

Navy Reserve 2005 Sailor of the Year Announced

*By Journalist 1st Class Mike Miller
Commander, Navy Reserve Force Public Affairs*

NEW ORLEANS – Chief of Navy Reserve, VADM John G. Cotton, announced the selection of Utilitiesman 1st Class(SS) Tom Mock as the 2005 Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year (NRSOY) during a ceremony at Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command in New Orleans, 30 March.

Petty Officer Mock is a Selected Reservist (SELRES) attached to Navy Supply Support Battalion One at Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center (NMCRC) Phoenix. He was chosen from among 50,000 SELRES.

The group of five finalists who reported to Navy Reserve Command headquarters in New Orleans also included:

Yeoman 1st Class Tina Grogg, *USS EMORY S. LAND* (AS-39), Detachment 313, NMCRC Cincinnati;

Engineering Aide 1st Class(SS) Stephen Harmon, Fleet Support Training 1610, NMCRC Houston;

Interior Communications Electrician 1st Class Wayne Lien, Commander, Destroyer Squadron Two, Detachment D, NMCRC Denver; and,

Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Shawna Moore, Commander, Forces Western Pacific, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department, Navy Reserve Center Whidbey Island, WA.

“Five finalists are chosen by a selection board. Those five are brought to New Orleans for interviews, evaluation, and selection. A second board, comprised of five master chief petty officers, then makes a recommendation to the Chief of Navy Reserve, who, in turn, makes the actual Reserve Force Sailor of the Year selection,” said Navy Reserve Force Master Chief (AW/NAC) Thomas W. Mobley.

VADM Cotton praised Mock’s achievements over the last year, including his deployment to Iraq. “Mock is the type of Sailor that gives me confidence in the future of our Navy,” said VADM Cotton. “He is the type of Sailor I brag about when I am touring our great nation.”

Petty Officer Mock was visibly humbled by his selection.

“I am a United States Sailor and a Navy Seabee,” said Petty Officer Mock. “I have had the privilege of serving on a ballistic missile submarine, the *USS LAFAYETTE*, as well as in Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and many other places. But as I stand here today, I am serving with some of the finest Sailors I have ever known. We are one force and ours is one fight. It is very humbling to receive this award, and I will continue to

lead and serve in the United States Navy.”

Petty Officer Mock is heavily involved in his unit’s mobilization readiness. He said, “The junior Sailors are looking for help with their mobilization jobs, so whether their civilian career is a match or not, they’re looking for skills and knowledge and abilities to help them with the job they’re going to do when they mobilize.

“We make sure that they’re trained, that their initial training programs are done, that they are medically, physically qualified to mobilize; and then, as much as possible, we try to find what the mobilization job is going to be.

“We did mobilize last year; and months prior to the mobilization, we made sure that everyone had a living will up-to-date. They were briefed on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, on talking to their employers about potential

mobilizations; and then, when we got their orders, we told them that they were, in fact, mobilized. Not all employers support their troops the same. Some employers offer benefits when a Sailor deploys, as far as making up pay differential, paying 401Ks, medical benefits; but some Sailors don’t have any of that. Those are the ones who need the most counseling.”

“These candidates for Sailor of the Year are the best of the best,” said VADM Cotton. “When I show their résumés to the master chiefs at the Pentagon and tell them who they are and what they do, they shake their heads in amazement and say, ‘Where do you get these people?’ I tell them, ‘America.’”



Chief of the Navy Reserve, VADM John G. Cotton, congratulates Utilitiesman 1st Class (SS) Thomas Mock from Avondale, AZ, the 2005 Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year named at a ceremony held today in New Orleans. Mock was selected from five finalists drawn from 50,000 Selected Reservists. Mock will be meritoriously advanced to chief petty officer and awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for meritorious service in Washington, DC, in July.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Collaborate with a Little Help from Their Friends

By CAPT Paige Saunders, USN (RC)

LCDR Mark Boese and LCDR Ted Ferrazano, Naval Reservists from Albuquerque, New Mexico, have been helping all kinds of unmanned aerial vehicles talk to each other. The vehicles are all part of a joint program to enable them to work together in providing commanders as well as troops in the field the ability to know what's going on around them in a theater of battle.

This program, the "Joint Operational Test Bed System," was initiated by the U.S. Joint Forces Command. The objective is to improve the warfighting capabilities of unmanned aerial vehicles by using a communications network between the vehicles and base stations.

The exercises that Boese and Ferrazano took part in came in a series: Forward Look I held this past February at Fort Huachuca, AZ, was a technical demonstration of the capability for the different unmanned vehicles to communicate with each other and share information; the second, Forward Look II in March (also at Fort Huachuca), took it to the higher level of operational demonstrations; in June, Forward Look III evaluated the unmanned aerial vehicles' ability to provide a mission commander with complete situational awareness in a joint exercise at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, NC. Specific vehicles used were Navy Predators, an Advanced Ceramics Research/ONR Silver Fox, a Boeing/Insitu Scan Eagle, and an AAI Shadow 600.

A specific example of the capability and potential of unmanned aerial vehicles working together took place during the Forward Look III experiment. During the exercise, all players were networked together, receiving video feeds from each unmanned aerial vehicle as well as data on its position. All players achieved total situational awareness. They knew where all the unmanned vehicles were, where their sensors were looking, and what their sensors were seeing. Players were able to hand off missions from one vehicle to another because they were networked together. "The experiment was a resounding success," according to LCDR Ferrazano. "The increase in battle space awareness available from the collaboration of multiple unmanned aerial vehicles, in conjunction with the Joint Operational Test Bed System network, cannot be overstated."

Forward Look III took place within the larger framework of Combined Joint Task Force Exercise 04-2, an annual Joint Forces Command-sponsored training for forces before they deploy to hot spots. The training involves U.S. forces, the United Kingdom, and other coalition partners.

LCDR Ferrazano is currently recalled to active duty to manage the test and evaluation of the Forward Look experiments with these unmanned aerial vehicles. Both he and Boese are Naval Reservists in the Office of Naval Research/ Naval Research



LCDR Mark Boese (ONR NRL S&T 112) preflights the Predator prior to flight during Forward Look III experiment held 10-20 June 2004 at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina, in conjunction with Combined Joint Task Force Exercise (CJTFFEX) 04-2.



LCDR Ted Ferrazano is pictured with a U.S. Navy Predator unmanned aerial vehicle prior to launch in support of Forward Look III.

Lab Science and Technology Unit 112, a unit that specializes in test and evaluation. Both he and Ferrazano will continue their work with unmanned vehicles this January in the next of a series of test and evaluation experiments with unmanned aerial vehicles. ↴



Volunteer Reservist Tapped for Needed Skills at GTMO

By LT Ivy Kupec, USNR

With the military reported to be downsizing, right-sizing, or civilianizing, one might conclude that all service members with the most valued skills are holding paid jobs, whether full-time or part-time.

However, when it came time to help coordinate the habeas corpus proceedings for the detainees in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO), the Navy's choice for the most qualified officer to tackle the challenge came from neither active duty ranks nor drilling reserve ranks. Nor was a contractor selected for his well-reimbursed skills . . .

This time, the Navy found the best-trained person for the job from the often underrated or forgotten Volunteer Training Unit (VTU).

The VTU is generally made up of senior officers who are unable to get a paid reserve billet but still want to serve their country and are compensated not only by accruing retirement points but also through the satisfaction of service. (They do get paid if called to active duty.) Equally surprising, this legal challenge was given not to a member of the Navy's Staff Judge Advocate General, but to a surface warfare officer.

Quick to say his level of expertise is not unique in the VTU, CDR Paul Anderson was asked to augment the active component earlier this year because, quite simply, he could bring something to the table that few could. He'd worked as a Navy Reservist in GTMO for more than a year as the task force information operations officer from March 2002 to 2003, and he'd honed exactly the needed legal skills as a civilian lawyer with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

"This is a good demonstration of how the Navy Reserve is evolving," CDR Anderson said. "By having Reservists whose skills are identified clearly, to include even those that were developed outside of the Navy, helps the service find the right person for the job every time – sometimes in unexpected places."

The habeas corpus proceedings are one of four legal and administrative processes that the detainees undergo. In addition to combatant status review tribunals, commission proceedings, and administrative review boards, the habeas corpus proceedings play an important role in determining whether the detainees are unjustly imprisoned through a legal process that dates back to King Edward I in England around 1305. The process achieved significant publicity when Abraham Lincoln suspended



CDR Paul Anderson is one of the eight Navy Reservists handpicked to be assigned additional duty (ADDU) from the VTU to NR U.S. Southern Command HQ Staff.

the Writ of Habeas Corpus on 25 September 1862 during the Civil War. It is essentially a court order that is designed to determine whether a person's imprisonment is illegal.

Not surprisingly, the biggest challenge CDR Anderson faced was the balancing act of ensuring that detainees had access and exchanged correspondence with their counsel without compromising JTF-GTMO's intelligence gathering mission and sacrificing U.S. national security interests.

"Every detainee at GTMO is entitled to his day in court," he said. "I spent the large part of my

time coordinating with people in Washington, DC, to ensure that the rights of the detainees were upheld without interfering with GTMO security issues."

So, from 1 Aug. to 30 Sept., CDR Anderson coordinated all the details to set up these proceedings, even filling in for the JTF-GTMO Command Staff Judge Advocate General for nine days in GTMO. CDR Anderson worked with military and numerous civilian attorneys who represented the detainees to address procedural issues and ensure a smooth and fair process.

He frequently responded to inquiries from around the Department of Defense as he simultaneously planned and then established an effective process. CDR Anderson is one of eight Navy Reservists handpicked to be assigned additional duty (ADDU) from the VTU to NR U.S. Southern Command HQ Staff.

"Our ADDU VTU is truly a group of talented individuals who are able to augment the SOUTHCOM staff in a variety of roles," CDR Anderson said.

"It was a good experience for me at GTMO," he said. "I was extremely fortunate to work for COL Kathryn Stone, the SOUTHCOM Staff Judge Advocate, and her outstanding staff at the SJA office at SOUTHCOM. COL Stone gave me an incredible opportunity to contribute to her office, and I took the lead and ran with it – a truly fascinating and rewarding experience.

"For three weeks at JTF-GTMO, I got to work with the task force lawyers who were a solid team from day one. The continued professionalism from everyone was impossible to ignore. From the guys working the cell blocks all the way up the chain of command, the quality of people performing this vital mission for the military and for our country – it just makes you proud of everyone there." ⚓