vice Adm. Ross Myers relieved Vice Adm. Timothy T.J. White as commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/U.S. Navy Space Command (FCC/CIO), during a change of command ceremony at the U.S. Naval Academy, Sept. 18. Myers must recently served as the deputy commander of U.S. Cyber Command. White will retire after more than 33 years of service.

General Paul Nakosone, commander, U.S. Cyber Command and director of the National Security Agency, was the ceremony’s guest speaker and presiding officer. He commended White’s exceptional work and leadership while in command. “T.J. has led Fleet Cyber and 10th Fleet with purpose and focus,” said Nakosone. “I truly value his leadership, his work and his thoughtfulness. During his tenure at Fleet Cyber, T.J.’s leadership and influence greatly expanded the Navy’s ability to conduct cyberspace operations. He provided inspirational and visionary leadership to a staff of more than 600 military, civilian and contractor personnel, as well as over 16,000 persons at 24 commands throughout the globe.”

During his comments, White praised the men and women of Fleet Cyber Command for their exceptional work. “It is and always has been about the people,” said White. “You make it happen. It has been a singularly awesome experience to see you in action and a privilege to be a part of your team.” White also expressed his confidence in Myers becoming the next commander of FCC/CIO. “I could not be more pleased than to turn the deck over to Vice Adm. Ross Myers,” said White. “He brings a storied career, an extended horizon view and leadership to ensure that Fleet Cyber Command, 10th Fleet, Navy Space and Joint Force Head Quarters Cyber – are in place and vice deputy postured to transition from ‘be prepared to ‘be on order.’ Ross, I’m looking forward to seeing your continued success as you steer this fleet into the future.”

Myers is the sixth flag officer selected to command the Navy’s newest Fleet, which reports directly to the Chief of Naval Operations as an Echelon II command and is responsible for Navy information network operations, offensive and defensive cyberspace operations, space operations and signals intelligence. As such, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command serves as the Navy component command to U.S. Cyber Command, the Navy space component to U.S. Space Command, and the Navy’s Service Cryptologic Component Commander under the National Security Agency/Central Security Service.

“To the men and women of Fleet Cyber, 10th Fleet, Space Command and Joint Forces Head Quarters, I am honored and humbled to take the helm with such an esteemed fighting force,” Myers said. “I look forward to serving with you.”

A career naval aviator, Myers has led at the squadron, air wing and carrier strike group level. He has also served as the deputy director for Joint Staff Global Operations and the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and as the deputy commander of Space Command for nuclear, homeland defense and current operations. He was also director of plans and policy and then chief of staff prior to being named the next commander of U.S. Cyber Command.

FCC is responsible for Navy information network operations, offensive and defensive cyberspace operations, space operations, and signals intelligence. Comprised of more than 14,000 Sailors, Reservists and civilians stationed across the world, CIOF is the operational arm of FCC and executes its mission through a task force structure similar to other warfare commanders.

In response to Hurricane Sally, the Fleet and Family Support Center at Naval Support Facility Pensacola has opened an Emergency Family Assistance Center (EFAC) at the Corry Chapel on Corry Station through Friday, Aug. 28. The EFAC will open everyday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours and days if needed. The EFAC is a consolidated location where service members, retirees and military families impacted by Hurricane Sally can receive disaster relief services. Organizations that are present include the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) and the American Red Cross. Other services available include legal and housing assistance, clinical/spiritual counseling, and more.

Kathleen Doherty, the department head for Fleet and Family Support Center at NAS Pensacola, stressed the importance of Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) as they try to assist families impacted by Hurricane Sally during the COVID-19 pandemic. Those with access to NFAAS can take an assessment that will tailor services to their needs. Doherty said that individuals “can get an equal level of care” online that they would in person online at NFAAS.

There are emergency community managers present at the EFAC who can assist those who do not have access to NFAAS. For retired service members and others without access, it is important to be specific about needs when at the EFAC.

The NMCRS is offering financial assistance and will be present as long as the EFAC remains open. Active duty and retired service members in the Navy, Marine Corps, and Army, as well as spouses of active duty service members can utilize the NMCRS.

“We can provide people with immediate assistance while they are waiting on insurance,” said Joy Barnes, the director of the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) in Pensacola. ""It is important that Sailors keep their information current so if they’re on deployment and a disaster happens, we can muster and assign an emergency case manager to contact the Family and the Family, to assess childcare, temporary housing and other critical support requirements”, said Judith Wright, Program Analyst for Family Emergency Response at CNIC.

The NMCRS can be reached at 1-877-232-7337.

The American Red Cross is handing out buckets filled with cleaning supplies, boxes of food, water and tarps. There are comfort kits available which include items such as shampoo, conditioner, and toothpaste. Requests for needed items that are currently offered can be made through them as well.

The Fleet and Family Service Center can be contacted at (850) 452-5990 for additional assistance. Many of their services have been moved online due to COVID-19 and can still be accessed that way for those that need support at this time. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society can be contacted at (850) 452-2300. After the EFAC is closed they will move back to appointment only for active duty service members at their office. The American Red Cross has a 24/7 Hero Care Network in case any emergencies arise. This network can be reached at 1-877-232-7337.
As Zygmund "Ski" Kowalewski walked into the Alaska Aviation Museum for his interview, he had a commanding presence like nobody else. Upon arriving, he immediately took control of the show.

"Ski" isn't the typical 100 year-old man; the Alaska based retiree still drives himself everywhere he needs to go and flew planes well into his nineties. He is the kind of guy who even at 100 (and five months), is still quick on the draw.

After getting cameras, lights and sound setup and centered on Ski, it was obvious that he wasn't camera shy. At all. His energy lit up the room while he relived his time in the Navy with anecdote after anecdote about his accomplishments in his twenty years of service.

Born in Rockford, Illinois, Ski decided to join the Navy just a few months before the attack on Pearl Harbor to avoid being drafted into the Army. Upon entering the Navy, he volunteered to be an aviation gunner and was assigned to VP-74 on plane number 7 in Norfolk, Virginia. When he was asked about volunteering for such a dangerous job, Ski laughed and said, "That's what I wanted; we'd get an extra $20 a month in pay."

Before reporting to VP-74 Ski was allowed 10 days of leave. "I went on 10 days leave and when I came back I said, 'Well, where's airplane number 7?' They told me it flew into a mountain and killed everyone on board, so I really dodged a bullet on that one." Shortly after arriving to VP-74 Ski was reassigned to Torpedo Squadron 8, where he maintained the batteries for 14 torpedo bombers.

His squadron later embarked aboard USS Pyro (AE 24), an ammunition ship that transported bombs and torpedoes to Hawaii during WWII. It wasn't long before Ski and his squadron were sent to Midway Island where they engaged in conflict with Japanese aircraft. His squadron was able to sink a Japanese aircraft carrier during the conflict, but Ski's aircraft was downed in the Pacific Ocean. Although he had sustained minor injuries, Ski was able to swim away from the airplane.

"I remember I leaped out of the cockpit with my seatbelt still on and it pulled me back in so I had to unlatch my seat belt, and I ran down the wing and swam away from the airplane because there were four 500 depth charges and if they had broken loose I was scared they were going to explode, so I was getting the heck away from that airplane."

Ski's eyes always seemed to light up while he was talking about his days in aviation and it was obvious he was at his happiest while he was in a cockpit flying planes. Ski said he wouldn't change a thing about his career in the Navy and once he started flying that's all he wanted to do.

"I had a hell of a career," said Ski. "There's nothing like it I'll tell you, it's very addictive and once you're a pilot boy, I'll tell you, you want to be a pilot. That's all you'll want and you never change."

Upon his return from the war Ski spent the remaining 10 years of his career piloting more than 25 different aircraft. After retiring from the Navy in 1960 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer, Ski was hired on by the Federal Aviation Administration to fly the Douglas DC-3 airplanes. That job took Ski all the way to Alaska, where he retired and currently resides.
“There are currently 19,902 Navy families with dependents enrolled in the EFMP program,” said Lt. Cmdr. Roxanne Rau, EFMP program manager. “Within that total number of families, there are 24,068 individual family members classified as an Exceptional Family Members (EFM), which means that some families have more than one dependent enrolled in the program.”

The EFMP mobile application is designed to assist and support sailors and spouses by addressing the special needs of their EFMs during the assignment process and to help the families enrolled in the program to make the most of the Navy’s medical and educational system no matter where they are stationed. Special needs include any special medical, dental, mental health, developmental, or educational requirement and also includes family members that have requirements for wheelchair accessibility, adaptive equipment, or assistive technology devices and services. Family readiness is a key part of service member readiness.

After two years of hard work that included finding the right framework for this mobile app, obtaining mobile operating system licenses, researching everything that EFMs might need, typing in all of the information by hand, linking the on-line resources, and beta testing with medical professionals and families already enrolled in EFMP, there is finally one place to find all of the up-to-date information that anyone connected with the program needs.

“I think of this new EFMP app as a one-stop shop,” said Rau. “Anyone can easily find all of the information they want right on this new app without trying to search the internet then sort through hundreds of pages — many of which have outdated information. This app was designed to have all of the most up-to-date information all in one place. It includes both an instruction library and a video library, a pocket guide (flip book), a section for resources, a directory with service providers with links to maps and driving directions, and more.”

Many Navy families can find deployments taxing and that the assignment process and permanent change of station (PCS) moves can be difficult even in the best of times. When a family has a member with special medical or educational needs, these things can become more complicated.

“Life is stressful as it is. We are all doing the best that we can one day at a time and I truly believe that all of the little stressors can add up to something big,” said Rau. “If even one thing can be taken away, it is a win. That is why this EFMP mobile app was created — to support the families and to make things easier for them.”

To access the EFMP app, go to the Navy App Locker at https://www.applocker.navy.mil/#/apps. Sailors and family members can use the EFMP app directly from there or the app can be downloaded to an Android or Apple phone, a computer, or various other mobile devices.

PAYROLL TAX WITHHOLDING DEFERRAL

Effective for the September mid-month pay, DoD will temporarily defer the withholding of your 6.2% Social Security tax if your monthly rate of basic pay is less than $8,666.66.

This change is effective through the end of the 2020 calendar year and only applies to your Social Security tax withholding.

Per current IRS guidance, collection of the deferred taxes will be taken from your wages between January 1 and April 30, 2021.

USE YOUR MONEY SMARTLY!

PAY OFF DEBT
PUT IT AWAY FOR A RAINY DAY
INCREASE TSP CONTRIBUTIONS
STOCK UP ON NECESSITIES
JUST SET IT ASIDE TO PAY IT BACK

- As more information becomes available, it will be posted on: https://www.dfas.mil/taxes/Social-Security-Deferral
- For more information on financial readiness: Visit https://finred.usalearning.gov
- Visit your installation-based Military and Family Support Center and speak with a personal financial manager or counselor, or contact Military OneSource at https://www.militaryonesource.mil
The U.S. Navy commissioned the guided missile destroyer USS Delbert D. Black (DDG 119) Sept. 26 in Port Canaveral, Fla.

Delbert D. Black is configured as a Flight IIA destroyer, capable of power projection, forward presence and escort operations at sea in support of Low Intensity Conflict/Coastal and Littoral Offshore Warfare as well as open ocean conflict. The destroyer will be equipped with the Navy’s Aegis Combat System, the world’s foremost integrated naval weapon.

The ship’s namesake is Master Chief Petty Officer Delbert D. Black, the Navy’s first-ever Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON). The highest ranking position for enlisted personnel, MCPON Black was born in Oklahoma and joined the Navy in 1941. Black began his career as a Gunner’s Mate before obtaining the title of MCPON and would go on to serve 30 years in the Navy.

During his time serving in the Navy, MCPON Black met his wife, Ima Black, who was also serving in the Navy as a Storekeeper 1st Class, at a basketball game.

“As I was sitting in the stands with my girlfriends, I whispered to them as I looked down at the basketball court, I like number 13,” said Ima Black.

“Because he had a shipmate that went to him and told him, he said, ‘Hey, do you know that blonde that works over the ship’s store?’ Of course he told him what I said and he came over and looked me up. It was perhaps a year late that we were married and we were married for 50 years.”

On January 13, 1967, the Secretary of the Navy announced that Master Chief Gunner’s Mate (GMCM) Delbert D. Black would be appointed to the position of MCPON, making him the first Sailor to assume that rank and title.

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Russell Smith discussed the importance of having a Navy vessel named after MCPON Black.

“It’s significant because it’s a formal recognition of the position in a way that’s unique,” said Smith. “Naming a ship after him, it’s a way of really saying just how important this position really is in a way that nothing else is ever really done. The exploits that Delbert Black has to his credit is that he was the MCPON and naming a ship after him is a way of recognizing that feat.”

The legacy that MCPON Black has created will now be able to live on through the crew of the ship that carries his namesake.

“The reason that we still have this office is because of the legacy of the folk that have been in this office has been such, it’s never been easy and there’s never been an easy time,” said Smith.

Following the commissioning the USS Delbert D. Black will transit to her new homeport at Naval Station Mayport, Florida.
- Don't provide personal information like Social Security Numbers, credit cards numbers, etc. to non-secure and unfamiliar web sites.
- Restrict access to your computer and accounts; sharing has risks.
- New computer viruses and Trojans that successfully target information on social networking sites are on the rise.

For more tips, go to fcc.navy.m