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Contact: Ed Barker

850.452.4858
(DSN) 922.4858
(FAX) 850.452.4900

Constructionman earns citizenship while attending Construction Electrician "A" School

WICHITA FALLS, Texas – The Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering Learning Site Detachment (CSFE DET) Sheppard Air Force Base (SAFB) congratulated "A" School student, Constructionman Recruit Daniel Odoi, on becoming a United States citizen Nov. 27.

Odoi completed the final steps of the citizenship process with representatives from the Dallas-Fort Worth Immigration Department who made a special trip to SAFB to swear-in three U.S. military personnel.

Odoi, a South African native, was a legal immigrant but not yet a U.S. citizen when he enlisted in the Navy. He began his citizenship paperwork while attending Boot Camp at Recruit Training Command onboard Naval Station Great Lakes, Ill. After graduation from Boot Camp and once he was assigned to Construction Electrician "A" School at CSFE DET SAFB, the school staff continued to support his naturalization efforts.

"The process was very straight forward, well thought out, and very simple," said Odoi. "I've been back and forth to the United States for 15 years and I've enjoyed the country and believed I was well acclimated to the U.S. culture. I joined the U.S. Navy to serve this country I fell in love with as I wanted to be part this great nation and its unique culture."

“You could see the joy and pride in the eyes and faces of Odoi and his fellow servicemen while they were reciting the Oath of Citizenship,” said Chief Utilitiesman Scott Kristek, CSFE Det SAFB utilities leading chief petty officer. Following the ceremony, Odoi expressed his appreciation for the effort his shipmates and the immigration department invested in his future.

“It really felt good and was a very important event in my life and I am grateful to be a part of the American family, to contribute and share in the dream,” added Odoi.

For more information on the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering Learning Site Detachment Sheppard Air Force Base, visit the NCTC website: <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/csfe/sheppard/>.

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Story by Chief Utilitiesman Scott Kristek, Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering Learning Site Detachment Sheppard Air Force Base Public Affairs