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Regional leader visits Pensacola training commands

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Rear Adm. Ricky Williamson, commander Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) toured Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) during a visit to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Fla. Jan. 21.

The visit was part of Williamson's swing through Florida, as he toured Navy commands and units on the Florida Gulf Coast, including NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, and Naval Support Activity Panama City.

During his visit to NAS Pensacola, Williamson toured the National Museum of Naval Aviation, Sherman Field Base Operations, Naval Aviation Schools Command's Rescue Swimmer School, NATTC, and Corry Station.

At NATTC, Williamson visited Chevalier Hall where he walked through the Aviation Support Equipment Mobile Maintenance Generator Lab, Air Conditioning Lab, the John Finn Memorial Aviation Ordnance Strand Hangar, Aviation Machinist's Mate Jet Engine Lab, Aviation Structural Mechanic Metal Fabrication Lab, and an electronic classroom. Accompanying Williamson through NATTC was Capt. Alan Dean, NATTC's commanding officer.

"I appreciate Rear Adm. Williamson taking the time to visit NATTC and see our facilities," said Dean. "We do our very best to be good stewards of our training and berthing facilities, and tours like this are an opportunity to showcase them.

Today's visit was an opportunity to show the areas we want to upgrade to improve the training process and ensure the Navy is getting the best value for its training and facility funds."

From Chevalier Hall, Williamson visited NATTC's USS Abraham Lincoln Barracks where Williamson observed the living conditions of students, as well the progress of repairs from a recent water leak.

Since Williamson is a region commander for Navy Installations Command, much of the focus of the tour was upon the buildings and facilities. Williamson noted that the facilities would not exist without the mission.

"There is a synergy that exists between training and the installation," said Williamson. "Installations such as NAS Pensacola would not exist without the training mission. A holistic approach should be taken with facilities concerns and the training mission to ensure the fleet is receiving the best Sailors."

For more than 70 years, NATTC has been delivering training and increasing readiness within the Naval Aviation Enterprise. NATTC graduates approximately 15,000 Navy and Marine students annually. The majority of the student body is comprised of enlisted personnel attending "A" schools, where they are gaining the knowledge and skills required to perform in fleet as technicians at the apprentice level.

NATTC's advanced schools provide higher-level technical knowledge for senior petty officers, and specialty schools offer specific skills not particular to any one rating, such as airman apprentice training, maintenance, personal financial management and shipboard aircraft firefighting. NATTC also conducts technical training for officers in aviation fuels, carrier air traffic control center operations,

aircraft launch and recovery equipment, shipboard aircraft fire fighting and amphibious air traffic control center operations.

For more information about Naval Air Technical Training Center visit <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cnatt/nattc/Default.aspx> .

For additional information on the Naval Education and Training Command, visit the NETC website: <https://www.netc.navy.mil>.

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