

PLANESIDE

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2024: Issue 3





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Cover Photo

NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jul. 2, 2024) Aviation Electrician's Mate Airmen Mia Martinez Mora, assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, escorts an MQ-4C Triton for post flight at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Jul. 2, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)



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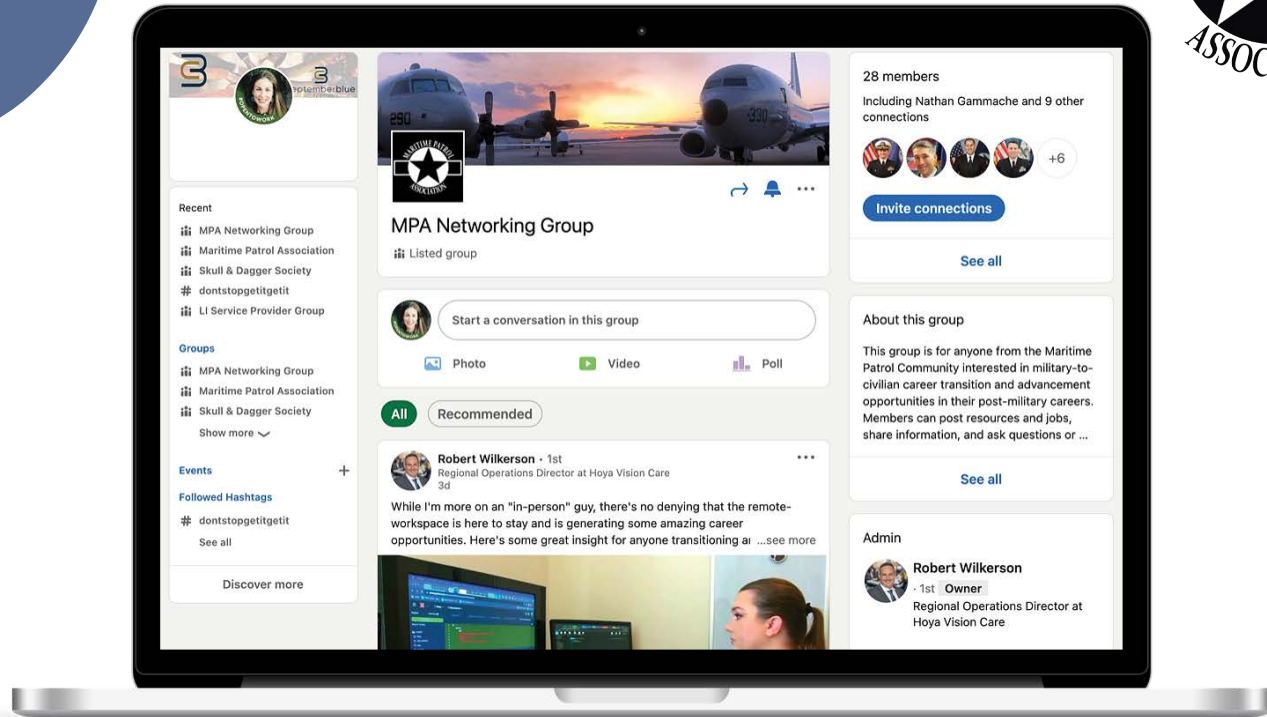


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Checking on Station



Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Warriors Past and Present,

Greetings from Norfolk! In way of introduction, I am Brett Mietus, the new Commander of Patrol and Reconnaissance Group (CPRG). I had the distinct honor to relieve RDML Adam "Kujo" Kijek, a great American who superbly led the MPRF for the last two years. Willow and I could not be more excited to be back in the community where it all began for us. To serve every day alongside the dedicated men and women of our great community during such a transformational period in our storied history...it really is the honor of a lifetime.

That said, it has been a while since I was the Commander of Wing Ten... and as a result, I wanted to come-in, listen, and learn prior to putting together my Commander's intent and vision. My initial impressions are not surprising. Outside of high-end SPEC OPS, there is no community within our Navy or our Department of Defense that performs at such a consistently high level – and is so widely trusted. Quite simply, we are the best at what we do, from finding and holding at risk adversary submarines and surface combatants to conducting high-end Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance.

While it is important to take pride in our success, it is also important that we are transparent and honest in identifying and facing our challenges. Upon initial observation, I see three challenges facing our community and our Navy today.



- The first is a global environment that creates a risk that is unique in our nation's history. Our pacing threat remains the Peoples Republic of China, which is actively developing the military capability to invade Taiwan. We must plan. Plan like we will be tasked to counter this aggression, and MPRF must be ready on day one to operate from multiple bases and attrite enemy ships and submarines... coordinating lethal and non-lethal effects in the battlespace to enable Fleet maneuver and decisive action.
- My second observation is that the ongoing transformation of our family of systems, towards a new community steady-state, is more challenging than the transition was from P-3 to P-8.
- The third challenge is that our community's operational pace (our VP home-cycle and VUP stand-up) creates risk to our collective safety and wellness, and the retention of our best and brightest.

So, how do we tackle these challenges? We do it together, through focused collaboration and problem solving. Over the past three years, Navy has released two complementary, and self-reinforcing initiatives, with a common focus on unleashing the power of our people.

- The first of these initiatives is Get Real, Get Better (GRGB), which challenges leaders to solve hard problems by demonstrating specific leadership behaviors and problem-solving methods, applying a self-assessing, self-correcting, and always learning mindset.
- The second initiative is Culture of Excellence 2.0, which builds on GRGB and provides standards for how Navy will produce a superior warfighting culture in every command, the result of the interaction between its People, its Leaders, and its Teams.

Every step MPRF takes will be based-in and enabled-by these two initiatives. At every step, we will look to organize existing efforts towards better outcomes, making things easier and better over time. Our Priorities and Vision are all within the context of CNO's Warfighting, Warfighters, and the Foundation that supports them, and our Air Boss' follow-on guidance. Boiled down, all this serves to underpin our community's overarching Mission and Purpose.

Mission - Preparing our Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force for Combat

Purpose - Work together with the Joint Force, allies, and partners to find things beneath or on the sea and destroy them.

And above all, as a Force, we are and will remain: Trusted, Ready, and Lethal. If you want to learn more about our Vision, and more closely follow our work and progress, I would invite you to join Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group's new LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/104754055/admin/dashboard/>

Let me close by saying thank you - whether you are a veteran or still serving - thank you for supporting our great community, our Navy, and our nation every day. It matters and I am honored to serve alongside you. I look forward to meeting you as I get around the Fleet.

And wherever you are: take care of yourself, take care of each other, and do great things.

With Great Respect,

Brett Mietus

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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In the News



NAS Sigonella Welcomes First MQ-4C Triton

NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (March 30, 2024) – The first MQ-4C Triton arrived to Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, March 30, 2024.

The MQ-4C's arrival to the U.S. Sixth Fleet area of operations marks the second forward-deployed detachment for VUP-19. A total of three detachments are planned when the program is fully operational. Deployments like this enhance U.S. Navy interoperability with NATO Allies and partners.

"The addition of the MQ-4C Triton, right here in Sigonella, is another milestone in the successful development of the Triton program," said Capt. Aaron Shoemaker, Commanding Officer, NAS Sigonella. "We are proud to support VUP-19 (Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19) as they integrate with the Fleet to expand the roles of unmanned aircraft systems operations in our region and beyond."

The MQ-4C Triton is the Navy's newest Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Maritime Patrol asset and augments the capabilities of the P-8 Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft.

To prepare for the arrival of the Triton in Italy, VUP-19 "Big Red" held a ceremony to celebrate the deployment and the opening of a new Triton hangar at NAS Sigonella, March 2.

VUP-19, homeported in Florida at Naval Air Station Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport, boasts more than 300 Sailors and officers from various aviation ratings and officer communities who maintain and operate the Triton around the world. Aircrew gather and process surveillance information utilizing data fusion tools that integrate sensor data from multiple aircraft into a comprehensive networked picture to further assist in building an accurate threat representation.

VUP-19 achieved initial operation capability in September 2023 during its deployment to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

Naval Air Station Sigonella provides consolidated operational, command and control, administrative, logistical and advanced logistical support to U.S. and other NATO forces. The installation's strategic location enables U.S., allied, and partner nation forces to deploy and respond as required, ensuring security and stability in Europe, Africa and Central Command.



Story by Lt. j.g. Andrea Perez, Naval Air Station Sigonella Public Affairs







Skinny Dragons in 'the land down under!' With over 400,000 people in attendance, VP-4 was able to demonstrate the P-8A's unmatched capabilities at the 2024 Pacific Airshow Gold Coast. Crewmembers embraced the opportunity to answer questions from local aviation enthusiasts and swap sea stories with the Royal Australian Air Force!



VP-4 Wows Crowd at 2024 Pacific Airshow Gold Coast

The United States Navy's P-8A Poseidon is ready to showcase its formidable capabilities and cutting-edge technology to Australian audiences next month.

"We are absolutely thrilled for the opportunity to demonstrate the P-8A Poseidon at this year's Pacific Airshow Gold Coast," said Lieutenant Simon Lyon, from his homebase in Misawa, Japan, where he works for Commander, Task Force (CTF) 72.

The P-8A Poseidon, known for its versatility and advanced systems, will be performing a series of manoeuvres designed to highlight its prowess in various mission sets.

"We're hoping to demonstrate the P-8A doing low-altitude flight while dropping an acoustic sonobuoy," Lyon said.

Naval Aircrewman Operator Petty Officer First Class (AWO1) Quintana, an Electronic Warfare Operator from the detachment crew, is heading 'down under' and looks forward to sharing more about his experiences as a P-8A operator.

"Okinawa is a refreshing experience, the people are very kind," he said. "The island is clean, and the stores are organised with care, the restaurants all prepare food with pride and a sense of passion from what I've experienced. The military experience is very dynamic compared to being home in the United States. At home, it's a little more structured in terms of my own transportation, apartment and getting to and from the hangar and flights. Here we rely on a bus schedule, pack light and meal prep so that we are able to constantly be on the go for flights and operations!"

The P-8A Poseidon serves multiple critical roles, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance and maritime domain awareness. It can also support humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and counter-narcotic operations. The P-8A has a range of about 1200 nautical miles and a speed of 490 knots, with a ceiling of 41,000 feet. It features an advanced multi-role radar, electro-optical/infrared camera and a robust communications suite of long-range and line-of-sight radios. It can be armed with torpedoes, Harpoon anti-surface missiles and acoustic sonobuoys used for anti-submarine warfare.

The collaboration between US Navy P-8A units and the Royal Australian Air Force P-8A Poseidon units has been a highlight of numerous joint exercises.

"US Navy P-8As have routinely operated alongside RAAF P-8A Poseidon units in exercises such as Kakadu, Talisman Sabre, Malabar, RIMPAC and Sea Dragon, which is hosted by CTF-72 in Guam. We are always excited to operate alongside RAAF P-8A units whenever we get the opportunity," said LT Lyon.

A typical P-8A crew comprises three Pilots, two Naval Flight Officers, two Electronic Warfare Operators and two Acoustic Operators, all working seamlessly to ensure mission success. Reflecting on his time with the P-8A Poseidon, AWO1 Quintana said his most memorable experiences from flying in the P-8A was being able to see the world at different heights.

"I've been to Japan, Palau, Guam, Thailand, Philippines, Sicily, Iceland, Scotland and England. The most clear memory I have over the years aside from the people on my various crews? Hands down - being able to witness sunrises, sunsets, constellations, mountain ranges, storms over the horizon, lightning, rain, calm seas or the northern lights," he said. It always seems to make me feel small and grateful for the job we're able to do up there."



Published on the Pacific Airshow Australia Website August 12, 2024

Community



VP-10 Changes Command

NAVAL AIR FACILITY MISAWA, Japan. — Cmdr. Scott Miller relieved Cmdr. Luke Huston, becoming the 88th commanding officer of the "Red Lancers" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 during a change of command ceremony while forward deployed at Naval Air Facility Misawa Japan, June 4.

VP-10, which operates the P-8A Poseidon aircraft, is one of the original naval aviation squadrons and one of the oldest patrol squadrons in the Navy. It traces its official heritage to 1930 with the commissioning of Patrol Bombing Squadron 10S, and was instrumental during the Battle of Midway.

This ceremony marked the conclusion of a successful tour for Cmdr. Huston. Over the course of his career, he accumulated over 2,800 flight hours in the P-3C Orion and P-8A Poseidon aircraft. In April, he led the squadron on deployment to the Fifth and Seventh Fleet areas of responsibility. While deployed as Task Group 72.4, Cmdr. Huston led the largest Commander, Task group in the Seventh Fleet area of responsibility composed of over 400 personnel and 12 aircraft. As Commander, Task Group 57.18, his team immediately began supporting U.S. Naval Forces Central Command on the execution of PROSPERITY GUARDIAN.

Cmdr. Huston's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Strike/Flight Air Medals, four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, three Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and various campaign, unit, and service awards. The "Red Lancers" take pride in wishing Cmdr. Huston fair winds and following seas as he retires from the United States Navy.

Cmdr. Miller joined VP-10 as the executive officer in May 2023. His other operational tours include VP-8 where he was nominated as Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic Naval Flight Officer of the Year, USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) as assistant navigator, later returning to VP-8 as the operations officer (OPSO), and Commander, Task Group 72.4 OPSO. Cmdr. Miller's shore tours consisted of VP-30, Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. as a Strategic Planner, and the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Weapons School (MPRWS).

His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Strike/Flight Air Medals, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, four Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, and various campaign, unit, and service awards.

VP-10 also welcomes Cmdr. Daniel Russell as the squadron's new executive officer.

The VP-10 "Red Lancers" are based in Jacksonville, Fla., and are currently deployed to the U.S. Fifth and Seventh Fleet areas of responsibility conducting maritime patrol and reconnaissance operations in support of U.S. Indo-Pacific and U.S. Central Command objectives throughout the regions.



Story by Petty Officer 1st Class Ashley Guire, VP-10



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DAKSONVILLE, Fla. (April 24, 2024) Lt. John D'Albora, instructor pilot, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 30 gives a tour inside the flight deck of a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during the Maritime Patrol Association (MPA) Symposium at VP-30 headquarters, April 24, 2024. MPA Symposium, along with the Commander's Action Group and Naval Aviation Requirements Group (CAG/NARG) are annual events with lectures, discussions, and social gatherings focused on the latest developments inside the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF). 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.)



From left, Aviation Electrician's Mate 1st Class Angelo Warnock of Unmanned Patrol Squadron 19, gathers with Recruit Division Commander (RDC) Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Lindsey Liles, Lead RDC Retail Service Specialist Chief Corderra Lee, and RDC Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Jamesha Thompson at Recruit Training Center Great Lakes, April 3. VUP-19 is sponsoring new recruits in Integrated Division 145. (U.S. Navy photo/Released)



Unmanned Patrol Squadron 19 Heads to Recruit Training Command

GREAT LAKES, ILLINOIS (April 3, 2024) – Teaming up with Recruit Training Command (RTC) in Great Lakes, Illinois, Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19 "Big Red" officially sponsored its first division of Navy recruits, April 3. Integrated Division 145 consists of 88 men and women from all corners of the United States eager to make the transition from civilian life into active duty naval service. Reinforcing the Navy core values and dedication to duty, VUP-19 Sailors are mentoring, motivating, educating the recruits, working to set and accomplish goals, and build mental, physical and emotional resiliency.

As the official sponsor, VUP-19 is assisting in encouraging success throughout the 10-week journey where recruits will see if they have what it takes to become a Sailor. Along this journey, members of the squadron are traveling to RTC to talk to the recruits about how the lessons learned in boot camp directly contribute to success in the fleet.

Lead Recruit Division Commander (RDC) and Chief Retail Service Specialist Corderra Lee is in charge of the division at Great Lakes. This is his fourth division as an RDC and when asked why he decided to take on one of the Navy's most arduous duties he replied, "What better place to lead than the quarterdeck of the Navy?"

Division 145's other leader is RDC Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Lindsey Liles who is also on his fourth division. "When I look back on the impact I had in my career, I will know my time as a recruit division commander made a difference," he said.

Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Jamesha Thompson is another leader of the division. This is her first time leading recruits. "I also wanted to train the next generation of Sailors and impact them in their new career. And, I wanted to gain more leadership skills."

As the Navy's first and only unmanned patrol squadron, squadron personnel understand the meaning of hard work. The continuous evolution and growth the MQ-4C platform requires Sailors to keep their skills sharp and attention to detail even sharper. Attending the division's official commissioning ceremony, the Big Red team provided the squadron's history, aircraft capabilities, and current events. They elaborated on how hard work only begins at RTC but transitions to ultimate commands.

As VUP-19 heads out on deployment this summer, they are working tirelessly in preparation for their upcoming missions.

"Our United States Navy is forged by men, women, sons, daughters, fathers and mothers that do extraordinary things," said VUP-19 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Stephen Williams. "Every Sailor no matter the paygrade must have a replacement in order to advance. It is a beautiful thing that VUP-19 has the privilege and honor of going to the forge of those amazing replacements of excellence - Navy RTC. New recruits we are ready for you to join us and take the baton when the time comes!"

"I think sponsoring a division at RTC is a big deal for the Navy, RTC and for VUP-19," added VUP-19 Command Master Chief Timothy Hardin. "This gives my Sailors here the opportunity to mentor and share Navy experiences with new recruits. Our Sailors can give them the ins and outs of the fleet before they get to their first command. It basically comes down to us paying it forward and making our replacements better informed than we were at that point in boot camp."



By VUP-19 Public Affairs



Community

VP-8 Fighting Tigers Host Change of Command Ceremony

JACKSONVILLE, FL- Cdr. A.J. Dierks relieved Cdr. James Reeves as the commanding officer of squadron VP-8 fighting tigers during a change of command ceremony, May 31. Reeves served as the commanding officer during VP-8's first deployment as an AAS squadron, while deployed to Kadena, Japan they flew over 4,100 hours in ASW, ISR, ASUW, and search and rescue missions.

"My time with VP-8 has been Incredible! I am so proud of the women and men of this squadron. This is a selfless group of professionals focused on building a winning culture that makes our team, our sister squadrons, and our force better every day. "

Reeves has been a member of the fighting tigers for two years serving as the executive officer from 2022-2023 prior to taking over as commanding officer. CDR Reeves is a native of Orient, NY, and a 2006 graduate of the State University of New York Maritime College, where he earned a Bachelor of Engineering in Marine Electrical Engineering. Additionally, he holds a Master of Science in Global Leadership from Duquesne University. He was designated a naval aviator in 2007 and completed fleet replacement training with Patrol Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30 in 2008.

Reeves said upon taking over as the Commanding Officer of VP-8 some of his goals were, "Building connected teams through Sailor and family resiliency. Our Tiger Thrive initiative was built to infuse fulfillment and meaning opportunities into every organizational task and commitment. Literally bake nurturing the mind, body, and spirit into our plan just like we plan for tactical excellence or precision maintenance. I'm proud of our progress and excited to see where the Tiger team takes the process moving forward into year three."

Dierks takes over as the 76th Commanding Officer in the squadron's history. CDR AJ Dierks is a native of Hot Springs, Arkansas, and a 2007 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. CDR Dierks has served as Naval Flight Officer Training Officer for the P-3C Fleet Replacement Squadron, Patrol Squadron THIRTY, as the MPRA Sea Detailer at PERS-43 in Millington, Tennessee, and as a Congressional Liaison for the Navy to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees as part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and Comptroller. He has served at sea as part of Patrol Squadron SIXTEEN, Patrol Squadron ONE, and aboard USS CARL VINSON (CVN-70).

"I could not be more honored to take command of VP-8. The culture we have created together over the past year, and that has been in work since before my time, is what bonds our team together and will continue to propel this unit to new heights. Our focus will be to continue to infuse relevant and impactful mind, body, and spirit training into our plan, improve safety and sailor care at work, and aggressively pursue tactical excellence in all mission areas. I am excited for this next year and seeing all of the great accomplishments our team will achieve!"

Dierks has served as the Executive Officer for VP-8 for the past year and has the complete support of CDR Reeves. "As his final words to the VP-8 Fighting Tigers, Reeves stated "Thank you to the Sailors and families that make up our Fighting Tiger Family! You have bought-in to our Teammates, Warfighters, Difference Makers ethos in ways I never thought possible. It has been the privilege of my professional career to serve alongside you. Keep charging hard the Tiger way. This team is special because of each of you. Fight hard to keep it that way!"

VP-8 is currently completing its homecycle in Jacksonville, FL following their deployment to Kadena, Japan and is training the unit to prepare for its next deployment in 2025.



Story by Petty Officer 2nd Class Marques Franklin, VP-8



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CAPT Shawn Malone
CAPT Charles Martello
LCDR James Martens
VADM Walter Massenburg
CDR J. Mattonen
CAPT Michael McClintock
CAPT Kevin McGovern
Mr. Edward McIntosh
LT Clint McMillen
LCDR Katie Medford-Davis
LCDR Grant Mestnik
LT Alexander Miller
CAPT Andrew Miller
LCDR Clint Miller
CAPT Greg Miller
LCDR James Miller
LCDR Scott Miller
CWO3 Randal Miner
CDR William Miner
LCDR Douglas Mitchell
CDR Bradley Monger
CDR D Mori
CAPT Kenneth Morrell
CAPT Richard Munro
CDR Leo Murphy
CDR Karl Murray
CDR Robert Murray
CAPT Dave Nelson
CAPT Eugene Newsome
CAPT Bo Norton
LTJG Jason Noralez
CAPT Bob Novak
Ed O'Brien
CAPT Jim O'Donnell
ADC Rod Oldenburg
CAPT John Orem
CAPT Dan Papp
ATC (NAC) Robert Park
CAPT James Parks
CDR Michael Plageman
CAPT David Porter
CAPT Richard Porter
CAPT Ventzel Potochnik
LT Michael Prince
RADM Brian Prindle
CDR Nicholas Pulignano
CDR James Rather
LTJG Cameron Ray
LTJG Charles Richmond
LT Larry Robinson
CAPT Tim Rocklein
Mr. David Rodriguez
CDR Ned Rogerson
Dr. Carrie Root

CDR James Root
LT William Rudiger
CDR Ronald Rumpfelt
AT1 John Rushin
CAPT Matthew Rutherford
CDR Scott Sabau
LT Jordan Saverse
LT Kelly Sawielski
CDR Steve Schmidt
LCDR Jim Schneider
CAPT John Schuller
CAPT Robert Scott
CDR John Sherwood
CAPT Aaron Shoemaker
Mr. Dominick Siano
CDR Stephen Solkshinitz
CDR Janvier Smith
CAPT Kent Smith
CDR Lex Smith
CAPT Ernest Snowden
CDR Joseph Snyder
CAPT Walt Spearman
CAPT G. Thomas Spink
RDML Jeffrey Spivey
CAPT Jon Spore
CDR William Squires
CAPT Zachary Stang
CDR Don Stanton
CDR Tom Stanton
CAPT Mark Stevens
Mrs. Sheila Stevens
LCDR Jason Stillwell
CAPT Ric Stonesifer
CAPT Kenneth Sullivan
Lisa Sullivan
CAPT David Sutton
CDR Jerry Swartz
CDR Paul Tarantino
AXC Bruce Teerlink
LT Branden Thomas
Captain Harold (Hal) Tickle
MCPO Gene Toffolo
CDR John Tomkovitch
AOCs Thomas Valdez
CDR David Van Kampen
CDR Frank Verducci
AFCM Paul Waeghe
David Warren
AX-1 Paul Watts
LT Sara Wedemeyer
CDR Wayne Weller
Nathen Whisler
CDR Curtis White
CAPT Robert Whitmire
CDR Ves Whittemore
LCDR John Wilde
CDR Rob Wilkerson
CAPT David Williams
CDR Neil Wingert
CAPT Mark Wisniewski
AFCM Edward Witt
Dr. William "Woody" Woodruff
CAPT Glen Woods
CAPT Frank Word
CAPT Perry Yaw
CAPT Rusty Yeiser
LT James Yi
CAPT Mark Zematis
William Zuna

Community



VP-10 Participates in CARAT Thailand to Expand Maritime Partnership

CARAT Thailand is designed to promote regional security cooperation, maintain and strengthen maritime partnerships, and enhance maritime interoperability between the Royal Thai Navy and U.S. Navy. The exercise series enhances U.S. and partner navies' abilities to operate together in response to traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

"Working with the Royal Thai Navy and seeing the interoperability, collaboration, and training between our Navies was fulfilling and rewarding," said Naval Air Crewman (Operator) 2nd Class Logan Aldrich, assigned to VP-10.

"The multinational CARAT exercise with the Royal Thai Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy, for the first time since 2017, brought our three countries together for an excellent training, development and operational exercise to strengthen relationships and forward regional goals," said Lt. Cmdr. Lucas Skalski, Officer in Charge, VP-10.

The nations conducted at-sea training that included anti-submarine warfare, air defense exercises, search and rescue, and surface action group coordination.

The "Red Lancers" of VP-10, are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently on a rotational deployment operating from multiple locations including Misawa Air Base in Misawa, Japan. The squadron conducts maritime patrol and reconnaissance as well as theater outreach operations, supporting Commander, Task Force 72, U.S. Seventh Fleet, and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command objectives throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

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.



Story by CTF-72





VP-1 Works with Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force at RIMPAC 2024

HONOLULU, HI (July 26, 2024) - At RIMPAC the spirit of global cooperation and friendship is truly shining bright! Last week our Screaming Eagles were able to work together with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force over in Hawaii. After which, they exchanged plaques and patches to celebrate the occasion.

These thoughtful gifts go beyond mere items; they represent the bonds we are strengthening and the shared commitment to peace and security. It is moments like these that remind us how powerful international partnerships can be.

Here's to celebrating our differences, embracing our common goals, and working together to build a safer and more connected world!

Twenty-nine nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, more than 150 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands, June 27 to Aug. 1. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships among participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea-lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 24 is the 29th exercise in the series that began in 1971.

(U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Tiffany A. Emery)



Story by VP-1



Community



VP-10 Lancers Participate in Balikatan 2024

MACTAN, Philippines – The “Red Lancers” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 participate in Balikatan 2024 at Mactan, Philippines from April 25 to May 10.

Exercise Balikatan 2024, the largest annual bilateral exercise conducted between the Philippines and the U.S, marks the 38th iteration of the exercise, which incorporates training activities throughout the Philippines area of operations. Balikatan means “shoulder-to-shoulder” or “sharing the load together” in Tagalog, which characterizes the spirit of the exercise and alliance between the Philippines and the United States.

VP-10 conducted Maritime Domain Awareness and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance support in combined joint maritime and amphibious assault activities.

“The VP-10 Red Lancers were honored and proud to be a part of Balikatan 2024. The exercise was a successful demonstration of combined operations between the United States and Philippine troops operating in contested areas,” said Lt. Maggie Madigan, assigned to VP-10.

The VP-10 “Red Lancers” are based in Jacksonville, Florida, and are currently deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations conducting maritime patrol and reconnaissance operations in support of Commander, Task Force 72, and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command objectives throughout 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.



Story by Lt. Sheena Chiong, CTF-72



Events»» Reunion Groups



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.anapatriotsquadron.org

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Events»»Chapter Events



Brunswick Chapter

VP of Region:

Chris Smith

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Jacksonville Chapter

VP of Region:

Mark Stevens

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Norfolk Chapter

VP of Region:

Kevin Hudson and Chris Purcell

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:

Marc Wallis

Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Whidbey Chapter

VP of Region:

VP Needed! Please email:
info@maritimepatrolassociation.org

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) An Indian Navy P-8 and its crew arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, for Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2024, July 2. Twenty-nine nations, 49 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, more than 150 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands, June 27 to Aug 1. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships among participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2024 is the 29th exercise in the series that began in 1971.

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jun. 3, 2024) An MQ-4C Triton assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19 prepares to take off from the runway at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Jun. 3, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)

(BOTTOM RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jun. 3, 2024) Aviation Electrician 2nd Class Trevor Garcia, assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, conducts runway checks as the Safety Vehicle Operator (SVO) to prepare for the launch of an MQ-4C Triton from Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, June 3, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)







(TOP LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jul. 2, 2024) Sailors assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, tow an MQ-4C Triton at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Jul. 2, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)

(BOTTOM LEFT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jul. 2, 2024) Aviation Electronics Technician Second Class Matt Belvery, assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, prepares to begin postflight on an MQ-4C Triton at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Jul. 2, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)

(TOP RIGHT) NAVAL AIR STATION SIGONELLA, Italy (Jul. 2, 2024) Sailors assigned to Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, tow an MQ-4C Triton at Naval Air Station (NAS) Sigonella, Italy, Jul. 2, 2024. VUP-19 is deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Operations conducting missions in support of Naval Forces Europe and Africa. (US Navy photo by LT Alex Delgado/released)



(TOP LEFT) Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Tyler Joppa, a Sailor assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 46 from Conifer, Colorado, sands an elevator on the horizontal stabilizer at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, Aug. 9, 2024. Joppa was preparing the elevator to paint as a means to prevent corrosion and prolong the life of the aircraft frame. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

(RIGHT) Aviation Electronics Technician Airman Christian Horvath, from Cleveland, Ohio, paints an emblem associated with Patrol Squadron (VP) 46, the 'Grey Knights,' on the vertical stabilizer of a P-8A Poseidon at Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington, Aug. 15, 2024. Markings on the vertical stabilizer of an aircraft, called "distinctive unit identifier markings," are used to identify the unit's aircraft from afar. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jacquelin Frost.)

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Aviation Maintenance Administrationman Airman Ismael Buenrostro, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 45, directs a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft on Naval Air Station Sigonella, Aug. 13th, 2024.







(TOP LEFT) JACKSONVILLE, Florida (June 14, 2024) VP-5 Mad Fox AZ1(AW) Wilczewski reenlists on the banks of the St. Johns River.

(BOTTOM LEFT) CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (August 13, 2024) Members of Team Trident conducted a static display at NAS Corpus Christi in Corpus Christi, Texas. Tridents gave tours of the aircraft to Sailors stationed at the base for training to give them insight on the Patrol Squadron community.

(TOP RIGHT) Lt. Col. Dan Arsenalt, left, deputy commander, Combined Task Group (CTG) 172.1, and Cmdr. Charles Blackwell, second from right, pose for a photo with the crew of a P-8A Poseidon attached to Patrol Squadron 9, the 'Golden Eagles', after they arrive at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, during Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2024, July 3. Twenty-nine nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, more than 150 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands, June 27 to Aug. 1. The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships among participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2024 is the 29th exercise in the series that began in 1971. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class William Sykes)



(TOP LEFT) JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA. (July 22, 2024) Rear Adm. Doug Verissimo, Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, presents the 2023 Naval Aviation Safety Award to Capt. Derrick W. Eastman, commanding officer, Patrol Squadron (VP) 30, during a scheduled visit, July 22, 2024. Verissimo presented VP-30 with the award, commended them for 60 years free of class "A" flight mishaps and spotlighted Sailors excelling in the performance of their duties. 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, FLORIDA. (July 22, 2024) Rear Adm. Doug Verissimo, Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, center, speaks with Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 30, during a scheduled visit, July 22, 2024. Verissimo presented VP-30 with the 2023 Naval Aviation Safety Award, a commendation for 60 years free of class "A" flight mishaps and spotlighted Sailors excelling in the performance of their duties. 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) PATTAYA, Thailand, (July 23, 2024) Sailors assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 show the P-8A flight crew equipment and survival equipment during a tour of a static display during CARAT Thailand, July 23, 2024. VP-10 is currently deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility where they will conduct maritime patrol, reconnaissance and theater outreach operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Cmdr. Lucas Skalski)

(BOTTOM LEFT) HONOLULU, Hawaii (July 26, 2024) Members of Vp-1 and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force exchange greetings during RIMPAC 2024. Twenty-nine nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, more than 150 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are participated in RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands, June 27 to Aug. 1.

(TOP RIGHT) Tsushima Strait (AUG. 21, 2024) U.S. Navy Sailors, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 10, conduct maritime domain awareness operations in the vicinity of the Tsushima Strait, Aug. 21, 2024. USINDOPACOM forces perform operations in and around critical sea passages and trade thoroughfares to deter threats that create regional instability and impinge on the free flow of goods, people and ideas. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Branden Deeter)



WHIDBEY ISLAND, Washington (June 2024) During the Change of Command Ceremony, VP-47's outgoing Skipper Commander Pritchett and incoming Skipper Commander Yu-Rank celebrate with the traditional cake cutting.





**US NAVY VP-4
PATROL SQUADRON FOUR**

XXX
GOLD





(LEFT) GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND, Australia (August 19, 2024) Skinny Dragons in ‘the land down under!’ With over 400,000 people in attendance, VP-4 was able to demonstrate the P-8A’s unmatched capabilities at the 2024 Pacific Airshow Gold Coast. Crewmembers embraced the opportunity to answer questions from local aviation enthusiasts and swap sea stories with the Royal Australian Air Force!

(TOP RIGHT) The Skinny Dragons recently participated in PEGASE, an annual trilateral exercise with the French Air Force and Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force. Pictured alongside the P-8A are two U.S. Navy E/A 18-G Growlers, two Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force F-2 fighters, two French Navy Rafales, and an A330 tanker.



(TOP LEFT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (June 3, 2024) Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training flies a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during a scheduled visit to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, June 3, 2024. 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. (June 3, 2024) Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training, center, operates a console aboard a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during a scheduled visit to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, June 3, 2024. 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 RIGHT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (June 3, 2024) Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training and Naval Aircrewman 1st Class Kyen Balzer, depart a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during a scheduled visit to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, June 3, 2024. 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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(LEFT) JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (June 3, 2024) Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training, observes as Naval Aircrewman 1st Class Adam Randazzo loads a sonobuoy into a sonobuoy rotary launcher inside a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during a scheduled visit to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, June 3, 2024. 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. (June 3, 2024) Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, Chief of Naval Air Training, center, observes pre-flight safety checks of a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft during a scheduled visit to Patrol and Reconnaissance Squadron (VP) 30, June 3, 2024. 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.)



NAVAL AIR FACILITY MISAWA, Japan. — Cmdr. Scott Mitter relieved Cmdr. Luke Huston, becoming the 88th commanding officer of the “Red Lancers” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 10 during a change of command ceremony while forward deployed at Naval Air Facility Misawa Japan, June 4.

KEFLAVIK, ICELAND (May 10, 2024) VP-40 conducted a Change of Command ceremony on May 10, 2024, at Keflavik Air Base in Keflavik, Iceland. We welcome CDR Lex A. Smith as the incoming Commanding Officer and CDR James B. Miller as Executive Officer, and bid farewell to CDR David T. St. Aubin as the outgoing Commanding Officer.



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