



# RC Communicator



## Facts and Figures to Guide the Navy Reserve Leader

December 2011

**Mission:** The Navy Reserve mission is to provide strategic depth and deliver operational capabilities to our Navy and Marine Corps team, and Joint forces, from peace to war

**Core Values:** Honor, Courage, and Commitment

**Strategic Focus:** Deliver a Ready and Accessible Force; Provide Valued Capabilities; Enable the Continuum of Service

Key Topics of Interest	Key Navy Leadership
<a href="#">Phase II ERB Results Available</a> (NNS111122-12)	Secretary of the Navy <a href="#">Honorable Ray Mabus</a>
<a href="#">HSV 2 Swift Works with Dominican Elementary School</a> (NNS111122-13)	Chief of Naval Operations <a href="#">ADM Jonathan W. Greenert</a>
<a href="#">NOSC Tampa Welcomes 50 Bay Area Foster Kids</a> (NNS111122-18)	Vice CNO <a href="#">ADM Mark E. Ferguson III</a>
<a href="#">A Day in the Navy Reserve</a> (11 Nov. 2011)	Chief of Navy Reserve <a href="#">VADM Dirk J. Debbink</a>
	Cmdr, Navy Reserve Forces Command <a href="#">RADM Buzz Little</a>
	Cmdr, Naval Air Force Reserve <a href="#">RDML John Sadler</a>
	Force Master Chief <a href="#">FORCM (AW) Chris T. Wheeler</a>

## Navy Reserve Force by the Numbers

Operational Support Snapshot (23 November 11)	RC Major Commands	Navy Enterprises & Enablers
<b>Selected Reserves (SELRES) 53,973</b> Enlisted 41,316 Officer 12,657  Mobilized to Active Duty 4,048 Active Duty Special Work 660 Annual Training 780 Active Duty for Training 1,182  Total Navy Reserve Component Performing Operational Support (21%) 13,744  <b>Full Time Support (FTS) 10,433</b> Enlisted 8,814 Officer 1,619  <b>FTS/SELRES Onboard 64,406</b> FY12 End strength 66,200 <b>Difference 1,794</b>  <b>Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) 33,979</b> Voluntary Training Unit (VTU) 4,349 Active Status Pool (ASP) 38,328 Strategic Sealift Readiness Group (SSRG) 1,824	<b>Region RCCs</b> Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest  <b>Aviation Wings</b> Tactical Support Wing, Commander Fleet Logistics Support Wing, Navy Air Logistics Office  <b>Naval Air Facility Washington</b> <b>Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth</b> <b>Joint Reserve Base New Orleans</b>  <b>Navy Operational Support Centers: 125</b>  <b>Active Component Numbers (28 November 11)</b> Officers 52,981 Enlisted 266,970 Midshipmen 4,515 <b>Total 324,466</b>  <b>Civilian Employees 203,952</b>	<b>Warfighter Enterprises</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Naval Aviation</li> <li>▪ Navy Expeditionary Combat Command</li> <li>▪ Navy Information Dominance</li> <li>▪ Naval Special Warfare</li> <li>▪ Surface Warfare</li> <li>▪ Undersea Warfare</li> </ul> <b>Providers   Warfighter Enterprise Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Navy Installations Command</li> <li>▪ Navy Total Force</li> <li>▪ Naval Air Systems Command</li> <li>▪ Naval Facilities Engineering Command</li> <li>▪ Naval Sea Systems Command</li> <li>▪ Naval Supply Systems Command</li> <li>▪ Office of the Judge Advocate General</li> <li>▪ Office of Naval Research</li> <li>▪ Navy Bureau of Medicine &amp; Surgery</li> <li>▪ Space &amp; Naval Warfare Systems Command</li> </ul>

## VAW-77 assists Colombian military in seizures of cocaine worth \$610 Million

BARRANQUILLA – The U.S. Navy assisted the Colombian military in intercepting several narcotics smuggling vessels laden with cocaine headed to the U.S. where the street value of the white powder would have been a staggering \$610 million.



During a routine Combating Transnational Organized Crime (C-TOC) Operations patrol Nov. 7, the crew of an E-2C Hawkeye long-range surveillance plane assigned to VAW-77

spotted a Go-Fast boat 120 nautical miles southeast of the San Andres Islands in the Western Caribbean. With overlapping radar coverage provided by an additional Hawkeye, the E-2 aircrew ensured constant monitoring and successfully vectored USS *Oak Hill* (LSD 51) in intercepting the Go-Fast. As two over-the-horizon interceptor boats from *Oak Hill* came along side the Go-Fast, the crew scuttled the boat. However, *Oak Hill* recovered 2 metric tons (valued at \$350 million) of cocaine and placed four narco-terrorists into custody.



Less than one week earlier on Nov. 3, the crew of an E-2C Hawkeye, also assigned to VAW-77, spotted a semi-propelled, semi-submersible boat and a Go-Fast, coordinated the launch of Colombian aircraft and coast guard boats, which then intercepted the vessels.

With intelligence gathered from the seized semi-submersible and the Go-Fast, the Colombian Coast Guard located a narcotics vessel construction site in the jungles surrounding the Colombian coastline. Special Operations Forces found and secured 1.5 Metric Tons of cocaine

(street value over \$260 million) and another Go-Fast being prepped for narcotics transport.

The use of semi-submersibles is one example of how drug traffickers are changing their tactics in an effort to avoid being detected. They are usually powered by a single diesel engine and can hold an average payload of five metric tons.

The Nightwolves of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 77 (VAW-77) based at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, comprise the U.S. Navy's only fully dedicated counter-narcotics squadron. VAW-77's beginnings go back to 1995, when the U.S. Congress created the reserve squadron as a result of the United States escalating war on illegal drug trafficking. VAW-77 received four specially modified E-2C Hawkeye airborne early warning aircraft optimized for counter-drug missions. As part of the Navy's post-Cold War role, VAW-77 flight crews patrol the waters of the Caribbean in joint missions with other drug enforcement agencies in search of illegal aircraft and ships.

The officers and enlisted members of VAW-77 are a mix of Selected Reservists and active Full Time Support (FTS) personnel. Because the squadron is a component of the Navy Reserve, a significant number of its men and women are Selected Reservists. They participate in the squadron's mission on a part-time basis because of their civilian commitments. Currently, VAW-77 has a detachment forward-deployed to Barranquilla, Columbia as part of an ongoing partnership with the Colombian military.

### Key Messages

VAW-77 assisted the Colombian government in the seizure of 3.5 metric tons of cocaine that would have eventually made its way to markets in North America and denied narco-terrorists \$610 million in potential profit.

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