

Dynamic RIMPAC 2010 concludes

Story and photos by
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs

Top military leaders from 14 partner nations held a press conference at Merry Point Landing on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) on July 30, officially marking the end of the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 Exercise.

A total of 32 ships and five submarines from seven nations returned to JBPHH on July 30-31 after successfully completing the exercise.

“RIMPAC has clearly achieved everything we set it up to do,” said Vice Adm. Richard Hunt, commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet and commander, Combined Task Force. “We all met our training objectives and in doing so, as an international force, we have increased our interoperability, built upon our solid relationships, and improved the readiness, capability and capacity of the Pacific maritime forces.”

The U.S. Pacific Fleet event commenced on June 23 in the waters around the Hawaiian Islands, involving more than 20,000 personnel from Australia, Canada,



Vice Adm. Richard Hunt, commander of U.S. 3rd Fleet and commander, Combined Task Force, gives the formal address to conclude Rim of the Pacific Exercise 2010.



Chile, Colombia, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore,

Thailand and the United States.

The exercise was designed to increase the operational

and tactical proficiency of participating units in a wide array of maritime operations by enhancing military-to-

military relations and interoperability.

The senior Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force

(JMSDF) leader, Rear Adm. Kazuki Yamashita, deputy commander of Combined Task Force, stated that RIMPAC was very important in helping establish maritime security in the Pacific.

“I would like to express my appreciation to (the) U.S. Navy who support(ed) this exercise, and our friends of all nations who gave us (a) great impression about their professionalism,” said Yamashita.

Rear Adm. Ron Lloyd of the Canadian Navy and the maritime component commander for RIMPAC said, “From the Canadian perspective, RIMPAC 2010 has been a terrific opportunity for all of our forces.”

“The performance of all the participants across the various task forces in the maritime component were superbly planned and brilliantly executed which speaks to the tremendous leadership of the task force commanders all the way down to the individual units. All of the participating nations should be exceptionally proud of how their forces represented their respective countries in an extremely dynamic, challenging and complex exercise,”

See RIMPAC, A-8

CMSAF visit to JBPHH, Pacific emphasizes family, professional development

Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Public Affairs

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force (CMSAF) James A. Roy visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) on July 30 to meet with Airmen and discuss his focus areas.

His tour of JBPHH was part of a larger Pacific tour to neighboring countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand and Australia.

“It’s great to be back here to see the Airmen and what they’re doing and to tell them how important they are to the overall effect our Airmen are having on the battle space,” said Roy, who previously served as the senior enlisted leader and adviser for U.S. Pacific



U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood, Jr.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force James A. Roy speaks with Headquarters Pacific Air Forces chief master sergeants at a mission briefing during his visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on July 30.

Command at nearby Camp H.M. Smith.

There are a couple thousand Airmen deployed from bases in

PACAF who have families remaining abroad, and Roy expressed concern for their care, safety and well-being. Throughout his interactions with Airmen here, he emphasized the importance of Air Force families.

“This is not a theater of war, and we’d like to keep it that way,” Roy said. “Our Airmen here do that every single day by the relationships they continue to form with our partner nations – the ‘neighborhood,’ if you will.”

While at JBPHH, Roy visited several organizations on base where he shared his perspectives and answered questions from Airmen.

“Getting face-to-face feedback from our Airmen is why I spend so much time on the road,” he said. “I want to hear what’s on their minds.”

While the priorities of the CMSAF are the Air Force priorities, Roy said his office has three key focus areas.

“First, we look at how we can continue to build our NCOs to be incredible and coalition partners,” he said. “Education, training and experience are the three areas of ‘deliberate development’ which help prepare our Airmen for the future,” he said.

“Finally, we are working to build resiliency among our Airmen and their families,” said the CMSAF, who serves as the personal adviser to the chief of staff and the secretary of the Air Force on all issues regarding the welfare, readiness, morale and proper utilization and progress of the enlisted force.

“My family and I have fond memories of the Hawaiian Islands,” Roy said. “It’s good to be home.”

Hawaii governor visits namesake submarine

Commander, Submarine
Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs

The Virginia-class submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) hosted Linda Lingle, the governor of Hawaii and the submarine’s sponsor, on July 29 for a day of operational demonstrations and interaction with the crew.

The governor’s visit provided an opportunity for the submarine to increase understanding and strengthen ties between the submarine and her homeport host.

“All the features of this submarine that respectfully pay homage to Hawaii, to our history, and to the *alii* of Hawaii and our customs are deeply appreciated,” Lingle remarked to the crew. “You make us proud!”

Following her participation in a ceremony in which the governor presented



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Eric J. Cutright

Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle, ship’s sponsor of the Virginia-class submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776), and Capt. Stan Robertson, commodore, Submarine Squadron One, discuss surface operations while on the bridge of Hawaii on July 29. USS Hawaii is the third Virginia-class submarine constructed and the first submarine to bear the name of the aloha state.

Machinist’s Mate 3rd Class (SS) Cody Wyrick of Houston

qualification pin, Lingle

See USS HAWAII, A-8

507th ARW in action



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young

A U.S. Navy EA-6 Prowler begins to move into position to acquire fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker assigned to the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, 507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., while over Hawaiian air space during the Rim of the Pacific Exercise on July 20. RIMPAC, the world’s largest maritime exercise conducted on July 30. Additional photo on page A-5.

BREAKING NEWS!

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard wins top prize



The Department of Defense (DoD) announced Aug. 4 that the 2010 Robert T. Mason Depot Maintenance Excellence Award recipient is the Navy’s Emergent Repair Program at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility. The program provided extraordinary support to combat forces by meeting or exceeding operational force requirements in every measurable category. Through innovative solutions, their diverse team was able to repair numerous surface ships and submarines in a very short period of time. See complete coverage in next week’s Ho’okele.



USS Crommelin deploys to western Pacific
See page A-2



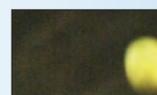
Air Force Academy cadets tour Joint-base Pearl Harbor Hickam
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RIMPAC 2010 photos
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CPO Lovett is Navy man to the end
See page B-1



Network Operations hammers first-place Civil Engineers
See page B-3



New fitness center under construction at Pearl Harbor
See page B-7

USS Crommelin deploys to western Pacific

Story and photo by
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs

More than 200 Sailors aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled deployment on Aug. 3.

Friends and families waved farewell from the pier as they watched their Sailors aboard Crommelin depart Pearl Harbor en route to the western Pacific Ocean.

"It's not the greatest thing seeing him leave, but it is something that I'm used to now and I just look forward to having him back home," said the wife of a Crommelin Sailor.

Cmdr. Joseph Keenan, commanding officer of Crommelin, noted how well-prepared the crew and the ship are for the deployment.

"The crew is very excited and they are more than ready for this deployment," Keenan said. "They have worked hard all year in preparation for this mission and we are ready to fulfill our nation's tasking."

Keenan also said that Crommelin is ready to execute a wide range of operations if needed.

"We are looking forward to carrying out our tasking. Whether it is providing humanitarian



Sailors man the rails aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) as the ship gets underway for a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific. While on deployment, Crommelin will take part in Pacific Partnership 2010 and Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2010.

assistance, working with partner nations during CARAT, or working alongside the U.S. Coast Guard, Crommelin is ready to go," Keenan noted.

Even though Crommelin Sailors were sad to say goodbye to their families, they said

they were ready for the challenges that may lie ahead.

"It's always difficult to say goodbye to my wife, but this will be my fourth deployment so I'm more than ready to take care of the task at hand," said Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Terry Gilliam.

While on deployment, Crommelin will be participating in Pacific Partnership 2010 and Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2010.

Pacific Partnership is designed to strengthen alliances, improve U.S. and partner capacity to

deliver humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and improve security cooperation among partner nations.

CARAT is a series of bilateral exercises held annually in the Southeast Asia region. Longstanding participating nations include

Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Frigates fulfill a protection-of-shipping mission as anti-submarine warfare (ASW) combatants for amphibious expeditionary forces, underway replenishment groups and merchant convoys.

Air Force Academy cadets tour Joint-base Pearl Harbor Hickam

Story and photo by
Sr Airman Gustavo Gonzalez

15th Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Academy cadets were given a sneak peek into the blue when they toured Joint Base Pearl-Harbor July 11-29 as part of Operation Air Force. With life decisions ahead of them, it was a perfect opportunity to make a crucial decision about their careers.

The 15th Wing mission mentor program involved spending time with the 15th Medical Group, 15th Operations Group, 15th Maintenance Group and 647th Air Base Group to gain an appreciation for the team effort required to accomplish the 15th Wing mission. Additionally, the cadets met with senior officers and took special tours of the 613th Air and Space Operations Center and Arizona Memorial.

According to Cadet Justin Lennon, Air Force Academy cadet in charge, it's a great opportunity to learn more about military history.

"It's very rewarding just to see the people who served here in World War II and see some of that heritage, specifically Pearl Harbor and the Arizona



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Gustavo Gonzalez

Cadets from the Air Force Academy view a map Oahu marked with routes the Japanese planes took in the 1941 Pearl Harbor attack during the boathouse tour as part of Operation Air Force at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, July 15. The 15th Wing mission mentor program involved time spent with the 15th Medical Group, 15th Operations Group, 15th Maintenance Group and 647th Air Base Group to gain an appreciation for the team effort required to accomplish the 15th Wing mission. Additionally, the cadets took special tours of the 613th Air and Space Operations Center and Arizona Memorial, and were included in senior officer visits. *Additional photo on page A-8.*

Memorial," he said.

15th Operations Support ment commander, explained Capt. Christopher Keller, Squadron aircrew flight equip-

decide on a future career field.

"The program offers broad Air Force experiences they would likely not receive directly from their commissioning source," he said.

Lennon explained how some of the cadets have an idea of what they want to pursue in the Air Force, yet a majority are still undecided. He noted that seeing the operational side of the Air Force and getting to meet and talk with Airmen will help them make a decision in the long run since interaction with Airmen at the Air Force Academy has been minimal.

"There is little to no interaction of that sort in the academy," he said. "(It was good) coming out here and getting to sit down for a couple of hours and ask them what their impressions of officers in their respective career field are and what good advice they can give us."

Keller said he was impressed with the young group of cadets.

"Truly, [it's] a great group of cadets this year," he said. "I think they enjoyed their time to decompress in Hawaii."

"It's been awesome," Lennon said.

PACOM, CPF spotlight opportunities for women in military and civil service

Story and photo by
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs

Representatives from Commander, U.S. Pacific Command and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's diversity group hosted a seminar on July 28 to highlight opportunities for women in the military and civil service.

More than 50 service members and civilians assigned to various commands on Oahu attended the seminar at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

Rear Adm. Kate Gregory, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, made the opening remarks.

"The Navy has done a tremendous job of approaching diversity in a very practical way," Gregory said. "Today's Navy provides women with a wide variety of opportunities, and many more are coming, such as women

serving on submarines."

Gregory also spoke about why the military supports diversity.

"The military is not promoting diversity just because it's a nice social issue," Gregory said. "We are doing this because we have to make these changes in our military and we have to make these changes in our population if, in fact, we are going to be successful in our mission."

Kay Wakabayashi, head of Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's diversity team, noted the importance and the goal of the seminar.

"This forum is intended to provide a platform for issues concerning women who are increasingly holding some of the top positions in the military and federal government as Sailors, Airmen and civilians," Wakabayashi said. "It also gives attendees the opportunity to learn about organizations and programs that offer women career development programs and ways to net-



Rear Adm. Kate Gregory, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, speaks with personnel during seminar highlighting opportunities for women in the military and civil service at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The event was attended by more than 50 service members and civilians assigned to various commands on Oahu.

work with one another." During the event, speakers discussed various emerging policies affecting

female service members, including the inclusion of women on submarines, and raising children in the military.

Personnel also had the opportunity to share key

takeaways from recent diversity conferences organized by Sea Service Leadership Association and Federally Employed Women.

"The guest speakers of this seminar did a great job with sharing the experiences that they've been through in their careers to get where they're at now," said Lt. Cmdr. Susan Hlad, assigned to U.S. Pacific Command. "There is a lot of good information here, and it was a great event to take advantage of."

Federally Employed Women is a private membership organization that works as an advocacy group to improve the status of women employed by the federal government and by the District of Columbia government.

Sea Services Leadership Association supports professional development and provides a forum for information to women in the Navy, Coast Guard and Marine Corps.



Hickam 'Warrior' helps ensure security of Team Hickam

Story and photos by SrA Gustavo Gonzalez

Airman 1st Class Brent Janssen, an intelligence operations specialist with 15th Operations Group at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, is this week's Joint Base Warrior of the Week.

He provides information on theater and worldwide current intelligence, analysis and enemy capabilities against aircraft such as the C-17 Globemaster III, C-37 Gulfstream V, and C-40.

Janssen also researches threats and briefs personnel who are deploying or going on a temporary duty assignment, helping to ensure the security of more than 4,000 Team Hickam members.

"My job allows me to interact with almost all ranks and services in a variety of career

fields which I feel gives me the opportunity to have a greater impact than most young Airmen," Janssen explained.

"Brent's job knowledge and confidence elevate him above his peers," said Capt. Traci Shiraishi, 15th Operations Group senior intelligence officer. "He is a talented natural leader with boundless potential who is always looking for ways to improve himself and his environment," she said. "Brent is my trusted go-to Airman for the most challenging tasks and his performance is never less than superb."

In his leisure time, Janssen enjoys music, playing guitar, drums, football and spending time outdoors. "Definitely one of the best things about being in the Air Force is being able to travel to so many different countries," he said.

Diverse Views



What's the best part about being stationed in Hawaii?



Culinary Specialist 1st Class (SW/AW) Reed Williams

The history of Pearl Harbor is very motivational, and being stationed here I get to see and observe that history every day.

Culinary Specialist 1st Class (SW) Richard Cravens

I'm originally from Kaneohe, so being stationed at home where all of my family is at is definitely the best thing for me.



Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW/EXW) James Darden

The best thing about Hawaii is the weather. I also feel privileged to be stationed here because this is where a lot of people go on their vacation, but to actually live here, that is the best part.

(Provided by MC2 Robert Stirrup)

HO'OKELE ONLINE

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Visit www.hookelenews.com to access complete Ho'okele stories and related photos. This site is managed by the Honolulu Star Advertiser, the publisher for Ho'okele.

World cruise of the 'Great White Fleet,' 1907-1909



Official U.S. Navy photograph
Lt. John E. Lewis, USN, with a mascot kangaroo aboard USS Connecticut (BB 18). The kangaroo was presented to the ship by the citizens of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, when the U.S. Atlantic Fleet visited the city in late August 1908.

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Behind the scenes of RIMPAC: P-3C tactical operations

Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two Public Affairs

During the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 Exercise, the emphasis was focused primarily on the missions being conducted, but the folks behind the scenes of the maritime patrol and reconnaissance (MPR) community, the ones who support the missions, seldom received recognition.

Combined Task Force (CTF) 172, led by Capt. Rod Urbano, commander of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, was the governing body for the MPR side of RIMPAC.

Comprising maritime patrol aircraft from five different countries, this task force provided the backbone of anti-submarine warfare (ASW) for RIMPAC forces.

CTF 172 is broken down further into two combined task groups (CTG): CTG 172.1, comprising P-3C squadrons from the U.S. and Japan; and CTG 172.2, with squadrons from the U.S., Australia, Canada and South Korea.

Each CTG operates almost exclusively apart. CTG 172.1 supported the USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 72) Strike Group, and CTG 172.2 supported the USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) Expeditionary Strike Group. But they also worked together fighting the ASW battle that is mutual between the two strike groups.

The tactical operations center (TOC) and mobile tactical operations center (MTOC) provided the necessary ground support to all



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. J.G. Evita Salles

Lt. Cmdr. Manuel Cortes (right), mobile tactical operations center officer in charge, directs an operations crew conducting post-mission analysis of P-3C flights that took place during the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 Exercise.

the P-3C aircrews flying in RIMPAC in the form of intelligence requests, weather briefings, mission communications, data links, and operational and technical support. The TOC supported CTG 172.1 and the MTOC supported CTG 172.2.

"Our purpose is to provide 24/7 operations support for CTG 172.2 and to work alongside the Japan

Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) in order to support our CTF 172 Commander," said Lt. Cmdr. Manuel Cortes, officer in charge, MTOC.

P-3 aircrews knew what missions they would fly from their respective operations centers, who received tasking from the combined force maritime component commander (CFMCC), in the form of the air tasking

order (ATO), and the strike groups through their daily intentions messages.

The operations centers receives the tasking, collected the information pertaining to the tasking, and provided the aircrew briefs to prepare them to execute the missions.

During pre-flight, the aircrews were briefed at the TOC/MTOC on tactical protocol and coordination of the

mission. After they completed the mission, the aircrew was debriefed at the TOC/MTOC to collect the mission data and create post-mission products that provide force commanders with actionable tactical data.

The operations centers guided them each step of the way by preparing and conducting the briefs, maintaining communications

during flight, and debriefing the crews for post-mission analysis and mission reconstruction. Without the TOC and MTOC, MPR tactical missions would not be possible.

"The MTOC is composed of 11 hard working individuals carrying the workload of twice that many. It's an exhausting responsibility, but a very rewarding one," said Cortes.

Destroyer Squadron One embarks on USS Lake Erie during RIMPAC 2010

Midshipman 1st Class Alexander B. Petit

Battalion Operations Officer, Southern University And A&M College

Walking into a wardroom with three Navy captains can lead to some confusion when young officers ask to join the mess. This is a challenge that the junior officers of the USS Lake Erie (CG 70) had to overcome during the multi-national exercise known as RIMPAC 2010.

The trio of senior leadership included the ship's skipper, Capt. William C. Johnson; commodore of DESRON 1, Capt. Eric C. Young; and DESRON's deputy commodore, Capt. Donald Hornbeck.

Young was aboard the USS Lake Erie as the sea combat commander overseeing all the evolutions of RIMPAC 2010. His boss, Vice Adm. Richard Hunt, commander of U.S. 3rd Fleet, noted the importance of leading such a large group. "This is the biggest exercise the Navy has done all year. There are 14 nations, 20,000 Sailors and service members



U.S. Navy photo by ISC Jason Snellings

Commodore Eric Young of DESRON 1 (foreground) welcomes Japanese Rear Adm. Kazuki Yamashita, assistant deputy commander of Combined Task Force during RIMPAC 2010, aboard the USS Lake Erie.

involved. It's a big deal," Hunt said.

As the sea combat commander, Young was primarily focused on the safety of the Sailors. "I just want to see proficiency in everything we do. I want these to be safe, mishap-free exercises," he explained.

Playing war games, calling flight quarters and training Sailors about anti-submarine warfare on a daily basis brings the risk of an accident higher as each day passes. This only adds to the stress of a demanding job. It was a rare sight to see the commodore without a smile, even with all the tension and responsibility of his billet.

"I really enjoy interacting with the Sailors and junior officers. My day-to-day drive is fueled by watching the Sailors do what they do at sea and watching our next generation of naval officers and senior enlisted learn to run the Navy for the future," Young said.

Overseeing thousands of Sailors and more than a dozen warships has its downside, too. "See that?" asked the commodore while pointing to his phone, "Rings all night long."

U.S. Air Force wins DoD-wide challenge using Smart Operations for 21st century

Maj. Jennifer S. Spires

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

ARLINGTON, Va. – In a move that validated the effectiveness of the U.S. Air Force tool used for continuous process improvement, J.D. Sicilia, director of the Department of Defense, Lean Six Sigma program office, recently presented two Airmen with an award for winning a defense wide process excellence skills challenge that took place at the Department of Defense Performance Symposium in Lansdowne, Va.

Capt. Ronnie J. Synakowski, a computer engineer from the Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, Fla., and Pamela L. Wright, chief of plans and programs for the 498th Nuclear Systems Wing at Kirtland AFB, N.M., beat out six, three-person teams from across

the Department of Defense by applying techniques taught in Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO21), in a simulated battle to solve a complex business problem.

The two Airmen, both AFSO21 office chiefs at their respective wings, made up the only two-person team and the only Air Force team that registered for the one-day, "DoD Performance Bowl." Four U.S. Army teams, one team from the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and one Defense Finance and Accounting Service team made up the six other competitors, according to Heather K. Tollefson, iSixSigma®, director of events.

Spearheaded by iSixSigma®, the event simulated, "low customer satisfaction" and "declining sales," for a fictitious company. Armed with little more information than that

and a laptop-loaded program, the seven teams went to work trying for the highest "return on investment," according to Synakowski.

After completing the simulation, the teams had to present their solutions to the judges for final scoring.

Four judges graded the teams on the amount of money they spent, amount of time spent in each phase of the problem-solving process, and improvement level to which the team brought the company. Those numbers, computed on a scoreboard, gave participants a "return on investment" percentage or score, Synakowski said.

In addition to being at a disadvantage by being down one teammate, the two Airmen, unlike most of the others who formed their teams before arriving at the symposium, had never met or worked together.

"The captain and I literally met that morning,"

Wright said.

"Instead of jumping in without a life preserver, I decided we needed a game plan and we should use the eight-step process," she said.

"Starting with 'validating a problem' ... we collected data and made wise decisions. We actually finished before everyone and were able to create a really great briefing," Wright continued.

The eight-step problem-solving process is an AFSO21 tool with a scientific approach that guides problem solvers through measured, specific steps. It uses many Lean and Six Sigma practices as well. The eight steps include: clarifying and validating the problem, breaking it down and identifying performance gaps, setting improvement targets, determining root causes, developing countermeasures, seeing countermeasures through, confirming results

and processing, and finally, standardizing successful processes.

"As a military member or part of the Department of Defense, one doesn't always consider the cost of a survey or the personnel time invested in each tool used," said Synakowski. "That's a good thing that came out of this. As we move forward, it's something the whole department needs to focus on ... using tools smartly to improve the bottom line," he said.

"Mission effectiveness through business efficiency is key in focusing the Air Force on the customer's perspective and the bottom line," said David Tillotson III, director of the Air Force Office of Business Transformation and deputy chief management officer. "Our Airmen, using continuous process improvement tools like those found in AFSO21, are how we get there," he said.

Wright, in charge of facilitating improvement projects through AFSO21 practices at her wing for almost a year now, said she is slowly seeing a culture shift.

"I've seen Airmen come in with an attitude of 'Oh, this is boring, I don't want to do this stuff,' but by the time we get through the process, not only are they excited about the results, they are coming up with their own ideas and ways to apply AFSO21 improvement tools," Wright said. "Now people come to me and say, 'I may need to set up an AFSO21 event, but it may be too small for that' and I say, 'Nothing is too small ... and it works,'" she said.

The Air Force Office of Business Transformation's mission is, "Mission Effectiveness through Business Efficiency." The office stood up in June 2009 per Congressional mandate.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Air Force Staff Sgt Ron Davis, a boom operator with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, 507th Air Refueling Wing, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., keeps the boom of his KC-135 stratotanker steady while refueling a U. S. Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet over the waters of Hawaii before returning to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii in support of the Rim of the Pacific Exercise on July 20.

U.S. Air Force photo/Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young



A Royal Tongan marine provides security while clearing an improvised explosive device factory with U.S. Marines from Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. The raid was part of a Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 noncombatant evacuation training exercise.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Reece E. Lodder

Hull Technician 1st Class David DeVoe, an instructor assigned to the Center for Naval Engineering Learning Site, Pearl Harbor, demonstrates the use of a portable electric submersible pump to Hawaii-based Coast Guardsmen during a damage control classroom instruction.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Mark Logico



(Left) A rolling airframe missile (RAM) is launched from the littoral combat ship USS Freedom (LCS 1) during a live-fire exercise. Freedom was participating in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early



(Below) Soldiers assigned to Bravo Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment, disembark the amphibious transport dock ship USS Cleveland (LPD 7) aboard U.S. Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicles. The soldiers were participating in the amphibious phase of Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

Royal Australian Navy photo by ABIS Peter Thompson



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robbert Stirrup

A Sailor stands watch aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) as the ship prepares to get underway Aug. 3 for a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific Ocean. Crommelin will take part in Pacific Partnership 2010 and Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2010.

(Right) A U.S. Navy F/A-18 Hornet strike fighter participates in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

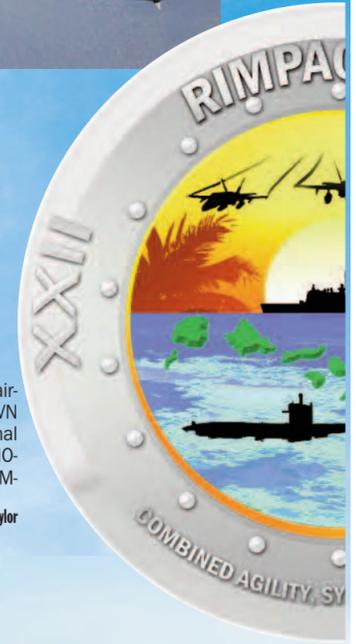
U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Cohen A. Young

(Below) Sailors stand by to enter main engine room two during a main space fire drill aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS Cleveland (LPD 7). Cleveland is in the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of responsibility participating in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Efi J. Medellin

(Below) Sailors from the Australian guided-missile frigate HMAS Newcastle (FFG 06) board the littoral combat ship USS Freedom (LCS 1) in preparation for a joint maritime security exercise during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early



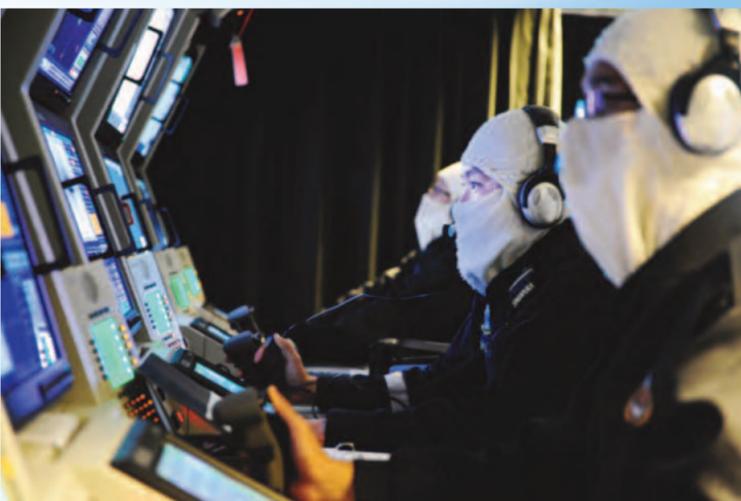
(Below) The Nimitz-class nuclear aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) leads a group of multinational ships during a photo exercise (PHOTOEX) during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Scott Taylor



(Above) A Canadian Navy Sea King helicopter flies over the guided-missile destroyer USS Benfold (DDG 65) and the fleet replenishment oiler USNS Guadalupe (T-AO 200) during a maritime security exercise, part of the at-sea phase of Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early



(Above left) Aviation Systems Technician Corporal Shelley McCammon and Aviation Systems Technician Private Derek McKenzie, members of the Canadian 435th Air to Air Refueling Command, prepare the squadron's C-130 Hercules for a refueling mission in support of the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 exercise.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 John R. Johnson

(Left) The Formidable-class multi-role ship RSS Supremeis (73) weapon control specialists at their consoles doing system checks for Aster missile firing during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC).

Photo provided by Singapore Navy





(Above) Able Seaman (AB) Clearance Diver Thomas Buchanan, from Australian Clearance Diving Team One, is assisted by his teammates as he prepares to dive off the coast off Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, for Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010.

Photo courtesy of Royal Australian Navy

(Below) An Australian soldier with B Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (2nd RAR) temporarily assigned to Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment (2nd Bn., 3rd Marine Reg.) fires a MAG-58 7.62 Australian medium machine gun during an unknown distance weapons firing exercise held on range eight, Pohakuloa Training Area, Hawaii on July 19.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Orlando Perez

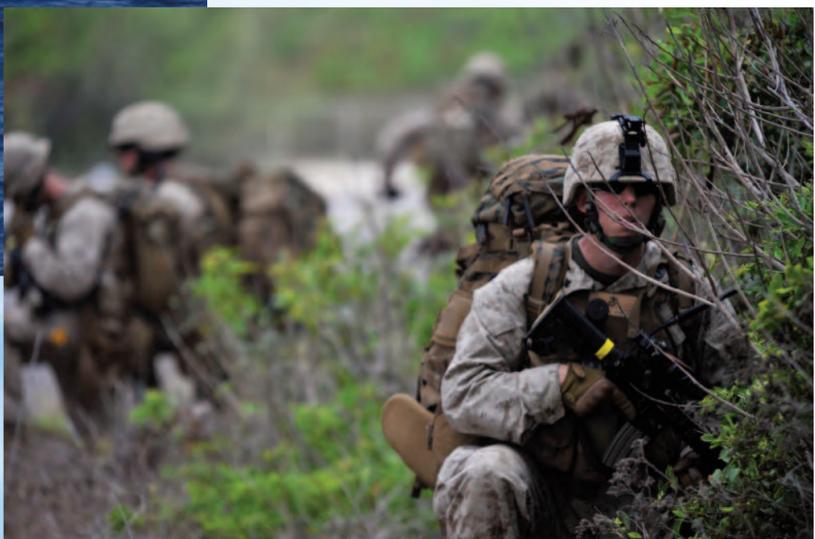
(Below) Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Brian Becker(front), from Salt Lake City, and Logistics Specialist 3rd Class James Heckwine, from Decatur, Ill., run to safety after connecting a cargo pendant to an MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to the Eightballers of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 8 during a vertical replenishment aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Joseph M. Buliavac



(Below) The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Pasadena (SSN 752) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after participating in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 exercises.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach

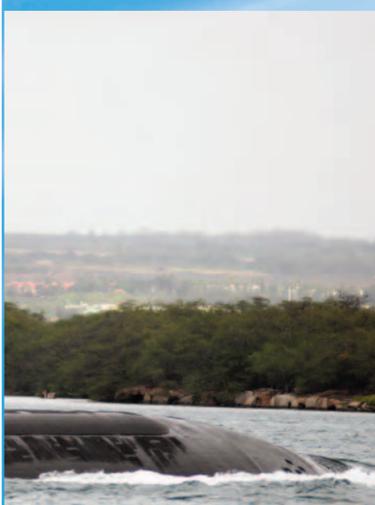


(Above right) Lance Cpl. John Rogers (right), assigned to Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, waits along a tree line after securing the area in preparation of an amphibious landing by Marines assigned to 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Division, while on the beach of Bellows Air Force Base, Hawaii, supporting Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010 exercises.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Cohen A. Young

(Right) An MH-60S Seahawk from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 22 leaves the flight deck of the littoral combat ship USS Freedom (LCS 1) during the at-sea phase of Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2010, the world's largest international maritime exercise.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Ed Early





U.S. Navy photo by CTIL (AW/NAC) Jennifer Schooley

Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 3rd Class Joseph Cybak of Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii conducts inventory of the donated school supplies that were distributed to family members of NIOC Hawaii on July 23.

NIOC Hawaii sponsors school supply drive

Lt. j.g. Michael Cilia

Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii Public Affairs

Remember when you were little and had to go with your parents on the mandatory school shopping spree? Depending on your views of school as a kid, you either loved or hated it. It was either the beginning of a new year of learning and reuniting with your friends, or it meant the dreaded end of a fun summer. Regardless, it was a major chore.

It's a chore for the parents, too. These days, school supplies are becoming more and more expensive as the demands and nature of education change. While notebooks, pens, pencils and paper are still staples of the school-supply diet, the menu has expanded to include electronics as schools modernize to meet the information age.

Sailors at Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii in Kunia banded together with the Navy Family Readiness Group to respond to these demands by holding a school supply

drive during the month of July. "The Navy Family Readiness Group recognized that money is tight and families could use all the help they could get so my office partnered with them to bring this event to the entire command. Sometimes the littlest things can make a big difference, and school supplies are something every child needs," said Lt. Robert Nelson, NIOC HI chaplain. When all was said and done, the command collected dozens of supplies including 18 packages of pencils and a sizable box of composition notebooks.

Command members helped distribute the collected supplies to several different military members for their families. Each showed up with a detailed list of items that their children's elementary, intermediate and high schools had requested. Thanks to the items donated by NIOC HI Sailors, Nelson and his team were able to satisfy each person's needs. As a result of this successful drive, NIOC HI members helped their shipmate's families defray the cost of an annual, traditional, but expensive summer chore.

RIMPAC: The stats

Continued from A-1

Lloyd added.

During the exercise, participating countries conducted three sinking exercises, which included 140 discrete live-fire events – 30 surface-to-air engagements, 40 air-to-air missile engagements, 12 surface-to-surface engagements, 76 laser guided bombs, and more than 1,000 rounds of naval gunfire from 20 surface combatants. In addition, units flew more than 3,100 air sorties, completed numerous maritime interdiction and vessel boardings, explosive ordnance disposal, diving and salvage operations, and mine clearance operations, and 10 major experiments – the major one the Marine Corps Enhanced Company Operations experiment.

Ground forces from five countries completed five amphibious landings, including nine helicopter born amphibious landings, 560 troops from ship-to-shore.

In all, 960 different training events were scheduled and 96 percent were completed in all areas of the Hawaiian operations area – from Kaneohe Bay and Bellows, to the Pacific Missile Range Facility, to the Pohakuloa Training Area on the main island of Hawaii.

Having worked together at RIMPAC, "... it is this trust and confidence that we've developed amongst our international participants that is perhaps the most important aspect of RIMPAC. It is the one that is enduring," Hunt said. "It is this that will provide huge benefits in the realm of increased maritime security for years to come."

RIMPAC is the world's largest multi-national maritime exercise. This year's RIMPAC exercise themed "Combined Agility, Synergy and Support," marked the 22nd exercise in the series that originated in 1971.

USS Hawaii hosts DV

Continued from A-1

thanked the crew and presented Sailors with coins for their, "service to America and for you being on our name-sake ship, USS Hawaii."

Measuring 377 feet long, weighing 7,800 tons when submerged, and with a complement of more than 130 crew members, Hawaii is one of the Navy's newest and

most technologically sophisticated submarines.

The state-of-the-art submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special operations forces, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, irregular warfare and mine warfare.

Air Force Academy cadets visit Arizona



Air Force Academy cadets visit the Arizona Memorial as part of Operation Air Force on July 15. The 15th Wing mission mentor program involved time spent with the 15th Medical Group, 15th Operations Group, 15th Maintenance Group and 647th Air Base Group to gain an appreciation for the team effort required to accomplish the 15th WG mission. Additionally, the cadets took special tours of the 613th Air and Space Operations Center and Arizona Memorial, and were included in senior officer visits.

U.S. Air Force photo by SrAirman Gustavo Gonzalez

Off-roading activities endanger environment

Jack Wiers

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
Public Affairs

Navigating the pristine oceanside trails of Kaena Point State Park — where the land is dotted with native vegetation, and sand and rock meet the oftentimes turbulent ocean — offers one of those “aha” experiences only found in Hawaii.

Unfortunately, this nearly three-mile stretch of coastline has been under siege — because of the increasing number of four-wheel-drive, offroading activities that have damaged the area's fragile ecosystem.

As a result, future access to the park is in doubt as concerned state officials, area residents and the military community weigh options in an effort to preserve the area.

“It's a mess, made even worse with the growing promotion and word-of-mouth about Kaena Point throughout the off-roading community,” stressed Randall Kennedy, manager of the Natural Area Reserve Program, State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Members of the local Army community are among the contributing groups that have been creating “a kind of mud-bogging free-for-all,” according to Curt Cottrell, administrative assistant, Hawaii



State Parks. Cottrell and others, including the non-profit group Friends of Kaena, are working toward developing and enforcing stricter regulations to protect Kaena Point.

Postings on the Internet, particularly on the popular YouTube Web site, show local clubs and off-roaders creating and burrowing through huge mud bogs that were once sand dunes at Kaena.

“Since the advent of the Internet, (off-roading has) basically gotten out of control,” said Summer Nemeth, an area resident whose family had lived and fished in the Kaena Point area for generations.

“Everyone's access is threatened with the level of damage being done,” she added.

Adding to the woes is the proliferation of four-wheel-drive vehicles, many owned by local members of the military.

“We want to remind our Soldiers and family members that they are guests in these islands,” said Col. Matthew Margotta, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii. “We share responsibility for the maintenance and stewardship of our community and state lands.”

DLNR and State Park officials formed the Kaena Point Advisory Group in 2009, a coalition comprising representatives from the DLNR, North Shore and Waianae neighborhoods, Camp Erdman, Office of Hawaiian Affairs and local fishermen. While members identified off-roading at

Kaena as an escalating problem, they also determined that restricting access to the area was not a preferred solution.

“We have the authority to shut (access to Kaena) down,” noted Cottrell, adding, “but the goal is to come up with a process where this area can be properly regulated.”

Kaena Point is not the only site where off-roading damage is being addressed. Nearby Mokuleia has caught the attention of the U.S. Attorney's office, and the Air Force has also faced similar situations with Bellows Beach.

State officials are working to provide off-roaders with an authorized alternative solution. A mud-bogging site is under construction at Sand Island



Photos courtesy of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs
Dunes damaged by off-roading activities are restored at Kaena Point.

State Park near the Honolulu International Airport. Cottrell says this location, with an already operating adjacent BMX cycling course, is expected to be open to off-roaders within two or three months.

In the meantime, Nemeth, who holds a master's degree in education, feels strongly about the need to educate people, noting many are simply uninformed.

The many Kaena off-roading videos and blogs feature local Army and military members. That makes them a focus of the advisory groups' awareness campaign.

“It looks bad for the military when they are being represented by a group of people who demonstrate a

lack of care for this place,” Nemeth said.

“I know there are those in the military who appreciate and enjoy the beauty that Kaena has to offer, but unfortunately, in this situation,” it appears that they are a minority,” she said.

Her message is not to spoil others' fun. “Everyone needs ways to alleviate stress,” she said, “but not (at the expense of) destroying lands and cultural areas.”

“The way we treat these lands and interact with the Hawaiian people has a profound impact on the community's view of the Army,” added Margotta.

“We should strive to do everything possible to make our impact a positive one,” he said.

Cruise ship Pride of America dry-docks at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
Public Affairs

More than 200 Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and BAE Systems Hawaii Shipyards workers brought the cruise ship Pride of America into dry dock at the naval shipyard on July 23. The private contractor conducted an overnight inspection of the underwater hull and the ship departed the shipyard the next afternoon.

The 921-foot-long vessel is the largest privately owned ship to be dry-docked at the shipyard. A public-private partnership between the shipyard and BAE Systems enabled the contractor to lease the shipyard's dry dock four for the Coast Guard-mandated inspection.

“It's a win-win for both the contractor and the shipyard,” said Capt. Lawrence Hill, deputy shipyard commander. Federal law permits a Department of Defense industrial facility to make underutilized assets available to a private company to conduct commercial work that is compatible with the mission of the govern-



U.S. Navy photo by MM3 Dustan Longhini

Hundreds of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and BAE Systems Hawaii Shipyards workers guide the Norwegian Cruise Lines' Pride of America into dry dock four on July 23 for overnight maintenance work and an inspection. The cruise ship left dry dock four the next afternoon.

ment activity.

The shipyard's dry dock is the only facility in Hawaii large enough to handle the cruise ship, so the use of dry dock four

does not compete for local dry dock capacity. The work was also scheduled when the dry dock was not needed to support Navy ship maintenance. If the

Navy-owned dry dock had not been available, it would have been necessary for Pride of America to sail to the west coast for her inspection.

BAE Systems will reimburse the shipyard for the use of the dry dock, necessary services and utilities.

Pride of America dropped off her passengers earlier at Honolulu Harbor, but retained a crew of about 775 when she entered dry dock four.

Lt. Cmdr. William Hagan, shipyard docking officer, noted some of the challenges involved in docking such a large ship. (As a comparison, a Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser is about 570 feet long and 55 feet wide.) “We don't have a lot of room on either side of the vessel,” Hagan said.

Because of ladders on the dry dock walls and the narrowing of the dry dock at its floor, there was a 15-and-a-half foot clearance on either side of the 105-foot-wide Pride of America.

The 13-story-high ship also presented a huge surface area for the wind to push against, so weather conditions were a concern. Additional lines and line handlers were also needed to control the ship, which displaced nearly 44,000 tons.

NIOC Hawaii personnel support Relay for Life

Story and photo by
CTI2 Janka Dowding

Navy Information
Operations Command
(NIOC) Hawaii

As the moon rose over the mountains in Kailua, Hawaii on July 24, nearly 400 military members and civilians from Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii took to the track at Kailua High School and began the Kailua/Kaneohe Relay for Life, an American Cancer Society event that honors and supports all those affected by cancer.

Events began at 6 p.m. with an opening ceremony that welcomed everyone and invited those who had survived cancer to take a victory lap. "It was so moving to see the survivors firsthand," remarked Cryptologic Technician Networks 3rd Class Jennifer Granger, a team member for the NIOC Hawaii Junior Enlisted Organization (JEO) team. "It really brings home why we are all out here participating," Granger said.

In addition to the JEO, the NIOC Hawaii Direct Support Association (DSA) fielded a team, and multiple members of the Air Force, Marines and Army joined ranks with civilians, as part of the more than 50 teams walking for cancer awareness and survival. "It's awesome to see your co-workers and friends participating in so many different ways because we are all



ITSN Ikwon Williams, NIOC Hawaii, cheers on participants of Relay for Life on July 24 in Kaneohe.

affected by cancer," said Staff Sgt. Amber Krueger, team captain of the Tigers, which involved local Air Force, Navy and civilian members.

At dusk, participants lighted luminary bags for the luminaria ceremony, an opportunity for people to come together to remember loved ones lost to cancer and honor those who have won their battle. The luminaria bore the names of those who have been touched by cancer.

The ceremony drew from this year's theme of "Happy Birthday" by honoring the birthdays of survivors and with the hope that more people will be able to celebrate birthdays through the advances made in cancer research.

"It moved me deeply to see them all lit up," said

Cryptologic Technician Interpretive 3rd Class Claudia Freeland. "It was

for me the most beautiful part of this event." As night fell, the light of the lumi-

naria lit the paths of the teams as they walked the track well into the night to

raise money.

To pass the time, participants not only walked the track, but also took part in a cake contest, Zumba and line dancing. "The events definitely helped us keep awake," explained Seaman Information Systems Technician Ikwon Williams.

When the sun rose on a bright Saturday morning, participants gathered for a final lap and then headed home. Overall, the event raised more than \$70,000 for the American Cancer Society.

If you would like to participate in a Relay for Life event, or if you would like to donate, visit www.relayforlife.org for more information. Relay for Life will be accepting donations for this year until Aug. 30.

POW/MIA recovery teams search for Americans missing from WWII

U.S. Joint POW/MIA
Accounting Command

An archeological team from the U.S. Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) is scheduled to arrive in the Republic of Kiribati in early August to search for Americans still missing from World War II, notably, missing Marines who fought during the Battle of Tarawa.

Up to six sites designated as areas likely to contain possible human remains and material evidence will be excavated during the month-and-a-half-long operation.

If human remains and/or material evidence are recovered, the findings will be analyzed by scientific experts in the hopes of making a positive identification. A positive identification can often bring closure to families whose loved ones are still missing.

Falling directly under the U.S. Department of Defense, JPAC specializes in humanitarian missions. The jointly-manned organization of more than 400 military and civilian specialists has investigated and recovered missing Americans in the Pacific region since the 1970s.

Investigation and recov-

ery teams travel annually to both Papua New Guinea and the Republic of Vanuatu in the hopes of returning fallen comrades.

An investigative team and analysts from JPAC visited the island of Betio, the Republic of Kiribati, in September 2009; JPAC's policy officials have worked closely with the Kiribati government since the initial visit last year.

"We truly value the support we get from our friends and officials based out of Kiribati. They really understand the importance of what we do and are always willing to help," said James Darby, a senior policy officer for JPAC.

To date, there are approximately 74,190 unaccounted-for Americans from World War II. The exact number of U.S. remains at Tarawa is unclear; however, according to recent assessments, it is likely there are several hundred.

The ultimate goal of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and of the agencies involved in returning America's heroes home, is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of Americans lost during the nation's past conflicts.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Aug. 12 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
apprentice graduation

Aug. 19 – CARAT

Aug. 26 – 65th Anniversary End of WWII

Sept. 2 – National Preparedness Month

Sept. 9 – Education: STEP

Sept. 16 – Pacific Partnership 2010

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?
Email hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.