

Whiting Tower

NAS Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.

"THE WORLD'S MOST EFFICIENT NAVAL AIR COMPLEX"

Vol. 65 No. 33

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

T-6 Simulator in Place to Prepare for Aircraft Rollout

By Lt. j.g. Daniel Ammons-Moreno, NAS Whiting Field Public Affairs

As Naval Air Station Whiting Field prepares to begin receiving the first new airframe at the base in 30 years, training for the instructors and students on the aircraft becomes important. To that end, Training Air Wing FIVE accepted two T-6B simulators in July -- a significant milestone in the T-34C to T-6B transition process. These multimillion dollar simulators are bringing some of the newest visual and avionics technology to Whiting Field.

One of the new simulators, the Operational Flight Trainer (OFT), consists of a T-6B cockpit inside of a large dome. A simulated environment is projected onto the inside of the dome so that when seated in the cockpit, the pilot is immersed in a realistic visual representation of the sky, terrain, structures, and other aircraft.

"The visual projection system in the OFT is state of the art," said Cmdr. Mark Kekeisen, TRAWING-5 future operations officer. "Pilots experienced in flying around NAS Whiting Field can effectively navigate in the OFT based on the visual displays alone."

- (Cont. on Page 2)



Ens. Austin Nasca sits in the cockpit of the new T-6B simulator Training Air Wing FIVE (TRAWING-5) operates to prepare the instructors for the rollout of the T-6B aircraft coming to Naval Air Station Whiting Field in late August. The stationary simulator uses satellite imagery to create a lifelike feel of flying and true to life landmarks for visual navigation. This Operational Flight Trainer is the first of eight TRAWING-5 will receive. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Daniel Ammons-Moreno.



Part of History

Congressman Jeff Miller congratulates Capt. Enrique Sadsad after presenting him with a copy of the Congressional Record honoring the Skipper's accomplishments at NAS Whiting Field. U.S. Navy photo by Jay Cope.

Obama Pledges Support for Troops, Veterans

By Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- America's men and women in uniform have done their duty and fulfilled every responsibility that's been asked of them, President Barack Obama said Aug. 17.

"And now," he said, "a grateful nation must fulfill ours."

Obama offered high praise for the troops, calling them the heart and soul of the world's best military during a speech at the Veterans of Foreign Wars' annual convention in Phoenix.

"It's not the powerful weapons that make our military the strongest in the world. It's not the sophisticated systems that make us the most advanced," he told the veterans. "No, the true strength of our military lies in the spirit and skill of our men and women in uniform."

Obama said he recognizes his responsibility to "America's most precious resource" and vowed to be deliberate in how he commits them.

"I will only send you into harm's way when it is absolutely necessary," he said. "When I do, it will be based on good intelligence and guided by a sound strategy. And I will give you a clear mission, defined goals and the equipment and support you need to get the job done."

Obama promised to ensure troops have the resources, equipment and strategies they need to succeed in the current conflicts as well as future ones.

- (Cont. on Page 7)

T-6B Simulator

-(Cont. from Page 1)

The OFT, valued at approximately three million dollars, brings new training capabilities to TRAWING-5. The current T-34C simulators are not capable of producing immersive visual environments. The student pilots will be able to gain familiarity with the operational training zones, the landing pattern at NAS Whiting Field, and the greater Pensacola regional area before their first flight.

“Because of the OFT’s capabilities, we are able to transfer more of the training syllabus into the simulator blocks,” Kekeisen said.

Additionally, a computer attached to the OFT can record the entire simulated flight—allowing instructors to debrief an entire flight in real time. For example, instructors can refer to a precise moment in the flight and correct an improper control movement or show a better way to accomplish the specific task at hand. The flight records can be saved and reviewed by students at any time during their training, thus allowing students to reflect and study a wide range of flight conditions.

This recording capability is new to primary training here at TRAWING-5, and Kekeisen estimates that we have not yet realized the full extent of how useful it will be for training purposes.

“The debrief stations will show the entire flight, control movements used by the student, the aircraft attitude, and gauge readings among other information,” he said. “The T-34C simulators have nothing like this.”

The other simulator received in July is the Unit Training Device (UTD). This simulator is simply the T-6B cockpit and is identical to the cockpit inside of the OFT. The UTD has the same training capabilities as the OFT, but it has no visual environment simulation. Ultimately TRAWING-5 will purchase seven UTDs and eight OFTs to accommodate student pilot training at the base.

And even though the first OFT is still being tested and evaluated, instructors from the T-6B Transition Office have already started flying it and creating a syllabus for primary training. These instructors

“Because of the OFT’s capabilities, we are able to transfer more of the training syllabus into the simulator blocks.”

-Cmdr. Mark Kekeisen
Prospective Operations Officer
TRAWING-5

have already trained in the T-6A and they are also flying the T-6B in coordination with Hawker Beechcraft, the company who makes the aircraft.

The civilian flight instructors who operate the simulators for primary training are also working in the OFT. And while the pace of training on this new simulator seems quick, it is all for a good reason—TRAWING-5 plans to have flight instructors from Training Squadron THREE (VT-3) in the OFT and T-6B by mid-September and students from VT-3 flying the new aircraft in April.

The instructors in the T-6B Transition Office will be joining the Fixed Wing Instructor Training Unit (FITU) at the end of the month. At the FITU, they will become the initial training cadre for all T-6B flight training at NAS Whiting Field.

All the work done to bring the T-6B to NAS Whiting Field will pay off shortly. Kekeisen speaks highly of the plane and assures that this is the best training platform new aviation students can fly in.

“The T-6B, with its multi-function display, brings primary training in line with the fleet. This aircraft is the proper training platform for student pilots entering aviation in this era.”

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News and Notes

NHP Accepting New Enrollees - Naval Hospital Pensacola's Primary Care Clinics (Family Medicine and Internal Medicine) are now accepting new enrollees. This enrollment opportunity is open to all Retirees and Retiree Family Members. Please note: Medicare and TRICARE for Life beneficiaries are not included. However, these programs will remain unchanged.

To enroll, please stop by Naval Hospital Pensacola's TRICARE Service Center (TSC) located on the first floor of the hospital in Room D-1051, Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You may also call Naval Hospital Pensacola's Health Benefits Office at (850) 505-6709 for questions or any further assistance.

Marriage Enrichment Retreats - The Chaplain's Religious Development Operation (CREDO) will host two Marriage Enrichment retreats within the next two months. The first will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Mobile, Ala., Aug. 28-30 and the second will be at Perdido Bay Resort, Sept. 11-13. Both retreats are free and open to active duty, reserve, and retired personnel. The Marriage Enrichment sessions are designed to help couples understand expectations, explore personality differences, improve communication skills and provide quality fun time together to help strengthen relationships. For more information or to sign up, call the spiritual fitness division southeast at (904) 542-3923. Interested personnel may also call Chaplain Ray Summerlin at 623-7211.

Get Back to Nature - New Orleans has proclaimed military travel month through Sept. 30. The city is rolling out the red, white, and blue carpet for all military visitors. The Audubon Nature Institute is providing a military promotion of "buy one get one free" coupons. Valid for up to four admissions, the coupons may be used for the Audubon Zoo, Insectarium or Aquarium. Visit auduboninstitute.org for details or contact ITT at 7032.

9-Pin No Tap - The NAS Whiting Field Bowling Alley hosts 9-Pin No Tap evenings on the first Saturday of each month. Beginning at 7 p.m. the event features prizes for red and blue headpin strikes and 300 no tap games. Call 623-7313 for details.

Military Discount - August brings fun times at the Blackwater Bistro! This is the month when the restaurant recognizes all Military Personnel, Defense Contractors, those who work on base and serve in any capacity to support and defend the freedoms Americans share. The Bistro will honor all Military Personnel and Defense Contractors with \$1.00 Cold Draft Beer EVERYDAY, ALL DAY, ALL MONTH in August.

Golf Tournament - The 9/11 golf tournament is seeking players and teams for their inaugural event. The tournament at Tiger Point Country Club costs \$75 per individual in advance of the event and \$85 Friday, Sept. 11. The ticket includes green fees, cart, banquet, with guest speakers, prizes and more. The contest is a 4-man scramble with a noon shotgun start. Call 850-758-6698/529-8682 or email: 91109WWPGolf@resallc.com for details.

Office Closure - The MWR ITT Office will be closed on Fri, 21 Aug 09, and Mon, 24 Aug 09.

Working at the Car Wash - The NAS Whiting Field Security Department will be holding a car wash from 1000-1400, Fri, Aug. 21, in the NEX parking lot.

Walking the Dog - The Blackwater Heritage State Trail will host its annual Fall Dog Walk on the Blackwater Heritage Trail in



Congrats to the Grads

Naval Air Station Whiting Field hosted a Lean Six Sigma green belt course at the Wings Club Ballroom recently. Employees from across Navy Region Southeast and from Washington D.C. including: Lori Aprilliano, Sue Bodenhemier, Laura Davis (all three second row right), Randy Smith (third row second from right), Larry Fischer (red shirt center) and John Floyd (center in the back). U.S. Navy photo by Ens. Autin Nasca.

Milton on Saturday Sept. 5 from 6 to 7 p.m.. The walk typically traverses about 1 mile of the trail at a leisurely pace. All participating dogs must be licensed and on a six foot leash. It is highly recommended to bring water for yourself and your dog. The walk will begin from the Trail visitor's center located at 5533 Alabama St. next to the Milton Library. For more information, call Brett Williams at 850-758-5305.

Odd Couple - The Panhandle Community Theatre will present the female version of "The Odd Couple" Aug. 21-23 and 28-30 at the Storage Masters retail complex 4636 Woodbine Rd. in Pace. Neil Simon's comedy of Florence Unger and Olive Madison is just as hilarious as the original. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. Call 450-2566 for reservations.

Sports of All Sorts - All kinds of Captain's Cup sporting activities are ongoing, and here are a few of the highlights. Volleyball is going on now. Tuesday's and Thursday's in the Gym. 5, 6, and 7 p.m. game times.

There will be a Horseshoes tournament on Wednesday Aug. 26 at 5 p.m.. It will be held at the Sports Complex at the Horseshoe pits. There will be a Flag Football coaches meeting Wednesday Sept. 9 in the MWR conference room at 1300. - Flag football will begin Sept. 15th.

There will be a Billiards tournament Wednesday Sept. 30 in the Liberty Center at 1700.

L-3 is the Softball Champions

HT-18 is the 4 on 4 Beach Volleyball Champions

Hasardous Waste Center - The Santa Rosa County Environmental Department is offering a new service that will provide citizens an environmentally safe way to dispose of hazardous household waste. The center is located at the entrance of the Central Landfill at 6337 Da Lisa Road in Milton. Residents of Santa Rosa County can bring in items such as: household cleaners, motor oils, gasoline, car batteries, propane tanks, pool chemicals, pesticides, and much more to be properly disposed or recycled. This service is provided Monday-Saturday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is free of charge.

Upcoming Events

Aug. 20, 0900 - FFSC Job Fair - Sikes Hall

Aug. 27, TBD - Rollout of First T-6B Aircraft at NASWF

Aug. 28, 0900 - First Anniversary for NEX Package Store

Aug. 28, 1300 - Winging Ceremony - Base Auditorium

Aug. 29, 0900 - First Anniversary for NEX Package Store

Sept. 4, TBD - NASWF Safety Standown - Sikes Hall

Sept. 7, All Day - Labor Day

Sept. 11, 0800 - 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony - Bldg 1401

Fleet and Family Support Center Classes

Welcome to Whiting! - Every Thursday 1000 - 1200

If you are new to NAS Whiting Field or just want to learn more about the Milton - Pensacola area, this class is for you! Come find out about MWR and other recreational facilities, hurricane preparedness, things to do on the weekend, the FFSC and other support services available! Children are welcome and this is a great opportunity to meet new friends! Call to sign up at 623-7177.

VA Representative (Call for appointment) - Friday, August 28, 0800-1200

Anger Management - Wednesday, August 19, 1300 - 1400

Is anger affecting your health, your relationships or your work performance? Learn to understand the causes and effects of unhealthy anger and how to express and release that anger in a healthy way! Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Developing Your Spending Plan - Friday, August 21, 1300 - 1500

This class is not designed to tell you what to do with your money; this class will challenge you to think before you spend. There is no patent on the "right" way to handle your money, but there are better ways to get your dollar's worth. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

Common Sense Parenting for Ages 2 - 5 - Thursday, August 27, 1800 - 2000

Common Sense Parenting: Unfortunately, children do not come with instruction manuals. As a result, FFSC is holding a class that will provide you with tools that will equip you with the skills for raising responsible and well-adjusted children. This class is for any parent who wants to "brush up" on their parenting skills or new parents that are not sure of where to begin. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

I.D. Theft Prevention - Friday, August 28, 1300 - 1500

There were more than 3.25 million victims last year. Costs average \$4,800 - \$10,200 per crime. Loss to businesses and financial institutions is greater than 50 billion. Attend this class to learn ways to lessen your chances of becoming a victim. Class will be held at the FFSC conference room. For more information, contact a Work and Family Life Specialist at 623-7177.

TRICARE NOTE

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WWW.TRICAREDEDENTALPROGRAM.COM

If you haven't visited the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) Web site lately, you may be missing out. For the latest in benefit, policy and dental health information, check out www.TRICAREdentalprogram.com today.

There is a lot of great information on the Web site. For starters, you can view and download past issues of the TRICARE Dental Health Matters newsletter by clicking on "TDP Member Newsletters" under the Enrollees tab.

Additionally, the Dental Health Tab features articles pertinent to both adults and children on a variety of topics, including:

- . Antibiotics and Your Heart
- . Osteoporosis Medications and the Risk of Developing Jaw Complications
- . Fluoride: Nature's Cavity Fighter
- . Eating Habits that Can Harm Teeth

Log On to NFAAS as Part of Disaster Preparedness



A GOES-12 infrared satellite image provided by the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory in Monterey, Calif. shows tropical depressions Claudette and Ana and Hurricane Bill at 3:15 p.m. EST Sunday, Aug. 16, 2009. U.S. Navy file graphic.

By Bruce Moody, Commander, Navy Installations Command Fleet and Family Support

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- As meteorologists continue to track Hurricane Bill, Sailors and Navy families are reminded to become familiar with the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) -- and to update personal information now.

BBC Holds Housing Survey

The Annual CEL Housing Survey time is upon NAS Whiting Field once again. In a few weeks, family housing residents will be receiving the CEL Resident Satisfaction Survey. Balfour Beatty Communities encourages residents to fill them out and return them.

By completing and handing surveys in, residents will qualify for weekly drawings.

The survey is part of a performance assessment program. Balfour Beatty Communities ranks "extremely" satisfied and "very good" a passing grade on the survey and any score that is less than this is considered unacceptable.

"We truly strive to exceed our resident's expectations and hope that every resident enjoyed their home and the services that we provided," explained Jessica Heilman, Community Manager for Balfour Beatty Communities.

Once residents complete their surveys and seal them in the postage paid envelopes provided, they can simply bring it to the Balfour Beatty Communities Management Office and drop it in the authorized locked mailbox. Only CEL employees will open the returned envelopes. Survey results are completely confidential and anonymous.

"The survey allows us to see where we are succeeding and where there is room for improvement," said Heilman, "it's important for residents to fill them out honestly."

The survey deadline date is October 7, 2009

If a Navy community is evacuated because of Hurricane Bill, the Navy will use NFAAS to account for evacuated Sailors and Navy families. The Navy will also use NFAAS to find out if Sailors and families are okay, where they are and how to reach them if they need help. NFAAS is also used to manage and monitor their well-being and recovery process.

The Navy calls an area affected by a disaster a geographic area of interest (GAOI). After a disaster, all Navy personnel and their families residing, deployed to or working within a GAOI are required to check in at the first available opportunity. There are three options available to check in.

Sailors can check in directly with their commands and provide their family's status and whereabouts. This is the primary way to account. Commands will upload the information into NFAAS. If they unable to reach their command, Sailors can muster on NFAAS at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil>. If unsuccessful, the third option is to account by phone through the Navy Emergency Coordination Center at 1-877-414-5358 or 1-866-827-5672 (TDD 1-866-297-1971).

After mustering, it is equally important that Sailors complete a needs assessment in NFAAS if they are impacted
- (Cont. on Page 7)

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Congrats to TRAWING-5 Wingers and Scholars



First Row: Cmdr. Mark Murray, USN; 1st Lt. Kyle Stuart, USMC; 1st Lt. Nicholos Staiton, USMC; 1st Lt. Brian Spillane, USMC; Lt. j.g. Tamarara Whalen, USCG; Lt. j.g. Brittany Manley, USN; Lt. j.g. Michal Roselli, USN; and Rear Adm. Paul Grosklags, USN. Second Row: Cmdr. Michael Fisher, USN; Lt. Amy Harmel, USCG; 1st Lt. Karla Lazenby, USMC; Lt. Brian Ward, USCG; Lt. j.g. Chris Schneider, USN; and 1st Lt. David Carpenter, USMC. Third Row: 1st Lt. Joseph Whittaker, USMC; 1st Lt. John Hohnson, USMC; 1st Lt. Adam Jimenez, USMC; 1st Lt. Brett Michaud, USMC; Lt. j.g. Michael Chalfant, USN; 1st Lt. Mitchell Kusterer, USMC; and Col. Scott Walsh, USMC. Fourth Row: Lt. Col. C. A. Stackhouse, USMC; 1st Lt. Michael Rogers, USMC; 2nd Lt. Christopher Stoddard, USMC; 1st Lt. Wade Gauthier, USMC; 1st Lt. Donald Kelly, USMC; and Lt. j.g. Patrick Magno, USN.



Lt. j.g. Sean T. Groark, USCG; 1st Lt. Jonathan C. Putney, USMC; 1st Lt. John B. Little, USAF(Commodore's List); Lt. j.g. Jerod A. Taber, USN; 2nd Lt. Jesse B. Rosal, USAF; 1st Lt. Kyle A. Holsey, USMC; 1st Lt. Peter F. Callahan, USMC; 1st Lt. Nicholas A. Teach, USMC; Ens. Andrew S. Myers, USN; 2nd Lt. Alexander W. Denton, USAF receive their academic awards from Training Air Wing FIVE Aug. 7 for their scholastic achievements during flight training.

NFAAS Log On

- (Cont. from Page 5)

by the event.

If a Sailor or Navy family need help following a declared disaster, the Navy has resources that can support them during the emergency. NFAAS has a user-friendly assessment tool to coordinate and prioritize disaster-related needs. The system allows families to assess their needs in 19 categories including, medical, missing family locator, transportation, housing and personal property, financial, employment, child care, education, legal services, counseling and mortuary and funeral assistance.

Once disaster-related needs are identified, a case manager from a Fleet and Family Support Center is assigned. The case manager will contact the Navy family member to assist them with support that ranges from the urgent to the informational.

Access to the assessment information is restricted. Details of the assessment will not be provided to anyone outside

the case management team without the provider's approval.

"This is the ideal time to log on," said Pam McClelland, the Navy Family Emergency Response and Preparedness manager. "It's calm; no flooding or winds. Nobody is stressed from having to evacuate their home. People can log on, have a look at the site and see where they'll check in their family, where they'll conduct their needs assessment. It's also a good idea to see if their contact information needs updating."

It is an official source of current storm information, and it is an official source of base evacuation announcements. The site also provides a significant amount of information about how to prepare for a disaster.

NFAAS was developed by Task Force Navy Family following the major hurricane season of 2005. The task force identified the need for a single reporting system for Navy family members to inform the Navy regarding their status after a declared emergency or catastrophic event.

President Addresses Troops

- (Cont. from Page 1)

"We need to keep our military the best-trained, best-led, best-equipped fighting force in the world," he said.

The president outlined some of the initiatives under way to support this goal:

-- Growing the Army and Marine Corps and halting reductions in the Navy and Air Force to increase time between deployments, reduce stress on the force and bring an end to the Army's stop-loss, an involuntary extension program;

-- Providing more assets to support current operations: helicopters and crews; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities; special operations forces; and armored vehicles and protective gear;

-- Conducting a top-to-bottom review of military priorities and posture to develop a new blueprint for the 21st century military the United States will need;

-- Balancing military capabilities to face unconventional as well as conventional threats;

-- Modernizing the force by investing in new skills and specialties as well as new technologies; and

-- Reforming the way the Pentagon does business to reduce waste and get the most capability out of every defense dollar.

Obama also recognized the country's responsibility to take care of its men and women in uniform, as well as veterans.

He noted that his fiscal 2010 budget funds "increasing military pay, building better family housing and funding more childcare and counseling to help families cope with the stresses of war."



President Barack Obama

In addition, big increases will be devoted to providing wounded warriors treatment centers, case managers and better medical care, he said. These resources, he told the veterans, will ensure wounded warriors get the care they need so they "can recover and return to where they want to be: with their units."

Obama also noted the billions of dollars in the new budget that will go toward treating post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries that have become the defining wounds of today's wars.

Increased funding will provide more treatment and mental-health screening to reach troops on the front lines and more mobile and

rural clinics to reach veterans who have returned home, he said.

"We are not going to abandon these American heroes," Obama said. "We will do right by them."

America's commitment to its troops will continue when they become veterans, he said, noting significant funding increases for Department of Veterans Affairs programs.

"Whether you left the service in 2009 or 1949, we will fulfill our responsibility to deliver the benefits and care that you earned," the president promised the veterans.

Even during tough economic times, Obama said the country can't shirk from its responsibilities to service members and veterans.

"Let me be clear," he said. "America's commitments to its veterans are not just lines in a budget.

"They are bonds that are sacred - a sacred trust that we are honor-bound to uphold."