# PLANESIDE

the Quarterly Magazine of the Maritime Patrol Association

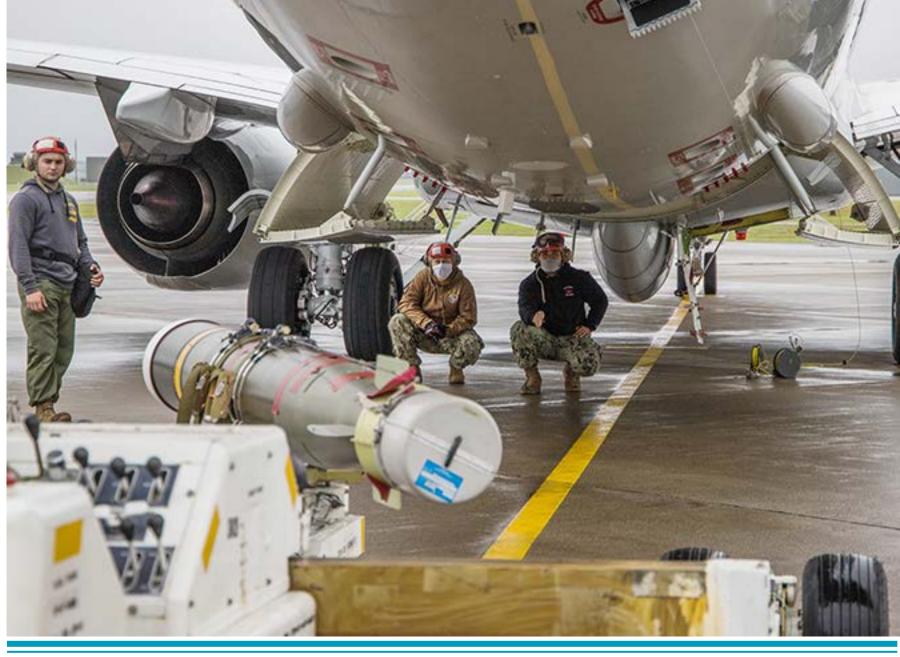
2020: Issue 4



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#### **Cover Photo**

MISAWA, Japan (July 28, 2020)- Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Evan Tu'ua, right, Chief Aviation Ordnanceman Ryan Ward, center, and Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Mason Cleveland, assigned to the "Screaming Eagles" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 1, load a Mark 54 torpedo onto a P-8A Poseidon aircraft during a scheduled exercise. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Dylan Sharp)



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### **Checking On Station**



Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Warriors Past and Present,

I hope this installment of Checking on Station finds you well and enjoying the holidays as best, and as safely, as you can. The season certainly has a different feel to it this year as we continue fighting through a global pandemic. I recognize how difficult these times are and the stress our families and Sailors endure on a daily basis. While COVID-19 remains challenging, adherence to Navy and CDC guidelines and respecting an invisible, indiscriminate threat accordingly, will get us through. Fortunately, resiliency is an attribute we hold in abundance and I remain proud of our Force and its ability to not only remain healthy, but also maintain the highest level of readiness.

Despite many challenges, we continue to answer all bells and deploy combat ready forces around the world. For several years, our nation and Navy have grown accustomed to keeping our adversaries at a distance, and we have grown adept at playing the "away game" while forward deployed to European, Middle Eastern, Central America, and Indo-Pacific regions. The era of Great Power Competition has renewed an emphasis on the "home game" as adversary submarine deployments to the

Western Atlantic and Eastern Pacific have become more routine and present additional risks as their capabilities grow. Since its inception, the Maritime Patrol Community has been uniquely suited for this scenario, and our forces rightfully play a critical role in keeping our homeland safe. We have been here before. It is in our DNA.

The Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) represents the Navy's only long-range, broad area search-toengage airborne Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) capability. Exercising speed and agility, going head-to-head in Great Power Competition is in our wheelhouse. We must remain ready to engage our adversaries anytime, anywhere. This comes with significant effort on our part, but we are up to the task and continue demonstrating our ability to "Fight Tonight" responding on call at any point in the training cycle. The fact is that in service to our nation, the job requires us to be ASW combat ready so that we can return the favor to any adversary submarine that wishes to hold our country at risk. Lethality, Agility, and Professionalism propel us as a winning team.

We are not in this fight alone. The increased interest and capability of adversaries to conduct more deployments further from their shores directly affects many of our closest allies and partners, stalwart friends with skin in the game. Our interoperability with these teammates and willingness to share lessons learned are critical to our future success in combat. The fact that many are upgrading their own MPA fleets with P-8A Poseidons makes interoperability an operational and tactical imperative. You will be encouraged to know, and as many of you no doubt recall from previous eras of competition, we are working with allied and partner nation aircrews on station every day. We covet these engagements that make our collective team better.

Equipped with the best technology and the best-trained crews, we take the fight forward and win. The nation expects nothing less and no one else can do what the MPRF does. The work we do is important – every day - and will not be thwarted by COVID, or any of a dozen other distractions. So, whether you are still serving, have served, or support someone who does, know that we are doing everything in our power to successfully complete the mission AND keep everyone safe.

I appreciate your support and look forward to when we can come together again in Whidbey Island or Jacksonville to celebrate our shared MPA heritage, raise a glass or two to fallen comrades, and share sea-stories with old and new friends. Until then, stay healthy and know that we will continue to Fly, Fight, Lead and Win!

With great respect,

Lance Scott Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Group/Patrol and Reconnaissance Group Pacific



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### RAF Squadron Leader Andy Bull Passes After a Brave and Courageous Cancer Fight

#### Sqn Ldr Andrew I. Bull, Royal Air Force. 27 February 1978 to 1 November 2020

Squadron Leader Andy Bull has passed away after a brave and courageous short fight with cancer. He is sorely missed.

Sqn Ldr Bull, a native of Nottingham, United Kingdom, was commissioned in October 1999 after earning his Bachelor of Science degree with honors in Geography from Loughborough University. He completed one year of flight training in Australia before reporting to RAF Cranwell in 2001, where he earned his wings in 2002.

During his illustrious military career, Sqn Ldr Bull has flown over 3,600 hours, to include 1,050 as an instructor. His operational tours from 2002 to 2008 included assignments with No. 206 Squadron and No. 120 Squadron flying the maritime patrol aircraft Nimrod MR2 as a Combat Ready (Advanced) Nimrod Captain. His operational deployments supported Maritime operations in the North Atlantic, Caribbean, Mediterranean, Barents Sea, and nine deployments to the Middle East covering both overland and maritime missions.

Sqn Ldr Bull achieved qualifications as a Qualified Flying Instructor of the King Air while attached to No. 45 Squadron at RAFC Cranwell from 2008 to 2012. Subsequently, he reported to Jacksonville, Florida in 2012 to fly the P-8A Poseidon as a Patrol Plane Commander, Mission Commander, and Flight and Tactics Instructor with USN Patrol

Squadron Thirty. He led the RAF crew that won the prestigious Fleet Challenge ASW competition in 2014. He was instrumental in the VP-30 Safety Office, and he helped develop many procedures to ensure the P-8A operates safely today.

In 2015, Sqn Ldr Bull served as the Deputy Air Commander supervising operational missions of SHADOW R1 and UAS in Erbil, Iraq. In 2016, he acted as the Patrol Aircraft Programme Manager while attached to Headquarters Air Command. Afterward, he returned to the U.S. in 2018 to Air Test and Evaluation Squadron One in Patuxent River, Maryland, where he continued flying the P-8A Poseidon and excelled as the P-8A Deputy Operational Test Director.

Sqn Ldr Bull's personal decorations include HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, Iraq Medal, and Operational Service Meals for Afghanistan and Iraq and Syria.

Sqn Ldr Bull, passed away at Walter Reed Military Hospital on 1st November 2020 aged 42. His wife Abi was by his side with their children, Ava and Alex. Andrew is survived by his parents Melvyn and Marjorie, along with his brother Christopher and sister Sarah.









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### MPRF P-8A Poseidon in US-Russia Aerial Encounters

Over the Black Sea (CNN)Thirty thousand feet in the air, a United States Navy crewman jumps to his feet and rushes toward a large window in the reconnaissance jet.

He points. There, off the left wing, a twin-engine, blue-and-white fighter jet is briefly visible before diving out of view. The Russian Air Force has just buzzed the plane, a warning that the US military should tread carefully here on the edge of the Crimea.

It's a heavily militarized area, and even though US military reconnaissance missions like this are a regular occurrence in international airspace over the Black Sea, tensions between Russia and the US, as well as its allies in the region, have been flaring up.

This encounter has been safe. Most are, even though 90% of US reconnaissance flights over the Black Sea like this one out of Naval Air Station Sigonella in Sicily, are intercepted by Russian jets, according to the US military. But the US Navy crew can't get complacent.

"The greatest risk is miscalculation. The Russians do intercept these aircraft frequently," says Capt. Tim Thompson, commodore of the US Navy's Task Force 67. "They tend to be very professional and safe, but, on occasion, they can be unprofessional."

This flight is one of several every week as the US military puts on a show of force for Russia and gives visible reassurance to NATO allies in the region that it is committed to their protection.

The crew of the US Navy's P-8A uses the aircraft's cameras and radar to scour the Black Sea for unidentified assets, including Russian aircraft and military ships. They detected 10 Russian warships and seven aircraft during the flight. In the cockpit of the US Navy P-8A Poseidon, its pilot, Lt. Daniel Loudon, explains why these aerial encounters can get the adrenalin pumping.

"We don't really know what any other aircraft is doing. They could be an unpredictable pilot, maybe a new pilot or something like that so... that can always be a challenge," Loudon says.

The Russian fighters are fast and nimble, able to change direction or altitude in an instant.

The P-8A is based on the Boeing 737 jetliner, one of the most popular aircraft models on the planet. Loudon says the P-8 is a responsive, fun aircraft to fly. But it's built for straight level flight, not close encounters with screaming fighter jets. That's exactly what the crew of a US Air Force B-52 bomber faced on August 28, when two Russian Su-27s crossed the nose of the massive American bomber over the Black Sea. Video recorded by the US military shows one of the jets flying in very close proximity and the turbulence it caused inside the bomber.

Three months earlier, on May 26, two Russian Su-35 fighters flew simultaneously on each side of a US Navy P-8A aircraft, restricting its ability to move, for 64 minutes. The Russian Ministry of Defense has denied US accusations on multiple occasions.

Russia's allegedly aggressive behavior adds risk to a complicated geopolitical environment over the Black Sea, an important shipping lane for several NATO allies such as Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. It is also vital for Ukraine and Georgia, two NATO partners whose disputes with Moscow are far from being resolved. Russia invaded Georgia in 2008 and remains closely behind the separatist forces in the breakaway regions of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. In 2014 it occupied and then annexed the Ukrainian region of Crimea.

Rear Adm. Anthony Carullo, director of operations for US Naval Forces in Europe says these missions are becoming more important as Russia increases its activity not just in the Black Sea, but also in the Mediterranean, the Baltic, the Barents and the Arctic seas.

Over the past few years, as the relationship between Russia and the West deteriorated, Moscow has increased the number of military exercises, overflights and patrols it conducts these areas around Europe, probing the continent's



defenses, Carullo says.

Russia has frequently denied these accusations, saying it is only responding to NATO provocations.

"We're here constantly keeping an eye on them and seeing what activities they are up to," Carullo says, adding that it sends a message. "It's a message to all potential adversaries and a message to our partners and allies that we're here to support them."

What the CNN crew saw during this flight appears to underscore the admiral's point. The P-8A's cameras caught a dozen Russian warships, including a Kilo-class submarine, and seven military jets.

There were also US B-52 bombers flying in the immediate vicinity and three NATO warships sailing below. Inside the P-8A, all that activity is monitored by some of the most advanced surveillance technology on the planet, including a state-of-the-art radar and infrared cameras, which are operated from five workstations on

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A US Navy service member uses the P-8A's camera to track track a Russian Kiloclass submarine as it sails through the Black Sea. Photo courtesy of CNN.

the port side of the plane.

- "We look for a variety of things" says Lt. Hollis Kennedy, the mission commander. "The Russian combatants wouldn't be reporting in the civilian AIS (Automatic Identification System) system, and as you saw we were able to pick them out and then get much closer, get eyes on
- them, identify them and send that information off."

By Vasco Cotovio, Fred Pleitgen and Claudia **Otto, CNN** Published on cnn.com on October 8, 2020

#### **RAAF P-8A Poseidon Completes Air-to-Air Refueling Test**

A surveillance aircraft has, for the first time, refuelled the Royal Australian Air Force's P-8A Poseidon fleet with an air-to-air KC-30A MRTT.

The KC-30A departed RAAF Amberley with its 11-metre advanced refuelling boom system for seven refuelling flights between 22 September and 1 October, meeting the P-8A Poseidon — which departed from RAAF Base Edinburgh's No. 92 Wing — at designated training airspace off the coast of Queensland.

Captain of the P-8A Poseidon Squadron Leader Chris Godfrey said the refuelling flights involved "extensive planning". The execution of air-to-air refuelling requires extensive planning and training in both the simulator and airborne environment," SQNLDR Godfrey said. "This included rigorous training scenarios to ensure we were ready for the demanding aerial refuelling flights."

During the missions, crews of both aircraft were required to ensure connections were secure to allow for the proper transfer of fuel, while No. 92 Wing and No. 33 Squadron aircrews maintained communications on the ground.

"Fundamentally, it's a team effort both in the air and on the ground," SQNLDR Godfrey added. "This included our No. 11 Squadron maintenance personnel who worked long hours over the past couple of months to ensure the serviceability of the aircraft for the aerial refuelling flights. I was incredibly proud to play a part in the mission and operate within such an effective and focused team."

Officer Commanding No. 92 Wing Group Captain John Grime said the refuelling flights were an important step towards full operational capability.



"The missions represent a significant achievement for the RAAF P-8A fleet on our path to final operational capability," GPCAPT Grime said. "It enhances the existing operational effectiveness of the aircraft's long-range surveillance capabilities, extending the endurance and radius of action of the platform."

GPCAPT Grime also noted the contributions of No. 92 and 86 Wing.

"The strong partnership with No. 33 Squadron's KC-30A team demonstrates our ability to integrate fifth-generation capabilities and strengthens our air power contribution for the joint force," he added.

Officer Commanding No. 86 Wing Group Captain Anthony Bull said RAAF KC-30A crews had benefited from previous refuelling trials with US Navy P-8As.

"Adding RAAF's P-8A Poseidon to our scope of support reinforces the value of the KC-30A in the battlespace," GP-CAPT Bull said. "It delivers an extremely agile capability across multiple platforms in support of operations at home and abroad."

An Air Combat Group AAA Learjet acted as the photographic chase aircraft, capturing the RAAF P-8A Poseidon's inaugural air-to-air refuelling missions. \*



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The fleet is one step closer to full operational capability after demonstrating airto-air refuelling capacity with a KC-30A Multi Role Tanker Transport.

### VP-1 Participates in CARAT 2020, U.S.-Brunei Partnership Remains Strong

SOUTH CHINA SEA -- U.S. military and Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) are partnering in the 26th annual Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) maritime exercise, commencing off the coast of Brunei, Oct. 5.

The 26th anniversary of Exercise CARAT Brunei, the first CARAT to take place this year, symbolizes the longstanding U.S.-Brunei maritime partnership. CARAT expands bilateral and multilateral exercises; ensures maritime security, stability, and prosperity; and highlights the United States' commitment to the region and to a free and open Indo-Pacific.

"Beginning the 26th iteration of CARAT with our Brunei partners is a superb way for us to build on our interoperability and readiness, as we work together to maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific," said Rear Adm. Fred Kacher, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 7. "Even though we cannot meet face-to-face this year, this does not affect our strong partnership. Meeting both virtually and at sea to exchange Navy and Marine Corps skills with our Brunei partners helps us build relationships so that we can communicate and operate together in good times, as well as challenging ones."

Exercise events were planned virtually and will be conducted with COVID-19 mitigation measures in place. Using integrated technology for virtual content generation and collaboration, for example, resulted in a successful planning of a multi-event exercise, with no face-to-face planning required.

Historically, CARAT exercises involve people-to-people interactions and relationships through a variety of professional exchanges and symposia, subject matter expert exchanges (SMEEs), and social events. In order to mitigate COVID-19 risks, however, SMEEs will take place online, using both real-time virtual meetings and pre-recorded webinars, for U.S. and Brunei to share best practices. This is an excellent opportunity to safely exercise with our partners in the region in a COVID-constrained environment. RBAF Joint Forces Headquarters Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Saifulrizal Bin Abdul Latif, highlighted the first Special Operations Force SMEE milestone during this year's CARAT, and stressed the importance of continued partnership between the two countries.

"In light of these extraordinary circumstances, I hope that it neither changes nor dampen the spirit of cooperation between our two forces," said Saifulrizal. "It would be of great value to know that despite the difficulties we may face on the 26th iteration of CARAT, we would still be able to achieve its objectives and further enhance our abilities to operate together in response to traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific Region."

The virtual SMEE events will feature a variety of joint training opportunities, to include vessel interdiction and boarding training, U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) and Royal Brunei Land Force (RBLF) cooperation, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) training, riverine security training, replenishment at sea (RAS) best practices, Women Peace & Security symposium, and more. Other virtual exchanges will include maritime domain awareness (MDA), unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and anti-terrorism force protection, among other topics.

The at-sea phase will take place in the South China Sea with ships and aircraft from both partner militaries, with events designed to enhance interoperability between the two militaries. During the sea-phase of the exercise, both countries will demonstrate their ability to work together through numerous events including divisional tactics designed to enhance communication as ships sail together in complex maneuvers, a tracking exercise aimed at increasing both navies' ability to track and pursue targets through the coordinated deployment of surface ships and maritime patrol aircrafts, and search and rescue exercises.

During the virtual opening ceremony, Capt. Ann McCann, Commodore, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 7, emphasized that the foundation of U.S.-Brunei cooperation and training rests in friendships made during time the two nations spend together. "While 2020 has been a unique year, it has not deterred the opportunity for us to come together during our CARAT events," said McCann. "I look forward for our forces to do what they have always done so well - strengthen bonds and exchange military best practices."

Aviation events during the exercise will focus on MDA, search and rescue, UAV, and interoperability, with participating units from RBAF and a U.S. P-8A Poseidon from Patrol Squadron (VP) 1.

"The crew of VP 1, Combat Aircrew-10 are looking forward to professional discussions with our Royal Brunei Armed



SINGAPORE (Oct. 5, 2020) – Capt. Ann McCann, commodore of Destroyer Squadron 7, listens to opening remarks during a virtual opening ceremony for Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Brunei 2020. 2020 marks the 26th iteration of CARAT, a multinational exercise designed to enhance U.S. and partner navies' abilities to operate together in response to traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Greg Johnson)

Force partners, to strengthen our friendships and exchange both aviation and maritime best practices between our nations," said Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Brass, detachment officer in charge. "Training together and improving our interoperability skills is a unique opportunity, and the U.S. Navy Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force takes pride in enhancing our partnerships within the region."

CARAT, the U.S. Navy's oldest and longest continually running regional exercise in South and Southeast Asia, strengthens partnerships between regional navies and enhances maritime security cooperation and interoperability throughout the Indo-Pacific. It builds on other engagements in the region, including Pacific Partnership, Maritime Training Activity, and Pacific Griffin. These engagements bring like-minded naval forces together, routinely based on shared values and maritime security interests.

U.S. assets participating in CARAT Brunei include staff from Commander Task Force (CTF) 72, CTF 73, CTF 75, CTF 76, DESRON 7, EOD Mobile Unit Five, USMC III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), Special Operations Command Pacific, the U.S. 7th Fleet Band and a P-8 Poseidon aircraft. Afloat units include the Spearhead-class expeditionary fast transport USNS Millinocket (T-EPF 3).

Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 7/Task Force 76 and DESRON 7 conduct advanced planning, organize resources, and directly support the execution of CARAT and other engagements, on behalf of U.S. 7th Fleet, in support of theater security cooperation in South and Southeast Asia.

U.S. 7th Fleet conducts forward-deployed naval operations in support of U.S. national interests in the Indo-Pacific area of operations. As the U.S. Navy's largest numbered fleet, 7th Fleet interacts with 35 other maritime nations to build partnerships that foster maritime security, promote stability, and prevent conflict.

By Lt. Lauren Chatmas, Commander DES-RON 7 Public Affairs Office



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## MARITIME PATROL ASSOCIATION 2021 SYMPOSIUM 10th Anniversary Celebration!!!

### Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 hosts Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic During Exercise 'Black Widow'

JACKSONVILLE, FL (Sept. 21, 2020) - The "Red Lancers" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 enjoyed the distinct honor to fly a Black Widow Exercise flight with Rear Adm. John Meier, Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic and Capt. Matt Pottenburgh, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 11.

Exercise Black Widow provided fleet warfighters the opportunity to employ, hone, and evaluate tactics, techniques, and procedures in efforts to enhance readiness for real-world operations.

During the mission flight, VP-10 demonstrated the P-8A's Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) capabilities and tactics with multiple units to include the USS McFaul (DDG 74), USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51), USS Wasp (LHD 1), four embarked Helicopter Sea Combat Squadrons, as well as Navy submarines. The exercise provided all units the unique opportunity to evaluate coordinated tactics, techniques, and procedures against advanced undersea threats.

"Extremely impressed by the men and women of the Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, specifically the VP-10 'Red Lancers' as they participated in Exercise Black Widow," said Meier, who emphasized the important take-aways gained from participating in these types of exercises during the era of Great Power Competition.

In this era of Great Power Competition, the Black Widow Exercise allowed VP-10 aircrew to enhance the Navy's ability in maintaining its unmatched capability in the undersea domain. The Red Lancers of VP-10 effectively employed the P-8A in a dynamic environment working with dissimilar assets to prepare for the challenging operations against our competitors.

The Red Lancers were able to conduct all phases of ASW during the exercise as well as refine turnover and swap procedures with other airborne assets. Specifically, VP-10 was able to refine coordinated ASW tactics with dissimilar platforms to include the MH-60Rs embarked on supporting surface ships. The P-8A's endurance on-station and ability to collect acoustic, electronic, and imagery intelligence proved critical in achieving exercise objectives.

Rear Adm. Lance Scott, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group (CPRG) emphasized the strategic benefits from contributing to the exercise for his forces.

"The P-8A's endurance on-station and ability to collect acoustic, electronic, and imagery intelligence proved critical in achieving exercise objectives. The men and women of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Eleven achieved a multitude of objectives during the exercise and I look forward to continuing the integrated theater ASW training in future iterations of Exercise Black Widow," said Scott.

The agility of the P-8 Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, according to Pottenburgh, allows his forces to operate cohesively with surface and sub-surface counterparts.

"Black Widow provided an incredible opportunity for Patrol Wing Eleven to execute and refine Anti-Submarine Warfare tactics in the North Atlantic alongside Destroyer Squadron Two and Helicopter Maritime Strike Wing Atlantic," said Pottenburgh, who added the exercise provides an opportunity to apply the lessons learned from the exercise to benefit future operational deployments. "Our Combat Aircrews were able to enhance our lethality in an unforgiving environment – there is just no replacement for training like you fight."



Photo By Lt.j.g. Samantha Michel | 200914-N-XC547-0003 ATLANTIC OCEAN (Sep. 15, 2020) RADM John Meier, Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, CAPT Matt Pottenburgh, Commodore Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing ELEVEN, and CDR Russell White, Commanding Officer Patrol Squadron TEN, conduct a visual inspection of the P-8A weapons stations. Exercise Black Widow is being conducted in the Atlantic to advance theater undersea warfare in a multi-domain environment. Our submarines, surface ships, ASW capable aircraft, and other undersea capabilities work together in a dynamic environment to prepare our teams for challenging operations against near-peer competitors. (U.S. Navy Photo)

#### By Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs

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### Patrol Squadron 16 "War Eagles" Return Home to Jacksonville, 8 as New Dads

Patrol Squadron 16 and the "Lightning Riders" of Mobile Tactical Operations Center-1 returned back to Naval Air Station Jacksonville on Monday. The squad returned home after a pioneering sevenmonth deployment to the 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility. Eight of them return as new fathers.

One of the new mothers says she gave birth to their daughter while on Facebook video chat with her husband.

"He has not met our daughter yet," Rafaela Morrison told First Coast News. "It was a tough, long deployment with covid, but we made it."

The War Eagles were attached to Commander, Task Force (CTF) 57 and 67 providing widespread intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and anti-submarine warfare capability to the fleet, the Navy said in a news release.

Squadron elements assigned to CTF-57 operated out of Bahrain in the Middle East, while squadron elements assigned to CTF-67 primarily operated out of NAS Sigonella, Italy.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Nov. 2, 2020) — The "War Eagles" of Overall they were deployed across five detachment sites spanning three continents and over 7,400 miles flying missions in support of operations Freedom's Sentinel. Sentinel Sentry (5th Fleet), Sea Guardian, and Assurance Measure (6th Fleet), according to the Navy release.

> The organization says the War Eagles worked to maintain mission readiness and provide theater security for the Joint Force Air Component Commander.

During their deployment, VP-16's maintenance professionals, maintained seven P-8A Poseidon aircraft requiring over 20,000 man hours. Authorities say these flights included the Poseidon's air-to-air refueling capability and supported over 200 maritime navigational transits through major global choke points for six different countries and two U.S. carrier strike groups.

"I am proud of every single War Eagle and Lightning Rider for their dedication, perseverance, and resiliency during this challenging and dynamic deployment," said Cmdr. Kevin Kraemer, commanding officer of VP-16, in the release. \*

#### By First Coast News, Published online Nov. 2,2020



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### **VP-4 Receives Coast Guard Awards for Recent 4th and 6th Fleet Deployment**

OAK HARBOR, WA. - Following the completion of an eight-month deployment, the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 were recognized for their significant achievements while operating in the Navy's 4th and 6th Fleet areas of operation in support of Operation Martillo and Navy's Exercise for Maritime Operation (NEMO) between Oct. 2019 through May 2020.

VP-4, operating out of Cooperative Security Location (CSL) in Comalapa, El Salvador, were awarded the U.S. Coast Guard Special Operations Service Medal for its direct involvement in Operation Martillo from Oct. 1, 2019 to April 12, 2020.

"VP-4 effectively demonstrated the ability of our personnel to work hand in hand with our Joint Interagency counterparts in accomplishing Operation Martillo objectives, targeting illicit narcotic trafficking routes throughout the SOUTHCOM AOR" said Cmdr. John Harkins, VP-4 commanding officer.

"Our Sailor's daily sacrifice allowed for the successful execution of this mission, benefiting national security and enhancing maritime law enforcement throughout the region."

Utilizing the P-8A Poseidon aircraft, VP-4's combat air crews provided an "eye in the sky" delivering time sensitive intelligence to locate targets of interest and vector in assets. In total, VP-4 flew 353 operational hours and, as a result of the high capability of the operators and aircraft, its participation led to a seizure of over 18,200 kilograms of illicit drugs with an assessed value of more than \$688 million.

VP-4 has also been awarded the Coast Guard Meritorious Team Commendation ribbon for its participation in the Navy's Exercise for Maritime Operation. As part of a successful 6th Fleet detachment to Albidjan, Ivory Coast, VP-4 participated in five mission flights from Oct. 28, 2019 to Nov. 5, 2019 which provided associated support to the Maritime Operations Center.

"The Skinny Dragon's combat aircrew 8 exuded a high degree of professionalism and expertise in support of the exercise," said Lt. Cmdr. Ryan McFeely, VP-4's detachment officer in charge.



NEMO included 19 participating countries in the Gulf of Guinea, which increased the interoperability among forces in order to increase maritime security and sustain global commerce. While participating in this exercise, VP-4 worked directly with the US Coast Guard providing tactical cueing for maritime law enforcement. This inter-agency collaboration enhanced the further development in joint service engagements for future operations.

#### By Lt. j.g. Christian Daniels, VP-4 Public Affairs

(TOP RIGHT) COMPALA, EL Salvador (Nov. 12, 2019) A Coast Guard MH-65 and a P-8A Poseidon aircraft assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 are parked next to each other on the apron of Cooperative Security Location (CSL), El Salvador. CSL Comalapa's primary mission is to provide logistical support to aerial counter drug aircraft and their crews from U.S. military and government law enforcement organizations and to promote theater security cooperation. (U.S. Navy photo)



such as Grand African Nemo increase interoperability among participating maritime forces in order to increase maritime security and sustain global commerce. (U.S. Navy photo)



### **VP-47 Participates in Exercise Joint Warrior 20-2**

KEFLAVIK, Iceland — Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, alongside maritime forces from thirteen nations, began its participation in U.K.-led exercise Joint Warrior (JW) 20-2 off the coast of Scotland, Oct. 5, 2020.

JW 20-2 is a multinational maritime exercise and focuses on multiple warfare areas including anti-submarine warfare (ASW), anti-surface warfare (ASuW), maritime interdiction, and search and rescue operations. The exercise runs through various scenarios including territorial disputes, terrorist activity, and counterpiracy.

"Joint Warrior is an excellent opportunity for us to hone our ASW skills." said Naval Aircrewman Operator 3rd Class Ricardo Aguilar, a VP-47 acoustic operator. "Working together with partner nations allows us to improve our interoperability, preparing us for real world situations."

JW is a biannual event executed by the Joint Tactical Exercise Planning Staff in the U.K., with the intent to improve interoperability between Allied and partner navies. Other participating nations including Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, and Portugal.

Commander, Task Group (CTG) 67.1, composed of VP-47 and a detachment from VP-16, is providing two P-8A Poseidon aircraft to participate in the event. Combat Aircrews will demonstrate the P-8A's ability as a long-range

ASW asset by transiting from other detachment sites to the waters off Scotland.

"Participating with Norway and the U.K. allows for the unique opportunity to fly with NATO Allies that will also be flying the P-8A Poseidon operationally in the near future," said Lt. Blake Brooks, a VP-47 patrol plane commander. "This year's multinational exercise is challenging due to restrictions presented by COVID-19 but demonstrates the United States' ability to remain ready no matter the circumstances."

VP-47 is currently assigned to Commander, Task Force (CTF) 67 and is deployed to the U.S. Sixth Fleet area of responsibility. CTF 67 is composed of land-based maritime patrol aircraft that operate over the waters of the Mediterranean conducting anti-submarine, reconnaissance, surveillance, and search and rescue missions.

U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/U.S. Sixth Fleet, headguartered in Naples, Italy, conducts the full spectrum of joint and naval operations, often in concert with joint, allied, and interagency partners in order to advance U.S. national interests and security and stability in Europe and Africa. \*

#### By Lt. j.g. Hannah Hughes, VP- 47 Public Affairs

Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, alongside maritime forces from thirteen nations, began its par-

### ticipation in U.K.-led exercise Joint Warrior (JW) 20-2 off the coast of Scotland, Oct. 5, 2020. (Photo by Patrol Squadron 47 Public Affairs)

### **Collaboration of VP Veterans Publish Book About the Cold War**

Two years ago, CDR Don Stanton and CAPT Tom Spink told a few historical stories for the Heritage Presentations that kicked off the Wednesday events for the Maritime Patrol Association gathering at Naval Air Station, Jacksonville. Florida.

Don told a few stories out of his book, Looking Back at the Cold War, that focused on his experiences in the Atlantic and the Med. Tom was writing a book and told a few stories from the Pacific side of the Cold War. They received much appreciated thanks for giving the current community a few glimpses of their past.

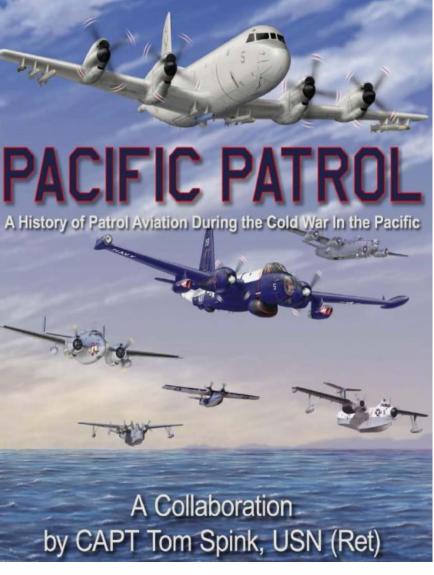
Tom's book, Pacific Patrol, is now finished and is a collaboration with 18 veterans of VP operations in the Pacific from the late 60s to the 90s. It includes over 400 pictures intended to make it better understood by civilians and to bring back memories to veterans.

Captain Spink has gathered many riveting stories from a wide range of patrol aircrewmen which highlight the complex and often unheralded operations that helped our nation maintain its lead in anti-submarine warfare, surveillance, and intelligence during the Cold War. It provides a great opportunity to learn more about these vital and exciting operations.

"Pacific Patrol is a collaboration with 18 veterans of VP operations in the Pacific from the late 60s to the 90s. It includes over 400 pictures intended to make it better understood by civilians and to bring back memories to veterans." - CAPT Tom Spink, USN (Ret), Author

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### Royal New Zealand Air Force Celebrates Graduation of Inaugural P-8A Crew

Aircrew from the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) graduated from Patrol Squad-ron (VP) 30's P-8A Category II Syllabus, Sept. 11, becoming the country's first aircrew to transition from the P-3K2 Orion to the P-8A Poseidon.

The crew of the RNZAF's No. 5 Squadron began training at VP-30 in March 2020.

"Over the past six months, the crew has gone through significant training transitioning from the P-3 to the P-8. A huge congratulations to the crew for their dedication and professionalism throughout the course, especially with the challenges 2020 has brought," said Lt. David Scott, a VP-30 pilot who heads the squadron's Foreign Military Sales Division.

Capt. T.J. Grady, VP-30 commanding officer, spoke to those gathered for the occasion, "The United States enjoys a long tradition of strategic partnership with New Zealand. Diplomatically, economically, and militarily, the close relationship we have between our countries is grounded in our similar values, ideals, and interests."

Throughout his speech, Grady emphasized the importance of the crew's presence at VP-30 in continuing to maintain the relationship and interoperability of the two countries.

He continued, stating, "The personal relationships you've built here, and the relationships you'll build in the future, play a vital role in the security of our two nations." During the event, Grady also presented a ceremonial plaque commemorating New Zealand's inaugural crew to Squadron Leader Ben Smith, RNZAF Squadron No. 5 officer in charge.

Addressing the crowd in Māori, Smith stated, "Kia Ora tatou. Ko te moana nui a kiwa te moana. Ko Aotearoa te Whenua. Ko te taua a rangi Te Iwi. Ko Five Squadron Toku whanau. Ko Ben Smith Toku Ingoa. Naia nei ko te P-8 Poseidon te waka."

This translates to, "Good morning. The Pacific is my ocean. New Zealand is my land. The Royal New Zealand Air Force is my tribe. Squadron No. 5 is my family. I am Ben Smith. The P-8 Poseidon is now my aircraft". Continuing in English and citing the Fijian motto of No. 5 Squadron, "We are incredibly proud to be the first Royal New Zealand Air Force P-8 crew. We are Crew 1. We are No. 5 Squadron. Keitou kalawaca na wasaliwa: we span the oceans. Before we know it, we will be patrolling the Pacific in our P-8 Poseidon, our waka."

After his speech, the entire crew performed the haka (a ceremonial Māori dance) of the RNZAF, which is part of the culture of their home country.

Prior to their transition, the RNZAF crew operated the P-3K. Their background in maritime operations enabled the crew's successful completion of the syllabus. Their experience will undoubtedly facilitate in the transition of future RN-ZAF crews P-8A Poseidon. Going forward, the graduating crewmembers will remain attached to VP-30 and complete the Instructor-Under-Training syllabus to qualify as P-8A instructors. Not only will they help train four additional RNZAF crews transition to the P-8A, but they will also support the training of U.S. P-8A students, further bolstering the relationship between the New Zealand and U.S. forces.

★ By VP-30 Public Affairs



JACKSONVILLE (Sep. 16, 2020) CAPT. Thomas J. Grady, Patrol Squadron Thirty (VP-30) Commanding Officer, gives Benjamin Smith, Royal New Zealand Air Force Squadron Leader, a ceremonial plaque to commemorate the Inaugural P-8A Royal New Zealand Air Force Graduation at VP-30 September 16, 2020. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Yolonda Williams/Released)

### **VP-45 Succeeding Through Adversity**

When the "World Famous Pelicans" of VP-45, stationed in NAS Jacksonville, FL, returned home in June 2020 from an eight and a half month deployment, they found themselves in a new environment, one primarily dominated by COVID-19 restrictions. Life had changed dramatically from when VP-45 left in October 2019. Yet despite the new challenges and work environment due to COVID-19, the Pelicans, led by Commanding Officer Charles A. Larwood III, have found a way to not only get the job done but set new milestones along the way.

It has been an all hands effort from everyone within the squadron particularly the medical team, maintenance crews, and aircrew that help the operations and missions run smoothly. No group has been more crucial to that success than the Pelican medical team. They have been the backbone of the squadron, ensuring everyone is healthy and prepared when called upon to execute their job.

VP-45 Flight Surgeon Robert Crutcher was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his meritorious service and help in not only keeping the sailors of VP-45 healthy while on deployment and also assuring a safe return home. Day to day operations continue to run efficiently due to his ongoing effort.

Since returning from deployment in June, the maintenance team has hit the ground running. As of September 2020 they have logged over 7,350 maintenance hours and completed over 4,105 maintenance actions. Some of these actions include replacing an entire engine, 13 tire changes, 75 technical directives, and several SMI's. The hard work of the maintenance team has allowed the Pelicans to maximize training flights and operate on station at the highest level.

Along with the high performance of the maintenance team, the aircrew training has been nothing short of inspiring. Just in the last two months alone, the Pilot, Naval Flight Officer and Aircrew training track have completed over 214 upgrading events combined. This is 11% more than the targeted goal of 193. Along with the upgrading events, the Pelicans have flown well over 1000 hours since their return from deployment. All this is coming off one of the longest deployments in the Maritime community history. The sky is truly the limit for the Pelicans of VP-45.

#### By VP-45 Public Affairs

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Photo by MCSN Thomas A. Higgins. Maintainers of VP-45, replace an engine on a P-8A.

Photo by MCSN Thomas A. Higgins. Maintainers of Patrol Squadron (VP) 45, work on a P-8A.





Photo by MCSN Thomas A. Higgins. AN Oukple of Patrol Squadron (VP) 45 salutes a departing P-8A before a flight.



#### VP-4 Receives the 100th Production of the P-8A

Oak Harbor, WA. – Patrol Squadron Four (VP-4) received its newest P-8A Poseidon aircraft on Sep 18th 2020. This marks the Navy's 100th P-8A aircraft from production to the fleet.

The newest P-8A addition, aircraft 561, will join VP-4's fleet of eight P-8A Poseidon aircraft to continue the pursuit of dominating the maritime domain and answering the call in defense of our nation.

VP-4 transitioned from the P-3C Orion to the P-8A Poseidon in September 2016 after returning home from a deployment in the 5th and 6th Fleet Area of Responsibilities (AOR).

On May 5th, 2017, VP-4 was declared safe for flight and officially became the first operational P-8A squadron on the West Coast.

Since VP-4 has transitioned, the Skinny Dragons have completed two deployments to the 5th, 6th, and 7th Fleet AOR while operating in the P-8A.

"We are excited to share a piece of Maritime Patrol and

Reconnaissance history by receiving the 100th P-8A aircraft deployed to the fleet" said Cmdr. John Harkins, VP-4 commanding officer.

"VP-4 is proud to be at the forefront of naval operations utilizing this cutting edge technology to further maximize interoperability in the future battlespace."

As VP-4 accepts the newest Boeing aircraft, the Skinny Dragons are pleased to share this significant milestone with the U.S. Navy and MPRA community.

Looking ahead, the Skinny Dragons continue to train for the upcoming deployment to U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet AOR while employing the world's best maritime patrol aircraft.

#### By Lt. j.g. Christian Daniels, VP-4 Public Affairs

The 'Golden Swordsmen' had the honor of celebrating the culmination of six-months of diligent and unwavering hard work when we proudly hoisted the Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist Pennant on October 1, 2020. To those familiar with the program, it goes without saying that this accomplishment is hard-earned and comes with a sincere congratulations to the Teammates that enabled our success.

Hoisting the EAWS Pennant is a true privilege for our Command. In order for a command to showcase this achievement, they must have 80 percent or more of its enlisted personnel qualified. The 'Golden Swordsmen' have gone above and beyond by achieving an 88 percent qualification rate for its enlisted personnel, which is a 25 percent increase since deploying in April of this year

Earning the privilege of wearing the EAWS pin does not come easily. Once enrolled in the program, Sailors dedicate countless hours to learn common core knowledge that encompasses being an aviation warfare specialist. Coordinators in the program not only set-up multiple



#### VP-47 Earns Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist Pennant



training sessions per week for both day and night crews, but selflessly volunteer their time to EAWS candidates in order to profess everything they need to learn in the program.

In order to successfully earn the privilege to wear the EAWS pin, Sailors are required to complete several significant and standardized procedures such as common core and platform (IE P-8A) specific books; fulfill walk-throughs with trained and qualified subject-matter experts; pass an in-depth written test; and demonstrate their professional knowledge of aviation warfare orally to a board of qualified members.

As a symbol of this significant accomplishment and tremendous level of knowledge, the Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist (EAWS) pennant is now proudly flown on aircraft 169331 to showcase the Swordsmen of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47's "Golden" achievement.

#### By VP-47 Public Affairs



#### 'Golden Swordsmen' Holding Strong in U.S. 4th Fleet

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Oct 21, 2020) - As of April 2020, the "Golden Swordsmen" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47 conducted counter-narcotics operations in the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations (AOO).

The Golden Swordsmen worked with the "Tridents" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 to conduct operations in the waters of Central and South America. Their joint effort increased maritime surveillance, aided in the seizure of suspected contraband and provided additional support for U.S. Navy vessels conducting enhanced counter-narcotics mission in the Eastern Pacific and Caribbean Sea.

"Over the past few months, VP-47 and VP-26 have integrated well and have seen much success in the counternarcotics operations," said Chief Joshua Holberton, Senior Enlisted Leader of VP-47.

While deployed between April and September, VP-47 and VP-26 collectively conducted more than 256 flights, totaling over 2,307 hours of flight time and assisted in 38 narcotics busts. These flights prevented the transit of 37,608 kilograms of cocaine and 8,197 pounds of marijuana valued at \$2.7 billion dollars.

The P-8A aircraft and aircrews effectively perform long-range sea surveillance, antisubmarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, as well as search and rescue (SAR) missions. In addition to keeping drugs off U.S. streets, the two squadrons' efforts also strengthened the relationships with regional partner nations by conducting several joint training exercises.

"I could not be more proud of the Trident and Golden Swordsmen Team. They have operated flawlessly across the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility during these unprecedented times. Their efforts on-station have reduced the flow of illicit drugs and have degraded transnational criminal organizations. Furthermore, they have worked alongside our partner nations in Central and South America to directly support the National Drug Control Strategy," said Capt. Matthew Pottenburgh, Commander Task Force 47

VP-47 and VP-26 joined other U.S. Navy units, numerous U.S. agencies from the Departments of Defense, Justice and Homeland Security cooperating in the effort to combat transnational organized crime. The Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, Customs and Border Protection, FBI, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, along with allied and international partner agencies, are all playing a role in counterdrug operations.

The Golden Swordsmen are currently deployed to the 4th and 6th Fleet AOOs and work alongside Commander Task Force (CTF) 47 and Commander Task Force (CTF) 67 respectively. VP-47 is performing Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance missions throughout the Central American, South American, European, and African AORs, providing essential information during times of peace and conflict.

#### By MC2 Class Brandon J. Vinson, VP-47 Public Affairs



Patrol Squadron FOUR FIVE, stationed at NAS Jacksonville, FL, awarded AME1 Jamichael Semien the Sidney Smith Award, for his outstanding embodiment of leadership and mentorship to those within the squadron.

The award is in honor of AWCS Sidney L. Smith Jr., a former Senior Chief at VP-45. Senior Chief Smith was born on 10 March 1972 in Lafayette, LA. His naval career started at NTC Orlando Recruit Training September 1990. From there he became an Aviation Warfare Systems Operator and joined the VP community. His 18 years of faithful service ended in August 2008. Senior Chief Smith was a talented leader, trainer, and mentor to all Sailors. His impact will be felt throughout the VP community for many years to come.

The VP-45 Chief Petty Officer's (CPO) Mess desired to provide a lasting memorial to his leadership and established the AWCS Sidney L. Smith Jr. Leadership Award. This award is presented annually to an E-6 and below Sailor who exhibits the leadership and mentoring traits exhibited by Senior Chief Smith during his Naval career.

AME1 Semien is from Beaumont, TX and checked into



Photo by MCSN Thomas A. Higgins CDR Charles A. Larwood, Commanding Officer of Patrol Squadron (VP) 45, presents AME1 Jamichael Semien of VP-45, with the Sidney

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### **VP-45 Sidney Smith Award Recipient**

VP-45 in February of 2018. He began his time in the squadron as the Lead Petty Officer (LPO) for the Aviation Structural Mechanics. Shortly thereafter, AME1 Semien transitioned to maintenance control, where he earned his Safe-for Flight qualification. Then, last fall he checked into the line division where he currently works daily to help service, launch, and recover aircraft.

Fellow sailor AM2 Martin said, "AME1 Semien's leadership is very constructive. He is a hard charger who leads from the front. Every day he is out on the line supporting his junior Sailors leading by example. I have learned a lot from him and appreciate everything he has done as my LPO."

Prior to his time at VP-45, AME1 Semien was stationed at NAS Pensacola and worked with the Navy's Blue Angels. AME1 Semien stated his future goals are to be selected for Chief Petty Officer, become P-8A Engine Turn Qualified, and become a full systems Quality Assurance Representative, while continuing to mentor and mold sailors along the way!

#### ★ By VP-45 Public Affairs

### **Events**»Community

### 2021 MPA Symposium in Jacksonville, Florida : April 19-23, 2021

Watch for more information at: www.maritimepatrolassociation.org

### **Events**»Reunion Groups

#### Patron Four Five Association (VP-45)

Reunion Oct 7-11, 2020, Jacksonville, FL:

POC: Doug Mitchell Email: poohbearmit@aol.com Phone: (678)650-7500 Web: www.vp45association.org

### **VP-1 POPS (P-3 Orion Pioneers)**

join/Renew your VP-1 POPS Membership: Check out membership information at: www.vp1pops.com

### **ANA Patriot Squadron, Boston, MA**

#### Monthly Meeting & Lunch @ 11 am, last Saturday of the month at the museum: 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. For details see: www.anapatriotsguadron.org

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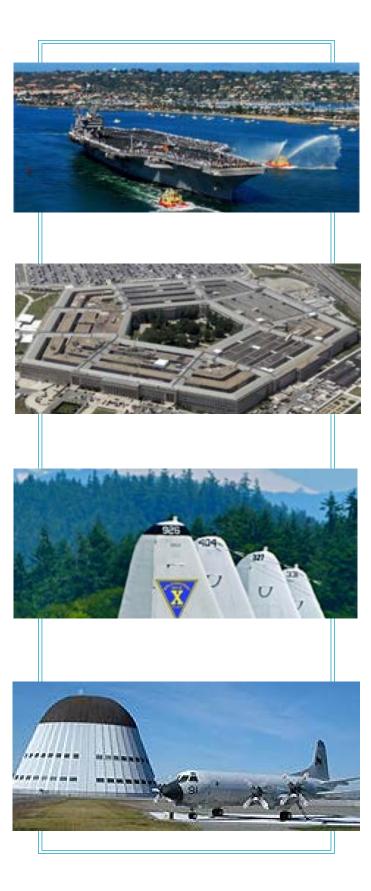
Norfolk Chapter VP of Region: Brian Solano

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San Diego Chapter VP of Region: Wayne Lewis

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Whidbey Chapter VP of Region: Bobby Mills

Stay tuned for upcoming events!

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

Stay tuned for upcoming events!

### **VP Images Around the Globe**



KEFLAVIK, Iceland (Jan 2, 2020) - Two P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 sit on the apron of Keflavik Air Base, Iceland, Jan. 2, 2020. The squadron was conducting operations jointly 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 Aircrew Survival Equipmentman Airman Apprentice Amariv Perez)

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(Nov. 5, 2020) Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 are greeted by Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 11 leadership after returning to Naval Air Station Jacksonville following a seven-month deployment, Nov. 5. VP-26 recently completed the deployment to Japan and El Salvador in support of U.S. 4th and 7th Fleets. (Photo by Kaylee LaRocque/Released)



BASE OHAKEA, New Zealand (Oct. 22, 2020) - Working in the background Progress on the P-8A facility groundworks continues to be made at pace at Base Ohakea. Not familiar with the Ohakea layout? The P-8 facility will be located near the south end of the base - the road running on the image's right hand side is State Highway one heading into Bulls. Photo courtesy of the Royal New Zealand Air Force.



photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Will Hardy/Released)

MEDITERRANEAN SEA (Nov. 6, 2020) A P-8 Poseidon aircraft flies past the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Donald Cook (DDG 75), Nov. 6, 2020. Donald Cook, forwarddeployed to Rota, Spain, is on its 11th patrol in the U.S. Sixth Fleet area of operations in support of regional allies and partners and U.S. national security in Europe and Africa. (U.S. Navy



(Sept. 7, 2020) Not your average day at the pump! VP-4's air-to-air refueling (AAR) pilots continue to hone in on their skill set of hovering a P-8A Poseidon just meters behind a KC-135 Stratotanker. Here we have a snapshot of the most recent AAR evolution to take place over the beautiful Pacific North West. Photo courtesy of VP-4. OAK HARBOR, Wash. (Oct. 8, 2020) The Navy's 100th P-8A Poseidon Aircraft! VP-4 welcomes the newest P-8A Poseidon aircraft to the fleet; marking a significant milestone for the Skinny Dragons and the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Community!

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al professionalism displayed on and off duty by all.

(Oct. 28, 2020) (OAK HARBOR, Wash.) RADM Scott visit to VP-40. Photo courtesy of VP-40.



(Sept. 11, 2020) VP-46 takes a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11. Photo courtesy of VP-46.



(Sept. 5, 2020) VP-8's LT. Chaffin getting a squadron congrats for becoming PPC qualified! Photo courtesy of VP-8's Facebook page.





(Aug. 22, 2020) VP-1 Kadena det crew! Hooyah Screaming Eagles! Photo courtesy of VP-1 Facebook page.



(Oct. 29, 2020) (Aviation **Structural Mechanic (AM)** 2nd Class Samantha Tokophcardona works on a **P-8A Poseidon assigned** to Patrol Squadron (VP) 47 during a scheduled maintenance inspection (SMI). VP-47 is currently deployed to the U.S. Sixth Fleet in support of naval operations to maintain maritime stability and security in order to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S. allied partner interests. (U.S Navy phot by Mass Com**munication Specialist 2nd** Class Brandon J. Vinson/



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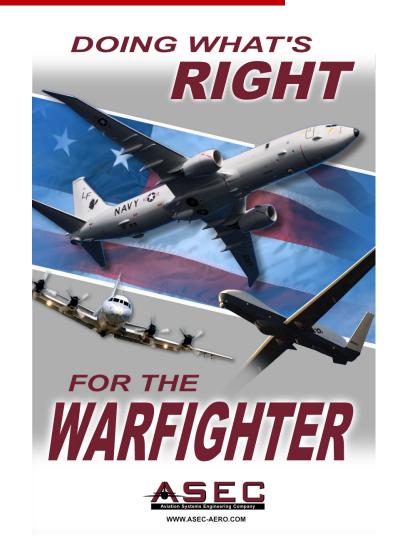
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Photos courtesy of VP-46.

(TOP) P-3, PBY & P-8 parked on the run way at MCBH Kaneohe.

(August 27, 2020)



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