

EURAFSWA READER



THE ATTACK ON PEARL HARBOR



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For All Who Serve: Past and Present

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REGION COMMANDER'S PERSPECTIVE



Holiday greetings!

I remember sitting down to write last year's holiday greeting, and it seems like it was just a month ago. I suppose that is because we have all had such a busy year. In addition to all the daily work we all had to do to sustain the fleet, enable the fighters and support the families, we also successfully opened the first Navy base in in 20 years in Deveselu, Romania. Great job everyone in bring this critically important installation to life.

The holidays afford more opportunities to relax with friends and family, watch some sports, or take care of some long lost personal projects. Whatever, you decide to do, do so with safety and care. The best weapons and technology in the world are nothing without the No. 1 resource behind it and that is you.

Many of us are blessed with the ability to be with our family and friends this time of the year, but I ask you to remember the sacrifices our deployed Sailors and sister service members are making for the cause of liberty around the world. I encourage you to reach out to each other, especially to those service members or civilians who may be alone this holiday season. We are not only part of a fantastic team, but also part of a great military family and, as Shipmates; we take care of each other.

The upcoming year will, no doubt, be challenging. But as we remain a key part of our nation's defense strategy and contribute to global security, I remain convinced that EURAFSWA's people are the key to our success. Your hard work, enthusiasm and innovation will help lead EURAFSWA and the Navy successfully into the future.

I hope you have a wonderful season of joy and happiness with family and friends and I thank you all for your tremendous support! Please remember to celebrate responsibly and keep safety at the forefront in all that you do, particularly if you are travelling.

As always, take care of yourself, take care of your shipmates and take care of your family!

RDML Jack Scorby



A Day
Which Will Live
in Infamy

By MC2 Luke Meineke, CNREURAFSWA Public Affairs

Honolulu Star-Bulletin 1st EXTRA

4 PAGES—HONOLULU, TERRITORY OF HAWAII, U. S. A., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1941—6 PAGES ★ PRICE FIVE CENTS

WAR!

(Associated Press by Transpacific Telephone)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—President Roosevelt announced this morning that Japanese planes had attacked Manila and Pearl Harbor.

OAHU BOMBED BY JAPANESE PLANES

SIX KNOWN DEAD, 21 INJURED, AT EMERGENCY HOSPITAL

Attack Made On Island's Defense Areas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Text of a White House announcement detailing the attack on the Hawaiian islands is: "The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor from the air and all naval and military activities on the island of Oahu, principal American base in the Hawaiian islands."

Oahu was attacked at 7:55 this morning by Japanese planes. The Rising Sun, emblem of Japan, was seen on plane wing tips.

Waves after waves of bombers streamed through the clouded morning sky from the southwest and flung their missiles on a city resting in peaceful Sabbath calm.

According to an unconfirmed report received at the governor's office, the Japanese force that attacked Oahu reached island waters aboard two small airplane carriers. It was also reported that at the governor's office either an attempt had been made to bomb the USS Lexington, or that it had been bombed.

CITY IN UPROAR

Within 10 minutes the city was in an uproar. As bombs fell in many parts of the city, and in defense areas the defenders of the islands went into quick action.

Army intelligence officers at Ft. Shafter announced officially shortly after 9 a. m. the fact of the bombardment by an enemy but long previous army and navy had taken immediate measures in defense.

"Oahu is under a sporadic air raid," the announcement said. "Citizens are ordered to stay off the streets until further notice."

CIVILIANS ORDERED OFF STREETS

The army has ordered that all civilians stay off the streets and highways and not use telephones.

Evidence that the Japanese attack has registered some hits was shown by three billowing pillars of smoke in the Pearl Harbor and Hickam field area.

All navy personnel and civilian defense workers, with the exception of women, have been ordered to duty at Pearl Harbor.

The Pearl Harbor highway was immediately a mass of racing cars.

A trickling stream of injured people began pouring into the city emergency hospital a few minutes after the bombardment started.

Thousands of telephone calls almost swamped the Mutual Telephone Co., which put extra operators on duty.

At The Star-Bulletin office the phone calls deluged the single operator and it was impossible for this newspaper, for sometimes, to handle the flood of calls. Here also an emergency operator was called.

HOOR OF ATTACK—7:55 A. M.
An official army report from department headquarters, made public shortly before 11, is that the first attack was at 7:55 a. m.

Witnesses said they saw at least 50 airplanes over Pearl Harbor.

The attack centered in the Pearl Harbor, Army authorities said: "The rising sun was seen on the wing tips of the airplanes."

Although martial law has not been declared officially, the city of Honolulu was operating under M-Day conditions.

It is reliably reported that enemy objectives under attack were Wheeler field Hickam field, Kaneohe bay and naval air station and Pearl Harbor.

Some enemy planes were reported short shot down. The body of the pilot was seen in a plane burning at Waipahu.

Oahu appeared to be taking calmly after the first uproar of queries.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS IN ACTION

First indication of the raid came shortly before 8 this morning when anti-aircraft guns around Pearl Harbor began sending up a thunderous barrage.

At the same time a vast cloud of black smoke arose from the naval base and also from Hickam field where flames could be seen.

BOMB NEAR GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Shortly before 9:30 a bomb fell near Washington Place, the residence of the governor, Governor Poindexter and Secretary Charles M. Hite were there.

It was reported that the bomb killed an unidentified Chinese man across the street in front of the Schuman Carriage Co. where windows were broken.

C. E. Daniels, a welder, found a fragment of shell or bomb at South and Queen Sts, which he brought into the City Hall. This fragment weighed about a pound.

At 10:05 a. m. today Governor Poindexter telephoned to The Star-Bulletin announcing he has declared a state of emergency for the entire territory.

He announced that Edouard L. Doty, executive secretary of the major disaster council, has been appointed director under the M-Day law's provisions.

Governor Poindexter urged all residents of Honolulu to remain off the street, and the people of the territory to remain calm.

Mr. Doty reported that all major disaster council wardens and medical units were on duty within a half hour of the time the alarm was given.

Workers employed at Pearl Harbor were ordered at 10:10 a. m. not to report at Pearl Harbor.

The mayor's major disaster council was to meet at the city hall at about 10:30 this morning.

At least two Japanese planes were reported at Hawaiian department headquarters to have been shot down.

One of the planes was shot down at Ft. Kamehameha and the other back of the Wa-

Hundreds See City Bombed

Names of Dead and Injured

Hundreds of Honoluluans who looked to the top of Punchbowl soon after bombs began to fall, saw spread out before them the whole panorama of surprise attack and defense.

Far off over Pearl Harbor the white sea was dotted with 600-4000 ft. ships.

Rolling over from the navy base were shrouding clouds of navy ship smoke. Scattered a band of those scattered the main masses of the enemy.

But from the air-raid shelter area the landing of bombs of incendiary nature, their noise and their light.

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Additional Star-Bulletin extras today will cover the latest developments in this war.

For a nation still racked with wounds suffered from the War, American sentiment was distinctly anti-war and isolationist. In the 1920s many Americans came to believe our entry into World War I was a mistake and in the 1930s, fueled in part by the Great Depression, this attitude was widespread. As Germany, Japan and Italy increased their aggression, they did not want to become embroiled in these machinations and another European war.

Outspoken, and echoing the sentiment felt by 80% of Americans who opposed any involvement in military conflicts, aviator Charles Lindbergh wrote in a New York Times article April 24, 1941,

"We are divided [as a nation] because we are asked to fight over issues that are Europe's and not our own - issues that Europe created by her own short-sightedness. We are divided because many of us do not wish to fight again for England's balance of power or for her domination of India, Mesopotamia and Egypt ... or for another treaty like Versailles. We are divided because we do not want to cross an ocean to fight on a foreign continent for foreign causes against an entire world combined against us."

Ninety minutes of unprovoked, unexpected attack changed that sentiment irrevocably. America would once more go to war.

The empires of Germany and Japan were bent on domination through expansion. Japan's aggression was borne of frustration

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with a world whose order appeared tipped in favor of the west.

With an ever expanding population and rapidly dwindling natural resources, Japan invaded Manchuria ostensibly to increase territory and gain valuable resources. This invasion, which led to all-out war between Japan and China, followed by the invasion of French Indochina, isolated Japan from the west.

Political tension grew along with Japan's desire toward expansion of empire and the creation of an autonomous region under Japanese leadership. Japan saw the U.S. as the nearest and largest threat to the conquering of Southeast Asia.

They believed that Allied weakness in that theater and American isolationist sentiment would mean a short war, one that could be won quickly and decisively.

Intended as a preventative action to keep the U.S. Pacific Fleet from interfering with this expansion, the attack on Pearl Harbor was devised.

With no formal declaration of war, the Japanese Navy launched a carrier-based military strike against the U.S. fleet the morning of December 7, 1941. The surprise was complete. Commencing at 7:48 a.m. Hawaiian time, attacking planes, launched from six aircraft carriers came in two waves.

The first hit its target at 7:53 a.m., the second at 8:55. By 9:55 it was all over.

Battleships and aircraft carriers were the primary targets, cruisers and destroyers secondary. Three hundred fifty-three fighter planes and bomber planes armed with armor-piercing bombs and torpedoes modified for the shallow depth of water in the harbor comprised the two waves.

In total, 2,403 Americans died and 1,178 others were wounded during the attack. Eighteen ships were sunk or run aground. All eight battleships in harbor were damaged, four being sunk. And it was the explosion of USS Arizona's forward magazine that killed nearly half of the total American fatalities. Of the 402 American aircraft in Hawaii, 188 were destroyed and 159 were damaged.

Unprepared, undermanned, and waking to the sounds of alarms, explosions and gunfire, American service members fought back valiantly and responded quickly. Ships, in some cases under the command of junior officers, got underway, anti-aircraft fire was ordered and engaged, and planes were scrambled.

However, there is no denying it was a major blow to the Navy. Japanese losses were disparagingly minimal compared to U.S. losses. But it could have been worse.

Japan calculated on a short, victorious war and that this attack would demoralize an already isolationist-prone country. Because of this several key oversights were committed by Japan.

Attacking the Pacific Fleet at anchor

Photo # K-13328 Memorial service for men killed during the Japanese attack on NAS Kaneohe



Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (Aug. 29, 2003) – Sailors and Marines aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5) render honors to the USS Arizona Memorial and the Battleship Missouri.



meant that ships damaged or sunk could be relatively easily salvaged and repaired. In fact, six of the eight battleships damaged or sunk during the attack later actively participated in the war.

All three of the Pacific Fleet's aircraft carriers were operating away from Pearl Harbor during the attack. The Japanese had known about it, but, at the time, felt battleships were the height of naval power and proceeded with the attack. As we now know, and the Japanese would learn to their detriment, true naval power is carrier-driven.

Lastly, the Japanese ignored critical targets such as the navy yard, oil farms, and the submarine base because they were confident it would be a short, victorious war, so short, in fact, their importance would not be felt.

It was a heavy blow. It was a profound shock. It was an unannounced act of war. It was a war crime. And Japan was unprepared for the two principle effects their infamous attack would cause.

It united a country. It engendered steely resolve. Where the vast majority of Americans were against entering another war, with this attack they demanded retribution.

Secondly, it woke a sleeping giant. The First World War made us the largest and most dominant military force in the world and in this Second War, we would use it to great effect.



SEASONS GREETINGS

Mustang Round Up

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John Benson,
Naval Support Activity Bahrain



Junior enlisted Sailors attend a Naval Academy brief during the 2014 “Mustang Round Up” held by the Bahrain Chapter Navy Mustang Association (BCNMA). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John Benson)

The Bahrain Chapter Navy Mustang Association (BCNMA) presented Sailors aboard Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain with information on enlisted to officer commissioning programs during their annual Mustang Round Up Nov. 17.

The Mustang Round Up provided enlisted Sailors with guidance and counseling by officers who have been commissioned under the various programs within the Navy.

Attendees were able to ask questions and get the most recent information on programs, such as Seaman-to-Admiral (STA-21), Limited Duty Officer (LDO), Officer Candidate School (OCS), the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP) and Chief Warrant Officer (CWO).

“There are approximately 35 officers involved in the Bahrain Mustang Association available to provide guidance and mentorship,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Veronica Hanna, vice president of the BCNMA.

Many of the officers see the Mustang Round Up as an opportunity to help those who share the same goals and dreams as they did.

“I came into the Navy as an E-3 Radioman 27 years ago and my dream was always to become a master chief and continue mentoring Sailors,” said Hanna. “However, as soon as I made chief, someone else saw more than that in me and suggested I submit an officer package. Now I’m looking for the next generation of leaders and, more importantly, my replacement.”

For Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Rosana Martinez, assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26, the most helpful aspect of the meeting was being able to speak directly with an officer.



Junior enlisted Sailors attend a brief during the 2014 "Mustang Round Up" held by the Bahrain Chapter Navy Mustang Association (BCNMA). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John Benson)

"What I really want from these meetings is to have a better idea of where I stand with the Navy," said Martinez. "This is an incredible opportunity to speak with officers that achieved their goals. I can get the information I need directly from the source and not have to be referred to one person or another. These are the people who know what they're talking about and have already been down that road before. I can directly draw from their previous experience."

Applying for a commission can be a stressful process. Written instruction provides guidance to answer a majority of questions but some issues may not be clearly defined.

"I thought it was very informational because they allowed me to look at a commissioning a bit differently," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Heather Cowell, assigned to Naval Security Force Bahrain Harbor Patrol Unit. "The written instructions on how to earn a commissioning are helpful but there are always some questions that can't be answered. That's when it helps to have a point of contact and the ability to speak with an officer face-to-face. Prior to this meeting I never met an officer in the field that I wanted to pursue."

For Hanna, her mentorship isn't just about being there to answer questions but rather to pass on a helpful legacy.

"I really wish someone was there for me when I received my commission!" said Hanna. "When I joined the Navy, I didn't know that much about it. I did everything on my own and climbed up the ranks without really knowing much about the other opportunities. "I just want these Sailors to know that they don't have to do everything on their own and there is help for them if they really want to achieve their goal."

With 2014 nearly over, the BCNMA is looking forward to the opportunities that may come next year.

"Our goals for 2015 are to ensure that every Sailor, who is selected for a commission, is assigned a Mustang mentor while waiting to transfer to their new assignment, said Hanna. "This will be a time for them to receive 'the ideal and the real' insight of being a commissioned officer. In addition, Mustangs will be available to assist them in transitioning from the enlisted uniform to the officer uniform."

Camp Lemonnier Holds Change of Command Ceremony

By Camp Lemonnier Public Affairs



Capt. Matthew O'Keefe, CLDJ Commanding Officer

Capt. Michael Newman turned over commanding authority of Camp Lemonnier, the U.S. military's only installation in Africa to Capt. Matthew O'Keefe during a change of command ceremony on Dec. 3rd.

"It has truly been a privilege to work with such a diverse group of people from my team on camp, to our tenant commands, the embassy, Djibouti, and other partner nations," said Newman in his remarks.

Camp Lemonnier is a command consisting of approximately 60 percent Navy Reserve personnel including the commanding officer. In addition to being the only U.S. military base in Africa, Camp Lemonnier is the only Navy installation to fall under the command of a reservist.

The installation serves as a host to up to 27 tenant commands at any given time, supporting missions in the Horn of Africa including Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA). CJTF-HOA's primary mission is to enable regional actors to neutralize violent extremist organizations.

Over the course of a ten-month tour, Capt. Newman has overseen over \$400 million in construction projects as the base has transitioned from an expeditionary to an enduring base. Despite explosive growth, the base has been recognized multiple times for being a leader in green initiatives and cutting energy consumption by nearly twenty percent. Most recently, the installation was recognized by the White House with the Green Gov Presidential Award in the

Lean, Clean, and Green category. The award cited initiatives in energy and water consumption as well as waste management.

During Capt. Newman's tour U.S. President Obama and Djiboutian President Guelleh signed a lease extension of ten years with the possibility of two more ten-year extensions. As the United States begins this new lease, Camp Lemonnier is also making the transition from being an expeditionary base to an enduring base.

Capt. O'Keefe previously served as the Navy emergency preparedness liaison officer for South Florida where he served as the U.S. Navy's liaison to civilian authorities during periods of crisis.

"I have already learned about a lot of the growth at Camp Lemonnier and am excited to continue with that trend," said O'Keefe.

Capt. O'Keefe will serve a tour of approximately one year as the commanding officer of Camp Lemonnier. The United States Marine Corps turned over command of Camp Lemonnier to the Navy in 2006.

For more news from Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa, visit www.navy.mil/local/CAMPL/.



Capt. Michael Newman



Sig' Citizens be warned!

Secure your social media profiles

By LT Paul Newell
NAS Sigonella Public Affairs Officer

With the ease and access of using social media these days, communicating has never been easier; but it's also never been so dangerous.

Identity theft by way of social media against those who unabashedly post their personal identifiable information (PII) remains common malpractice with unsuspecting users. Phishing schemes, fraud, and data mining are also normal bugaboos that come with the joy of connecting online. Mediabistro.com reports that 78 percent of burglars admit to using Facebook and Twitter as well as online maps to select victims' property. Fifty-four percent of those thieves say posting status and whereabouts on social media is the biggest mistake made by homeowners.

What's more unnerving – Mediabistro reports that in 50 percent of all sex crimes against minors the offender(s) obtained information and/or photos from the victim's social media profile. And then there are the recent warnings about terrorist groups using PII to stalk with the intent to harm US military and their family members. While these mainstream media reports may border on fear-mongering, at the very least they drive home the idea that servicemembers and their loved ones need to safeguard any information that makes them a potential target.

“There's a lot of scary stuff out there happening” said AT3 Shayne Rollings, an augmentee with Patrol Squadron FOUR (VP-4). Rollings said he began using Facebook not too long after its inception. As the years have passed, so too, he says, have the security measures he adheres to. “Before I joined the military I was very lax with who could access my profile,” said the Kuna, Idaho native. “But with my job and being in the military I began to hear about other military members who were being targeted. I also am very self-conscious of strangers having access to things I say. I highly advise putting tight controls on your page and thoroughly screening those who send you friend requests.”

Social



Instagram



Facebook



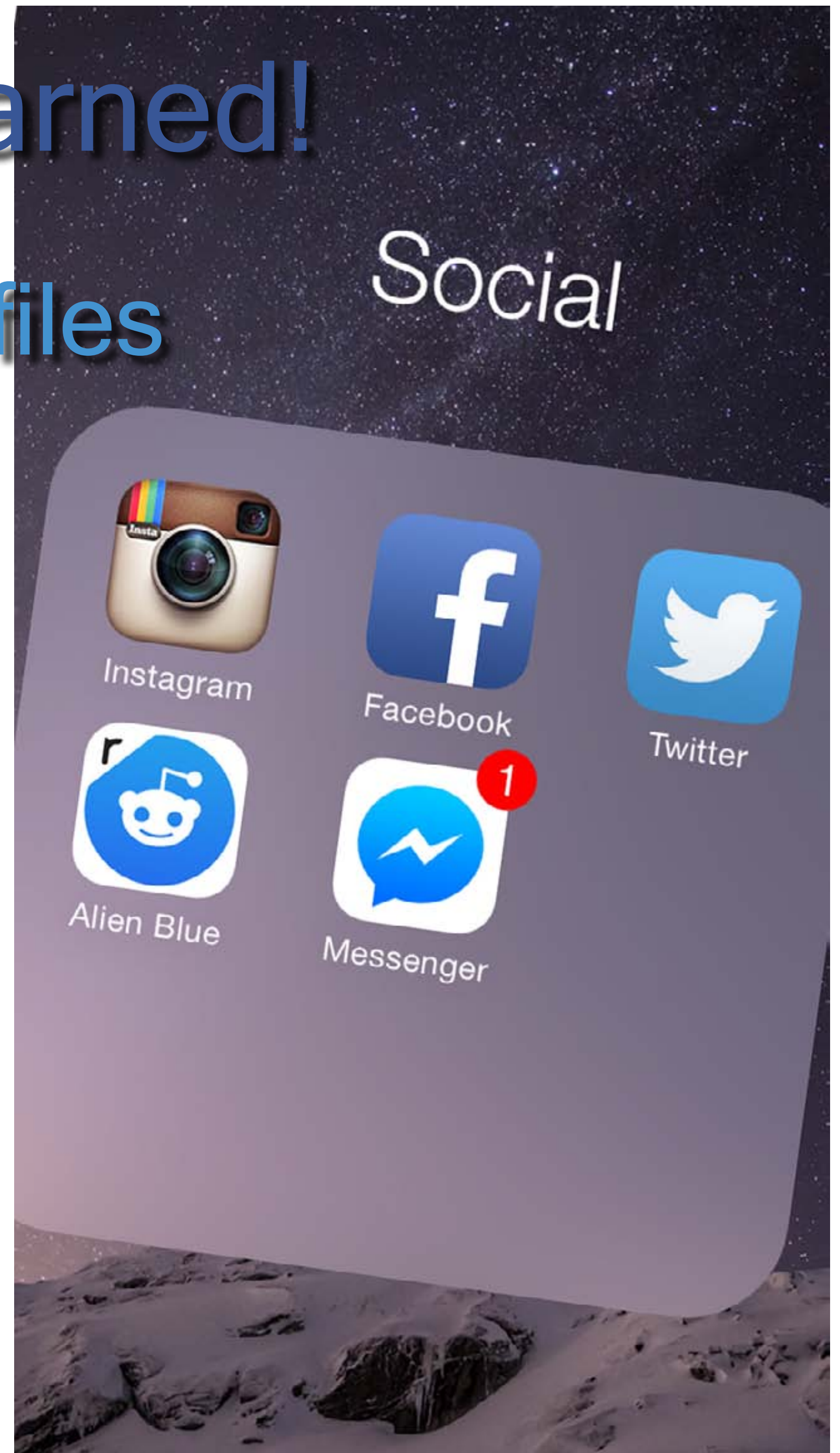
Twitter

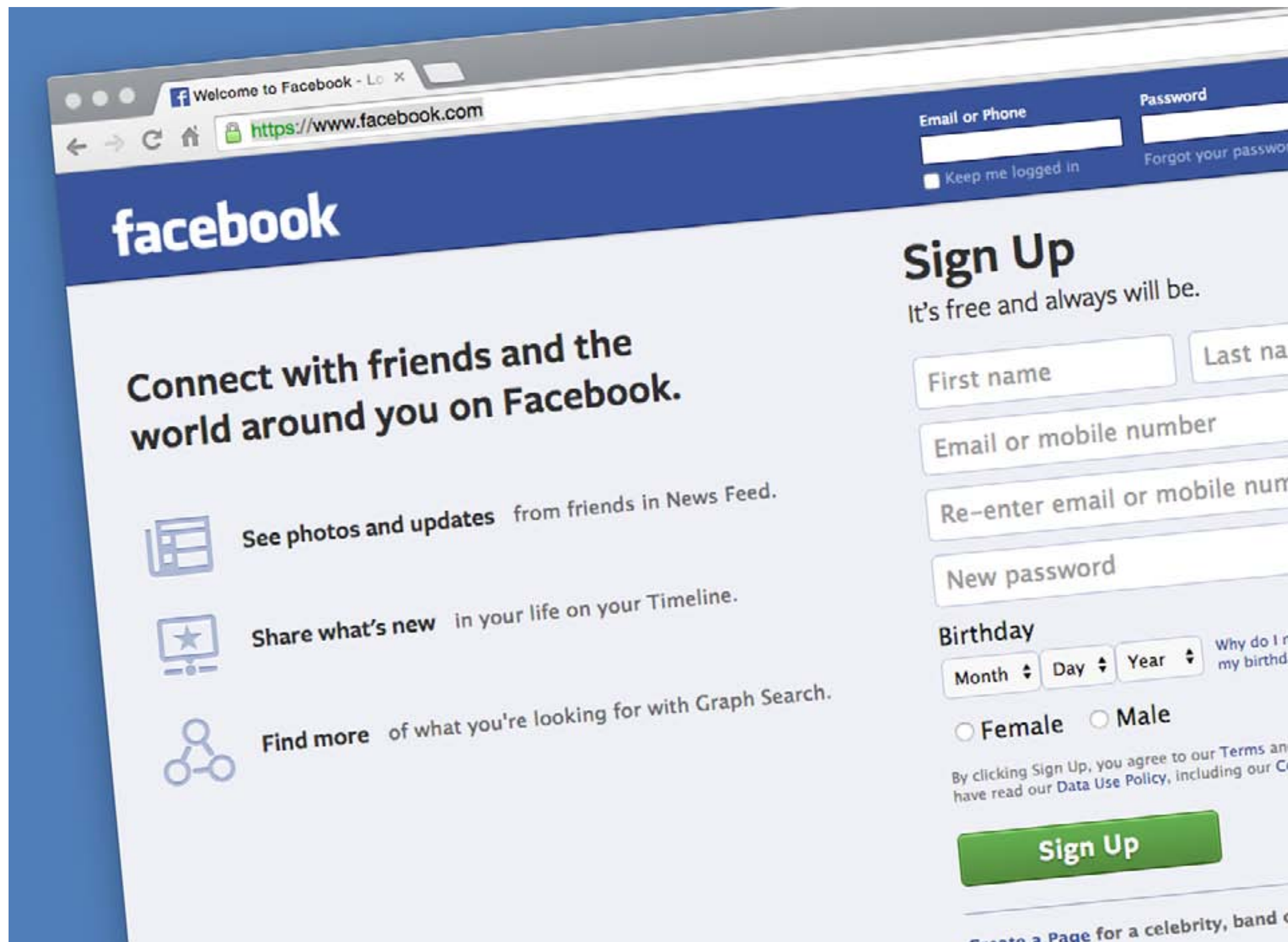


Alien Blue



Messenger





To provide guidance on how best to protect you and enhance OPSEC, the FBI and NCIS have created “Smart Cards” for social media use. These tip sheets show how to configure settings for popular social media applications in order to alleviate risks associated with information exploitation. Cards are available for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and LinkedIn. Because Facebook and Twitter are the most common sites where social media crimes are committed, below are a few of the Smart Card suggested security tips to minimize the chances of being victimized:

Facebook: With more than 1.3 billion active users, this is the world’s more popular social media site. It also means that your info is potentially available to one-quarters of the earth’s population. But Facebook also has hundreds of privacy controls for the user to pair with their profiles. Here are a few tips for using this mega-popular website:

- To change your settings click the upside down triangle on the top right portion of your page. Click “Settings” and on the left you will see a “Security” link. Click it, choose what setting you’d like to view, and make your desired changes.
- For your personal profile set your “Default privacy settings” to “Friends Only.” If your default settings are made “Public,” any person with a Facebook account can view your profile.
- Limit the audience for “Old Posts” to “Friends Only.” Otherwise other people who are not your friend but are tagged by your friends will be able to see old posts.
- Under the “How you Connect” setting, limit those who can send you friend requests.
- Check out the NAS Sigonella Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nassigonella) for a more thorough Facebook security settings tip sheet.

Twitter: Twitter has approximately 230 million active users today. “Tweets” are short text-based messages – up to 140 characters – that users post to Twitter. A “Tweet” can refer to a post as well or

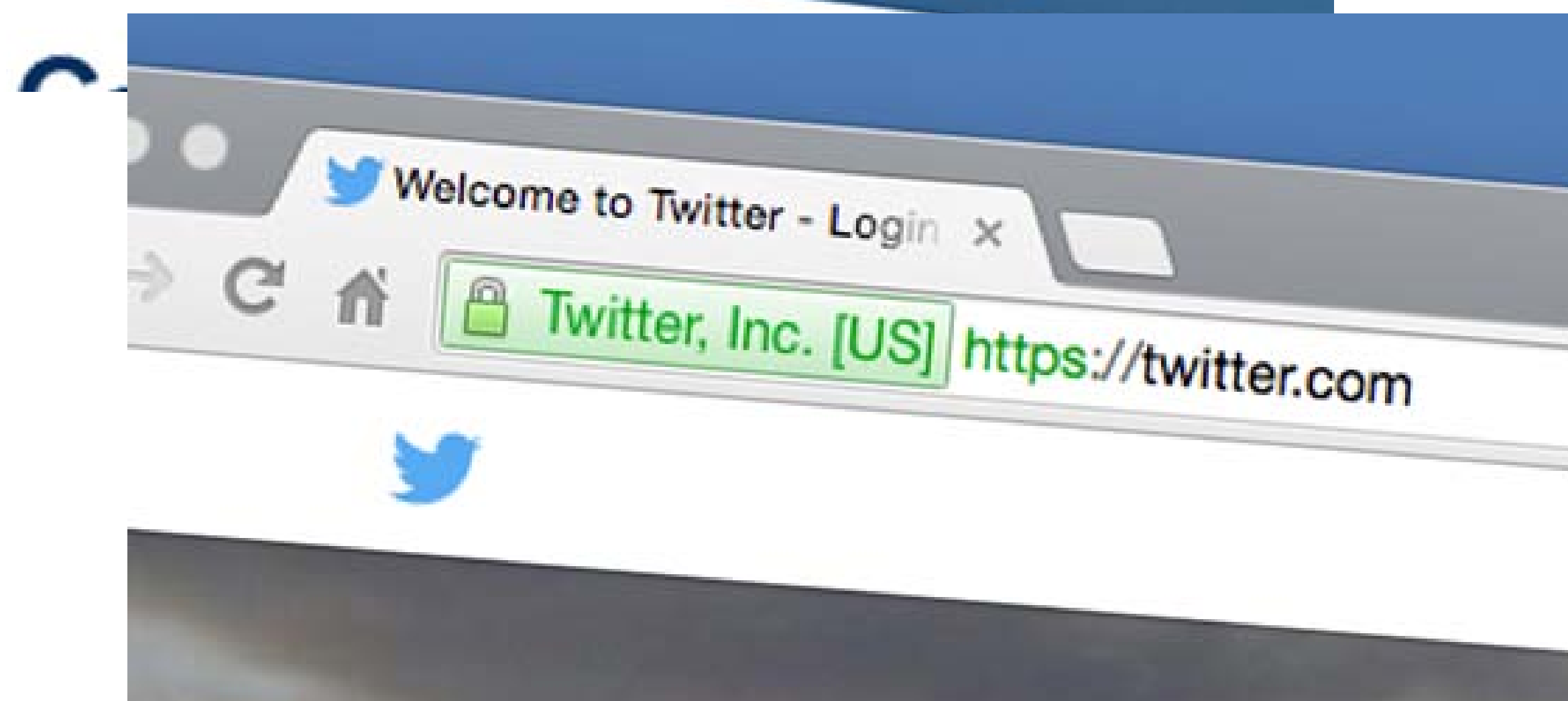


to the act of posting to Twitter. Tweets are public, indexed, and searchable unless protected by the user. Many users never Tweet, choosing only to follow persons or topics of interest.

- Twitter users should be very cautious when Tweeting specific personal or current geographical information that allows followers to know where the user is located and what they're doing.
- Twitter users are warned not to post their Tweets to Facebook.
- Use general locations, such as a country or metropolitan area.
- DO NOT use a face photo for your profile.
- Use nicknames, initials or pseudonyms on for your profile name.
- Check out the NAS Sigonella Facebook page (www.facebook.com/nassigonella) for a more thorough Twitter security settings tip sheet.

General social media tips:

- Only establish and maintain connections with people you know and trust. Review your connections often.
- Assume that ANYONE can see any information about your activities, personal life, or professional life that you post and share.
- Ensure that your family takes similar precautions with their accounts; their privacy and sharing settings can expose your personal data.
- Avoid posting or tagging images of you or your family that clearly show your face. Select pictures taken at a distance, at an angle, or otherwise concealed. Never post Smartphone photos and don't use your face as a profile photo, instead, use cartoons or avatars.
- Use secure browser settings when possible and monitor your browsing history to ensure that you recognize all access points.



Happy Hanukkah



Relearn the Constitution

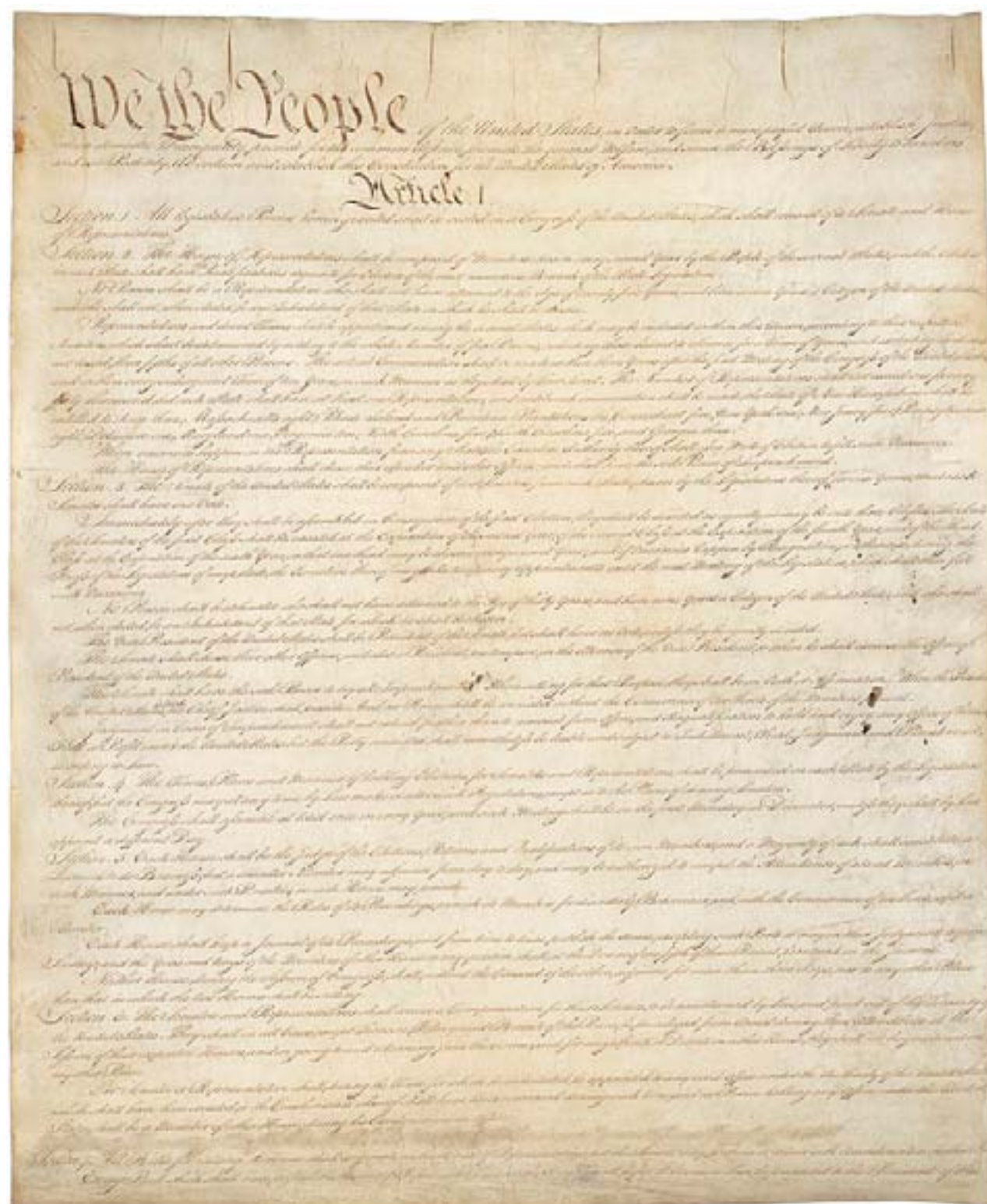
By Lt. Cmdr Robert Johnson, CNREURAFSWA Public Affairs

"In every generation, the world has produced enemies of human freedom," President Bush reminded us in his remarks at the National Cathedral on the Sunday after September 11th. **"They have attacked America because we are freedom's home and defender, and the commitment of our fathers is now the calling of our time."**

The United States Constitution is the longest lasting, most successful, most enviable and most imitated constitution man has ever known. As we prepare for the holidays, we should pause for a moment to consider this remarkable event and what Abraham Lincoln called "an inestimable jewel."

The Declaration of Independence powerfully announced America's separation from England and proclaimed new principles of legitimate political authority. It was the United States Constitution, however, that actually formed "a more perfect Union" and continues to secure "the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

Eleven years after the Declaration, from May 25 to September 17, 1787, delegates convened in Philadelphia to create a new constitution for governing the new nation. Not only were there leaders in the fight for independence, such as Roger Sherman and John Dickinson, and leading thinkers just coming into prominence, such as James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and Gouverneur Morris, but also legendary figures, such as Benjamin Franklin and George Washington. John Adams declared the three-and-a-half month convention "the greatest single effort of national deliberation that the world has ever seen."



Their challenge was to create the institutional arrangements for securing the rights promised in the Declaration of Independence and preserving a republican form of government that reflected the consent of the governed, all the while severely restricting state authority so as to prevent government tyranny. Their solution was to create a strong government of adequate but limited powers, all carefully laid out in a written constitution. In addition to an robust executive, a bicameral legislature and an independent judiciary, its structural arrangements include a system of separated powers-giving each branch different functions and responsibilities so that none dominates-and federalism, which divides authority between the national and state governments. That the framers could agree on such a government was, according to George Washington, "little short of a miracle."

Since its ratification in 1789, the Constitution has secured our fundamental rights, recognizing an unprecedented degree of human freedom at the same time that it upholds the rule of law. The monumental exception, of course, was the institution of slavery-recognized by the letter of the Constitution, condemned by the words of the Declaration-which eventually required a civil war to right.

Nevertheless, the Constitution has provided the framework for the people of America to build a great, prosperous and just nation unlike any in the world-a nation that those few delegates, as optimistic as they were, could only have imagined.

As a nation, we must now relearn much what, in peace and prosperity, we have forgotten. To be sure, we must



relearn the fact that the world is a dangerous place and even though we are 73 years away from the last military attack on US soil, Pearl Harbor; we are not immune from attack. Democracies are too often blind when it comes to threats to their freedom. But, if in this moment we are to strengthen our resolve and deepen our patriotism, we must also relearn-and our political leaders must rekindle our dedication to-America's principles and purposes.

Winston Churchill, at the time of the Blitz, when German air raids were devastating London, said that "the world is witnessing the birth throes of a sublime resolve." But he also warned the British people that "this is only the first sip, the first foretaste of a bitter cup which will be proffered to us year by year unless, by a supreme recovery of moral health and martial vigour, we arise again and take our stand for freedom as in the olden time."

As we raise the flag, and explain to our children what is happening to our nation, let us not forget the calling of our time, and take our stand for freedom. Relearn the Constitution.



More than 140 military and civilian personnel participated in the 2014 America Recycles Day at Naval Support Activity Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John Benson)

Members of the Junior Enlisted Association (JEA) serve hot dogs and hamburgers during a barbecue following the 2014 America Recycles Day at Naval Support Activity Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class John Benson)





Commander, Navy Installations Command Force Master Chief Nancy Hollingsworth speaks to Sailors assigned to Naval Security Force Bahrain Harbor Patrol Unit during a tour aboard Naval Support Activity Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Steve Smith)



Commander, Navy Installations Command Force Master Chief Nancy Hollingsworth discusses port operations with Master-At-Arms Senior Chief James Wooten, assigned to Naval Security Force Bahrain, while touring the harbor around Naval Support Activity Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Steve Smith)



NSA Souda Bay's Commanding Officer, Capt. Michael R. Moore, kicks off the winter/ holiday season safety stand-down held in the base gymnasium. Various speakers were brought in to discuss driving safety tips, fire safety and hazards and medical tips for the winter months. (U.S. Navy photo by Master-at-Arms 1st Class James Bryant/Released)

The Civilians of Naval Support Activity Souda Bay hosted an appreciation luncheon for the Security Department. The Sailors were treated to various tasty dishes and desserts in recognition of their hard work and dedication to the safety and security of the personnel and property at the installation. (U.S. Navy photo by Peggy Bebb/Released)





A harbor patrol boat, assigned to U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay Port Operations department, conducts a security patrol of the Bay. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson/Released)



Operations Manager of the Daily Care Center for the Autistic, Eleni Synnefakis, thanks volunteers from U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay during the grand opening of the center. 71 Sailors and Airmen volunteered over 350 man-hours during a 5-day community relations painting project. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson/Released)



MWR brought hypnotist, Chuck Milligan to entertain the troops at 11 Degrees North. Several volunteers went on stage and did exactly as they were commanded making for a very entertaining evening. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Julia A. Casper/Released)



Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Vince Nicholford, a military working dog handler assigned to Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, security forces (center), calms Bery, his military working dog before surgery, November 15, 2014. The surgery was performed to remove a thick abscess from a severe insect sting that was not responsive to medication. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Julia A. Casper/Released)



Djiboutian dancers came to a NEX-sponsored Bazaar performing a variety of traditional regional dances. Service members stationed at Camp Lemonnier had the opportunity to purchase traditional Horn of Africa goods to send home in time for the holidays. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Julia A. Casper/Released)



Service members, civilians, and Sailors listen to remarks given during this years, Navy ball. (U.S. Navy photo by NSA Naples Public Affairs/Released)



Sailors take part in an interactive Sexual Assault Prevention and Response play at the Capodichino Theater on NSA Naples. (U.S. Navy photo by NSA Naples Public Affairs)



Local participants wave at the camera during a group photo after a NSA Naples sponsored community outreach event. NSA Naples conducts outreach events to strengthen community ties and relationships. (U.S. Navy photo by NSA Naples Public Affairs/Released)

NSA Naples

NATIONAL

ADOPTION DAY

Celebrating a Family for Every Child

Fair

By MCC Travis Simmons
NSA Naples Public Affairs

The NSA Naples' Support Site Chapel Fellowship Hall filled to capacity Nov. 22 with base families attending the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) National Adoption Day Fair.

The FFSC hosted the National Adoption Day Fair to provide the base community with a variety of information about adoption and to open a discussion with social workers, families and children who have experience with the process.

"If you are considering adoption, it is important to be as well informed as possible and to know what is right for your family," said Nina Contino, social worker from American Adoption Professionals Abroad, Inc. "Families should think first: what their reasons for adopting are, what their motivation for adopting is, and what would work for them personally."

Contino said that families should spend time considering the age of the child they wish to adopt and if domestic or international adoption is a factor, then begin asking questions that pertain to their personal feelings.

"Why am I interested in adopting?" Contino said should be the first question. "Is my spouse on board? Do we have the same level of motivation? Does it fit with my family goals? Do I have other children? Is this part of the vision I have for my family? Then, educate yourself as much as possible."

The United States has more than 402,000 children in foster care with more than 100,000 of these children waiting to be adopted, and many of these children spend more than five years still waiting for a permanent home to be placed in. These children entered into foster care as a result of abuse, neglect and or abandonment.

"We were very open to adopting from the beginning," said Musician 1st Class Christopher Jerome. "It is something we chose to do. We have decided to wait to try and have biological children because we want to adopt first. We want that adopted child to feel that they were wanted. They weren't a Plan B. They are our 'Plan A.'"

The Jeromes have chosen a direction to adopt internationally through the Ethiopian government.



“I was very open to it, it took very little convincing of me,” said Jerome. “We have both been very interested in other cultures. What better way to learn about them then to become an international family?”

Jerome said the Ethiopian process had his family placed on a waiting list for the past few months, while his agency works to hopefully match a referral to a child by Christmas. The adoption is not done yet, the Jeromes will then continue filing legal and medical documents for the United States. While the United States process the materials, to include passports and VISAs, they plan to visit the child to complete the official adoption under Ethiopian law. By summer next year, they hope the American paperwork will be filed so they can visit Ethiopia again to receive their child in their arms.

Contino said it is part of her job to complete a background study of every home that considers adoption. At the end of every home study she grants the final approval to ‘recommend’ a family to be adoptive parents.

“It would be very unusual where we would say, “I don’t recommend these people,” said Contino. “We evaluate the family based on the best interest of the Hague [Pact]. Would this family be able to provide a safe, loving nurturing home to an adoptive child? That is our criteria for approving a set of parents. Given that, we would explore basically their motivations. Are they together on it? Did they both want to be involved? These are the things we would hope for that would possible cause us to have to discuss whether or not they are appropriate.”

Contino explained Hague pact as an international agreement set in place to screen for illegal human trafficking and fraud. Hague pact countries must abide by a set of rules for international adoption. The home studies that her agency provides also meet the same requirements of the Hague pact.

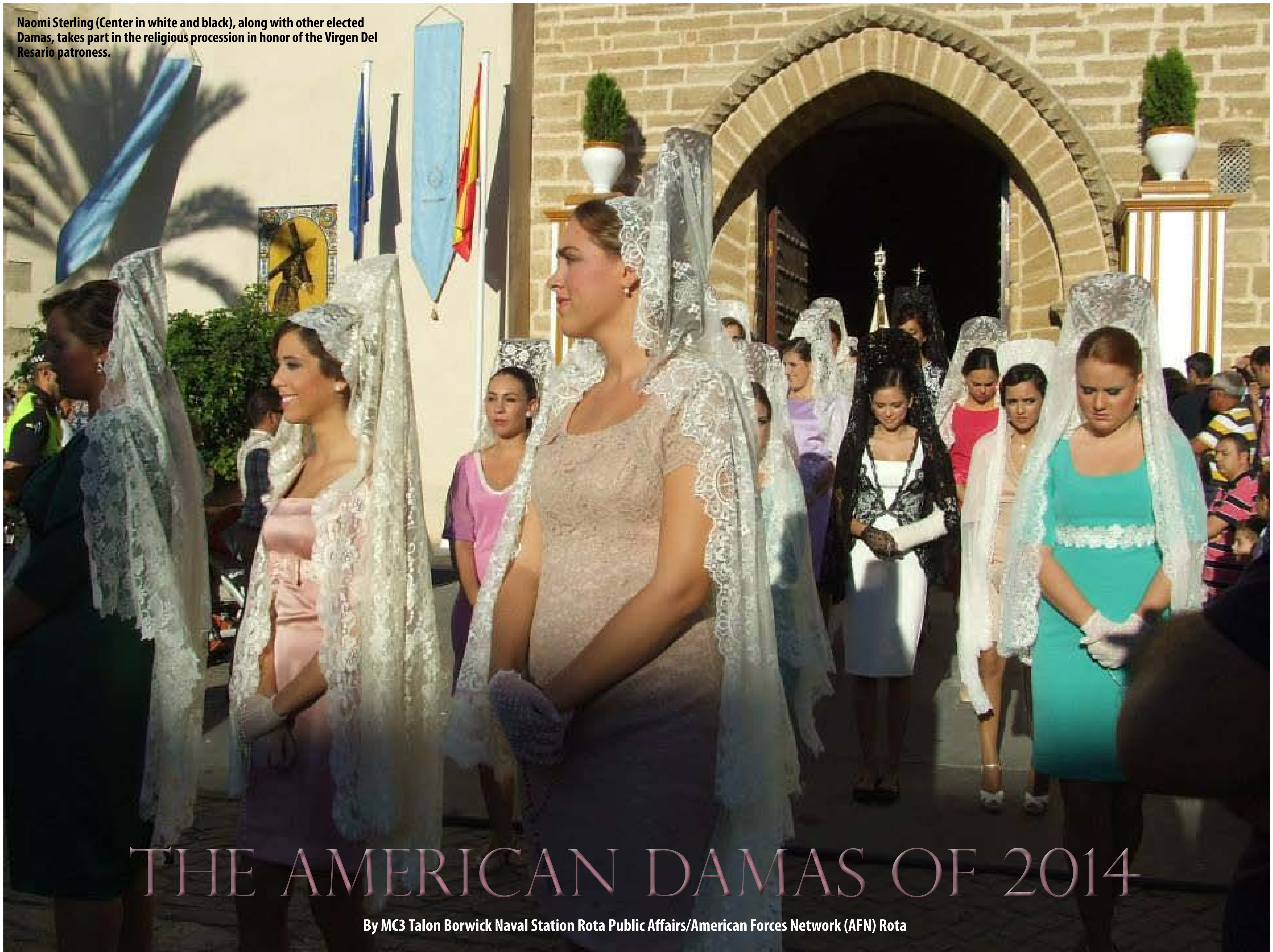
For more information about the adoption process and policy changes, visit the online website travel.state.gov.



Naomi Sterling (Center in white and black), along with other elected Damas, takes part in the religious procession in honor of the Virgen Del Resario patroness.

THE AMERICAN DAMAS OF 2014

By MC3 Talon Borwick Naval Station Rota Public Affairs/American Forces Network (AFN) Rota



From April 2014 to May 2015, two American teenagers from David Glasgow Farragut (DGF) High School aboard Naval Station Rota, Spain are participating in the local tradition of Virgen del Rosario as Damas.

The Virgen del Rosario, the patron saint of the City of Rota, celebration dates back to the 16th century, and remains one of the most relevant festivals held in the city, with parades and events throughout the year to celebrate the saint.

Aside from crowning a queen, or "Dama Mayor," in honor to the Virgen, approximately 25 high school students called "Dama de Honor," or Maids of Honor, are selected from throughout the Rota community.

Naomi Sterling, a DGF senior, was selected to represent NAVSTA Rota to the Rota community, and traditionally she would stand alone as the only American participating in the annual tradition. This year, however, Peña Linense, a Rota business, selected Maria Peterson, an 11th-grader at DGF, as their representative, marking the first time that two of the 25 Damas, ages 16 to 18, were American.

Peterson, the Peña Linense representative, and Sterling, NAVSTA Rota's Representative, had plenty to share about their experience as American Damas in Spain.

Q. How were you selected to become a Dama?

Maria Peterson (MP): Well, it was kind of my family, because my family was in a club out in Rota, and they were always asking me, "Do you wanna go out for Dama?" And I'd always joke, "Yeah, that's fine!" And then this year, when we went down for Feria, my parents were like, "Oh, we have a surprise for you." And I was like, "Oh, really." And they were like, "Yeah, come over here!" So, we went over to this peña, like this big caseta [stand], and then I go in there, and they're like, "OK, and the next Dama is: Maria Peterson!" And I was like, "What?!" I did not believe it. I was in total shock. And then they gave me like this huge bouquet of flowers, and a banner, and I was super excited. And my friends didn't know, and they were like "Oh my God, Maria,



Naomi Sterling (first from right) takes part in the horse carriage parade as part of the Virgen Del Rosario week of events.

congratulations!" And I was like "Thank you!" So that's kind of how it happened.

Naomi Sterlin (NS): First, I was told I was chosen out of a few girls in my senior class, and then the protocol woman interviewed us, and then Captain [Greg] Pekari called me and told me I got it.

Q. What is the importance of being a Dama?

MP: Well, for me, since I was born in Rota, and raised here all my life ... I was meant to represent Rota, and since Damas are kind of meant to represent Rota, then I was kind of like, "Oh yeah! I'm so excited, because I get to represent somewhere that I was from, where I grew up." I just had to be me; I didn't really have to do an act or anything.

NS: It's really important because, for me, I'm the American representative, so I have to represent our base and our community for the Spanish and make sure that, you know, I'm being responsible.

Q. How did you distinguish yourself in order to be selected?

MP: I actually don't know. I felt like I was like all the other girls, I didn't feel like there was something that made me stand out, besides the fact that I was American and from the base like Naomi [Sterling], but I didn't feel like I stood out. I knew a lot of the girls from before too, a lot of them are my friends. So, I mean, it was good, I didn't feel different.

NS: Well, I wanted to portray myself as a good representative, and that I could portray our, you know, community well, and that they could rely on me for that. And I think also that I had more American qualities, because I know a lot of the other [girls] were very Spanish, and I think they really wanted to put someone out there that really represented the Americans a lot.

Q. What did you do as a Dama?

MP: Oh well ... we had to get fitted for dresses, which took forever, but it was worth it. And then we had all the parades; we had all the practices to go up and down the stages. We got to go to Seville, go on base, go out to Chipiona; all these different experiences. It was pretty nice; I liked it a lot.

NS: We did a lot of stuff. We took a few field trips to Seville, and then we had all the events and ceremonies, like the coronation and a few parades around the town of Rota, and they were really fun.

Q. How did sharing the honor of being a Dama



Cmdr. (ret) Trev Sterling (on left), Naomi Steriling (center) and Angeline Sterling (right), take a family photo following the Virgen Del Resario coronation ceremony.



Naomi Sterling (on left) and Maria Peterson stand together at David Glasgow Farragut (DGF) High School. Both were selected and are participating in the local tradition of Virgen del Rosario as Damas.

make the experience even more unique?

MP: It was so much more fun, because if we had any questions, we could ask each other. Like, "What are you gonna wear? Are you gonna go to this? Do you know what you're gonna do with your hair and makeup?" It kind of made it special, because I didn't have to ask the girls, I didn't have to feel like, "Oh, I'm the only one." I had Naomi there with me for it. So, that was always good.

NS: I think it made it even more fun for me, because I was able to share it with someone that I knew, and she was my friend from before, so it was really fun to share that with her.

Q. What was the cultural significance of being a Dama?

NS: Well, I think it helped me learn more about the Spanish culture, and how they interact with the Americans. And it's kind of like helping the relationships between two cultures.

Q. What did you learn on your field trips with the Damas?

MP: We learned a lot of culture over there. Like, we went to the Cruzcampo factory. We saw different sceneries in Seville, they took us to like important places. In Rota, they took us to the castle, and they showed us, like, different parts of the castle, and important highlights of the cities. They wanted us to learn about it, so it was definitely interesting.

NS: We learned about beer. We walked around the city of Seville ... it was more like sightseeing things.

Q. What was your favorite part of being a Dama?

MP: I think the parades, that was probably my favorite part, being up there with Naomi. We kept talking about it, too. When we'd throw the little kids the serpents, and their smiles and how happy they got, that made everything worth it.

NS: I think being able to spend time with all the Spanish girls, and making friends with them, and also like the big ceremonies, like the coronation and the parades. Those were really fun.

Sterling added that there are more events for the Damas in the months to come, particularly during the holidays and upcoming Feria, or Spring Fair.

PCS Romania: First

By Lt. j.g. Alexander Perrien,
Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs



In October of 2013, a groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of a long march to the completion of Naval Support Facility (NSF) Deveselu, and consequently the beginning of austere living conditions for the first sailors to arrive.

Most try to avoid such conditions choosing deployments aboard ships, or to well-established shore installations. The first Sailor to Permanently Change Station (PCS) to NSF Deveselu, volunteered for the position.

Electronics Technician Second Class (EXW) (SW) Culp, from River Falls, Wisconsin, arrived at NSF Deveselu earlier this year with one year orders. "I originally had orders to EOD unit 2," said Culp. "I chose Romania because otherwise, I would have been back on ships, and I wanted to serve a land-based expeditionary command."

Culp is now an indispensable part of the Deveselu team, working as both the N6 and N9 department head responsible for information technology and security as well as fleet and family support. This means a large amount of responsibility for a second class petty officer.

"The biggest challenges I face right now all have to do with the lack of readily available solutions for the problems we face. I have worked at the tip of the spear before, but this is the first time I have had to struggle with getting what we need."

The command leadership is very grateful for her help and professional approach to the issues the installation faces.

"My greatest success has been providing Wi-Fi for internet access and Armed Forces Network to all the televisions around camp," said Culp. "When you are able to support those down range by bringing improvements to their quality

of life it is rewarding.”

On NSF Deveselu, where the nearest town is outside of walking distance, having an internet connection and access to American television can make a world of difference to the comfort and morale of all Sailors. With the upcoming holidays, internet connections enable video chatting, email, and other forms of social interaction with family members, and loved ones back home.

With the actual installation facilities opening in the first half of the coming year, the pace of work shows no signs of letting up.

“The schedule, as of right now, is focused on showing our visitors around base,” said Culp. “The hard pace will continue until we get the site up and running. Fortunately I have one contractor that is currently assisting, but his position is only temporary.”

In the coming months Culp hopes to gain more experience and stories from her time in Romania.

“After my time here is finished, I hope to go back to expeditionary forces, or if I really like the job I am thinking about moving to EURAFSWA’s (Commander Navy Region Europe Africa Southwest Asia) next installation in Poland,” said Culp. “I haven’t decided, but I do want to stay green.”

Today the Aegis BMD system, a component of which will soon be housed at NSF Deveselu, is the key component in the Obama administration’s plan for a phased deployment of a missile defense umbrella in Europe, which is intended to protect U.S. forces and NATO allies from regional threats.





CERTIFIED to Operate

By Lt. j.g. Alexander Perrien,
Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia Public Affairs



Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia (EURAFSWA), issued Certificates to Operate (CTO) to Naval Station Rota, Spain, Naval Support Activity Bahrain, and Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy after completing a water quality oversight review process, Nov. 26.

The certificates and the certification they represent establishes that the installations water quality plans are in line with an April, 2009 order, from former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Roughead, directing that protocols and procedures be implemented, "to ensure our overseas installations have drinking water that meets or exceeds the United States water quality standards." All overseas installations are programmed to go through this certification process.

"The importance of the certification is that we have gone through all of the formal reviews and received a recommendation, from our equivalent of the EPA [US Environmental Protection Agency], that the installations have plans and procedures in place to produce water of a quality equal to that in the U.S.," said Jackie Oravitz, Drinking Water Operations Program Manager NAVFAC EURAFSWA. "In the U.S., every water system has to have a State permit to operate. The CTOs confirm a rigorous standard for water production has been met and give our overseas installations permission to operate."

The certification process was established along with a regulatory oversight system for installation water quality, giving order and authority to the future of the program. "An Overseas Water Quality Oversight Council that was established by Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Commander Naval Installations Command (CNIC), and the Bureau of Medicine as the three major partners," said Travis Hylton, Drinking Water Compliance Program Manager for NAVFAC EURAFSWA. "The

Council established three CNIC guiding instructions; the first addressed the water quality standards. The second instituted the certificate to operate program and an operator certification program, and the third formalized the regulatory hierarchy and their relations, actions, and responsibilities.

The certification also represents a clear path forward for overseas installations, ensuring that their water systems meet or exceed water standards in the U.S. while standardizing the goals and milestones necessary to maintain that objective.

“To me the Certificate to Operate demonstrates our professional attention to detail so that we produce excellent water every day,” said CDR Deanna Carpenter, the Naval Air Station Sigonella Public Works Officer. “The process to become certified has really helped focus our efforts. We can confidently move forward with the knowledge that our processes and training meet the exceptional standards set to ensure the water we produce is of equal quality to that back home.”

The importance of ensuring overseas installations reach the same water quality standards as those in the U.S. is an ongoing mission Region EURAFSWA is committed to every day.

“Every Base Commander is responsible first and foremost for the safety and security of the Base population. Water is foundational, and its safety is non-negotiable. Naturally, every member of the NAS Sigonella community must have safe drinking water,” said Naval Air Station Sigonella Commanding Officer Capt. Chris Dennis.

“The day I arrived, I told our water team there is simply one standard -- we make safe drinking water every day, period! I am proud of our NAS Sigonella water team for living up to that standard”.

For more news from Commander, Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia, visit www.navy.mil/local/cnre/.



Help Much Appreciated

Story by Mass Communication Specialist
2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson
NSA Souda Bay Public Affairs



Sailors and Airmen assigned to U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay work on the Daily Care Center for the Autistic during a community relations project. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson/Released)

U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay Sailors and Airmen were recognized for their volunteer efforts at the Daily Care Center for the Autistic (KIFAP Maegalochari), at the grand opening November 12, 2014. 71 volunteers donated over 350 hours of their time and energy during a 5-day painting project for the new facility. The grand opening hosted 150 people from the local community, Greek military, U.S. military and members of government.

"We were so grateful to the volunteers who came to help paint our new facility," said Eleni Synnefakis, the care center's operating manager. "The amount of support they showed our center was truly amazing. Each of them deserved to be recognized for charity towards the community."

The daily care center provides support and treatment for 16 people (aged from 14 and up) with autism and is free for students to attend though, as a free center, it relies primarily on donations.

"By having the volunteers come to help with the facility, we saved money which can be put towards the care and treatment of our students," said Synnefakis. "The care of those we teach is our mission and having Sailors and Airmen come down to help with this project allowed us to make sure the new facility opened on schedule."

The new facility will now feature separate rooms for every treatment offered to the students at the center and is now the largest daily care center in the region.

"Treatments which include speech therapy, physiotherapy,



Operations Manager of the Daily Care Center for the Autistic, Eleni Synnefakis, thanks volunteers from U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay during the grand opening of the center. 71 Sailors and Airmen volunteered over 350 man-hours during a 5-day community relations painting project. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson/Released)



Members of the local community visit the Daily Care Center for the Autistic during the grand opening of the center. 71 Sailors and Airmen volunteered over 350 man-hours during a 5-day community relations painting project. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Richardson/Released)

occupational therapy, special education, physical education, as well as social and physiological support," said Synnefakis. "We also provide transportation for the students to and from the facility. So, as you can see, any help receive is very appreciated and the work the volunteers did was a huge boost!" The new care center also has an expansive yard which students may have recreational activities in and may provide future opportunities for volunteers.

"While overseas, it is important to give back to the community," said Master-At-Arms 3rd Class Sharon Covary, one of the volunteer painters. "I try to participate in just about any community relations event the base is able to provide for us. It gives me a great sense of satisfaction to know I can do my part to help others. It also lets the local community know we are here for them too."

Despite the hard work, while the volunteers were painting, everyone was in high spirits to be giving their time towards the local community. "We were working for hours but everyone was smiling and having fun getting their hands dirty," said Covary. "Hopefully our efforts will continue to impact the community in a positive way and show the locals that when the U.S. Navy operates forward, we do so with the attitude of 'A Global Force for Good', and that includes the communities we live in." As NSA Souda bay enters the holiday season, Sailors and Airmen won't be the only ones with holiday spirit.

"The Americans celebrate Thanksgiving but this year, because of them, it is our center who is truly thankful," said Synnefakis.

COURT MARTIAL REPORT

The following reports the results of Special and General Courts-Martial assembled within the United States Navy in October 2014. The cases are separated by the Navy Region in which they were tried.
Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia

General Court-Martial

- At a General Court-Martial in Naples, Italy, MA1 Marcus A. Bagmon was tried for indecent exposure. On 2 October 2014, the panel of members returned a verdict of guilty and sentenced the accused to a reprimand.
- At a General Court-Martial in Naples, Italy, MA2 James C. Guin was tried for sexual assault. On 23 October 2014, the military judge returned a verdict of guilty and sentenced the accused to serve 24 months confinement, reduction to the grade of pay grade E-1, and to be separated from the naval service with a Dishonorable Discharge.

Special Court-Martial

None

REGION VOICES

What is your favorite winter memory?



LS3 Ward
Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti

Sitting around the dinner table with family. It gives us the opportunity to catch up and remember how lucky we are to have each other.



MC3 Jordan Delgarno
Armed Forces Network Rota, Spain

Spending Christmas with his little brother in 2002. His brother was born on Dec. 17 and they were able to spend time together and this something he'll never forget.



YN1 Roman S. Clark
Defense Courier Station, Sigonella

Waking up ridiculously early to raid our stockings.



MA1 Thoennes
Naval Support Activity Souda Bay

My favorite holiday memory is going out in the snow with my friends after opening all my gifts on Christmas morning.



AC1 Austin Horst
NSA Naples

My favorite holiday memory is spending time with my nieces.



HM1 James Ryan
NSF Deveselu

I grew up in North Carolina and we rarely had any significant amount of if any at all. When I was 12 we had a huge snowstorm and found a big hill for sledding all day.