

NWDC QUARTERLY



NAVY WARFARE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

October / November / December 2022

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Navy Warfare Development **Center** is our new command name effective October 1st.

Why the name change?

Our name change formalizes the proven manner in which NWDC has capably operated for the past 2 years as an SES due to the gap of the flag commander's billet.

What else has changed?

Most of our changes are *administrative* in nature. NWDC will remain an echelon III command aligned under USFF and there will not be changes to our internal organization or our mission.

Bottom line: Only our *name* is changing, not our *mission*, functions, or tasks. It is an honor and privilege to assume the duties of Director of this highly Professional

Mr. Michael R. Durkin
Director,
Navy Warfare
Development Center.



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Group photo of the Leadership Huddle held at the Navy Warfare Development Center featuring Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (CUSFFC), Admiral Daryl Caudle.

Foundry to Fleet, Forged to Fight: Setting the Conditions to Win Decisively

When planning for and conducting operations in this Maritime Era of Strategic Competition our Navy must be ready to accomplish three primary objectives as an integral part of the Joint Force within the context of a whole of government approach to national security:

1. Deter strategic attacks against the homeland;
2. Generate and flow naval combat power to the point of need at the required timing and tempo; and
3. Set the conditions to conduct all-domain maneuver warfare to synchronize, mass, and deliver lethal effects in support of operational plans, theater warfighting objectives, and geo-political ends.

To these ends, we ensure continuity of government and operations; mission assurance of critical infrastructure; and we ensure the ability to establish sea control and project power globally. Properly placed and timed naval power enables the Joint Force to win decisively and terminate conflicts on terms favorable to the United States.

America's national security environment is challenged by a myriad of threats. These threats include now more than ever nation states with the goal to shape the international rules-based order in their favor. This shaping spans the spectrum of conflict and leverages capabilities that threaten the global commons and impact the world economy.

Under their new name, Navy Warfare Development Center (NWDC), maintains their critical missions, functions, and tasks while fulfilling their critical role in assuring US Naval power remains a symbol of commitment to the global order and as a capable deterrent to the nefarious actions of those states who desire to challenge a peaceful and enduring status quo. While the nature of war remains as violent as ever, the character of modern warfare is changing and evolving at unprecedented rates. Naval power must maintain and advance its decisive edge and remain strategically viable, and that is precisely where NWDC's efforts are focused: research, experimentation, concept development, and force design recommendations across the various kill chains from sensor to shooter to advances in doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs).

NWDC manages, synchronizes, and executes the Navy's Fleet Experimentation (FLEX) Program and the Fleet Battle Problem (FBP) Campaign Plan on behalf of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Commander, Pacific Fleet, and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa. FLEX identifies and examines doctrinal and materiel solutions to the Fleet's warfighting gaps based upon Fleet Commander priorities and ensures fleet operator feedback is shared with OPNAV in support of the CNO's NAVPLAN Implementation Framework (NIF). FBPs are designed to test coordinated fleet capabilities and concepts using live, virtual and constructive (LVC) methods and are being employed by all fleets to test and evaluate systems; sensors; and TTPs for the advancement of Distributed Maritime Operations (DMO).

FBPs afford us the opportunity to innovate and pave the way for enhanced integration with the Marine Corps and Joint Force by validating operational concepts like Expeditionary Advanced Base Operations (EABO) and Littoral Operations in a Contested Environment (LOCE). Further, by incorporating Live, Virtual, and Constructive (LVC) training coupled with advanced Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning (AI/ML) capabilities in data analytics, we can assess more rapidly and exploit the third offset strategy of technological operational advantage.

As modern warfare develops rapidly, it is not enough to be incremental in developing winning doctrinal concepts to assure our dominance in the arena of conflict. I am counting on NWDC to help our warfighters leap ahead through collaborative workshops, war games, and at-sea experiments with Fleet operators. Focusing our efforts on relevant actions, combined with targeted partnerships, NWDC can effectively 'bend the curve' through fleshing out concepts with all tactical development and training stakeholders well left of anyone 'bending metal.'

With this focus, the thrust and trajectory of our actions must actively shape our battlespace now in preparation for a global fight where we continuously out-think, out-maneuver, out-partner, and out-innovate our adversaries. This is the crux of our Navy's 'Get Real, Get Better' focus and why getting to the ground truth via an in-depth 'lessons learned' feedback loop is paramount to the future success of our Navy. Through continuous assessment, we will refine our capability, capacity, and training to advance the fight by shaping the raw materials of people and platforms into resourceful, tough, and tenacious warriors that dominate the maritime through maneuver and lethal effects – we will own the fight.

As the Competent Authority for the FBP Campaign Plan, the professionals and masters of education, experimentation, and tactical development at NWDC must always ensure our Fleet is supremely prepared to 'Fight and Win Decisively' when and where our nation calls.

Admiral Daryl L. Caudle is the Commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command, headquartered in Norfolk, Virginia.

N2: Information Warfare

The Information Warfare Directorate's Red Cell supported NWDC Training, Exercises and War games by creating comprehensive Roads-to-War scenarios, primers, campaign plans, CONOPS, orders-of-battle, operational/executive in-briefs/out-briefs, and after-action reports for 3 wargames including the first contested logistical wargame in the command's history. Additional support was provided to NWDC Doctrine, Concepts, and Lessons Learned, and Fleet Experimentation (FLEX) Departments in the form of opposition force (OPFOR) expertise and background research to integrate Great Power Competitor (GPC) capabilities into Command Level experiments and modeling efforts. Personnel from the Directorate accompanied MOC TET-Intel to Navy Information Operational Command Colorado for familiarization and to discuss integrated fires capabilities into future NWDC sponsored training and exercises.

N3: Operations

NWDC is the Competent Authority which manages and synchronizes the Fleet Battle Problem (FBP) Campaign Plan on behalf of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Commander, Pacific Fleet, and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa. FBPs are designed to test coordinated fleet capabilities using live, virtual and constructive (LVC) methods and are being employed by all fleets to test and evaluate systems; sensors; and tactics, techniques, & procedures (TTP) for the advancement of Distributed Maritime Operations (DMO). A new change to the campaign plan is pending approval that will expand the scope of DMO data collection tracked to include other fleet events that had not been examined during a FBP. This includes fleet experiments, war games, and other non-FBP exercises. The primary goal of the data collection is to examine all DMO capabilities areas and provide leadership with additional insights when considering future warfighting plans. The change to the campaign plan fully embraces Navy's Get Real Get Better call to action to accelerate our warfighting advantage through DMO execution.

N5: Advancing Doctrine, Lessons Learned, Analysis, Concepts and Health Services Integration

Doctrine Division (N5D) promulgated NWP 2, Fleet Intelligence, Change 1 to NWP 3, Fleet Warfare, and launched an upgraded Navy Warfare Library to provide the fleet with an improved means to quickly find and easily use Navy doctrine and tactics. The new electronic library has a fresh looking user interface, better organizes how information is displayed, and provides greater stability, a more robust search engine, and improved filtering abilities. The Navy Lessons Learned and Analysis Division (N5A) will host the annual Navy Lessons Learned Workshop from 18-20 OCT 2022. This year's workshop will focus on how Navy activities can support Get Real Get Better through organizational learning and information/knowledge management of issue resolution processes across the Navy Lesson Learned Program. Fleet Concepts and CONOPS (N5C) provides support to NWDC experiments, fleet battle problems, and doctrine, aligning them with current Navy and Naval concepts, to include: DMO, Expeditionary Advanced Base Operation, and Littoral Operations in a Contested Environment. Additionally, Concepts is integrated and aligned with OPNAV, Marine Corps Warfighting Lab and Deputy Commandant, for Combat Development and Integration for future concept development. Health Services Integration (N5H) develops cross-organizational collaboration with the fleet, USMC and other medical assets. N5H supports U.S. Fleet Forces Surgeon Cell on fleet health/readiness and COVID 19 mitigation strategies, enhancing fleet operations, and is currently developing a standardized process to guide fleet commanders on urgent or priority movement of ill or injured service members from ship-to-shore.

N7: Training, Exercises, and Wargaming (TEW)

This quarter, N7 continues its efforts leading the Operational Level Training and Exercise Program (OLTEP) with onsite, hands-on training assist visits to Fleet Maritime Operation Centers and challenging, realistic war games for Carrier Strike Groups and Fleets. OLTEP includes support for Large Scale Exercise 23, Joint and Combatant Command training exercises and the MAKO exercise series, which is focused on providing training to Fleet Navy Reserve detachments during existing drill weekend periods. This quarter will also feature support for a logistics-focused war game.



U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT) and U.S. Fifth Fleet during a maritime operations center exercise hosted by Navy Warfare Development Command (NWDC) on Sept 8-11.

N8: Fleet Experimentation (FLEX) Program

Commanders, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Pacific Fleet, and Naval Forces Europe-Africa recently approved the FY23 iteration of the multiyear Fleet Experimentation (FLEX) campaign. As we move out planning the new lineup of experiments aligned to the Fleet Commanders' highest priorities, we are also wrapping up FY22 analysis and reporting to capture findings (i.e., what we learned about these potential solutions to capability gaps) and recommendations (i.e., actions required to deliver optimal warfighting advantage). In FY22, we conducted 37 experiment initiatives in 18 different venues, with more than 100 partner organizations representing the Fleet, acquisition, and science and technology communities. We share results with stakeholders to ensure fleet operator feedback informs capability development.