

Farewell Russell, Crommelin

Navy Region Hawai'i
Public Affairs

The Arleigh Burke-class guided missile cruiser USS Russell (DDG 59) slipped out of Pearl Harbor Tuesday morning.

Close on her heels, the guided missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) pulled out Wednesday.

Russell's crew is on its way to participate in the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training exercise, also known as CARAT 2004.

Crommelin, at the same time, will be headed to the Naval Forces Southern Command area of responsibility. The crew will be engaged in monitoring and detecting counter drug activities.

Russell was the first ship to deploy after the attacks on Sept. 11, 2003. She deployed Oct. 25 to enforce United Nations sanctions against Iraq in the Arabian Sea.

Crommelin will carry a detachment of two SH-60B helicopters from the Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay-based helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light 37.

More than 600 Sailors deployed aboard both ships this week. Families and friends plan to hold regularly-scheduled ohana meetings while the ships are deployed.



U.S. Navy Photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Pat Davis waves goodbye to her husband, GSE1(SW) Wayne Davis, and the other crew members manning the rails of USS Russell (DDG 59). Russell and her crew of more than 300 Sailors are deploying to the Western Pacific to participate in Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training exercise, or CARAT 2004.



Welcome Home

Columbia returns from surge deployment. See story on page A-5.



Island Hopping

Learn more about "the garden isle." See story on page B-1.

Doran advises new Japanese midshipmen

JO2 Jessica B. Davis
U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs



Adm. Walter F. Doran

Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Adm. Walter F. Doran spoke with Japan's newest commissioned Naval officers May 4 aboard Kashima (TV 3508), a Japanese Kashima-class training ship.

"I am proud to speak to naval officers who have accepted that challenge and volunteer to defend freedom," Doran said. "You have become naval officers at a time when your country and the world truly needs you. Our operations together in the Indian Ocean were made possible by the many years of U.S. Navy and Japan Maritime Self Defense Force operations."

Doran spoke about the importance of the bonds between the United States and Japan.

"I am struck by the strength of the security alliance between Japan and the United States and how it gathers strength daily," Doran said. "The U.S. mutual security treaty with Japan has helped to guide our two nations through tense chapters in history and is doing so again today."

"Our partnership for peace has been the lynchpin of this stability in the region for more than a half a century, and the future of our alliance is dependent on you and the young officers developing in the U.S. Navy today," he continued.

Doran reminded the Japanese midshipmen a successful journey in life comes from holding tight to their values.

"Devotion to duty, devotion to country, and devotion to your shipmates," Doran said. "You'll find these values common among all naval officers regardless of what flag they serve. Rear Adm. Yukinori Togo, Commander, Japan Training Squadron, and I hold a great appreciation for these values because they are the same values we swore to uphold when we decided to join the naval service years ago."

"I wish you all the best and hope you enjoy serving your country as I have enjoyed serving mine."

Bachelor housing gets five stars

Navy Region Hawai'i earns second Zumwalt Award in a row in '03

JO2 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

Navy Region Hawai'i received the Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt for excellence in Bachelor Housing Management May 4.

"The main ingredient in winning this award is the fact that we are the first region to meet the Commander of Naval Operations goal in providing housing for 100 percent of ship board Sailors," said Culinary Specialist Senior Chief (SW) Joel Adamos of Naval Station Pearl Harbor. "That's a significant accomplishment."

Adamos credits the chain of command and those who laid the groundwork before them for

their success.

"If not for everyone working together, from the very top to the very bottom, civilian contractors, to junior enlisted we wouldn't be where we are today," said Adamos. "Those who were here before us made this happen as well."

"Housing 100 percent of ship board Sailors is not something that happens in a year or two years, it took foresight from as far back as five years ago, so those who were here before us built the ship. We're just sailing it," admitted Adamos. "But it's not something that stops. It's constant. We want to have the foresight for those who take over when we're gone so they

can improve the quality of life for Sailors who will be stationed here. When you think of it like that it can be a massive positive cycle," said Adamos.

Adamos says the prospect of future Navy housing for other fleet concentration areas has started with the model system here in Hawai'i.

"I wish they had this type of housing when I joined," said Adamos. "These are more like apartments than anything else. They come with washer and dryers, kitchenette, and more privacy. This is the potential for other Navy Housing areas throughout the world."

For one service member living in Gabrunas Hall privacy is a major issue.

"I like to be by myself sometimes," said Master at Arms Seaman Apprentice Kelly Resop of Navy Region Hawai'i Security. "Living here (Gabrunas) gives me the privacy I enjoy. You have a roommate, but you're not in the same room. You just share a bathroom and kitchenette. "Also a lot of us get



U.S. Navy photo
Navy Region Hawai'i Bachelor Housing received the Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt award for Excellence in Bachelor Housing management for the second consecutive year.

together on Sunday and take advantage of the barbecue pits and lounge area. We play volleyball and just make the most of living on base," she said.

"It makes it easier to do my job when I'm treated like a civilian," said Information Systems Technician 3rd Class Joshua Strong from Naval Computer

and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific. "If you live on a ship, you can never get away from the Navy part of your life. But by being able to come home to your own private room, you tend to look at the Navy as a regular nine to five job and it also helps when you're away from home."

Officers extend aloha to Japanese

Ensign Angela Asemota
USS O'Kane Public Affairs

USS O'Kane (DDG 77) and USS Chafee (DDG 90) hosted the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force's Japanese Training Squadron (JTS) during its four-day visit to Pearl Harbor May 4 to May 7.

The 2004 JTS, composed of the flagship JDS Kashima (TV 3508) as well as the destroyers JDS Hamagiri (DD 155) and JDS Umigiri (DD 158), is designed to develop newly-commissioned ensigns' leadership and technical knowledge over a five-month cruise.

Although the JTS sailed into Oahu waters May 3, they remained anchored in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor overnight, mooring at Naval Station M piers May 4. Pearl Harbor is the first and last of 13 scheduled port visits during the overseas training cruise, which will include eight countries.

At the welcoming ceremony, Rear Adm. Yukinori Togo, Commander, Training Squadron JMSDF, and the three JTS commanding officers received traditional Hawaiian lei from Commander Navy Region, Hawaii, Rear Adm. Barry McCullough; Chafee commanding officer, Cmdr. John Ailes; and O'Kane executive officer, Lt. Cmdr. Matthew Fleming.

Various events were scheduled for the officer trainees during the week, including tours of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60); however, the trainees said most memorable events were their visits to historical military sites and social events spent with

their American counterparts.

According to Lt. j. g. Donald Paulson, O'Kane host ship liaison officer, the Japanese Navy's respect for military history and the sacrifices of American servicemen during World War II was evident during a wreath-laying ceremony at the Arizona Memorial.

"After the playing of Taps, a wreath of various local Hawaiian flowers was laid at the base of the plaque displaying the names of the servicemen lost during the attack on Pearl Harbor," recounted Paulson. "As the Japanese ensigns filed out, Admiral Togo lingered behind to drop a white lily from the wreath into the water. He watched as the flower dropped down through the water to rest on the remains of the Arizona, paying a solemn and private tribute to the lives lost on that day."

Receptions allowed American and Japanese junior officers the opportunity to compare training curriculum while experiencing another culture.

"Not only is this a beautiful place, the people are extremely friendly," said JTS Ensign Seiji Osawa. "Everyone seems very interested in our comfort and ensuring we enjoy ourselves. I look forward to visiting again on our return trip later this fall."

According to Togo, the overseas training cruise serves a dual purpose in presenting the opportunity to enhance mutual understanding and goodwill between the Japanese Navy and host countries as well as TO train newly-commissioned officers.

Fleming echoed Togo's sentiments on the importance



U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Angela Asemota
USS O'Kane (DDG 77) Ensigns Michelle Betancourt and Patrick Chapman (right) discuss the similarities and differences between their respective services with Japanese Training Squadron Ensign Noriya Nakadowa during a reception held May 4 at Commander Navy Region, Hawai'i Rear Admiral Barry McCullough's residence

of positive interaction between allied nations.

"The visit was a professionally rewarding and enjoyable time," said Fleming.

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Mighty Mo heads home from war



U.S. Navy photo

The battleship Missouri pulls in to a rousing welcome at Pearl Harbor May 3, 1991. Missouri was the last battleship to leave the Arabian Gulf after completing a six-month deployment in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. After a port visit in Pearl Harbor, Missouri returned to her home port in Long Beach, Calif.

Commentary

Chapel Pennant

Lava Lava Island Where Jesus' love flows

Naval Station Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel

Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel invites children to Lava Lava Island: Where Jesus' Love Flows.

"This year our Chapel is overflowing with excitement as we explore Lava Lava island," said Sandy Logston, VBS co-director. Our Lava Lava Island program will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for kids of all ages.

"Each day kids will sing catchy songs, play teamwork building games, nibble tropical treats, take on a daily challenge to let Jesus' love flow home, experience electrifying Bible adventures and collect Bible point crafts they'll take home and play with all summer long."

Lava Lava Island is an exciting way for kids to learn

more about Jesus' love. We'll be studying stories about the life of Jesus.

Plus, kids will join nearly a million children in North America and take part in a hands-on mission project that will reach needy children in the Caribbean and Latin America.

We'll conclude each day with a festive Lava Lava Luau that gets everyone involved in celebrating what they've learned.

Family members and friends are encouraged to join us daily for this special time at 11:50 a.m. We hope Lava Lava Island will help Jesus' love flow into our community.

Lava Lava Island begins June 14th and continues through June 18th. It meets at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel each day from 8:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

Registration begins May 2nd and ends June 13th. For more information call the chapel at 473-3971.

Creation, destruction just a matter of one's perspective

Commentary
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
News Editor



Like most other people, I watch the news. Over the last month, though, it's been getting harder and harder to sit and watch and listen to the stories coming out of the Middle East.

I'm sure most of you have heard the stories about Nicholas Berg, the American who was beheaded by terrorists, who, while hiding behind ski masks and other coverings, claimed the killing was in retaliation to the torture and abuse of Iraqi prisoners by American soldiers.

I saw the images of Berg's family and friends reacting to the footage of the killing. If you haven't, I'd suggest turning on CNN or checking

out some sort of news channel every once in a while.

I'm sure a large percentage of you have heard about the Kobe Bryant trial. I'd be willing to bet the vast majority of you have heard about the Michael Jackson case. It's gotten even bigger coverage than the Kobe thing.

Locally, I'm sure there are a lot of people who know about the trial of Christopher Aki, the man who is accused of killing 11-year-old Kahealani "Kahea" Indreginal in December 2002. Then, there's the near-incessant griping about the school system or the traffic here that usually makes some kind of headlines pretty regularly.

It's pretty depressing. The news seems to be filled with nothing but stories about human suffering, general despair and people forgetting about other people's basic humanity. One might be tempted to think the end times are upon us. That's also in the news — stories about people

claiming the current strife around the globe are all signs of the impending apocalypse.

Some say the day of judgement is at hand and that we should all drop to our knees and pray for forgiveness because there is just no good news left in this world and all we have left is to hope for better in the next.

Life, if one believes the bad news and the gloom and doom prophets, is as good as over.

But then again, we have people like the Sailors in this week's paper who used their off-duty time to work at a box car racing track so kids would have a place to play.

There's the story about Donna Kahakui who is planning a 200-mile ocean canoe trek to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the environment. She's looking for folks who might want to join her on her journey. More info for her can be found at her Website www.kaimakana.org.

There are stories that never reach the news-

paper or the television about people helping people all over the place. I'm sure random acts of kindness occur fairly regularly. I know the spark of compassion burns in everyone. It just takes a little bit of goodwill to fan that spark into a roaring inferno that will consume the anger and leave ashes of bitterness as a reminder of our own foolishness.

I am saddened and disgusted as anyone when I hear the stories of murder and intolerance. However, I refuse to allow those stories to dampen my resolve. I refuse to give in to those people who want to do away with the good in this world.

It's up to you. It's up to me. Each one of us carries an awesome potential for creation. Each one of us can create a little piece of a better world. With cooperation, we can all knit those pieces together to destroy the old world.

I will continue to fight. I will not fight with guns or bombs. I will strive instead with hope.

Commentary

Ohana Line

I saw a big sailboat pull into Pearl Harbor. What ship is that and is there any way that I can get myself and my family aboard to see it?

The ship is the Chilean tall ship Esmeralda. The crew is in town for a short port visit.

There will be tours available to the general public this weekend. There will also be tours available for military and government personnel on Monday. For more information, look on page A-4 or call Lt. Brian Donahue at 473-3330.

I have bad knees so I want to start swimming my PRT. I know how to swim, but I don't really know how to swim properly. Is there any place on base I can go to get adult lessons on how to swim freestyle correctly?

Richardson, Scott and Kona Breeze pools host a Masters Swim Program for adults.

Richardson Pool's program runs Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5 to 6:30 a.m. and Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, contact them at 471-9723.

Scott Pool runs its program Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. and Monday Through Friday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call them at 473-0394.

The Kona Breeze Masters Swim Program runs Tuesday through Friday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact them at 684-5133.

I'm bored. I'm tired of just going to the beach or staying on base and going to the clubs. What else is there for me to do to get out around the island?

There are many activities

available for single Sailors. Liberty in Paradise hosts activities throughout the month for single Sailors.

Activities this month include tours to the Ho'omalihia Botanical Gardens and Dole Plantation.

In June, LIP is hosting a "Slimy Wrestling" competition and a trip to Hawai'i Carting and an array of activities geared to single Sailors.

The Outdoor Adventure Center also has a wide array of activities for Sailors. This month, the OAC will have several hikes to locations across Oahu. They will also be taking daredevils to the North Shore for some tandem skydiving.

Next month is the open house for the new Alpine Tower. OAC will also hold another workshop for anyone interested in learning how to hunt feral pigs.

For more information on activities for single Sailors and for Sailors with families, visit the MWR website at www.greatlife-hawaii.com or pick up a copy of Liberty Call.

One Friday night, I watched as the newspaper delivery person who delivers Hawai'i Navy News in our neighborhood placed two large bundles of newspapers in my neighbor's trash can. What should we do or who do we contact if we see this happen?

From time to time, we have received reports of large numbers of HNN newspapers being placed in trash receptacles, thrown down storm drains or even left sitting on the sidewalk.

If you notice such incidents, please call Hawai'i Navy news at 473-2888 and we will report it to our publisher, the Honolulu Advertiser, who handles the distribution of our newspaper.

Hawai'i Sailors 'talk story'

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Anthony Pierce

"The Army taught me how to kill," said Information Technician 2nd Class (SW/PJ) Anthony Pierce of Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific. "The Navy taught me how to think."

Pierce served eight years in the United States Army in the Airborne 82nd. While stationed in Vicenza, Italy, Pierce was involved in special operations.

"We did all kinds of special ops for NATO," said Pierce. "It was an exciting time for me and I felt as though I was part of history."

Pierce was also part of the 101st Air Assault Unit "Screaming Eagles" during his enlistment as a Soldier.

"My specialty in the unit was heavy weapons," said Pierce. "We dealt with some airborne, air assault operations, again for NATO."

After his enlistment in the Army, Pierce decided to try his hand as a civilian.

"I wanted to try and be a

civilian for a little while," he said. "So I got out and went to work for Microsoft. During this time, I joined the Navy Reserves because I heard the Navy offers more education in the career field that most interests you, which for me was computers. While in the reserves, I started to realize that I was happier on the weekends than working during the week. So I had to do some soul searching," Pierce confessed.

His search landed him in the United States Navy where he now serves as a supervisor at NCTAMS.

In his spare time, Pierce uses his computer skills to work on a project that incorporates Navy blue with business grey.

"I'm working on a Website that incorporates some of the business world leadership styles with the Navy's leadership styles," said Pierce. "There [are] good and bad practices used in the business world. We

Vital statistics

Name:
Anthony Pierce

Hometown:
Italy, Texas

Duty station:
Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific

Job:
Supervisor

Favorite part of the job:
Learning about Navy traditions



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright
IT2(SW/PJ) Anthony Pierce stands under a communications satellite at NCTAMS

just need to find out what they are and include them in our leadership training."

Pierce is also working on a Website about Navy history.

"One of the things I really love about the Navy is our traditions," said Pierce. "As an IT, we spend a lot of time on Navy

Knowledge Online and one thing I notice that is missing is a link to Navy history and traditions. I would like to come up with a site that deals with Navy traditions and submit it to NKO."

Where does Pierce see himself in five years?
"MCPON."

Hawai'i Navy News

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i
Rear Adm. Barry McCullough
Chief of Staff - Capt. Ronald R. Cox
Public Affairs Officer - Lt. Cmdr. Jeff Davis
Deputy Public Affairs Officer - Agnes Tauyan
Public Affairs LCPO/Managing Editor
JOC(SW) Joe Kane
News Editor - JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Features Editor - JO1 Jim Williams
Assistant Editor - Karen Spangler
Staff Writer - JO2 Devin Wright
Staff Writer - JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Technical Adviser - Joe Novotny
Layout/Design - Angie Batula

Hawai'i Navy News is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com World Wide Web address: www.hnn.navy.mil

This civilian enterprise newspa-

per is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawai'i. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander,

Navy Region Hawai'i or the Honolulu Advertiser.

Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Hawai'i Navy News is delivered weekly to Navy housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 538-NEWS (538-6397) if they wish to discontinue home delivery.



U.S. Navy photo by PHAN Dominique M. Lasco
 SH3 Jennifer Elenes of Santa Fe Springs, Calif., AO1 Eric D. McWright of Chicago, Ill., and other USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) Sailors search the advancement results from the March 2004 advancement exams. Reagan is currently underway off the coast of Virginia.

E-4 to E-6 advancement remains steady

Chief of Naval Personnel
 Public Affairs

Sailors taking the March exams for advancement to petty officer first class, second class and third class will find the overall advancement opportunity holding steady with previous advancement cycles.

The Navy will promote more than 23,000 Sailors who passed the March advancement exams, representing a decrease of only 0.16 percent from the September cycle.

"I am very pleased that advancement opportunity stayed relatively steady in the face of this great retention we continue to enjoy," said Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing, Chief of Naval Personnel. "It truly demonstrates the Navy's commitment to career growth and development, as well as the benefit of healthy competition."

Advancement opportunity to E-4 came in at 35.82 percent, an increase of almost two percentage points compared to the September cycle. Advancement opportunity to E-5 was 18.06 percent, an increase of 0.65 percent from the last cycle, while the

Personnel advanced from Naval Station Pearl Harbor

Rank	Number taking test	Number advanced
E-4	76	63
E-5	98	57
E-6	84	24

Numbers includes personnel in UIC 62813, 46188 and 61449. For more complete results, visit www.bupers.navy.mil and look up enlisted advancements under selection boards.

advancement opportunity to E-6 dropped to 15.43 percent, a decrease of 4.34 percent from last cycle.

The number of Sailors passing the exams dropped by only one percent to 108,226, and the total number of quotas available decreased by 1.5 percent from September.

Thirty-six ratings increased or maintained advancement opportunity at the E-6 level when compared to the September exam cycle. Forty-two ratings declined in opportunity, but 11 of those still had advancement opportunity above the E-6 average.

At the E-5 level, 41 ratings showed an increase in advance-

ment opportunity while 35 declined compared to last cycle.

Among the E-4 results, 55 ratings increased or maintained advancement opportunity level when compared to the September exam cycle, with 20 showing a decline.

Six of those still showed an above-average advancement opportunity, however. Thirty ratings showed 100 percent advancement to E-4.

A full list of advancement quotas from the March 2004 advancement exam (cycle 183) will soon be available at <http://www.bupers.navy.mil>. Once on the site, click the link for advancements to view the list.

Esmeralda welcomes public

Ship to be opened for free public tours this weekend

The Chilean tall ship Esmeralda pulled into Pearl Harbor today.

The ship will host tours for the public this weekend.

Anyone interested in touring the ship should park at the Navy Exchange in the "D3 and Pineapple" lot.

See the map below to see which lot to park in for the tour.

Members of the public should be there before 2:45 p.m. Tours will run from the parking lot to the ship, which will be berthed on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, every half hour from 3 to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



U.S. Navy photo
 The Chilean tall ship Esmeralda at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

bags on the tour since there will be walking and climbing stairs involved.

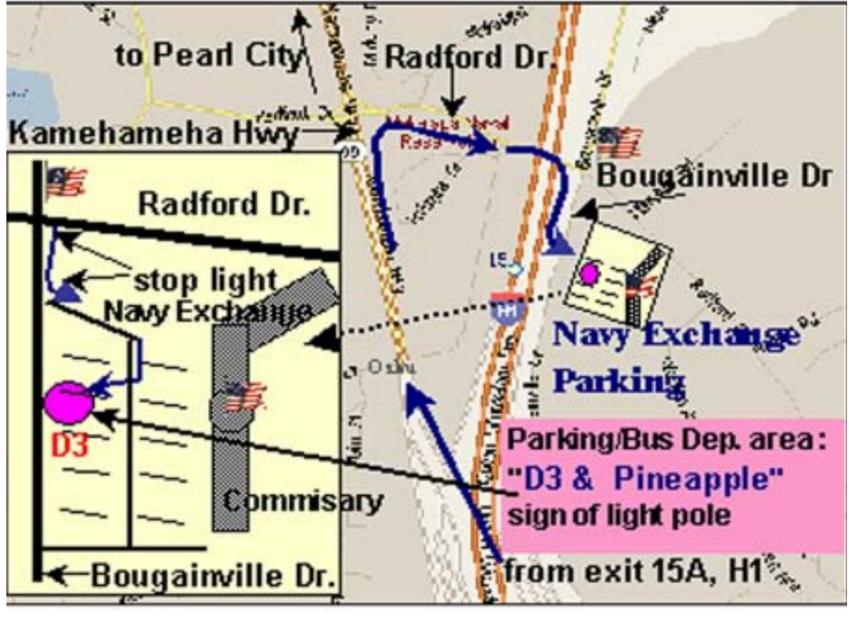
Members of the military and government, to include local, state and federal, are invited to attend the tours Monday between 2 and 6 p.m.

For government employees who do not have base access, there will be shuttles available at the Navy Exchange parking lot.

Military personnel and those affiliated with the military can park on base and walk to the pier during the designated tour times. Tours will run every half hour.

For more information, contact the foreign ship liaison officer, Lt. Brian Donahue, at 473-3330.

Navy shuttle vans will be on hand to transport members of the public from the lot to the ship. Members of the public should not carry large



Columbia returns from surge deployment

JOC(SW/AW) David Rush
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Following a three month surge deployment to the Western Pacific, the crewmembers of USS Columbia (SSN 771) returned to their homeport of Pearl Harbor Monday.

According to the nuclear-powered attack submarine's Commanding Officer Cmdr. Duane Ashton, the Sailors did a great job on their short-fused deployment.

"The surge deployment went very well," Ashton said. "The crew was able to turn the ship around from a previous deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and once we found out we would be deployed again to the Western Pacific we began in earnest our upkeep and almost our entire pre-deployment work up cycle, but the crew stepped up to the plate and knocked it out of the park."

Ashton commended not only his submariners for a job well done, but also Submarine Squadron Three for their essential support.

"I am very proud of what my crew was able to do," Ashton said. "The squadron worked very hard to help us get ready and prepare for operations in the 7th Fleet."

As part of the Chief of Naval Operations Fleet Response Plan, USS Columbia was the first Pacific Fleet submarine to be surge-deployed.

"A surge deployment is when the submarine gets underway outside of the normal inter-deployment training cycle," Ashton explained. "That cycle is normally 18 months; we did it in essentially six months. We moved the clock forward to be able to deploy much earlier than originally planned," said Ashton.



A submariner from USS Columbia (SSN 771) is greeted by his family after returning home from a surge deployment to the Western Pacific. Columbia is the first Pacific Fleet submarine to complete a surge deployment.

Although the crew had to endure long hours to get the submarine ready, Ashton added submariners knew they had family and friends at home behind them.

"Having the family support that we have here helped. Our ombudsman

and our family support group were awesome. It allowed the crew to focus on the mission at hand," concluded Ashton.

USS Columbia was built with the state-of-the-art SEAWOLF technology. Application of this technology

makes this ship the most modern submarine in the world.

Both construction methods and computerization make Columbia stand out as a unique submarine platform among the 688 improved class. According to officials, this subma-

rine is one of the most versatile weapons platforms ever placed in the oceans, capable of long range Tomahawk strike operations, anti-submarine and surface shipping operations, surveillance and intelligence gathering, and special forces insertions.

Navy Promotes First West Coast CWO-5

J03 Cheryl Wilson
Naval Media Center, Fleet Support Detachment
San Diego

Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 5 is the first command on the West Coast to promote a Sailor to the newly implemented rank of CWO-5 April 30. Chief Warrant Officer James Jackson was promoted from CWO-4 to CWO-5 as part of the Navy's gradual phase-in of the new rank.

"I am number seven on the [promotion] list, but the first on the West Coast," said Jackson, ACU-5 assistant supply, food service and bachelor enlisted quarters officer.

The Hot Springs, Ark., native decided to stay in the Navy after 30 years to accept this promotion. "It is the Navy that keeps me going - it is serving my country in this war on terrorism. I was going to retire, but being CWO-5 is an honor for me," Jackson said.

Rear Adm. Daniel Stone, director of Logistics and Engineering for North American Aerospace Command and U.S. Northern Command, said Jackson's advancement to CWO-5 is not only an achievement for the supply community, but also for the Navy. "It is a very distinguished career to achieve the rank of warrant officer," Stone said.

Warrant officers are essential to the Navy's successful operation, and preserve the knowledge and technical skills within the community. "Having the CWO-5 rank is the Navy's way of not letting the technically skilled Sailors leave the work force and take all that knowledge with them," Jackson said.

All CWO-5s will be chosen from the Navy's CWO-4s. "You have to be CWO-4 for at least three years. Usually, those people have about 27 or 28 years in," Jackson said.

"There is an old saying that says, 'Great moments are made from great opportunities.' It is surely a great moment for me to be selected as one of the Navy's first chief warrant officer fives," said Jackson.

He feels his shipmates presented the opportunities that led him to this promotion.

"I could not have succeeded without the help of many people, both junior and senior, who I have worked with throughout my career," Jackson admitted.



Landing Craft Air Cushion 82 assigned to Assault Craft Unit 5 stationed at Camp Pendleton, Calif., prepares to pull into the well deck of the amphibious dock landing ship USS Germantown (LSD 42) in January during Exercise Edged Mallet O4.

The implementation of CWO-5 not only retains the technical skills of career Sailors, but also provides Sailors like Jackson an opportunity to continue to do what they know best for a few more years in the Navy.

"Now that I am CWO-5, they do not have to retire me and I can help with my expertise," Jackson said. "I find it a fantastic feeling to be able to give two more years to my country."

Perry relieves Hale as USS Santa Fe commanding officer

J03 Corwin Colbert
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Cmdr. J. Stephen Perry Jr. relieved Cmdr. Andrew Hale as commanding officer of USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) in a change of command ceremony May 7 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor's submarine piers.

Capt. Glen Niederhauser, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet's director of training, tactical development, doctrine and knowledge management, was the keynote speaker.

"I had the opportunity to serve with both of these fine officers," said Niederhauser. "I first served with Hale on the SUBPAC staff in 1999. I knew he had a good nature and what it takes to be a commanding officer. He is an outstanding leader and I am proud of his accomplishments. Hale had the unique opportunity to command at sea.

"However, Santa Fe has its share of great men onboard as well," he added. "They understand hard work, preparation and many hours at sea. This crew knows how to maintain an atmosphere of excellence, completing 100 percent of the tasks thrown at them. The submarine's morale, climate and retention is one of the best."

During his speech, Niederhauser presented Hale with the Legion of Merit Medal for exceptionally meritorious service as commanding officer of USS Santa Fe.



Cmdr. Stephen Perry Jr. receives his first salute as commanding officer of USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) after a change of command ceremony May 7.

"Command of a ship is the goal of every officer. After taking command of Santa Fe, I can now say I am proud to command, not the submarine, but the crew. The sub is just a hull and shell. The crew is the life," Hale said. "The crew made my tour more rewarding. They managed to create a culture of leadership and determination. They have amazed me with their resilience and tenacity. The chief's quarters and wardroom are the best I have ever worked with. They know how to create a team. I am humbled and honored to serve with this crew," commented Hale.

Perry said he is looking forward to his tour.

"Working with Commodore Haney prepared me for becoming a commanding officer," Perry said. "Also, working with the

staff at Submarine Squadron One has been great. They are the best group of Sailors I have worked with. To the crew of Santa Fe, I am honored to be your new shipmate."

Perry graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1985. He has been assigned to three previous submarines: USS Chicago (SSN 721), USS Minneapolis-St. Paul (SSN 708) and USS San Francisco (SSN 711).

His last assignment was as deputy commander for readiness on the staff of Submarine Squadron One.

The other submarines belonging to Commander, Submarine Squadron Seven are USS Cheyenne (SSN 773), USS Columbus (SSN 762), USS Pasadena (SSN 752) and USS Tucson (SSN 770).

USS O'Kane makes wish come true for teen

Ensign Angela Asemota
USS O'Kane Public Affairs

Last month, Sailors aboard USS O'Kane (DDG 77) helped make a wish come true.

For as long as he can remember, Joey George has dreamed of serving on a United States Navy warship. Being diagnosed with kidney failure at the age of 13 did not change his plans, but accelerated them.

With the help of O'Kane and the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Joey not only toured the Arleigh-Burke-class destroyer, but also was the honorary captain for a day while visiting Hawai'i. His eight-year-old sister, mother and father joined Joey on his visit.

"Captain Joey's" arrival onboard O'Kane was announced with the customary four gongs reserved for announcing the arrival of the commanding officer (CO).

The tour centered on Joey receiving his enlisted surface warfare specialist (ESWS) pin. Joey began on the main deck and inspected mount 51. The tour progressed to the bridge where a fully-manned small caliber action team

(SCAT) greeted Joey, as well as close in weapons system (CIWS) and vertical launch system (VLS) operators.

In the pilothouse, Joey "drove" the ship as helmsman. In pursuit of his damage control qualifications, Joey visited the repair lockers and central control station (CCS).

In a fire drill, complete with calling away the flying squad, "Captain Joey" manned the hose team and helped direct a fully-charged hose.

The tour concluded in combat, where all consoles and stations were manned by O'Kane operations Sailors to provide a realistic setting.

Joey sat in the CO's chair and launched missiles in accordance with an actual scenario.

"It was truly an honor to be able to show the Navy's finest destroyer to 'Captain Joey' and the rest of his 'crew.' They were truly an inspiration to all of their shipmates aboard O'Kane," said Cmdr. William J. Nault, USS O'Kane commanding officer.

Joey enjoyed an O'Kane meal of pizza and spaghetti served in the wardroom while watching videos of O'Kane's 2003 West Pac and Tomahawk missile launchings. Gifts from the ship's

store, such as ball caps, coffee mugs and T-shirts, served as a unique reminder of his visit.

"Our family cannot thank O'Kane enough for the extraordinary experience that they offered," said Tom George, Joey's father. "It will rank as one of the highlights of not only our trip to Hawaii, but also of our lives. In visiting with each other about our day, we all felt a remarkable sense of calm and pride that those we met on USS O'Kane are on watch, protecting this great nation and our way of life. It is our tremendous honor to have met them. We cannot properly express our gratitude for the day that they gave us and for their selfless service to our country."

The event was not only memorable to Joey and his family, but served as a noteworthy experience for the crew as well.

"Being able to meet Joey and help make his wish come true illustrated how anything we do as Sailors should not be taken for granted," remarked Ensign Chris Wallace, O'Kane's electrical officer. "Joey's ultimate wish was to do what we do every day. The privilege of serving on a ship in defense of one's country should never be

underestimated."

Since its founding in 1980, the Make-A-Wish Foundation has granted the wishes of children, ages 2.5 through 18, with life-threatening medical conditions.

The foundation is the largest wish-granting charity, servicing 76 chapters in the U.S. and its territories and 27 international affiliates on five continents. It relies upon more than 25,000 volunteers and generates income through individual and corporate donations, planned gifts, foundation grants, and chapter fees and assessments.

Wish-granting expenses are fully covered by the foundation, including travel and spending money when necessary.

"Captain Joey's" day onboard O'Kane concluded with Nault presenting him with a ship's picture and the American flag that was flown over O'Kane on the day of his visit.

As the gongs and announcements over the ship's intercom announced, "Captain Joey George, departing," the crew of O'Kane wished their new shipmate fair winds and following seas.

Community: Temporary Personnel Unit volunteers race to clean up box car track in Pearl City



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Sailors from TPU helped install a dust screen at the new box car site and dismantled framework and cleaned up the old site.

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

Sailors from the Temporary Personnel Unit on Naval Station, Pearl Harbor participated in a community service project May 4-6 helping American Box Car International move its track from Pearl City to its new location in Kunia.

"It's a lot different than what I usually do," said Quartermaster 2nd Class (SW) Robert Dressler, Temporary Personnel Unit. "It's a chance to get outside and do some hard work."

According to its website, ABCRI is a non-profit organization that facilitates the healthy interaction of youth, parents, grandparents, community organizations and business leaders within a framework of educational and recreational programs.

ABCRI aims to teach cognitive skills, career development skills, driving skills and safety and responsibility.

Fifteen Sailors from TPU helped install a dust screen at the new site, which helps to prevent dirt from spreading out to residential areas.

Sailors also dismantled

framework and cleaned up the old site in Pearl City.

"These Navy men and women have literally saved the day for us," said B.C. Cowling, ABCRI executive director. "We commend Capt. Ronald R. Cox [commanding officer of Naval Station, Pearl Harbor and chief of staff, Navy Region Hawai'i] for his commitment to community service."

The new facility in Kunia will have two three-lane family activity tracks, a three-lane combination championship and competition track, participant pavilions and a classroom shop, office and snack bar.

The volunteer work provided by the Sailors helped ABCRI to save money as well as time.

"They are an amazing group and have helped us complete tasks ahead of schedule," said Cowling. "This means a savings to us of thousands of dollars of time as well as hundreds of hours of effort."

The Sailors described the work as fun and challenging, but said it was worth the effort.

"If you get out here and do good things like community service, you help out a little bit," said Dressler.

Pacific Fleet enlisted submariners dive into officer program

JO3 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Five Pacific Fleet submariners were selected for the Seaman to Admiral program and are preparing to start their new lives and careers as naval officers this August.

As remarkable and rewarding as it may be for an enlisted nuclear submariner to be selected to become an officer, this story has an even bigger twist for two of those selected.

Machinist's Mate 1st Class Christian Garcia, USS Pasadena (SSN 752), and Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Christopher Wolcott, USS Key West (SSN 722), are both divers who attended dive school together. Now they will be classmates again as they head off to officers' training in Rhode Island.

Being an electrician or mechanic in the engine room, and taking the role as a ship's diver can be demanding at times. However, Garcia, a native of Lima, Peru, feels his work is not very difficult, but it is important.

"As machinist's mates, we make sure the boat is running aft in the engine room keeping the engines in good shape," he said. "As for diving, one of my LPOs encouraged me to be a diver. He was my mentor. We do security swims, checking the ship make sure everything is O.K. and [make sure] there are no foreign objects in the seawater systems inlets," said Garcia. "We are also safety swimmers. If a boat comes alongside for a personnel transfer while at sea, we would be ready in case of an accident," he said.

Wolcott agreed with Garcia. "My job is important. As electrician's mates (EM), we handle all the electronic components on the boat and work on the propulsion back aft to help push the boat through the water. Even though as an EM work can be tedious, it is nice and refreshing when they need us to dive. It allows us to get away from the division for a little bit and do something different," said Wolcott.

Garcia and Wolcott have more to look forward to in August when they go to Rhode Island for officer training.

"I am excited about getting selected for the



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Corwin Colbert

MM1 Christian Garcia, USS Pasadena (SSN 752) diving department leading petty officer, checks his dive time after completing a diving operations readiness assessment. Garcia is one of five Pacific Fleet submariners selected for the 2004 Seaman to Admiral program.

Seaman to Admiral program," Garcia admitted. "I always wanted to be a pilot. Two of my uncles are pilots in the Peruvian Air Force. I took some classes for piloting, but it is somewhat hard being underway all time," said Garcia.

"I always wanted to work for NASA. My ultimate goal is becoming an astronaut, the cream of the crop," said Wolcott. "One day I went to the career counselor asking about job opportunities and he mentioned that there were some job openings for pilots. I talked it over with my wife and decided to go for it. I am every excited. It's a ton of traveling, but in the end you can't beat it."

The road leading up to their new adventure has not been easy.

"I had to take a flight physical at the Kaneohe Marine Corps Base," Garcia said. "Then I had two different boards, one here at Submarine Squadron Seven and one in Bahrain. There were three officers on each board who were O-3 and up."

"They asked me why I wanted to be an officer, what my goals were and what I wanted to do in the future," Garcia continued. "They also gave me different scenarios and I had to explain how I would handle it. After the board, I took about a 100-question flight exam. Finally, I submitted my package in June last year. It had my last five evaluations, physical readiness test scores, medical and physical records, my interview, test scores and some other things," said Garcia.

Now that the screening is over Garcia, Wolcott, and the rest of the Pacific Fleet submariners are looking forward to officer training.

"It was four months before I found out I was selected in October under the piloting option," said Garcia. "So now, I am waiting to go to Rhode Island for two months for officer school. Then I am going to the University of Florida for three years and majoring in political science. Finally, I will be on my way to flight school in Pensacola."

Wolcott was ecstatic when he found out Garcia may be his classmate.

"I think it's a coincidence Garcia and I are going to school together, both of us are submarine nukes and now we both were picked up for officer school," Wolcott said. "He was one of my friends in dive school. I am looking forward to being his classmate and fellow pilot."

"Imagine two submarine pilots. It is going to be interesting, I am sure I will get some unique call signs like 'bubbles' or 'fish'. Submarines and planes are totally opposite worlds," concluded Wolcott.

The other candidates from COMSUBPAC are Electronics Technician 2nd Class Nicholas Clendenning of USS Columbia (SSN 771), Electrician's Mate 1st Class Daniel Mackie of USS Charlotte (SSN 766) and Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Zachary Moody of USS Chicago (SSN 721). Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Robert Reece of USS Louisville (SSN 724) is an alternate.

Former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Mike Boorda participated in an enlisted-to-officer commissioning program in the early 1960s.

He was the first CNO to advance from the enlisted ranks. The integration program, as it was then known, was designed to give enlisted personnel an opportunity to get a commission.

After becoming CNO, Admiral Boorda re-established the historic program, renamed Seaman to Admiral, for Sailors to earn their commission and become officers.

The admiral believed, "people should have the opportunity to excel, and be all they can be, even if they don't get a perfect or traditional start."

Joint choir ready to sing at 'the happiest place on earth'

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
News Editor

The joint command performance choir from the Kunia Regional Operations Center is preparing to take a trip to Walt Disney World in Florida, another park that shares the moniker of "the happiest place on earth," for a concert July 4.

The 15-person choir is fresh off a performance at the Rumble on the Rock May 7. Performers range in rank from E-3 to O-1.

"Most of our songs are done by request," said choir director Cryptologic Technician-Collection 3rd Class Arnold A. Pascucci, Jr. "We do mostly patriotic and inspirational songs. We also do the songs for the five services."

The choir performs acapella — that is, they perform without any musical accompaniment.

Pascucci said the arrangements are easier without music. He has a bass section, a tenor section, an alto and a soprano section in the choir.

In going with the acapella format, all he has to work with are the voices of the choir members.

"It sounds a lot better," he admitted. "It's more inspirational."

The "Rumble" performance was done as part of Hawai'i Military Appreciation Month.

There, the choir performed Toby Keith's "Angry American," known better by its second name, "Courtesy of the Red White and Blue."

"The song is all about patriotism and supporting our troops and servicemen," said Pascucci.

The choir regularly performs at retirements and award ceremonies across Oahu. They also performed at last year's Christmas show and at the



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón

CT2 Rufus Cumberlander sings "America the Beautiful" during the 2003 Enlisted Navy Birthday ball at the Hilton Hawaiian Village ballroom as the joint command performance choir from KRSOC provides backup.

2003 Navy Birthday Ball at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

At that performance, where CT2 Rufus Cumberlander sang the Ray Charles version of "America the Beautiful" as part of the choir's repertoire.

"The choir is all-volunteer," Pascucci said. "We rehearse three days a week but we all know that mission comes first so people sometimes have to miss practice and come when they can."

The choir's current practice schedule is preparing them for upcoming events like the Federal Government Civilian Awards Ceremony at the Sheraton Waikiki.

The event is scheduled to bring in over 1,500 people, including admirals from around the Pacific Rim and senators from across the country.

They are also preparing for their Disney Magic Music Days at Disney World.

In order to be accepted by Disney, the group had to prepare a video presentation of their performance. Then, they had to submit and wait for a response from Walt Disney World officials.

They received word in March that their package had been reviewed and the choir was accepted to perform July 4 in the rotunda.

The rotunda is located inside the American Adventure area of the park. It is enclosed and there is a vaulted, domed ceiling, Pascucci said the acoustics of the room will be perfect for the choir and appreciated the consideration by Disney World officials.

"To be placed in the rotunda is an honor," Pascucci said. "They could have put us at an outside venue and said 'There you go.' This is a good salute from Disney because it shows they support the military."

The choir's show will consist of songs honoring the military from the Civil War period to present day. The members of the choir are currently performing a variety of fundraising events across Oahu to raise money for their trip to Florida.

Since it is a volunteer activity, there is no official command funding. Anyone interested in donating either time or money can contact Pascucci at 655-3215.

It's a family thing

Reuben James hosts second-generation Navy navigator

USS Reuben James Public Affairs

Onboard Reuben James, there is a special and historical relationship for Lt. j.g. David Schafer, the ship's navigator. Dean Morrison, Schafer's grandfather, also served as navigator some 60 years prior during the Pacific campaigns of World War II.

As a young child, Schafer always wanted to serve in the military and knew that it would be special for both of his grandparents if he became a naval officer.

Consequently, he applied for a NROTC scholarship at Marquette University in Wisconsin and upon graduation earned a commission into the U.S. Navy as an ensign on May 20, 2000.

His grandfather, Lt. j.g. Dean Morrison, was born Oct. 20, 1919, in Morrisonville, Wisc. He attended the University of Wisconsin, earning a bachelor of arts in language arts.

As tensions brewed internationally and war loomed on the horizon, Morrison received a commission in the Navy as an ensign and was called to active duty in December 1942. He was assigned to USS Benion (DD 662) in Norfolk, Va. and shortly after his arrival, became the ship's navigator.

During World War II, the Benion participated in the following campaigns: Mariannas-Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Palaus-Palau-Koror, Leyte Gulf, Mindoro, Lingayen Gulf, Iwo Jimam and Okinawa.

The Benion steamed over 148,000 miles before returning home to the United States to be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation and eight battle stars. Morrison served in the Navy through the end of the war and remained a proud World War II veteran until his death in May 1998.

As a child growing up, Schafer had an excellent relationship with his grandfather and wanted to follow in his footsteps. "Papa inspired me and played a vital role in my life. He was always there for me and helped make me who I am today," said Schafer.

Upon graduation from Marquette, Schafer reported to Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, R.I. and received orders to his first ship, USS Iwo Jima (LHD 8), and served as the ship's first lieutenant, damage control division officer, and the main propulsion O1 division officer for two years.

After a successful tour aboard Iwo Jima, Schafer was transferred to Pearl Harbor where he became the navigator for Reuben James.

"I always wanted to become a navigator and coming to the Reuben James allowed me to do just that," stated Schafer. "Since I was little, I thought that being a navigator would be a very interesting job, not to mention how special it would be for my grandmother for me to become just like grandpa. I am very grateful and thankful that I have had this opportunity."

While onboard Reuben James, Schafer served as the ship's navigator for just under one year and helped guide the ship through its arduous and accelerated inter-deployment training cycle and current counter-drug operations deployment to the eastern Pacific Ocean.

Upon completion of his tour onboard Reuben James, Schafer is slated to serve as the EM/IC "C" school branch head at Great Lakes, Ill.

Ford Island to be re-zoned

Betty Mow, the Department of Education Central District Complex Area Superintendent, will be holding a meeting at Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School from 6 to 7 p.m. May 20 to discuss where elementary-age students assigned to Ford Island housing will attend school next year.

Presently, those children living on Ford Island attend Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School. For the 2004-2005 school year, the area will be re-zoned so the children will need to attend Pearl

Harbor Elementary School.

Parents of children who are currently enrolled at Pearl Harbor Kai will be given the option to allow their children to remain at Pearl Harbor Kai. However, no Department of Education transportation will be available.

Parents whose children will be affected by the change are invited to attend the meeting at the school.

Anyone with questions or would like additional information can contact Betty Mow at 627-7481

Hawaii Navy News Sports

Take me out to the ball game



U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Angela Asemota

Hajime Tsubota, Japanese Training Squadron criminal investigator, watches as O'Kane Navigator Matthew Cox hones his catching skills in preparation for the two softball games against the Japanese Training Squadron Softball Team May 5 at Ward Field.

O'Kane, Chafee officers take on Japanese softball team

Ensign Angela Asemota
USS O'Kane Public Affairs

USS O'Kane (DDG 77) and USS Chafee (DDG 90) officers squared off against 30 newly-commissioned ensigns from the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force's Japanese Training Squadron (JTS) in a couple of softball games May 5 at Ward Field.

After a traditional American cookout complete with hamburgers and hot dogs, the players headed out to the field for the first of two softball games.

Team Pearl Harbor (made up of O'Kane and Chafee officers) won the coin toss and chose first at bat.

Pearl Harbor's bats came alive in the second inning, paving the way for a monster 21-3 victory over JTS.

The second game went to Pearl Harbor, where they

managed to edge out the JTS competition for a 20-15 win.

It was apparent in both games, according to Christopher Wallace, O'Kane electrical officer, that the JTS' preference for fast-pitch softball gave Team Pearl Harbor an advantage in the slow-pitch games.

According to Aaron Sanchez, O'Kane information systems officer, the softball game provided a positive atmosphere in which to interact with JTS members.

"The language barrier was not a factor," said Sanchez. "Everyone had a good time eating and playing the game. Even though the Japanese team usually played fast-pitch, they quickly adjusted to the slower pitch for the second game, proving to be highly competitive and displaying great sportsmanship."

After the games, the JTS

Team presented O'Kane and Chafee officers with most valuable player awards, which consisted of customary Japanese gifts and JTS 2004 overseas training cruise shirts.

"It was an honor to share a baseball field, food and beverages with such a professional group of players as the Japanese team," said Craig Townsend, O'Kane auxiliary officer.

Swinging for 'love'



U. S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright

Editha Ruiz, head tennis pro at Pearl Harbor Racquet Club, helps her son practice his forehand at the Pearl Harbor tennis courts. Ruiz gives private and group lessons throughout the week.

CMK 8