

PLANESIDE

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2023: Issue 4





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Cover Photo

ROYAL AIR FORCE LOSSIEMOUTH, United Kingdom (July 15, 2023) – Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Colton Berka, left, and Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class Diego Olvera, assigned to the 'Golden Swordsmen' of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, perform maintenance on the AN/APY-10 radar of a P-8A Poseidon at Royal Air Force (RAF) Lossiemouth, July 15, 2023. VP-47 is currently deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet in support of naval operations to maintain maritime stability and security in order to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/Released)



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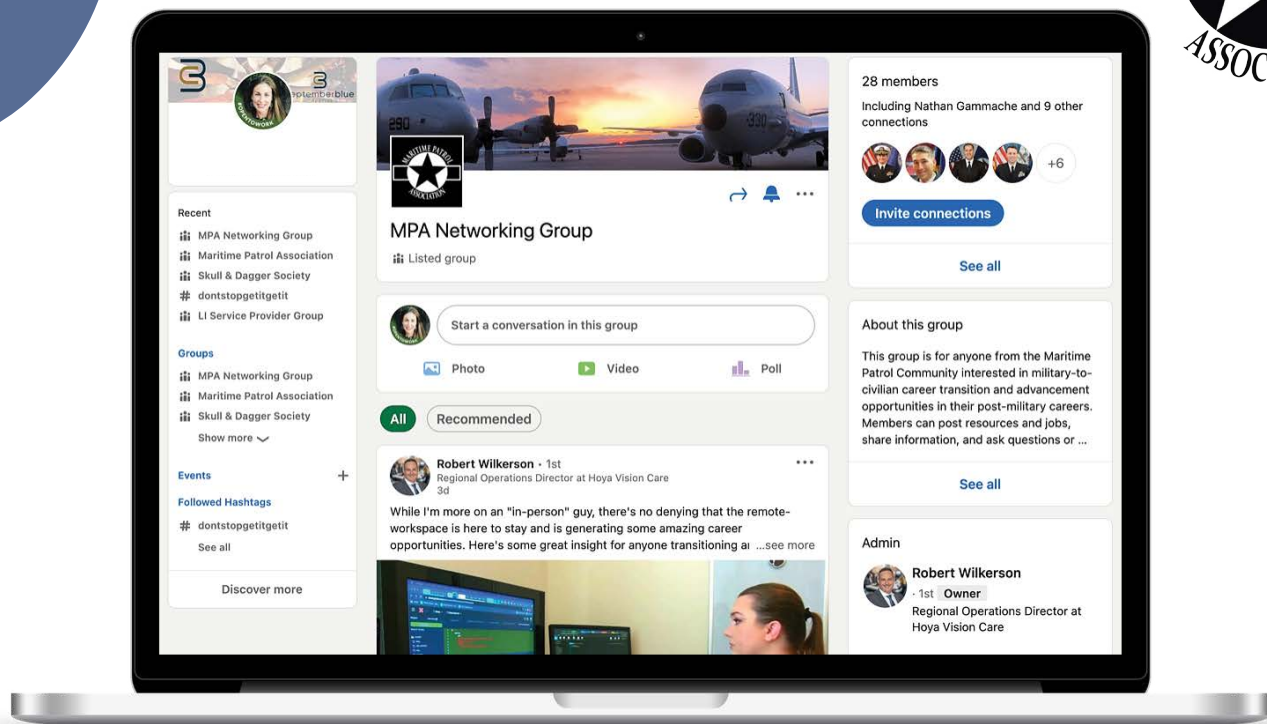
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Checking on Station



Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Warriors Past and Present,

An old curse repeated across generations is, "May you live in interesting times." Certainly no one would argue that we now find ourselves living in very interesting times. In my experience no time has been more fraught with danger and uncertainty as the one in which we now live. Today's world is rife with insecurities and open conflict that threaten the peace of the United States and our allies. These are times of consequence, and history shows us that we have been here before...and that we always prevail.

We prevail in troubled times because we are prepared. We train for war and execute our duties professionally and with agility in order to deter conflict, but if we must fight, then fight we will, and fight to win. Let me assure you that the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) is ready to engage when and where needed. First on-station and last to leave, we are on-top wherever the winds of war are blowing. Today is no different, and what we do on-station matters. The MPRF has once again answered the bell and responded to bad actors wherever they may hide to provide the intelligence and lethal presence our supported commanders require to protect America's interests and keep us safe.

This is no easy task and requires that our entire Force be ready to load up and launch with little advanced warning with what we have available. In addition to the disruption this can cause to force generation and normal deployment readiness efforts, I am acutely aware of the extra burden placed on our families with an unplanned detachment of their loved one. I am extremely humbled by the resiliency of our Sailors and their families and cannot thank them enough for their sacrifice as we do our nation's bidding.

Every generation rightfully believes that they too lived in "interesting times." As we have seen again and again, the world can be a dangerous place and it falls on us to do our best to tamp down the threat and restore the peace. Everyone that has worn or is wearing the cloth of our nation committed to answer the call to protect and defend, and by doing so earned the respect and gratitude of our fellow citizens, friends and allies. We must never forget that we are part of something bigger than ourselves and that there is nothing we cannot accomplish together. Our fellow citizens rely on us and our service matters. We are a consequential force in a consequential time.




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I look forward to seeing many of you in person in Jacksonville the week of 22 April for our annual East Coast MPA Symposium. Until then, know that we are continuing to Fly, Fight, Lead and Win!

With Great Respect,
Kujo

Adam "Kujo" Kijek
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Group/Patrol and Reconnaissance Group Pacific

Disclaimer: The views presented are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of DoD or its Components.



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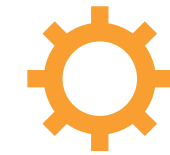
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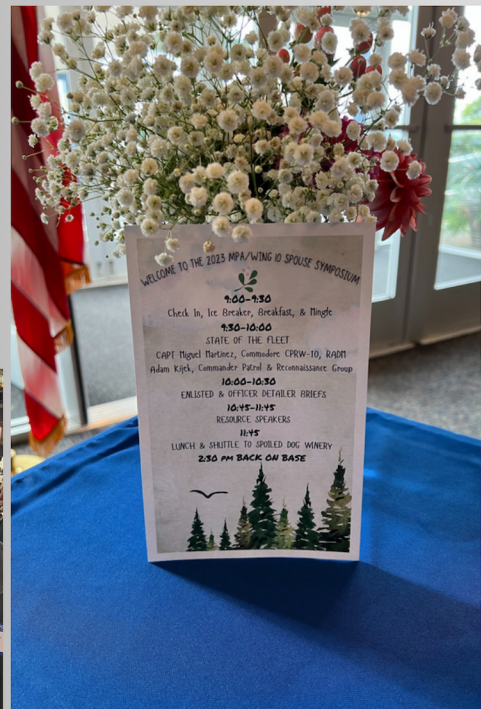
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Thank you!

To everyone that attended the 2023 Whidbey Island Reunion, a big thank you! It was a great few days of socializing and catching up with old, and some new friends. The week started with a packed house at the corporate sponsor reception, hosted a hot local eatery. The next day started with a Spouse Symposium breakfast that led to a winery tour. Last, but not least the Flight Suit Social to end the week. You will definitely want to add it to your calendar for next year!



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Community

VP-10 Hosts Columbian Navy Crew

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 participated in a bi-lateral submarine exercise in the waters off the coast of Florida with the Columbian Navy. The Diesel Electric Submarine Initiative (DESI) program, a U.S. Navy partnership with South American countries, supports their diesel-electric submarine operations and fleet readiness events in operating areas off the U.S. coast.

The exercise provided opportunities to further the interoperability in Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) between the two navies. This exercise involved the Columbian submarine ARC Pijao (SS 28) along with the U.S. Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft, P-8A Poseidon. Through multiple flights, VP-10 was able to conduct ASW training and increase partner nation operational readiness.

After completion of the exercise, crew members from the ARC Pijao submarine were able to join VP-

10 on a P-8A flight to get a thrill of the dynamic flying conducted by the U.S. Navy.

"It was a great experience getting to know the crew of the ARC Pijao while demonstrating the flying capabilities of the P-8A," said LT Ethan White, VP-10 aircraft commander.

The VP-10 "Red Lancers" are based in Jacksonville, Florida. The squadron has recently returned from a successful six-month rotational deployment to the U.S. Seventh Fleet Area of Responsibility, operating from Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, Japan. VP-10 excelled at conducting a multitude of mission sets within the U.S. Seventh Fleet area of operation, and the squadron is preparing for another deployment in Spring of 2024.

★
By Petty Officer 1st Class Ashley Guire



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Community

VP-16 Concludes 22nd Iteration of Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training with the Philippines

Mactan, Philippines – The “War Eagles” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 completed exercise Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training 2023 (SEACAT 23) in Mactan, Philippines, Aug. 27, 2023.

SEACAT 23 is an exercise designed to train U.S. and regional partners for ‘real world, real time’ engagement and enhance their ability to communicate, coordinate and counter non-traditional maritime threats.

The War Eagles participated in three flights, providing maritime domain awareness. These flights provided situational awareness to exercise participants, and enabled the visit board search and seizure teams to execute their missions safely.

The visit strengthened the bond between the U.S. and the Philippines and enhanced the interoperability between the two navies.

“SEACAT was a memorable event that left a lasting impression on all participants involved, fostering goodwill and a sense of unity between the visiting Sailors and the gracious hosts of Mactan,” said Lt. Michael Palaski, a pilot in VP-16. “Multilateral exercises such as this one allows for the exchange of expertise and best practices to and from the U.S. and its partners in the region.”

One of the primary missions of the P-8A Poseidon is conducting maritime patrols and reconnaissance. With its extended range and endurance, the Poseidon can cover vast stretches of ocean, monitoring maritime traffic, detecting and tracking potential threats, and conducting search and rescue missions. Its advanced radar and sensor suite, combined with its ability to operate in various environmental conditions, enable it to excel in this role.

P-8A squadrons, like VP-16, conduct regular patrols, providing real-time intelligence, and aid in the surveillance of maritime activities, in order to deter illegal activities such as piracy, smuggling, and territorial violations.

“Working with partner nations and allies from all over Southeast Asia during SEACAT was an incredibly rewarding experience,” said Lt. Zach Freels of VP-16. “All entities involved operated with efficiency and determination. We anticipate that exercises like these lead to increased coordination and synchrony of information, surveillance and reconnaissance assets, further allowing these nations to police their exclusive economic zones and maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific.”

The VP-16 “War Eagles” are based in Jacksonville, Fla., and are currently forward deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy’s largest forward-deployed numbered fleet, and routinely engages and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

★
By Lt. Robert Cale, CTF-72 Public Affairs



Photo By Lt. Ashley Hutson | 230824-N-XF249-0001 MACTAN, Philippines (Aug. 24, 2023) Crewmembers assigned to the “War Eagles” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 16 and personnel from the Philippine Navy pose in front of a U.S. P-8A during the multilateral exercise SEACAT 23 in Mactan, Aug. 24, 2023. SEACAT 23 is an exercise designed to train U.S. and regional partners for ‘real world, real time’ engagement and enhance their ability to communicate, coordinate and counter non-traditional maritime threats. The VP-16 “War Eagles” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently forward deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Chief Aviation Electrician’s Mate Jason King)



RAJALI, India (Aug. 22, 2023) Aircrew members assigned to the “Tridents” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 are greeted by members of the Indian Navy Air Squadron (INAS) 312 “Albatross” upon the arrival of a U.S. Navy P-8A Poseidon aircraft at Rajali, India, Aug. 22, 2023. Capt. Ajitender Kant Singh, INAS 312 commanding officer, shakes hands with VP-26 squadron members. The U.S. and Indian navies conducted a subject matter expert exchange focused on improving interoperability between their maritime patrol and reconnaissance forces. The exchange included training on anti-submarine warfare operations as well as information sharing on issues specific to the challenges of the Indian

VP-26 Concludes Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Training with India

INS RAJALI, India – The “Tridents” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 26 completed a week-long combined anti-submarine warfare (ASW) subject matter expert exchange with the “Albatross” of Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS) 312 at India Naval Air Station Rajali, Tamil Nadu India, Aug. 28, 2023.

The subject matter expert exchange focused on improving interoperability between the two navies’ maritime patrol and reconnaissance forces. It included training on ASW and information sharing on specific maritime-challenges in the Indian Ocean. One VP 26 P-8A Poseidon aircraft and one INAS 312 P-8I Poseidon aircraft participated in the exchange. INAS 312 is one of two Indian Navy squadrons operating the P-8I Poseidon.

“This is a great opportunity to strengthen our partnership with India and improve our ability to work together to protect the maritime commons,” said Lt. Ryan Speir, VP-26’s detachment officer in charge. “The P-8A is a highly capable aircraft which plays a vital role in ASW operations, and this professional exchange will ensure that we are able to effectively use this asset in a combined environment.”

The two squadrons participated in flying and non-flying activities, which included discussions on operational planning, maintenance training and logistical support. VP-26 and INAS 312 also coordinated flying events with Indian Navy surface ships.

The exchange is the latest in a series of interactions between the U.S. and Indian navies, reflecting their shared commitment to building interoperability and collaborating in support of maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.

The P-8A is a long-range, multi-mission maritime patrol aircraft that is capable of conducting ASW, anti-surface warfare, search and rescue, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions. The P-8I, the Indian variant of the P-8A, is equipped with additional sensors and weapons that are tailored to the Indian Navy’s requirements.

The VP-26 “Tridents” are based in Jacksonville, Fla., and are currently forward deployed to Misawa Air Base, Japan. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy’s largest forward-deployed numbered fleet, and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region.



By Lt. Ashley Hutson, Commander Task Force 72





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Community

TOCRON-10 Changes Command

WHIDBEY ISLAND, WA - On September 15, 2023, the "Kraken" of Tactical Operations Control Squadron TEN (TOCRON TEN) held their second Change of Command ceremony since becoming a command on June 26, 2020.

Commander Karl N. Murray was relieved by Commander Grant H. Regelin. Captain (Ret.) Erik "Double E" Estenson was in attendance as the guest speaker. Having served a successful tour while standing up TOCRON TEN, CDR Murray will go on to serve on the Operations staff of Carrier Strike Group One (CSG-1). CDR Michael Melendez relieved Commander Regelin as the Executive Officer of the squadron.

During the ceremony, CDR Regelin had the following remarks for his Sailors:

"To the Kraken, I am truly humbled, proud and honored to serve you as Commanding Officer... I am committed to caring and expect the same from all Kraken. You've accomplished so much since our Command was established 3 years ago and I am excited for the future."

CDR Regelin hails from Columbia, MD. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2006 with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. In July 2008, he was designated a Naval Aviator.

He has served two tours with Patrol Squadron NINE, first as a junior officer and again as a Squadron Maritime Tactics Instructor. He also served Patrol Squadron THIRTY as an Instructor Pilot and sundowned the P-3C Orion with Patrol Squadron FORTY SIX while serving as a department head before transitioning to the P-8A Poseidon.

CDR Regelin went on to earn a Master of Science in Operations Management degree, a Master of Arts in Defense and Strategic Studies degree, and JPME Phase 1 certification.

TOCRON TEN is comprised of both sea and shore duty Sailors and operates on a detachment (DET) concept in support of deploying US Navy P-8A Poseidon squadrons to area of responsibilities around the world. Under the leadership of TOCRON TEN, six expeditionary Mobile Tactical Operations Center (MTOC) DETs, two shore Tactical Operation Centers, and one CVN Tactical Support Center are employed in support of worldwide operations.



By **LT John Lillyblad, TOCRON-10 Command Services Officer**



**Skipper Regelin is ringed ashore upon assuming command of TOCRON TEN onboard NAS Whidbey Island
Photo credit: ET3 Autumn Jones**

Community

VP-16 Concludes Operations in Papua New Guinea

The "War Eagles" of Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN (VP-16) concluded operations from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, Sept. 29, where they conducted three reconnaissance flights in support of the Papua New Guinea Defense Force (PNGDF), Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority (NFA), and Papua New Guinea Customs.

The primary objective of these combined operations was to identify and assess fishing vessels operating within the Papua New Guinea Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to ensure compliance with required regulations and agreements. VP-16's efforts facilitated the enforcement of maritime laws and regulations within the region and supported sustainability initiatives which contribute to continued regional stability and economic security.

"We are fortunate for the opportunity to strengthen our partnership with Papua New Guinea in order to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific," said Lt. Austin Mallette, VP-16 mission commander. "It was an honor to welcome distinguished visitors on board the P-8A aircraft to showcase the capabilities it brings to the Maritime, Patrol, and Reconnaissance Force."

During the detachment, personnel from the PNGDF, NFA, and Customs expressed their satisfaction with the collaborative efforts, highlighting the significant impact of VP-16's support to Papua New Guinea's strategic security initiatives. VP-16 shared valuable imagery and detailed information pertaining to the locations and movements of potential vessels of interest within the Papua New Guinea EEZ. These insights will empower the respective authorities to prosecute and impose fines on any vessels found to be in violation of the established legal frameworks.

VP-16 also had the opportunity to host a flight with distinguished guests, including Acting Chief of Papua New Guinea Defence Force, Commodore Philip Polewara, Papua New Guinea Customs Director, Benjamin Sine, and the United States Chargé d'Affaires to Papua New Guinea, Katherine Monahan.

"On behalf of the Papua New Guinea Defense Force, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your visit. Your presence here is a testament to the strong ties between our two countries, and we are honored to have you as our guests," said Polewara.

The VP-16 "War Eagles" are based in Jacksonville, Fla., and are currently forward deployed to Kadena Air Base, Japan. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet, and routinely engages and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

★
By Lt. Robert Cale, VP-16 Public Affairs



Photo By Petty Officer 1st Class Glenn Slaughter | JACKSONS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Papua New Guinea (Sep. 29, 2023) Members of Patrol Squadron (VP) 16, the Papua New Guinea Defense Force, and the Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority pose in front of the Kumul Leadership Center, Sep. 29, 2023. The VP-16 "War Eagles" conduct maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Robert Downes)

Community

VP-8 Flies to NAS Corpus Christi, Shows off P-8A to Flight School Students

Corpus Christi, Texas— Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 8 flew a P-8A Poseidon aircraft from NAS Jacksonville to NAS Corpus Christi to showcase the Fleet's latest maritime patrol and reconnaissance platform to flight school students September 19, 2023.

The line to board and learn about the P-8A stretched back over 20 yards under the cloudless Texas sun and included the Fleet's newest flight school students as well as the top brass of NAS Corpus Christi.

"Opportunities such as these are incredibly important for flight students," said Cmdr. Joe Reardon, commanding officer of Training Squadron (VT) 35. "having the P-8 static display is extremely beneficial because it allows the students to see the aircraft up close, interact with the crew, and potentially visualize their future."

The coordination for the static display was handled by Lt. Louis Rondinella, a current pilot assigned to VP-8 and Lt. John Lansing, a prior VP-8 pilot and current Training Squadron (VT) 31 instructor.

"Many students don't know about maritime patrol," said Lansing. "Today's objective was to introduce as many flight students as possible to maritime patrol and reconnaissance forces and raise awareness to the greatness of this great platform."

With only weeks away until a class of student pilots choose their respective platforms, the P-8A static display helped some make a more informed decision.

"Initially, most students want to fly jets," said Ens. Joseph Hammer, a flight student assigned to Training Squadron (VT) 28. "After seeing the crew unity onboard the P-8 where every member is involved with the mission, that kind of resonates with me more solo flying platforms."

VP-8 was commissioned as VP-201 in September 1942 in Norfolk, Virginia. During World War II, flying the sea-based PBM Mariner aircraft. In June 1947, the squadron transitioned to the land-based P-2V Neptune aircraft. The squadron was renamed to VP-8 in September 1948, and in October 1962, VP-8 became the first operational P-3 Orion squadron in the U.S. Navy.

Following the squadron's 37th P-3 Orion deployment, VP-8 transitioned to the P-8A Poseidon in 2015. VP-8 is currently executing its fleet readiness training plan in preparation for an upcoming deployment.

★
By VP-8 Public Affairs



CTF-72 and ROKN Air Command Meet for the 54th Maritime Patrol Aircraft Committee Meeting

NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI, Japan – The Republic of Korea (ROK) Naval Air Command (NAC) and U.S. Commander, Task Force 72 met at Naval Air Facility Atsugi for the biannual 54th Maritime Patrol Aircraft Committee Meeting (MPACM), Oct. 25-27.

MPACM is a biannual engagement between the maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft (MPRA) communities to review and assess past cooperative ROK Navy (ROKN) and U.S. Navy efforts and explore future opportunities for coordination and information-sharing.

"MPACM not only recognizes the special bond between the United States and ROK MPRA communities, but the US-ROK alliance that was forged 70 years ago in the defense of freedom and democracy," said Capt. Zachary Stang, Commander, Task Force 72. "We're honored to host Republic of Korea Naval Air Command, Rear Admiral Kim, here in Atsugi and this event is another opportunity to learn from one another and make our MPRA forces stronger and more cohesive."

The "Mad Foxes" of Patrol Squadron 5 hosted Capt. Stang and ROKN attendees aboard a U.S. Navy P-8A Poseidon for a demonstration flight.

On Oct. 27, Commander of ROK NAC, Rear Adm. Kim Seong Hak and his senior staff made a visit to Yokosuka for an office call with Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, Vice Adm. Karl O. Thomas.

These meetings reaffirm and strengthen the U.S. - ROK alliance to ensure security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

U.S. 7th Fleet is the U.S. Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

★
By Lt. j. g. Sarah Merrill, U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs



VP-47 Hosts Static Display at Andoya Air Station for Royal Norwegian Air Force's Final P-3 Mission Flight

NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy - Patrol Squadron (VP) 47 hosted a static display of the P-8A Poseidon during an air show in which the Royal Norwegian Air Force launched the last P-3C Orion mission flight at Andøya Air Station, Norway, June 30, 2023.

The air show was a nostalgic gathering of aviation enthusiasts, veterans, and personnel from around the world to witness this historic moment. The event served as a farewell to the P-3 Orion, a workhorse that has been a crucial asset to the Royal Norwegian Air Force's mission for over five decades.

Spectators also had the opportunity to tour the P-8A Poseidon, a technologically advanced successor to the P-3C Orion and learn about its capabilities in anti-submarine warfare and maritime patrol and reconnaissance. The P-3C Orion, initially designed for anti-submarine warfare, evolved to encompass a broad spectrum of maritime operations, such as surveillance, reconnaissance, and search and rescue missions. The P-3's legacy and mission have advanced and live vicariously through the P-8, a highly advanced multi-mission aircraft that seamlessly integrates cutting-edge technology to buoy up maritime security. Many visitors shared stories about their time serving on

the P-3, bonding with VP-47's crew over their shared experiences and the aircraft's integral role in their service and the nation's defense history.

Other notable guests of the event were members of the Bundeswehr of Germany and the Canadian Armed Forces who also hosted a display of their aircraft.

Aviation Structural Mechanic Senior Chief Petty Officer Mark Thomas, assigned to VP-47, who played an integral role in organizing the P-8 static display, commented on the atmosphere. "We had a great time with Germans, Canadians, and Norwegians coming onboard the P-8 and telling us about their history with the P-3 and trading patches."

As the P-3 Orion completed its last mission and passed the torch to the P-8, it symbolized the continuous advancement of military aviation throughout history. VP-47's participation in the event not only honored the P-3 Orion's legacy, but highlighted the commitment of the United States Navy's longstanding partnership and loyalty to its allied nations.

★
By Petty Officer 3rd Class Hannah Cox, VP-47



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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.anapatriotsquadron.org



ESP owns one of the last remaining P-3C Operational Flight Trainers. This device is located at ESP's Aircrew Training Center outside Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL. Available to provide proficiency and recurrent pilot and flight engineer training to P-3C aircrews.

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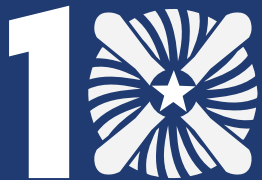
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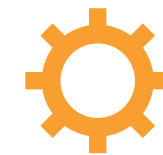
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Events»»Chapter Events



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VP of Region:
Chris Smith

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



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Mark Stevens

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Norfolk Chapter

VP of Region:
John Fox

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Pax River Chapter

VP of Region:
Dan Papp

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Events»»Chapter Events



Washington DC Chapter

VP of Region:
Joshua Portzer

Thanks to everyone who joined us at Matchbox in Arlington on September 28th! Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Whidbey Chapter

VP of Region:
Perry Yaw

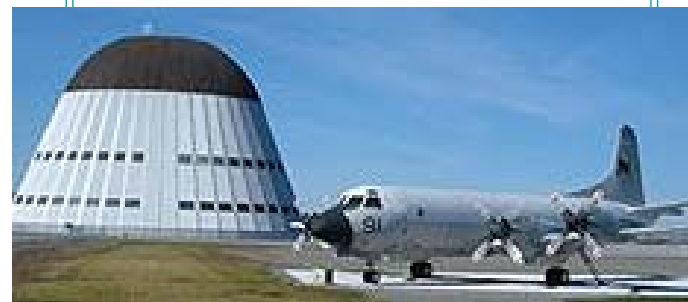
Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Moffett Chapter

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

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



VP Images Around the Globe



(TOP LEFT) JACKSONS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Papua New Guinea (Sep. 25, 2023) Members of Patrol Squadron (VP) 16, the Papua New Guinea Defense Force, and the Papua New Guinea National Fisheries Authority conduct mission planning before reconnaissance flights, Sep. 25, 2023. The VP-16 “War Eagles” conduct maritime patrol and reconnaissance as part of a rotational deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Robert Downes)



(TOP RIGHT) (Sep 24, 2023) A U.S. Navy P-8A Poseidon Aircrew assigned to the “Red Lancers” of Patrol Squadron TEN (VP-10) performed a flyover prior to kick-off between the Green Bay Packers and New Orleans Saints at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wisconsin. (Pictured Left to Right Lt.j.g. Kirk Gregg, Aviation Structural Mechanic First Class Dustin Funk, Cmdr. Luke Huston, Naval Aircrewman Operator Second Class Ashley Antie, Lt. William Christy, Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Clauser, Lt. Cmdr. James Wheeland)



(BOTTOM RIGHT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (August 9, 2023) Lt. Paul Lepage, from Honey Brook, Pa., public affairs officer Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30 speaks to the Jacksonville chapter of the Navy League about P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft weapons systems at VP-30 headquarters during a scheduled tour, August 9. VP-30’s mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer.)



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(TOP LEFT) ANCHORAGE, AK (Oct. 8, 2023) – VP-8 crew stopping for gas in Anchorage, Alaska. Photo Credit: LT Patrick Walsh

(TOP RIGHT & BOTTOM) (Oct. 29, 2023) - VP-9 recently hosted an exchange with the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard Healy Icebreaker. Our sailors had the opportunity to tour the Healy and observe what they do and how they operate. The next day, we were able to host some of their sailors. It was a great time to connect and learn about their platform.





(TOP LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 19, 2023) -- Rear Adm. Adam Kijek (left), Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group (CPRG) Pacific, Capt. Michael Martinez (center), Commodore of Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing (CPRW) 10, and Capt. (ret.) Jon Voorheis (right) stand next to the sign in front of the P-8A Poseidon Fleet Training Center (FTC) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington, Sept. 20, 2023. The sign was revealed during a dedication ceremony hosted Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing TEN (CPRW-10) naming the P-8A Poseidon FTC in honor of Capt. Vincent Segars. Segars, CPRW's Commodore from 2015 to 2016, died tragically in a civilian air crash outside of Selma, Alabama, on June 10, 2020, when he was serving as the commanding officer of the Naval Aviation Schools Command (NASC) at NAS Pensacola. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 19, 2023) -- Capt. (ret.) Jon Voorheis (right) addresses a crowd as a guest speaker in front of the P-8A Poseidon Fleet Training Center (FTC) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington, Sept. 20, 2023. Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing TEN (CPRW-10) hosted a dedication ceremony naming the P-8A Poseidon FTC in honor of Capt. Vincent Segars. Segars, CPRW's Commodore from 2015 to 2016.

(BOTTOM LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 19, 2023) -- Lt. Cmdr. Mark Simonson gives a prayer in front of the P-8A Poseidon Fleet Training Center (FTC) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington, Sept. 20, 2023.



(TOP LEFT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Sept. 6, 2023) Aviation Ordnancemen 2nd Class Jennifer Knotts, from Winchester, Va., assigned to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30 uses an aviation tractor to move a recoverable, exercise torpedo toward a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft on the VP-30 flight line, September 6. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer.)

(TOP RIGHT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Nov. 15, 2023) Lt. Michael Schuman assistant public affairs officer Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, from Topsham, Maine, gives information about the MK 54 torpedo weapons system to the Clay High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets as part of a tour of VP 30 headquarters, Nov. 15. VP 30, based in Jacksonville Fla., is the U.S. Navy's Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS). VP 30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer)

(BOTTOM LEFT) LENTINI, Italy (Nov. 7, 2023) -- Yeoman 2nd Class Michael Bryant (left), Lt. Sean Krasovic, Lt. Lincoln Taylor and Lt. Paul O'Neill, Sailors attached to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' pose for a photo outside Biblioteca Civica Riccardo da Lentini, a Lentini public library, in Lentini, Italy, Nov. 7, 2023. The Sailors were invited to attend a presentation about the WWII operation, "Operation Husky," as well as a screening of a short film about the operation titled "Jason Brown." (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)



(TOP LEFT) A P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft assigned to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, flies in formation during the 2023 Sea and Air Show, Oct. 21. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ryan Johnson.)



(TOP RIGHT) Officers assigned to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, pose for a photograph on the flight line, during the 2023 Sea and Air Show, Oct. 21. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (Courtesy photo from Lt. Ryan Johnson.)

(BOTTOM RIGHT) A P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft assigned to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, flies in formation during the 2023 Sea and Air Show, Oct. 21. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ryan Johnson.)





(TOP LEFT) CATANIA, Italy (Nov. 11, 2023) – Yeoman 2nd Class Michael Bryant, a U.S. Navy Sailor attached to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' stands in the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Catania, Italy, Nov. 11, 2023. U.S. Navy Sailors from Naval Air Station Sigonella and VP-46 joined the Lions Club and military personnel from Italy for a wreath-laying ceremony and benediction to remember fallen service members. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Nov. 5, 2023) – Cmdr. Kevin Harrington, Commander, Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' sits in the flight deck of a P-8A Poseidon at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Nov. 5, 2023. Harrington was preparing to conduct an Instructor Under Training (IUT) check flight for two Naval Aviators attached to VP-46. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(BOTTOM LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Nov. 5, 2023) – Lt. Colton Key and Lt. Stephen Dillon, Naval Aviators attached to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' stand in front of a P-8A Poseidon at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Nov. 5, 2023. Key and Dillon were showing off their new patches they just earned from passing their Instructor Under Training (IUT) check flight to become instructor pilots. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)



(TOP) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Oct. 21, 2023) Lt. Michael Schuman assistant Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, from Topsham, Maine, speaks with former Naval aviator, Michael D'Abbenca, from Norristown, Pa. during a tour for retired and former Sailors and their families aboard a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft at VP-30 headquarters during a scheduled tour, Oct. 21. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer.)



(RIGHT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Oct. 21, 2023) Lt. Paul Lepage, public affairs officer Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, from Honey Brook, Pa. speaks to retired and former Sailors and their families about aviation on the flight line at VP-30 headquarters during a scheduled tour, Oct. 21. VP-30's mission is to provide P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and MQ-4C UAS specific training to pilots, Naval flight officers, and enlisted aircrew prior to reporting to the fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Curtis D. Spencer.)



(TOP LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy – U.S. Air Force Col. Timothy Monroe (right), Commander, 319 Reconnaissance Wing (RW), Lt. Col. Michael Dunn, 7th Reconnaissance Wing, Chief Master Sgt. Carl Vogel, 319 RW, and Naval Flight Officer Joseph Mullen listen to Naval Aircrewmen Operator 2nd Class Gabriel Ramirez (left) speak about his experiences on station inside a P-8A Poseidon at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Nov. 3, 2023. Monroe, Dunn, Vogel and other Air Force service members came to tour the P-8A Poseidon to gain insight on its capabilities and mission set. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy – U.S. Navy Sailors attached to Patrol Squadron (VP), the 'Grey Knights,' show U.S. Air Force Distinguished visitors the P-8A Poseidon in a hangar bay at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Nov. 3, 2023. U.S. Air Force Col. Timothy Monroe, Commander, 319 Reconnaissance Wing (RW), Lt. Col. Michael Dunn, 7th Reconnaissance Squadron, and Chief Master Sgt. Carl Vogel, 319 RW toured the P-8A Poseidon to gain insight on its capabilities and mission set. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(BOTTOM LEFT) WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 29, 2023) -- Sailors in the Chief's Mess, attached to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' pose for a group photo on the football field at Oak Harbor High School, Oak Harbor, Washington, Sept. 29, 2023. The Grey Knights pinned two new chiefs, Aviation Structural Mechanic Chief Petty Officer Brian Twersky and Aviation Structural Mechanic Safety Equipment Chief Petty Officer Sean Prue. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)



(TOP LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Sept. 6, 2023) – Commander, Navy Installations Command Force Master Chief Jason Dunn and Executive Director Timothy K. Bridges, Commander, Navy Installations Command, speak to Sailors assigned to the Golden Swordsmen of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47 during a tour, Sept. 6, 2023. VP-47 is currently deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet in support of naval operations to maintain maritime stability and security in order to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/ Released)



(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Sept. 6, 2023) – LT Kyle McGarry, right, assigned to the 'Golden Swordsmen' of Patrol Squadron (VP) 47, explains the functions of instruments in the cockpit of a P-8A Poseidon to Executive Director Timothy K. Bridges, Commander, Navy Installations Command, during a tour, Sept. 6, 2023. VP-47 is currently deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet in support of naval operations to maintain maritime stability and security in order to ensure access, deter aggression and defend U.S., allied and partner interests. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes/ Released)



(BOTTOM RIGHT) (Nov. 5, 2023) - VP-8's Diversity committee hosted a Hispanic heritage month event in the hangar. Sailors were able to watch a traditional heritage performance and enjoy Hispanic food and music.



NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE, FL (Sept. 21, 2023) - Patrol Squadron (VP) 45 made history on September 21st by conducting the first all female flight aboard our P-8A Poseidon aircraft out of Jacksonville, Florida.

The total crew of 12 onboard consisted of eight officers and four enlisted Sailors participating in a training flight that afternoon. Not only was the aircrew all female, but an additional five female ground maintenance crew members verified the aircraft to be safe for flight.

This moment will not be soon forgotten. Congratulations to the women of VP-45 that made this historic day a reality!



(TOP LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE, FL (Nov. 3, 2023) - The VP-45 Junior Enlisted Association (JEA) serving hot chocolate outside of the hangar to warm up the Sailors.



(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE, FL (Oct. 13, 2023) - Happy Birthday Navy! The VP-45 Pelicans celebrated the Navy's 248th birthday with a cake cutting ceremony in the hangar.

(BOTTOM RIGHT) PITUFFIK SPACE BASE, Greenland (Sept. 18, 2023) - The "Pelicans" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 45 made history when they landed a P-8A Poseidon aircraft on Pituffik Space Base, Greenland. This is the furthest north the P-8A aircraft has ever landed!

U.S. 2nd Fleet's Vice Commander, Canadian Rear Adm. David Patchell, joined our incredible crew of operators and pilots to observe our anti-submarine warfare capabilities first hand.

The historic flight was during Operation NANOOK, which is the Canadian Armed Forces' signature northern operation comprised of a series of comprehensive activities designed to exercise the defense of Canada and to secure their northern regions.





JAPAN (Oct. 31, 2023) - Patrol Squadron Five and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Fleet Air Wing 2 participated in a Joint Anti-Submarine Warfare Naval exercise on 31 October 2023.

This exercise strengthened the cooperation between JMSDF and US forces giving both forces the opportunity to practice coordinated ASW tracking and turnover procedures.

The exercise included rider exchanges during which Mad Foxes flew in a JMSDF P-3C and VP-5 hosted JMSDF aircrew in a P-8A. This helps further knowledge and understanding of each other's capabilities and on station procedures.





(TOP LEFT) (Oct. 2023) — VP-40 hosted a visit by Commander, Carrier Strike Group 11, RDML Jennifer S. Couture, and her staff aboard our P-8, which enhanced understanding between MPRA and afloat forces.

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 14, 2023) -VP-40 at this year's NAS Whidbey Island Open House. It was a pleasure discussing our work and history with the community!

(BOTTOM LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND, Wash. (Sept. 2023) -- As classes resume, we want to thank all of the Midshipmen that joined VP-4 for their summer cruise. Good luck to all of those back in school for their fall semester!



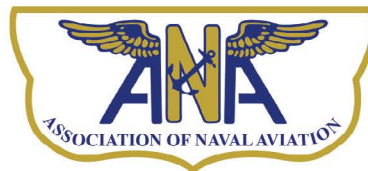
NAVAL AIR STATION JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (Oct. 20, 2023) VUP-19 had the honor of hosting our most senior leadership, Adm. Lisa Franchetti, Chief of Naval Operations, and the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy James Honea. While in the command, the Adm and MCPON toured spaces and answered questions from Big RED Sailors.



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