

The PREBLE Post

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USS PREBLE Departs for Deployment

Story By: Logistics Specialist Second Class Petty Officer (SW) Rachel Eye

A few weeks have passed since orders were given to safely get underway, commencing USS Preble's fifth deployment in the brief ten years she's been commissioned. Now, full speed ahead we blaze, clocking in another time zone and leading our meritorious nation in the extension of American freedom, bravery and presence. Still, as we spill over the four corners of earth, we are always nostalgically aware of those who patiently keep the light on at home awaiting our return. This is for you.

For you, a deployment is time taking its sweet time ticking by,

but for your sailors, it is difficult to note seconds in measurement when our daily list of to-dos is as long as the ocean is deep. From engineers maintaining our four 100,000 horsepower engines so their two shafts push hastily onward, to food service attendants keeping the bottomless coffee fresh and hot to fuel our watch, we are constantly on the go.

Don't let all the duties and responsibilities fool you; it isn't all work and no play out here. It's excitingly special when we happen upon an occasional flying fish or sail by sea turtles

bigger than your family SUV, and we can't wait to share these legends with you.

Even though we are displacing water faster than most ships' of the worldly seas, you are always on our minds. You have no need to worry because we are watching out for each other. We will be home before you know it and can't wait to embrace your warm welcomes with big hugs and endless conversation.

Always missing you, see you soon.

Chocks and Chains

USS PREBLE Welcomes HSL-49 Scorpions



"The SH-60B "Seahawk" is a single main rotor, twin-engine helicopter, loaded with all the necessary avionics and instrumentation for instrument flight and mission accomplishment. Due to their configuration and abilities, they make excellent platforms compatible with Navy Warships.



All Officers, Flight Deck teams, RAST operators, and Oil lab watchstanders were invited to an initial meeting with Air Boss, LCDR Brian McArthur, to discuss roles and responsibilities for having an air detachment onboard. Adding the men and women of HSL-49, Detachment 4, to the crew of USS PREBLE means exciting opportunities to learn and operate while on deployment!

Due to the effects of national sequestration and overall military budget cuts, the original mission for the HSL-49 Scorpions to deploy with the USS RENTZ on a south pacific tour was cancelled. Instead, the Scorpions will be accompanying USS PREBLE on a Western Pacific tour along with the NIMITZ Strike Group. Detachment 4 of HSL-49 consists of 7 Officers, 1 Chief Petty Officer, and 18 Enlisted Air Crew.

Their Primary mission areas

include anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, search and rescue, medical evacuation, vertical replenishment, naval surface fire support, communications relay, and personnel transfer. Having Helicopters onboard will vastly increase the eyes and hands of *PREBLE!*

Pilots and crew alike are looking forward to this opportunity to train and hone their skills during this upcoming deployment. "The HSL-49 Detachment 4 "Hard Chargers" have had a great underway period with PREBLE" says LCDR McArthur, "Lots of valuable training has been conducted and we look forward to getting underway for deployment."

As a closing remark, Commanding Officer CDR Sellaerberg states his excitement to have the Scorpions onboard, looking toward integrating and improving his combat systems and force protection system. "We have an aggressive schedule ahead of us, but on behalf of team PREBLE we're glad to have you join us."





CDR Sellerberg with OMBUDSMEN Mrs. Joleen Mitchell (above) and Mrs. Ashley Byrd (Below)



Greetings from the beautiful blue Pacific Ocean. After a fast paced and often times hectic year, we are finally on deployment. I recognize there was some uncertainty with our schedule and I thank you for your patience and support as we finally pushed west on deployment. While we all miss you very much back home, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers as we execute our missions of Theater Security Cooperation, routine presence operations and operating while forward deployed in a very important and dynamic area of operations.

I cannot begin to put into words how great your Sailors are doing on a daily basis. The motivation, dedication and teamwork they exhibit on a daily basis is truly inspiring. I have been with TEAM PREBLE for the past 33 months and by far, without a doubt, this is the most cohesive group of Sailors I have ever seen in my career. I am very proud of what they have accomplished as a team and look forward to seeing our continued success on deployment.

I'd like to mention a few key folks whom you should all be familiar with. Our Ombudsman team of Joleen Mitchell and Ashley Byrd---if you have ANY issues, please don't hesitate to give them a call or e-mail (contact info on page 1). Additionally, our Family Readiness Group Team of Amy Spencer, Darren Donner, and Heather Wooldridge are getting things rolling with the FRG. Be sure to get on their mailing lists as this is a great way to stay in touch and socialize with other family and friends back home.

One final admin note: be sure "Like" us on Facebook as we'll be ramping up our posts in an effort to keep you apprised of what we are doing out here. You can locate us at the following website: www.facebook.com/usspreble

Thanks again for your continued support.

Sincerely,
CDR Kurt Sellerberg



CMC's Corner



HOOYAH PREBLE Family!

First, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Matthew Logsdon, and I have the honor and privilege in assuming the duties as USS PREBLE Command Master Chief. I want to congratulate my predecessor, CMDCM(SW) Jeffery Campbell, for his outstanding 23 years of dedicated service to the Navy, his Sailors, and family onboard USS PREBLE. He left me with some large shoes to fill, to say the least!

I have been onboard PREBLE for two months, and I cannot tell you how impressed and proud I am with the ship and her Sailors. This crew is by far the best of the best, and I have the honor to witness their extraordinary skills at work every day. No matter, if they serve as the Captain of the ship or a Food Service Attendant,

Team PREBLE Sailors total commitment to excellence is witnessed not only by me but also by many Sailors stationed on the waterfront in San Diego. Your husband, wife, son, daughter, girlfriend, and boyfriend embody the word "excellence", and they are ready now for deployment in the Western Pacific!

Yes, deployment can be a stressful time, and that stress can absolutely intensify on the home front. However, there are many resources from our Ombudsman (Joleen Mitchell and Ashley Byrd), PREBLE Family Readiness Group (FRG) President (Amy Spencer), US Navy Chaplains Corps, Fleet and Family Support Center, Military One Source, and even myself, the Command Master Chief, that can offer many solutions to ease those stressful times.

USS PREBLE is deploying to deter aggression and to ensure the United States maintains freedom of the seas, but we ALL must stay focused on our mission, at work and at home, to ensure a safe and successful deployment.

In closing, PREBLE Sailors and families are always in the leadership's thoughts and prayers, and I look forward to announcing the accomplishments of our mission and Sailor achievements in many more PREBLE Newsletters throughout deployment.

Sincerely,

CMDCM(SW/AW)
Matthew Logsdon
Command Master Chief



Division in the Spotlight

Combat Systems Missiles (CM)

Story Written by ENS Newsome, STRIKE OFFICER

Good day families of Combat Systems Missiles (CM) personnel. We wish you all the best. As for us, we are hard at work maintaining our systems and making sure all of our equipment is in tip top shape. We are in the midst of a major inspection called Division in the spotlight. This inspection is conducted by the Commanding Officer and Executive Officer of USS Preble. It's a top to bottom inspection ranging from our Administration all the way to our Weapon Systems and even our individual work spaces as well. There are two work centers included in the Division, CM01 and CM02. CM01 works with

Tomahawk Missiles and CM02 works on the Launching System.

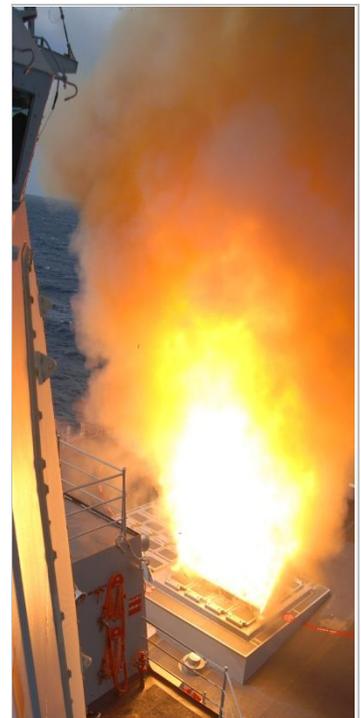
Both work centers have been diligently working on preparing for the inspection. CM01 has been cleaning all of CM01's work spaces to include FWD/AFT Vertical Launching Systems, FWD Fan room, AFT fan room and Tomahawk Equipment Room. They have also been correcting hits in their maintenance manual from their last inspection. CM01 has also made sure all equipment is in working order and that all personal gear is properly safety tagged.

CM02 has conducted maintenance check

Every week, a division is selected from the crew to be the "Division in the Spotlight." Throughout the week, the division is subject to a series of inspections to ensure proper procedure and updated information. In the long run, this contributes to our self-assessment abilities and will ultimately continue to make PREBLE the "Best Damn Warship" in the United States Navy!

training to ensure a passing score for the Commanding Officer's inspection on maintenance procedural compliance. Ensuring spaces are within cleanliness standard is a daily priority, but for the inspection, extra attention to detail when cleaning is a must. And lastly, CM02 personnel conducted an overall review of all administrative paperwork to ensure accuracy prior to inspection to ensure the highest grade possible.

CM thanks all of our families for all of your support. We will be back soon. We love you.



PREBLE SNAPSHOT

Ice Cream Social!



Flight Quarters!



Working on Qualls!



ESWS Pinning!



Manning the Rails...



News Across the Departments

Combat Systems

About one month into deployment and the Sailors of Combat Systems department are putting the outstanding training we received during our pre-deployment training cycle to work!

Operating out at sea we are able to test and operate our combat systems equipment, which includes the ship's air and surface search radars, external and internal communications equipment, and of course our namesake, the Aegis Combat System. Our Aegis Fire Control technicians were excited about leaving San Diego for deployment in order to test and hone their skills.

"There's no better place than at sea to see just how well your equipment is working," said Fire Controlman Second Class Bradley McKenzie, who hails from Las Vegas, Nevada. *"During the training cycle we went from one fast-paced combat event to the next, learning to operate and maintain Aegis. It was pretty tough. On deployment, the combat-pace isn't quite so fast, but the reality that you're operating your equipment in the real world, where it is critically important that everything works correctly, places a whole new importance and appreciation on our training and our equipment. I'm proud to be operating Aegis on deployment."*



The Origin Behind "Aegis"

Did you know that the term "Aegis," adopted by the US Navy when describing her integrated combat system, originated long before America was even a country?

Aegis, prevalent in Greek and Roman mythology, describes a strong shield or breastplate.

In modern terms, doing something "under someone's Aegis" is to do so under strong protection.

Weapons

We're ready to roll! While on deployment we - the Fire Controlmen, Gunner's Mates, and Sonar Technicians of Weapons Department - are prepared to do the Nation's bidding through a strong defense mounted by small caliber action team members, anti-terrorism-force protection personnel, Tomahawk land attack and vertical launch system Technicians, close-in-weapon and 5-inch gun Gunners, and submarine hunting combat acoustic Sailors!

In only our first few weeks of deployment we've received top scores for our Strike Warfare Team performance during important carrier strike group exercises and we're prepared and ready to execute "no notice" gunnery exercises to test and challenge our Gunners!

"There's nothing better than deployment," said New Hampshire native Michael Montivirdi. "Although, of course, you miss home, you get into a routine out here and you just accept that you're going to be away for awhile. Once that's in your head, you can concentrate on what is keeping you busy at the moment, which tends to be work. What makes it special is that you're with your shipmates, building worthwhile memories while keeping the ship combat ready."

Montivirdi re-enlisted onboard the USS ARIZONA Memorial when PREBLE was recently in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.



The USS ARIZONA Memorial was erected in 1962 by the citizens of the United States. It stands today to commemorate and honor our fallen brothers and sisters from the attack on Pearl Harbor - December 7th, 1941. This attack marked the official start of US presence in World War II.



Engineering

Engineering Department continues to shine! The Snipes said goodbye to their long time Chief Engineer, LT Nate Chase, and welcomed a new Chief Engineer, LT Samantha O'Neil. The entire department is beaming with optimism thanks to a very successful pre-deployment training cycle and doing extremely well on two high profile inspections.

Top Snipe GSCS(SW) Brady Bentzen also received some great news. He was selected for commissioning to Warrant Officer. Congratulations, Senior!

California native Electricians Mate EM2(SW) Andrew Barros summed up what many of the Engineers are feeling. *"There's nothing better than deployment. It's never easy being away from home, but deployment is what we train to do and it's where you're able to hone skills and increase your qualifications. This is my sixth deployment and I think it's going to be great."* Petty Officer Barros is doing great things. He recently qualified in one of our most challenging and important positions - Propulsion/Auxiliary Control Console operator.

Things are looking good in Engineering!

MP Division changes out a valve in excess of 500 pounds! Way to go MP!



Operations

Operations Department has been busy the first month of deployment!

Out on deck, the Boatswain's Mates and Seaman have successfully completed the traditional seamanship operations navies are known for – small boat and anchoring operations, taking the ship in and out of port, and refueling and stores replenishments at sea.

Because we have two helicopters, the Boatswain's Mates are also keeping busy managing helicopter operations. Boatswain's Mate Third Class Antoinette Scott from Los Angeles, California, has been involved in it all. *"It's hard work. I like refueling best. The ship pulls up alongside an oiler, we hook up our stations and receive hundreds of thousands of gallons of fuel. That's pretty cool."*

The Operations Specialists and *"Secret Squirrels"* (our Cryptologic Techs) are working the ship's combat operations 24/7, providing track management, air and helicopter control, intelligence and electronic warfare information, as well as assisting the bridge with the safe navigation of the ship.

"There's really nothing they don't do!" said Operations Officer, LT Matt Hamm.

Underway Replenishment

One of the many ways our Navy is set apart from any other in the world is our ability to replenish our resources and materials without ever needing to pull into port.

Perhaps our most vital (or at the very least, frequent) need is fuel. Fuel for our engines and for our two embarked SH-60B Helicopters as well!

It's one of our more dangerous evolutions – but with PREBLE's top notch crew, it's a stroll in the park!



There's one way the Navy stays in the fight, and that's through logistics. Whether it's getting the ship parts, fuel, and food; or mailing supplies or cooking meals or managing the ship's laundry, Supply Department is vital to the ship's operational success.

LT Billy Coffeen leads the department. He is, of course, surrounded by a bunch of superstars! One such superstar is LS2(SW) Guisela Quezada. Petty Officer Quezada ensures that the ship gets the parts it needs to keep everything working and combat ready. *"Helping the other departments identify parts, order parts, and then track parts until they are onboard is very rewarding. I think we do a very nice job of it and I think everyone in Supply understands how important it is that we do our job right."*

LS2 and her team sure are doing it right. They aced all of their department inspections and assessments prior to deployment, and both LS2 and one of her senior First Class Petty Officers, LS1(SW) Loreatha Guzman, were recognized as PREBLE's Sailor of the Year and Senior Sailor of the Quarter, respectively.

Now That's What I Call Impressive!

Each day underway, our ship's galley puts out enough food to feed over 300 people at every meal. If you want to add that up, that's 900 meals per day, 6300 per week, and by the end of the deployment, roughly 180,000 meals! Thank you Culinary Specialists and Food Service Assistants!



NAV/EXEC/MEDICAL

We do more with less! As Quartermasters, we've taken the ship in and out of port and steamed across the Pacific Ocean! We're a close team and enjoy what we do. We believe that there's nothing more important than good Quartermasters. Without us, the ship's not getting too far!

The Yeomen and Personnel Specialists in Admin are vital to the ship's mission as well. It's not just about paperwork; it's about taking care of PREBLE Sailors and their families, and that's what Admin does! "We're probably a lot busier than people realize," said Yeoman Seaman Davion Ware, who is from Memphis, Tennessee. "Between working personnel and pay issues around the clock, we're also on the Flight Deck team and Navigation details. There's never a time we're not doing something!"



A special thank you goes out to our Hospital Corpsmen who tirelessly work to ensure every member of the crew (that's over 300 people!) has a complete and accurate medical record AND are happy and healthy!



AIR DETACHMENT

PREBLE received two SH-60B helicopters from Helicopter Squadron 49 Det FOUR upon departing for deployment. The detachment, which is considered one of the ship's departments, consists of over 30 helicopter maintainers and pilots.

The helicopters provide PREBLE with the capability of projecting combat power many miles beyond the ship's own fixed systems. "It's great to be part of the PREBLE Team. Helicopters belong on ships. Together we're an almost unstoppable force," said Air Department Officer in Charge, Lieutenant Commander Brian McArthur.

