

Crommelin returns today

OS1 Daniel W. Roberts

USS Crommelin Public Affairs

The guided missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) is scheduled to return home to Pearl Harbor today after completing a successful six-month deployment to the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) area of responsibility (AOR).

Families and friends of the ship's crew are planning to turn out en masse to welcome Crommelin home after what some officials have called "one of the most successful counter narcotics deployments in history."

A highlight of Crommelin's deployment was the interdiction of the fishing vessel San Jose. Working in conjunction with U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) 105, Crommelin intercepted the vessel San Jose and recovered a total of 525 bales of cocaine weighing approximately 10.5 metric tons. The effort was recorded as the third largest at-sea bust in U.S. history.

But this interdiction was preceded and followed by other operations. During her tenure in the SOUTHCOM AOR, she intercepted and recovered a total of 20.5 metric tons of cocaine worth more than \$1 billion, detained 29 drug smugglers, and rescued a total of 96 people adrift at sea.

In her first month and a half on station, Crommelin, with Air Detachment 3 from Helicopter Squadron Light (HSL) 37 and U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement detachment (LEDET) 102, were involved in numerous anti-narcotics cases.

Her accomplishments included the



U.S. Navy photo

USS Crommelin (FFG 37) sails past Diamond Head on her way to sea. Crommelin returned today from her latest deployment.

query of 15 vessels suspected of supporting narcotics traffickers, the interception and boarding of three suspect vessels, the apprehension and detention of 10 smugglers, and the rescue of three fishermen 140 miles south of Costa Rica after they had been adrift on a disabled vessel for 17 days.

Crommelin was also credited with the disruption of three smuggling operations with one go-fast crew forced to jettison its illegal cargo and run to Costa Rican waters. In another instance, a go-fast beached itself in Panama and then the crew ran away on foot empty-handed. In the third case, the go-fast vessel beached itself in Mexico.

In mid-July, Crommelin turned south to Peru to join partner navies

in UNITAS. As part of the largest maritime exercise in the region, the ship participated in numerous complex maritime exercises with ships and submarines from 10 South American countries. Barely taking time to catch its breath, the crew then repositioned north to Panama for PANAMAX 2004, a two-week exercise focused on the maritime defense of the Panama Canal from terrorist attacks.

Crommelin also made time to render assistance to distress vessels at sea. Crommelin rescued 93 migrants Sept. 29 from a disabled fishing vessel and returned them to their home country of Ecuador.

"Crommelin's success during her deployment was nothing short of legendary," said Rear Adm. (Select) John

P. Currier, U.S. Coast Guard.

The actions of her crew led to Crommelin being decorated with the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation.

After short stops in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico and San Diego, Calif., USS Crommelin arrived home. This morning, the ship is planning to launch its two SH-60B helicopters for the last time and HSL 37 Det. 3 returned home to Kaneohe, Hawai'i, where friends and families awaited their arrival.

"If there is one thing better than homecoming, it would be coming home with stories of battles fought and the tales of our accomplishments," said Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class (NAC) David Cain of Springfield, Mo.

Crommelin will then make her way to the southeast loch of Pearl Harbor. Once the ship ties to the pier, the ship's general announcing system will hail, "Moored, Shift Colors. Secure from Counter Narcotics Deployment 2004."

As is customary, new fathers whose babies were born while the ship was away, 11 total, will be the first to depart the ship.

"Not getting to know my daughter has been incredibly hard," said Electronics Technician 3rd Class Eric Dietzel of Costa Mesa, Calif., a new father aboard Crommelin. "But the moment I hold her in my arms, I know it will all have been worthwhile."

"I feel professionally satisfied that we did such a good job," said Ensign Kristan Harwood of Salt Lake City, Utah, Crommelin's combat information center officer. "But, I am so happy to be home."



Stepping up

Reservists aren't just 'weekend warriors.' See story on page A-5.



In the game

Beeman Center offers tournaments, fun for Pearl Harbor Sailors. See story on page B-1.

Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

Sailor dies in motorcycle crash

STG3 Dustyn Ratcliff, a 21-year-old USS Chung-Hoon (CG 93) Sailor, died in a motorcycle crash late Sunday night.

Police said Ratcliff was speeding on Aolele Street near Aowela Place when he lost control of his motorcycle. The bike hit the curb and grassy shoulder before hitting and vaulting over a concrete barrier.

Ratcliff was pronounced dead at Queen's Medical Center at 12:04 a.m.

Traffic safety presentations scheduled

All E-6 and above personnel are required to attend a traffic safety presentation at Sharkey Theater. The training will be held Nov. 19 at a.m. and 1 p.m. Each session is scheduled to last 90 minutes.

Pearl Harbor veteran dies

Russell Reetz, a Sailor who was aboard USS Ward on Dec. 7, 1941, died Monday at the age of 88. Reetz was 25 years old on the day of the attack when he and fellow crew members fired two shots at a Japanese two-man submarine trying to sneak into Pearl Harbor less than an hour before the attack.

One shot sank the submarine, but it was until 2002 that the wreckage was found by the Hawai'i Undersea Research Laboratory. Reetz was buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minnesota.

Tripler delays next week

Tripler Army Medical Center staff urges patients to allow extra time to get to their appointments at Tripler the week of Nov. 15 due to a U.S. Army Hawai'i anti-terrorism exercise.

Patients should be prepared for delays, have their identification out and ready for inspection at the security entrance and allow extra time to get to appointments that week.

Navy housing to implement trash collection changes

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

Navy housing has implemented changes in trash collection guidelines and pick-up schedules for residents who live in non-PPV communities. The changes will become effective Nov. 15.

Under the new requirements, it will be mandatory for housing residents to separate recyclables and green waste from normal refuse and place them in the appropriate refuse receptacles.

"The City and County of Honolulu has imposed strict requirements, with zero tolerance, on our contractor for disposal at the landfill and H-power plant," said Capt. Norman Ho, assistant chief of staff for housing at Navy Region Hawai'i.

Ho added that when green waste is mixed in, the contractor is required to physically separate the rubbish prior to dumping - causing delays - and fines are being imposed.

International Resource Recovery, Inc. (IRRI) currently handles trash collec-



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 (AW) John Looney
A Navy family member at Hale Moku Navy housing recycles an issue of a Navy news paper.

tion for housing residents in non-PPV communities. Refuse collection for residents in PPV neighborhoods

▼ See RECYCLE, A-7

Refuse Collection Schedule			
For Navy housing residents - non-PPV neighborhoods			
Neighborhood	Normal Refuse (Weekly)	Recyclables (Weekly)	Bulk (Monthly)
Camp Stover	Tuesday	Friday	Fourth Tuesday
Catlin Park/Maloelop	Tuesday	Friday	Second Tuesday
Doris Miller Park	Friday	Tuesday	First Friday
Ford Island/Hale Aii/Hospital Point/Little Makalapa/Makalapa/Marine Barracks	Monday	Wednesday	First Monday
Halawa/Red Hill	Wednesday	Thursday	Second Thursday
Hale Moku	Wednesday	Thursday	First Monday
Manana	Wednesday	Wednesday	Second Thursday
NCTAMS	Friday	Tuesday	Second Friday
Pearl City Peninsula	Thursday	Monday	Second Thursday



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

Members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority lay a wreath on the memorial of Mess Attendant 2nd Class Doris Miller, who received the Navy Cross during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Miller was serving aboard USS Virginia during the attacks.

National sorority rededicates memorial of Pearl Harbor Sailor

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Staff Writer

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated held a wreath-laying and rededication ceremony Nov. 4 in Doris Miller Family Park.

The wreath was laid in memory of Mess Attendant 2nd Class Doris Miller, who received the Navy Cross for his extraordinary gallantry aboard USS Virginia during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

The national sorority donated a bronze commemorative plaque Oct. 11, 1991 in honor of Miller, who manned a machine gun and brought down four Japanese planes during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. portrayed Miller in the 2001 film "Pearl Harbor."

"We might not be living in a free nation today, were it not for the acts of valor demonstrated by Miller and others," said Linda M. White, national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. "We honor his memory and the memory of all who served in World War II and our men and women in the armed forces today, especially those who are serving in Iraq."

Lt. Antionette Bell, information professional with U.S. Commander, Pacific Fleet and a member of the sorority, said the memorial wreath laying ceremony was not only

fulfilling, but educational as well.

"It's a joy for me to be able to do this today because I learned some history behind it," she said. "This is a way that I can actually give back to both the community and the Navy."

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated was founded in 1908 at Harvard University and has more than 170,000 members across the world. It is a service-oriented organization that targets education, leadership and community relations. Notable members of Alpha Kappa Alpha include senators and singer Alicia Keys.

Alpha Kappa Alpha also donated \$1,000 to Pearl Harbor's Morale, Welfare and Recreation as a way to thank the military and help family members.

White said the laying of the wreath so close to Veteran's Day symbolized the need for all Americans to remember and learn about those servicemembers who sacrificed and fought in all of America's wars.

"We are laying on this wreath in memory of the rededication of this commemorative plaque in honor and remembrance of [Miller], who answered the call of our country in her hour of emergency," said White. "We shall ever keep him in our hearts and remember his deeds in our devotion and in the sharing of this history with the world."

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Great American Smokeout is Nov. 18

Source: American Cancer Society
www.cancer.org

About the event

Every year, smokers across the nation participate in the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout® by smoking less or quitting for the day on the third Thursday of November. The event challenges people to stop using tobacco and raises awareness of the many effective ways to quit for good.

In many communities, local volunteers support quitters, publicize the event, and press for laws that control tobacco use and discourage teenagers from starting.

Research shows that smokers are most successful in kicking the habit when they have some means of support, such as nicotine replacement products, counseling, prescription medicine to lessen cravings, guide books, and the encouragement of friends and family members.

Despite that, only about one in seven current smokers reports having tried any of the recommended therapies during their last quit attempt.

Telephone quitlines are a convenient new resource, available for free in many states.

Call 1-800-ACS-2345 to find a quitline or other science-based support in your area.

How the Great American Smokeout Began

The Smokeout has helped bring about dramatic changes in Americans' attitudes about smoking, which have led to community programs and smoke-free ordinances that are now saving lives in many

states. The event began in the 1970s when smoking and secondhand smoke were commonplace.

The idea for the Great American Smokeout came from Arthur P. Mullaney, a Massachusetts resident who asked people to give up smoking for a day in 1971 and donate the money they would have spent on tobacco to a local high school.

Then, in 1974, Lynn R. Smith, editor of the Monticello Times in Minnesota, spearheaded the state's first D-Day, or Don't Smoke Day.

The idea caught on, and on Nov. 18, 1976, the California division of the American Cancer Society successfully prompted nearly one million smokers to quit for the day.

That California event marked the first Smokeout, and the society took it nationwide in 1977.

Smokeout fueled new laws, now paying off in lives saved

Each year, the Great American Smokeout also draws attention to the deaths and chronic diseases caused by smoking.

Throughout the late 1980s and 1990s, many state governments responded by banning smoking in workplaces and restaurants, raising taxes on cigarettes, limiting advertising, discouraging teen cigarette use, and taking further actions to counter smoking.

For more information, visit our web pages about quitting smoking, improving your health or getting involved in the Great American Smokeout. Or just call your American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345.

Fall of Berlin Wall does not guarantee freedom

Opinion

Edwin A. Locke

Professor emeritus of management at the University of Maryland at College Park

The 15th anniversary of the destruction of the Berlin Wall [was] Nov. 9. This event is widely taken to symbolize two things: the demise of Communism and the global triumph of political freedom and capitalism. Unfortunately, the second has not occurred.

The Soviet Union was certainly an evil empire, with mass slaughter, enslavement and poverty as its only legacy. But the destruction of the bad does not ensure the emergence of the good.

When a tyrant is overthrown, he may simply be replaced by another one. In fact, much of world history, from ancient Egypt to modern China and Iran, has followed this very pattern, with rebellions leading only to the supplanting of an old system of despotism with a new one.

The United States of America was one of the rare exceptions to this pattern. British monarchy was replaced by a constitutional republic; from this sprang political and economic freedom that has endured for more than 200 years. What made us different?

The American Revolution was fought not simply against tyranny, but for freedom. It was a revolution in defense of a specific political philosophy that gave freedom its meaning and validation. Three principles formed the core of that philosophy:

(1) That reason—rather than the mysticism entailed in faith or superstition—is man's means of knowledge and proper guide to action, thus leaving no room for rule by "divine right"; (2) That individual happiness—rather than sacrificial duty to the collective—is man's

proper moral purpose, and (3) That the role of government is not to force the citizen to serve the state, but to protect the rights of each individual—rights which were then recognized by the Constitution.

Without these principles, the rule of King George III might have been replaced not by a constitutional republic but by an American monarchy. In fact, there were those who wanted George Washington to become a king, but Washington, true to American ideals, refused. The result was a country of unimagined freedom and unimagined wealth.

Compare America with Russia, for example. Russia never went through the Enlightenment, proceeding instead from monarchy to communism. An axiom of Communism was that man must not seek his own happiness, but must sacrifice his life to the state (or party).

Russia's current form of government almost defies description, but it is certainly not one that upholds freedom. Rather, it is some corrupt amalgam of statism and gangsterism. Russia remains an authoritarian state, because it lacks a pro-individualist philosophy.

Compare America with China. China endured centuries of tyranny, but never discovered the concept of individual rights. Now, desperate to escape the mass poverty caused by socialist economics, the communist bosses are trying to combine political dictatorship with quasi-capitalism.

But their attempt to embrace some elements of capitalism has no principled foundation; it is strictly an expedient measure driven by the whim of the ruling elite. Even the collapse of the Communist Party would not necessarily result in a free society.

Finally, compare America with the Islamic states of the Middle East. The

philosophy of those oppressive countries is the enshrinement of religious dogma. Those who openly oppose theocracy and seek the separation of mosque and state are routinely denounced, persecuted or killed. In any conflict in those countries between religion and reason, it is reason that invariably loses.

In such countries, therefore, the death, or the ousting, of any particular ruler accomplishes nothing. Indeed, it is likely that Saddam Hussein's dictatorship will be replaced by a democratically elected Islamic theocracy—an event President Bush has declared he will not oppose.

Freedom can never be won simply by eliminating those who are against it. Demolishing the Berlin Wall does not build the Washington Monument or the Jefferson Memorial; it does not create the crucial values these latter symbolize. Many people pay lip service to liberty, but liberty can be gained only by espousing a philosophy that upholds the ideas on which freedom rests: reason, individualism, individual rights.

It is essential for Americans to defend these three pillars of freedom, particularly since they are under growing attack today by both conservatives and liberals. Conservatives increasingly want the individual citizen to be subordinated to the dictates of faith; liberals increasingly demand that the individual citizen be sacrificed to the desires of the collective. (And at the very forefront of these attacks are our mainstream academics, who teach that reason is an illusion and that the individual is merely a product of society.)

A genuine celebration of the dismantling of the Berlin Wall would call for a re-affirmation, not merely of the immorality of Communism, but also of the morality of capitalism. That would help make the event a symbol, not just of Communism's fall, but of freedom's rise.

Commentary

Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

When frying turkey, make sure you don't cook your goose



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Carla Galera inspects her outdoor turkey fryer.

Deep fried turkey is a delicious Thanksgiving holiday alternative. Deep turkey fryers can be purchased from a number of retail outlets. You can purchase complete kits as well. The price you pay will be related to the size and model of fryer that you pick. Usually the price will be between \$150 and \$200 dollars, (not including the oil). When done right, the aroma, the presentation and the taste are an epicurean delight. It also takes way less time to cook. Turkey cooks at 3 and one-half minutes per pound. So a 17-pound turkey can be fully cooked and ready to go in about an hour - not bad. The Federal Fire Department recommends the following if you are planning to deep fry your next turkey:

- Do not use the fryer inside. Fry outside only.
- Do not attempt to place deep fat frying pot filled with oil and turkey over a camp fire. Use a gas operated type of burner with a retaining ring.
- Do not use animal fat frying oil. Use only a vegetable, peanut or cotton seed oil.
- Do not attempt to put a big turkey in a little pot. To avoid oil overflow spills, place turkey in the pot then fill pot with water to four inches from the top. Mark the level of the water on the pot. Then remove the turkey from the water and mark that water level on the pot. Make sure that the pot is big enough for the job. The turkey needs to be completely immersed in the oil.
- Do not attempt to place a frozen or partially thawed turkey in the hot oil. The oil will splatter,

pop and spit all over the place.

- Do not overheat the oil. Maintain a temperature of 325 degrees, not to exceed 350 degrees. Use a thermometer that clips to the pot.

- Do not attempt to remove the turkey from the hot oil with the burner on. Turn the burner off before removing the turkey.

- Do not use water on the hot oil in case it flashes or catches on fire. Have a five pound B-C type of extinguisher in the immediate area, just in case.

- To avoid burns, wear gloves, eye protection and shoes (not slippers) when frying. If you get burned, cool burned area immediately with water.

- Have a phone handy to call the fire department (911) if there are any problems, (fire, burns, spills).

- Never, ever leave the deep fryer unattended! not even for a minute. Always have someone standing by who knows what to do if you must leave the area.

For more information about deep frying and other fire-related questions, call 474-7785.

Opinion

FLTCM(AW/SW)

Jon Thompson

U.S. Pacific Fleet

Master Chief



Procrastination should be a four-letter word. The amount of things we put off until tomorrow (or longer) is amazing, maybe even shocking.

I know when I look back over my Navy career and life, I know that I procrastinated often. I always had an excuse why I couldn't immediately start studying for my next Navy-wide exam, working on my education, saving money, beginning a fitness program, etc.

What's funny is that I think I made a resolution each New Year to do something beneficial in my life. The sad thing is that many times I found it easy to say, "I'll start next week." Somewhere along the way I ran out of weeks.

I presume it's just human nature to push off until tomorrow what we should do today. But why is that? If we clearly see the benefit of doing something today, why do we wait?

I have my own suspicions, but I think many would say people wait because they lack the necessary "need" for

the particular goal. I guess that explains why someone might quit smoking only after being diagnosed with chronic lung cancer, or why an alcoholic gets help only after receiving a DUI (or worse), or why a Sailor studies for a Navy-wide exam only after his or her peers are advanced.

Most of us probably don't require such extreme impetus for change, but we probably do need a swift kick in the butt from time to time to make us act on a goal.

While searching on the Internet, I found an entire list of reasons why people procrastinate. Of note, these made the most sense:

- Fear of failure - you think that making an effort and not succeeding would be a great personal defeat so you refuse to try at all.
- Undervaluing the rewards - you feel that the effort to complete the task (almost any task) would not be worth the rewards.
- Fear of success - you feel that success is based on chance and you cannot keep up that success.
- Overwhelming yourself - there are three ways you can overwhelm yourself into doing nothing:
- You may magnify a task until it seems impossible to tackle.

- You may assume you must do everything at once rather than breaking the task into manageable units to complete one step at a time.

- You may obsess about everything you have to do and haven't done yet until you are paralyzed and overwhelmed.

Procrastination is almost never good. Waiting almost always costs you time, money, success, etc.

Here's my challenge: Start today. Don't wait until New Year's Eve to come up with a resolution that sounds good, but have no intent on achieving. Why wait? If you can't come up with any logical reason why you can't start today, then just do it.

Just think, if you had started saving money years ago, you would have quite a nest egg today. If you had started to work out years ago, you might be in much better health today.

If you had started taking college courses, even one course at a time, you might be close (or already have) your degree. If you had studied earlier for a particular exam, you might be a higher paygrade.

The up side to starting now is that you get a two-month jump on New Years. The downside is, well, I guess

there isn't one, unless you count not being able to tell others you're a "procrastinator" as if it were a good thing.

Shipmates, we all have goals. We all have desires in life and we all have a vision of where our lives might be five to 10 years from now.

How do you plan to achieve success? What paygrade do you want to achieve? If you have a plan, when are you going to start? How about today? If you don't have a vision or a plan, why not? How about drafting your plan today?

I've heard that if you write things down, they are more permanent and people find it easier to stay committed to their goals. If that's the case, write down your plan. If you are married, share the plan with your spouse (and children if applicable). Share the plan with your supervisor and friends; support from family and co-workers can often keep you on track.

New Years Eve is coming fast, as is the E-8 and E-9 boards, the CPO exam, the March Navy-wide exam, etc. Map out your goals, start today, and make your New Year's resolution to keep on the path.

Don't set yourself up to look back on life and see a string of would haves, could haves or should haves!



Hawaii Navy News Online
www.hawaii.navy.mil

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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.hawaii.navy.mil

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U.S. Navy photo Photo by FC3(SW) Rich Neuer
FC3 John Bond and ET3 Joshua Buerk play chess during O'Kane's Family and Friends Day Cruise Nov. 3.

USS O'Kane holds Family and Friends Day cruise

FC3 (SW) Rich Neuer
USS O'Kane Public Affairs

USS O'Kane (DDG 77) held a Friends and Family Day Cruise Nov. 3, which was attended by more than 150 guests in addition to the ship's complement of 330 Sailors.

O'Kane returned from the California coast after finishing the Carl Vinson Battle Group workups in preparation for her third deployment in five years. Gas Turbine Specialist-Electrical Fireman Jame Souriyavongsa said, "After being out to sea and away from home for seven weeks, I'm was really excited to show my family everything I actually do when underway."

According to Ensign Angela Asemota O'Kane public affairs officer, the cruise allowed the crew the opportunity to explain their at-sea routine to their family while showing off their workspaces and equipment.

"Throughout the day, minimum underway watchbill requirements were met, allowing Sailors time to enjoy the scenery and mingle with the guests," said Asemota.

During the cruise, in which the ship traveled from Pearl

Harbor to just off the coast of Diamond Head, guests were provided with a history of the ship's namesake, Rear Adm. Richard H. O'Kane. O'Kane was a World War II submarine commander of the USS Tang. Guests also learned present-day facts and figures of the warship and historical Pearl Harbor military sites.

A variety of activities were planned from the time the guests arrived at 8 a.m. until they returned ashore at 3 p.m. The day was filled with sponsor guided internal and topside tours, a steel beach barbeque picnic, and a scavenger hunt. The scavenger hunt was popular with the children, giving them a chance to explore the ship and collect prizes, which included a color picture of the ship and stickers.

Engineman 2nd Class Joel Miller said the Friends and Family Day cruises are one of the biggest tools in helping families understand how the underway life can be like for today's Sailors.

"There are some things you just can't explain to your friends, like the pitch and roll of the ship or the deep blue sea for miles. Now I don't have to explain it since they have had first hand experience."

Kauai honors America's veterans during parade



Photo courtesy of Hal Torrance
PMRF's color guard leads the way while members of SEPTAR proudly display their wares during Saturday's Kauai Veterans Council Veterans Day Parade at Kapa'a. PMRF's executive officer, Lt. Cmdr. Jeanine Torrance, served as reviewing officer and spoke at the Ho'olaulea in Kapa'a Beach Park immediately after the parade.

Oceana-based Hornet crashes near Las Vegas



U.S. Navy photo Lt. Rico Harris
An F/A-18 Hornet like this one crashed near Las Vegas Tuesday.

Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Public Affairs

An F/A-18 Hornet assigned to the Wildcats of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 131 crashed Tuesday after taking off from Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas.

The pilot successfully ejected from the aircraft and was recovered by Air Force recovery crews. He is listed

in good condition at a Nellis hospital. His identity is not being released.

The accident happened about 12 p.m. EST. The aircraft crashed about 15 miles north of the Air Force base in a sparsely populated area.

The aircraft was participating in an exercise with the Air Force Weapons School at Nellis.

An accident investigation board is investigating the cause.

Honolulu-based cutter seizes 4,800 pounds of cocaine

PA2 Jennifer Johnson

Coast Guard District 14

Public Affairs

Crewmembers from the Coast Guard Cutter Rush, homeported in Honolulu, seized approximately 4,835 pounds of cocaine from a 40-foot go-fast vessel 270 miles north of the Galapagos Islands Oct. 31.

Earlier that morning, a Coast Guard MH-68 String Ray helicopter and crew, from the Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron in Jacksonville, Fla., deployed with the Rush, discovering the fishing vessel *Aventurero* in a possible refueling operation with a go-fast vessel.

After being spotted, the go-fast fled the scene at speeds up to 30 knots. The *Sting Ray*, with a motto of "force from above," pursued the vessel armed with RC50 laser-sighted .50 caliber precision rifles. "The *Sting Ray* crew fired 30 warning shots across the bow of the go-fast, but when the suspects con-



U.S. Coast Guard Photo

Boarding team members from Coast Guard Cutter Rush board the go-fast boat, 270 miles north of the Galapagos Islands. Once on board, crewmembers found 4,835 pounds of cocaine stored below.

tinued to evade, the crew fired one disabling shot into the engine compartment," said Capt. Dana E. Ware, commanding officer of the cutter *Rush*.

Once the go-fast was stopped, the *Sting Ray* and crew continued to hover overhead, keeping an eagle eye on the boat and making sure the crew could not destroy any evi-

dence or potentially harm any boarding team members.

The armed boarding team from the *Rush* searched the go-fast vessel and seized 91 bales of cocaine.

"As soon as we got aboard the go-fast, you could see the bales lining the forward compartment," said Ensign Catharine Johann, a boarding officer with the *Rush*. "The sus-

pects had their hands on their head, all the while the helicopter was circling above. We secured the vessel and crew and waited for the statement of no objection to complete the boarding."

The street value of the cocaine is estimated to be close to \$43 million.

"As far as I'm concerned, there is no street value - it didn't make it to the street," said Petty Officer 2nd Class James Wakefield, a boarding team member. "It definitely makes all the sacrifice, preparation, and waiting all worth it."

USS *Halyburton* (FFG 40), a guided missile frigate from Mayport, Fla., intercepted the fishing vessel *Aventurero* and its seven crewmembers Monday. A Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET), deployed with the *Halyburton*, boarded the 55-foot Colombian flagged vessel. Under international law, the U.S. Navy may not participate in law enforcement activities. However, once a law enforcement operation

begins, the Coast Guard ensign is hoisted and the vessel becomes a Coast Guard platform.

The master claimed to be on a legitimate fishing trip, but the LEDET team discovered only two fish and inoperable fishing gear on board. Other indicators found on board were two transfer pumps with hoses, two towlines, and empty drums used for diesel fuel storage encouraged the LEDET to conclude the fishing vessel and go-fast were working together.

Both the go-fast and fishing vessel were destroyed for being hazards to navigation. The 12 detainees - 11 Columbian and one Mexican national, are in custody on board the *Halyburton* and will be turned over to proper authorities.

This is the second drug bust for cutters stationed in Honolulu this year, bringing the total to approximately 17,435 pounds. The Coast Guard set new drug interdiction records, seizing approximately \$7.8 billion in cocaine in fiscal year 2004.

'Weekend Warriors' no more



U.S. Navy photo by PH2(AW) John F. Looney

PN2(AW) James R. Taz, a reservist from Honolulu, Hawai'i, checks in a newly-reporting Reservist ENFN Felix B. Gates. Taz is currently drilling at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i.

Reservists, guardsmen adjusting to updated deployment requirements

Kathleen T. Rhem

American Forces Press Service

The term "weekend warriors" no longer applies to today's National Guardsmen and reservists, the Defense Department's top reserve affairs official said.

In many cases, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Thomas Hall said in an interview Nov. 4, today's Reservists and Guardsmen are nearly full-time participants in the war on terror.

Deployment rates for current operations are changing the way the Reserve components go about advertising and recruiting. It's all about managing expectations, Hall said.

"You really don't want to set an expectation and then not meet it," he said. "You want to tell people up front that this is what it's all about."

Recruiters today need to create a different expectation among prospective Guardsmen and Reservists, their families and employers.

"That expectation is you're not going to be a weekend warrior," Hall said. "We're going to have to use you in a more robust way in the future."

He explained that officials are now working to determine what exactly "more robust" means. "Will we need you once in every five years? Once in every

six years? Will we need you for a year at a time? How will that affect your lifestyle? How will that affect your decision to come into the Guard and Reserve?" Hall asked. "Does your particular type of job allow you that flexibility? And what will be your employer's reaction to that?"

Recruiters are also selling service in the National Guard and Reserve to families much more than in the past.

"One of the things (recruiters) will tell you is they're recruiting the mothers and fathers and grandfathers and family. You used to recruit the individual. But now, you need to convince the mother or father or the grandfather or the grandmother that their son or grandson or granddaughter ought to serve. So you need to talk to the whole family," Hall said. "So the advertising of the Guard and Reserve and the way in which we produce these different advertisements and talk to people is different than it used to be."

Another key to keeping recruiting and retention numbers up is to keep benefits at an attractive level. The 2005 National Defense Authorization Act, signed by President Bush Oct. 28, contains a slew of new and increased medical and education benefits for reserve component servicemembers, as well as increases in certain bonuses and allowances.

"The (Defense) Department is committed ... to continuing to work on benefits and making it very attractive to serve," Hall said. "So I think people will continue. We need to watch it, and we'll continue to watch our recruiting and retention to make sure it's okay."

So far it has been okay for manning the Guard and Reserve. With one exception, the reserve components met their recruiting and retention goals for fiscal 2004. The Army National Guard finished the year two percent below its end-strength target of 350,000 Soldiers. The Army Guard came in with 342,000 Soldiers at the end of fiscal 2004.

And, Hall said, he prefers to look at that figure as 98 percent successful rather than two percent failure.

Benefits and recruiting efforts aside, Hall said he believes what keeps the U.S. military's reserve components stocked with willing and able troops is the dedication, resolve and patriotism of Americans.

"This country is at war. Every citizen is at war. We had international terrorists come and murder our citizens and families and children in this country," he said. "We're all committed, so I think this nation has always responded collectively to the call to colors."

He said record turnout at the Nov. 2 national elections is a great example that Americans want to be involved in their country. "Basically, down deep, I find people are patriotic," Hall said. "And part of that involvement is service in the armed forces. And I think we'll continue to get the people that we need."



Photo by Rob Cole

Rigger Burley Watkins helps guide a MK-62 Quick Strike Mine shape off the project support boat. Naval Surface Warfare Center personnel collected forty inert mine shapes used recently in tests. Secretary of the Navy Gordon England visited NSWCPC Nov. 3 to see the systems and technologies there.

SECNAV inspects future of Navy mine warfare

Dan Broadstreet

Naval Surface Warfare

Center Panama City

Public Affairs

Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England visited the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Naval Support Activity Panama City (NSWCPC) Nov. 3 to see firsthand the current U.S. Naval Mine Countermeasures (MCM) systems and technologies described in the Navy's Fiscal Year 2006 MCM Plan.

Warfare Center representatives and defense contractors from various sites throughout the nation gathered in the center's air operations hangar around a myriad of static hardware displays, and explained to the secretary how each was evolving to provide next generation MCM capability.

"He came to get a sense of where we, the Navy, are in our mine warfare systems development," said NSWCPC's commanding officer, Capt. Vito Jimenez.

"Our focus was to show the secretary our plan is real by showing him the actual hardware and the progress that is being made," added NSWCPC's head of mine warfare systems department, Dave Tubridy.

Much of the systems hardware and cutting-edge technologies presented were

those depicting that the Navy is in the process of achieving its future objective.

According to Tubridy, the Navy's objective for future MCM is to field a common set of unmanned modular MCM systems employable from a variety of host platforms that can quickly counter the spectrum of mines to enable assured access with minimum risk. The two principal goals of this vision are to accelerate MCM timelines and get the Sailor and/or Marine out of the minefield.

"If Seabasing and deploying suites of unmanned modular mission packages from platforms such as the LCS (Littoral Combat Ship) are things we need to do to achieve quick response and conduct successful assault breaches - and I tend to agree with the CNO (Chief of Naval Operations) that we do - then we've got to have this stuff," England said.

Jimenez commended his staff for presenting an accurate and professional roadmap of the MCM plan to England.

"The secretary was truly impressed, and his impressions get discussed at the presidential level," Jimenez said. "His last words to me as he boarded his plane were, 'You are all doing a great job here for the Navy and I want you to know you are not forgotten.'"

Veterans' new ID cards help battle identity theft

VA Public Affairs

With identity theft as the major fraud reported by Americans in 2003, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has designed a new identity card for veterans that will safeguard confidential information.

"The new identification card ensures veterans' personal information is protected," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "It also helps prevent the theft of important benefits and services from veterans that they earned by their service to our country."

The card, formally known as the Veterans Identity Card (VIC), will have veterans' photos on the front and identify them as enrollees in the VA's health care system.

Encrypted on a magnetic tape on the back of the card will be the veteran's social security number, date of birth and a control number. The magnetic strip also records whether the

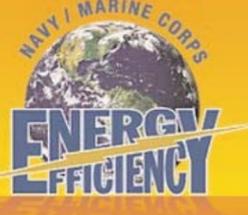
veteran has a service-connected disability.

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the nation. The Federal Trade Commission listed identity theft as the number one fraud reported by consumers in 2003. Requests from veterans and their Congressional representatives were instrumental in bringing about these latest changes.

"The new VIC ensures the security of veterans' personal information as well as ensuring that only eligible veterans receive the benefits and services they've earned," said Kristin Cunningham of the business office for VA's health care system. Veterans should request the new card at their local medical center.

Processing will take five to seven days once eligibility is verified. VA hopes to complete the conversion to the new, safer card by mid-November. The existing cards will remain valid until veterans receive their new cards.

Because Navy Region Hawai'i has year round air conditioning, small gains in energy efficiency result in large savings. If everyone were to raise their thermostats just one degree, the Region would save thousands of dollars. Using electric fans would certainly save energy, but the energy program has manual fans which are available for free which can result in larger energy savings. Please contact the energy team at 474-7666 to have these free fans delivered to your office.



Setting an Example

Senator John McCain honors Rear Adm. Joe Vasey



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Victoria A. Tullock
 Senator John McCain (R-AZ) speaks with Rear Adm. (Ret) Joe Vasey during a tribute dinner for the admiral at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum. The Navy League held a tribute dinner in honor of Vasey at the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum attended by McCain, Adm. Thomas Fargo, Adm. Walter Doran, submarine commanding officers and senior members of the Navy League.

Memorial tree honors child victims of Sept. 11

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

A newly-planted weeping cherry tree on the grounds of the Pentagon will serve as a living memorial to the children killed or who lost parents during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the building.

A group of Pentagon officials, friends and families of those killed in the attack and representatives of local garden clubs gathered Tuesday for a ceremonial tree planting. The ceremony took place just outside the Pentagon's busy subway entrance and bus terminal, the busiest mass-transit point in northern Virginia.

During the ceremony, Ralph Newton, director of Defense Facilities Directorate for Washington Headquarters Services, helped scatter soil and ashes around the tree taken from the debris of the crash site.

Joining him was Tara Speisman, whose father, Bob Speisman, was aboard the American Airlines Flight 77 when it crashed into the Pentagon; Darryl Kosisky, the Pentagon's chief landscape architect; and Carol Carter, president of the National Capital Area Federal of Garden Clubs, Inc., which sponsored the event.



Photo by Donna Miles

Carol Carter, president of the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., spreads soil around the newly-planted children's memorial tree at the Pentagon Tuesday.

Newton said the memorial tree will serve as a constant reminder to the more than 34,000 Pentagon workers, commuters and visitors to the Washington area who will pass it daily.

But no one is likely to find it more meaningful, he acknowledged, than those who lost loved ones or friends or who work in the building the terrorists targeted. "That day is a constant in our hearts," he said.

Speisman said she hoped the memorial tree would help others remember her father and others killed in "an act of

unfettered hatred." She urged attendees at the ceremony to "remember the love" extended by those they lost. "Through this love, they will live forever," she said.

Mary Gregerson, chair of the local garden club federation's memorial tree committee, called the new memorial tree a fitting way to recognize those lost and provide "solace, comfort and peace" to those who carry on without them. She said she got the inspiration for the memorial tree after visiting the Pentagon on Sept. 12, 2001, and seeing a lone tree standing amid the devastation of the attack.

Carol Carter, local garden club federation president, said the tree's weeping posture represents ongoing sorrow over the losses of the attack. But next spring, when the tree bursts into full bloom, Carter said, it will represent hope, rebirth and life.

"To plant a tree is to believe in the future," said Shirley Nicolai, a vice president for National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Seventh grader Zachary Jongema, who with his brother Matthew, played taps at the end of the ceremony said it held special significance to him. Zachary's fellow boy scout, Bo Dolan, lost his father, Navy Capt. Bob Dolan, in the attack.

"I like to think that I'm playing for him, Mr. Bob Dolan," he said.



U.S. Navy photo by Lacy Lynn
 HT3 Christopher Koonce does push-ups with a Waipahu Elementary School fourth grader so the student can return to the dodge ball game during a keiki fitness session Nov. 4.

Sailors from MDSU-1 promote keiki fitness

Lacy Lynn

Staff Writer

Each Thursday morning, Sailors from Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One (MDSU-1) have a different kind of physical training. They warm up, run relay races and play dodge ball with the fourth and sixth graders of Waipahu Elementary School.

"They're here! They're here!" several students shouted excitedly as the Sailors hopped out of their blue van last Thursday.

"You have to be something really special to get that kind of reaction from children," said school principal Keith Hayashi.

The Sailors themselves are just as excited about visiting the elementary school.

"I enjoy being around kids. I've coached baseball for many years," said Senior Chief Hull Technician (SW/DSW/MDV) Mike Moser, who is also the father of three.

This is the second school year the unit has had their Keiki Fitness Program. The 35 Sailors who participate rotate weekly in teams of five. Each week, the team works out with four of the 12 classes in the program.

On rainy days, the Sailors join the kids in their classrooms to read to them or help teachers with their lessons.

"It's more about giving back to the community, giving kids the opportunity to enjoy school and exercise," said Engineman 1st Class (SW/DD) Leonard Josef.

The program began with one Waipahu Elementary School teacher, Jane Schultz, whose husband was part of

the diving unit. Although the couple has now moved on to Virginia, the unit has continued participating with the Keiki Fitness Program.

The volunteers will also provide T-shirts for the students to wear while they exercise.

Yeoman 1st Class (YN1) Corey Mincey, who participated last year and is now in charge of the program, said it is important to "let [the kids] know the Navy is here and we care for them."

In addition to the Keiki Fitness Program, each week Mincey brings extra volunteers from MDSU-1 to complete beautification projects for the school. Future plans include landscaping plants and grass, welding new basketball rims, and installing a school marquee.

"They're so willing to help with whatever project we need," said Vice Principal Lorrian Kajikawa.

Fourth grade teacher, Joanne Duncan, said the Sailors provide a "positive role model for the kids."

According to Hayashi, the school's military partners embody the values of the Waipahu complex's motto: "Take care of yourself. Take care of each other. Take care of this place."

He said the Sailors demonstrate these values each week by being role models, teaching physical fitness, and completing service projects. Hayashi added that the Sailors also teach kids how to take turns and work with others.

The educational benefits may be great, but that is not what matters most to the kids. As Moser noted, "The kids are having fun, and that's what it's all about."

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

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Hawaii Navy News

Navy Medicine leaders discuss HM, DT future

Ellen Maurer

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

Navy Medicine leaders met with the Surgeon General of the Navy Oct. 19 to discuss the status of a proposed enlisted ratings merger between hospital corpsmen (HM) and dental technicians (DT), which is currently under review by the Secretary of the Navy.

The meeting, which included the Commander, Naval Medical Education and Training Command (NMETC), Bethesda, Md. and the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) Force Master Chief, focused on findings from a summit held at the Hospital Corpsman School in Great Lakes, Ill.

The Hospital Corps summit brought together a variety of key members, including HMs, DTs, doctors, nurses, Reservists, training and medical support personnel and civilians. They focused on identifying timelines and resources needed for pilot training programs to help Navy Medicine chart a successful education and training course for tomorrow's enlisted medical personnel.

"The summit provided us the opportunity to take a hard look not only at how we currently train our enlisted personnel, but also assisted us in planning for the unique challenges that merging these ratings will bring," said Rear Adm. Nancy J. Lescavage, commander, NMETC.

One of the most challenging aspects of merging the two ratings, according to Lescavage, is preparing a "pipeline" education program for new recruits. To ensure training programs are time- and cost-effective, some current areas of training will be increased while other areas may be eliminated. For instance, several emergency treatment-related topics will be expanded, and many ward-related subjects, where new corpsmen can gain "on-the-job training," will be decreased.

Also, summit participants agreed fundamental dental knowledge and skills should be added to the current Hospital Corps School curriculum, along with better training on how to use patient tracking and medical records computer systems. They also proposed that specialized dental skills, beyond fundamental knowledge, would be best taught in a follow-on dental assistant course, which would be five weeks of training, and would probably involve expanding clinical rotations for the dental assistant beyond the current three days. Officials added they felt the dental assistant school would be best located at Great Lakes, utilizing the current National Dental Center Great Lakes Headquarters building.

"The Hospital Corps summit was extremely successful in determining new and modified training curriculums for our hospital corpsmen of tomorrow. Aggressive timelines were established and made with the anticipation of an approved HM/DT rating merger," said BUMED Force Master Chief (SW/AW) J. L. K. DiRosa. "The success of this project will require much-needed leadership support, personnel and financial resources, and a dedicated cadre of people focused on developing the basic training needs of our hospital corpsmen to meet mission requirements of tomorrow."

DiRosa said she anticipates the merger will be approved by the end of December 2004. Until then, DiRosa said she "charges all senior enlisted personnel to explore all opportunities for cross-training" between the currently separate HM and DT ratings.

Recycle: Housing residents important to effort

Continued from A-1

under Forest City Residential Management is conducted by the City and County of Honolulu.

To assist residents in this effort and offer better service, housing has ordered black, 95-gallon containers for recyclables. Gray, 32-gallon containers for green waste have also been ordered. The containers will be delivered to housing residents in the near future.

While waiting delivery of the new trash receptacles, housing residents should continue to use the green, 95-gallon container for normal refuse and the small, milkbox type recycling containers. Green waste should be placed in trash bags.

Residents are advised that the contractor will not pick up refuse containers that are not in compliance with the guidelines regarding separation of green waste, recyclables and regular refuse.

The current schedule of refuse pick-up has also been changed in order to balance the workload for the refuse contractor. The new schedule will take effect on Nov. 15. A revised schedule for housing neighborhoods appears in a clip-out box on A-1. Guidelines that detail recycling definitions and procedures appear in a clip-out box at the right.

Another issue concerns bulk refuse services and community dumpsters. It has been noted by housing officials that numerous environmental items, such as propane tanks and car batteries, are

being dumped at community dumpsters. IRRRI will not pick up and dispose of these items.

Car batteries can be disposed of by returning to the retailer where the new battery was purchased. It is a state law that dealers must accept the old car battery from customers when they purchase a new one. Tires and propane tanks should also be returned to the retailer for recycling.

For more information regarding proper disposal of household hazardous waste and bulk items, consult your housing resident handbook. You can also call the City and County of Honolulu hazardous waste line at 692-5410 or visit their web site at www.opala.org. The site includes information on recycling and/or disposal of a wide variety of items.

Christmas tree recycling will be scheduled once a week for two consecutive weeks after Dec. 25. Specific guidelines and pick-up dates will be provided to residents at a later time.

Housing officials stress that the new refuse collection guidelines will benefit everyone and will help the environment.

"It is vital that we have everyone's cooperation to improve refuse and recycle services and keep our neighborhoods clean and sanitary," emphasized Ho.

Residents with any other questions or concerns can call the Navy Aloha Center at 474-1930.

Recycling/refuse guidelines for Navy housing residents in non-PPV communities

Containers:

Green container – 95-gallon: For normal refuse, including garbage of all organic wastes resulting from preparation and servicing of food and rubbish, consisting of and including such materials as clothing, shoes, cans and other materials of similar character. Will not include items over 50 pounds or eight feet in any dimension, such as soil, rocks, concrete, large metal objects (over two feet in diameter), explosives, chemicals, car batteries or tires, construction debris.

Black container – 95-gallon: For recyclables, including aluminum cans, brown paper bags, corrugated cardboard, glass bottles, newspapers and plastic containers. Recyclable materials tied in bundles will not exceed three feet in length and not weigh more than 50 pounds each.

Gray container – 32-gallon: For green waste, including organic material from plants such as trees, shrubs, yard trimmings and cuttings. Hedge trimmings, branches and similar size materials must be bundled/tied not to exceed three feet in length and not weighing more than 50 pounds.

Bulk trash: Includes refrigerators, stoves, radios, television sets, stereo equipment, bed frames, bed springs, tables, sofas, chairs, water heaters, sinks, lumber and other similar weighty or bulky items. Items over 75 pounds or eight feet in dimension cannot be put out for bulk pickup.

Recycling guidelines:

Aluminum cans: Cans designed to hold a beverage or other substance and manufactured of aluminum alloy. No tin or bi-metal cans.

Brown paper bags: Bags processed from wood pulp that are used for groceries, commissaries, stores and shops.

Corrugated cardboard: Kraft, jute, or test liner pulp that is made by co-mingling two or more webs of paper and formed or shaped into wrinkles or folds or into alternate ridges and grooves. Paperboard (e.g., cereal boxes, etc.) and waxed boxes are not included.

Glass bottles: Bottles that are intended to hold a beverage, food, cleaning, health, beauty or similar product and manufactured from a mixture of silicates, borates or phosphates.

Newspapers: A publication that is printed and distributed and contains news articles, features and advertising and is manufactured of impermanent wood pulp material.

Plastic containers: Containers that are intended to hold beverages or food products and are manufactured of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) (type #1) or high-density polyethylene (HDPE) (type #2).



U.S. Navy photo by J03 Corwin Colbert

USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) gets underway Nov. 6.

USS Los Angeles deploys to the Western Pacific

J03 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) departed for a Western Pacific deployment from its homeport of Pearl Harbor Nov. 6.

According to Cmdr. Tom Stanley, Los Angeles' commanding officer, the crew worked hard to prepare for the deployment.

"We had a great inter-deployment training cycle. It was very challenging because we had a very long maintenance period in between it. That made it very hard to be operationally proficient. It required a lot of at-sea-time and a lot of training but the crew responded very well. As a result, we are ready on time," he said.

According to Stanley, USS Los Angeles has been modernized in both the fire control and communications systems and their service systems has been upgraded with consumer off the shelf technology (COTS).

With new equipment, comes new training and Stanley is eager to utilize

their new training.

"What we are looking forward to is conducting the missions that we have been training to do and doing our part in defending the country and supporting the Global War on Terrorism," said Stanley.

One thing the submarine skipper felt was important to take care of before going to sea was family.

"It is very important to have support by family members and that they are well taken care of so our Sailors do not have to worry about that," said Stanley.

Machinist Mate 3rd Class Jeffrey Brown of the auxiliary division felt the crew was motivated and ready to go.

"We are ready to deploy. We have been working very hard this year to be prepared. We had a couple of ups-and-downs but we are ready. We have heard stories about Cmdr. Stanley's good reputation and so far, he has lived up to them. He has us motivated to do what we need to do for our country," Brown concluded.

Navy E-Learning migrates to Navy Knowledge Online

Dean Persons

Naval Education and Training

Command Public Affairs

Navy E-Learning, the Navy's single official distance learning system, has migrated to the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) Web site, www.nko.navy.mil.

Making Navy E-Learning available on NKO makes it easier for Sailors to manage their careers, providing them access to professional and personal education opportunities, as well as military information and models to pattern their career all under one Web site.

"The Navy uses the Navy Knowledge Online portal as the single source entry in order to provide learning anytime, anywhere in the world," said Terry Williams, who is part of the Naval Education and Training Command's (NETC) Integrated Learning Environment program support team. "The portal is used as the primary vehicle to help create a dynamic learning environment, tying together NKO, Navy E-Learning and the 5 Vector Model to effectively manage Sailors' professional and personal development. In essence, a one-stop shop for today's active Sailor."

Navy E-Learning launches, tracks, and manages more than 3,966 E-Learning courses, at no cost to the user, for approximately 1.2 million active-duty Sailors, Marines, Department of the Navy civilians, Reservists, retirees and family members enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Since its debut in May 2001, more than 450,000 registered users have signed on to the site.

"Navy E-Learning is now offering the entire SkillSoft and NETg libraries, which includes IT, Business, Desktop and Simulation courses," said Williams. "We have also added 305 foreign language and culture courses developed for



U.S. Navy photo

Accounts are available to Navy and Marine Corps: Active, Reserve, Civil Service, Delayed Entry personnel, Naval Academy Midshipmen, retired and retired Reserve. Sponsored users should register for a NKO guest account.

the Defense Language Institute. Lastly, we are delivering Web-based content for 12 'A' schools in a self-paced environment."

On Navy E-Learning, students may search education, training and professional development references and links. Users can search the Navy E-Learning catalog by identifying skills or occupations of interest.

They can identify personal skills they want to improve, assess their level of proficiency, track improvements and identify courses aimed at developing their selected skills.

Navy E-Learning also records course usage and completions, and logs this information into a Sailor's electronic training jacket.

"With the E-Learning platform, I've accumulated over 150 retirement points

through the various non-resident courses alone," said Equipment Operator Constructionman Lance Cordill, a drilling Reservist with Naval Reserve Center Indianapolis. "The NETg training portion of the platform allows me to branch off into personal interest enrichment and also increase my business knowledge that I can use in my civilian career. The general military training portion allows me to stay current with Naval Reserve protocol. With the E-Learning platform, the remainder of my entire military career is managed in as real-time as possible."

Navy E-Learning also serves as a conduit for easy access to other resources, such as the Navy College Program (NCP), which streamlines and enhances a Sailor's opportunity to earn a college degree. The NCP and the Navy Advancement Center can be directly accessed through Navy E-Learning.

Navy E-Learning is also a helpful tool for Navy personnel managers and career counselors.

Through E-Learning and learning management technology, Navy managers have instant access to information regarding who has taken what training and when, helping them to analyze individual and servicewide readiness.

According to Williams, Navy E-Learning will continue to grow rapidly to include 'A' and 'C' school curriculum along with training requirements from multiple organizations outside the NETC claimancy.

"Navy E-Learning will continue to maximize learning opportunities for active-duty Sailors, Marines, Department of the Navy civilians, Reservists, retirees and family members," said Williams.

To access the NKO Web site and Navy E-Learning, log on to www.nko.navy.mil. For more information on naval education and training, visit the NETC Web site at www.netc.navy.mil.

Project to rekindle singing of National Anthem

Samantha L. Quigley

American Forces Press Service

They may not see much by the dawn's early light, but apparently well over half of all Americans are completely in the dark when it comes to the words of the national anthem, according to a Harris Interactive Survey of 2,204 Americans.

An ABC news poll also showed that roughly 38 percent of American teens didn't know the actual name of the nation's official song. It's "The Star-Spangled Banner," if you weren't sure.

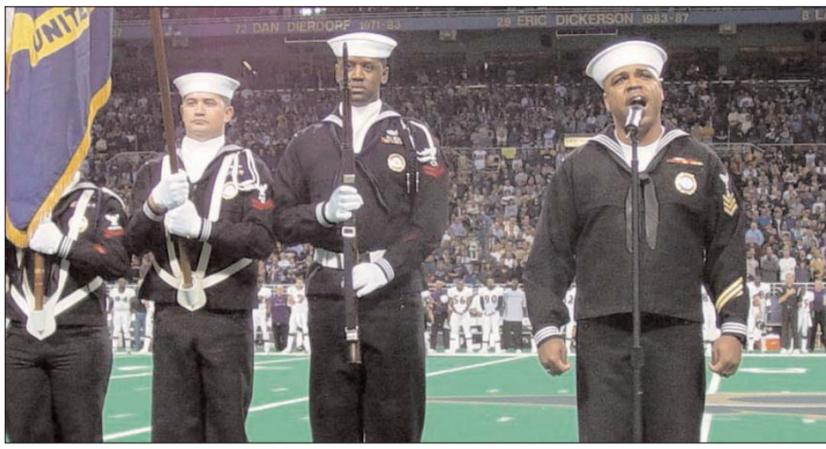
In 1931, President Herbert Hoover signed a bill officially making the poem — written by Francis Scott Key in 1814 and set to music by John Stafford Smith — the United States' national anthem. But it seems that, for various reasons, America has lost its voice, said John J. Mahlmann, executive director of the National Association for Music Education, which still uses the acronym MENC from a prior name of the organization.

America apparently has been at a loss for words for quite a while, Mahlmann said Nov. 4 in an interview with the Pentagon Channel and American Forces Press Service. He and MENC are launching "The National Anthem Project" to reverse the trend.

The project is set to launch March 10, in conjunction with the PBS airing of "The 21st World's Largest Concert." The WLC, performed by eight million to 10 million children, will end with "The Star-Spangled Banner." Mahlmann and his staff are hoping to get servicemembers in Iraq to participate by singing the anthem, he said.

The project is set to culminate in 2007 with a "record-setting" performance of the national anthem in Washington.

Between the project's launch and its conclusion, Mahlmann said, a grassroots movement will try to reach students, teachers and communities. The movement is being fostered by partnerships of American organizations that should be concerned about this program, he said. Currently, those organi-



U.S. Navy photo

NC1 Gerald Wilson, assigned to Naval Reserve Recruiting Region West, performs the National Anthem at the Edward Jones Dome, St. Louis. According to a poll, many Americans don't know the words to the "Star Spangled Banner."

zations include the Defense Department, Disney, the Girl Scouts, the American Legion, A&E and the History Channel.

"We're looking for a grassroots campaign, first of all. And then we're looking for activities to take this program on the road to communities throughout the nation, where we can encourage Americans to sing and participate and learn the words," Mahlmann said. Of course, he said, classroom and music teachers are being encouraged to participate.

One effort to promote the re-endearament of "The Star-Spangled Banner" is already complete. "Liberty For All: A Musical Journey" is a compact disk of patriotic music and American history. Introduced by retired Army Gen. Tommy Franks, the music is performed by "The President's Own" Marine Corps Band.

Mahlmann said the band was chosen in part because it is the oldest of the service bands, dating back to the 1700s. Proceeds from the sale of the CD will benefit The National Anthem Project and the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.

Some claim the national anthem is

not known because it's difficult to sing. "I think it's difficult to sing, but on the other hand, that's why we have music teachers," Mahlmann said. "And our campaign is going to help Americans overcome that and be able to sing the national anthem, as they should."

School budget cuts share a measure of blame in the silencing of America, Mahlmann said. And school is where most polled in the Harris survey indicated that, if they knew the song, is where they learned it.

"Our concern ... is that school music programs are under fire and being cut. And that — in school music programs — is where people learn songs, including patriotic songs like the national anthem," Mahlmann said. "That's not happening. People aren't learning the words."

"It's something that brings our emotions and our values together through song and through spirit and America's soul," Mahlmann said. "And so our goal and our mission through that activity of singing seemed to be an appropriate time to focus on our national anthem, which again, because of people not knowing the words, we should encourage."

STA-21 selection board results announced

JOC Rhonda Burke

Naval Service Training

Command/Naval Region

Midwest/Naval Station

Great Lakes Public Affairs

A total of 186 enlisted Sailors will have the opportunity to complete their college educations and earn commissions in the Navy, after being selected for the Seaman to Admiral (STA-21) commissioning program.

"The Seaman to Admiral 21 Program provides an excellent opportunity for outstanding Sailors and shipmates to complete their education and earn a commission in the Navy," said Rear Adm. Gary R. Jones, commander, Naval Service Training Command. "I send my congratulations out to each of the Sailors chosen for this program as they embark on the next step in their Navy journey."

The selection board concluded in late October. The names of selectees were announced by Navy administrative message, NAVADMIN 249/04, Nov. 4.

STA-21 is a full-time undergraduate education and commissioning program open to enlisted personnel of all paygrades and ratings who meet eligibility requirements. STA-21 is designed for Sailors interested in earning a baccalaureate degree and a commission as a naval officer.

Selectees are provided up to a maximum of 36-months of full-time, year-round study to complete a baccalaureate degree.

Participants in the pro-

gram remain on active duty while attending college and benefit from an education voucher valued at up to \$10,000 per year to cover tuition, fees and book costs.

All selections are conditional upon the selectee remaining fully eligible in all respects, meeting physical qualifications for commissioning as determined by the Bureau of Navy Medicine, and assignment by Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) to an approved Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Unit.

Following degree completion, STA-21 participants will be appointed an ensign, U.S. Naval Reserve, on the active-duty list.

In addition to the \$10,000 per year voucher, Sailors receive their basic pay and basic allowance for housing, are eligible for advancement, and many will be eligible for fleet housing units, as well.

A limited number of selectees will be chosen to attend a three-or six-month individualized program of study at Broadened Opportunity For Officer Selection And Training (BOOST) School in Newport, R.I., to assist in the transition to college.

Application guidelines for fiscal year '06 will be announced by Naval Administrative Message in late spring 2005.

For a complete list of requirements and more information, interested personnel can read OPNAVINST 1420.1A, or visit the STA-21 web site at <https://www.sta-21.navy.mil>.

