

NETC News

Naval Education and Training Command
Public Affairs Office (Code N00P)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Release #97-14

October 3, 2014

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Congressman visits Pensacola training commands

PENSACOLA, Fla. – U.S. Congressman Bradley Byrne (R-Ala.) toured Naval Air Technical Training Center (NATTC) and the Center for Information Dominance (CID) during a visit to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Fla. Oct. 2.

Byrne, a congressman representing Alabama's 1st Congressional District, and a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, was visiting area commands to become familiar with program, personnel and readiness issues.

At NATTC, Byrne had the opportunity to observe a wide range of aviation maintenance training including labs where electronics theory for avionics is taught, as well as labs for ground support equipment, aviation ordnance, jet engine maintenance, aircraft structural repair metalworking, and computer labs where students worked on an simulated aircraft in a virtual training environment.

As he toured NATTC and interacted with the staff and students, Byrne told them, "thank you for what you do for your country, I appreciate it."

Accompanying Byrne through NATTC was Capt. Alan Dean, NATTC's commanding officer.

"The outstanding Navy, Marine, and civilian instructors at NATTC work hard every day to provide Sailors, Marines and international students the skills they need to be successful as aviation maintainers," Dean said. "It is a rare opportunity for us to showcase our staff and facilities to our elected representatives, and I appreciate Congressman Byrne taking the time to visit."

As he wrapped up his visit to NATTC, Byrne relayed his appreciation for the school and the opportunity to visit to the NATTC staff.

"You've got a first rate instructional program, and it was wonderful tour," he said. "You have a high quality program, with high quality students. This is really first rate."

During his visit at CID Byrnes, met with Information Systems Technician (IT) A school students who have just begun their 24-week naval training.

"Today's electromagnetic domain - cell phones, computers, Internet, e-mail, social media - or cyberspace, has become integral to our way of life, and it also makes our nation more efficient, more connected and more secure," said Capt. Maureen Fox, CID commanding officer. "It must be protected. As a result, cyberspace has become a warfare domain - in the same sense as land, sea, air and space. The training being conducted here at CID is critical to protecting our nation's cyberspace security, and it is incredibly exciting to be part of that important mission."

As part of the visit, Byrnes visited classes of Sailors learning how to administer computer networks, database management, and computer hardware and software implementation.

"I was extremely impressed," Byrnes said. "Not just the number of people that go through this program, but the breadth of what they are going through, and the very high quality and the success rate."

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>.

For more information about Center for Information Dominance, please visit <http://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/ceninfodom/>

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Story by Lt. Jonathan Bacon, Naval Air Technical Training Center and Naval Education and Training Public Affairs

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