



January 2024

Trident Refit Facility, Bangor Refit Review

Volume 35, Issue 1

**ONE TEAM,
ONE FIGHT**

**TRFB Civilian
Earns
Submariner
Status**

+PLUS

**NAVY UPDATES PREGNANCY POLICY
& CNO MEETS WITH ROK CNO**

&:

**OBSERVANCES
& BZs**

CONTENTS

On the
Cover:
pg.8

ONE TEAM, ONE
FIGHT: TRFB
Civilian Earns
Submariner Status



The Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Alabama (SSBN 731) returns to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor following a routine strategic deterrent patrol. Alabama is one of eight ballistic-missile submarines stationed at the base providing the most survivable leg of the strategic deterrence triad for the United States. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Amanda R. Gray)

pg.3 Captain's
Corner

pg. Navy Updates
4-5 Pregnancy
Policy &
CNO Meets
with ROK CNO

pg.6 Through the
Lens

pg.10 Bravo
Zulu!

REFIT REVIEW

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



Public Affairs SpecialistMr. Nicholas Scott
Public Affairs SpecialistMr. John Wayne Liston
Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Adora Okafor
Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Sarah Christoph

This newsletter is published for members of the Trident Refit Facility, Bangor (TRFB) workforce. Views and opinions expressed in the Refit Review are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Navy, or TRFB. The Refit Review is produced in accordance with SECNAVINST 5720.44C -- Department of the Navy Public Affairs Policy and Instructions. Editorial content is gathered, prepared, edited, and provided by the TRFB

Public Affairs Office. All photos are property of the U.S. Navy unless otherwise credited.

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Team TRF Bangor,

I am excited welcome you all into 2024! We have been in the new year for a while now, but this is the first CO's Corner of 2024.

A new year is a symbolic opportunity to refocus oneself on the mission ahead, and TRFB has a lot of major changes ahead as we continue to approach the challenge of bringing a new class of submarines to the Navy and recapitalizing our waterfront to support the next 6 decades (at least).

There are a lot of decisions we are making today which could have at least as much impact to future generations at TRFB as the decision made in the 1970's and 80's to keep the Marginal pier around.

It has fortunately been a very mild winter, with only one (barely) weather event in our rear view mirror and Spring is rapidly approaching, but we could still see severe weather. I appreciate everybody's efforts to remain safe so far and to continue to exercise caution and practice ORM in your everyday life.

Just remember, the key is communication. If you think weather or unexpected gate closures will make you late to work, just communicate that to your direct supervisor. Don't put your safety at risk by trying to beat the clock. I do understand that gate status has been frustrating lately and we are engaging with the base to make sure there is better status.

If you follow the "CHINFO Clips" put out by our public affairs team every Tuesday, you know that the Pacific will continue to be a place of increased Naval activity in 2024 and beyond.

That's our "turf" so to speak, and the submarine force is at the forefront of efforts supporting both the Strategic Command and Pacific Fleet. We will be expected to meet projected work completion so we can continue that mission of subverting our adversaries and keeping our nation safe.

To that end, I do expect our port loading to pick up significantly in February, with a higher number of submarines



in port. Please plan accordingly, and allow time to find a parking space.

As we prepare to greet the Columbia Class subs to our piers, and face brand new challenges keeping aging OHIO class submarines at sea, please continue to commit to continuing to learn and grow.

The one thing that is certain is that we will not be able to succeed doing things exactly as we have in the past, and we need to keep our eyes and ears open for the ideas that will let us win. It may come from an unexpected source.

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

Navy Updates Pregnancy Policy

Article by MC2 Dallas Snider, Photos by MC1 Jeanette M. Mullinax



Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Savana Romey, a participant in the Navy's Maternity Pilot Program, points out the features of the maternity Navy working uniform type III.

The Navy updated its policy to better assign Sailors who become pregnant during sea duty to critical shore duty billets that align with their career path.

NAVADMIN 006/24 announced that Sailors who become pregnant during sea duty will be reassigned to shore duty where they can receive necessary medical care while maintaining their career progression.

This policy is about taking care of our people,” said Commander, Navy Personnel Command Rear Adm. Wayne Baze. “Our Sailors get the care they need, while continuing to serve and employ their skillsets in meaningful jobs – this is a win-win for our Sailors and the Navy.”

Under the new policy, shore duty Sailors who become pregnant within 13 months of their projected rotation date may be extended in their current assignment or moved locally to fill a valid manpower requirement.

When a sea duty command is notified of a Sailor’s pregnancy, they must submit a reassignment due to pregnancy and post-partum availability report via Navy Standard Integrated Personnel System for enlisted Sailors and to the community detailer for officers. The report includes the date of the 20th week of pregnancy, the estimated date of delivery, and any factors or limitations required for consideration in the assignment process. Orders will be written to detach the Sailor within approximately 30 days of the availability report.

The update also ensures that Sailors are afforded non-chargeable convalescent leave, with guidance from their health care provider in accordance with medical practice standards, to recover in the event they suffer a perinatal loss



Command Master Chief Samira McBride wears the Navy maternity service khaki uniform at the Joint Women’s Leadership Symposium 2022.

(miscarriage or stillbirth). A pregnant Sailor can request an operational deferment waiver to remain onboard their operational command throughout their pregnancy and post-partum period.

The waiver must include endorsements from the service member, the commanding officer or officer in charge, and the health care provider. The waiver request will be submitted via Sales Force for enlisted and to the community detailer for officers.

Individual detailers will have final approval.

If a shore command desires, for mission or industrial hygiene reasons, to apply for an exemption, they must submit their request fully explaining the situation via endorsement through their immediate superior in command, type commander or budget submitting office and fleet readiness integrator to Navy Personnel Command’s Career Management Department (PERS-4) for review and final disposition.

For more information, read NAVADMIN 006/24 at www.MyNavyHR.navy.mil.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa Franchetti met Republic of Korea (ROK) Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Yang Yong-mo at the Pentagon, today.

The two leaders discussed the enduring nature of the U.S. – ROK naval alliance, as well as their shared commitment to security, peace, and prosperity throughout the Indo-Pacific.

During her discussions with Yang, Franchetti noted the value of increased

CNO Meets with ROK CNO

Article by Cmdr. Desiree Frame, Photos by MC1 Michael B. Zingaro

ROK Navy participation in multilateral exercises. She added that she welcomes the U.S. – ROK continued commitment to improving interoperability, engaging in deeper dialogue and information sharing efforts.

They also talked about regional and peninsular security, to include the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea’s continuous provocations such as nuclear threats and missile launches.

Franchetti affirmed that the Navy’s commitment to the defense of ROK remains ironclad, and that more broadly, the United States stands firm in its extended deterrence commitment, which includes the full range of U.S. defense capabilities, including our conventional, nuclear, and missile defense capabilities.

This was Franchetti’s and Yang’s second meeting as Heads of Navy. The two previously met in Busan, ROK, aboard USS Carl Vinson in November 2023.



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa Franchetti meets with Republic of Korea Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Yang Yong-mo for an office call at the Pentagon, Feb. 1.

THROUGH THE LENS

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



Aerial view of Trident Refit Facility, Kings Bay, Georgia at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.



Sailors aboard USS Louisiana (SSBN 743) prepare for a test launch of Trident II Ballistic Missile in 2023.



TRFB team member, marine machinery mechanic Hunter Feldbush reassembles a hydraulic actuator at TRFB.



TRFB team member perfects his craft at TRFB.



TRFB team member perfects his craft at TRFB.



TRFB team member perfects his craft at TRFB.

ONE TEAM, ONE FIGHT: TRFB Civilian Earn Submariner Status



Article by: Nick Scott, TRFB Public Affairs
Photos by: MC2 Gwendelyn L. Ohrzda,
MC2 Nancy diBenedetto and courtesy photos

When Trident Refit Facility, Bangor, team member Eon Carter-Tripp, a day shift work lead in Repair Department, checked aboard ballistic missile submarine, USS Alabama (SSBN 731), he had only anticipated a 3-day underway. That three days quickly became 10.

“I thought it was going to be just a quick trip, super easy, but after I got my rack (bed and locker) and my TLD (Thermoluminescent Dosimeters), I found out it was going to be a lot more intense than I thought,” said Carter-Tripp. “I knew about the added time before I left, but I didn’t realize the intensity would be dialed up too.”

“I’ve been at sea for years, as a surface Sailor, but work on Alabama was particularly challenging,” said Carter-Tripp. “The submarine service is almost like a different Navy, learning the lingo was half the battle.”

Carter-Tripp joined the U.S. Navy in 2008 as a machinist’s mate (auxiliary).

The Visalia, California, native served for five years aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5), decommissioned in 2015, before transferring for shore duty to TRFB as a machinist’s mate (auxiliary) 2nd Class in 2015. Carter-Tripp became accustomed to life in

Washington, so when he transitioned out of the Navy in 2017, he was immediately hired as a civilian team member at TRFB.

“I love this command, I wasn’t ready to leave it, so transitioning to being a civilian employee just made sense,” said Carter-Tripp.

Carter-Tripp tested various systems aboard Alabama, bringing his expertise to the table to ensure mission success which was, according to him, his number one priority.

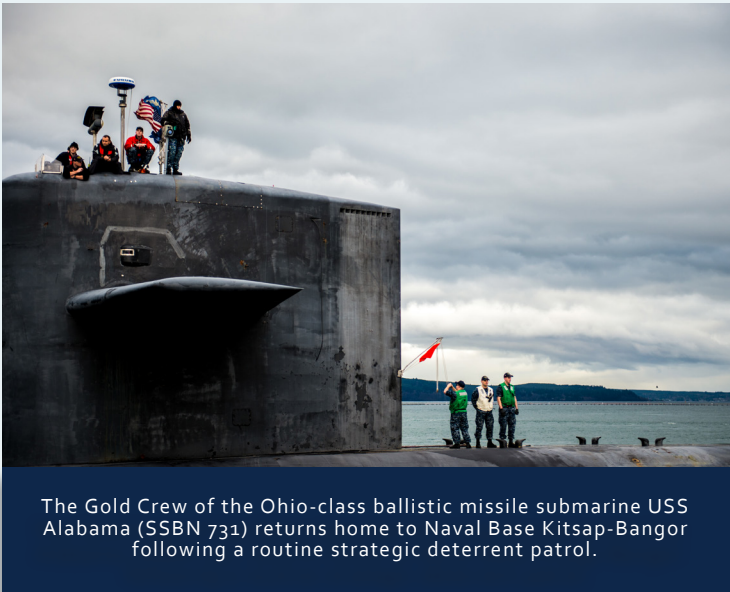
Carter-Tripp worked on everything, meticulously scouring the boat for anything that could even potentially cause issues.

“I repaired three HPACs (high pressure air compressors), they needed new O-rings, I changed out the crossheads too, thankfully I came prepared

so I was able to pull off that fix fairly easily,” said Carter-Tripp.

A faulty O-ring is what caused the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster in 1986.

“Okay, it might be a bit of an exaggeration to say it would have caused a disaster, but attention to detail is still important,” said Carter-Tripp. “Today’s minor inconvenience can become tomorrow’s disaster. Safety first.”



The Gold Crew of the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Alabama (SSBN 731) returns home to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor following a routine strategic deterrent patrol.

When the HPAC system was tested again, it tested satisfactory. Carter-Tripp said he was informed to enjoy the remaining time aboard the vessel by the, at the time, commanding officer, U.S. Navy Capt. Larry Arbuckle, commanding officer, blue crew.

“It was such a cool experience, one I hope to experience again,” said Carter-Tripp.

At the end of the underway, Carter-Tripp was awarded an honorary Submarine Warfare Insignia, more popularly called “Dolphins” by submarine communities around the world, for outstanding service aboard Alabama. In addition to being pinned, Mike Carpentier, repair superintendent, TRFB, came to the pier to give him a challenge coin.

“While in training underway, the triad (commanding officer, executive officer and chief of the boat)

walked in and when the chief yelled ‘attention to award’, I assumed they must have meant it for someone else,” said Carter-Tripp.

“I didn’t expect to be made an honorary submariner, I was blown away,” said Carter-Tripp. “I work hard because that’s the job, but it feels great being recognized and being made a part of such an exclusive community.”

Carter-Tripp said that even though it was a lot of work, it was a very unique experience.

“It was high stress for sure, but overall I had such a great experience on Alabama. I would absolutely go underway again,” said Carter-Tripp.

“My only experience before this was on surface vessels, submarines are an entirely different beast.”



Capt. Larry Arbuckle, outgoing commanding officer of the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Alabama (SSBN 731), salutes Cmdr. Justin Grover, incoming commanding officer, during a change of command ceremony held at the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, Washington.

BRAVO ZULU!

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



Bravo Zulu to our TRFB direct hire team who worked extra hours to man the direct hire event. Over two days, 42 people accepted direct hire positions at TRFB!



Jonathan Iwanicki (right), marine machinist, receives the Employee of the Quarter Award from Navy Cmdr. Zachary Harry (left), executive officer, TRFB.



James R Favier (left) receives an award for Quality Assurance at TRFB.



Seth M. Johnson (left) receives an award for Quality Assurance at TRFB.



James R Favier (center left) and Seth M. Johnson (center right) prepare to receive awards for Quality Assurance at TRFB.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day (officially Birthday of Martin Luther King Jr., and often referred to shorthand as MLK Day) is a federal holiday in the United States observed on the third Monday of January each year. King was chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in federal and state law and civil society. The movement led to several groundbreaking legislative reforms in the United States.

New Year's Day

In the Gregorian calendar, New Year's Day is the first day of the calendar year, January 1. Most solar calendars (like the Gregorian and Julian) begin the year regularly at or near the northern winter solstice, while cultures and religions that observe a lunisolar or lunar calendar celebrate their Lunar New Year at less fixed points relative to the solar year.

Ellis Island Day

Ellis Island Day is observed every January 1 to celebrate an island that served as a gateway to America during the immigration wave of 1892 through 1954. In 1965, Ellis Island was added to the Statue of Liberty National Monument, and in 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson approved its redevelopment. In 1990, the island's main building, a museum, was opened to the public.

NASA Day of Remembrance

Each January NASA pauses to honor members of the NASA family who lost their lives while furthering the cause of exploration and discovery, including the crews of Apollo 1 and space shuttles Challenger and Columbia. In 2022, the Day of Remembrance will be observed on Jan. 27. This year's NASA Day of Remembrance also marks 55 years since the Apollo 1 tragedy.

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.

USS Ohio (SSBN 726),
the first Trident submarine,
pierside at Delta Pier at
Naval Submarine Base
Bangor, 1982.

