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Trident Refit Facility, Bangor Refit Review

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Submarine-
Specific NECs
Approved

+PLUS

**TRFB Sailor Prepares to Become
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Commanding Officer.....Capt. Michael D. Eberlein
Executive Director.....Mr. Ed Ingles
Executive Officer.....Cmdr. Zachary D. Harry
Command Master Chief.....CMDCM Chase M. Krause
Public Affairs Officer.....Mr. Lonnie Collier



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CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Team TRF Bangor,

I wanted to start off February's CO's Corner by recognizing that February is National Black History Month. President Gerald Ford first recognized Black History Month in 1976 to celebrate the accomplishments and history of African Americans in the United States. The theme for this year's observance is "African Americans and the Arts" and celebrates the contributions and influences that African Americans have had in those fields.

As we lean into March, we will recognize Women's History Month through a series of spotlights on social media and a few educational training events. The Public Affairs Office will provide details once they are known.

So far we have been fortunate to have few weather related disruptions, and the one snowfall the week of Valentine's Day seemed well managed with a two hour delay. Thank you to everybody who pitched in to make the command a safe place, from the duty section to those of you who were already here and picked up tools to make the command safer for everybody. This is how we want to do things.

I don't want to jinx ourselves declaring winter over, so please remain prepared for random, short notice weather events. I want to thank you all for being flexible and adapting to emerging situations. We try to get the info out as fast as we can, but we can only disseminate after we have received it ourselves; in the most recent event conditions deteriorated quickly. As the weather changes, please keep that in mind and continue to be cautious.

It has been an interesting time on the waterfront, and we've had more units inport than anybody would prefer, but it has given us some opportunity to do some truly innovative things. As a result of the hard work being put in across TRFB we are developing techniques that will be instrumental in maintaining the OHIO class SSBN to end of life. I am extremely proud of all the innovative efforts I've seen across TRFB.

As you have seen recently in the news, our world is a continually shifting place with multiple priorities as related to nation defense. I've written about this before in this column,



but want to refer you to excellent reporting in Vanity Fair about an at-sea visit to the USS WYOMING, homeported in Kings Bay, and contains some of the most frank discussion about how we use SSBNs, and why, including interviews with ADM Houston and Gen Cotton with their perspectives Submarine Force and Strategic Command Commanders. It even discusses how we may have considered Wyoming to surface and message our resolve during the early phases of the Israel-Hamas war. It summarizes why we do what we do extremely well. Please read it at: <https://www.vanityfair.com/news/life-aboard-a-nuclear-submarine>. (You should be able to read 1 free article before the paywall hits)

As always please continue to exercise the good decision-making skills I have come to expect from such an exceptional team, stay safe and I'll see you on the "deckplates"!

V/R,

CAPT Mike Eberlein
Commanding Officer
Trident Refit Facility Bangor

TRFB Sailor Prepares to Become an Army Aviator

Article by MC2 Adora Okafor, TRFB Public Affairs



A U.S. Army Warrant Officer 1 (WO1) challenge coin.

With both parents being U.S. Navy veterans, the Navy ethos have always been a part of Machinist's Mate (Nuclear) 1st Class Nicholas Goldschmidt's life. Accustomed to the frequent relocations inherent in military life, he learned early on to embrace change, connect with new faces, and thrive in different environments. The influence of his parents' naval careers led him on a similar path shortly after graduating from high school.

"I grew up independent and making my own choices to better myself," Goldschmidt reflected. "Looking back, I think that I was not mature enough to go to college. I probably would have wasted a lot of time and may have racked up debt."

Goldschmidt's Navy service contract is nearing completion after eight years of service, and he plans to continue his service by transitioning into the role of an aviator in the U.S. Army. According to Goldschmidt, shore duty at Trident Refit Facility, Bangor (TRFB) has helped him utilize the Navy's education benefits and has set him up for success as he prepares for his new chapter.

Popular submarine films like *The Hunt for Red October* and *Down Periscope* sparked Goldschmidt's interest in joining the "silent service."

"Those movies give viewers a general idea about the submarine life," said Goldschmidt. "But they don't show the enlisted Sailors' story of serving on a submarine. The enlisted side is learning how to fight the submarine; it is learning how to respond to casualties and how all the systems of submarines work together."

Though learning the intricacies of a submarine's machinery can take a lot of mental power to understand, Goldschmidt looks back on his years stationed on USS Ohio (SSGN 726) fondly. He remembers all the arduous, painstaking, hands-on maintenance it took to get his ship ready for sea.



A UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter assigned to U.S. Army Aviation Battalion-Japan, is sprayed with water after Dean's final flight at Camp Zama's Kastner Airfield in Japan, Dec. 1, 2023. U.S. Army photo by Esther Dacanay, U.S. Army Japan Public Affairs.

"It was an eye-opening experience, especially for a young guy from Clarksville, Tennessee to be trusted with that kind of work," said Goldschmidt. "The work definitely bonded the division and the department because we all had a common goal, even though it felt like that goal kept getting pushed further to the right; we finally got out to sea and participated in sea trials and sound trials."

It is like having your own little family under the water. It was a blast for me!"

Goldschmidt, admittedly, thrives on pushing his limits and continually striving for self-improvement. Recognizing shore duty at TRFB as an opportunity to utilize tuition assistance, he wasted no time enrolling in classes to further his education.

"Even though I didn't go to college immediately I still wanted to get a degree," said Goldschmidt. "Now that I have the time on shore duty, I'm about 80 percent of the way through a bachelor's degree in business."

His love for challenges is what led him to his next ambitious goal: becoming an Army aviator as a warrant officer. Goldschmidt, who has always been interested in serving in the Army, spoke with Army recruiters in the past. He was interested in the Warrant Officer Flight Training (WOFT) program, more commonly known as "Street to Seat." WOFT is a highly technical program that trains candidates to fly rotary-wing and fixed-wing aircrafts. Candidates will learn how to fly aircrafts with advanced agility and skill in both tactical and non-tactical missions, and various weather conditions.

Upon acceptance into the program, Goldschmidt will attend Warrant Officer Candidate School, and then move through several phases of training before graduating as an Army aviator.

After the completion of the program, there is a 10-year service obligation.

"I've always had an appreciation, kind of a pipe dream, of being an aviator," said Goldschmidt. "The last eight years have taught me a lot. Working in a technical rate and learning how to study hard will help me take all the key concepts I've learned being a submariner and apply it to the application and interview process."

In the coming months, Goldschmidt plans to utilize the Post 9/11 G.I. Bill to finish his bachelor's degree. While it is not required for the program, he is hoping it will make his application more competitive.

"I thoroughly enjoy being under pressure," said Goldschmidt. "Life always presents challenges, and they all have stakes. When there are high stakes, like when we're underway, understanding our surroundings is crucial. The same principles that you learn working in a submarine can be applied to just about any situation."



USS Ohio (SSGN-726) at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 2004. U.S. Navy photo by Wendy Hallmark.

THROUGH THE LENS

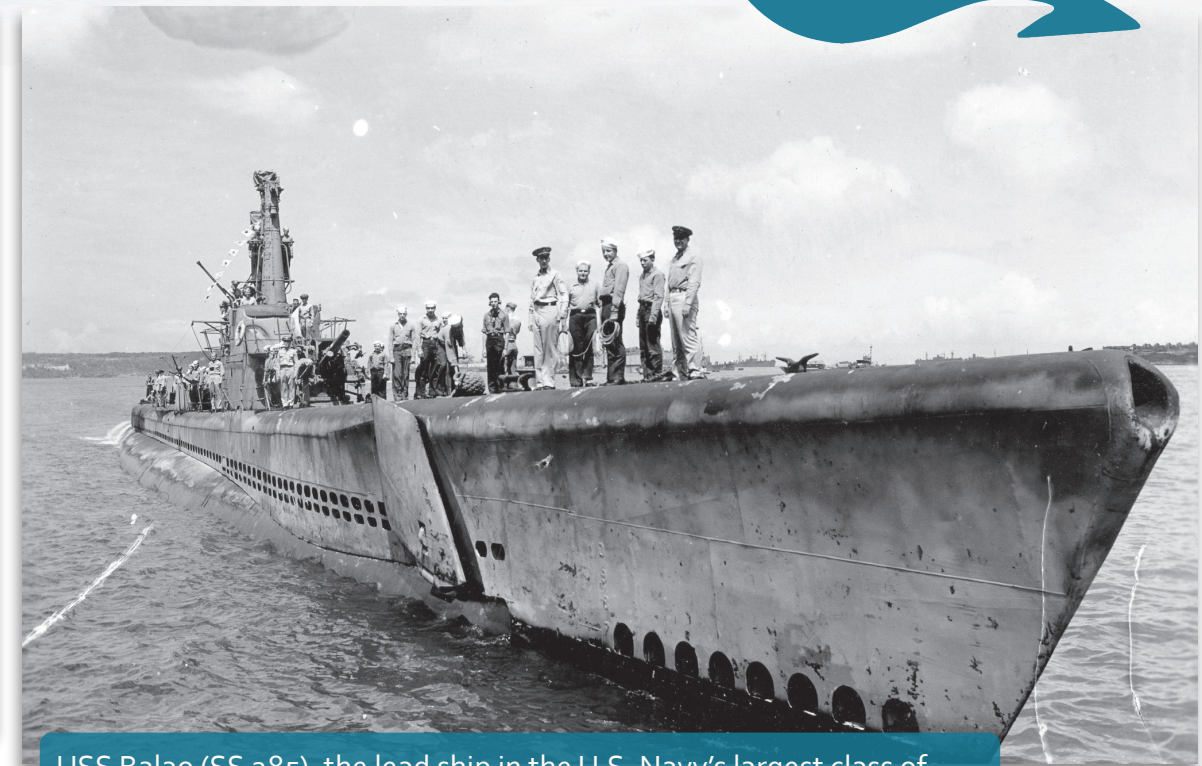
U.S. Navy Photos by MC2 Adora Okafor, MC2 Sarah Christoph and John Wayne Liston, TRFB Public Affairs, additional photo courtesy of the U.S. Naval Undersea Museum.



U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein, TRFB commanding officer (left) and Ed Ingles, TRFB Executive Director (right), tour the Scientific Services division of the Quality Assurance Department during a gemba at TRFB.



U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein, TRFB commanding officer (center) speaks at the Bremerton-Olympic Peninsula Council Naval Submarine League's monthly meeting.



USS Balao (SS 285), the lead ship in the U.S. Navy's largest class of submarines at that time, was commissioned on February 4, 1943.



TRFB Hull Division Superintendent (Code 310) Chris Baldwin, and hobbyist beekeeper, carries a bee box full of bees that he rescued from one of the TRFB cranes on the Delta Pier in 2020.



TRFB Sailors Gas Turbine Systems Mechanic 2nd Class Charles Hickox, left, and Machinist's Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Ronald Jumbelick, right, participate in the Navy Afloat Maintenance Training Strategy (NAMTS) program.



U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein, TRFB commanding officer (right) and Ed Ingles, TRFB Executive Director (left), tour the Scientific Services division of the Quality Assurance Department during a gemba at TRFB.

THE SILENT SERVICE: NAMTS Submarine-Specific NECs Approved



Article by: Sandra Hinz, NAMTS Program Manager
Photos by: MC2 Adora Okafor, TRFB Public Affairs
and Courtesy photos/graphics.

The Navy Afloat Maintenance Training Strategy (NAMTS) program has trained surface Sailors in engineering rates since 2010. Although submariners have had the opportunity to participate in the program, the training has not always translated to the uniqueness of working on a submarine.

Trident Refit Facility Bangor (TRFB), Commander, Navy Regional Maintenance Center (NRMCC) and Valkyrie Enterprises worked together to develop submarine-specific Job Qualification Requirements (JQR) that focus on components and systems specific to the needs of the submarine fleet.

“The NAMTS program gives us the opportunity to become operators again instead of just log takers,” said Machinist Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Ronald Jumbelick, who is currently enrolled in the NAMTS Submarine Hydraulic Repair program.

“It allows us to maintain strategic deterrence vice relying solely on maintenance facilities. In an emergency we will have the ability to repair equipment when needed, potentially saving the Navy millions of dollars.”

TRFB provides excellent training opportunities for

their Sailors by sharpening their skills, which are necessary to perform arduous production work and keep our most valuable strategic assets ready.

Although the process was in place, previously, there was not an approved Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) code to document Sailors’ achievements until recently.

The NEC codes are now approved and ready to be awarded to Sailors who successfully complete the NAMTS program, giving them tangible evidence of the training and skills they have received.

The submarine-specific skills include refrigeration repair, hydraulic repair, valve repair, and pump repair.

Since the development of the submarine JQRs, four TRFB sailors have completed the program.

Currently, four additional TRFB Sailors are enrolled:

- Machinist’s Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Ronald Jumbelick is on track to be the first Sailor to complete the Submarine Auxiliary Hydraulic Repair NAMTS program in the Navy.



- Machinist’s Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Michael Bristow is currently enrolled in the NAMTS Core Fundamentals JQR and will move to a submarine skill upon completion.
- Machinist’s Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Saul Ramirez is enrolled in Submarine Auxiliary Refrigeration.
- Machinist’s Mate Nuclear 1st Class John Neice is enrolled in the Submarine Auxiliary Valve repair program.

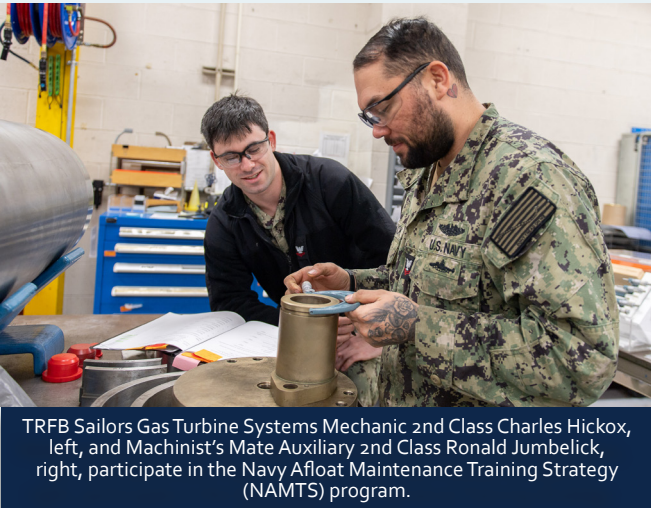
TRFB has much to offer, from the expertise of repairing submarines to providing outstanding training for Sailors.

The implementation of submarine-specific NAMTS JQRs and the approval of the NECs ensure that

the knowledge and experience Sailors gain during their tenure at TRFB will be beneficial to both the Sailors and the submarine fleet for years to come.

The NAMTS program was established in 1996 by the CNO to improve battlegroup organic maintenance capability and material self-sufficiency.

Commander, Navy Regional Maintenance Center (NRMCC) trains Sailors through the NAMTS program by utilizing I-Level hands-on maintenance production to “forge maintenance warriors,” who are competent and confident in their ability to own, maintain and operate their shipboard equipment.



TRFB Sailors Gas Turbine Systems Mechanic 2nd Class Charles Hickox, left, and Machinist’s Mate Auxiliary 2nd Class Ronald Jumbelick, right, participate in the Navy Afloat Maintenance Training Strategy (NAMTS) program.



TRFB Sailor Machinist Mate 2nd Class Dakota Overturf tests a hydraulic activator while participating in the Navy Afloat Maintenance Training Strategy (NAMTS) program.

BRAVO ZULU!

U.S. Navy Photos and graphics by MC2 Adora Okafor, MC2 Sarah Christoph and John Wayne Liston, TRFB Public Affairs



Photo of Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Nevada (SSBN 733) docked in Naval Base Kitsap's Delta Pier's dry dock. Bravo Zulu to the entire team here at TRFB, this is what we do!



Amanda Jones (left) accepts the award for Employee of the Quarter, 1st Quarter, FY2024, from U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein (right), TRFB commanding officer.



MMN1 Samuel Doane (left) accepts the award for Sailor of the Year, CY 2023, from U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein (right), TRFB commanding officer.



GSM2 Charles Hickox (left) accepts the award for Junior Sailor of the Year, CY 2023, from U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Eberlein (right), TRFB commanding officer.



Presidents' Day is celebrated on February 19.

OBSERVANCES

U.S. Navy Black History Month

Ensign Jesse Brown

First African-American aviator in the U.S. Navy

Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Carl Brashear

First African-American master diver in the U.S. Navy

Admiral Michelle J. Howard

First female and African-American four star admiral in the U.S. Navy



Black History Month is an annual observance originating in the United States, where it is also known as African-American History Month. It has received official recognition from governments in the United States and Canada, and more recently has been observed in Ireland and the United Kingdom. It began as a way of remembering important people and events in the history of the African diaspora. It is celebrated in February in the United States and Canada, while in Ireland and the United Kingdom it is observed in October.

Leap Day

February 29 is a leap day (or "leap year day"), an intercalary date added periodically to create leap years in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. February 29 is added in each year that is an integer multiple of four (except for years evenly divisible by 100, but not by 400). The Julian calendar, since 1923 a liturgical calendar, has a February 29 every fourth year without exception.

Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is the beginning of a new year based on lunar calendars or, informally but more widely, lunisolar calendars. Lunar calendars follow the lunar phase while lunisolar calendars follow both the lunar phase and the time of the solar year. The event is celebrated by numerous cultures in various ways at diverse dates. In 2024 it fell on February 10.

Groundhog Day

Groundhog Day (Pennsylvania German: Grund'sau dāk, Grundsaudaag, Grundslow Dawg, Marmeltiertag; Nova Scotia: Daks Day) is a tradition observed regionally in the United States and Canada on February 2 of every year. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on this day and sees its shadow, it will retreat to its den and winter will go on for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow, spring will arrive early.

Looking for portrait or photo support, public affairs guidance, graphic or flyer design, or other command-related media requests? Stop by the Public Affairs office to make a request or appointment today!

Studio portrait walk-ins are held on Wednesdays from 0800-0900. Studio times may be adjusted to suit your schedule.

Remember to bring the prescribed uniform, cover, and package instruction for the specific type of studio portrait requested.

REMEMBER. CELEBRATE. ACT.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

