


RUSH



USS RUSHMORE MAGAZINE | VOL. 1 ISS. 2
WOMEN'S EQUALITY EDITION

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EVOLUTION
OF FET
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ARLENE
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SELECTS
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COMMANDING OFFICER
CDR Robert C. Tryon

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CDR Robin Marling

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
CMD CM Joseph Silveira

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
ENS James Callahan

EDITOR/DESIGNER
MC3 Reymundo A. Villegas III

CONTRIBUTORS
CPL Danny Gonzalez

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PACIFIC OCEAN (JULY 31, 2018) – MACHINIST’S MATE 3RD CLASS ASHLEY LEROY POSES FOR A PORTRAIT IN FRONT OF THE AMERICAN FLAG.
(U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MC3 REYMUNDO A. VILLEGAS III)

IF YOU’RE ON ANOTHER SHIP, I FEEL BAD FOR YOU, SON. There are 99 women on the RUSHMORE crew, and I am one. August has been a phenomenal month for RUSHMORE, and I couldn’t be prouder of how well our first month of deployment has gone. In honor of Women’s Equality Day, this issue of RUSH magazine highlights some of the great events the women on board RUSHMORE have participated in that have contributed to our success. These Sailors and Marines work every day to forge teamwork and toughness, readiness and responsibility, and maintain our safety and standards. Nobility Power!


Executive Officer
CDR Robin Marling

“THESE SAILORS AND MARINES WORK EVERY DAY TO FORGE TEAMWORK AND TOUGHNESS, READINESS AND RESPONSIBILITY, AND MAINTAIN OUR SAFETY AND STANDARDS.”

PACIFIC OCEAN – U.S. MARINES WITH COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 13, 13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (MEU), PERFORM SCISSOR KICKS IN A GROUP DURING A REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEPLOYMENT OF ESSEX AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP (ARG) AND 13TH MEU. THE ESSEX ARG/MEU TEAM IS A STRONG, FLEXIBLE, RESPONSIVE, AND CONSISTENT FORCE CAPABLE OF MANEUVER WARFARE ACROSS ALL DOMAINS; IT IS EQUIPPED AND SCALABLE TO RESPOND TO ANY CRISIS FROM HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF TO CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.
(U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO BY CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ)

The Evolution of the FEMALE ENGAGEMENT



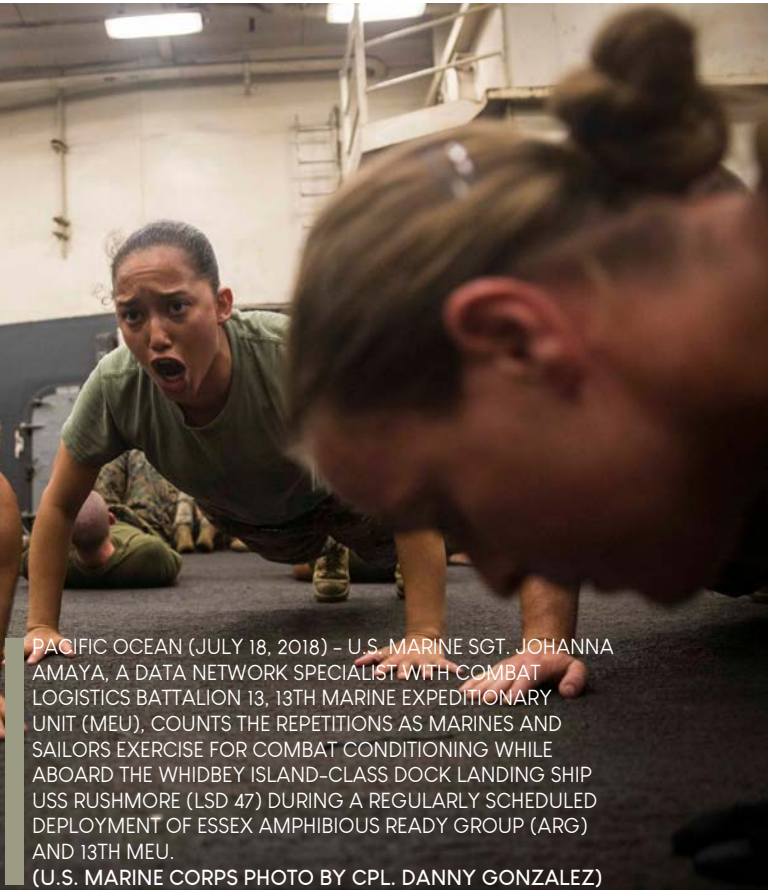
JAVA SEA -- Staff Sgt. Jacqueline Mejia wiped the sweat off her brow as she leaned in to inspect a vehicle. Mejia's sweating because she's in Fallujah, Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2006. Suddenly, there is incoming fire.

"I thought 'This is it,'" said Mejia, the staff non-commissioned officer of the female engagement team (FET). "'This is finally happening. What do we do now?'"

With all the training Mejia and the FET had, the team reacted in second nature. They located the enemy. They sighted in and on command they engaged fire.

"FET started in Afghanistan and Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom," said 1st Lt. Riacca Glatt, the officer in charge of the FET. "We were losing when it came to interacting with the female Muslim population. It was not appropriate for males to address the women, to look at them, to be around them. The Marine Corps saw this need to be able to interact with everyone."

Glatt said the FET was primarily started to be culturally sensitive to local social norms



PACIFIC OCEAN (JULY 18, 2018) - U.S. MARINE SGT. JOHANNA AMAYA, A DATA NETWORK SPECIALIST WITH COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 13, 13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (MEU), COUNTS THE REPETITIONS AS MARINES AND SAILORS EXERCISE FOR COMBAT CONDITIONING WHILE ABOARD THE WHIDBEY ISLAND-CLASS DOCK LANDING SHIP USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) DURING A REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEPLOYMENT OF ESSEX AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP (ARG) AND 13TH MEU. (U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO BY CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ)

when searching female Iraqis for concealed weapons during missions. It was appropriate to have a woman searching other women—and having this capability opened the door to other opportunities.

"We couldn't do that without having female engagement teams to interact with the female population," said Glatt. "We saw that could have more of an impact rather than just storming in with men and weaponry."

FET has three main missions. One being subject matter expertise exchange and theater support cooperation, another being evacuation operations, tactical site exploitation, search and seizure, and another being cultural host nation integration. FET has not only evolved into winning hearts and minds but has now incorporated the concept of the Navy-Marine Corps team.

The Whidbey Island-class dock landing ship USS Rushmore (LSD 47) and the embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) are currently on a regularly scheduled deployment to the 7th fleet area of operations and are putting the blue-green FET integration to work.

"Our deployment is all about the amphibious ready group (ARG) and MEU integration," said Glatt. "We wanted the female engagement team to be about that as well. It's not a Marine Corps only idea, and it shouldn't be. The blue side brings different perspectives, capabilities and experiences to the table."

Rushmore's FET consists of three Sailors and nine U.S. Marines.

"This deployment is a perfect time for the female engagement team," said Glatt. "Sailors and Marines will be together for months and have the opportunity to interact together and work with each other during our missions. It is going to give us the opportunity to showcase a side of the military that isn't typically showcased."



PACIFIC OCEAN (AUG. 6, 2018)- U.S. MARINES AND SAILORS ABOARD THE WHIDBEY ISLAND-CLASS DOCK LANDING SHIP USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) GATHER FOR A PRESENTATION CENTERED ON WOMEN IN THE MILITARY DURING A REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEPLOYMENT OF ESSEX AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP (ARG) AND 13TH MEU. (U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO BY CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ)

The integrated FET had the opportunity to execute their first mission at the first Women's Symposium held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

"This symposium brought two groups of women together," said Glatt. "In our culture, women have been in the military for quite some time, and we merged that with a culture where women in the military is a very new concept."

"We were able to work hand-in-hand with women in the Indonesian navy," said Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Ashley Leroy, a Sailor on the FET. "We were able to share our experiences of what life in the military has been like for us. We learned from them, and they learned from us."

The FET shared their capabilities,

experiences and challenges as women in the military. The diversity of women on the FET allowed for each woman to provide different insight.

"Being part of this event made me feel like a part of a bigger picture for women in the military everywhere," said Leroy. "All of us on the FET dedicated ourselves to being a part of the one percent that serves in the military, but there is an even smaller percentage of females who serve. This experience allowed me to be involved with something bigger than myself. It

empowered me and reassured me that women's presence in the military is important and will be known."

Although FET has evolved from it's

"IT'S ALLOWED FET TO BECOME EVEN BETTER THAN IT WAS INTENDED TO BE."
-STAFF SGT. JACQUELINE MEJIA

Flashback

FEMALE ENGAGEMENT TEAM

STAFF SGT. JACQUELINE MEJIA, THEN CORPORAL, PICTURED IN IRAQ, APRIL 12, WHEN SHE WAS A MEMBER OF 2ND BATTALION 3RD MARINE REGIMENT, 1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IRAQI WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT TEAM.



inception, they continue to train to stay prepared for any situation that may arise.

"We do a lot of physical training," said Mejia "We also do training on weapons handling and on-ground training. We have to make sure we are always mission ready."

Glatt said that FET also participates in discussion groups.

"We discuss what kind of topics to share, questions to ask, or how we might be able to get someone else to share their experience with us," said Glatt.

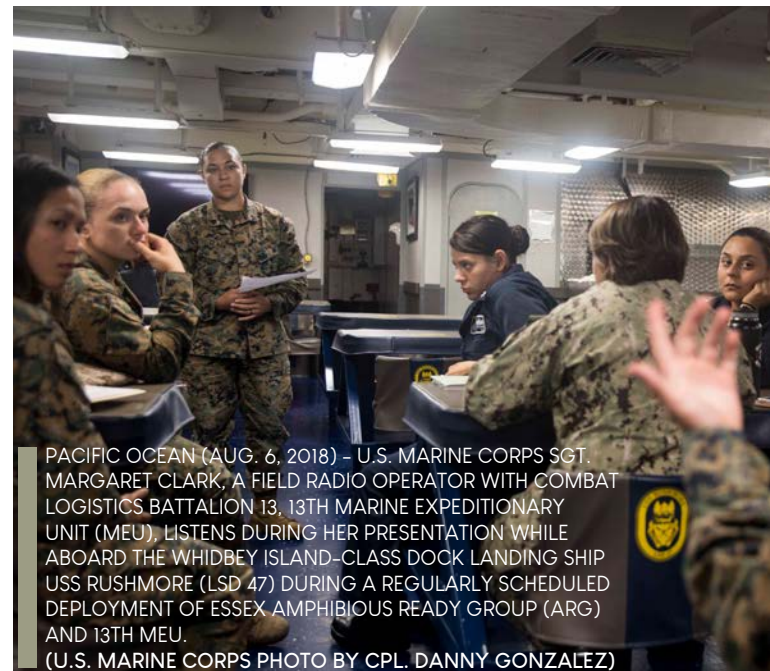
Mejia, Glatt and Leroy all expressed that they have learned from the blue-green team integration.

"Working with the Navy has opened my eyes to a different world," said Mejia. "It has given me the opportunity to learn from the blue side and given us all an opportunity to put our heads together and work as one. It's allowed FET to become even better than it was intended to be in the first place."

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

For more news from USS Rushmore (LSD 47), visit <http://www.rushmore.navy.mil> and <https://www.facebook.com/USSRushmore>.

For more news from 13th MEU, visit <http://www.13thmeu.marines.mil> and <https://www.facebook.com/13thMEUview>.



PACIFIC OCEAN (AUG. 6, 2018) - U.S. MARINE CORPS SGT. MARGARET CLARK, A FIELD RADIO OPERATOR WITH COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 13, 13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (MEU), LISTENS DURING HER PRESENTATION WHILE ABOARD THE WHIDBEY ISLAND-CLASS DOCK LANDING SHIP USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) DURING A REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEPLOYMENT OF ESSEX AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP (ARG) AND 13TH MEU. (U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO BY CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ)

USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) RECOGNIZES WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

8.26.18



HARD

chargers



WASHINGTON (JULY 25, 2018) - AN UNDATED OFFICIAL PORTRAIT OF REAR ADM. ALENE B. DUERK. DUERK ENTERED THE NAVY IN JANUARY 1943 AND INITIALLY SERVED AS A WARD NURSE AT THE PORTSMOUTH AND BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITALS. SHE WAS LATER ASSIGNED TO THE HOSPITAL SHIP USS BENEVOLENCE AND DEPLOYED TO THE PACIFIC THEATER DURING WORLD WAR II IN SUPPORT OF ADM. WILLIAM HALSEY'S THIRD FLEET. IN MAY 1970, DUERK WAS APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF THE NAVY NURSE CORPS. SHE BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN TO ATTAIN FLAG RANK IN THE U.S. NAVY ON JUNE 1, 1972. DUERK WAS BORN IN DEFIANCE, OHIO AND RETIRED FROM THE NAVY IN 1975. (U.S. NAVY PHOTO/RELEASED)



Honoring ALENE B. DUERK

NAVY'S FIRST FEMALE ADMIRAL PASSES AWAY

FROM NAVAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE COMMAND, COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH DIVISION

Retired Rear Adm. Alene B. Duerk, the Navy's first female admiral, passed away July 21, 2018. She was 98 years old.

"It took 197 years and a forward-looking Chief of Naval Operations, Elmo Zumwalt, to break with tradition before Alene Duerk became the first woman admiral in the U.S. Navy," said Naval History and Heritage Command director Sam Cox. "But the credit goes to Duerk. From the crucible of caring for wounded Sailors, Marines and prisoners of war during World War II in the Pacific, she blazed a trail of stellar performance in tough jobs, serving as an inspiration for an ever increasing number of women officers who have followed her path."

Born in Defiance, Ohio, on March 29, 1920, she received nursing training at the Toledo [Ohio] Hospital School of Nursing, from which she earned her diploma in 1941. From there, Duerk entered the U.S. Naval Reserve and was appointed an ensign in the Nurse Corps.

"Alene Duerk was a strong and dedicated trail blazer who embodied the very principles that continue to guide Navy Medicine today," commented Vice Adm. Forrest Faison, Navy surgeon general, upon learning of her passing. "She will forever be remembered as a servant leader who provided the best care to those

who defended our nation, honoring the uniform we wear and the privilege of leadership."

Her first tours of duty included ward nurse at Naval Hospital Portsmouth in Virginia, Naval Hospital Bethesda in Maryland, and sea service aboard the Navy hospital ship, USS Benevolence (AH 13), in 1945. While anchored off the coast of Eniwetok, Duerk and the crew of the Benevolence would attend to the sick and wounded being brought back from the Third Fleet's operations against Japan.

Upon cessation of hostilities on Sept. 2, 1945, Duerk and the Benevolence crew took on the task of repatriating liberated Allied prisoners of war, an endeavor that solidified her commitment to nursing and patient care.

Years later, when asked about her service for the Library of Congress' Veteran's History Project, Duerk said, "The time I was aboard the hospital ship and we took the prisoners of war, that was something I will never forget . . . that was the most exciting experience of my whole career."

Thereafter, Duerk was assigned to Naval Hospital Great Lakes until being released from active service in 1946.

In 1951, Duerk returned to active duty serving as a nursing instructor at the Naval Hospital Corps School

in Portsmouth, Va. and later as inter-service education coordinator at the Naval Hospital Philadelphia, Penn. Her skills in ward management, surgical nursing and mentoring would be put to use over the next two decades while serving at hospitals in San Diego; and Yokosuka, Japan; at the Recruiting Station in Chicago; and in Wash., D.C.

In May 1970, following assignments as assistant for Nurse Recruitment in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) and assistant head of Medical Placement Liaison (Nurse Corps) at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Duerk was appointed director of the Navy Nurse Corps.

Over the next five years, Duerk provided direction for the Nurse Corps, updating policies affecting Navy Medicine and expanding the sphere of nursing into ambulatory care, anesthesia, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology.

Her selection to the rank of rear admiral was approved by President Richard Nixon on April 26, 1972. The first woman to be selected for flag rank, she was advanced on June 1, 1972.

Rear Adm. Duerk retired in 1975, but remained a strong advocate for Navy nursing through the remainder of her life.

Duerk was awarded the Naval Reserve Medal, American Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with bronze star; World War II Victory Medal;



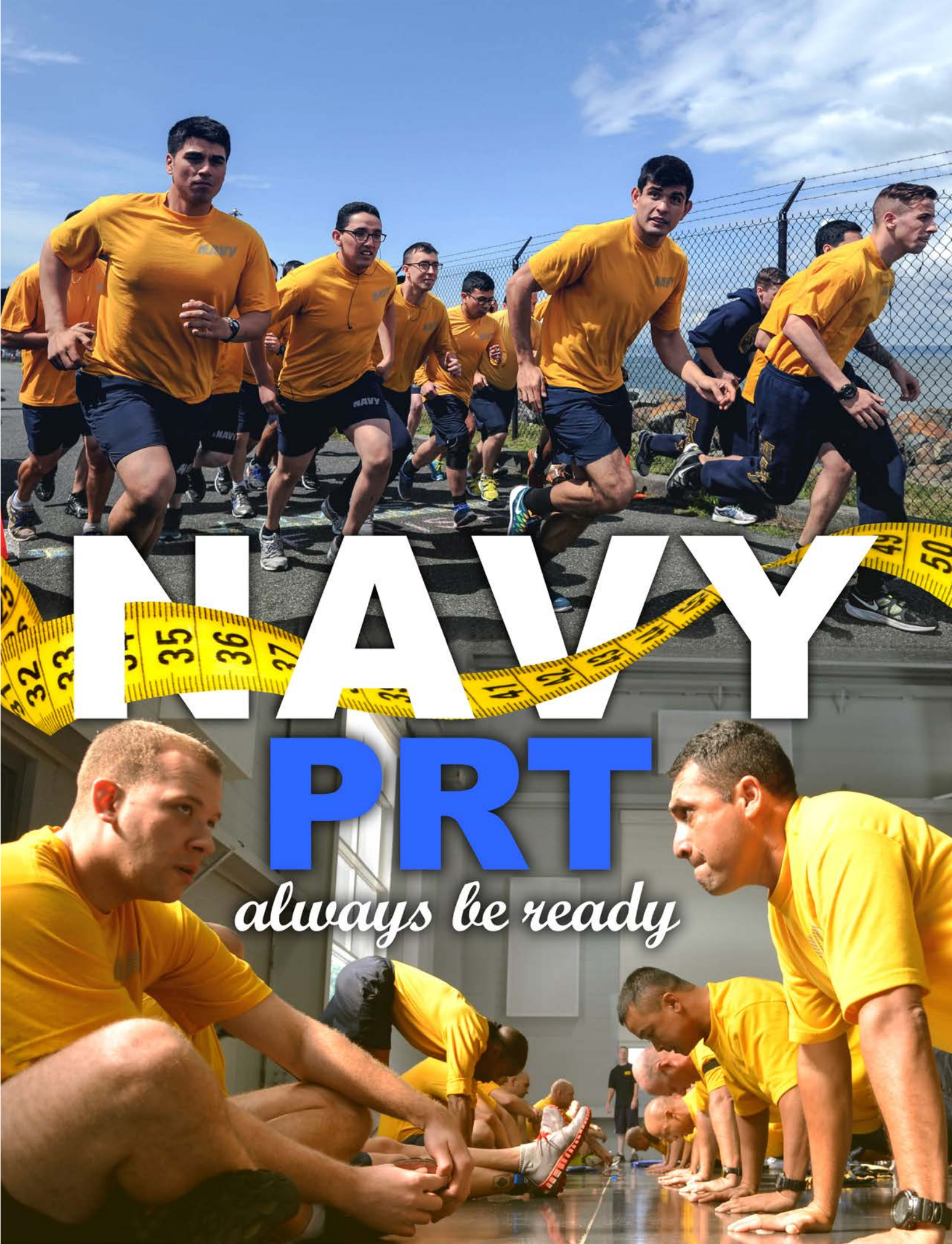
Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp; and the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star.

Duerk's biography offers greater insight into her service, it can be found online at the website of the Naval History and Heritage Command here: <http://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/diversity/women-in-the-navy/first-female-flag-officer.html>

See the entry on Duerk at the Library of Congress Veteran's History Project online here: <http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/vhp/bib/loc.natlib.afc2001001.28852>

The Naval History and Heritage Command, located at the Washington Navy Yard, is responsible for the preservation, analysis, and dissemination of U.S. naval history and heritage. It provides the knowledge foundation for the Navy by maintaining historically relevant resources and products that reflect the Navy's unique and enduring contributions through our nation's history, and supports the fleet by assisting with and delivering professional research, analysis, and interpretive services. NHHHC is composed of many activities including the Navy Department Library, the Navy Operational Archives, the Navy art and artifact collections, underwater archeology, Navy histories, nine museums, USS Constitution repair facility and the historic ship Nautilus.

For more news from Naval History and Heritage Command, visit www.history.navy.mil.



CNO SELECTS FLEET MASTER CHIEF SMITH AS 15TH MCPON



BOSTON (AUG. 31, 2018) LEGALMAN 1ST CLASS MELISSA WHITAKER AND DAMAGE CONTROLMAN 1ST CLASS RYAN REFFITT, CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SELECTEES, PIN COLLAR DEVICES ON THE 15TH MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY (MCPON) RUSSELL SMITH DURING THE USS CONSTITUTION CPO HERITAGE WEEK. (U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS SARAH VILLEGAS/RELEASED)

FROM THE U.S. NAVAL INSTITUTE

Fleet Master Chief Russell Smith was named the 15th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON), a position he’s held temporarily since June when former Master Chief Steven Giordano resigned.

Smith was serving as the senior enlisted leader for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education in the office of the Chief of Naval Personnel when he was asked to also fill in as the Navy’s senior enlisted sailor on a temporary basis. As the MCPON, the chief of naval operations and chief of naval personnel look to Smith for advice in all matters dealing with enlisted personnel and their families.

“After a thorough and deliberate review process, I am confident that Fleet Master Chief Smith is the right leader to be our Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy,” Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson said in a statement. “I look forward to working with him to advocate for our sailors and their families selflessly serving around the world.”

Richardson made the announcement Wednesday morning through a Facebook video message, posted

while doing physical training with the Chiefs Mess and chief-selects at the Navy Yard in Washington D.C.

“Even though I had a couple of minutes heads up, I’m still a little bit speechless. But frankly, I can’t imagine how tough the choice was because of the quality of the master chiefs that we have in our Navy,” Smith said in the video. “I’m just excited to take this advocacy for sailors and for all of us to the next level.”

Richardson, standing next to Smith in the video, added, “MCPON, you embody professionalism, expertise and humility in leadership, and I know you’re going to make that spread that throughout the whole mess.”

Smith enlisted in the Navy 30 years ago and has served in a variety of jobs in both the surface and special warfare communities. In previous assignments, Smith worked for the Defense Attaché in Moscow and served as the Command Master Chief on the CNO’s staff, at the Office of Naval Intelligence and at the U.S. Naval Academy. He was the first Naval Academy command master chief to be selected for a fleet master chief position, according to the Navy.

BLUE GREEN SPOTLIGHT



OSSA REBECCA CARROLL
USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47)

HOMETOWN: OAKLEY, CALIFORNIA

TIME IN THE NAVY: I’VE BEEN IN A YEAR AND TWO MONTHS.

JOB TITLE: OPERATIONS SPECIALIST

DEPLOYMENT GOALS: TO COMPLETE THE SEMESTER OF ONLINE COLLEGE COURSES I SIGNED UP FOR.

BEST ADVICE FOR SAILORS: TAKE EVERYTHING IN STRIDE AND KNOW THAT EVERYTHING YOU’RE TOLD IS FOR A REASON.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: I LIKE TO PLAY GUITAR, WRITE AND TO PRACTICE MUAY THAI.

FAVORITE TV SHOW: GAME OF THRONES

FAVORITE MOVIE: CALL ME BY YOUR NAME

FAVORITE BOOK: THE DARKEST MINDS

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT FROM DEPLOYMENT: THE FIRST KARAOKE NIGHT MWR HOSTED. LISTENING TO EVERYONE SING AND JOKE AROUND WAS REALLY FUN.



SGT. MARINA ISLAS-CASTILLEJA
COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 13

HOMETOWN: LOCKHART, TEXAS

TIME IN THE NAVY/MARINES: GOING ON SIX YEARS IN DECEMBER.

JOB TITLE: MOS 353 I/MOTOR TRANSPORT OPERATOR

DEPLOYMENT GOALS: HOPING TO GET MY DRILL INSTRUCTOR PACKAGE APPROVED.

BEST ADVICE FOR MARINES: BE HUMBLE IN ANYTHING THAT YOU DO.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: I LIKE TO READ AND SLEEP WHEN I CAN. LIKE TO WORK OUT AND EAT. THE "USHE."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: GREY’S ANATOMY. YEASSSS.

FAVORITE MOVIE: THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON

FAVORITE BOOK: THE GIVING TREE

MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT FROM DEPLOYMENT: THE WOMEN’S SYMPOSIUM. IT WAS AN EXPERIENCE TALKING TO WOMEN IN THE INDONESIAN MILITARY.

AUGUST IN REVIEW





INDONESIA (AUG. 15, 2018) - U.S. MARINE CPL BRITTANY MYERS, AN AMMUNITION TECHNICIAN WITH COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 13, 13TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT (MEU), CUTS INTO A SNAKE FOR JUNGLE WARFARE TRAINING DURING COOPERATION AFLOAT READINESS AND TRAINING (CARAT) INDONESIA 2018. CARAT INDONESIA, IN ITS 24TH ITERATION, IS DESIGNED TO ENHANCE INFORMATION SHARING AND COORDINATION, BUILD MUTUAL WARFIGHTING CAPABILITY AND SUPPORT LONG-TERM REGIONAL COOPERATION ENABLING BOTH PARTNER ARMED FORCES TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER AS A UNIFIED MARITIME FORCE.
(U.S. MARINE CORPS PHOTO BY CPL. DANNY GONZALEZ)