific theater in a dedicated forum.

VP-8 was able to provide an estimated quarter of a million exhibitors and civilians with an up-close look at the advanced technologies and mission sets the U.S. Navy maritime patrol forces are able to bring to a multinational force.

The VP-8 crew also welcomed two Republic of Korea (ROK) major generals and other distinguished visitors on board the P-8A Poseidon for an Orientation and Indoctrination flight, Oct. 18.

During the flight, the combat aircrew demonstrated the broad maritime and littoral capabilities of the P-8A, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions.

“The South Korean’s were welcoming and gracious hosts throughout the entire ADEX,” said Patrol Plane Commander Lt. Clark Ross. “It was great to be able to repay that kindness by showing our ROK friends a platform that we believe helps strengthen the combined effectiveness of the U.S.-ROK alliance.”

The P-8A was on display all week for the public to learn about and interact with the Navy’s newest and most technologically advanced maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft. Giving tours of the aircraft to Boeing representatives, ADEX attendees, and international media, the crew reached a wide variety of participants and stressed the capabilities and readiness



Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 take a group photograph with Republic of Korea leadership after a demonstration flight of the P-8A Poseidon aircraft, Oct. 22 at Seoul Air Base, South Korea. VP-8 is currently deployed to the 7th Fleet area of responsibility conducting intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare missions, as well as providing maritime domain awareness to theater-level commanders. Photos by Lt. Clark Ross





Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron 8 present a plaque to Republic of Korea Navy admiralty after the 2017 Seoul International Airshow and Defense Exhibition at Seoul Air Base, South Korea Oct. 22. Photos by Lt. Clark Ross



**FOR EVERY OFFICER.
FOR EVERY STAGE OF LIFE.**

MOAA is the one military association that's with you every step of the way, serving your needs, fighting for your rights.



Join MOAA and see what we can do for you!

(877) 770-8762

www.joinmoaa.org



COMMUNITY

VP-5 Conducts Operations in Keflavik, Iceland

KEFLAVIK, Iceland (NNS) -- P-8A Poseidon crews from the "Mad Foxes" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 are conducting routine maritime domain awareness operations while on detachment in Keflavik, Iceland.

U.S. Navy P-8As routinely operate out of Keflavik in order to advance U.S. national interest, security and stability.

VP-5 arrived in Keflavik, Oct. 5, just days after deploying to Sigonella, Italy, and have been conducting long-range, anti-submarine warfare operations. The combat aircrews (CAC) have been resolutely and successfully operating to provide vital maritime information back to U.S. 6th Fleet.

"This has been an incredible opportunity to not only demonstrate the United States' maritime patrol capabilities, but to strengthen our relationship with our NATO allies," said Lt. Cody Berreman, CAC 10's mission commander. "The experience and knowledge gained from working in the North Atlantic area of responsibility has been invaluable toward strengthening the U.S. and NATO presence in 6th Fleet."

VP 5 has started on their six-month deployment to U.S. 4th and 6th Fleet at a sprint. In just one month, they have already operated out of four countries in U.S. 6th Fleet and have no plans to slow operations anytime soon. The CACs currently operating out of Keflavik have played a vital role in improving maritime security and dominance through these continued operations.

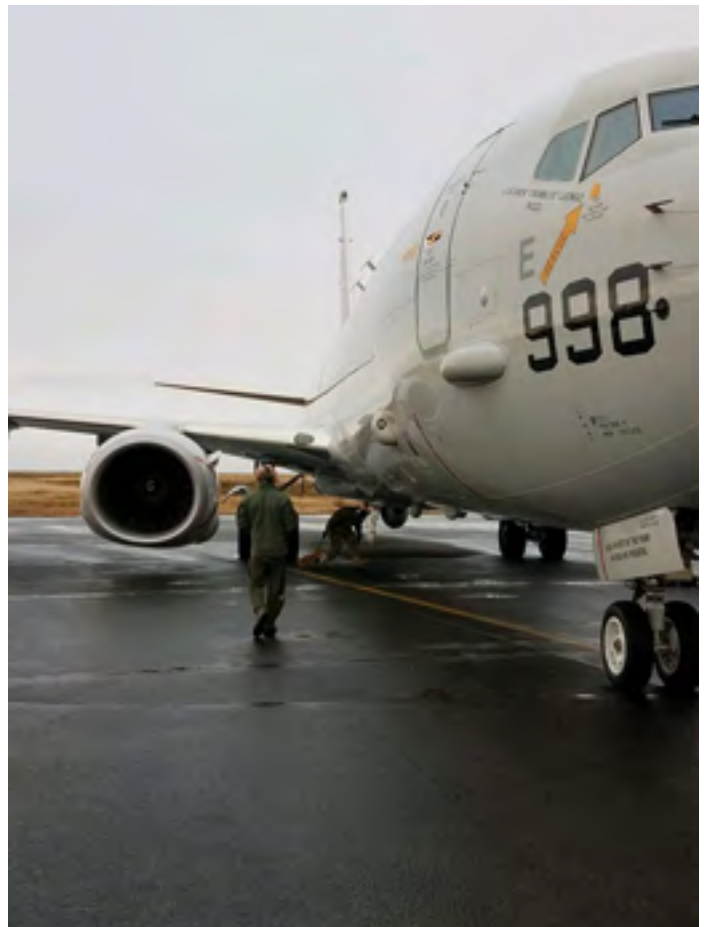
Quick Facts:

- VP-5 is on a dual deployment to Sigonella, Italy and El Salvador.
- VP-5 has several CACs detached to Keflavik, Iceland.
- VP-5 recently provided range clearing in support of exercise Formidable Shield 2017, while in Keflavik, Iceland.

U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied, joint, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa.



Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs



KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Oct. 30, 2017) Lt. Bryant Alsup, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, pre-flights the P-8 Poseidon aircraft before a maritime domain awareness flight over the North Atlantic Oct. 30, 2017. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Erik Pederson/Released)

NAVAIR,



SIMPLIFIED.™

A thought-provoking, half-day training course designed to simplify the seemingly complex story of how things are done at the Naval Air Systems Command.

To register or inquire, contact us at: TeachMe@avianllc.com
www.avianllc.com

A Service-Disabled, Veteran-Owned Small Business | 22111 Three Notch Road | Lexington Park, MD 20653 | 301.866.2070



COMMUNITY

VP-5 Conducts Media Familiarization Flight in Iceland

KEFLAVIK, Iceland – The ‘Mad Foxes’ of Patrol Squadron (VP) FIVE hosted Icelandic media, Icelandic military, and other government officials for a tour of the Navy’s newest maritime platform, the P-8A Poseidon, and a familiarization flight by Combat Air Crew (CAC) 10, Nov. 16, 2017.

The familiarization flight was designed to showcase the wide-ranging mission set of the P-8A. The P-8A Poseidon is a multi-mission capable replacement aircraft for the legacy P-3C Orion. Designed to secure the Navy’s future in long-range maritime patrol capability, the P-8A Poseidon has had a large impact on the Navy’s maritime patrol and reconnaissance force.

“We enjoyed showing the Icelandic media group the advanced capabilities of our maritime aircraft” said Lt. Ali Hussain, CAC-10 tactical coordinator.

The passengers included two Icelandic coast guard members, including the Icelandic coast guard’s Commanding Officer of Keflavik, a U.S. Air Force Embassy Liaison Officer, and an American diplomat.

“It was a great opportunity to convey our appreciation of the cooperation Keflavik has had with VP-5,” said Hussain.

The ‘Mad Foxes’ displayed the aircraft’s state-of-the-art open architecture mission system which allows for easier system reconfiguration and expansion. During the flight, the crew demonstrated different components utilized during an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) pursuit. Hussain said that VP-5 was happy to host the interested passengers and media during the flight and it proved to be a positive opportunity to improve relations and cooperation between Iceland and U.S. Navy forces.

The “Mad Foxes” of CAC-10 are conducting operations in Keflavik, Iceland, in support of Commander, Task Force 67. VP-5 conducts operations in U.S. 6th Fleet from Sigonella, Italy. U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. ★

Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs

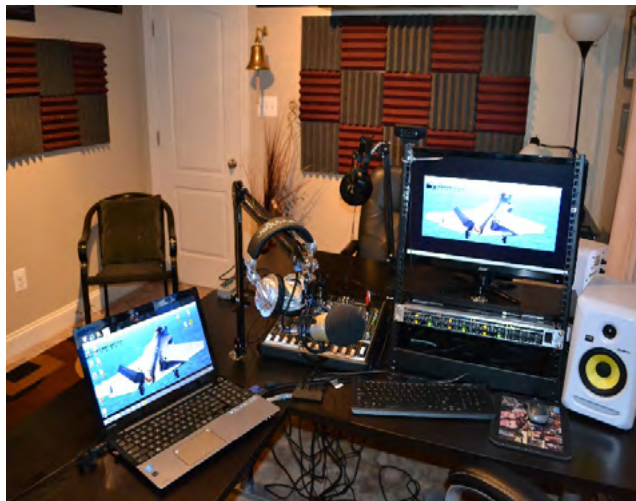


KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Nov. 16, 2017) Combat Air Crew (CAC) 10, assigned to of Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, pose for a group photo with Icelandic media, Icelandic military, and government officials after a familiarization flight in the P-8 Poseidon. U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Sean Conkle/ Released)



THE HANGAR DECK PODCAST

If you love all things about Aviation as we do, then you will certainly enjoy our crew and [show](#). We are presenting this Podcast for the Aviation Enthusiast featuring news and technology discussions on all things Aviation.



the Amateur to Expert Level Aviation Enthusiast.

Our multiple segment Podcast includes interviews with Pilots, Analysts, Maintenance Specialists, Aerospace Engineers and Aviation Business Owners.

Our Goal is to have fun and present discussions on diverse Aviation topics with our partners and various guests from commercial and military aviation communities. The Hangar Deck Podcast team aims at bringing a relaxed, enthusiastic and entertaining experience while talking about cool aviation topics and perhaps learn a thing or two along the way. Our content and topics range from

You can listen to The Hangar Deck Podcast at www.thehangardeck.com.

A proud member of the
AVIATION MEDIA NETWORK
TheVoicesInYourHead.com

Upcoming Episodes

Building your own aircraft with Joe Tierney.

The Decommissioning of HCS-84 and HCS-85 with CMDCM Lee Barbrey (ret.)

Special Interview with MCPON Jim Herdt (ret.) on the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71).

The 747-400 Cargo Aircraft with Mr. Brian Mills.

Contact us:
Pitchlockpete@thehangardeck.com



The Hangar Deck Podcast Crew

'Pitchlock' Pete Bruno - Creator and Host of the Hangar Deck Podcast is a retired US Navy Chief Petty Officer and Graduate of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. Pitchlock Pete has over 5,000 flight hours as a P-3C Flight Engineer and SH-3D/H Crew Chief and Rescue Swimmer. He currently is an Aviation Subject Matter Expert and Maintenance Engineer in the Defense Industry. He specializes in Aviation Instructional Systems Design, Computer Based Training and Aircrew and Maintenance Operating Procedures and Technical Manual Development.

'Fast Eddie' Simila - Permanent Co-Host of the Hangar Deck Podcast, Fast Eddie is a US Naval Academy graduate and retired USNR Commander and US Navy Pilot. Fast Eddie has accumulated over 9,000 Flight Hours in US Navy P-3C, C-130T and various Commercial and Training Aircraft. As a United Airlines Pilot, Ed's specific experience is with the Boeing 737 and Airbus A-319/320 Type series aircraft. He currently is an Aviation and Aerospace Analyst specializing in Flight Operations, Aircrew Flight Manuals, Flight Clearances and Crew Resource Management Standards.

'Raging' Rick Pretsch - Permanent Guest Host of the Hangar Deck Podcast, Raging Rick is a retired USAF Fighter Pilot USAF Test Pilot and retired American Airlines Captain. Raging Rick has accumulated over 14,000 Flight Hours in USAF F-4, F-16 and numerous Commercial, Training and General Aviation Aircraft. As an American Airlines Captain, Rick has flown the Boeing 737, 757, 767, 777 and the MD-80 type series aircraft. He currently is an Aviation and Aerospace Analyst specializing in Flight Operations, Aircrew Flight Manuals, Flight Clearances, Electronic Flight Bag Technologies and Crew Resource Management Standards.

COMMUNITY

VP-5 Joins Sweden in Bilateral ASW/ASUW Exercise

AALBORG, Denmark – Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 participated in an Swedish-led warfare exercise Nov. 15-16, 2017. The two-day exercise was designed to fortify combat effectiveness between the U.S. Navy and Swedish naval forces.

Combat Air Crew (CAC) 4 conducted flights off the coast of Gotland Island in the Baltic Sea to demonstrate the P-8A Poseidon's utility in combined anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and anti-surface warfare (ASUW) operations.

During the first flight of the exercise, CAC-4 assisted Swedish naval forces identify ships in the surrounding area by providing intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities. This phase tested the crew's ability to gain pertinent information and relay it quickly to the controlling agency.

"It was a great learning experience to see how the Swedish would use our platform to help in their maritime tactics," said Lt.j.g. Carter Dennis, VP-5 pilot.



AALBORG, Denmark (Nov. 15, 2017) Combat Air Crew (CAC) 4 Tactical Coordinator Lt. John Ross Gillen, middle, and Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class Lawrence Rosado, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, provides a tour of the P-8A Poseidon, the Navy's premier maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft, to Swedish naval forces in Aalborg, Denmark, Nov. 15, 2017. U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied, joint, and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt.j.g. Carter Dennis/Released)

The multi-phase exercise concluded with an ASW scenario in which the CAC-4 crew was tasked with tracking a Swedish Gotland-class submarine. After tracking the submarine for three hours, the crew was able to detect and defend against the submarine while being able to fine-tune their tactical skills.

This wasn't the first time VP-5 worked with Swedish naval forces during an exercise this year. Earlier in March, they participated in a similar exercise Week 713 which also helped strengthen ties and build interoperability.

The 'Mad Foxes' of CAC-4 are conducting operations in Aalborg, Denmark, in support of Commander, Task Force 67. VP-5 conducts operations in U.S. 6th Fleet from Sigonella, Italy.

U.S. 6th Fleet, headquartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with allied and interagency partners, in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa.



Lt.j.g. Mary Carter Jordan, VP-5 Public Affairs



We have an APP for that...



NOW AVAILABLE



Maritime Patrol Association
BuildFire



Download your
Maritime Patrol Association
mobile device app today
and experience your
member benefits
at the tip of your finger!

[www.app.buildfire.com/promo/#Maritime Patrol Association](http://www.app.buildfire.com/promo/#Maritime%20Patrol%20Association)



COMMUNITY

MPA Fall Golf Tournament

The MPA Jacksonville Chapter hosted the second annual MPA Fall Golf Tournament and Happy Hour at the NAS JAX Golf Course in mid-November.

Fifty six golfers competed in support of the MPA Scholarship Fund, raising money for future scholarship recipients while enjoying a beautiful day on the links.

The winning foursome was comprised of Richard Heimerle, Curtis O'Neal, Dennis Turcotte and Francisco Abreu.

Following the golf tournament, players joined other MPA members at Mulligans to share stories and camaraderie over food and beverages.

We look forward to this event growing rapidly over the next few years, providing yet another great benefit to our MPA members!



Photo Captions, top to bottom.

Upper Right: Winning foursome of Abreu, Turcotte, Heimerle, O'Neal.

Middle Right: Capt Bob Whitmire, Capt Tim Tibbits, RAdm Mike Holmes, and Capt Bob Blake.

Bottom: 56 golfers teed off to support the MPA Scholarship Fund at the annual Fall Scholarship Golf Tournament.



COMMUNITY

Upcoming Events

Reunion Groups & Events

2018 MPA Symposium - SAVE THE DATE!

Join us April 24-27, 2018 for the 2018 MPA Symposium on board NAS Jacksonville. More information and registration to come in January!

2nd Brunswick Naval Air Station Reunion

The 2nd Brunswick Naval Air Station Reunion will be held on the weekend of 10-12 August, 2018. More information will be posted on the Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/191708631780/

To join/renew your **VP-1 POPS (P-3 Orion Pioneers)** Membership, check out membership information at: www.vp1pops.com

ANA Patriot Squadron, Boston, MA. This group operates a small naval aviation museum on the site of former NAS South Weymouth called the Shea Naval Aviation Museum. A number of members were formerly VP-92 and predecessor reserve patrol squadrons that were based at NAS South Weymouth. The group meets at 11 AM on the last Saturday of the month at the museum and goes out for lunch afterwards. For details see: www.anapatriotsquadron.org.

Chapter Events



Jacksonville Chapter:

Happy Hour at the T-Bar, last Thursday of each month at 1600!

LCDR Stephen Williams & LT Sergio Ibarra, VPs of Region, stephen.v.williams1@navy.mil and Sergio.l.ibarra@navy.mil



Memphis Chapter:

Stay tuned for coming events!

LT Tim Coennen, VP of Region, tcoennen@gmail.com



Norfolk Chapter:

Stay tuned for coming events!

CDR Brian Solano, VP of Region, brian.solano@cvn73.navy.mil



Pax River Chapter:

Stay tuned for coming events!

CDR Molly Boron, VP of Region

molly.boron@navy.mil



San Diego Chapter:

Join us for the San Diego Chapter Happy Hour 15 Feb at 1800 at the NAS North Island I-Bar.

CDR James Johnston, VP of Region

james.p.johnston@navy.mil



Washington DC Chapter:

Spring Social with the Tailhook Association (DC Ready Room).

When: Thursday, 15 February, 2018 (1700-1900)

Where: Crystal City King Street Blues
<https://www.thecrystalcityshops.com/go/king-street-blues>

<http://www.kingstreetblues.com/home.aspx>

1648 Crystal Square Arcade

Who: All communities welcome!

Cost: \$20 (cost to enter, includes well-drinks, beer, and wine until tab runs dry)

Note: Free parking after 1600 (garage on 18th St is closest-spot 3 on attachment)

If you have the opportunity, join us for a drink and catch up with the greater aviation Family, to include the mighty MPRF. As with any event, please plan ahead or Uber and consume responsibly.

CAPT Bill Pennington, VP of Region, billkatep@hotmail.com



Whidbey Island Chapter:

Join us for Happy Hour on Feb. 2 @ 1500-1800 at the NASWI O'Club.

CAPT Kevin Long, VP of Region

kevin.long@navy.mil



Moffett Field Chapter:

Stay tuned for coming events!

CAPT Tom Spink, USN (Ret.), VP of Region

tom.spink@att.net

January

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR THE

2018 MPA SYMPOSIUM:

Stay tuned for emails with more information about the upcoming symposium, including registration information in January! SAVE

THE DATES - April 24-27, 2018

February

Friday, February 2 @ 1500-1800:

Join us for the Whidbey Island Chapter Happy Hour at the NASWI O'Club.

CAPT Kevin Long, VP of Region, kevin.long@navy.mil

Thursday, February 15 @ 1700-1900:

DC Chapter Spring Social with The Tailhook Assn.

Crystal City King Street Blues, 1648 Crystal Square Arcade

\$20 (cost to enter, includes well-drinks, beer, and wine until tab runs dry); Free parking after 1600 (garage on 18th St is closest).

Friday, February 15 @ 1800:

Join us for the San Diego Chapter Happy Hour 15 Feb at 1800 at the NAS North Island I-Bar.

CDR James Johnston, VP of Region

james.p.johnston@navy.mil

Get Your Event Listed Here!

Have a command ceremony or event,
or reunion event that
you would like posted in
PLANESIDE?

Email the details to us at:

info@maritimepatrolassociation.org

After your event,
be sure to send us a write up
and some photos and we will
publish those as well!



Looking for a 'sky's the limit' partnership?

★ You're cleared for take-off. ★

With a corporate sponsorship program that is engineered to soar, we're looking to build long-term partnerships with industry and community leaders who can see what's on the horizon and are planning for what is beyond it.

To see how we fit into your company's flight plan, visit us at:

www.maritimepatrolassociation.org



HERITAGE

Marlins Return to Moffett Field

The Wardroom of VP-40 (1987-1995) held their first ever reunion October 12-15, 2017 at Moffett Federal Airfield, Mountain View CA. The brainchild of Eric Carlson, the event was a year in the making after putting forth the idea of a reunion to Bill Baker and Rob Koteskey. With immediate agreement, Eric reserved the Moffett Golf Club as the host location, and then started the organization and planning of the entire event. Rob Koteskey handled the registration/finances and Bill Baker compiled the 750+ scanned photos that were submitted into a slide show, created an event webpage, and spearheaded the search for members of the Wardroom utilizing Social Media, and all other avenues to get in touch with as many former shipmates as possible. The final number of attendees was over 75 first tour JO's, Department Heads, Commanding Officers and spouses.

The reunion kicked off with a dinner for the early arrivers, as people were flying and driving in from all over the country. The first days' events included a fascinating tour of the NASA Ames Research Center flight simulators and wind tunnel arranged by Rob Koteskey. Next was a group photo and tour of a P-3C, graciously provided by VP-69. Not only was this greatly appreciated, but the aircraft that arrived was an ex VP-40 aircraft known back in the 1980s as "QE-06" that we had all flown. The afternoon was capped off with a golf tournament, while others did a mountain hike. After a social gathering at

the Moffett Golf Club, the crowd moved to downtown Mountain View for dinner.

Day two kicked off with a tour of the Moffett Field Museum and the static display aircraft at Base Operations. Plenty more socializing followed, then the main event later that afternoon kicked off at the Golf Club with cocktails and the main buffet dinner. With the slide-show in the background, there were many sea stories told, memories recalled, and friendships renewed along with the top notch meal that was served. Those who were remaining in the area or prior to their flight departures the following day, met for brunch at the San Jose Country Club, hosted by Randy Pinkley.

Congrats to Eric Carlson for turning his idea to reunite the Wardroom of VP-40 into reality. The resounding success was evident by the smiles, laughter, memories, fellowship, and the fact that it seemed like just yesterday we'd all been together and not the 25+ years that had passed. Everyone had a tremendous time reliving our tours in VP-40. Those who were not able to attend, were able to share in the weekend with ongoing social media posts as well as the nearly 1000 compiled photos that have been preserved in an online photo album for all to enjoy for years to come.



By Bill Baker, LCDR USN (Ret)

VP-31, VP-40, RAAF 10Sqn, VX-1, VP-64, MPA Member



Photo credit: Capt. George C. Hill, USN (Ret)



MPA

What's New?

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO!

Log-in to our members only area on the Membership page of our web site or by using our app to access the securemember directory and online forums.

Also, don't forget to update your contact information in your online profile each time you change locations or positions, or general contact info.

MPA Membership cards are mailed out each time you renew...
we need your updated mailing address to make sure you get yours!

Questions? Comments? Drop us a line any time at:

info@maritimepatrolassociation.org

Attention MPA Members, Command PAOs, and Corporate PAOs: To contribute a story, photos or event to PLANESIDE, please email your materials to: info@maritimepatrolassociation.org

MPA

Thank You!

THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING AND GENEROUS CORPORATE SPONSORS!



The Power of Flight

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Raytheon

LOCKHEED MARTIN
We never forget who we're working for™



RGKGLOBAL, LLC
Partner in Global Business



PLANESIDE is a quarterly online magazine published for the Maritime Patrol Association, Inc. by SEPTEMBER BLUE CREATIVE.

september
Blue
creative

