

The Beachhead Gazette

STAND

AND

FIGHT

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Message from the Commanding Officer



Greeting Anzio family and friends,

The month of June has been an exciting time for the crew of Anzio. We completed three successful port visits in the Black Sea, which is a rare treat even for some of our senior Sailors.

While in the Black Sea the crew conducted themselves as the professionals they are. They participated

in several Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) tours to enjoy the sites and rich history in and around the cities we visited.

Some Sailors even took time out of their liberty schedule to aid in community relation programs. They helped with landscaping, maintenance and preservation at the sites. I'm grateful for what these Sailors did to help out the local community, as I'm sure the locals are as well.

We've also been able to accomplish some great training during our time in the Black Sea, specifically during our port visit to Batumi, Georgia. There we teamed up with some of their military members to train on visit, board, search and seizure tactics and in damage control.

With the Black Sea leg of our deployment behind us, we have now moved to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility to perform our mission.

Along the way we conducted a successful replenishment-at-sea, which was the ship's first since leaving the Atlantic.

Again, the crew performed at the top of their game with precise ship handling, great communications with the ship alongside and a great show of team effort for the all hands working party to move the supplies to the storerooms.

With the Suez Canal transit behind us we are all looking forward to where the mission takes us. Please make sure to keep up with the ship and crew via our new Facebook page by searching for "Official USS Anzio (CG 68)" and clicking the 'Like' button. We'll be sure to keep you updated.

Sincerely,

CAPT John Dorey
Commanding Officer, USS ANZIO (CG 68)



USS Anzio Sailors paint a fence at the Lastochka Tuberculosis Recovery Center for children as part of a community relations project in Odessa, Ukraine, June 4.

Port Visits

Varna, Bulgaria

Odessa, Ukraine

Batumi, Georgia



Anzio Completes Successful Visit to Odessa, Ukraine

USS Anzio visits Varna, Bulgaria



Stories and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Brian M. Brooks

The guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) made its first port call of the 2011 deployment to Varna, Bulgaria, May 31 – June 2.

The three-day port visit gave the crew some time to enjoy the culture, see the sights and lend a helping hand in the community.

“Varna is picturesque, the people were extremely pleasant and the food was great,” said Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Donnie Novak, Anzio’s Command Master Chief.

Thirty-three Anzio Sailors, along with 11 Bulgarian Naval Cadets, volunteered their time to assist in landscaping and clean up at the Karin Dom Foundation Center for Children with Special Needs Training and Resource Center, which was set up by Anzio’s chaplain, Lt. Lesa M. Welliver.

“I am very proud of our Sailors and the spirit of community they shared

with the Bulgarian Naval Cadets,” Welliver said. “It feels good to do something together and bring quality of life and learning to others, especially children.”

The Karin Dom building, built in 1908, used to be a summer home for the Stancioff family and was converted to the current training center in 1994 by Ivan Stancioff, a former Bulgarian Ambassador to the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. Ivan named the foundation Karin Dom, which means Karin’s Home, after his cousin who was born with cerebral palsy.

“It felt good to help out the kids and hear the story about how the foundation started and where they are going with their research,” Engineman 3rd Class (SW) Luis M. Leon said.

Mariana Nikolova, executive director of Karin Dom, was very appreciative of all the assistance and looks forward to future relations with other U.S. Navy ships in the future.

“We’re pleased to assist the local community any way we can,” Novak said.

In addition to the community relations project, the ship’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation



A 60-plus foot statue stands in Promisky Park close to the coast in Varna, Bulgaria.

provided the Sailors a day trip to the ancient town of Nessebar or “the Bulgarian Dubrovnik.”

“We saw a bunch of different churches from over the centuries built by different civilizations,” Electrician’s Mate 3rd Class (SW/AW) Bryan C. Baker said.

This was Baker’s first deployment and port visit for his Navy career.

“It was pretty neat to see all of the different cultures and prospective in the architecture of the churches,” Baker said.

“I think the Sailors will enjoy our next port visits in the Black Sea,” Novak said. “Most of the Sailors, even the senior ones, have never been in the region before and may never get the chance again, so everyone is thrilled and excited to get this opportunity.”



Sailors and locals relax and take in the view of the statue of Catherine II monument at Ekaterinskaya Square while on liberty in Odessa, Ukraine.

The guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) completed its second successful port call, this time in Odessa, Ukraine, June 3-7.

The crew of Anzio was able to enjoy the sites of the city, assist the community, and host a U.S. Ambassador and high-ranking military officials from several different countries aboard Anzio while in port.

During the three-day visit, Sailors volunteered their time to help with some preservation at Lastochka Tuberculosis Recover Center for children, a facility that houses around 100 children who are recovering from tuberculosis during the summer.

“This is a government-run facility, and they don’t always have the funds for things like grounds keeping or painting of the buildings or fences,”

said Lt. Gary L. Hunter, the Maritime Affairs Officer for 6th Fleet in the Ukraine.

Lastochka and the U.S. Navy have been working together for the past 11 years coordinating various community relations’ projects for any ship or Navy detachment that visits the Ukraine.

“The staff is very grateful for the assistance and always look forward to bringing back more Sailors to do more good,” Hunter said.

Anzio’s Morale, Welfare and Recreation program also provided the crew

with a city bus tour and a tour of the Cultural Center of Wine Shabo located about 40 miles away from Odessa.

“The winery had a lot more history than I originally thought,” Operations Specialist 2nd Class Jeffrey M. Daane said. “There were pillars built for every civilization that used the winery, from the French-Swiss settlers to the Greeks and Russians, just to name a few.”

The crew of Anzio ended their time in Odessa with a successful reception held on the ship’s flight deck for several high-ranking officials to include John F. Tefft, U.S. Ambassador to the Ukraine; Adm. Viktor Maksymon, Commander in Chief of the Ukrainian Navy; along with various countries military members and their guests.

“I received nothing but great compliments, not about the ship, but about the crew,” said Capt. John M. Dorey, Anzio’s commanding officer. “As I’ve said before, it’s not the ship that makes it great, it’s the crew. The guests had nothing but great things to say about the crew.”

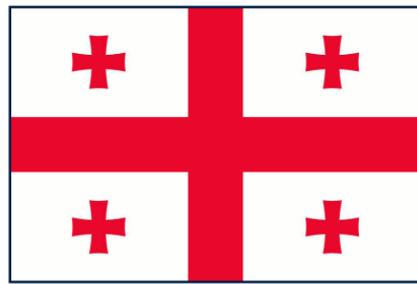


USS Anzio (CG 68) Sailors man the rails as they pull into Varna, Bulgaria for their first port visit of the deployment, May 31.



Anzio (CG 68) gets underway after a port visit in Odessa, Ukraine, June 7.

USS Anzio departs Batumi, Georgia



AROUND

THE FLEET

The guided-missile cruiser USS Anzio (CG 68) completed its third successful Black Sea port visit in Batumi, Georgia, June 9 – 12.

The crew of Anzio was met at the pier with a welcoming ceremony attended by Mayor Robert Chkhaimze, Chief of the Georgian Coast Guard Capt. Besik Shengelia, and several high-ranking members of the Georgian Coast Guard and local U.S. Embassy.

“Our Sailors don’t normally get to see this type of outward hospitality on the pier when pulling into a foreign port. Batumi was different,” said Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Donnie Novak. “The drummers and dancers were incredible and I’m sure we’ll remember this for a long time.”

While the crew was in Batumi, they not only enjoyed the sites the city had



Children dance during a welcoming ceremony for USS Anzio as the ship arrives in Batumi, Georgia for a scheduled port visit, June 9.

to offer but also worked with members of the Georgian Coast Guard and Special Forces on visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) training.

“We were able to share a lot of our procedures with them and how we operate. Also, we got a lot out of them as well when it came to ground-based tactics,” said Chief Fire Controlman (SW) Chad T. McQueen, the VBSS leading chief petty officer. “We integrated them into our team and even though there was a language barrier, with the training both teams had we were able to move around tactically with hand signals as a team.”

The Georgian military members also conducted training on shipboard damage control and firefighting techniques.

Fourteen Anzio Sailors also worked with several Georgian Special Forces and U.S. Embassy volunteers with repairing and painting two large rooms at the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs LEPL “State Care Agency” orphanage as part of a community relations (COMREL) program.

“I didn’t do any COMRELS last deployment and I really regretted it so I was looking forward to them this time and it is a really good time,” said Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Jae Y. Choi.

“We had a language barrier with the children but we did talk a lot about football [American soccer]. They knew a lot about the different squadrons and teams, it was really fun talking to them,” Choi said. 🇺🇸



OS2 (SW/AW) Smith smiles at a child during a community relations project at the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs LEPL State Care Agency orphanage, June 11.

Reserve Options Available to Stay Navy

By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Andrea Smithluedke, Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

The Navy Career Transition Office pointed to the Navy Reserve as an option for Sailors not approved for an active duty Perform-to-Serve (PTS) quota, June 6.

“If an enlisted Sailor is disapproved for an active duty Perform-to-Serve quota, they can request a Selected Reserve (SELRES) quota through their command career counselor,” said Lt. Cmdr. Michael H. Suarez, Career Transition Office (CTO) assistant division director. “If the Sailor is approved, then the CTO will process them into the Navy Reserve.”

According to NAVADMIN 352/10, the PTS with SELRES option allows active duty Sailors, including full-time support (FTS) Reserve Sailors, to apply for SELRES quotas up to 12 months prior to their end of active obligated service (EAOS) date.

“Sailors must have an approved PTS quota before the CTO is able to assist them,” said Suarez. “If they’re not approved for a SELRES quota, it’s probably because they’re applying for an overmanned community or rating. The Sailor should then consider conversion options.”

Sailors approved for a SELRES quota can view potential Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) drill locations in the area they plan to live using Career Management System/Interactive Detailing (CMS/ID).

Another option for active duty Sailors wishing to remain affiliated with the Navy is the Early Career Transition Program (ECTP). The program allows both active duty and FTS Sailors to transition into the SELRES more than 90 days prior to their EAOS. Sailors may submit requests up to 15 months prior, but no later than three months prior to their desired transition date (not EAOS). For example, a Sailor’s EAOS is three years and six months away and he desires to transition to the SELRES six months from now. He is eligible to apply for ECTP even though his transition will be three years prior to EAOS.

According to NAVADMIN 088/11, Sailors with at least two years of service are eligible to transfer into the SELRES through ECTP.

“ECTP was created to provide Sailors an early transition opportunity to continue their naval service and pursue educational or personal goals,” said Senior Chief Personnel Specialist (AW) Robert Ferrari, SELRES enlisted community management technical advisor. “The program further allows us to match active component ratings with Reserve component needs.”

ECTP differs from the Enlisted Early Transition Program which allows Sailors to request an early separation up to 24 months prior to their scheduled EAOS date. If approved for ECTP, a Sailor’s career counselor should contact the CTO

for transition assistance guidance.

Benefits of reserve affiliation can include:

- Mobilization deferment - Sailors who transition immediately into the SELRES qualify for a two-year deferment from individual mobilization;
- Affiliation bonus - Sailors could be eligible for an affiliation bonus, however, they will be required to repay any unearned portion of any current active component bonus or incentive;
- Continued exchange and commissary privileges;
- Use of Navy Morale, Welfare, and Recreation facilities;
- GI Bill benefits;
- Free medical coverage for 180 days immediately following EAOS separation.

Sailors are then eligible for coverage under TRICARE Reserve Select, which offers low-cost premiums to individuals and families.

Reserve service requires a minimum commitment of one weekend a month and two weeks every year. However, flexible drilling options may be made available depending upon Reserve unit requirements and procedures.

For questions concerning Reserve affiliation or the CTO, Sailors should visit the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) website www.npc.navy.mil, call the NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC, or send an email to cscmailbox@navy.mil.

USS Anzio visit to the Black Sea



1. Quartermaster 3rd Class Joseph P. Gregory uses a telescopic alidade to assist in judging distance as the ship leaves Varna, Bulgaria, June 2.
2. Logistics Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Keith D. Gilbert shows one of the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs LEPL "State Care Agency" orphanage's children how to spackle during a community relations project, June 11.
3. Seaman Marlon R. Thompson flemishes a line after Anzio arrives at Odesa, Ukraine for a port call, June 3.
4. Sailors assigned to USS Anzio heave around on one of the ship's mooring lines as they pull into Odesa, Ukraine for a port call, June 3.
5. Bulgarian Naval Midshipman Vania Ormanova stands on the port bridge wing of USS Anzio as the ship gets underway from Odessa, Ukraine, June 7.
6. Ensign Lauren M. Gairdry passes orders to aft steering over an integrated voice communications system as the ship leave Varna, Bulgaria, June 2.
7. Sailors assigned to USS Anzio head toward the coast of Batumi, Georgia, June 9.
8. Boatswain's Mate Seaman Jabari Hosten, right, and Seaman Brandon T. Little conduct morning colors during a port visit to Odessa, Ukraine, June 7.
9. Fire Controlman 1st Class (SW) Michael O. Stokes paints a fence at the Lastochka Tuberculosis Recovery Center in Odesa, Ukraine as part of a community relations project, June 4.

June Birthdays

DC2 RODLIN ACHREUS
CTM3 KYLE BAKER
QM3 CALEB BROWN
GSM3 DAVIN COOK
ENS PHILIP COX
OS3 DANIEL ENGLISH
OS1 ROY FLEMING
ENS KAYLOR GILFORD

FC2 STEPHEN HARRELL
ENC MONTEZ HOPKINS
CTR2 MICHAEL HUGULEY
OS1 DORIAN JOHNSON
STGSN TIMOTHY JOHNSTON
EN1 TOMMY LECHINGER
FC2 HERSCHEL LEWIS
GSE3 HAIFENG LI
FCC ISMAEEL MOJEEED

CTT2 MARK PARLIN
ET3 TRAVIS RALSTON
ET3 RICKY SALAZAR
OSSN ZACHARY SEALS
STG2 ROLAND SWAIN
DC3 TRACY THATCHER
ET3 ALLEN TROTH
CTR1 MARVIN VERDADERO

July Birthdays

MAC JEFFREY BARNES
LCDR JACOB BRAUN
SHSN TYRONE BROCKMAN
PS3 DESEAN BROWN
EM3 MATTHEW CARAVELLA
FC1 MATTHEW DIXON
OS2 DAVID DOLBY
ENS LEAH FONTENOT
HM3 DANIEL GREEN

LSCS WESLEY HENRY
OS1 NATHAN HUMPHREYS
IT3 CHANDLER JACKSON
HT2 JUSTUS JOHNSON
BM3 STEVEN JONES
FCC CHRISTOPHER KEY
EN3 LUIS LEON
CS2 DANIEL LOWEN
DC1 JERRY PFEFFERKORN
FC2 CALEB PHIPPS

ENS CHRISTOPHER ROGERS
FC2 BENJAMIN SHARPLES
OSSN DANIEL SHERWOOD
EN2 JAMES SMITH
LTJG LUCIANO TIRADO
FC3 JAMES VANHUYCK
HT2 ALAN WHEELER
LCDR CHRISTOPHER WOLFF
EN3 DANIEL ZAMORA

Distance Traveled

Since leaving Norfolk, VA May 11, 2011

Approx. 11,200 miles

June Reenlistments

OS1 DORIAN JOHNSON

IT1 GEORGE NEGRON

Anzio on Facebook

Want to stay informed about the crew of

USS Anzio? 'Like' us on Facebook @

Official USS Anzio (CG 68)

How to send a Care Package to your Sailor

Care packages can be as fun to make as they are to receive and are huge morale-builders during deployment. Here are a few helpful tips to remember when sending a care package:

- Do not send anything perishable. No refrigeration is available to store the items, and temperatures during transit can reach over 100°F.
- Delivery usually takes at least two to three weeks but can take as long as six to eight weeks. Plan accordingly if you want your package to arrive in time for a special occasion.
- Pack everything snugly and cushion when needed.

- Distribute weight evenly so items do not shift in transit. Consider using packing materials such as popcorn or newspaper.
- Wrap the package carefully, using reinforced tape not string.
- Place an extra address card inside the package before sealing in case it is damaged or the address becomes unreadable.
- Do not send aerosols, fireworks or liquor.

Address packages as follows:

Rate and Full Name (i.e. FN John Doe)
USS ANZIO (CG 68)
Dept/Div (i.e. ENG/M-Div)
FPO AE 09564-1188

Customs forms must be filled out when sending packages to a fleet post office (FPO) address. These forms are available at the post office. When addressing packages or letters, print clearly, using block letters. Send packages via first class mail or a less expensive (and slower) method. Do not waste money on expedited services. Once mail is delivered to the fleet post office, delivery to the ship is made by available military resources.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) offers free packing materials to families of military members deployed overseas. Supplies can be obtained by calling USPS at (800) 610-8734 and requesting "The Military Kit".

