



Supply Chest

April 19, 2002

Navy Core Values: Honor, Courage, Commitment

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Inside FISC! The Intranet of FISC Norfolk VA

By Richard Hagen
FISC Norfolk Webmaster

FISC Norfolk now has an **Intranet** available for employees, and it's waiting for you to jump in and start surfing. Insidefisc is an internal website containing documents and data that is only available to FISC employees. It contains a wide range of information that employees can use everyday. Personnel information, command policies, announcements, and other general information that employees and managers can share. The information is protected by a firewall and is NOT available to the general public.

FISC Norfolk already has a public website at www.nor.fisc.navy.mil. Although the **Intranet** has been there for a few years, it was only an IP address used by very few people, mainly in the IT shop. Some people used it for applications and metrics. Several months ago, the Web Team decided that it was an underused and valuable resource and it was time to make it more usable by everyone. The Knowledge Management Group suggested the name "Inside FISC" and it seemed like a good fit.

Only FISC employees directly connected to the FISC Local Area Network (LAN) can access Insidefisc. That means that a person's computer must be located behind the firewall.



The way to determine if you are on the LAN is to 1. Start the web Browser, 2. type Insidefisc in the URL block at the top of the browser (if that doesn't work), 3. type 172.17.255.7 in the URL block. Some of the outlying buildings such as Craney Island and HHG, need to use the actual IP address of the Intranet and not the name. People will not be able to access the site from home or while on the road. If the need for this develops it may be available in the future.

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LSRs to use new carts for ship visits



Logistics Support Representatives (LSRs) can now travel in style and enjoy protection from the weather when visiting their customers on the waterfront. FISC Norfolk recently purchased seven EZ-GO carts. After the basic two-passenger carts were purchased, they were sent to a third-party manufacturer for installation of a cab, steel doors, van box, side mirrors, turn signal, and Hydraulic Brakes. The modifications were necessary to make them safer to drive in the high-traffic waterfront area, and the roads of the Naval Station. Once the completed carts were received in Norfolk, FISC Norfolk Material Operations Department installed seat belts and heavy-duty batteries. The LSRs then received a four-hour training session to ensure they were comfortable with the operation of the carts. The carts have a load capacity of 1600 pounds to accommodate many local deliveries to ships. Pictured with the carts are (left to right) SK2(SW/AW) Bobby Miller, Joe Diotommaso, and Joyce Ford.

Priorities - Focusing on the Important Stuff



By Capt. Bill Kowba
Commanding Officer, FISC Norfolk

Centerites,

In this column, I want to discuss priorities with you. These are the considerations that range in importance from great to minimal and affect how individuals and organizations respond to day-to-day situations. Priorities are at the heart of our decision-making. They influence how we spend our time, our energy, and our resources. While an individual may have personal priorities tailored to his particular needs and ob-

jectives, these considerations must accommodate those of any group he may join such as at school, church, or work.

Priorities are fresh in my memory due to my attending the NAVSUP Senior Leadership Conference on March 27-28. For the first time ever, Rear Adm. McCarthy convened a session of all of the Supply Corps flag officers and captains. More than 180 people met for an intensive two-day review of critical issues spanning customer relations to organizational vision. This was a very powerful experience and a terrific endeavor on the part of the Chief of the Supply Corps to bring us together as the Navy's supply team.

Underlying all of the agenda topics was the matter of priorities. Rear Adm. McCarthy mentioned a number of times that we are an extension of him. We are the supply system. As such, we are empowered to operate the system, address system issues, fix the system problems, and enhance the system capabilities. There should never be a scenario of us versus them in the context of NAVSUPHQ, the FISCs, the NAVICP, fleet supply staffs, or afloat supply departments. Clearly, the mes-

sage is that we collectively are the supply community, system, and team.

If we are going to act as one in performing the supply mission, it is essential that all of us understand and comply with the team's priorities. Understandably, Rear Adm. McCarthy has taken his cue for the NAVSUP priorities from Adm. Clark, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). From day one of his CNO tour, Adm. Clark has articulated five priorities for the Navy. They are manpower, current readiness, future readiness, quality of service, and organizational alignment. First and foremost, there is a tremendous desire to develop and retain skilled people. They are needed to contribute to current readiness, our Navy's ability to execute various missions including the ongoing war against terrorism. Future readiness speaks to innovation and investments in modernization to ensure that our ships, submarines, and aircraft are the most capable in the world. Quality of service pursues positive Navy family and work settings. Alignment underscores the need to be optimally organized and positioned to support "the

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Supply Chest

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center
1968 Gilbert Street, Suite 600
Norfolk, Virginia 23511-3392
(757) 443-1013/14

Capt. William A. Kowba, SC, USN, FISC Commanding Officer
Capt. James N. Hagarty, SC, USN, DDNV Commander
Bob Anderson, FISC Public Affairs Officer/Managing Editor
Jim Kohler, Editor
Bill Pointer, Staff Photographer
Steve Craddock, Staff Graphic Illustrator

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Insidefisc is a growing website so you'll see constant changes. It is there to provide an avenue for communication to employees and help cut down on e-mail traffic. Currently, general broadcast type information like EEO minutes, training schedules, metrics, etc., are emailed to large groups of people. That creates a large overhead on the network and has even brought down the e-mail system several times. With Insidefisc a document can be posted once and be available to everyone. No large overhead to contend with. It also alleviates the need to store this type of information on your local computer.

Since the system is still in its infancy, a smooth system for approving content is still be worked out. You can send input

to FISC_Norfolk_webmaster@nor.fisc.navy.mil (using the Lotus Notes just type "webmaster" and find the FISC Norfolk listing) or you can call Richard Hagen at 443-1723.

Information you wish to post on Insidefisc needs to be approved by a supervisor or organization leader, depending on the information. The webmaster will evaluate the information for appropriateness on a case-by-case basis. Unlike the public Internet, there are no hard and fast rules on what can or cannot go on the Intranet. As a rule, the information should be of value to some group of FISC employees, such as work related, career enhancing, health, safety or morale.

Because of the constant changes to Insidefisc, employees may want to make it their default browser site. That way they can quickly keep up with the changes. Insidefisc is an internal employee website, suggestions and comments are welcome. Some current topics on Insidefisc are: Department metrics, news flashes, EEO information, Welfare and Recreation Board information, application access to several databases, computer tips & tricks, and "What's New on Insidefisc. So, "Let's Go Surf'n Now."



Just in time for Summer!

Fayeelaine Haddaway (left) and Linda Owen, along with many other Centerites, are thrilled that ice cream is now available to help supplement the air conditioning system in W-143! You can now cool down with a sweet treat and support our Welfare & Recreation Board. The new ice cream vending machines are in two locations in W-143 6th floor: Cafeteria Mall Area Yacht Room - Vending area outside Contracting entrance.

It's almost picnic time!

The annual training day and celebration of diversity and ethnic heritage, known as the Multi-Cultural Picnic is just around the corner.

The tentative date for this year's picnic is Thursday, June 6. The picnic will be held at Seal Park, NAB Little Creek from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. Tickets will cost just \$5 for all you can eat and drink. Plus, your ticket enters you in the drawing for some great door prizes, including DVD players and restaurant gift certificates. Additional door prize tickets may be purchased for \$1 each. The picnic will also feature entertainers representing many cultures, and special



informative versions of prime-time game shows. Bus transportation will be available from FISC to the picnic. If you would like to volunteer to work on the picnic staff, please email Steve Craddock at steven_j_craddock@nor.fisc.navy.mil.



VA raises veterans education reimbursement levels

The Department of Veterans Affairs is providing veterans a major boost in the monthly educational payments offered under the Montgomery GI Bill.

Concerned about the under-use of Montgomery GI Bill benefits by eligible veterans, VA supported an increase in reimbursement rates well above the normal cost-of-living increases because these annual adjustments have not kept pace with rising college education costs.

“Under legislation signed by President Bush, we now are on track to gain the tuition spending power veterans expect,” said VA Secretary Anthony J. Principi. “We are coupling a series of robust payment increases over the next two years with innovative programs that will help prepare today’s service member with the education needed for tomorrow’s job market.”

At the top tier for full-time studies, the tuition reimbursement rate rises from \$672 to \$800 per month, almost 20 percent. That will rise to \$900 next fall and \$985 in October 2003. Rates are adjusted for veterans enrolled part-time or for those with limited military service.

In addition to covering traditional two-year and four-year college studies, a new VA program taking effect next fall is aimed at high technology courses. It will allow veterans to use a lump sum from their benefit for certain expensive courses, such as those leading to certification of computer network professionals. Coverage of up to 60 percent of the cost of such high-tech courses will begin Oct. 1, 2002.

The current education program began in 1985. Veterans generally have 10 years after release from active duty to use the funds, but only about 60 percent have used some of their benefit and about 90 percent of all eligible veterans have not exhausted their account. VA hopes new strategies such as accelerated payment for high-tech courses will enable more veterans to take advantage of their remaining benefits.

Participants’ pay is reduced by \$100 per month for their first 12 months on active duty to cover a total veteran contribution of \$1,200. The full-time rate of \$800 a month is paid for up to 36 months of study, which covers the academic months of a traditional 4-year college education for a return value of \$28,800 at today’s top rate.

The Veterans Education and Benefits

Expansion Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-103) also improves educational assistance for eligible spouses and children of certain veterans, including veterans who died or are permanently and totally disabled as a result of a service-related disability.

For more information about veterans educational programs, call VA at 888-442-4551.



Congestion relief

With traffic backing-up farther and farther up I-564, Gates 3 and 3A were reopened to all traffic for morning com-

muters. Effective April 15, single-occupancy vehicles were once again permitted to use those gates. The aircraft overpass over I-564 is still restricted to aircraft only, like the C-5 shown above.

Focusing continued from page 2

main thing,” mission accomplishment.

Those of you who attended Rear Adm. McCarthy’s town hall meeting in January or have read the recently revised NAVSUP strategic plan will recall that the Chief has five priorities configured to fully back the CNO’s objectives. Because we are part of a greater corporate team, FISC Norfolk and NAVSUP priorities are one and the same. You have heard quite regularly are purpose statement of “delivering combat capability through logistics. We have also emphasized developing a skilled and flexible logistics team, achieving the highest standards of quality, and leveraging technology, best business practices, and world-class commu-

nications.

Please reflect on these priorities. Let them direct your attention, organize your day, and establish your objectives from top to bottom. Look around the supply center and regularly ask yourselves if we have our priorities in line with Navy and NAVSUP leadership. Is the Logistics Support Center enhancing current readiness and combat capability? Is the contracting staff seeking improved quality of service procurements? Are we giving the FISC team the tools of technology to succeed at the “main thing?” Understand our priorities. That will help you focus on the important stuff.

CAPT Bill Kowba
Commanding Officer

NAVTRANS, DFAS sign joint training agreement



NAVTRANS Commanding Officer Capt. Bob Mundell (left) and DFAS Commanding Officer Capt. Edward N. Hering flank Career Learning Center Director Diane Young at the signing of the MOU.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed recently by Capt. Edward N. Hering, SC, USN, commanding officer, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and Capt. Robert J. Mundell, SC, USN, commanding officer, Naval Transportation Support Center (NAVTRANS). The MOA will enable NAVTRANS employees to use the DFAS-Norfolk Career Learning Center to expand their knowledge, skills and professional abilities.

According to Dianne Young, director of the Career Learning Center, the center is open to all NAVTRANS Federal employees including active and reserve military members. The center is a multimedia facility offering a wide variety of books, audiocassettes, videos, computer base training, and equipment. Learning materials include information on topics that affect every business function and organization.

Naval Surface Warfare Center thanks CAX boat crew

In the current geo-political climate, we in the Navy's small boat community have our hands full as never before. We are gathering the myriad Force Protection/antiterrorism (FP/AT) Boat requirements from the fleet (ship and shore), matching requirements to specific boats, setting up and executing procurement contracts from a number of boat builders. In most cases, the resultant FP/AT boats are shipped by the builders to FISC, CAX where we inspect/repair/reinspect and accept (authorize payment) the boats for the Navy. FISC CAX is a primary component in the process - taking delivery of the boats from the builders (loading and unloading) accommodating our inspectors, boat builders and repair contractors and finally distributing the boats to the fleet.

The service provided by your team, especially Gerald Dale, Vernon Taylor, Barbra White and Linda Gray with respect to arranging and expediting shipment of these Force Protection/antiterrorism Boats (Harbor Security/Patrol Boats, etc), has been nothing short of excellent. Your team certainly deserves to be highly commended for their dedication, dependability and willingness to accommodate. They continue to provide that great service to the fleet.

On a personal note, your team's extraordinary co-



operation with us (NAVSEA/Combatant Craft Department), has allowed us to concentrate our efforts where they belong.

Thanks for all your help and have a great hazy gray Navy day,

*John M. Mathias
Program Manager
Carderock Div, Code 23 BIM
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Suffolk, VA 23435*

FISC Norfolk names Mejia 2001 Reserve Sailor of the Year

Sk1 Adam Mejia has been named the FISC Norfolk Reserve Sailor of the Year. Mejia is assigned to NR FISC Norfolk Detachment 106, NAVRESCEN Baltimore.

The 12-year Navy veteran was recognized for his superb performance over the past year as the Operations Department Division Officer. He displayed superior leadership and exceptional planning ability, leading several unit contributory support teams as they provided over 1800 hours of direct support to our gaining command drill sites at NAF Washington and FISC Norfolk's Ocean Terminal, thereby saving the government over \$38,000 in cost avoidance.

His extensive technical knowledge made him a natural choice as a lead trainer for Storekeeper in-rate training. His selfless training efforts on behalf of his peers and subordinates significantly contributed to a pass rate of 60 percent and an advancement rate of 40 percent on the most recent exam cycle -outstanding numbers for any unit.

Single-handedly manages all aspects of the Command's Physical Readiness Program. His personal efforts and "one-on-one" motivation style, improved unit Command Fitness Assessment (CFA) scores by an average of 27 percent, while reducing the overall failure rate.

Recognition as FISC Norfolk SOY caps a year in which Mejia was also recognized as NR FISC Norfolk Detachment 106, NAVRESCEN Baltimore Sailor of the Quarter and Sailor of the Year.



Recipients of the 2002 Awards for Excellence in Fuels Management named

Rear Adm. Justin D. McCarthy, Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), recently announced the 2002 Navy and Marine Corps winners and runners-up for the American Petroleum Institute Awards for Excellence in Fuels Management.

The awards are presented under the sponsorship of the American Petroleum Institute, an internationally recognized petroleum trade organization, to recognize activities and personnel that made the most significant contributions to the Department of the Navy bulk fuel operations, petroleum supply chain management, and fleet fuel support.

"The awards celebrate the daily accomplishments of countless professionals involved in the Naval petroleum supply chain who can take pride in the vast amount of hard work, dedication, and professionalism displayed in supporting our warfighters on a daily basis," McCarthy said.

The Awards are presented in five categories: Navy Bulk Fuel Terminals, Navy Retail Fuel Activities, Marine Corps Non-Tactical Activities, Marine Corps Tactical Units, and individual awards.

In Category I, Navy Bulk Fuel Terminals, the winner is the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Jacksonville, Fla., and the runner-up is Naval Support Facility (NSF), Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT).

In Category II, Navy Retail Fuel Activities, the winner is Naval Air Facility, Atsugi, Japan, and the runner-up is Naval Air Station, Oceana, Va.

In Category III, Marine Corps Non-tactical units, the winner is Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, and the runner-up is Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Camp Pendleton, Calif.

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Bravo Zulu



Al Jones was congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for outstanding woodworking skills in designing and constructing custom packing crates for propeller hub assemblies.



Ricky Coleman was congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for outstanding effort in identifying NAVSEA assets and for other duties in the Custody Asset Division operational process.



Lt. Cmdr. Ed Whiting, Regional Transportation Division Officer for NAVTRANS, was recently promoted to his present rank. His wife, Davida, had the honor of pinning on his new collar device during a recent promotion ceremony.



Pam Mullins was congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for disposing of approximately 20 line items of excess hazardous material stored in Shed 9. This effort required extensive research and coordination with DRMO.

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In Category IV, Marine Corps tactical units, the winner is Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 274, Cherry Point, N.C., and the runner up is MWSS 171, Iwakuni, Japan.

And, in Category V, Fuels personnel of the year, the winners are: Navy Fuel Officer, LT Jeffrey S. Hedrick, NSF Diego Garcia, BIOT; Navy Fuel Chief Petty Officer, Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate-Fuel (AW) David J. Stroud; NSF Diego Garcia, BIOT; Navy Fuel Petty Officer, First Class Aviation Boatswain's Mate-Fuel (AW) Allen T. Ocampo, FISC Yokosuka, Japan; Navy Fuel Civilian, Mr. Herbert Kikuchi, FISC Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Marine Corps Fuel Officer, CWO2 Dominique J.F. Davis, MCB Hawaii Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii; Marine

Corps Fuel Staff Noncommissioned Officer, SSgt. Kevin G. Pierre, Camp Hanson, Japan; Marine Corps Fuel Noncommissioned Officer, Sgt. Kenneth C. Esch, MCAS Cherry Point, N.C.; and Marine Corps Civilian, Mr. Harold L. Taylor, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The winners will be recognized and awards presented by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) on April 29, 2002, during the Department of Defense Worldwide Energy Conference in Washington, D.C.

Bravo Zulu



FISC Norfolk Executive Director Sid Etherington congratulates Patsy Alston for her extraordinary effort in supporting CAX security fuel support which required her to work non-standard hours.



FISC Norfolk Executive Director Sid Etherington congratulates Gerald Dale for his role in coordinating small boat receipts and issues since Sept. 11 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



FISC Norfolk Executive Director Sid Etherington congratulates Patsy Alston for her extraordinary effort in supporting CAX security fuel support which required her to work non-standard hours.



FISC Norfolk Executive Director Sid Etherington congratulates Pam Forrester for her successful management of FISC Norfolk CAX Det. Yorktown, including the recovery of \$100 K of direct funding.



Pam Fox was congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for her efforts with the Retail Supply A76 team representing Cheatham Annex. She has coordinated site visits, accompanied analysts and contractors on interviews, and other important and time-consuming tasks.



Barbara White was congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for disposing of approximately 20 line items of excess hazardous material stored in Shed 9. This effort required extensive research and coordination with DRMO.



Cecil Williams (center) and Curtis Wilgus were congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for their accomplishments as material handlers during the past year. They were responsible for pulling, staging and loading 27,753 items worth more than \$72 million for disposal - a feat unparalleled in CAX history. Many of the items had to be pulled from difficult warehouse locations, required re-identification, and required special lifting techniques to move. Despite these challenges, they were able to pull the material and free up several thousand square feet of warehouse space.



Joe Caskie, Linda Gray, and Woody Sanders were congratulated by Capt. Cliff Davis for a job well done that resulted in a special thank-you from a satisfied customer. They were instrumental in releasing a 7,600 pound turbocharger to resolve a C-3 CASREP for a deployed ship. They arranged for a chartered flight to deliver the turbocharger the next day to San Juan, P.R. and made arrangements to have the item offloaded and delivered despite the difficulty in making such arrangements during the Easter holiday. Their efforts made sure a ship was able to meet all commitments.