

Air Force fitness program rewards excellent Airmen



U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen
Airmen run during physical training at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 7. Airmen who earn an “excellent” on the new fitness test will now only have to test once a year, according to a new revision to the Air Force Fitness Program.

Beth Gosselin

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

Based upon service wide feedback, Airmen who earn an “excellent” on the new fitness test will now only have to test once a year, according to a revision to the Air Force Fitness Program.

“We believe this will recognize fitness excellence and serve as an incentive for more Airmen to improve their fitness,” said Col. Joan Garbutt, chief of military force

policy division.

The revision, which takes effect the same day the new program kicks off on July 1, allows those Airmen who test in all four components of the test and receive an overall score of 90 or better to test only once a year. The four components of the new fitness test include a 1.5-mile timed run, abdominal circumference, push-ups and sit-ups. Prior to this revision, all Airmen were required to test twice a year.

Senior Airman Andres Aponte, 15th Comptroller

Squadron physical training leader at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, said all Airmen should be positively affected by the revision.

“I personally like the Air Force’s efforts on physical fitness,” he said. “I feel as though before we really didn’t shine too much light on PT. Physical training should be a major component in being a war fighting Airmen, no matter what your job is.”

Approximately one of every five fitness scores documented in 2009 was “excellent” for those

Airmen who tested in all four categories, said Capt. Sean Brazel, chief of officer promotions, evaluations and fitness policy.

“Factoring in these numbers, we forecast a reduction in the fitness testing workload when this new policy takes effect,” Brazel added.

Aponte said the latest change to the policy should pay dividends.

“I do feel this is a positive amendment to the policy,” he said. “It will motivate a lot of Airmen to score high. However, they should not slack off after their test.

The physical well being of all Airmen should be a year-round effort – not just the four months prior to your test.”

Airmen must test under the new standards to qualify for this change. Therefore, only Airmen who test after June 30 will be able to earn the opportunity to do their fitness test once a year. Airmen who score an “excellent,” but were medically exempt from testing in one or more of the four components will still need to test twice a year. In other words, Airmen must successfully

complete all four components of the fitness test to qualify for the once a year testing.

“We believe this is another step in the right direction toward cultivating a fitter Air Force,” Garbutt said.

The Human Performance and Rehabilitation Center at Hickam has not yet received official word on the policy change, but understands an official message will reach them in the near future.

(Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen of 15th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam contributed to this article.)

Training takes joint base firefighters to new level

Story and photo by
SrA Gustavo Gonzalez

15th Wing Public Affairs,
Joint Base Pearl
Harbor-Hickam

Panic. Havoc. Tragedy. A projector displayed an aircraft, engulfed in flames, sitting on a runway. This description of a scene unfolding at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is one that no one ever thought they would see again, and would not want to see again.

For the firefighters at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, it was the Norma Brown trainer, a realistic situational training software used as part of a 12-day Fire

Officer Two Course. The command and control training involved both Hickam firefighters and Federal Fire Department Hawaii firefighters from Pearl Harbor.

The classroom simulation required 12 firefighters to work together, using radio communication, to secure the area where the aircraft was engulfed in flames. With all the firefighters geared up with headsets, communication was the key to a Navy and Air Force joint effort.

According to Staff Sgt. Lawrence McGuire, a 647th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, the visuals on the screen, the sound effects and the constant radio communication creates a realistic



scene to prepare them for the real thing. The classroom setting was a tense experience for them all.

“We went through a practical exercise and what it’s supposed to do is simulate controlled chaos that happens on any fire and or emergency scene,” said Scott Ebert, Federal Fire Department Hawaii fire inspector.

The joint training brings

See FIREFIGHTERS, A-7

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Gustavo Gonzalez
Firefighters from the Federal Fire Department Hawaii and the Hickam Fire Department work out a virtual scenario on the Norma Brown trainer at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on June 1.

Groundbreaking held for new CDC

Thomas Obungen

Naval Facilities
Engineering Command
Hawaii

A traditional Hawaiian blessing and groundbreaking ceremony took place June 4 to mark the start of construction on the largest of three new child development centers (CDC) that will be built at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

“This 30,000-square-foot facility will provide a structured, age-appropriate learning environment for more than 300 Navy and Air Force infants and toddlers, and just as important, well deserved peace of mind for their parents,” said Capt. Richard W. Kitchens, commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

“Currently, Pearl Harbor is experiencing a great need



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 N. Brett Morton

Capt. Richard Kitchens, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; Bill Wilson, president, Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company; and Rev. David Kaupu take part in the untying of the maile lei prior to breaking ground June 4 on the new child development center that is being built at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

for more CDC spaces for children of military families. Upon the completion of this project in October 2011, the childcare backlog is expected to be significantly reduced,” he said.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific awarded

the \$18.9 million contract to Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company Inc. to design and build the facility with environmental, education and security goals in mind.

The new CDC is expected

See CDC, A-4

CNO holds ‘all hands’ at Pearl Harbor



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead holds an all hands call for Hawaii-based Sailors. The CNO arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to participate at the 2010 Japan-U.S. Junior Officers Symposium on June 9.



U.S., Japan veterans visit
Midway, foster friendship
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Program offers workers with
disabilities a chance to shine
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USS Columbus returns to
Pearl Harbor-Hickam
See page A-3



Pearl Harbor survivor and
wife receive final honors
See page A-7



Big bats lead 15th Medical
Group to victory
See page B-3



Hickam children set record
during fishing tournament
See page B-1

U.S., Japan veterans visit Midway, foster friendships

Story and photos by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii
Public Affairs

WWII veterans from the United States and Japan, including more than 100 other visitors, journeyed to the Midway Atoll to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Midway on June 2.

Former U.S. Navy Sailor George Bernstein, 86, and a former Japanese Zero fighter pilot, Kaname Harada, 93, both Battle of Midway veterans from opposing sides, never met in battle but shook hands in friendship during a ceremony on Midway Atoll.

Bernstein was an aviation machinist's mate striker who was assigned to Torpedo Squadron 8, the U.S. Navy squadron of 15 torpedo bombers that first located the Japanese Navy fleet. Bernstein helped maintain the airplanes of the squadron during the Battle of Midway.

Bernstein said that it was ironic to meet the Japanese fighter pilot who shot down five Torpedo Squadron 8 airplanes.

"There were 15 shot down, he shot down five of them," Bernstein said. "We had a very interesting conversation."

Hosted by Military Historical Tours, Inc.,



Pacific Aviation Museum and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, veterans, historians and tourists from the two countries came together to pay their respects to the service members who served and died during the Battle of Midway on June 4-7, 1942.

Retired Marine Col. Warren Wiedhahn is the president and CEO of Military Historical Tours, Inc. who organizes military battlefield tours including Iwo Jima, Vietnam and the Midway Atoll.

"When I retired from

the Marine Corps in 1982, I noticed a need on the part of the veterans to go back to the battlefield for closure," said Wiedhahn.

It was certainly true for Harada who, after several attempts, was able to fly to Midway for the very first time.

"I lost many friends, many pilots from the carrier here during the Battle of Midway," Harada said through a translator. "For a long time, I wanted to come here and say a prayer, to do something for the pilots who lost their lives."

Harada said he wishes peace to the people who were lost during the battle and to the relationships between the U.S. and Japan.

"After the war, it is very good to see both countries together trying to make peace in many areas," said Harada. "That's a very good thing. During war, I think that there is no winner. Even though the United States won the war, they still suffered a lot, especially after spending some time on this island. I realized that more effort is needed for both nations,"

he explained.

Ship's Serviceman 3rd Class (SW) Jose Miguel Rivera, assigned to USS Lake Erie (CG 70), was part of the honor guard detail at the ceremony.

"When you stop to think about everything that happened here, and how big of a role that this island had, it's amazing," said Rivera. "It's breathtaking being here, an honor."

Rivera admitted he was moved by the show of friendship between the two former enemies.

"I actually talked to a couple of the Japanese

veterans, and it kind of hit me," said Rivera. "They were enemies and now we see them talking to each other, trying to get to know each other. Seeing how the veterans got along so well, it's like we swept it under a rug. I thought that there was going to be a little intensity, but there was nothing. It was really peaceful."

Wiedhahn said that moments like these were very moving for him.

"It's interesting that 60 years later, here are these gray-headed men on both sides who were 18 to 20 years old at the time and were doing for their country what their country told them to do. Now, the war is over," Wiedhahn said.

The Battle of Midway was fought over and near the Midway atoll, approximately 1,500 nautical miles northwest of Hawaii. The battle represents the strategic high water mark and turning point of the Pacific war.

According to the Naval History and Heritage Command website, Japan initially possessed general naval superiority over the United States and could usually choose where and when to attack. After Midway, the two opposing fleets were essentially equals, and the United States soon took the offensive.

For more information about the Battle of Midway, visit www.history.navy.mil.

Program offers workers with disabilities a chance to shine

Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

15th Wing Public Affairs,
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
Hickam

In January 2009, the headquarters staff at the Air Force Equal Opportunity Office at the Pentagon began boosting efforts to build Air Force participation in the Workforce Recruitment Program (WRP) for College Students with Disabilities.

This year, Hickam is beginning to see some of the long-lasting fruit of that labor.

Last summer, Ryan Takaesu was a student at the University of Hawai'i in the interdisciplinary studies program. As a student with a learning disability, he became a mem-

ber of the "kokua" program - a campus unit responsible for providing academic access services to students with disabilities. Kokua provided Ryan with note-taking assistance and helped him to negotiate time extensions for examinations.

Takaesu learned of the WRP through the university's human resource department.

"The workforce recruitment program serves as a resource for employers nationwide to hire qualified temporary and permanent employees from a variety of fields," said Michelle Siples, the Air Force Disability Program manager at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

According to Takaesu, he worked hard to make an impression on his supe-

riors while working over the summer.

"Coming in to work every day doing the work my supervisor told me to do ... if I didn't have anything to do, I would go around and ask everyone else if they needed help with anything," he said.

Chief Master Sgt. Alton Blalock, Pacific Air Forces Postal Squadron chief enlisted manager and Takaesu's supervisor, said the mindful work ethic he displayed during his summer internship was a key factor in landing a full-time job.

"He worked here during the summer months last year, and we found during that time that he was a very conscientious person who did a very good job for us," he said. "We looked at possible opportunities for

him to work here permanently, and civilian personnel presented [the WRP] for his particular disability and we were able to hire him under that," Blalock explained.

Since being hired as a full-time employee, Blalock said Takaesu has thrived with the added responsibilities attached with such a promotion.

"Since he's been working here permanently, he's proved to be a big asset for us. Everything we've given him so far, he's shown the motivation to do things almost perfectly. Adding extra responsibility has proven beneficial to us and him because he's truly shined," noted Blalock.

According to Joyce Willy, 647th Air Base Group civilian personnel

flight employee development manager, the Air Force received 25 slots that they were allowed to fill through the WRP this year.

"I think it's awesome to provide opportunities to those who might be lost in the mix of the applicant pool," she said. "To give them that shot, it's tremendously beneficial to the student and the Air Force."

Willy explained that the program is meant to allow employers to see beyond a person's disability.

"You see the potential and you try to set aside whatever disability they have. This program is meant to show that anyone can succeed if employers can see their potential," she said.

Takaesu recognizes the

opportunity he has received through the Air Force and the WRP and said his path to success is a simple one to follow.

"Do your best day in and day out. Be helpful and supportive of both civilian and military personnel. That will allow people around you to see how valuable you are," he said.

According to Takaesu, the way the military has adopted him into its workforce has been nothing short of a family affair.

"The military has been a big help to me," Takaesu said. "They're just like an ohana. They all help each and every person, whether civilian or military. They're helping to make the military force a lot stronger every day by taking care of each other."

Air Force unveils new legal assistance website

15th Wing Legal Office staff report

Air Force members who need a will, power of attorney, or just have a legal question, can visit the Air Force Legal Assistance Website at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>.

The Air Force Judge Advocate General Corps unveiled the new Air Force Legal Assistance Website worldwide on Feb. 1. However, the website recently changed its web address to ".mil" domain instead of ".com." The website is still designed for active duty and reserve component members, retirees and family members.

The website was created to increase efficiency and track client satisfaction with the Air Force legal assistance program.



Image courtesy of www.aflegalassistance.law.af.mil.

Because it is a public site, clients may access the site's features from the comfort of their homes without a CAC card. The site's features include:

Legal topics: Short papers on common legal assistance topics such as wills and family law issues. It also contains links to other

helpful sites.

Legal worksheets: Access to online questionnaires for wills, living wills and powers of attorney. After completing the online worksheet, the website provides each client a unique "ticket number." Data entered by clients are secure and may be accessed only after

clients visit their local legal office and provide their ticket numbers to legal office personnel.

Online survey: Following a visit to the legal office, clients are encouraged to provide feedback concerning the professionalism and helpfulness of our legal professionals.

Many clients have visited a legal office to obtain a will or other legal document and realize after arriving that they need to gather more information or documents from home. Sometimes a client realizes he needs to speak with his spouse about an issue.

Completing an online worksheet will help minimize these multiple visits. By filling out an online worksheet, clients will be able to consider critical issues online prior to vis-

iting the legal office. After receiving a ticket number, a client may take his ticket number to the legal office. An attorney or paralegal will then access a client's data with the ticket number. This will reduce the amount of information the client needs to bring with him, and allow the legal office to streamline the process to some degree.

While the website increases convenience for clients, everyone should note the following:

- Information on the website is for educational and informational purposes only. The website cannot replace consultation with your local JAG and Airmen should never rely solely on the website when making decisions.

- Clients will not have the ability to print a legal document (will, power of

attorney, etc.) from the website. Clients will need to visit the legal office and provide their ticket numbers to obtain their legal documents.

- The website is designed for client convenience, but no one is required to use the website prior to visiting the legal office.

For more information, visit the legal office between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for any powers of attorney or notary service.

Legal assistance is by appointment only, and wills are done every Thursday by appointment.

We value your feedback concerning the website and the services we provide as we continue to look for ways to serve you better. Don't forget to bring your ticket number.

USS Columbus returns to Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Story and photo by MC2 Ronald Guttridge

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

The Los Angeles-class, fast-attack, nuclear-powered submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 28, following a six-month deployment to the western Pacific region.

"This was an incredibly successful deployment with every mission accomplished superbly," said Cmdr. Dave Minyard, commanding officer of Columbus. "The crew's performance was outstanding and they executed exactly as trained."

"This deployment was challenging from begin-



Sailors depart on liberty after the Los Angeles class, fast-attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 28, following a six-month deployment to the western Pacific region. Columbus completed several missions of vital importance in support of overseas contingency operations.

ning to end," said Lt. Cmdr. Robert Hill, executive officer of Columbus. "I am extremely proud of the professionalism the crew demonstrated while conducting missions."

USS Columbus is the 51st Los Angeles-class submarine and the 12th improved version of this class, which includes a vertical launch system for Tomahawk cruise missiles and an improved hull design for under-ice operations.

She completed a post shipyard availability in June 1994 in Groton, Conn. after initial construction and shakedown operations. In September 1994, the ship conducted an interfleet transfer to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and joined the U.S. Pacific Fleet Submarine Force.

Diverse Views



What would you do if a hurricane were coming?

Service members from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



AOAN Stephanie Webster
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

"I would gather my money that I set aside and make sure all my personal information was up to date."

GSMFN Rachel Kuebler
USS O'Kane (DDG 77)

"If I heard a hurricane was coming, I would use the money I saved for water, etc. I would also let my family know what is going on."



OS2 Christopher Elliot
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

"I'd pack up my dogs and cat and bring them to work. I'd go to my office and contact personnel for recall."

SHSN Jose Pio
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

"If a hurricane was coming, I would contact my command and find a safe place to go."



(Provided by SN (SW) Rachel Swiatnicki)

Injured survivor of Battle of Midway recovers at Pearl Harbor



Ensign George H. Gay at Pearl Harbor Naval Hospital, with a nurse and a copy of the "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" newspaper featuring accounts of the battle. He was the only survivor of the June 4, 1942 Torpedo Squadron Eight (VT-8) TBD torpedo plane attack on the Japanese carrier force. Gay's book "Sole Survivor" indicates that the date of this photograph is probably June 7, 1942, following an operation to repair his injured left hand and a meeting with Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, Naval History and Heritage Command

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Hickam medic enjoys structured Air Force lifestyle

SrA Gustavo Gonzalez

15th Air Wing Public Affairs, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Airman 1st Class Richard Rasmussen, an aerospace medical technician at 15th Medical Operations Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, provides medical administrative support for two doctors, ensuring that more than 3,000 joint base beneficiaries receive \$2 million per year in health care.

He also conducts 20 to 25 pediatric health screenings daily

that include anticipatory guidance and counseling as well as record reviews. In addition,

Rasmussen is an augment physician and performs throat cultures, nebulizer treatments, cryotherapy and staple removals. "He is an eager Airman, willing to learn everything about his role as a medic," said Tech. Sgt. William Malone, pediatric clinic non-commissioned officer in charge. "He loves to be challenged and he will accomplish any task set before him," said Malone.

As part of his responsibilities, Rasmussen also enforces infection control standards, ensuring cleanliness and supplying integrity of patient exam, treatment, waiting and storage rooms.

"I enjoy the structured lifestyle the Air Force brings to my life and the sense of responsibility that comes with being a part of the military," explained Rasmussen.

His hobbies include going to the beach, watching movies and playing sports. "On my off time, I like to go out and see what Hawaii has to offer - like the various beaches and malls," said Rasmussen. "My favorite thing about being stationed in Hawaii is the rich history the base has to offer and seeing the many different cultures that have made the state what it is today."

Airman 1st Class Richard Rasmussen, an aerospace medical technician at 15th Medical Operations Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, enjoys playing sports in his leisure time.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

CDC

Continued from A-1

to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver status or certification. This means it will meet a highly-specific set of requirements related to sustainability and efficiency in design and maintenance.

"There are various levels of LEED, with silver being the lowest," said Capt. David Bustamante, executive officer at NAVFAC Hawaii. "However, there are certain initiatives underway to modify this contract to include photovoltaic panels to raise it to LEED platinum, the highest rating."

When opened, the CDC will feature 23 classrooms for infants, pre-toddlers, toddlers and pre-schoolers. The contract also calls for the construction of an administration office and a building that houses a kitchen, laundry room and storage, as well as a safe drop-off and pick-up area in the parking lot.

The facility will be rectangular in shape with an enclosed secure center courtyard that will feature tot lots and other outdoor play areas. There will also be a guarded pedestrian gate on Center Drive which will allow easy access for drop off and pick up of children.

Hawaiian Dredging, which has completed large-scale projects for the Navy in Hawaii before, such as the Ford Island Bridge and various pier work, is expecting to use its own local workforce as well as hire other local sub-contractors, especially small businesses.

"Many of our employees have been staying home over the past year because of the slowdown of work," said Eric Hashizume, vice president, Hawaiian Dredging Building Division. "In addition to hiring sub-contractors, we will be bringing our people back to work on this project."

Air Force pilot missing from Vietnam War identified

U.S. Department of Defense Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office has announced that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing in action from the Vietnam War, have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Airman Col. Elton L. Perrine of Pittsford, N.Y.

was buried at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. On May 22, 1967, Perrine and Capt. Kenneth F. Backus completed a nighttime strike against the Cao Nung Railroad Yard near the town of Kep in North Vietnam. Seconds after the bomb run, a nearby aircrew reported seeing an isolated explosion approximately three miles east of the target, thought to be Perrine's F-4C Phantom aircraft crashing. Search and rescue attempts were not initi-

ated due to heavy anti-aircraft fire in the area.

Analysts from DPMO developed case leads with information spanning more than 28 years. Through interviews with eyewitnesses and research in the National Archives, four locations in Lang Son Province were pinpointed as potential crash sites, separated by as many as 10 miles.

Between 1999 and 2008, U.S.-Socialist Republic of Vietnam teams, led by the Joint POW/MIA Accounting

Command (JPAC), further analyzed leads, interviewed villagers, conducted two surveys and four excavations. The teams recovered small pieces of aircraft wreckage, human remains, personal effects and life-support equipment from the four locations.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from JPAC and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory also used mitochondrial DNA - which matched that

of Perrine's mother - in the identification of his remains. No remains connected to Backus were recovered at the locations.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO website at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call 703-699-1169.

(Editor's note: Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command is located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii.)

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Adm. Patrick Walsh, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, awards Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky the Legion of Merit during the Pacific Missile Range Facility's (PMRF) change of command ceremony on June 4. Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky turned over command of PMRF to its 24th commanding officer, Capt. Nicholas Mongillo.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh

(Below) The Los Angeles-class submarine USS Jacksonville (SSN 699) departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region on June 2.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW/AW/SCW) Ronald Gutridge



(Below) Hurler Tech. Sgt. Allen Malone of the 15th Medical Group delivers a pitch during the team's intramural game versus 747th Communication Squadron at Hickam softball fields, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, on June 8. Malone tossed two scoreless innings in the game's final three frames to help the 15th Medical Group defeat 747 CS by a score of 12-7.

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge

Electronics Technician 1st Class (SS) Terry Roberts of the First Class Petty Officers association of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Greenville (SSN 772) places a wreath at the Parche Submarine Memorial Park on June 4 to commemorate the 68th anniversary of the Battle of Midway.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge

Melvin Ing, president of the Navy League of the United States, Honolulu Chapter, presents the proclamation of adoption to Cmdr. Steve Mack, commanding officer of USS Hawaii (SSN 776) and Master Chief Robert Crossno, chief of the boat, during an adoption ceremony at the submarine piers on June 4. The Navy League strives to improve the understanding and appreciation of those who wear the uniforms of our armed forces and to better the conditions under which they live and serve.



Lt. Cmdr. Joel Uzarski, combat systems officer on USS Lake Erie (CG 70), faces the reigning champion of the day, Fire Controlman 2nd Class Waylon Gray, during a departmental picnic on the ship with Lockheed Martin employees.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Kelly Waller

Erb replaces McCartney as USS Chung-Hoon commanding officer

Lt. j.g. Renaldo Rodgers

*USS Chung-Hoon
(DDG 93) Public Affairs*

USS Chung-Hoon and her crew bid farewell and following seas to Cmdr. Michael McCartney at a change of command ceremony held May 6 on board the ship. Cmdr. Scott Erb, who has served as Chung-Hoon's executive officer since October 2009, relieved McCartney, who has been selected for promotion to captain.

McCartney took command of Chung-Hoon in October 2008 while the ship was conducting pre-deployment exercises with the USS Boxer Expeditionary Strike Group. In January 2009, Chung-Hoon embarked on a six-month independent cruise into the U.S. 7th, U.S. 5th and U.S. 6th Fleet areas of responsibility, including escort



U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Nicholas Harman

(Left to right) Cmdr. Scott Erb, incoming commanding officer of USS Chung-Hoon; Capt. David Welch, deputy commodore of Destroyer Squadron 31; Cmdr. Michael McCartney (outgoing commanding officer); Capt. Douglas Waite, command chaplain for Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; and CMDCM David Unnone, Chung-Hoon command master chief; salute during the change of command ceremony held on board the ship on May 6.

duty through Egypt's Suez Canal and into the Mediterranean Sea.

While deployed, the

ship made several port visits, including a stop in the Maldives Archipelago and Bali, Indonesia, becoming the first U.S. warship to visit there since the 2002 nightclub bombings.

Under McCartney's leadership, Chung-Hoon served as Destroyer Squadron 31's flagship for fleet training with the Republic of Singapore Navy and the Royal Malaysian Navy during the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) exercise.

After completing deployment in July 2009, McCartney guided the ship through a rigorous, but successful maintenance and training cycle in fall 2009, culminating with outstanding ratings during the Board of Inspection and Survey

material assessment and the 3M Mid-Cycle Assessment. Chung-Hoon again served as Destroyer Squadron 31's flagship during the Koa Kai Exercise. While in command, McCartney saw the ship earn her first "Red E" for engineering excellence and her second "Blue E" for logistical excellence.

McCartney has been assigned to the Navy Personnel Command as the deputy director of surface warfare (nuclear) detailing.

Erb's previous tours include executive officer of USS Carney, department head tours on USS O'Kane (DDG 77) and on the staff of Destroyer Squadron 18, and shore tours at the Joint Staff and the Naval War College.

HURREX: Navy Region Hawaii trains with ombudsmen

**SN (SW)
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Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) participated in a hurricane readiness exercise (HURREX) on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) at the end of May to prepare for hurricane season.

Public announcements and training were two of the ways that CNRH prepared. "HURREX is part of a Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam operation to prepare us for emergencies," said Larry Sabatine, deputy emergency management officer. "Every year when we do these HURREXs, we train a little bit better."

A new addition to the exercise was the inclusion of Navy Region ombudsmen.

"Ombudsmen are great advocates to get the word out," said Sabatine.

A few of an ombudsman's roles in a disaster include supporting Sailors and families during the recovery phase, coordinating food and clothing drives, and providing accurate information and updates between the command and their families.

Teresa Espiritu is the ombudsman coordinator

from Fleet and Family Support Center. One of her roles is to coordinate Navy Region ombudsmen during a time of crisis or disaster by sending notifications to Navy families and updating Navy leadership.

"I let all the key players know that ombudsmen have great information and can help out with these exercises to ensure readiness for the families if a hurricane were to hit," said Espiritu.

During the exercise, JBPHH commands broke out checklists and inventories and executed the proper steps as if there were a real hurricane. Commands also made sure that family contact information was up-to-date.

"Even though the base is going through the exercise, hopefully the Sailors and active duty members are going home and talking to their spouses," said Sabatine. "This whole HURREX is also a public awareness thing. It is a time for everyone to focus. You won't have time worrying about having a kit, water, and money set aside. You don't want to be thinking about that when the hurricane is 24 hours out; it's kind of too late. It's time [now] for everyone to look at how prepared they are," he explained.

Upcoming change of command events

June 29 - The Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Supply Center Philadelphia, Pacific Region will conduct a change of command ceremony at 10 a.m. at the Hickam Officers' Club, building 1073, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Cmdr. Matthew N. Ott III, Supply Corps, outgoing; Cmdr. Jason A. Bridges, Supply Corps, incoming. Brig. Gen. Scott Chambers, USAF, Commander Defense Supply Center Philadelphia will officiate. Event is open to the community.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

June 17 – Individual augmentees – Hospital Corps perspective

June 24 – RIMPAC

July 1 – Wildland fires

July 8 - Hurricane Season

(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.

Pearl Harbor survivor and wife receive final honors

Story and photos by
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

A scattering of ashes ceremony was held for 88-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor and former Chief Yeoman William "Bill" Charles Boyan on June 2 at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island.

Boyan, who died on Feb. 24, was a 20-year-old Sailor aboard the USS California (BB-44) at the time of the 1941 Pearl Harbor attacks.

The ashes of Boyan and his wife of 52 years, Colleen, who died Jan. 17, were scattered in Pearl Harbor during a ceremony that included full military honors, a short religious service and a three-volley rifle salute provided by the Navy Region Hawaii ceremonial guard. Boyan's two daughters, Cathy Gessner and Mary Boyan Slakey, were in attendance along with extended family and friends.

"I think the [service] was pretty amazing," said Gessner after the ceremony. "At first, I was not sure what to expect, but being here at the [USS Utah] memorial and experiencing this firsthand was a real honor. Dad would have been impressed."

Gessner said her father, a Newark, N.J. native, always wanted to follow in the foot-



Photo illustration

steps of his father, who was a career naval man. Boyan enlisted in the Navy in 1940 and was a young seaman assigned to USS California during the surprise Japanese attacks on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Gessner said that for years, her father remained very guarded with his memories about that fateful Sunday morning. But what he did choose to share with his daughter stayed

with her a lifetime.

"I remember one of the few stories he told was that he was awake that morning, getting ready for mass when he looked out the porthole and saw the Japanese planes," she recalled. "He said he didn't immediately recognize they were enemy planes until the bombing began and everyone was called to [their] battle stations."

Gessner added that when

the ship was hit, the crew was ordered to abandon ship and her father had to change his exit strategy as the engine room was on fire. He and several other Sailors were finally able to escape after climbing through a tower to get off the ship via an anchor rope.

"After the attack was over, he found his locker had been directly hit and everything was incinerated," she said. "With only the clothes on his

back, he spent the next few nights in a hangar with lots of others, waiting to be re-signed."

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Boyan went on to serve aboard USS Astoria (CL-90) and USS Argonne (AS-10), in New Caledonia and San Diego.

Boyan was honorably discharged as a chief yeoman in 1946, but re-enlisted as a Navy Reservist from 1948 to 1953. Among his naval

achievements, he earned a Victory Medal WWII, Good Conduct and Asiatic-Pacific Area four-star medals during his Navy service.

After the war, he lived in Chicago while attending Gregg College to become a certified shorthand reporter and returned to live in San Francisco and run his own reporting business. In 1958, he married his wife, Colleen, and moved to Sacramento to raise their two daughters.

For a while, Boyan taught at Heald Business College and then worked for S.P. Railroad until he retired in 1986. A talented poet, Boyan also received numerous awards for his freelance writing and published works.

Family members said that Boyan, who passed away a month after his beloved wife, always felt a deep connection to Pearl Harbor. In fact, Slakey said her father was known for his strong sense of faith and patriotism, two qualities no doubt shaped by the tragic events of Pearl Harbor.

"My dad was a very strong Catholic and a very strong American," she said. "Those two things were always something that gave him so much pride. Both he and mom were such wonderful and loving parents. This was a fitting way to honor two wonderful lives."

Joint firefighters manage fire/emergency services at new level

Continued from A-1

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam one step closer together after combining the two historic bases into one joint installation Feb. 1 to support both Air Force and Navy missions.

"Joint basing may have some meshing issues at some point, but in terms of fire and emergency services, that's one area where we really don't have a whole lot of problems," Ebert said. "We are all playing by the same

playbook, we all use the same terminology, we are all trained by the same standards, and most of us go through the same school," he explained.

The incident command system that the students learned in this course module is based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The NIMS provides a standardized approach in mitigating emergency responses from the local, state and federal levels. "If that plane catches on

fire and I'm the first one on scene, then I can take control until the on-scene commander gets there," said McGuire.

According to Tech. Sgt. Robert Laning, 312th Training Squadron DoD [Department of Defense] Fire Academy instructor at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, the joint training they received is right in line with the joint mission in Hawaii.

"I think on the operations side that's really going to make things better as far as

what Navy does and what the Air Force does and combining those together," he said. "They both have things that we specialize in on the Navy side and on the Air Force side. These are all things we cover in class."

Laning said the firefighters for this class passed with flying colors.

"This is by far one of the best classes because they really embraced what we are

trying to teach them," he said. "Their level of commitment is beyond reach."

The training was conducted by Laning and Samuel Sprouse. The instructors travel to different installations conducting the training, maximizing the benefit to a larger audience at a minimal cost, and ensuring people are qualified for the mission.

"We go on the road with

fire officer two and fire officer three [training courses] and it's an advanced management in the fire service and more than just what people think about the physical aspects," said Laning.

Not only can the group of joint firefighters put out a fire, thanks to the mobile instructors, but they can safely and effectively manage fire and emergency service resources at a new level.