



## FLEET MASTER CHIEF JOHN MINYARD

Issue 1

January 2010

### Greetings from Fleet Master Chief Minyard



Hello Shipmates and welcome to 2010! I hope you all had a happy holiday season, and are as ready as I am to start off this brand new year with the same energy and enthusiasm you displayed throughout 2009. Before we get down to business I want to cover a few new initiatives I have undertaken in order to serve you and your families better.

First, and most obviously, is this newsletter which you are currently reading. I plan to publish this letter on a monthly basis, bringing you the latest news and topics of interest, as well as my thoughts and insights on what's coming over the horizon and how it affects you, the deckplate Sailors. I hope you all understand that I take my responsibility as fleet master chief very seriously and I am committed to doing everything in my power to address your concerns and to make our Navy even better than it is today.

Our country relies more heavily on its naval forces for security and the protection of its interests abroad more than ever before, and we struggle to meet this expectation through budget constraints and a shrinking work force. But as in everything we do, the strength of our Navy lies in its individual Sailors, and their ability to adapt and succeed. With more than 125,000 people in the Pacific Fleet, I know we can overcome any obstacles in our path.

In our sustained effort to bring you the latest news and events from around the fleet, we have redesigned the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet website and launched a Facebook page in addition to my newsletter *Fleet's Quarters*.

I encourage you to check these sites regularly and contribute your thoughts, questions and ideas.

Very Respectfully,

Fleet Minyard

### For the Record

#### *myPay Changes*

If you haven't seen the message, or logged on to your myPay account lately, you're in for a little surprise. MyPay has implemented new security procedures to better protect your identity, and your money.

Since Dec. 10, users logging on to myPay using their existing Login ID and PIN have been prompted to change their login credentials using the Virtual keyboard to create a customized login ID and password.

The myPay site has step-by-step instructions and most users have established their new login credentials with no trouble.

The new security measures will help keep your financial information secure and prevent unauthorized access to your money, but it's still up to each of us practice our own OPSEC.

#### *NAVADMIN 006/10*

Provides information on the status of the FY-10 Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB) Program, opportunities, and requirements for earning an SRB.

More than 1,300 of our Shipmates have received SRBs this Fiscal Year and it continues to be the Navy's primary monetary incentive for Sailors with critical skills and experience to Stay Navy.

Keep in mind though, this pot of SRB money is not unlimited and reenlistment bonuses will be removed as retention levels for those skills are achieved. For more information on SRBs, read NAVADMIN 006//10, or talk to your chain of command or command career counselor.

### On the Horizon

The CPO Advancement Exam was this month, so I hope all of our eligible First Class Petty Officer spent some quality study time over the holidays and will soon be joining our CPO Mess. I encourage all of you to start reviewing your service records now and preparing your package for the CPO selection boards later this year.

This is also a good time to remind our junior Sailors that March is just around the corner and if you haven't started preparing for your own advancement exams, then time is quickly running out. NKO and the Navy Advancement Center offer many tools to help set you up for success, so use them.

## Pacific History / Heritage

January 24, 1942 - Battle of Makassar Strait, destroyer attack on Japanese convoy in first surface action in the Pacific during World War II

January 27, 1942 - USS Gudgeon is first US sub to sink enemy submarine in action, Japanese I-173.

January 31, 1944 - American amphibious landing on Kwajalein, Marshall Islands



100113-N-XXXXH-001 BREMERTON, Wash. (Jan. 13, 2010)  
The aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) transits Puget Sound. Abraham Lincoln has been pier side at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for nine months undergoing a complete overhaul during a planned incremental availability. Abraham Lincoln will soon undergo sea trials for an upcoming deployment. (U.S. Navy photo by Wendy Hallmark/Released)



100114-N-6688C-281 PACIFIC OCEAN (Jan. 14, 2010) Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) Airman Jonathan Rivera carries a hose during a counter measure wash down on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). Abraham Lincoln is conducting sea trials following a nine-month Planned Incremental Availability at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash. (U.S. Navy photo Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Kat Corona/Released)

## Scuttlebutt

### *Questions and Answers from the fleet.*

#### *Navy Transportation Detachment Hickam—*

Q: What's the future of PTS, and are there plans to increase PTS requirement beyond zones A, B, & C?

A: The first round of PTS results for Zone C Sailors was released Jan. 11, marking the full implementation of PTS changes in 2009. PTS now covers Sailors with less than 14 years of service in paygrades E-1 through E-6. There are no plans to expand PTS beyond its current level, but Continuation Boards for chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs will remain in effect.

#### *Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai -*

Q: Why is the Navy making warfare qualifications mandatory?

A: Mandatory warfare qualifications are good for the individual command and for the Navy. Having every crew member warfare qualified makes the command more effective, better trained, and better prepared for the mission at hand; it also makes Sailors better informed and knowledgeable about their command.

#### *USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) –*

Q: NWU policy places more restrictions on wear than the Army or Air Force, will Navy loosen up restrictions?

A: The Navy may consider loosening restrictions down the road, but I don't think we will ever be like the Army and be able to wear our NWUs anywhere at anytime. Also, I think we can expect to see the wear of coveralls restricted back to the ship and on the pier, but during the upcoming Uniform Board, one item of discussion will be the wearing NWU T-shirt with coveralls. On a related topic, NAVADMIN 374/09 just announced the testing of two new digital NWU uniforms in both desert and woodland patterns.

For more News and Information about U.S. Pacific Fleet visit:

<http://www.cpf.navy.mil>

<http://twitter.com/PacificFleet>

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