



96th Air Refueling Squadron hosts UH ROTC cadets

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen
15th Wing Public Affairs

Nearly 20 U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets from the University of Hawaii at Manoa recently received a first-hand glimpse into the 96th Air Refueling Squadron's (ARS) mission. They witnessed a 154th ARS KC-135 Stratotanker manned by a 96th ARS aircrew refuel a C-17 Globemaster III in flight May 4 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Before their flight, the cadets received a mission brief from Lt. Col. Brian Hill,

96th ARS commander, to explain the importance of air refueling in the Pacific theater. Afterward, they toured the squadron's facility while their guide, Capt. Rick Brown, 96th ARS chief of safety, spoke to them about the squadron's history as well as the capabilities of the KC-135.

"In three or four years, we're going to be commissioned officers," said Valerie Sasa, a cadet from U.S. Air Force ROTC Detachment 175. "We would like to see what every job does and how it benefits the U.S. Air Force."

Sasa hasn't yet chosen which career field she will

pursue in the Air Force, but plans to use her experience with the 96th ARS as an opportunity to broaden the scope of potential jobs she could pursue.

According to Capt. Jonathan Navarra, operations officer for detachment 175, this "incentive" flight gave the cadets a chance to experience the operational Air Force outside their normal classroom setting.

"They always hear [(the instructors)] talk about the Air Force," he said. "This gives them an opportunity to see and touch the things that we talk about. They can see

all the other things that go into being successful in the Air Force. Things like situational awareness, attention to detail, taking care of your people, they can see it culminate when they go to a flying squadron ... this gives them a tangible experience."

Brown said that along with giving the cadets a glance at the refueling mission itself, it is also important to show future leaders of the Air Force the skill and enthusiasm 96th ARS employs to conduct its mission.

"These guys are going to be carrying on the legacy we put forth for them," he said. "It's good to show them not only how well we do our job but the pride we put into our jobs also."

An additional benefit of seeing the 96th ARS mission, said Brown, is the total force integration the squadron displays with the 203rd ARS, an experience that will serve them well when they commission.

"It's important to explain to them how we work with the guard and how important it is to our mission here. We take a lot of pride in what we do and the fact that we do it so well," Brown said.

Sasa said she was also impressed with some of the physical attributes the KC-135 pilots used to operate the aircraft.

"There's a lot of buttons in the flight deck," she said. "A lot of them look like they're really hard to reach. I think you have to have really long arms to be a pilot."

While Sasa admits she may not have the same lengthy arms the pilots have, it doesn't necessarily disqualify KC-135 pilot from her career field choices.

"I don't have long arms," she said. "But I could find a way to make it work."

Total force redefined at Hickam commands

Capt. Ben Sakrisson
15th Wing Public Affairs

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was recently signed by the commanders of the 15th and 154th Wings at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam that officially formalized their total force relationship.

The MOU clarifies the framework and expectations

that will govern how Airmen interact with one another to collectively execute their combined mission in line with the total force integration (TFI) vision of Gen. Gary North, the Pacific Air Forces commander.

"This document is the culmination of a groundbreaking effort for Team Hickam," said Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander. "It would be difficult to find another

example in the Air Force where a Guard and active duty wing are so intertwined and so reliant on each other's strengths in order to complete the mission."

The move toward a TFI war-fighting model acts to assimilate operations, maintenance and support activities between collocated and

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U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kristen Stanley

Brig. Gen. (Sel.) Braden Sakai, 154th Wing commander, and Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, sign copies of the memorandum of understanding between the 15th and the 154th Wings, defining total force integration at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Security is on alert for drug use, thefts involving juveniles

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security Department

Although Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) remains safe and relatively crime-free, as with any large community, incidents involving illegal activity do occur at times. Oftentimes, these incidents involve, or are suspected of involving, juveniles and young adults who live on and frequent various areas of the base. Two activities in particular that are of recent concern are drug use and theft incidents.

"With regard to drug activity, current indicators show a rising trend with dependent juveniles on base, using and distributing marijuana and other illicit narcotics," said Lt. Col. Michael Gimbrone, JBPHH security officer and commander of 647th Security Forces Squadron.

"Base leadership is committed to utilizing the full spectrum of joint base

resources to deter this type of activity." This includes a coordinated effort among the Joint Base Security Department, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Staff Judge Advocate and other base organizations to proactively deter drug activity, enforce related rules and regulations, and prosecute violators.

Members of the JBPHH community are reminded that all personnel and vehicles, including school buses entering the base, are subject to search at any time. Gimbrone noted, "The authority for such searches is based on the installation commander's obligation to maintain a safe and secure environment and to maintain good order and discipline."

The Joint Base Security Department has also increased its patrols of installation entry control points and other areas of the base with drug detector

dogs. These military working dogs (MWD) are specially trained to detect a variety of illegal drug components. Base personnel can expect to see increased MWD activity, including around school buses, in the coming weeks. Any military sponsors who live in base housing and would like a courtesy MWD drug search of their base housing unit or vehicles should contact the Joint Base Security Department Operations Section at 474-6184 or 449-1002.

Recently the joint base leadership met with administrators at Radford High School to discuss drug activity as it relates to military dependents who attend that school. Base and school personnel agreed to continue working together to find ways to make a difference.

As for the recent theft activity on base, joint base leadership personnel have taken several steps to address these incidents. For

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PACAF honors 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year
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USNS Mercy arrives in Hawaii
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Father-daughter dance brings laughter and love to JBPHH
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HIANG holds on to beat Divers in slugfest
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PACAF honors 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year

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

Headquarters Pacific Air
Forces Public Affairs

Pacific Air Forces Airmen were honored April 27 as PACAF's 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander, with the help of Chief Master Sgt. Brooke McLean, PACAF command chief, presented each of the 12 Airmen with a plaque in honor of their accomplishments.

The 12 honorees were selected from more than 30,000 enlisted men and women throughout the command. Their selection as the outstanding Airmen of the Year distinguishes the member from his or her peers, exhibited by exceptional performance in the following areas: leadership and job performance in primary duty, significant self-improvement and base or community involvement.

The 2012 Pacific Air Forces Outstanding Airmen



Pacific Air Forces 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year 2012 are honored April 27 at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

of the Year are:

Senior Airman Jaime A. Compean III is a contracting specialist from the 18th Contracting Squadron, Kadena Air Base, Japan.

Senior Airman Uyen T. Tran is a material management journeyman from the 154th Logistics Readiness

Squadron, JBPHH.

Senior Airman Darren Precht is an air transportation journeyman from the 48th Aerial Port Squadron, JBPHH.

Tech. Sgt. Matthew W. Stark is an explosive ordnance disposal craftsman from the 354th Civil

Engineering Squadron, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

Tech. Sgt. Carmela Rapas is protocol NCOIC from the 254th Force Support Squadron, Guam Air National Guard, Guam.

Master Sgt. Shanna Perry is an education and

training craftsman from the 477th Force Support Squadron, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska.

Master Sgt. William Kellum is an explosive ordnance disposal superintendent from the 354th Civil Engineering Squadron,

Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

Master Sgt. Ryan Schreiner is a security forces craftsman from 154th Security Forces Squadron, JBPHH.

Master Sgt. Peter Rieta is a unit training manager from the 48th Aerial Port Squadron, JBPHH.

Senior Master Sgt. Nicole Johnson is a first sergeant with the 613th Air and Space Operations Center, 56th Air and Space Communications Squadron and the 17th Operational Weather Squadron, JBPHH.

Master Sgt. Thomas Gregory is a first sergeant from the 176th Security Forces Squadron, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

Master Sgt. Tammy Thompson is a first sergeant from the 624th Civil Engineering Squadron, JBPHH.

These Airmen will now compete at the Air Force level for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

(For more information about the honorees, visit <http://www.pacaf.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123301107>.)

NAVSUP FLCPH earns environmental 'triple crown'

Story and photo by
Jim Murray

Naval Supply Fleet
Logistics Center Pearl
Harbor Public Affairs

The NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor earned the environmental "triple crown" in May when it won the Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Team Award. The logistics command was notified in February that it had won the Chief of Naval Operation's Environmental Sustainability Team Award and in April, it also won the Secretary of the Navy's Environmental Quality Team Award.

The five members of the lauded environmental quality team are: Lt. Cmdr. Angela Watson, team leader and fuel director; Scott Hedrick, deputy fuel direc-

tor; Stanley Sousa, regional consolidated hazardous materials reutilization and inventory management program (CHRIMP) director; and Benjamin Fegurgur, acting fuel laboratory director. The fifth member of the team, Alan Sugihara, environmental coordinator, is an employee of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii.

All of the team members were quick to pass credit for the award to the personnel at NAVSUP FLCPH, who have been staunch advocates of the team's endeavors.

"We have had great initiatives, and we continue to encourage everyone in the command to get involved. Instilling an environmental focus within the workplace encourages environmental best practices at home," said Watson.

The team was recognized for its unflinching commitment to environmental stewardship and its numerous achievements during the FY10 and FY11 award competition period. The team's unwavering support of a clean and green environment was substantiated by a litany of accomplishments, including a marked reduction in energy consumption, aggressive advances in fuel reclamation, the standup of an industrial wastewater treatment plant, and use of alternative energy vehicles.

Other efforts included the issuance of the command's first Environmental and Natural Resources Protection Policy Statement, its hazardous materials management and hazardous waste minimization program, a well-received Earth Day Fair and related

Earth Day events, and a range of other programs designed to protect Hawaii's fragile environment without adverse effects to the command's mission capability.

This year, NAVSUP FLCPH continued their environmental stewardship efforts with an ambitious Earth Day Fair in April, a command-sponsored humpback whale count, storm drain stenciling, base cleanups and tree plantings at their partner school.

"FLC Pearl Harbor's program sets high standards for stewardship and hopes to instill an environmental ethic as part of our vision," said team member Scott Hedrick.

The SECDEF, SECNAV and CNO environmental award ceremonies will take place June 5-6 in Washington, D.C.



The sea turtles, fish and endangered birds that make Pearl Harbor their home are a little bit safer, thanks to an ambitious storm drain stenciling project that was held at NAVSUP FLCPH. Teams of military and civilian personnel stenciled environmental reminders alongside 150 storm drains that empty into the harbor. The messages remind passersby that any waste or pollutants dumped into the drains will eventually reach the ocean, where they could endanger marine life.

HURREX is set for May 14-18 to prepare for hurricanes

Grace Hew Len

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
Hickam Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawaii will gear up for hurricane season by conducting the annual hurricane preparedness exercise, HURREX 2012, set for May 14-18.

In preparation for hurricane season beginning in June, HURREX allows Navy and Air Force activities in Hawaii to review, exercise and validate their response plans and operational capabilities as they pertain to the threat of hurricanes and effects of severe weather. The exercise also builds cooperation between the Navy's afloat and ashore force structure in response to the threat of hurricanes.

Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Pacific Missile Range Facility and other major Navy tenants at JBPHH will participate in the exercise.

"HURREX is our opportunity to plan for the worst," said Dr. Michael Smith, Navy Region Hawaii director of training and readiness. "We cannot wait until a hurricane is bearing down on us before we take action.



Dan Dubois, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam emergency management officer, gives emergency management training about hurricane preparedness to key spouses at Hickam Theater on April 30. The presentation was a prelude to the hurricane preparedness exercise, HURREX 2012, which is set for May 14-18.

We must take action and plan now, during the calm before the storm." This year, Navy Region Hawaii will conduct HURREX as a pre-landfall exercise May 14-18, with a personnel accountability (PA) exercise May 21-23.

During the PA exercise, the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) and Air Force Personnel Accountability and Assessment System (AFPAAS) will be activated to account for

members of the Navy and Air Force families in the Hawaii geographic area of interest. The websites can be found at <http://bit.ly/sH4oQF/> and <https://afpaas.af.mil/>. "Among the objectives of the exercise is to improve awareness of the Navy's capabilities to protect personnel and family members, the actions the Navy is taking in responding to the threat of natural disaster, and the necessity of updating NFAAS and AFPAAS information prior

to natural disasters," said Smith. The commands will also execute and validate TCCOR (tropical cyclone condition of readiness) checklists.

The Wide Area Alert Network (WAAN) is a mass notification system used to alert personnel during disasters and emergencies. WAAN consists of a computer desktop notification system (CDNS), automated telephone notification system (ATNS), Giant Voice, and the limited, interior voice.

Navy and Air Force personnel are urged to register on WAAN to ensure they receive those important notifications. For WAAN assistance, contact Carlos Mercado, carlos.mercado1.ctr@navy.mil or 473-1897.

HURREX 2012 is a reminder for all Navy and Air Force commands to ensure that their members are educated in disaster preparedness. "JBPHH families should use the HURREX as a time to develop or update their family emergency plans and disaster kits," advised Dan Dubois, JBPHH emergency management officer.

"The time to build your plan or stock your emergency kit is now, before a hurricane is looming on the horizon. At that point, the drain on available resources will be great with the unprepared scrambling to stock up. Remember back to last March when the threat of a tsunami reached Hawaii after the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan. Store shelves were ravaged, and there were long lines at checkout counters and gas stations as the unprepared tried to cobble together whatever resources they could," Dubois said.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website www.ready.gov, the American Red Cross website at www.arc.org, and Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Operation Prepare at the Operation Prepare link at www.cnic.navy.mil are vital resources to help your family prepare an emergency plan and build a disaster kit.

Additionally, joint base and region emergency management staffs will be managing Operation Prepare displays hosted by Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange and Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) on June 2 to help educate the public to "Be Informed, Have a Plan and Make a Kit."

Emergency public information will be posted on Facebook: Navy Region Hawaii and Facebook: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and on the Straight Talk Line at (808) 421-4000.

Hawaii families can receive text notifications through the City and County of Honolulu Department of Emergency Management by registering at www.nixle.com.

(Throughout hurricane season, articles on disaster preparedness will be featured in Ho'okele, including a pull out section with helpful information/ phone numbers, in the May 25 edition.)

Veterans, U.S. and Royal Australian navies remember Battle of Coral Sea

Story and photo by
MC3 Christopher
Farrington

USS Halsey (DDG 97)
Public Affairs

BRISBANE, Australia (NNS) -- More than 50 U.S. Sailors and distinguished guests attended the Australian-American Association 70th anniversary of the Battle of Coral Sea commemoration ceremony May 5 at Newstead Park in Brisbane, Australia.

Throughout the service, speakers paid tribute to the special connection between the two countries and the service members who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of their country.

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano delivered a speech and a message from President Barack Obama before laying a wreath at the foot of the Australian War Memorial.

"The United States has no stronger ally than Australia," she said. "Aussies and Americans have fought together and given lives



Cmdr. Mike Weeldreyer, commanding officer of the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97), presents a survivor of the Battle of Coral Sea, who served aboard USS Lexington (CV-2) during World War II, with a Halsey command coin during a reception commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Coral Sea.

together at every single major conflict over the last 100 years."

Also in attendance was Harry Frey, a former Sailor who served aboard USS

Lexington (CV-2) during the Battle of Coral Sea.

"It was great to see so many people gathered together in honor of the men and women who fought during the Battle of Coral Sea," said Frey.

Lexington was sunk during the Battle of Coral Sea when the ship was damaged and set on fire by Imperial Japanese torpedobombers. Frey is one of few survivors who made it to safety.

"It could've been me, I was just lucky," said Frey. "Right after we came back up from the sick bay to help the doctors, it blew up. I went back up on the flight deck, and the guys were abandoning ship. When they were going over the side, I kept saying, 'we are going to make it, they are going to salvage us.'"

"All of a sudden the ship dropped 10 degrees on the port side, and I thought she was going to roll then, so we decided it was time to leave."

For Yeoman 2nd Class Robert Raynor, a Sailor assigned to the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97), being able to pay respects to the veterans who fought for their country during World War II was a humbling experience. "I've read about the Battle of Coral Sea quite a few times, but being able to hear about it in person from people that were there was an amazing experience," said Raynor.

Distinguished visitors also laid wreaths at the foot of the war memorial at Newstead Park. The ceremony included a flyover by two World War II aircraft from each country, a Wirraway and a PT-6 Texan.

(Editor's note: Harry Frey and Cecil Wiswel, USS Lexington survivors, visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam prior to and following the ceremony in Australia. See related story about the Battle of Coral Sea on page A-7.)

COMMENTARY

Leadership excellence: Asian and Pacific Heritage Month 2012

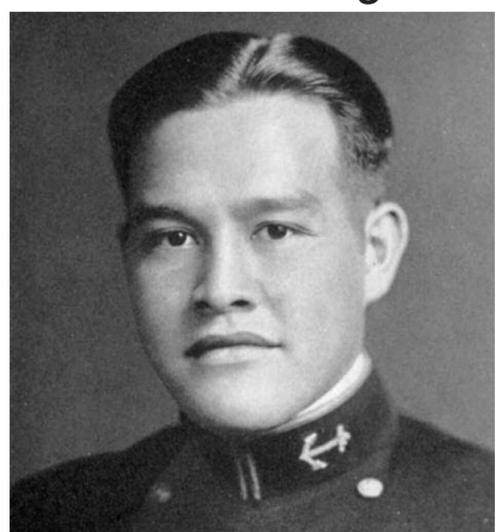
Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

Commander, Navy Region
Hawaii and Naval Surface
Group Middle Pacific

Throughout May, our Navy is saluting the achievements and contributions of Asian and Pacific Americans. The 2012 theme is "Striving for Excellence in Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion." Here in Hawaii, Asian and Pacific Heritage Month has a special meaning. These are just a few examples of why this month has so much significance to us: These are leaders who are worth emulating: Rear Adm. Gordon Pai'ea Chung-

Hoon, a Hawaiian-born Chinese American was the first Asian American to command a Navy warship, USS Sigsbee (DD 502). Chung-Hoon saved his ship after a kamikaze attack in World War II. Today, the guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) operates forward, always ready, one of our MIDPAC warfighters, capable of responding to humanitarian crises or ensure maritime security. Vice Adm. Robert K. U. Kihune, the first native Hawaiian to wear three stars, is the former commander of Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet and an inspiration to surface warfare officers

everywhere. Today, Adm. Kihune is chairman of the USS Missouri Memorial Association, committed to preserving the history and heritage of our Navy and remembering the sacrifices of the war in the Pacific. Our own Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief Marc Sibal, born in Angeles City, Republic of the Philippines, is featured prominently on the Naval History and Heritage Command website, reflective of his nearly 30 years of achievement and commitment to excellence as region CMC and, previously, fleet master chief for Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet. Our CMC has always demonstrated deckplate leadership, championing people first, above self. Today, Master Chief



Midshipman Gordon Pai'ea Chung-Hoon

U.S. Navy photo

Sibal is one of 191 master chief petty officers of Asian and Pacific American heritage leading our Navy. These three individuals – close to home and close to the waterfront – clearly exemplify the theme "Striving for Excellence in Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion" and the highest ideals of Navy Ethos and Core Values. Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus explains our commitment to recognizing, understanding and appreciating strength through diversity: "Diversity is important for a lot of reasons, but the most important is that we are better warfighters when we have a diversity of ideas, experiences, expertise, and backgrounds to fulfill our variety of missions."

Diverse Views



The national anthem 'Star-Spangled Banner' was written during the war of 1812. If you could choose any other song as a national anthem, what would it be and why?



Capt. Walker Hofmann
Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance
and Reconnaissance Agency

"When they were little, my daughters called the national anthem the 'statue song' because they had to stand still with their hand on their heart. I'm sure there are some good alternatives, but I will always like the Star-Spangled Banner."

**Senior Chief Culinary Specialist
Hermelito Bacalla**
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



"I am not going to change any of it because it is part of history and out of respect to Francis Scott Key who wrote it."



Senior Master Sgt. Shannon Wall
PACAF AI

"After reading the question, my immediate thought reflected back to basic training, hearing Lee Greenwood's 'God Bless the U.S.A.' played throughout the quad every evening."

Ivan Felix
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam,
ATFP



"I would not change it. The Star Spangled Banner is a very beautiful song. If you listen to music and the words... it is Americanism. It speaks of what America is, Home of the brave and land of the free."



David Underwood Jr.
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public
Affairs

"My choice would be 'America the Beautiful' because I love the lyrics, and the Ray Charles version."

(Provided by MCI Donald W. Randall
and David Underwood Jr.)

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

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil



**Vice Adm. Kihune
served in Navy for
35 years**

A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Vice Adm. Robert K.U. Kihune was the first vice admiral of Hawaiian descent. After serving 35 years, Kihune retired in 1994.

Department of Defense still media photograph

HO'OKELE

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Jazzmout Williams

Layout/Design
Antonio Verceluz
Patrick Murray

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USNS Mercy hospital ship arrives in Hawaii

MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West, Det. Hawaii

Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on the ship's first stop of Pacific Partnership 2012 (PP12).

PP12 is a four-and-a-half month humanitarian and civic assistance mission to Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Pacific Partnership 2012 is a mission that will take medical, dental, veterinary, engineering and civic assistance projects to Southeast Asia and Oceania. Pacific Partnership missions build on relationships that have been developed during previous missions, for example, Mercy's participation in international relief efforts following the December 2004 tsunami that struck Southeast Asia and Mercy's 2006, 2008 and 2010 humanitarian and civic assistance deployments to the region.

Mercy's role in Pacific Partnership 2012 is led by three different element commanders. U.S. Navy Capt. James Morgan is



The Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) arrives in Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during a deployment in support of Pacific Partnership 2012

the mission commander for Pacific Partnership 2012 and commander of San Diego-based Destroyer Squadron Seven.

"We just arrived here in Hawaii after leaving San Diego about a week ago for the Pacific Partnership 2012 deployment," said Morgan. "The mission is to build relationships, conduct humanitarian and civic assistance missions with medical, dental and

engineering subject matter experts. We build relationships with our host nations so we can work together and train together to respond to natural disasters that may occur."

Navy Capt. Timothy Hinman is commander of the medical treatment facility and is responsible for the hospital and providing medical care aboard Mercy and ashore.

Capt. Jonathan Olmsted is

Mercy's civil service master who has overall responsibility for the ship and the safety of its nearly 1,000 passengers. Mercy has a crew of 70 civil service mariners who operate and navigate the ship while Navy planners and medical personnel plan and execute the mission.

"It takes 70 civilians to run this enormous ship with up to a thousand people aboard at any given time," said Olmsted. "Mercy is equipped with up to a thousand hospital beds and on a mission like this we're glad to be using her capability to provide assistance, to provide medical treatment, medical care to those who may not have seen anything like this before. We're real happy to bring Mercy's capabilities wherever we go."

Throughout the 2012 Pacific Partnership mission, the 894-foot Mercy will serve as a platform from which U.S. and partner nation militaries and non-governmental organizations will coordinate and carry out humanitarian and civic activities in each country.

Japanese landing ship tank Oosumi (LST 4001), carrying a complete medical team, helicopters and representatives, from

Japanese volunteer organizations, will join Mercy during its stops in the Philippines and Vietnam.

MSC's civil service mariners are vital to the mission's success. They navigate the ship to each mission stop and provide the freshwater and electricity needed to run the shipboard hospital and to support the mission personnel living and working aboard.

In addition, the civil service mariners play a critical role in mission success by operating two 33-foot utility boats to transport patients and mission personnel between ship's anchorage and shore. Mercy is too large to pull pier side at any of the mission stops. The operation of these small boats, which can carry more than twice as many passengers as Mercy's two embarked helicopters, will greatly increase the number of people who will benefit from the mission.

The mission will include personnel from all branches of the U.S. military, U.S. departments of State and Justice, the Agency for International Development, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, 12 partner nations, 11 non-governmental organizations and numerous in-country organizations.



U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham and MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy culinary specialists compete in cook-off

Story and photo by
MC2 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

Three teams of Navy culinary specialists participated in a cook-off competition May 4 at the Navy dining facility Silver Dolphin Bistro at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The competition consisted of three, two-person teams preparing food for guest judges. Teams were given full access to the bistro's kitchen area, cooking equipment and seasonings. Each team had to prepare an entrée, main dish and dessert with three portions each, from provided food items, within 90 minutes. Every team also had to incorporate a secret ingredient revealed right before the competition began, which this year was parmesan cheese.

The judges for this year's competition were Chief Master-at-Arms William Conkle, Master Chief Culinary Specialist Rory Bacon and Chef Efen Valdez, a dining facility

manager at JBPHH. The judges observed the food preparation and tasted each of the final food creations.

Speaking to the contestants, Bacon said "You are the future of this rate, culinary specialists. When I first came in, we were taught to cook things from scratch. Now the Navy is going back to a lot of scratch cooking, so one of the things I was focused on today, other than sanitation and food preparation, was creativity. I've served on small ships, frigates, destroyers, carriers and nothing is better than CSs that can be creative with what we've got."

The teams were represented by Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (CS2) Anthony Occhionero and CS3 Brandon Radomski in team one, CS2 Micaela Lusk and CS3 Melanie Beverly in team two, and CS1 Cheryl Hill with CSSN Jonisha Dickson in team three.

The judges scored each team in many categories, including preparation techniques, food temperature when served, and visual presentation.

"One of the things I've



Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Brandon Radomski and Culinary Specialist 2nd Class Anthony Occhionero hold their winning certificates following a cooking competition at the Navy dining facility Silver Dolphin Bistro at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

been focusing on is sanitation in dining facilities," said Valdez. "I observed washing the cutting boards between use, cutting the vegetables, washing the vegetables and fruits. Timing is everything."

After a careful evaluation of the judges' scores, team one was chosen as the winners of this year's competition. Occhionero and Radomski will have an opportunity to attend the Commander Navy Installations Command development seminar and competi-

tion in San Diego. Military food service officers on other installations will hold similar competitions, and their winners will advance to San Diego to represent their respective commands and units.

Attending the seminar and competition provides military culinary specialists with advanced training and an opportunity to display their skills in a professional environment for critique.

(See additional photo on page A-5)

Force re-define continues

Continued from A-1

codependent active duty and Guard units in order to make them perform more effectively in day-to-day missions as well as in wartime environments.

"Total force units like ours harness the strengths of the Air National Guard and active duty. Maintaining unity of effort can be a challenge due to separate chains of command, different cultures and even different work rules," said Brig. Gen. Braden Sakai, 154th Wing commander. "By signing this MOU, we are giving our officers, NCOs and civilians the structure and tools they need to ensure unity of effort in their integrated work force."

The MOU formalizes command relations between the two wings and provides authority for operational direction for functional supervisors. What this means in practice is that the commanders of the 154th Wing and 15th Wing are enabling unit Airmen to take direction from the functional supervisors appointed over

them—whether they are active duty or Air National Guard.

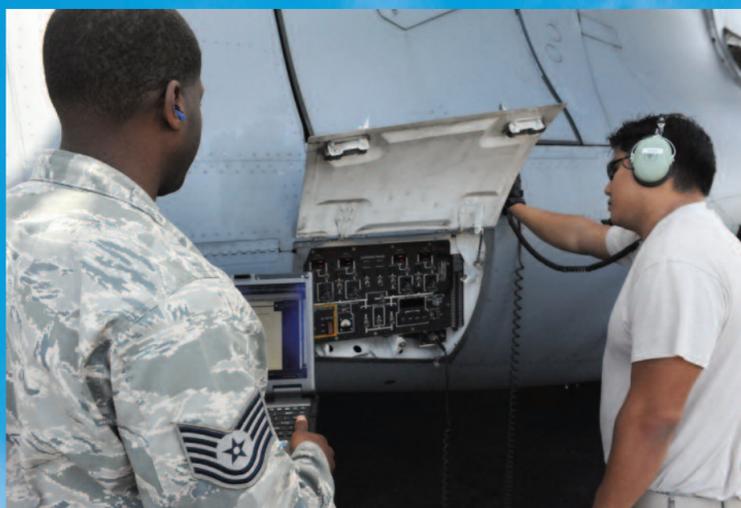
"This authority is crucial for ensuring our leaders are empowered and held accountable to effectively employ all of the Airmen working in their shops while providing them clear administrative paths to resolve challenges and care for their personnel," said Lt. Col. Stanley Springer, deputy commander for 15th Maintenance Group.

As noted by commanders and chiefs in both wings, the MOU is a formal recognition of the processes that service members are already following. The MOU simply provides a basic framework to solve day-to-day and systemic challenges that may be hindering mission execution.

In the end, the MOU will not provide the answers to every problem, but it will give members a viable starting point and pathway to find more efficient and effective solutions.

(See additional photo on page A-5)

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Fleming, 15th Maintenance Group quality assurance inspector, inspects Staff Sgt. Chris Takesue, 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, on the correct operation of a single point refueling panel May 8 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn
Pacific Air Forces 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year stand at parade rest during a wreath-laying ceremony April 23 at the Courtyard of Heroes, Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hawaii. Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander and PACAF's Command Chief Master Sgt. Brooke McLean joined the outstanding Airmen to honor those who died at Hickam Field, Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Kyle Brasier
(Above) Members of the 48th Aerial Port Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam reposition the cab of a cargo loader for transport. Training also included classroom work and a load mission on an aircraft. The loader is used to load and unload cargo aircraft and the aerial porters must maintain their qualifications with an annual refresher course.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Cutridge
(Below) Rear Adm. James Caldwell (right), commander of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), greets Cmdr. David Bynum upon his return from an individual augmentee (IA) tour May 3. Bynum departed COMSUBPAC as the force chaplain 365 days ago for an IA tour in Afghanistan.



Jack Terry, Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange loss prevention/safety supervisor, speaks May 4 with Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, about emergency preparedness. The NEX Emergency Preparedness Expo will take place at the NEX on June 2.

Photo by Stephanie Lau

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Donald Randall
Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii, passes through Radford High School's NJROTC sword arch. Ponds visited the school's Military Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) and Transition center. Ponds received a transition center brief by the students followed by a meeting with the MYAC.



JBP HH Sailor participates in 2012 Warrior Games

Story and photo by
MC1 Katherine Hofman

Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (NNS) – Team Navy/Coast Guard welcomed 17 rookie athletes to the 2012 Warrior Games which were held May 1 through 5.

One newcomer to the Warrior Games was Gunner's Mate 1st Class Jeannette Tarqueno, who sustained a traumatic brain injury (TBI) in December 2011 while deployed aboard USS Port Royal (CG 73) in the Middle East.

Following her accident, Tarqueno has had to re-learn how to walk and talk.

"My rehabilitation is great. I've had so much progress [that] I feel pretty normal," she said. Only three months after her TBI, she recently found out she passed the chief's exam.

Pleased with her slow but steady recovery, Tarqueno was excited when she was

notified about her selection onto Team Navy/Coast Guard.

"It's encouraging; I saw I wasn't going to have as many problems as I thought I would. Once you get started, it all comes back," said Tarqueno. Faced with balance issues, Tarqueno had to re-learn how to ride a bicycle. "I've always been active," she said. "I have always played sports, danced and been competitive."

She has learned that the Warrior Games are different. "You learn you are not by yourself. [Warrior athletes] have some of the same problems," said Tarqueno. "They help you and give you advice. Your family and friends can only do so much."

That spirit has supported Tarqueno with her participation in the Warrior Games. "I'm going to do the best I can do, and I'm never going to quit," she said.

Tarqueno competed in cycling and swimming during the Warrior Games.

Retired Navy Aviation

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Brandon Griffith, diagnosed with leukemia in June 2010, was thrilled to learn he gained a spot on Team Navy/Coast Guard for Warrior Games 2012.

Having thrown shot put and competed on a rifle team in high school, Griffith was psyched to finally get reacquainted with the sports. "I'm rusty, but I've learned a lot today on mechanics," he said.

Griffith took his commitment to participating in the Warrior Games so seriously that when he found out he made the team, he bought a shot put and began to practice at his friend's house.

He said he was excited about having the chance to compete. "I'm meeting people and having the Navy camaraderie and getting to know people who know the Navy lingo. Being new, I'm getting to know more people [on the team] every day," said Griffith.

Griffith said he is inspired by his fellow athletes. "Everybody has their



Team Navy and Coast Guard kicked off the 2012 Warrior Games with a show of team spirit on the first day of competition during the cycling event May 1.

own story, their own hardship. It is amazing to see what [my teammates] can do. It doesn't matter what [injury] they have, they don't make it a big deal," he said.

The 35 warrior athletes participated as Team Navy/Coast Guard, sponsored by Navy Safe Harbor, the Navy

and Coast Guard's wounded warrior support program, a key component of the

Department of the Navy's 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. The initiative is meant to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency, and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Department of the Navy.

The Warrior Games, hosted by the U.S. Olympic Committee's paralympics

military program, provides an opportunity for wounded, ill and injured service members to participate in competitive sports against members of other branches of service.

For more information about Navy Safe Harbor, visit <http://safeharbor.navy.mil>, call 877-746-8563, or email safeharbor@navy.mil.

Hickam Elementary School fifth-grader wins island-wide HECO award

Story and photo by
Jazzmin Williams

Contributing Writer

Ashley Zadel, a 10-year-old fifth grade student at Hickam Elementary School, won an award in the Hawaiian Electric Company's (HECO) 2012 Sustainable Gift Contest on April 28.

"I couldn't even take her photo, I was shaking," said Shannon Tanabe-Clark, Zadel's fifth-grade teacher. "I was extremely excited and happy for her."

HECO created the contest to raise awareness of the dangers of metallic balloons so often seen at graduation. When released, the balloons can get tangled in power



Ashley Zadel, a Hickam Elementary fifth grader, holds one of the sea glass charms she made as part of the Hawaiian Electric Company's 2012 Sustainable Gift Contest. Her charms were the winning entry for the island-wide contest in the kindergarten to fifth grade category.

lines and cause power out-

ages. Students interested in entering the contest first

had to do research on the damage metallic balloons

could cause and write an essay, according to Tanabe-Clark. They had to submit a hand-made sustainable graduation gift alternative.

"I thought it was cool that they wanted to make gifts out of recyclables, and when I started doing research about the whole Mylar balloon effect, I wanted to try a new start," Zadel said.

Zadel, the daughter of Lt. Col. Jeremy Zadel and his wife Sonja, made small charms out of sea glass and wire, winning the kindergarten through fifth grade category. She credited always having a fascination with sea glass as part of her inspiration. With some trial and error and help from her mother, Zadel perfected her technique.

After being chosen to be one of 29 finalists, Zadel was invited to the HECO Grow Hawaiian Festival held at Bishop Museum. There her creations were on display alongside other finalists, and attendees of the event assessed and voted on the best ones. Entries were judged on originality, creativity and gift appeal.

"I was shocked, but not as shocked as I planned I would be if I won," Zadel said. "I was pretty calm."

For her efforts, Zadel received an iPad 2 and \$100 for her class. When asked what the \$100 would be used for, Zadel's answer was simple.

"Our end of the year party," Zadel said with a smile.

Battle of the Coral Sea, a prelude to a turning point

Jim Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii
Historian

In the earliest days of the Pacific War, the United States stood nearly alone in the struggle against the forces of Imperial Japan. Though the attack on the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor had been a success, it had not been the overwhelming knockout blow that the Japanese navy had hoped for. American forces, though drastically limited, still managed to roam the periphery of the Japanese Empire, conducting hit and run operations against island outposts and defensive facilities.

Adm. Ernest King, the commander-in-chief of the United States Fleet, intended to show the enemy that the United States had no intention of lying down or waiting until her forces could be sufficiently built up for a large scale offensive. Instead, he ordered the remaining Pacific Fleet carriers to strike the Japanese on the perimeter of their vast oceanic empire and force them to spread their forces thin in defense.

From the Japanese standpoint, the first five months of the war had gone very well, exceeding expectations, but America's response to Japan's actions was troubling. The carrier raids, particularly the wildly unorthodox Doolittle Raid of April 27, 1942, showed all too clearly that though America's forces were crip-



U.S. Navy photo

USS Lexington, seen from USS Yorktown, during Battle of Coral Sea.

pled, her resolve was firm, and the emperor would never be secure while American carriers were able to move in and out of Japanese controlled waters undetected. A decisive battle would have to be fought, sooner rather than later, and the American carriers would have to be destroyed. That battle would be fought in June near Midway Atoll and would not go Japan's way.

The Battle of Midway has often been referred to as the turning point of the Pacific War. Indeed if it was not the turning point, it was one of several possibilities and its significance cannot be denied, but largely unheralded is the significance of the events that took place in

the month before that seminal battle.

The actions of May 4 through 8, 1942, in the waters off eastern Australia, New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, set up the American Navy for success at Midway in ways that are often overlooked. Australia was of vital importance to the Allied effort in the Pacific. From that southern Pacific continent, one of the few land masses in the southeast Pacific as yet unoccupied by Japanese troops, the Americans were already building up the Army ground and air forces that would launch a great counter offensive and roll up the Japanese empire.

As a result, Japanese mil-

itary planners began formulating an operation that would allow Japanese forces to dominate the South Pacific by capturing first, Port Moresby in southern New Guinea, and then later occupying New Caledonia and Fiji. This would not only threaten Australia, but would essentially cut off America's supply lines to Australia and greatly hinder any counter offensive from that quarter.

A report produced by the Pacific Fleet staff in April 1942 indicated that though the Americans were at a decided material disadvantage in carrier and shore-based air strength, the one advantage that they could claim was in the area of intel-

ligence. Accurate knowledge of the enemy's deployment of forces and direction of advance could provide an opportunity to deploy remaining American forces in hopes of stopping the Japanese juggernaut.

Intelligence gathered from Station Hypo at Pearl Harbor anticipated the Japanese intentions for Port Moresby and on April 19, 1942, the USS Lexington (CV-2) and her screening ships were ordered to proceed to a point 300 nm northwest of New Caledonia, where they would rendezvous May 1 with the USS Yorktown (CV-5) and the ships of Task Force 17. From there, it was hoped that with the advantage of surprise, skill and a little luck, they could head off the Port Moresby invasion and safeguard the vital supply lines to the region.

The contest was marked by confusion as the two fleets sparred between May 4 and May 6, with aircraft from the USS Yorktown attacking Japanese forces launching an invasion of Tulagi in the Solomon Islands. Later, the Port Moresby invasion force was spotted, and bombers from the Lexington scored direct hits on the Japanese escort carrier Shoho, sending her to the bottom with the now famous epitaph, "scratch one flattop!"

The loss of Shoho and her attached air cover led the Japanese commander of the invasion forces to the fateful decision to retreat until a later date. That date would never come, leaving Port

Moresby under Allied control. On the morning of May 7, the two opposing fleets launched air attacks against each other, marking the first carrier-to-carrier engagement in history. The day ended with the loss of the Lexington and the Yorktown badly damaged. Japan was also scarred with the crippling of the fleet carrier Shokaku.

Typically, history counts the Battle of the Coral Sea as a tactical victory for Japan, considering the loss of the "Lady Lex," one of America's only remaining aircraft carriers, but a strategic victory for the United States. The aggressive posture of Admirals King and Nimitz set out to prevent the Japanese from expanding their ocean empire to the South Pacific and, with the cancellation of the Port Moresby invasion, their strategy proved successful, but the victory carried with it even greater import.

Japan's next great battle, the attempted invasion of Midway just one month later would be without the services of two of their frontline carriers and aircraft of the Shokaku and the Zuikaku, essentially bringing the odds of that clash to a more even keel. Though damaged and in need of major repair, the USS Yorktown and her air groups underwent a legendary rehabilitation at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and contributed mightily to America's great victory at Midway.

Brief bridge closure planned for morning of May 16

The Adm. Clarey (Ford Island) Bridge will be closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic from 9 to 10:30 a.m. May 16 for routine maintenance.

The port security waterborne barrier will be closed during the maintenance period also, and small boat traffic will not be permitted under the bridge.

Security alert continues

Continued from A-1

example, the Joint Base Security Department has increased mobile, foot and military working dog patrols throughout all on-base housing areas. In addition, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and the Joint Base Security Department have formed a task force to focus on deterring theft and catching theft suspects.

"Base personnel, to include juveniles, who are found to be in violation of base rules and regulations, to include theft, possession or use of illegal drugs, and other violations, face prosecution in federal court, eviction from base housing, barment from base and other potential sanctions," said Gimbrone.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is a tight-knit community and members of the base, along with joint base leadership and law enforcement personnel working together, can make a difference in reducing or even eliminating inappropriate behavior on the base. Anyone who observes a violation of rules, regulations or laws is encouraged to immediately report the violation to the Joint Base Security Department via the regional dispatch center at 474-2222, 471-1550 or 471-1551, or in the event of an emergency, call 911 or 449-COPS (2677).

West Loch ceremony planned for May 21

A "World War II West Loch Internees Ceremony" will be held at 3 p.m. May 21 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, honoring Soldiers who died at West Loch Pearl Harbor on May 21, 1944. Philip Baham, an original Tuskegee Airman who resides on Oahu, will be presented with his Congressional Gold Medal by guest speaker Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. For more information, call 597-1341 or visit www.aadch.org.

You use, you lose

Region Legal Services
Office Hawaii

Navy:

Spice has been a growing problem at local commands. This quarter, three Sailors went to non-judicial punishment (NJP) for using or possessing the synthetic drug. Each were reduced in rank, made to forfeit one-half pay for one month, and given restriction for 30 to 45 days.

Three other Sailors went to summary court martial for using Spice. Each received 30 days in the brig, reduction to E-1, plus forfeiture of two-thirds pay for one month.

Additionally, alcohol was a problem for several Sailors this quarter, subjecting them to NJP. Three members, including an E-7, were caught driving under the influence. Each member was subject to the full arsenal of punishments at NJP for their respective pay grades, including reduction in rank and forfeiture of pay.

- Sailor found guilty for unauthorized absence on multiple occasions. He was reduced in rank and subject to 45 days of extra duty after getting treatment for alcoholism.

- Sailor found guilty at NJP for attempted assault. He was reduced in rank, forfeited one-half pay for two months and had 45 days of extra duty.

- Sailor found guilty for disorderly conduct, communicating a threat, and flight from arrest. The Sailor was awarded forfeiture of one-half pay for one month, restriction for 45 days and extra duties for 45 days.

- Sailor found guilty of three specifications in violation of a lawful order, and one specification for larceny. He was reduced in rank, subject to forfeiture of one-half pay for two months and 45 days extra duty.

- Sailor found guilty of unauthorized absence and false official statements. He was reduced in grade, restricted for 30 days and given extra duties for 30 days.

- E7 found guilty for possession of steroids and was sentenced to forfeiture of one-half pay for two months and a reprimand.

Four courts-martial were also prosecuted by the Region Legal Service Office Hawaii:

- E6 was convicted of violating Articles 86, 92, 121 and 134, UCMJ. Sailor was sentenced to confinement for one year, a bad-conduct discharge, reduction to E-1 and a \$30,000 fine.

- E4 was convicted of violating Articles 86, 87, and 128, UCMJ and sentenced to 200 days confinement and reduction to E1.

- E3 was convicted of violating Article 128 (child abuse), UCMJ and sentenced to 270 days confinement and reduction to E1.

- E4 was convicted of violating Article 134 (child pornography), UCMJ and sentenced to 15 months confinement, a bad-conduct discharge, and reduction to E1.

Air Force:

Since the beginning of 2012, joint base Airmen received 14 non-judicial punishments (NJP) for various misconduct. Of those, three were for use of the intoxicating substance known as Spice. Each of the Airmen involved was reduced in rank, with two of the Airmen also receiving forfeitures in pay and additional duties.

Additionally, six Airmen faced NJP for alcohol-related incidents with five of those being arrests for driving under the influence of alcohol. The range of punishments for those Airmen included reduction in rank up to two grades, forfeitures in pay, restriction to base and additional duties.

Four courts-martial were also prosecuted by the 15th Wing Legal Office during this same period.

- Two of these cases were for illegal drug use and possession. A senior NCO was prosecuted for use, possession and importation of steroids and was sentenced to six months confinement and a bad conduct (punitive) discharge.

- A junior enlisted member was prosecuted for possession and use of marijuana and was sentenced to reduction in rank, forfeitures in pay, restriction to base and additional duties. This Airman was administratively discharged from the service.

- Another court-martial was for DUI. In addition to the reduction in rank, forfeitures in pay, restriction to base and additional duties, this Airman was also sentenced to time in jail.

Earth tip: Use water wisely

Earth Tip: Use water wisely. The National Weather Service reported on April 5 that a 10 percent water use restriction remains in place on Oahu as a precaution as we head into the dry season.

Those at sea know the value of fresh water and of course the Navy invented the "Navy shower." A full bathtub can use 70 gallons of water; a 20-minute shower can consume 60 gallons but a "Navy shower" can get a person squeaky clean with as little as 3 gallons. The Board of Water Supply advises against watering lawns between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

See Seven Ways to Save Water at: <http://www.hbws.org/cssweb/display.cfm?storyID=1222>. If you see water being wasted on Navy property, call the NAVFAC Hawaii Customer Service Desk at 471-8481.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

May 17: Military Family Appreciation Day at the Honolulu Zoo

May 24: HURREX

May 31: Battle of Midway – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

June 7: Battle of Midway – Commander Pacific Fleet (role of crypto-analysis, legacy of Midway)

June 14: JEMS

June 21: RIMPAC: Partnerships

June 28: MCBH: Air show coming

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

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.