



Photo by David D. Underwood, Jr.

Maj. Gen. Stephen D. Tom, commander, Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and Col. Dann Carlson, commander, 647th Air Base Group, 13th Air Force, and deputy commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, salute during a POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Sept. 16.

## Boxer Amphibious Ready Group visits Pearl Harbor

Story and photo by  
 MC1 Donald Walton

Amphibious Squadron One  
 Public Affairs

Boxer Amphibious Ready Group (BOXARG) and embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) entered Pearl Harbor on Sept. 20, as part of a port visit during their 2011 western Pacific deployment.

Amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4), amphibious dock landing ship USS Comstock (LSD 45) and amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD 20) comprise BOXARG, led by Capt. Curtis Shaub commander, Amphibious Squadron One.

"The BOXARG/13MEU team was extremely successful in accomplishing every task across the myriad blue/green mission-sets during this deployment," Shaub said. "We are looking forward to some well



Boxer Amphibious Ready Group (BOXARG) and embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) entered Pearl Harbor on Sept. 20 for a port visit.

deserved time off in this tropical paradise, then continuing our journey home to see our loved ones."

BOXARG deployed Feb. 22 from San Diego and has been conducting theater

security cooperation events and bilateral training exercises while in the U.S. 5th Fleet and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of responsibility.

"I am so proud of the 2,300 Marines and Sailors

that made up this edition of 13th MEU," said Col. David Coffman, commanding officer, 13th MEU. "They were a great team. They made a difference in these turbulent times during their

seven months as a forward-deployed sea-based MAGTF [Marine air-ground task force], and now return with honor to their family and friends back here in America. Mission complete

and job well done."

Pearl Harbor is the final port visit for BOXARG/13MEU as the ships return to San Diego after completing a seven-month deployment.

## F-22 Raptor fleet to resume flight operations after stand down

Secretary of the Air  
 Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz have recently approved an implementation plan developed by Air Combat Command (ACC) officials that will allow the F-22 Raptor to resume flight operations after a four-month stand down.

The commander of Air Combat Command directed a stand-down of the fleet May 3 as a safety precaution, following 12 separate reported incidents where pilots experienced hypoxia-like symptoms. The incidents occurred over a three-year period beginning in April 2008.

Officials remain focused on the priorities of aircrew



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

The F-22 Raptor lands at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on July 2. The 199th Fighter Squadron of the Hawaii Air National Guard transitioned from the F-16.

safety and combat readiness. The return-to-fly plan implements several risk mitigation actions, to include rigorous inspections, training on life support systems, and continued data collection.

"We now have enough insight from recent studies and investigations that a return to flight is prudent and appropriate," Schwartz said. "We're managing the risks with our aircrews, and we're continuing to study the F-22's oxygen systems and collect data to improve its performance."

In a task force approach to implementation, Air Combat Command officials developed a comprehensive incremental return-to-fly plan that balances safety

See RAPTOR, A-8



Submariner is 'virtually' there for his baby's first cry  
 See page A-2



Students 'SOAR' with online assessment and tutorial tool  
 See page A-4



PMRF Sailor finds message in a bottle  
 See page B-1



Air Force celebrates 64th birthday  
 See page A-2



Thai air chief visit fosters strategic relationship  
 See page A-7



Force Support Squadron holds on to beat 15th OG  
 See page B-2

# Submariner is 'virtually' there for his baby's first cry

Story and photo by  
MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

Even with today's advanced technologies in communication, there are still some places on earth where it is difficult or nearly impossible for people to communicate with one another. One example is on a U.S. Navy submarine. But if it's in support of a shipmate, a Sailor will find a way.

While the Virginia-class submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777) was at sea Aug. 22, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Felyncia McNair, the wife of one crew member, was admitted to Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) in labor. Senior Chief Hospital Corpsman Michael Bagley of Naval Submarine Support Command, (NSSC) Pearl Harbor was notified of this and went to work on contacting North Carolina.

This was not an easy task, and time was of the essence. There is no cell phone service when you are on a submarine. E-mail was also out of the question, not enough time. But this was no problem for Bagley because he knew how to make contact.



Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SS/SW/AW) Timothy Dolan, independent duty corpsman on the Virginia-class submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777), greets his wife, Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Felyncia McNair, and newborn daughter at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Sept. 8 after returning to Pearl Harbor. Dolan's daughter was born while North Carolina was underway.

Bagley asked the NSSC command duty officer to keep an eye out for North Carolina on chat. Within minutes, contact was made and Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (SS/SW/AW) Timothy Dolan, submarine independent duty corpsman on North Carolina, was notified about his wife.

Bagley also contacted TAMC labor and delivery to get a status on Dolan's wife and was transferred to her room. She answered the phone and reported that she was doing well and had all her family with her. Bagley let her know that he was on

chat with her husband, and that's when the conversation began.

"All too often in our line of work, Sailors have to sacrifice the important events and milestones in their family's life for the success of the submarine force and the Navy," Bagley said. "It truly

was a privilege to be part of this member being 'present' at the birth of his child."

For about the next half an hour, Bagley passed on messages between Dolan on chat and his wife on the phone. When the doctors came into her room and let her know she was ready to

go, the phone was passed off to her sister who was now in the mix as the second intermediary in the conversation between Dolan and his wife.

Dolan informed them that the submarine was preparing to dive and that he might need to discontinue chat soon. Bagley continued to provide updates to Dolan regarding his wife's status down to the last minute, with a play-by-play of the situation like "getting ready to push again" and "we can see the head." Bagley heard the baby cry through the phone and sent the final message to Dolan, "She's here!"

"This was a complete surprise considering I was expecting to miss the birth and receive a message the following day of the condition of my wife and newborn baby," Nolan said. "This chat gave me a secure peace of mind for the rest of our underway schedule, knowing all is well at home."

The Dolan family was fortunate. The submarine was in the right place as was a caring shipmate to bring them together. As technology evolves at an extremely rapid pace and new ideas are never ending, one idea will always remain the same: Sailors will go to endless lengths to take care of their shipmates.

## Air Force celebrates 64th birthday

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Lauren Main  
Airmen and guests begin to fill the dance floor at the 64th annual Air Force Ball, held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Waikiki on Sept. 16. The ball celebrated the Air Force's 64th year as a separate service and paid tribute to the heroes who have served throughout its history.



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## Pacific Rim air force leaders come together to discuss similarities, challenges

Maj. Jillian Torango

13th Air Force Public Affairs

It's not often that senior leaders from air forces throughout the Pacific Region get together, but that's just what happened at this year's Pacific Rim (PACRIM) Airpower Symposium held Sept. 6-9 in Brisbane, Australia. Over four days, senior leaders from 17 Pacific Rim countries participated in and took turns leading discussion about the similar challenges faced by their air forces.

Co-hosted this year by the U.S. and Royal Australian Air Forces, the 2011 PACRIM Airpower Symposium theme was "Flying Forward - Evolving Airpower" with a main focus area focusing on how to successfully operate within constrained budgets.

"The issues we face today aren't any different between our air forces, but when an air force is small, those issues can be critical," said Lt. Gen. Stanley T. Kresge, 13th Air Force commander and U.S. delegation lead for the symposium. "This symposium provided opportunities for untraditional networking among our air forces to address those issues and challenges."

One issue facing today's Pacific Rim air forces is having limited budgets at a time of increased operational demand. This means finding efficiencies wherever possible while ensuring mission effectiveness is not compromised.

While the answers are not

simple, one of the guiding principles for future success was continuously brought up throughout the symposium —air forces partnering for success.

"There are many ways to attack the overriding similarities between our air forces," said Air Vice-Marshal Mark Skidmore, air commander Australia, Royal Australian Air Force and Australian delegation lead for the symposium.

"Using venues such as this symposium will be absolutely essential in the years to come, so senior leaders can get together to see and understand how each nation is achieving their particular goals," Skidmore said.

Events like the PACRIM Airpower Symposium also lay the foundation for participation by Pacific Rim nations in other events such as exercises, humanitarian assistance/disaster response (HA/DR) and peace support operations, subject-matter expert exchanges and conferences.

"We train for normal operations and participate in disaster exercises, but in the future it is important that we prepare for the large-scale disasters like the Great East Japan Earthquake that happened on March 11, 2011," said Maj. Gen. Tadashi Miyagawa, director of operations and intelligence department, Air Staff Office, Japan Air Self Defense Force.

"Each of our countries has had floods, fires and earthquakes and to have a better understanding in advance of how we can efficiently and effectively come together

during these times of devastation is key to ensuring the right capability can be at the right place at the right time," Kresge said. "What the disaster in Japan highlighted is that even the small contribution the U.S. Air Force was able to make would have been much faster and more effective if we could have planned ahead and prepared together for a large-scale disaster such as this."

Using lessons learned and finding efficiencies is one way for the Pacific Rim air forces to meet operational demand while being fiscally responsible.

"The only way we can continue to build a future for our air forces is to share our ideas and experiences, so we don't lose sight of what our air forces' requirements are even when operating under a constrained budget," Skidmore said.

Countries with representatives attending this year's symposium were Australia, Cambodia, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, Thailand, Tonga and the United States.

The PACRIM Airpower Symposium is an annual U.S. Pacific Air Forces-sponsored event. In 2008, 13th Air Force, the Pacific Air Forces organization responsible for U.S. participation in the PACRIM Airpower Symposium, began working with other Pacific Rim nations to plan and host the event. Last year the Republic of Singapore Air Force hosted the event in Singapore and next year the 13th Air Force will work with the Japan Air Self Defense Force to plan the symposium which will be held in Japan.

## Port Royal hosts Air Force commander



U.S. Navy file photo

Lt. Gen. David Goldfein toured USS Port Royal (CG73), shown here in a file photo, on Aug. 29.

### Fire Controlman 2nd Class Geoffrey Phippeny

U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Office of Public Affairs

ARABIAN GULF – Lt. Gen. David Goldfein commander, U.S. Air Forces Central Command (USAF-CENT), Southwest Asia, embarked guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) on Aug. 29.

The ship hosted Goldfein for a tour of the Navy's ballistic missile defense (BMD) cruiser.

He toured Port Royal to gain insight into the relationship between the Air

Force, U.S. Navy BMD-configured ships, and how they work together to support integrated air and missile defense (IAMD).

Goldfein assumed command of USAFCENT last month and is responsible for developing contingency plans and conducting air operations in a 20-nation area of responsibility, covering central and southwest Asia.

"The purpose of the visit was to discuss the role the Aegis guided-missile cruiser plays in IAMD," said Lt. Shawn Trisler, Port Royal's air defense officer. "Lt. Gen. Goldfein's goal is to use the information he gained during his visit to develop joint

responses to ballistic missile and air breathing threats."

The tour route included the ship's wardroom where Capt. Eric Weilenman, commanding officer, introduced key members of the air defense team and the combat information center to view a simulated IAMD scenario.

Goldfein's visit concluded with a command coin and a ship's ballcap presented by Weilenman.

Port Royal is conducting maritime security operations and missions in support of operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn while deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

## Revised schedule for intra harbor shuttle operations beginning Oct. 1 announced

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam intra harbor shuttle will revise operations beginning Oct. 1. The new schedule will no longer include transit to the inner harbor landings.

Transit will be between

Lima (L, West Loch), and Charlie (C, near Hospital Point) landings only.

Starting the morning of Oct. 3, the new schedule for the intra harbor shuttle from Monday to Friday (except federal holidays) will be:

**Morning:**  
Depart L Landing - 5:45 a.m.

Depart L Landing - 6:15 a.m.

Depart L Landing - 7 a.m.

**Afternoon:**  
Depart C Landing - 3:30 p.m.

Depart C Landing - 4 p.m.

Depart C Landing - 4:30 p.m.

Depart C Landing - 5:15 p.m.

## Diverse Views



### What is your favorite Oahu beach and why?



Michael Robinson  
Electronics Technician 2nd Class

Waimea Bay because you can jump off the rocks. The water's crystal clear and not too cool.

Laurie Taylor



I like Sand Island because I lower my jet skis in there. I like to paddleboard in Haleiwa and Hawaii Kai. I love the water; if I'm not on the beach I'm at the pool. I have two paddleboards, two jet skis and a kayak. My mom even started calling us (group of friends and me) the Ewa Beach Social Club.



Gloria Melville  
Spouse of Navy retiree

Hickam Beach, the beautiful water and beautiful setup. The water and beaches are so clean and good for families. Plus it's close to the Sea Breeze restaurant.

Charley Melville  
U.S. Navy commander (retired)



Hickam Beach, the retired military are treated wonderful, and we appreciate the hospitality from everyone.



Master Sgt. Cohen Young  
Defense Media Activity

Kailua is my favorite beach. It's pretty quiet, and I like to go kayaking there.

Savage Pelesasa  
Landscape



Hickam Beach, it's not so crowded, and it's close to the runway to watch planes take off.

(Provided by David D. Underwood Jr. and Jazzmin Williams)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at [editor@hookelenews.com](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or [karen.spangler@navy.mil](mailto:karen.spangler@navy.mil)

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## USAF maintainers give Australians a peek into their future



U.S. Air Force file photo by Tech. Sgt. Shane A. Cuomo

U.S. and Australian maintainers work on a C-17 Globemaster III nose steering actuator at the former Hickam Air Force Base on Oct. 19, 2006. Maintainers from Amberly Royal Australian Air Force Base's 36th Squadron were working alongside their U.S. Air Force counterparts from the 15th Maintenance Group, learning the ins and outs of the Globemaster III in preparation for the delivery of their first C-17.

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# Students 'SOAR' with online assessment and tutorial tool

Karen S. Spangler

Managing Editor

With the click of a computer mouse, children in Hawaii can enter a virtual classroom as part of SOAR (Student Online Achievement Resources).

The free Internet-based program was designed for students in grades 3-12. It provides assessments that are aligned with state standards and offers individualized tutorials to help children improve their skills.

Although it was established for military children and their unique situations as they transition from one school to another, the program is now available to non-military as well as military children.

Barbara Adams, director of resources for Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA), was recently on Oahu to provide outreach to Hawaii schools with military student populations. Through parent workshops at various schools, Adams shared information with parents and encouraged them to get



Image courtesy of SOAR Hawaii

more involved with SOAR.

"We know parents are our greatest asset in the partnership to make kids successful," Adams said. "To have parents as real partners would be a benefit to teachers so that parents can become involved in the process," she said.

She noted that a mother attending one of the local workshops said that SOAR has increased her son's ability incredibly. "She likes the fact that it is technologically driven," Adams said.

SOAR focuses mainly on the challenges that military families face with frequent moves and as their children transition to new schools.

"We know that as military children transition from state to state, educational requirements may not be identical. If you're a military child, there's a great likelihood that you missed out on something," Adams explained.

That's where SOAR plays a key role. By taking the assessments on the SOAR website, students can determine areas where they need help and are then directed to tutorials that will help them improve their skills. Children and their parents can access SOAR from home and from anywhere in the world.

"This website provides parents and kids with information to help fill in the gaps –

it's reliable. It gives parents and kids a tool they know they can trust," Adams said.

Adams offered an example for the way SOAR is able to assess and provide help. "If a student is doing fractions and not very successful, they can take the assessment. Then they receive a progress report," she said.

"Parents and children can see the answers and link to the skills resources which takes them to a tutorial," she continued. The tutorials are short, only about three to six minutes.

"It's nice to have something you can trust and coming from someone who is in the business of education," Adams explained.

SOAR allows parents to play an active role in their children's education and gives them an opportunity to monitor their children's progress. Adams said that teachers can also use the videos and tutorials in the classrooms as an additional teaching aid to help children who need more assistance.

Adams encourages home schoolers, which includes many military families, to use SOAR. "It's a great tool

for any kids," she noted.

The SOAR program recently introduced 12 early childhood literacy videos – shells that parents can use to teach children before they start pre-kindergarten or kindergarten. They are available on the SOAR website in the video section.

Hawaii Rep. K. Mark Takai and his wife have been involved in the SOAR program and doing outreach in Hawaii for the past several years.

"This is global. We have military students throughout the nation and all corners of the globe," Takai said.

"With federal earmarks and now with the federal budget tight, it's important we continue funding at the federal level, so we're working closely with Sen. Inouye and Sen. Tom Harkin from Iowa," he said.

Takai explained that there are three components to SOAR: (1) grades 3-12 tutorials for reading and math, (2) literary tutorials for parents and very young children, and (3) free ACT/SAT test preparation.

"SOAR gives Hawaii students who may not have the

means to pay for expensive preparation courses the opportunity to get ready for tests vital to their academic success," he said.

Because Hawaii has been behind many other states in its SAT scores, which is an important factor in admission to most major colleges and universities, the free ACT/SAT test preparation provided by SOAR is an important component for students.

"SOAR is an invaluable resource for students and will play a critical role in preparing our youth for the rigors of college," Takai explained.

The National Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA) sponsors SOAR in partnership with the University of Northern Iowa, The Princeton Review and Skills Tutor. These groups are working together to provide resources to assist with the unique challenges for military children and their peers.

The Hawaii Department of Education is also a member of MISA.

For more information about SOAR or to register, go to [www.EducationInHawaii.com](http://www.EducationInHawaii.com).

## USS Port Royal supports Army flight deck qualifications

Ensign Emma Mattson

USS Port Royal CG 73  
Public Affairs

USS PORT ROYAL (CG 73) - Guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) recently supported flight deck qualifications for U.S. Army aircraft and crew assigned to the 1-168th General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB), Aviation Task Force – Army Central Command (ARCENT) stationed at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Two MH-60 aircraft flew to the ship from Camp

Buehring to conduct deck landing qualifications (DLQs) aboard Port Royal's flight deck.

In order to remain qualified to operate with Navy ships, the flight crews are required to periodically complete a number of landings at sea.

"The capability for Army aircraft to operate with Navy ships is important because they need to maintain their qualifications, and we were available to help them out," said, Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Hoekstra Operations officer.

The event took place just before sunset to maximize

the amount of training completed by conducting DLQs during daylight and at night, using night vision equipment.

During the qualifications, U.S. Army pilots and crews also had a chance to come aboard Port Royal for a tour and see day-to-day Navy shipboard operations firsthand.

Port Royal is conducting maritime security operations and missions in support of operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn while deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

## Energy awareness fair and training planned for Oct. 13

Krista Stehn

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Energy Program

In recognition of Energy Awareness Month, the Navy Region Hawaii energy team is hosting an energy aware-

ness fair and training from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Ford Island Conference Center, building 87.

The awareness fair will provide an opportunity to:

- Discuss energy trade equipment, facility energy auditing and energy awareness with industry

energy professionals.

- Complete annual BEM training requirements.
- Take away information and material.

The fair is open to all region personnel. For more information, call the energy team at 471-0440.

## 'Keep your cool' efficiently

Krista Stehn

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Energy Program

### MYTH

You were very conscientious and turned off the air conditioner before leaving the office. Now that you've returned, the office is hot. Turn down

the thermostat to 50 degrees so that the air conditioner will cool the space quickly.

### REALITY

Don't set your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when you turn on your air conditioner (or lower the thermostat). It will not cool faster. It will cool to a lower temperature than you need and use more energy.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Actress Kelly Preston greets Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) quarterly award winners during a PACAF orientation at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Sept. 13. Preston visited to learn more about the PACAF mission and recent humanitarian support provided to Japan during Operation Tomodachi. Preston was born and raised in Hawaii and is a graduate of Punahou School.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Gustavo Gonzalez

(Below) An Army Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps cadet is inspected by Capt. Brian Pollock, 15th Operations Support Squadron C-17 pilot, at the annual drill competition held on the Hickam Field flightline on Sept. 10. More than 300 JROTC cadets from more than 14 high schools on Oahu attended the event.

U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Jason Smith



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

The amphibious assault ship USS Boxer arrives at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled port visit on Sept. 21. The Boxer Amphibious Ready Group is currently en route to its homeport of San Diego after completing a deployment to western Pacific and U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.



U.S. Navy photo by CTR1 Joseph Baskin

U.S. Coast Guardsman Health Services 2nd Class Kevin Bishop, right, assigned to Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron (MSRON) 10, demonstrates casualty carrying techniques with Lt. j.g. Michael Quaglino during a visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) training exercise aboard guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73). Port Royal is conducting maritime security operations and missions in support of operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn while deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.



U.S. Navy photo by MMSN Dustin W. Sisco

A chief selectee is pinned a chief petty officer during a pinning ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Thirty-nine chief selectees were pinned chief petty officers from various commands around Hawaii at the event.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Scott A. Buchholz

(Above) Firefighters from the Federal Fire Department at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), Kaneohe participate with aircrew from Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) in an aviation mishap drill involving a P-3C Orion aircraft. The drill focused on the aircrew's ability to evacuate the P-3C during an emergency and the fire department's ability to react to an aviation mishap.



(Left) Various organizations line up in preparation of laying wreaths in honor of those fallen and missing in action during the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, Hawaii on Sept. 16. More than 200 past and present military members and civilians gathered with the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) as they honored those held in captivity or missing in action from past conflicts. The third Friday of September has served as the National POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1986 and honors and recognizes the sacrifices of those Americans who have been prisoners of war and to remind the nation of those individuals who are still missing.

DoD photo by Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young

## JBPHH implements NCACS system

### Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Effective July 5, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam began implementation of the Navy Commercial Access Control System (NCACS) in accordance with Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) directives.

The NCACS program is an identity management and perimeter installation access control solution for the access management of vendors, contractors, suppliers and service providers who are not authorized a common access card (CAC).

"The use of NCACS is intended to help maintain a safe and secure installation

and offer a solution that will also provide streamlined credentialing for installation access," said Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, in a letter to installation personnel dated June 15.

Members of companies and individuals who choose to pay the annual NCACS fee to the service contractor (currently Eid Passport) and who participate in the access control program will be enrolled, vetted, credentialed and will have their access privileges to CNIC installations electronically and regularly updated, verified and documented upon each ingress at all JBPHH perimeter entry control points that utilize the

NCACS system.

The advantage of the NCACS system is that it provides the required background checks and may prove to be a cost and time-saving benefit to companies and individuals who conduct business at JBPHH.

Those NCACS-eligible vendors, contractors, suppliers and service providers who do not participate in the NCACS program may apply for a local pass for installation access. The pass is limited to one day.

For more information, contact the JBPHH Security Department at 474-4131 or 449-9705 or email [info@rapidgate.com](mailto:info@rapidgate.com).

The RAPIDGate information website is <http://rapidgate.com>.

## NCACS program enrollment information

Enroll your company by calling 1-877-RAPIDGATE (1-877-727-4342):

- To enroll your company in the NCACS program, call Eid Passport at 1-877-RAPIDGate (1-877-727-4342). A customer service representative will give you all the necessary information regarding the NCACS program and send you the enrollment forms to enroll your company. On the enrollment forms, you will need to provide your Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) sponsor point of contact, including a name, phone number and email address. JBPHH must authorize your request to participate in the NCACS program. The minimum elapsed time from company enrollment to an employee receiving his or her NCACS credential is approximately two weeks.
- If your company is already enrolled in the NCACS program at another installation, you may request access for your employees at JBPHH by calling 1-877-RAPIDGate. Once your company is approved by JBPHH, your employees who already hold NCACS credentials may be able to use the same credentials at JBPHH.

### Employees register at onsite registration stations:

- Once your company has been approved for enrollment and paid the enrollment fee, instruct your employees who need access to JBPHH to register at the self-service registration located at JBPHH, the Wahiawa Annex or West Loch Annex Pass and Identification (PID) offices. Each employee should be ready to provide their company's NCACS company code, his or her address, phone number, date of birth and social security number. The registration station will capture the employee's photograph for badging and fingerprints for identify verification.
- Assisted registration at your company's location may be available if you have 50 or more employees to register. Call 1-877-RAPIDGate for details.

### The NCACS program performs background screening and credentialing:

- Once your company has approved each employee for participation and paid the registration fee, the RAPIDGate program performs identity authentication and background screening. Your company will be notified when qualified employees may pick up their personalized NCACS credentials at the JBPHH PID office where they registered. To retrieve a credential, each employee must show proof of identify by presenting one form of identification from list A, or two forms of identification from List B.
- After activating their NCACS credentials, employees present their credentials to request entry to JBPHH and

must wear and display the credentials at all times while on the installation. Questions about the JBPHH NCACS enrollment process should be addressed to [info@rapidgate.com](mailto:info@rapidgate.com) with the subject line Re: NCACS program.

### List A identification (one needed):

- U.S. Passport (unexpired)
- Permanent Resident Card or Alien Registration Receipt Card (Form I-551)
- Unexpired foreign passport with I-551 stamp or attached Form I-94 indicating unexpired employment authorization
- Unexpired Employment Authorization Document that contains a photograph (Form I-766, I-668, I-688A, I-688B)

### List B identification (two needed):

- Driver's license or ID card issued by a state
- ID card issued by federal, state or local government agencies or entities
- School ID card with a photograph

- Voter's registration card
- U.S. military card or draft record
- Military dependent's ID card
- U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card
- Native American tribal document
- Driver's license issued by a Canadian government authority
- U.S. Social Security card issued by the Social Security Administration
- Certificate of Birth Broad issued by the Department of State (Form FS-545 or Form DS-1350)
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate issued by a state, county, municipal authority or outlying possession of the United States, bearing an official seal
- U.S. Citizen ID card (Form I-197)
- ID Card for use of Resident Citizen in the United States (Form I-179)
- Unexpired employment authorization document issued by DHS (other than those in List A)



Electrician's Mate 1st Class Douglas Wicklin of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard has his blood drawn by Specialist Will Bain of Tripler Army Medical Center during a mobile blood drive at the shipyard's submarine intermediate maintenance facility.

## Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard blood drive nets 57 pints for troops in Iraq, Afghanistan

Story and photo by Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

A 9/11 memorial blood drive recently hosted by Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard brought in 57 pints of blood for U.S. troops fighting overseas.

"It's 50 percent better than normal," said Machinist's Mate 1st Class Curtis Popp, shipyard blood drive coordinator, of the results. "The line (of donors) was out the door."

The donated blood will go a long way to save lives.

"Most of the blood collected today will go to Iraq and Afghanistan," said Michelle Lele, blood donor recruiter for the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) at Tripler Army Medical Center.

ASBP is the military blood program, a joint service operation that provides blood products worldwide to armed forces personnel and their family members.

"We have weekly shipments we have to send to Iraq and Afghanistan for our military members," Lele explained. "The summer months and holidays are the hardest (to collect blood.) There's normally a shortage."

According to Popp, most donors are military personnel but many are restricted from giving blood if they have previously served in certain overseas areas. "We'd like more support from (shipyard) civilians," he said. "We encourage more civilian participation."

Gas Turbine System Technician (Mechanical) 1st Class Michael Budomo, assistant shipyard blood drive coordinator, said civilian employees who donate to ASBP receive the same amount of time off from work as when they give to the Blood Bank of Hawaii.

Participants at the recent blood drive received a 9/11 commemorative T-shirt. Many shipyard Sailors said they donated to support their brothers

and sisters in arms fighting in the overseas contingency operation.

"I figured I'd do my part to help out," said Electrician's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Kevin Whidbey. "I have a brother in the Marines, and my best friend is in the Army. (Donating) will help them out if they ever need it."

"Just in case I need (blood,) I feel better knowing that I gave," said Machinist's Mate 1st Class Matthew Wydra. As for the drawing of blood, he said, "It doesn't hurt, but I wouldn't call it enjoyable."

Chief Machinist's Mate Randal Shaw said, "I try to give blood every time. ... Our Soldiers out there, it's to help them out. We have to support each other."

Electrician's Mate 1st Class Douglas Nicklin, who just reported to the shipyard, stood out among the donors because of his constant smile. "I just like to help out," he said. "I have a cousin over in the war."

# Thai air chief visit fosters strategic relationship

Story and photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Jerome S.  
Tayborn

Pacific Air Forces Public  
Affairs

The Royal Thai Air Force commander-in-chief met with his Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) counterpart during a visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Sept. 7 to 10.

Air Chief Marshal (ACM) Itthaporn Subhawong and Gen. Gary North, PACAF commander, spent time together strengthening the long-standing relationship and paving the way for continued cooperation between the two air powers.

"The U.S. and Thailand have been close military partners since the mid-20th century," said Maj. Adrian Galang, PACAF Philippines and Thailand desk officer. "We share the common strategic objective of peace and security in the region, and this visit continued to strengthen the relationship with our close ally, which helps preserve



Air Chief Marshal Itthaporn Subhawong, commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Air Force, and Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander, salute as they pass through the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam honor guard cordon at the Pacific Air Forces Headquarters building, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Sept. 7. Itthaporn visited Hawaii to meet with North and senior leaders of PACAF to discuss common concerns and explore opportunities to strengthen regional cooperation.

regional stability."

Galang also said the visit was important to PACAF and the Royal Thai Air Force because it helped to familiarize ACM Itthaporn on the diverse missions and airmen of PACAF.

The visit included a distinguished visitor's honor ceremony hosted by North and the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Honor Guard, followed by a command priorities briefing during which the two air chiefs discussed common concerns and explored opportunities to increase regional cooperation.

Itthaporn also participated in a special Pearl Harbor barge tour and wreath-laying ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial, in addition to receiving a narrated tour of the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island.

This visit was Itthaporn's fourth visit to the island, and he was accompanied by his wife, Napaporn Subhawong. His last visit was during the Pacific Air Chiefs Conference in November 2009.

## Commentary

### OPSEC and social networking are connected

Michael Smith

Navy Region Hawaii  
N7 Training and Readiness

For many people, social networking is a big part of their personal and professional lives.

As a society, we are becoming accustomed to using social networks such as Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, Twitter and Google. These sites are great for sharing information and keeping our families informed about what we are doing, especially when we are separated and far from home.

However, there are some potential dangers associated with social networking. This new phenomena opened many new doorways for cyber-crime and for terrorists to gain information about military operations. With the growing number of people using social networks, it is important that everyone knows the risks and takes the necessary precautions.

Members of the Navy OPSEC (operations security) support team in Norfolk, Va. recently visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to train Sailors and Marines to be OPSEC officers. Commander Navy Region Hawaii took advantage of this opportunity and invited the team to present informational seminars that inform the community about some of the hidden dangers associated with social networking.

Lee Case, Navy web risk assessment team lead, provided informative presentations.

Case pointed out that while what one person says on a social networking site by itself may not be useful to a terrorist, when it is combined with information from dozens

of sites, a terrorist can easily track the mission and movement of units. In fact, well over 80 percent of information gathered by terrorist organizations comes from unclassified sources.

Case also pointed out that terrorist organizations such as Al Qaeda also know the power of social networking. In December 2009, Al Qaeda posted a message instructing all operatives to target the Navy, the Sailors and their families, search for personal information, find out where their families are, and find the easiest way to strike the ships. The Department of Homeland Security confirmed that a number of terrorist groups, including Al Qaeda, are exploiting Facebook to recruit new members. The site is used by terrorist organizations to disseminate propaganda.

You can find a page with informational videos titled "tactical shooting" or "getting to know your AK-47." There is also a discussion page featuring IED recipes for explosive ammonia and poisonous smoke bombs.

While many of us are aware of the dangers associated with putting personal information on the Internet, our children may not be quite so aware. In addition, 73 percent of teens (12-17) have profiles on social networking sites, 47 percent of these teens have uploaded photos and 14 percent have posted videos.

Maintaining social networking OPSEC becomes even more complicated when we look at children and teens who are almost entirely immersed in this new way of communicating, and many of these teens have one Facebook page for friends and one for their parents to see. They have grown up with

"friends" they have never met in person.

The average Facebook user has 130 friends, and approximately 70 percent of Facebook users live outside the United States. Do you know who your children's friends really are?

In 2009, MySpace was spotlighted because it revealed that 90,000 registered sex offenders had been kicked off its site in the past two years. That same year, Facebook reported 5,585 convicted sex offenders were found on the website and removed.

While these statistics let us know that the social networking sites are trying to maintain a safe environment, they also tell us that there are all types of people using social networking. There is no way to verify the identity of the person on the other end of the communication. Your teen's 16-year-old friend from California may really be a 45-year-old pedophile who lives down the street.

Social networking has many benefits, and Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with loved ones who are deployed, family members miles away, meet new friends, or rekindle old friendships. As Case pointed out, her job is not to deter your use of social networking sites, but rather to educate the community about the dangers and how you can protect yourself. While social networking sites allow us to reach out to many people, there are drawbacks. The greatest drawback is the loss of privacy. So keep this in mind and find a balance between what you consider public and private, and make sure you have the security settings turned on and update your password frequently.

## Hispanic Heritage Month observance will take place today

On behalf of Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith, the region multi-cultural committee and the Navy Region Hawaii Equal Employment Opportunity Office will hold an observance of the 2011 Hispanic Heritage Month from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sept. 23 at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

This year's theme is "Many Backgrounds, Many Stories...One American Spirit."

The program's keynote speaker is Capt. John Coronado, commanding officer, Naval Facility Engineering Command, Hawaii.

The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band Brass Quintet will perform at the event. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion. The admiral strongly encourages full participation.

Attendees must be seated 10 minutes before the start of the program.

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## My Favorite Photo...

John Burns took this picture a few months ago of a Portuguese man-of-war jellyfish that he saw in Waimanalo. It was about an inch long, and Burns put the camera lens about a quarter of an inch from it. The waves washed it away and back on the shore about five times, and each time it washed up, the jellyfish was in a slightly different position.

Photo by John Burns



How to submit

## My favorite photo...

Do you enjoy taking pictures and have a favorite photo? Would you like to see it featured in Ho'okele? Here is your opportunity. Submissions must be from people affiliated with the military services, including active duty, family members, Reserve, retired and Department of Defense civilians, etc.

Your favorite photo can be just about anything, but keep in mind that it should be in good taste. We aren't looking for posed family shots or group shots. But if you have a photo that you think is interesting and

creative, here is your chance to see it published.

Photo submissions will be reviewed by Ho'okele editors who will determine if/when they will run in the newspaper. Along with your photo, please send a little bit of information about the photo, such as where it was taken or any interesting details. Also include the name of the photographer and contact information.

Please send your photos to editor@hookelenews.com and "cc" Karen Spangler, managing editor, at karen.spangler@navy.mil and Don Robbins, assistant editor, at drobbins@hookelenews.com.

Brush up on your photography skills. Ready, set, shoot!

## Raptor return-to-fly process underway

Continued from A-1

and the expedient qualification of pilots against the inherent risks of flying advanced combat aircraft, officials said.

The entire fleet will undergo an extensive inspection of the life support systems before returning to flight, with follow-on daily inspections, officials said. The aircraft is capable and authorized to fly above 50,000 feet. Pilots will use additional protective equipment and undergo baseline physiological tests. The return-to-fly process will begin with instructor pilots and flight leads regaining their necessary proficiency, then follow with other F-22 wingmen.

Prior to the stand down, ACC officials convened a class E safety investigation board (SIB) in January to look into hypoxia-related reports. At the same time, a hypoxia deep-dive integrated product team began an in-depth study on safety

issues involving aircraft oxygen generation systems.

In June, the Secretary of the Air Force directed the Air Force Scientific Advisory Board to continue the oxygen generation study concurrent with the ongoing SIB. A report will be made available later this year.

The F-22 Raptor entered service in 2005. As of May 2011, the Air Force had fielded 170 of the aircraft. As America's primary air superiority weapon system, the F-22 has flown more than 300 missions in support of Operation Noble Eagle and deployed on a rotational basis to the Pacific region and Southwest Asia. F-22 overseas deployments support the Department of State's theater security program, formal arrangements with foreign partners to establish defense cooperation, promote regional stability, and deter potential aggression.

## Pearl Harbor historic sites salute U.S. Air Force with free admission

The Pearl Harbor historic sites are partnering this year to commemorate the official "birthdays" of each branch of the United States Armed Forces with free admission specials.

Starting Sept. 17 and through Sept. 25, the historic sites are celebrating the U.S. Air Force's birthday (Sept. 18) by offering free admission to active-duty, reserve and retired Air Force personnel and their dependents.

Qualified visitors must present a valid military I.D. upon entering the sites of their choice, including the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Battleship Missouri Memorial and Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor. The USS Arizona Memorial and USS Oklahoma Memorial do not charge general admission.

Sept. 18 marks the birthday of the modern U.S. Air Force. With origins as the Army Air Force, the Air Force became a separate service on Sept. 18, 1947, after

helping to achieve the Allies' victory in World War II. Thus, the Air Force joined the Army and Navy under the newly established U.S. Department of Defense.

In fourth quarter 2011, the historic sites will jointly celebrate this year's remaining service branch birthdays: the Navy's birthday (Oct. 8) from Oct. 8 to 16, Marines Corps birthday (Nov. 10) from Nov. 5 to 13, and the National Guard's birthday (Dec. 13) from Dec. 10 to 18.

For information about the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument, call 422-3300 or visit [www.nps.gov/valr](http://www.nps.gov/valr), for the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park call 423-1341 or visit [www.bowfin.org](http://www.bowfin.org), for the Battleship Missouri Memorial, call 1-877-MIGHTYMO (1-877-644-4896) or visit [www.usmissouri.org](http://www.usmissouri.org), and for the Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor, call 441-1000 or visit [www.PacificAviationMuseum.org](http://www.PacificAviationMuseum.org).

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## KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Sept. 29 – Joint Base Energy Initiatives featuring JBC

Oct. 6 – Medal of Honor Recipient featuring Sgt. Meyer

Oct. 13 – Navy Birthday

Oct. 20 – Fire Prevention Month

Oct. 27 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

Nov. 3 – To be determined

Nov. 10 – Marine Corps Birthday

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONavy>)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?

Email editor@hookelenews.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.

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