

FSO-PA Report

Report for Month: April 1-31, 2012

Submitted by: Robert A. Fabich, Sr.

Position: FSO-PA 070-16-01

Flotillas: 16-01, 16-02, 16-03

US Coast Guard Support:

16-01: 1. Air crew pilots/members recognized for Air Station BQN service. Combined CG and AUX 2 day workshop.

2. Robert Fabich assignments at RIO office for Port State Control targeting.

3. USCG/Aux and VIPA port exercise with cruise ship in port.

4. We received requests to fly 25 missions, of which we flew 23 missions and 26 sorties totaling 63.7 hours. Twenty MOM/LE patrols totaling 55.5 hours were flown. Eleven of these patrols for 37.0 hours were in support of USCG surface assets in the Mona Passage or in transit to or from. During one of these missions, the Air Station launched a helo in response to an Auxiliary aircraft sighting of flotsam on the surface which turned out to be a brightly colored large section of a cardboard-like material. On another mission, an Auxiliary patrol aircraft was diverted to photograph a commercial freighter which had an unusual assemblage of large poly tanks strapped to the deck. At the time it was being shadowed by a USCG Cutter.

Seven patrols for 14.9 hours were flown in support of Island Hopper 4, an interagency effort focused in the Virgin Island Passage, and two patrols for 3.6 hours were along the north shore of Puerto Rico. One of these missions was to attempt to locate a vessel which was suspected of overboard dumping of contraband bales. One Fisheries patrol for 1.2 hours was flown.

One Logistics mission was flown during April 2012 during which a Biometrics Specialist stationed at Sector San Juan was transported from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The 6.0 hour mission was flown by two qualified pilots in a Cessna Mustang Jet based on St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. After the Specialist arrived at GTMO, he was transported by USCG helicopter to a waiting offshore USCG Cutter to process suspected illegal immigrants which had been apprehended the previous day.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Flags and Ceremonies:

16-01: Planning for two air facilities to meet in Kodiak Alaska for change of command.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Community Support:

16-01: 1. Lee Elvins is addressing local Auxiliary participation with promoting tourism.

2. Local artist includes Auxiliary Facilities in Christiansted Harbor Portraits.

3. NSBW planning with local government agencies and schools.

4. Planning for island wide annual Triathlon.

5. Meetings with St. Croix amateur Ham Radio Club.

6. Awareness by Charles Farrell with public involvement understanding the American Water Watch Program. Daily scheduled program activity occurring.

7. Speech given to University Virgin Island student about the Auxiliary in general by Robert Fabich.

8. Educational classroom study assignments with review and feedback participation with UVI students about understanding Coast Guard history and missions by Robert Fabich.

9. Miss St. Croix continues educating children on life jackets.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Local Media Involvement:

16-01: 1. "Air Station BQN Auxiliary Prove Invaluable" feature story released by Robert Fabich regarding the annual workshop, awards and service provided by the USVI Auxiliary. 4 media outlets published article.

2. Social media picks up Miss St. Croix news release about life jackets.

3. Continued planning with Judy Darby about USVI and Puerto Rico mission stories for the Navigator annual edition.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Problems and Suggested Solutions:

16-01: How do I get better reporting participation from St. Thomas and St. John?

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Recommendations:

16-01: None at this time.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Training:

16-01: 1. Auxiliary Policy Statement from R.J. Papp

2. Robert Fabich certified for Aux 12 and Marine Environmental Protection.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted

Other:

16-01: 1. Division website set-up in progress. Working with Tony from Miami.

2. First quarter Division Newsletter released.

3. Robert Fabich provided a power point presentation on PA Is Everyone's Responsibility at the Division 16 quarterly meeting in St. John April 14th.

4. Unit Commendation Service Team Award for Flotilla for a 2008 fisherman survival kit program.

5. "Coastie Seeks Caribbean Stay" story produced by Robert Fabich on behalf of Division 16 as a competition entry for a Coastie in the Virgin Islands.

7. David McClure, USCG PA Branch Chief uses Robert Fabich's AUX 12 homework assignments as examples during the Seattle AUX 12 C-School. He also forwarded Robert's critique to the Branch Staff for review and possible implementation for improvements of this C-School.

16-02: No report submitted

16-03: No report submitted