

On Base

Winging



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view ceremony

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US, NATO call on Putin to
stand down

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Enzinger takes helm of Training Squadron 7

From Staff Reports

Training Squadron Seven (VT-7) held a change of command ceremony in the hangar onboard NAS Meridian, Jan. 21.

CDR Dylan “DP” Porter was relieved by CDR Greg “Quagmire” Enzinger during the ceremony. Porter -- who served as the squadron’s commanding officer from September 2020 to January 2022 -- will next serve as the Air Boss aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-71).

Porter led VT-7 to meet or exceed all production goals and provided the Fleet Replacement Squadrons with Naval Aviators ready to train in the Strike-Fighter, Electronic Warfare, Airborne

Early Warning, and Fleet Logistics Support communities, fully supporting the Chief of Naval Air Training’s strategic vision.

Under his leadership, VT-7 designated 167 Navy and Marine Corps aviators; 25 international military officers; 37 new instructor pilots; executed 22 essential training detachments; flew more than 30,000 sorties totaling well over 32,250 flight hours; and executed more than 1,200 carrier arrested landings without a single major mishap.

A native of Marietta, Georgia, Enzinger graduated from Miami University in 2003, earning a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Management. ●VT-7, page 4



Photo by MC1 Krystina Coffey

CAPT Robert Lanane II, left, commodore of Training Air Wing One, salutes CDR Dylan Porter, outgoing commanding officer of Training Squadron Seven (VT-7), and CDR Gregory Enzinger, incoming commanding officer of VT-7 during a change of command ceremony, Jan. 21.

NTTC Meridian hosts Commander, My Navy Career Center

From Naval Technical Training Center Meridian Public Affairs

Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC) Meridian hosted the Commander of MyNavy Career Center, Rear Adm. Stuart C. Satterwhite, for a site visit to see the Navy’s newest training advancements in action.

Satterwhite took the helm of MyNavy Career Center (MNCC) on Sept. 3, 2021. MyNavy Career Center is the Navy’s newest 24/7 MyNavy HR resource center for all Human Resource support for Sailors and their families.

During his command tour, he visited with Logistics Specialist “A” School students and then toured the ship’s store lab and the mock ship’s laundry. He then proceeded to a Personnel Specialist “A” School class where he conducted a question and answer period. During his exchange with the students, PSSR Lee Byron of Norfolk, Virginia, asked Satterwhite his advice on how to best serve



Photo by Tom Childress

Rear Adm. Stuart C. Satterwhite, Commander MyNavy Career Center, addresses a class of Personnel Specialist “A” School student during a command tour of Naval Technical Training Center Meridian.

their customers.

Satterwhite stated, “First, you have to know your job. Then, you have to listen to the question.” Satterwhite emphasized that

in order to have successful personal contact with a customer, you have to understand the customer’s concerns and intent. Satterwhite talked about the mission of MyNavy Career Center and the path forward, along with the importance of the Personnel Specialist rating.

The students were excited to interact with Satterwhite and the dialog was very informative for the Navy’s newest class of Personnel Specialists about to embark in their adventures in the fleet. Satterwhite concluded his tour by visiting with a class of Yeoman Flag Writer students and discussed Flag Officer front office procedures.

After the visit, Cmdr. Christy Sibley, NTTC commanding officer said, “It was so exciting to showcase administrative and supply training programs for the Navy’s Senior Human Resources Officer. We look forward to continued partnership with the HR community as we deliver training to the future of the fleet!”

On to Super Bowl: Bengals vs Rams, who will host game in LA

By Barry Wilner
AP News

Two years ago, the Cincinnati Bengals were the NFL’s worst team. Now they’re headed to the Super Bowl to play the Los Angeles Rams — in the Rams’ home stadium.

Matching the biggest comeback in an AFC championship game, the Bengals rallied from an 18-point hole to stun Kansas City 27-24 in overtime Sunday for their first trip to the big game since the 1988 season. The team that won only two games in 2019, earning them the top overall draft pick that they used on quarterback Joe Burrow, pretty much dominated the Chiefs after the first quarter.

Rookie Evan McPherson made a 31-yard field goal to win it.

Then the Rams overcame a 10-point second-half deficit and took the NFC crown with a 20-17 victory over San Francisco when Matt Gay made a 30-yard field goal with 1:46 remaining. Los Angeles (15-5) had lost six consecutive times to the 49ers (12-8), but the visitors couldn’t slow All-Pro receiver Cooper Kupp. Safety Jaquiski Tartt dropped a certain interception in the fourth quarter that helped LA tie the game.

Kupp finished with 11 catches for 142 yards and two touchdowns.

In a brutally physical game also highlighted by some clutch plays from Kupp and fellow All-Pro receiver Deebo Samuel of the 49ers, Matthew Stafford went 31 for 45 for 337 yards passing to get to his first Super Bowl. The Rams got there in the 2018 season, but lost to New England.

“We got one more at the home stadium, let’s get it done,” Stafford

said.

Samuel wound up with four receptions for 72 yards and a 44-yard score. He rushed for an additional 26 yards.

The Rams have been to four previous Super Bowls, going 1-3; the only victory came in the 1999 season while they were based in St. Louis.

Los Angeles is an early 3 1/2-point favorite according to FanDuel Sportsbook.

“I’m blessed to be part of this team, with this group of guys, this coaching staff,” added Stafford, who spent his first dozen NFL seasons in Detroit. “You can’t write the story any better. I’m at a loss for words. I’m just having a blast playing ball with these guys ...”

The Bengals (13-7) reached their third Super Bowl; they lost to the 49ers in 1982 and 1989. Kansas City (14-6) hosted its fourth straight AFC championship contest, and is 2-2 in those. The Chiefs won the NFL title two years ago.

Cincinnati, winner of the AFC North, hadn’t won a postseason game since 1991 before beating Las Vegas, then earned a road victory in the playoffs for the first time in franchise history when it eliminated top-seeded Tennessee. The AFC West champion Chiefs routed Pittsburgh and then won a classic in overtime against Buffalo to get to their fourth consecutive conference title game.

“We’ve been a second-half team all year,” said Burrow, who missed six games in his rookie season with a knee injury. “You don’t really want to be that way, but that’s kind of how it’s worked out. Our defense really stepped up in the second half and on offense we made plays when we had to.”

NAS Meridian Sailors of the Quarter



MA1 Craig Palmer
Sailor of the Quarter
Security



ABH2 Travis Bond
Junior Sailor of the Quarter
Field Support



MASN Carter Riggenschach
Blue Jacket of the Quarter
Security

Two aviators earn ‘Wings of Gold’ in January ceremony

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony Jan. 28 onboard Naval Air Station Meridian. Two aviators received their “Wings of Gold” during the ceremony. The naval aviator designation ceremony is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy regulations, but has emerged as an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It marks the culmination of nearly two years of specialized training, which has prepared these officers for the rigorous demands of aerial combat and carrier operations -- earning each the title of “Naval Aviator” and the right to wear the coveted “Wings of Gold.”



LTJG Maxwell Dopsch



1st LT Zachary Moore

Golden Stick



CDR Jared Thomas, commanding officer of Training Squadron Nine, presents LTJG Maxwell Yee Dopsch, USN, with the Golden Stick Award; which is awarded to the top aviator of each class. The award is sponsored by the Mississippi Council of the Navy League.

Photo by Penny Randall

NAS Meridian Civilians of the Quarter



Marcus Lloyd
Senior Civilian of the Quarter
Security



Surnell Hines
Junior Civilian of the Quarter
Administration



Local Happenings

FEBRUARY

- 5: Meridian Symphony: Spring Pops!** at 7 p.m. at the MSU Riley Center. Enjoy sounds from the movies. A fun evening for the whole family. Students of all ages \$15. Call 601-696-2200.
- 5: Drawn Inside the Margins** from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. The MAX celebrates Ezra Jack Keats and the diverse characters he brought to life in its newest exhibition Drawn inside the Margins: The Diverse World of Ezra Jack Keats. Free with museum admission; call 601-581-1550.
- 10: An Intimate Evening with Chapel Hart** from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Mississippi Children's Museum - Meridian. Tickets \$10; call 601-512-0278.
- 19-20: Battle of the Texas Hospital** from 6 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday at Archusa Creek Water Park in Quitman, Miss. Reenactments, beauty pageant, vendors and more. Call 601-549-1969 or visit www.quitmanbattle.com.
- 26: Dr. Seuss' Silly Birthday Celebration** from 7-11 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Join your favorite trio like you have never seen them before for an up close and personal acoustic evening as they entertain you with the stories of their lives and songs. Tickets \$50; call 601-938-7427.

MARCH

- 5: Redd Hot Steam at Soule'** at 9 a.m. at the Soule Steam Feed Works. Experience a night under the stars strolling along the hidden cobblestone alleyways of Meridian's historic Soule' Steam Works while enjoying exquisite cocktails and small bites. Tickets are \$35 single/\$60 couples; call 601-693-2224.



energy saver

Energy Lifehack

Fix leaky faucets!
One drip per second wastes 1,661 gallons of water can cost you up to \$35 per year.

Navy Recruiting gives up to \$50K in shipping bonuses

The Navy has today announced its updated FY22 enlistment incentive bonuses in an effort to recruit the highest quality of recruits and to ensure Fleet readiness.

Bonus amounts differ depending on program and eligibility, but max out at \$50,000, and are effective for any future Sailor initially classified or reclassified on or after of January 21, 2022.

"We recognize that young Americans today have more employment options and opportunities than ever before, so we are offering these enlistment bonuses to be competitive with the strong civilian labor market, recognizing that

we are in competition for the best and the brightest young Americans from all walks of life," said Rear Admiral Dennis Velez, Commander, Navy Recruiting Command. "While military service is not just about the money, we feel the added economic incentive, on top of the existing military benefits package and the inherent excitement tied to service in the world's premiere Navy, will help us attract and retain the kind of talented young people our Navy needs to maintain our competitive advantage into the future."

-- From Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs Office

[Read more, click here](#)

U.S. Navy issues COVID-19 standardized operational guidance 5.0

The Navy issued updated Standardized Operational Guidance (SOG) Jan. 15 with measures to help fight the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The latest SOG version 5.0 reinforces the need to protect the health of individuals and units while preserving operational readiness.

Although the guidance is predominantly focused on the shipboard environment, it applies to all uniformed

Navy personnel at home and deployed.

Standardized Operational Guidance 5.0 outlines the role of the Navy Surgeon General as the authority for COVID-19 measures and advises the fleet about the application of new Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance across the Navy's spectrum of operating environments.

-- From MC2 Wade Costin

[Read more, click here](#)

Navy begins Red Hill shaft recovery operations

The U.S. Navy began full-scale operation of pumping and granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration of groundwater from the Navy's Red Hill Shaft today. This is a vital step forward in the process for containing and removing contamination within the shaft as part of the Red Hill Shaft Recovery and Monitoring Plan.

The Interagency Drinking Water System Team (IDWST) finalized the plan last week, in consultation with the Hawaii Department of Land and Natu-

ral Resources, University of Hawaii, and other community stakeholders. The IDWST includes Hawaii Department of Health (DOH), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Army and Navy.

The plan includes actions to pump and filter contaminated groundwater from the Navy's Red Hill Shaft to reduce spread of contamination and protect plants and wildlife. It will also help the IDWST better understand movement and contamination.

-- From US Navy

[Read more, click here](#)

USS Sampson supports disaster relief efforts in Tonga

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Sampson (DDG 102), is underway, Jan. 25, supporting the disaster relief efforts in Tonga following the volcanic eruption and tsunami in the country.

Sampson, a U.S. Navy destroyer, along with its embarked MH-60R Seahawk helicopters assigned to the "Scorpions" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 49 are positioned to

conduct lifesaving actions in support of disaster relief efforts in Tonga. The ship is operating in support of international relief efforts in Tonga. The Australian Government response is being coordinated closely with France and New Zealand under the FRANZ partnership, alongside Fiji, Japan, United Kingdom and the United States to assist Tonga in its time of need.

-- From Lt. Cmdr. Joe Keiley, Commander, Task Force 71

[Read more, click here](#)

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

2018 Mallard M185 Travel Trailer. Sleeps 4 with 1 queen bed/2 bunks. Easy to tow at 3,575 lbs; only selling because military member is moving overseas. Great living quarters with lake view. Hooked up and ready to live in, including cables, hoses, plus the \$500 towing kit. Asking \$17,000. Call 360-434-3035.

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

2018 Subaru Outback 2.5 limited, 12k miles; Subaru safety features and warranties included. Asking \$29k. Call 601-480-5100.

2017 Dodge Challenger, grey with racing stripe. \$24k. Call 601-880-3237.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

New! For Rent: 3BD 2BA home with 1 car ga-

rage, all new appliances and flooring. 13 miles from NAS. Rent \$1200, security deposit will be half of 1st month rent. Move in ready June 1st. Call 757-589-2174.

For Rent: Lake Cabin near NAS Meridian. 1 BD/1 BA; \$700 month. Unfurnished. More info and photos can be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/item/851262408853834/>

For Rent: 3BD/2BA private gated home with 2-car garage in West Lauderdale; 15 minutes from the base. Call 601-737-4569 or 601-934-0739.

For Rent: 2BD/1.5BA Home at 3702 Rollins Dr, Lauderdale in Dalewood. 2136 sq ft on a .29 acres lot. Beautiful newly renovated single family home. Call 973-876-5006.

For Rent: 2BD/1.5BA single family home in

Dalewood - fully renovated. Pets allowed. Pet deposit \$300. \$1,300 rent per month. Call 973-876-5006.

For Rent: 2BA/1BA on the water at Dalewood

MISCELLANEOUS

\$600 per month. Call 601-683-6038.

For Sale By Owner: 3BD/3BA brick home with sunroom, larged fenced in yard. Convenient to shop-

ping and base. \$139K. Call 601-513-3395 or 601-227-1870.

For Sale: Office desk with file cabinets and hutch. Item retails for well over \$1000; selling it for \$300 (or best offer). Please contact LtCol Topping at 858-736-5812.

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**To submit an item to the "Sale...Or" column, e-mail [adam.prince@navy.mil](mailto:adam.prince@navy.mil). Deadline is the Thursday prior to publication.**

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free for anyone who works at NAS Meridian. To include your annoucement, email [adam.prince@navy.mil](mailto:adam.prince@navy.mil)



# Awards Quarters



Photo by MC1 Krystina Coffey  
**Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Equipment) 2nd Class Kristian Campa, CDR J.P. Falardeau, Executive Officer, Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Handling) 3rd Class Cortez Canfield, Master-at-Arms Seaman Carter Riggenschach, and Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class Alec Gassman receive awards at the Administration building on NAS Meridian, Jan. 20.**

●VT-7

He was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Program and reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida, for flight training in September 2003. He earned his “Wings of Gold” in December 2005. In January 2006, Enzinger reported to the Fighter Attack Squadron (VFA) 106 “Gladiators” for initial fleet training in the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet.

Enzinger began his operational flying in September 2006 with the “Red Rippers” of VFA-11; where he made one deployment aboard USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He reported to the Naval Aviation Warfighting Development Center in September 2010 as a large force strike instructor pilot. While at this command, Enzinger became the Navy’s subject matter expert in Unmanned Aircraft Systems, and qualified as a Level-4 adversary in the F-16 A/B Fighting Falcon.

Enzinger returned to the fleet as a department head in VFA-31, the “Tomcatters”; where he completed one deployment aboard USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Following his department head tour, Enzinger served the Joint Staff as a certified operational security and strategy development instructor at the Joint Forces’ Staff College.

Additionally, he collaborated on various projects involving artificial intelligence and decision modeling. While on the Joint Staff, he completed his Master of Business Administration at Duke University.

He reported to the “Eagles” of VT-7 as Executive Officer in September 2020. Enzinger has accumulated over 2,500 flight hours in the F/A-18A-F and F-16A/B aircraft and over 400 carrier-arrested landings -- including over 50 combat missions. His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Strike/Flight Air Medal (3 awards), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various service awards and ribbons.



Photo by Mauricio Campino, Air Force  
**Pallets of ammunition, weapons and other equipment bound for Ukraine are processed at Dover Air Force Base, Del., Jan. 27.**

# U.S., in lockstep with NATO allies, calls on Putin to stand down

By Jim Garamone  
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The United States is in lockstep with NATO allies in calling for Russian President Vladimir Putin to de-escalate his country’s situation with Ukraine, U.S. defense leaders said during a Pentagon news conference today.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III stressed that conflict with Russia is not inevitable. “There is still time and space for diplomacy,” the secretary told Pentagon reporters. “The United States, in lockstep with our allies and partners, has offered Russia a path away from crisis and toward greater security, and the Department of Defense will continue to support those diplomatic efforts.”

Austin spoke alongside Army Gen. Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Both men emphasized the United States’ commitments to NATO allies and in opposition to Russian actions. “Any Russian attack or further incursion into Ukraine would not only ignite conflict, it would also violate the bedrock principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and self determination,” Austin said. “This

is something that we’re taking very seriously both as a strong partner of Ukraine and as one of 30 members of NATO.”

Since the first Russian incursion into Ukraine and Putin’s illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014, the United States has committed more than \$2.7 billion in security assistance to Ukraine. A shipment arrived in Ukraine today, Austin said.

The United States military is taking actions to support NATO allies. Part of that includes reinforcing security on NATO’s eastern flank, Austin said. “We placed thousands of U.S. troops on ‘prepare-to-deploy’ orders earlier this week,” he said. “If NATO activates its response forces, these troops will be ready to go.”

Both Austin and Milley said the 8,500 U.S. troops have not been ordered to go anywhere, yet. The troops will be part of the NATO Response Force if that unit is activated.

Milley said Russia needs to “stand down” from its position. He noted that there are more than 100,000 Russian troops on the border with Ukraine and inside Russia’s only European ally — Belarus. Ukraine is the second largest nation in Europe and has a population of 44 million.

[Read more, click here](#)

# The Milspouse who knew too much

“Honey, could you make me popcorn this time?” I asked without looking up from my crochet project one night last week. Working on a deadline, I had a dozen rows to stitch before our television show was over.

Ever since my husband, Francis, and I started a new diet, we’d been fighting the nighttime munchies. To us, turning on the television was like ringing Pavlov’s dog bell — our mouths began to water after sitting on the couch to watch a show. Air-popped popcorn had become our low-calorie snack of choice. Without oil and salt, it tasted like packing peanuts, but we were desperate.

For 28 years of marriage, I had managed all the corn-popping in our household. From the early days when we popped corn in Aunt Millie’s hand-me-down pot, to our experiments with microwavable and air-popped varieties, to our discovery of a 1970s electric wok that popped a perfect batch every time

## COLUMN



Molinari

— I was the sole popcorn chef in the family.

However, I had recently been asked by our fashion designer daughter to crochet accessories for her upcoming runway show. Needing to finish a handbag before bedtime, I hoped Francis would step up and handle my snacking needs for once. “C’mon Honey, please?” I pleaded.

“I don’t know where the popper is,” he claimed, but I knew Francis often feigned ignorance to get out of doing things.

“You’ve seen me do it a thousand times, for criminy’s sake! You know it’s in the pantry!” I rolled my eyes from behind my reading glasses.

“Weeeell,” Francis’ eyes darted back and forth from me to the kitchen, “okaaaaay,” he said in a way that dripped, “If this goes all wrong, it’ll be your fault.”

Slump-shouldered and grumbling, he stomped off to our kitchen. I heard rattling, clunking, muttering. “Where in the pantry?!”

“Look with your eyes, not with your mouth!” I bellowed, obviously irritated. Hearing more clunking and griping, I yelled, “Bottom shelf!” worried that Francis might upend my painstakingly-organized food storage system.

Finally, I detected the characteristic whirl of our popper, essentially a

culinary hair dryer that pops with hot air, blowing puffed kernels through a plastic chute-like cover and into a bowl, where they are consumed by desperate dieters willing to eat packing peanuts. Like Pavlov’s pooch, my mouth watered.

“Oh, Geez!” Francis blurted a moment later.

“What’s wrong?”

“I’m making a mess!” he wailed, with a tone that clearly said, “See, I told you so!”

Abandoning my crochet project, I leapt from the couch, nearly tripping when my foot became tangled in a skein of yarn. I darted through the living room and dining room, rounding the corner into the kitchen. There, on our countertop was the air popper, whirring away without its plastic cover, hundreds of popped kernels shooting out of the top like bomb shrapnel, missing the bowl and raining down on our countertop and floor.

Francis just stood there, flinching at corn shrapnel, with no idea that he’d left the plastic popper cover in the pantry.

I, too, stood dumbfounded. I couldn’t believe that my husband actually had no idea how to pop popcorn. “Hadn’t he watched me do it over all these years?” I wondered, remembering that Francis had witnessed me doing all kinds of things as a military spouse. In fact,

I had become so capable, handy and independent through many moves and deployments, Francis had become accustomed to relying heavily on me at home. Maybe too heavily? Should I have shown more vulnerability? Should I have occasionally played the damsel in distress?

In a flash of clarity, I realized that Francis was right: He couldn’t pop popcorn, and it was all my fault. Our yellow lab Moby looked up at me and licked his chops over his unexpected good fortune.

Later, in our respective spots on the couch, Francis and I munched the second batch I’d popped for us after cleaning up the mess. Sensing that something significant had dawned on me as a result of the incident, Francis offered, “I’ll pop it the right way for you next time.”

I smiled, relieved that Francis understood — I had always needed him, too.s.

Leaving the church rectory that morning, we noticed a familiar motto written on the Rotary keychain given to us by the District Governor — “Service Above Self.” We smiled, because we understood completely.

Lisa Smith Molinari’s self syndicated columns appear on her blog, [www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com](http://www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com) and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life* Follow [Lisa@MolinariWrites](#).





NAS Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Facility Phone Numbers

|                   |          |                     |          |               |          |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| Fitness Center    | 679-2379 | Library             | 679-2326 | MWR Admin.    | 679-2551 |
| Liberty Center    | 679-3760 | Rudders Pub & Grill | 679-2780 | MWR Jobs Line | 679-2467 |
| Tickets           | 679-3773 | CDC/CDH             | 679-2652 |               |          |
| McCain Rec Center | 679-2651 | SAC                 | 679-5252 |               |          |
| Equipment Rental  | 679-2609 | School Liaison      | 679-2473 |               |          |

