

SEABEE COURIER

Vol. 1 No. 7

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

April 3, 2018

Accounting for our most precious resource: Family

By **CE2 Alyssa Ware**
NCBC Public Affairs

Suddenly, emergency announcements flicker across workplace computer screens and the "giant voice" public address system bellows the announcement that a lockdown is in place. Cellphones light up with calls and texts warning of a danger. Something bad has happened on the Naval Construction Battalion Center and once the situation is secure and the immediate threat is taken care of, the next step is to get accountability for all personnel.

"All leaders should ensure that their personnel and their families contact information is updated in the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System every time there is a change," said Cmdr. Ronald Jenkins, the executive officer for NCBC.

NFAAS is a system used by the Navy following a disaster or event to help the Navy determine how and where Navy military, civilian personnel, and family Members are.

If a threatening event such as severe weather, a fire or active shooter happens, the Navy wants to know where you are, that you are safe, and how they can support in case recovery efforts are necessary.

If an event (earthquake, hurricane, etc.) happens where you live or work, expect that your Command is going to contact you as soon as possible. These reports are critical for the command to account for every individual and report the numbers to higher headquarters at Navy Region Southeast. The Navy uses the information you provide on NFAAS to collect that information and track the recovery process.

Here are some easy steps to help navigate and update vital information on NFAAS:

1. Login to the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> to verify your information.

• If you have forgotten or are not sure what your username/password is please use the

"I do not know my username/password" link on the "Select Login Method" screen.

2. Select "OK" to acknowledge the DOD warning.

3. Select the "Click Here" button on the left under Navy Military, Civilians, OCONUS Contractors, and their Families.

4. Choose a Login method and select "Login". [Note:

Common Access Card (CAC) is the most secure method to login.]

• Enter CAC PIN if prompted
5. Select the My Info tab -> Contact Information sub-tab.

6. In the Sponsor's Contact Info section, if your contact information is correct, select the "Verify Info as Current" button.

• If not correct, select the "Edit Contact Info" button and submit the appropriate changes. [Note: a popup window should display a confirmation message indicating 'Information has been updated as of <Today's Date>'. Additionally, the Last Updated date will change to Today's date.]

7. Navigate to the Family Member Info sub-tab to update your dependents' information.

8. In the Family Member Information section.

• If your contact information is correct, select the "Verify Info as Current" button. If not correct, select the "Edit Contact Info" button and submit the appropriate

changes. [Note: a popup window will not display a confirmation message, but the Last Updated date will change to Today's date.]

• If applicable, you may also remove a family member who is no longer living with you by selecting the "Remove" button.

9. Once you have verified your personal contact information and dependent contact information, Select "Logout" to log out of the system.

You can find these easy steps in the Navy Family Member Guide at public.navy.mil. If you are having trouble accessing your NFAAS you can send an email for assistance at nfaas@spawar.navy.mil. Please include your name, phone, and UIC (if possible) in order for NFAAS support to contact you.

If you or your family has been affected by a declared emergency please visit <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> or call 1-877-414-5318 or 1-866-297-1971 (TDD) to report your needs.

NFAAS | NAVY FAMILY ACCOUNTABILITY and ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

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Vietnam War veterans honored on Vietnam Veterans Day

By Ryan Labadens
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On March 29, 2018, citizens and service members across the Gulf Coast and the nation paused to recognize veterans of the Vietnam War during ceremonies commemorating National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day was officially enacted by Congress March 28, 2017, as part of a national effort to recognize Vietnam veterans for their service and sacrifice during this conflict. March 29 was selected since, on this day in 1973, the last U.S. combat troops withdrew from Vietnam.

Though the conflict had been ongoing for decades, official U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War didn't begin until Nov. 1, 1955. More than 58,000 Americans lost their lives serving during the conflict, which lasted until

May 15, 1975.

Throughout the entire war, nearly 25,000 Navy Seabees served in Vietnam, building camps for U.S. forces, repairing roads, bridges and airstrips, training allied Vietnamese forces, and building orphanages, schools and hospitals within the areas where they served. The 20th Naval Construction Regiment (NCR), located at Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, was recommissioned April 17, 1966, nearly two decades after its decommissioning following World War II, to support the buildup of the Naval Construction Force (NCF) during the United States' involvement in Vietnam (in 2003 the 20NCR became the 20th Seabee Readiness Group (SRG), which was later renamed Naval Construction Group (NCG) 2 in 2013).

To recognize the Seabees' service and those of other Vietnam veterans, five

Seabees from the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport took part in a Vietnam veterans' remembrance ceremony held March 29 at the Biloxi National Cemetery, on the grounds of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Miss. Local Gulf Coast government officials and other members of other branches of the military also took part in the ceremony.

"I think it's wonderful to be able to have our Seabees and Sailors take part in ceremonies like these so that we can honor those who served before us," said Cmdr. Ronald Jenkins, NCBC Gulfport executive officer. "It's a privilege to be able to recognize our Vietnam veterans – and all those who served before in times of peace and war – so that we can show our appreciation for their sacrifice and for the roles they played in defending the freedoms we enjoy."



Utilitiesman 3rd Class Christopher Chan places a commemorative pin on a ceremonial wreath during a Vietnam Remembrance Ceremony at the Biloxi Veteran's Administration Cemetery March 29. (U.S. Navy photo by Brian Lamar)

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