



Mullen tapped as incoming CNO

VCNO nominated for Navy's top spot. See story on page A-5.



Tiny tots a'tumblin'

Military family members enjoy cheerleading. See story on page B-1.

Hawaii Navy News Briefs

Hawaii's Marines to hold memorial service

The Marine Corps will hold a memorial service Monday at 1 p.m. to honor 27 Hawaii's based Marines and one Sailor killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom Jan. 26. The service will be held in the Hawaii State Capitol Rotunda and will feature remarks by Governor Linda Lingle and Wallace C. Gregson. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Parking at the Capitol is limited so public transportation to and from the service is highly recommended.

PMRF crew aids in rescue

A Pacific Missile Range Facility UH-3H helicopter airlifted a two-year-old Ni'ihau girl suffering from respiratory distress to Kaua'i Monday for immediate medical attention. The evacuation took place at approximately 1:30 p.m. following a request for assistance from the island.

The Barking Sands helicopter, flown by pilots Lt. Adam Schultz and Lt. Chad Kennedy, flew to Ni'ihau with a Navy medical corpsman, HM1 Marcos Bordonada, who made an assessment of the child's condition. The girl and her parents were then flown to PMRF where an ambulance was waiting to transport them to the Kaua'i Veterans Memorial Hospital in Waimea.

The privately-owned island of Ni'ihau is home to approximately 200 native Hawaiians who live in a preserved lifestyle where Hawaiian is the primary language spoken. The medical emergency occurred when the island's helicopter was down for scheduled maintenance.

This is Schultz's third emergency mission while stationed at PMRF.

U.S. Pacific Command holds change of command



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Dennis C. Cantrell

The new Commander of U.S. Pacific Command, Adm. William J. Fallon, addresses his new command during the change of command ceremony for U.S. Pacific Command on board Camp Smith, Hawaii. Fallon relieved Adm. Thomas B. Fargo to become the 21st Commander, U.S. Pacific Command.

Staff Sgt. Bryan Beach U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

Adm. William J. Fallon assumed command of U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) from Adm. Thomas B. Fargo at PACOM headquarters on Feb. 26.

During the change of command ceremonies, Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, officiated and presented PACOM with the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

"It's because of the efforts of the men and women of the U.S. Pacific Command that today, millions of people in the Middle East and around the world now have a choice," said Myers. "In the global war on terrorism, PACOM has met and conquered great challenges across great distances."

Under Fargo's command, PACOM was involved with numerous operations, ranging from combating terrorism in the Philippines to most recently leading relief efforts from the December tsunami in Operation Unified Assistance. Fargo is retiring from military service after 35 years in the Navy and plans to live in Hawaii.

Fallon, whose most recent assignment was as commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet, is the 21st commander of U.S. Pacific Command.

"I pledge to you a dedication to the task of enhancing stability and setting the conditions for security environment in this region and throughout the world, to which people can truly live in peace and confidence," said Fallon.

▼ See U.S. PACIFIC, A-6

USS Lake Erie makes naval history

JO2 Devin Wright Staff Writer

The guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) returned to Pearl Harbor Feb. 25 after participating in the latest Missile Defense Agency (MDA) test of the AEGIS Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Program and the Standard Missile - 3 (SM-3).

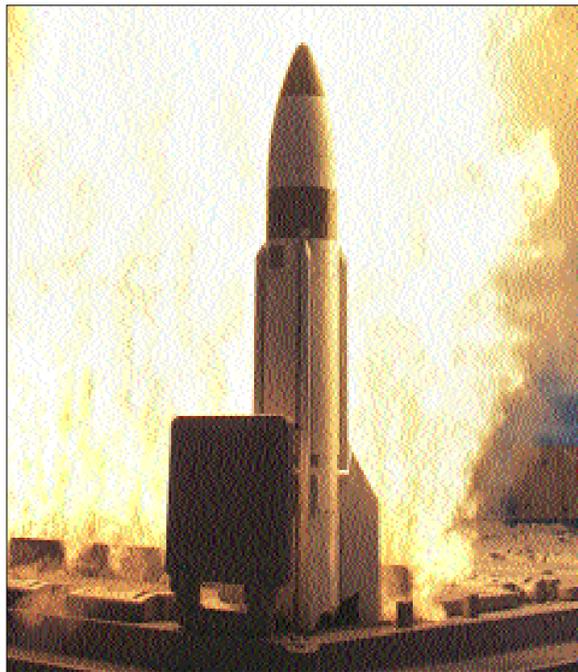
The latest program test was designed to evaluate the operationally configured SM-3 and its ability to intercept and destroy short to medium range ballistic missiles.

The target missile was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai at 11:30 a.m., one minute later, Lake Erie launched the SM-3 from its patrol area located more than 100 miles from Kauai. The intercept was achieved about two minutes after the SM-3 was launched.

"We knew the missile was going to be launched," said Lt. Cmdr. Paul Wingert, combat systems officer aboard USS Lake Erie. "We just didn't know when. When we detected the missile, we tracked it, then launched the interceptor and were successful," said Wingert.

Chief Fire Controlman (SW) Richard Thompson of USS Lake Erie believes this missile defense program is a milestone for the entire Navy.

"Fortunately, we have been designated as the MDA test ship," said Thompson. "But this intercept is not only important to the Lake Erie, but to the entire United States Navy. Lake Erie is on the cutting edge. We get to test all the systems and help develop the tactics that the entire Navy



U.S. Navy photo

A Standard Missile - 3 (SM-3) is launched from the USS Lake Erie (CG 70) in the Missile Defense Agency's latest test of its sea-based midcourse ballistic missile defense capability. The SM-3 intercepted a short range ballistic missile target, launched minutes earlier from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii. The test marked the fifth intercept in six attempts.

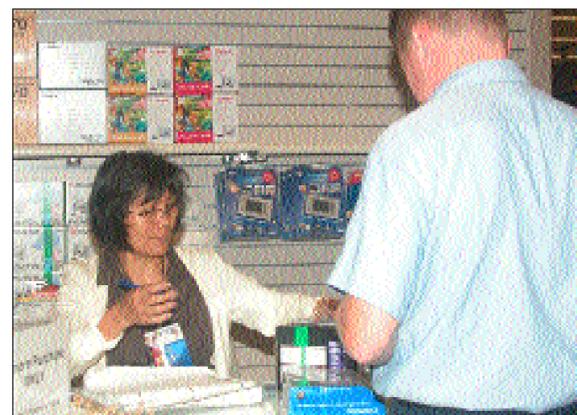
is going to use once this becomes an operational system. It feels great to be a part of something that will not only help defend the citizens of the United States, but our allies as well," Thompson said.

FC2(SW) Dennis Nystrom of USS Lake Erie was the first crew member to spot the ballistic missile on the ships SPY-1 bravo radar.

"I spotted the missile on our radar and called away the track number," said Nystrom. "That started everything in motion. We were all really anxious just

before the captain gave us permission to launch the SM-3. When we hit the ballistic missile, it was a great feeling. We were all jumping for joy. You know when you put two or three months of work into a project whose end result is over in just a matter of seconds, it's an adrenaline rush," Nystrom said.

While the AEGIS weapons system, the foundation of the ballistic missile defense, is currently installed on 68 Navy ships, Lake Erie is the only ship that has intercepted a ballistic missile.



U.S. Navy photo by Lacy Lynn

Digna Doble, Navy Exchange (NEX) employee since 1990, helps a Sailor select a new camera in the NEX electronics department.

NEX named one of 'Best Places to Work' in Hawaii

Lacy Lynn Staff Writer

The Best Companies Group (BCG) of Harrisburg, Pa. has named the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) one of the 25 "Best Places to Work in Hawaii."

Although they do not know where they rank yet, the NEX is one of only two retailers on the list, according to Veronica Manz, NEX human resources manager.

Ranking will be announced at a March 24 awards dinner at the Sheraton Waikiki, sponsored by Hawaii Business Magazine and the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Hawaii. All BCG survey participants are invited.

Hawaii Business Magazine will also devote their April issue to the chosen businesses and results will be simultaneously published on the "Best Places to Work in Hawaii" Web site at:

<http://bestplacetoworkhi.com/>

Manz credits Mike Cottrell, NEX district manager, with increasing employee satisfaction by creating a successful business culture and maintaining communication.

NEX employees can communicate with management through the "Direct to the Director" program by writing a note to Cottrell, which he answers personally, either anonymously or in the employees' monthly newsletter.

"We listen to people. We make the changes that need to be made. We communicate," said Manz. "I think that's why we have the loyalty, [because] associates feel comfortable," she added.

Manz also attributed the NEX's success to employees' devotion to the organization and their jobs.

"People really care about working here. There's a passion for what people do," said Manz.

▼ See NEX, A-8

Fleet Reserve Association honors senior SOY

JO3 Ryan C. McGinley Staff Writer

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) Branch and Unit 46 honored 24 Pearl Harbor senior Sailors of the year Feb. 25 with its seventh annual recognition luncheon at its facility.

"We want the senior Sailors of the year to know that our sole purpose [for this luncheon] is to honor them and their accomplishments," said John Ippert, Fleet Reserve Association Branch and Unit 46 president. "We congratulate them on a job well done. They are truly the very best. They were the ones out front making good things happen."

Capt. David Bigelow, chief of staff, Commander, Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific, was the guest speaker



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Ryan C. McGinley

John Ippert (center in aloha shirt), Fleet Reserve Association Branch and Unit 46 president, stands with 24 local senior Sailors of the year after a Feb. 25 luncheon honoring the Sailors.

for the event, which included the senior Sailors of the year, their commanding officers and their command master chiefs. Bigelow reemphasized the cri-

teria for earning the title of Sailor of the Year.

"The Sailor of the Year program was established by the Chief of Naval

Operations to recognize the one Sailor who best represents the large number of dedicated professionals in a particular command," he said. "A Sailor of the year is someone who has demonstrated high standards of personal and professional conduct, sustained superior performance, is a proven leader, dedicated to self-improvement and superior personal appearance."

Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW) Gregory Herrod, assigned to USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), said the reason he won the award was because of his shipmates, who worked diligently for flawless inspections and drills.

"I am real proud of my shipmates, the guys who work for me, because they are the reason I am where I am right now," he said. "I was more proud

▼ See FLEET, A-2

Travel card info lost with no evidence of fraud or misuse

Jim Garamone
American Forces
Press Service

About 900,000 Defense Department employees may be affected by Bank of America's loss and the possible compromise of government travel card information, Pentagon officials said Feb. 25.

The General Services Administration and Bank of America notified DoD that GSA "SmartPay" travel cards are affected. Officials said Bank of America has been monitoring the affected accounts and there has been no evidence of fraud or misuse of the accounts.

Bank of America is sending letters to affected employees.

"Information regarding travel card program accounts for individual card holders has been lost and it is possible that that information has been compromised, though we don't believe that that is the case," said Teresa McKay, the Defense Department's deputy chief financial officer.

The U.S. Secret Service is conducting the investigation, with help from the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. Officials said that although there has been no evidence of criminal activity, release of details on the circumstances of the loss could jeopardize the investigation.

"Indications right now are that it is an accidental event," McKay said. "The bank has been monitoring the accounts involved from the onset and to date, there has been no indication of fraudulent activity."

The information is personal cardholder information - names, Social Security numbers, addresses and account numbers - on magnetic tape. The loss occurred in late December. GSA notified DoD on Jan. 19. McKay said the delay was necessary to protect the integrity of the investigation.

"The bank is in the process of notifying cardholders of the situation," McKay said. "They will be given a special customer service number that has been set up by the bank specifically for this purpose. If (cardholders) have any questions, they can contact the bank. If they would like, they

Tips for securing your financial information

These simple, but effective suggestions can help consumers protect their financial and personal information:

- Be discriminating when providing personal information such as Social Security number and account or credit card information over the telephone, in person or on the internet. Don't give this information unless you are sure of the person with whom you are dealing.
- Protect your Social Security number and the Social Security numbers of your children and other family members by not carrying them in your wallet.
- Report lost or stolen checks, credit or debit cards immediately.
- Store cancelled checks, new checks and account statements in a safe place.
- Notify your banker of suspicious phone inquiries such as those asking for account information to "verify a statement" or "award a prize."
- Review your credit report at least once every year. Make sure all information is up-to-date and accurate.
- Memorize your PIN (personal identification number) and refrain from writing it, your Social Security number or credit card number on a check.
- Tear up or shred any pre-

approved credit offers to which you do not respond. Thieves can use these offers to assume your identity.

- Keep mail secure. Don't mail bills or sensitive information from you home or unsecured mailboxes. Retrieve and review your mail promptly. Thieves may use the personal information contained in your mail to steal your identity.

- If you do not receive your regular bills when expected, call the company to find out why.

- Review your monthly account statements thoroughly. Investigate suspicious items immediately to head off any possible fraud before it occurs.

- Do not carry your Social Security card, passport or birth certificate unless needed that day.

- Beware of fraudulent email messages that ask for account and personal information to "reactivate or verify" your accounts. Don't give out this information unless you are sure of the person with whom you are dealing.

If you think you have been a victim of identity theft, the three major credit bureaus have resources dedicated to assist you.

Equifax 800-525-6285
 P.O. Box 740241
 Atlanta, GA 30374-0241
www.equifax.com

Experian 888-397-3742
 P.O. Box 9532
 Allen, TX 75013
www.experian.com

TransUnion 800-680-7289
 P.O. Box 6790
 Fullerton, CA 92864-6490
www.transunion.com

Other information sources

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) provides a variety of useful information and resources related to identity theft. Visit the FTC ID Theft Web site at <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>.

may request that the bank cancel the card and reissue a card to them."

McKay added that consumers should always keep an eye on any credit accounts they have.

"It's always prudent for any cardholder to monitor their monthly statements (and) dispute any charges they may question, and also it's important for all of us to get a credit report at least once a year and look at the content of that

report," she said.

Bank of America has set up a hotline for those affected. The number is (800) 493-8444. Cardholders who notice irregularities in their accounts should call the Bank of America at the 800 number printed on the back of their cards, McKay said.

"If you are an affected cardholder, you may contact Bank of America for information on obtaining a free credit report," she added.

Standing tall with Sailors



U. S. Navy photo

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/AW) Terry Scott stands with Sailors participating in Task Force Uniform at Personnel Support Detachment, Pearl Harbor. Scott was in Hawai'i to attend the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command change of command and toured several commands around Pearl Harbor.

FRA: Senior Sailors praised as examples to emulate and exceed

Continued from A-1

of them than winning the actual award because of the hard work they put in for me."

Bigelow said each senior Sailor of the year is now a role model to their peers, and they must always demonstrate the

characteristics of an exemplary Sailor.

"Starting today, Sailors will be looking to you as a standard they must exceed, not just attain, but exceed," he said.

The Fleet Reserve Association is a nonprofit organization comprised of

enlisted personnel (active duty, reserve and retired) of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Membership includes approximately 122,000 dues-paying shipmates who belong to FRA's more than 300 branches nationwide.

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Take advantage while on duty in paradise

Commentary
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
 Editor

I'll admit it. Even though it's incredibly difficult at times, I enjoy going to school. There's just something about opening my mind and filling it with new information and ideas from other students in my class that appeals to me. Fortunately, during my time here in Hawai'i, I have been able to take advantage of shore duty to get my bachelors degree and I'm on track to finish my masters by December.

Does that make me smarter than anyone else? Better? No. I don't

think so. I just saw an opportunity and I took it. I know I'm not the only one. My undergrad classes were filled with Sailors, Soldiers, Coast Guardsmen, Marines and Airmen who were working toward a goal. I can't speak for all of them, but I know why I was there.

I wanted to finish off this tour with a degree. I graduated from high school in 1990 and I didn't go into college right away. I'd finally worked myself up to getting that elusive "sheepskin" and this was the perfect opportunity for me.

The Navy College Office here had counselors on hand to guide me through what seemed like an impassible maze. They helped me

get my SMART transcript together and guided me to a school. I ended up graduating from Chaminade University, but that is only one of the schools with a satellite office or other presence in building 679 — the Navy College building.

Honolulu Community College, Hawai'i Pacific University and Wayland Baptist University are also represented here on base. For those of you who are not on shore duty and cannot commit to a set in-class time, there are online courses available. Most of my masters courses are online. Since I'm leaving the island this summer, and plan to graduate in December, I'll be finishing up with Chaminade

from Texas.

In addition, there are a number of CLEP tests available if you want to test for college credit.

It can be done. You can do it. You can walk into the Navy College Office, get a counselor, then pick a university and get your degree while here in Hawai'i. The tuition assistance program isn't the best, I will admit, but 12 paid hours per fiscal year is better than no paid hours. Plus, those of you who have been in long enough can take advantage of your G.I. Bill benefits. Believe me, that comes in handy.

So, what next? Get on the phone to the college office if you don't

want to just walk in. Get on the phone and call Navy College at 473-5705. Talk to them about your options, your goals and your education.

Contrary to what some folks might think, the Navy is not a lifetime gig. You can do it for 20, 25, even 30 years, but eventually, you'll be out competing for work. Sometimes a degree is the difference between being hired and being thanked for your resume.

Good luck to those of you who are on the road to higher education. It's a rough one. Good luck to those of you who are considering getting on the road. It's not always easy, but it is rewarding.

When to be a hero

Commentary
FLTCM(AW/SW)
Jon Thompson
 U.S. Fleet Forces
 Command
 Command Master
 Chief



Did you hear about the Sailor who, when approached by an armed robber, managed to wrestle the weapon away and walk away from the incident unharmed? You didn't? Neither did I.

I suspect it almost never happens. Unfortunately, I continue to hear about Sailors who try to take matters into their own hands. I'm not sure what goes through a Sailor's head during the opening moments of a robbery or attack, but the one thing that should not be at the forefront is being a hero.

Recently there have been a couple clear examples that make me want to talk with you about your safety and what you should do in the event you are robbed or attacked. Prevention is of course the best course of action, but sometimes a situation is thrust upon you. What you do in the first seconds and minutes will probably dictate whether you walk away, or not.

Listen to the next couple of examples: "After shot was fired, service member lunged at the suspect with the gun." Here's another one: "While service member was driving, suspect called another person in the car behind them. The robber put the gun in his lap and the service member grabbed the gun. A scuffle ensued and the service member pulled the emergency brake. Both got out of the vehicle still fighting for the gun. The associates from the other vehicle came and helped the robber." Fortunately, the service member was not shot.

Smart actions? Not at all — the outcome of both the above incidents could have been tragic.

Shipmates, there's just no way to predict if and when any of us will ever end up in a situation where our health or life is threatened. However, there are some simple things we should all know and do that could mean the difference between us walking away or having to be carried away.

First and foremost, try to avoid putting yourself in danger. Only go to well-lit businesses at night. Don't park on secluded streets. If you're going out on the town, try to do so with friends — there's strength in numbers and keep your car doors locked when you're driving. This list goes on and on, and I suspect you know a lot of this. But, do you know what you should do if indeed you are attacked?

Most sage advice begins with, "obey the robber's orders." I'm told robbers seldom hurt people who cooper-

ate with them. Whatever is in your wallet is worth less than your life. Right up front, it's a good idea to let the robber know you're going to comply with his or her wishes.

Next, try to memorize a good description of the assailant. The police will have an easier time finding the person if you can remember what he or she looked like and what he or she was wearing. Also look to see if they are in a car and get the license plate number if possible.

Don't fight the robber. Do not resist; the money or your car isn't worth it. Trying to attack an armed robber is foolhardy, not heroic. If a robber has a weapon, the assumption should be he or she is willing and able to use it. Don't try to second-guess the thoughts of a person who has the intent and means to harm you.

If you have a weapon nearby, do not use it. It's probably not surprising self-defense weapons are sometimes used by assailants to harm their victims.

Don't chase or follow a robber. To chase a robber is to invite violence. The police could also mistake you for one of the robbers. You should get out of the area as soon as possible and report the crime.

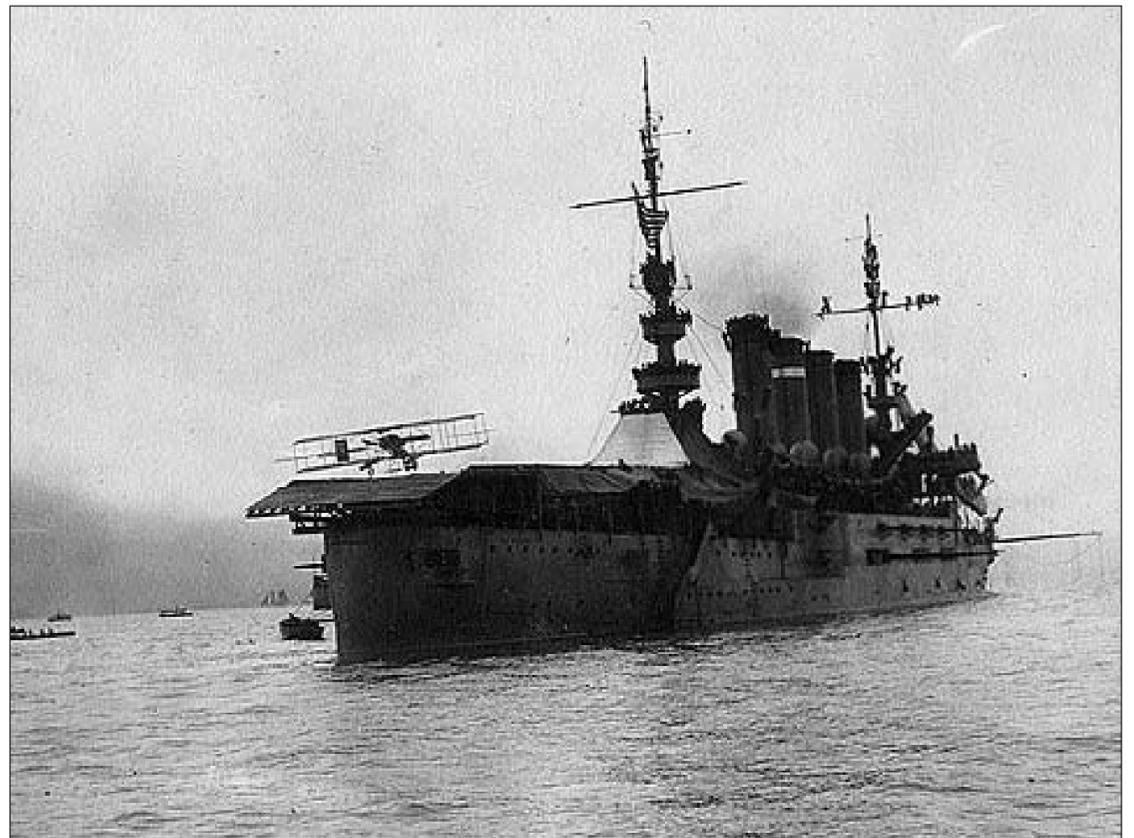
Call the police. This is critical. If you are robbed, harmed, raped, assaulted, etc. you need to inform the authorities. You should call 911 before you call your command, your family, or your friends. Even if you only had \$20 stolen and you weren't harmed, you need to notify the police so as to possibly prevent the same thing from happening to someone else.

Shipmates, there's no easy, or one-size-fits-all, answer to the question, "How can I protect myself?" However, if you do your best to avoid situations where you make yourself a target, and act calmly and smartly in the event you become involved in a robbery or attack, you may be one of the lucky ones who is able to talk about what happened to you at the police station rather than from a hospital bed.

Life is precious. Gambling with your life because you want to save the money in your wallet doesn't seem logical. What's more, if you happen to think you are bigger or stronger than your assailant, you should put the thought of overpowering him or her away. It's a known fact that bullets fly faster than fists.

Shipmates, be careful out there. Protect yourself and your shipmates. Our Navy in itself can be a hazardous place to work. At sea or in the desert if the situation calls for you to be heroic — that's one thing; risking your life over the contents of your wallet is totally different. Know when to be a hero.

Bi-plane pilot makes historic landing



Eugene B. Ely lands his Curtiss pusher bi-plane Jan. 18, 1911 on USS Pennsylvania (armored cruiser 4), anchored in San Francisco Bay, Calif. Ely was the first pilot to land aboard a warship. The photograph is from the Eugene B. Ely scrapbooks.

March is American Red Cross Month

A proclamation by the President of the United States of America

Americans have a long history of rising to meet humanitarian challenges, and the American Red Cross is a leader in these efforts. Since 1881, the American Red Cross has met disaster with compassion and courage. During American Red Cross Month, we honor this dedication and reaffirm the importance of volunteering time and contributing resources to make our communities and the world better.

From offering blood drives and lifesaving courses to providing disaster relief

services at home and abroad, American Red Cross employees and volunteers work countless hours to care for those in need and serve a cause greater than self. As a result of the recent tsunami in the Indian Ocean, over 150,000 lives were lost and many more were left homeless and without food and water. The American Red Cross swiftly dispatched relief workers to assist those affected, and to distribute supplies, counsel survivors, and help people return home.

Here at home, the American Red Cross helps support our troops by transmitting emergency messages to members of the Armed Forces and their fam-

ilies. In this past year, the Red Cross has also contributed significantly to relief efforts for hurricanes in Florida, flooding in western Pennsylvania, wildfires in the western United States, and mudslides in California. These good works provide hope and healing to those dealing with profound loss and demonstrate the character of the American Red Cross.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America and honorary chairman of the American Red Cross, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 2005 as

American Red Cross Month. I commend the efforts of American Red Cross employees and volunteers, and I encourage all Americans to donate their time, energy and talents to support this organization's humanitarian mission.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty ninth.

For more information on the American Red Cross, visit their Web site at <http://www.redcross.org/>

Hawai'i Navy News

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i - Rear Adm. Michael C. Vitale
Chief of Staff, Navy Region Hawai'i - Capt. Ronald R. Cox
Public Affairs Officer - Lt. Barbara Mertz
Deputy Public Affairs Officer - Agnes Tauyan
Managing Editor - JOC(SW) Joe Kane
Editor - JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Assistant Editor - Karen Spangler
Staff Writer - JO2 Devin Wright
Staff Writer - JO3 Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer - Lacy Lynn
Technical Adviser - Joe Novotny
Layout/Design - Leah Young

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. This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication pri-

marily 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.

Chertoff sworn in as new Homeland Security Director

Terri Lukach

American Forces Press Service

Michael Chertoff took the oath of office in Washington D.C. Thursday as the nation's second secretary of homeland security, succeeding Tom Ridge in the newest Cabinet post.

Calling Chertoff the "right person" to lead the department in defending the nation from further terrorist attack, President Bush praised his record of achievement as a U.S. attorney, federal appeals court judge and assistant attorney general. At the Justice Department, Chertoff helped trace the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on America to the al Qaeda terrorist network and worked to increase information sharing within the FBI, the president said.

"Mike has worked tirelessly to make our people safer and our nation more secure," Bush said. "Now he will carry on that vital work as the secretary of homeland security."

The president also praised the department's employees. "America is safer because of your efforts," he told them, noting that since 9/11, the nation has taken unprecedented steps to protect the American people, taken the battle to the enemy, and taken extraordinary measures to better protect the homeland.

"The success of the men and women of the Department of Homeland Security do not always make the headlines," the president said. "But I understand what you've done, and I appreciate your hard work. By your tireless efforts behind the scenes, you have helped protect our citizens and secure our nation. And this country is grateful for all you do."

But, Bush warned, the nation is not yet safe. He referred to recent reports that al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden urged terrorist leader Musab Abu al-Zarqawi to begin conducting attacks outside Iraq, including in the United States.

The president called bin Laden's message "a telling reminder that al Qaeda still hopes to attack us on our own soil." "Stopping them," he said, "is the greatest challenge of our day."

Bush noted Chertoff's service to the nation. "Mike is wise, and he is tough," the president said. "He knows the nature of the enemy. ... He understands that the terrorists are brutal and determined, and that to stop them all our agencies must work more closely together, using every resource and technological advantage we have."

Chertoff is the right person to lead the department, the president added, because "he knows that to win the war on terror abroad, we always must remember where it began — here in the homeland." The newly sworn-in Cabinet member called defending the homeland "the challenge and the calling of our generation."

"Thousands of men and women," he said, "now stand watch across this country and overseas, guarding our families and our freedoms. ... I am honored to join these dedicated public servants."

"All Americans," he continued, "have placed their trust in the men and women who carry out the important work of homeland security. I look forward to carrying out this vital charge as we strengthen the protections already in place at our ports of entries, in our skies overhead, and in our cities and our communities."

NCIS agents help fight war on terrorism



U.S. Navy photo

The four special agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service were awarded the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Medal at an awards ceremony aboard Battleship Missouri Feb. 4. Special Agent Derek Ranger, Special Agent Mike Westberry, Supervisory Special Agent Bill Sullivan and Special Agent Nick Wellin are part of a larger NCIS effort in Iraq and Afghanistan that has performed protective service and counterintelligence operations and has provided criminal investigative support.

Senior Enlisted Academy seeks new director

Jon Gagne

Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy (SEA) in Newport, R.I. is encouraging command master chiefs to apply for the director position, which must be filled in June.

The academy is looking for a highly motivated, seasoned senior enlisted leader who embraces mentoring, and has a vision and personal desire for continued growth and development for themselves and Sailors throughout the Navy.

"The director position is high-profile and demanding, and requires a highly motivated individual who believes in and understands the importance of the Revolution in Navy Training and the professional military education con-

tinuum in developing sea warriors for the future," said Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) Force Master Chief Michael J. McCalip.

The director position is being made available with the upcoming retirement of current academy director, Command Master Chief (SW/AW/SCW) Ralph Rao, this summer. The director position must be filled in June to allow for a complete and extensive turnover.

"This has been a very rewarding tour of duty for me," Rao said. "It has been exceptionally worthwhile to be a part of change that has positively affected the senior enlisted leadership of our Navy. I've seen some inspirational Navy professionals come through these doors and take

what they learn here back to the fleet. It's great to be a part of that transformation."

According to McCalip, the academy is the pinnacle of enlisted leadership training for the Navy, and only top-level performers and professionals are accepted for admission.

Nomination packages should include a NAVPERS 1306/7 requesting assignment as Director, U.S. Senior Enlisted Academy; a signed, single-page letter from the nominee stating their reasons for seeking the position; copies of the individual's last five PRT results and FITREPS; a complete history of duty assignments; copies of college degrees, certificates and transcripts; recent front and back five-by-seven color profile photo in service khaki (uncovered); cover sheet with contact

information to include phone number and an e-mail address; commander or commanding officer endorsement letter; and fleet, force or CNO (Chief of Naval Operations)-directed command master chief endorsement.

Packages must be submitted to NETC Force Master Chief (SS/AW/SW/PJ) Michael J. McCalip, 250 Dallas St., Pensacola, OK, 32508-5220 no later than March 25. Command master chiefs who intend to submit packages should inform McCalip at the earliest opportunity via e-mail at michael.mccalip@navy.mil and include "Intent to Submit" in the subject line. A board of fleet and force master chiefs will narrow the pool of candidates down to a "best qualified" list in March and interviews will be conducted in April.

Historic Aviators: Tuskegee Airmen visit USS Chosin, meet Sailors

Ensign Kristina Melendez
USS Chosin Public Affairs

Members of the Tuskegee Airmen paid a visit to USS Chosin (CG-65) Feb. 25.

The airmen were honored during an all-hands call celebrating Black History Month.

The ceremony began with a rendition of the National Anthem sung by Cryptologic Technician-Technical Seaman Michael Beaver. The invocation was given by Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) Patrick Riley, and the opening remarks were made by Capt. Douglas Venlet, Chosin's commanding officer.

After the opening remarks Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Bobby Montgomery, Ensign Amanda Zawora and Fireman Clinton Washington read biographies of Carter G. Woodson, Mary McLeod Bethune and

Dr. Percy L. Julian. Following these biographies, members of the Tuskegee Airmen shared some of their experiences with the crew.

The Tuskegee Airmen was the first African American flying unit in the United States military. Prior to World War II, the U.S. Army Air Corps did not employ African-Americans in any role, a policy that found its justification in a racist and inaccurate report written in the 1920s.

However, in 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered the Air Corps to build an all-Negro flying unit. Thus, the Army formed the 99th Pursuit Squadron, and a new training base was opened in central Alabama at the Tuskegee Institute.

The Tuskegee Airmen speakers included Maj. Gen. Lucius Theus, USAF (Ret.) and Lt. Col. Alexander Jefferson USAF (Ret.). Theus commented on the

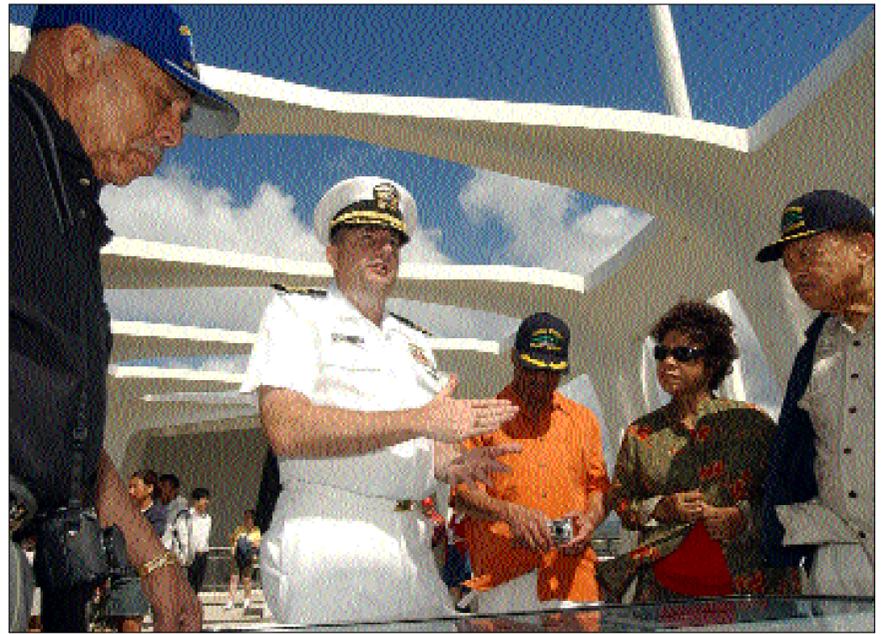
impact of racial tension on the ability to fight.

He remarked, "This strife is due to misunderstanding and ignorance. Even though the road may not be level, the obstacles are not high, and you will be rewarded with continued effort."

Jefferson was an original instructor at the Tuskegee Institute. He said World War II opened up countless opportunities for African Americans and women. He flew 18 missions in a B51, until being shot down halfway through his 19th mission. He then spent nine months in Germany as a prisoner of War.

During his commentary, Jefferson explained that while he was a prisoner in the German POW camp, he was treated with more respect than by his fellow Americans at home on United States soil.

Members of the Chosin said they were honored to have these men onboard.



U.S. Navy photo
 Cmdr. Richard Verbeke, Naval Station Pearl Harbor executive officer, talks about the history of Pearl Harbor with members of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen.



U.S. Navy photo by JOC Craig P. Strawser

Secretary of the Navy Gordon England meets with several Task Force Uniform volunteers to find out what they think about the new test uniforms. Sailors in the Pentagon are testing four different versions of the working uniform, designed as a replacement for both the winter working blues and the summer whites.

Navy leadership encourages Task Force Uniform

JO2 (SW/AW) Rebekah Caruso

Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

Sailors in the Pentagon and nearby Navy Annex have been testing new service uniforms as part of Task Force Uniform (TFU).

Now three months into the test, these Sailors have started to form opinions on what they like and don't like and are realizing the important role they play in TFU.

"What we think about these uniforms could affect other Sailors and the Navy for years to come," said Yeoman 1st Class (SW) Dru Prevost, leading petty officer for the Chief of Naval Operations administrative office.

Navy's top leadership has been strongly endorsing Sailor participation and input in the test. They hope to end the test period with a uniform choice that truly fits the needs of today's Sailors.

"Our Sailors deserve to have a uniform that looks sharp, is comfortable, practical and that they are proud to wear," said Secretary of the Navy Gordon England. "Task Force Uniform offers every Sailor an opportunity to make an input into what your new uniform will be like. This is your opportunity to make a difference and have a say in the Navy's new uniforms."

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry D. Scott said that this test period is unique from previous uniform tests through the Navy's history, in the way test uniforms are being issued.

"In the past, the Navy has taken a single uniform and given it to a single platform while giving other choices to those aboard other platforms," said Scott. "We've never given the individual Sailor the opportunity to test-wear each uniform option. Giving the individual the chance to test how each

uniform performs and judge which components they like and dislike gives them the most input and gives those constructing the uniforms the concrete feedback they can use to make a uniform the fleet wants," Scott explained.

The Sailors involved in the test rotate the four different versions of the service uniform in order, according to a calendar. This ensures Sailors all over the Navy, at sea and ashore, will be testing the same uniform on the same day.

There are 50 Sailors in various rates and positions in both the Pentagon and the Annex who are testing out the service uniform, intended to take the place of the working blues, working whites and the certified navy twill. All the Sailors involved have been hearing opinions from their superiors and peers, as well as civilians and members of the other military branches.

According to Chief Navy Counselor (SW/AW/FMF) Maurice Fitz, the Task Force Uniform point of contact for the Pentagon area, the testers also bear the responsibility to take note of, and weigh in their final opinions, the comments other Sailors make.

"I advise these Sailors to keep track of the different opinions they encounter during their daily wear by writing them down," said Fitz. Every Sailor participating in the test received with the uniforms a notebook with directions for wear, the scheduling calendar and room to take a lot of notes.

So far, a lot of the comments have been positive, and they're not just coming from the Navy, either.

"I've gotten a lot of feedback from other branches of the military," said Smith. "People seem to like it, some think it's a sharper look. It's definitely a change."

"The CNO (Chief of Naval Operations) has asked me about it several times," said

Prevost. "He wants to know how comfortable it is, how it's holding up for maintenance purposes and which color I like best. He sincerely cares about what we think," she said.

That interest from the CNO is reflected throughout the top leadership of the Navy, as they encourage Sailors to put thought into their feedback, and play an active role in getting their opinions heard.

"Under the MCPON's leadership, Task Force Uniform is on the right course," said England. "I urge Sailors to provide their inputs and comments to the task force. The Navy wants to get this right and your input is vital to identifying the best uniform for our Sailors."

According to MCPON, it is just that type of input that has led the Navy in the direction it has taken so far. The test uniforms are a reflection of what the fleet surveys reflected a need for.

"Before we started," said Scott, "the Sailors who participated in the fleetwide survey wanted affordable and durable uniforms that are practical for the environment they work in, while maintaining a professional military appearance, and decreasing the number of uniforms in the individual's sea bag. The uniforms now being tested in the fleet are the concepts that Task Force Uniform came up with and the next Navy-wide survey will help TFU incorporate Sailors' suggestions for recommended improvements."

While the service uniform is being tested in the Pentagon and Navy Annex, Task Force Uniform is also conducting testing out in the fleet for the concept Navy working uniform - the blue, black and gray camouflage uniform. There are two versions of the camouflage being tested by Sailors ranking E-1 through O-10. The styles, like those of the service uniform, also differ according to cut and pattern.

Mullen nominated for CNO

Navy Office of Information

Senior Navy leaders were quick to praise President Bush's nomination of Adm. Michael G. Mullen as the 28th Chief of Naval Operations.

Mullen's nomination was announced Tuesday by the Department of Defense.

"Adm. Mike Mullen is a highly professional and effective leader who has served the Navy and our nation well throughout his naval career," said Secretary of the Navy Gordon England. "We worked together when he was Vice Chief of Naval Operations, and I look forward to working with him again in making our Navy strong and ready to meet future challenges."

Adm. Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations, echoed those comments, saying, "Adm. Mullen is a bold and visionary leader who has served his nation brilliantly for over three decades. Our Navy is truly fortunate to have him assume the watch."

"I am honored to be nominated to relieve Adm. Clark, an extraordinary man who has had a tremendous impact on our Navy and our nation these past five years," said Mullen. "I look forward to working closely with the Senate during the confirmation process."

Mullen was born in Los Angeles and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in naval science.

Early tours of duty at sea included the destroyers USS Collett (DD 730) and USS Blandy (DD 943) and the guided-missile cruisers USS Fox (CG 33) and USS Sterett (CG 31).

He has commanded three ships, the gasoline tanker USS Noxubee (AOG 56), the guided-missile destroyer USS Goldsborough (DDG 20) and the guided-missile cruiser USS Yorktown (CG 48). He also commanded Cruiser-Destroyer Group 2 and the USS George Washington (CVN 73) Battle Group.

Mullen's last command at sea was as Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet/Commander, Striking Fleet Atlantic.



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 Michael Womer.

Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) Adm. Michael G. Mullen speaks at a graduation ceremony at Recruit Training Command (RTC) Great Lakes. VCNO Mullen made remarks as the guest speaker at both the graduation and the official Naval Service Training Command (formerly NTC Great Lakes) stand-up ceremony onboard Naval Station Great Lakes.

While there, he championed increased interoperability between U.S. and NATO naval forces, and spearheaded innovative approaches to the way U.S. carrier strike groups and expeditionary strike groups prepare for overseas deployment.

He has continued that focus on readiness and international cooperation in his current assignment. As commander of NATO's Joint Force Command Naples and Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Europe (CNE), he is leading efforts to further strengthen and expand multinational maritime partnerships.

"We do very little anymore as a solitary service at sea," Mullen wrote in his recently released CNE Guidance for 2005. "If the war on terror has taught us nothing else, it is that the future of national and international security lies in mutual cooperation, jointness and interoperability. Nobody goes it alone."

Mullen has also made it a priority to accelerate the transformation of naval forces in Europe, calling it

"vital to keeping the terrorists on the run."

"The only constant in the Navy's future is change," he recently told Sailors at Naval Air Station Sigonella. "Change is hard. I know that. But we are up against a new and elusive enemy. The only way we can win is to transform, to change the way we think about war, as well as the way we fight it. Second place is not an option."

Mullen's major shore assignments include duty on the staffs of the secretary of defense and the chief of naval operations. He has served as director of surface warfare (1998-2000); deputy chief of naval operations for resources, requirements and assessments (N8) from 2001 to 2003; and he was the Navy's 32nd vice chief of naval operations (VCNO) from 2003 to 2004.

Mullen holds a master of science degree in operations research from the Naval Postgraduate School and is a 1991 graduate of the Harvard Business School advanced management program.

Got Questions?

Write to us at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Justin P. Nesbitt

U.S. Army and Philippines medical personnel unpack pharmaceuticals in a school classroom prior to medical relief efforts during exercise 2005 in Infanta, Philippines.

Balikatan 2005 kicks off

JOC (SW/AW) Terry L. Rhedin
Balikatan Combined Joint Information Bureau

Gen. Efrén L. Abu, chief of staff of Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), declared Exercise Balikatan 2005 officially opened Feb. 21 during a ceremony at Camp Aguinaldo in Manila, headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

The 21st annual exercise is a bilateral, multi-service event designed to improve planning and interoperability to enhance military capabilities against armed attacks, including those from terrorist threats, as well as increasing readiness to respond to natural disasters.

A top priority will be joint cooperation in training to conduct humanitarian and civic assistance projects. Members from the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force will be working side by side with their AFP counterparts.

The exercise, consistent with the Mutual Defense

Treaty and Visiting Forces Agreement, will improve combined planning of U.S. and Philippine military forces. It is one of many ongoing activities under the framework of Republic of Philippines (RP)-U.S. military security cooperation, and demonstrates U.S. resolve to continue the commitment to train, advise and assist the AFP to build capacity to counter terrorism.

Other programs include support for comprehensive defense reform, security assistance modules for counter-terrorism training, operations intelligence fusion, subject matter expert exchanges, education programs, logistics, engineering, equipment, maintenance and helicopter programs.

Approximately 300 U.S. personnel and 550 AFP personnel will participate. Balikatan 2005 is the 21st in the series of these exercises. The term Balikatan is a tagalog word, which means shouldering the load together. It characterizes the phi-

losophy and intent of the exercise.

Medical civic action projects planned include distributing medical supplies, seeing patients and checking on animal health in the typhoon impacted area of Quezon province and in Laguna province.

Engineering civic action projects feature the construction of an economically vital 1.2 kilometer farm-to-market road connecting the towns of Alima to San Buenaventura, as well as building five classrooms for the San Buenaventura High School. Much of the labor and funding for this construction was donated by the local government and volunteers.

Bilateral, combined exercises like Balikatan 2005 and ongoing security assistance programs in the Philippines build capability and strengthen working relationships with U.S. Armed Forces. The results build readiness to respond effectively to natural disasters, such as RP-U.S. military humanitarian assistance.

2005 Ney and Hill award winners named

Naval Supply Systems Command Public Affairs

Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Silver Dolphin Bistro is among the top galleys in the world.

Navy Secretary Gordon R. England has announced the 2005 winners of the Navy Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Awards and the Marine Corps Major General W.P.T. Hill Memorial Awards for outstanding food service.

Formal presentation of the awards to the winners will be made during the Joint Military and Food Service Excellence awards at the International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA) conference on April 30, in San Diego, Calif.

Ney afloat general mess winners are:

Submarine category:
First place: USS Charlotte (SSN 766)

Runner up: USS Albuquerque (SSN 706)

Honorable mention: USS Tucson (SSN 770)

Small afloat category:
First place: USS Ford (FFG 54)

Runner up: USS Scout (MCM 8)

Medium afloat category:
First place: USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

Runner up: USS Vicksburg (CG 69)

Honorable mention: USS McFaul (DDG 74)

Large afloat category:

First place: USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) repeat winner

Runner up: USS Belleau Wood (LHA 3)

Aircraft carrier category:
First place: USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)

Runner up: USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74)

Ney ashore general mess winners are:

Continental U.S. general mess category:

First place: Naval Station San Diego

Runner up: NAS Oceana Dam Neck Annex

Overseas General Mess category:

First place: Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

Runner up: Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Silver Dolphin Bistro

Hill award winners are:

Best active field mess: Food Service Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion Force Service Support Group

Best reserve field mess: 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Ore.

Best jointly operated garrison mess hall: Mess Hall 488, Marine Corps Base, Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan

Best full food service garrison mess hall: Mess Hall # 710, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, Ariz.

"The Captain Edward F. Ney and Major General W.P.T. Hill Memorial Awards

recognize a proud tradition of culinary excellence," said Commander Michael Hansen, SC, USN, Naval Supply Systems Command food service director. "This year's award winners have clearly demonstrated their commitment to improving the quality of life of our warfighters through quality food service."

The Ney Memorial Awards Program is co-sponsored by the Secretary of the Navy and IFSEA. IFSEA is a nonprofit food service association dedicated to enhancing the professional image and growth of persons serving the food service industry. The evaluation teams were made up of senior Navy and Marine Corps culinary specialists and IFSEA representatives.

NAVSUP's primary mission is to provide U.S. naval forces with quality supplies and services. With headquarters in Mechanicsburg, Pa., and employing a worldwide work force of more than 24,000 military and civilian personnel, NAVSUP oversees logistics programs in the areas of supply operations, conventional ordnance, contracting, resale, fuel, transportation, and security assistance. In addition, NAVSUP is responsible for quality-of-life issues for our naval forces, including food service, postal services, Navy exchanges, and movement of household goods.

STORY IDEAS?

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

Phone: (808) 473-2888

Email: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

Hawaii Navy News

Blue Angels seeking more enlisted applications

Blue Angels Public Affairs

The Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron (Blue Angels) is encouraging qualified Sailors and Marines to apply for the 2006 season.

The application deadline is April 1. Results will be available June 1.

According to Chief Aviation Electrician's Mate (AW) Louis Arrazola, the Blue Angels' command career counselor and applications chief petty officer, there are open billets for E-5 and E-6 aviation machinist's mates, E-4 through E-6 aviation electrician's mates, E-4 and E-5 aviation structural mechanics, E-4 and E-5 aviation electronics technicians, E-5 aviation maintenance administrationmen, E-5 storekeepers, E-5 and E-6 photographer's mates, E-5 and E-6 hospital corpsmen with an 8406 NEC, and E-5 through E-7 yeomen (YN).

Yeoman billets are type 1 shore duty and only YNs completing a sea duty tour may apply. A normal tour of duty is three years and is considered type 2 sea duty for rotational purposes. Outstanding E-4 performers will be considered.

"We are looking for motivated, hard-charging Sailors and Marines with outgoing personalities to represent the pride and professionalism



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Johansen Laurel

Four F/A-18A Hornets, assigned to the U.S. Navy's flight demonstration team, the "Blue Angels," perform the diamond formation maneuver during their annual winter training on board Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif.

found throughout today's Navy," Arrazola said. "Our team of Navy and Marine Corps professionals is a direct reflection of personnel currently stationed around the world displaying honor, courage and commitment on a daily basis to uphold our nation's values and ideals."

Command Master Chief (AW) Kevin Harris said applicants have to be willing to go above and beyond the call of duty.

"This team is filled with traditions, pride and most of all team spirit," Harris said. "We are looking for Sailors and Marines to go that extra mile and are ready to be called upon at a moment's

notice. If you have that team spirit, you could be the next Blue Angel."

Aviation Structural Mechanic 1st Class (AW) Calvin Carter, Blue Angels crew coordinator, said applicants have to be good examples of today's Navy.

"Although helpful, F/A-18 Hornet experience is not required," he said. "However, we are looking for sharp and motivated men and women."

"This is a great opportunity to showcase the professionalism the Navy and Marine Corps have to offer," Arrazola said. "It is also a great chance to travel throughout the United States and Canada."

PACOM: Fallon new senior military leader

Continued from A-1

Fallon was raised in Merchantville, N.J. A 1967 graduate of Villanova University, he received his commission through the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps program and was designated a naval flight officer upon completion of flight training in December 1967.

He has served on combat deployments to Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm. He has logged more than 1,300 carrier arrested landings and

4,800 flight hours in tactical jet aircraft.

Fallon is a graduate of the Naval War College, Newport, R.I.; the National War College in Washington, D.C.; and holds a master of arts degree in international studies from Old Dominion University. Fallon has earned the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal and

various unit and campaign decorations.

As the senior U.S. military commander in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, Fallon leads the largest of the unified commands and directs Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force operations across more than 100 million square miles.

He is responsible to the president and the secretary of defense through the chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff and is the U.S. military representative for collective defense arrangements in the Pacific.

FORCEnet set to change naval warfare

JOC (SW/AW)

Joseph Gunder

Naval Network Warfare
Command Public Affairs

Adm. Vern Clark, Chief of Naval Operations, and Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, signed the FORCEnet Functional Concept Feb. 7

The concept focuses on exploiting the power of networking decision-makers at all levels, giving naval forces the speed and agility to dramatically improve overall combat effectiveness and mission accomplishment.

FORCEnet capabilities support Sea Power 21 pillars (Sea Basing, Sea Shield and Sea Strike) with systems and processes for providing effective, networked command and control for naval forces in the 2015-2020 time frame.

The functional concept identifies 15 capabilities that the Navy and Marine Corps will use to build the supporting architecture, doctrine, organization, training and supporting systems.

"We're at the crossroads, the merger of all aspects of FORCEnet," explained Vice Adm. James D. McArthur, Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) commander. "Success will require aligning the systems, the processes, the acquisition, the programmatic and the experimentation needed to bring speed to capability."

Being enterprise-wide, FORCEnet supports tactical, operational and strategic levels of engagement, along with the associated support to the Sea Power 21 enabling processes of Sea Trial, Sea Enterprise and Sea Warrior.

"Enterprise-wide refers to not just the 'trigger pullers' within the Navy and Marine Corps, but also other aspects

of the naval force and throughout the services," said Capt. Rick Simon, deputy director for FORCEnet at NETWARCOM. "I'm talking supply, medical, meteorology, etc.,...all those things that support the warrior pulling the trigger. Additionally, it directly relates to how naval forces will 'plug into' and share information with coalition and joint partners."

FORCEnet will accelerate command and control (C2) capabilities by changing the way information moves. FORCEnet will improve the performance of the OODA (observe, orient, decide and Act) Loop through shared situational awareness and feedback, decentralized command and a collaborative approach to problem-solving that opens new ways for the commander's intent to be executed.

"FORCEnet should allow the commander to choose the terms of the engagement and to do it in such a way that the enemy cannot tolerate our actions," Simon said.

FORCEnet will ensure naval networks are built with compatible components used by the other services to allow seamless interaction between all the branches, as well as with the Global Information Grid (GIG), the much larger-scale network run by the Department of Defense. FORCEnet is the naval component of the GIG, which will be connected to the more than 160 major military installations worldwide.

"It's meant to be interoperable with the GIG. It's meant to share the same protocols, backbone, satellites and bandwidth expansion as the other services," Simon said. "In fact, all of the architecture we're developing is being integrated into the joint vision."



U.S. Navy photo by PHC Johnny Bivera

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark serves as presiding officer for the re-enlistment of several Naval District Washington-area Sailors. The 15 Sailors said they were honored to have this once in a career opportunity to have the CNO lead them in the oath of enlistment.

CNO presides over re-enlistment ceremony

Chief of Naval
Operations Public Affairs

Fifteen Sailors experienced a once-in-a-lifetime career opportunity when Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark served as presiding officer at their re-enlistment ceremony held at the Pentagon Feb. 23.

The group of Sailors, from seven Naval District Washington-area commands, represented more than 170 years of naval service and together re-enlisted for a total of 56 years. Many also took the opportunity to have family present during the ceremony.

Clark took several minutes to personally recognize the re-enlisting Sailors, their family members and

guests, and then turned to the larger issue of the day - service.

"I so appreciate the opportunity to be here today," Clark said. "This is the kind of event that makes my whole week."

He said that he makes it a practice to always talk about service when he speaks to groups.

"We're looking at a group who get it," Clark said. "What the re-enlisting Sailors get," continued Clark, "is what the lifestyle of service is all about."

"Now what you have decided to do is to continue to serve your nation and your Navy, at a time that I believe is one of the more important in our entire history," Clark said. "When you take this oath again, I want

you to think about the words. You are committing yourself again to those principles and values that this nation holds dear. This is a country that believes in some things so strongly that we are willing to fight for it and you are part of that group."

Clark said that as they repeat their promise to support and defend the Constitution, the Navy's promise to them is a chance to make a difference.

"We promise a commitment to you for continued growth and development because we believe that's what the revolution in training and Sea Warrior is all about," he said. "And when you succeed in our profession, you get a chance to lead. Now that's about the

highest calling an individual can get."

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Atiba Mathlin, a corpsman assigned to Bethesda Naval Hospital, said he couldn't pass up an opportunity to re-enlist with the CNO presiding.

"I had to re-enlist to get orders to Okinawa and when my career counselor told me about this, I really wanted to re-enlist here," Mathlin said.

Mathlin said that the CNO's view of service made an impact on him.

"For me, service means the opportunity to do my best and to be surrounded by the best people," he continued. "Not only does serving make me proud, but the Navy has given me many opportunities for personal growth and development."

COMSUBPAC officer wins essay contest

JO2 Corwin Colbert
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

A Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet officer has won the 2004 Naval Intelligence essay contest.

Cmdr. Jason Hines, deputy director for intelligence at Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, received the 2004 Naval Intelligence essay contest award at a banquet held in San Diego in February.

The award was sponsored by the U.S. Naval Institute, the Naval Intelligence Foundation and the Naval Intelligence Professionals.

His essay, titled "Restore the Foundation of Naval Intelligence," calls for a renewed emphasis by naval intelligence on operational and predictive intelligence gathered for warfighters in the fleet.

Hines said by not emphasizing operational intelligence, the naval intelligence community is jeopardizing its relevance to the fleet during a time when the fleet's intelligence requirements are growing.

"By focusing on what an adversary will do in the future, operational intelligence becomes actionable for the warfighters," Hines

explained. "Instead of simply reacting, operational intelligence allows warfighters to anticipate and take the initiative," he said.

In his article, Hines calls for the intelligence community to step up and make efforts to revamp the profession.

"The naval intelligence community cannot expect to be taken seriously if it does not take seriously its own responsibility to directly support the fleet with actionable intelligence," said Hines.

Hines feels he is not alone.

"These concerns are shared by many intelligence officers in the fleet, as we have watched support for the fleet decline. It just happens that I put these concerns on paper."

Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific, Rear Adm. Paul Sullivan agrees with Hines' perspective.

"Cmdr. Jason Hines' essay is superb and clearly reflects his innovative nature," said Sullivan. "I believe many of the issues he raises are essential actions for the naval intelligence community to take in order to remain relevant to the joint warfighter in the future. I commend him on his timely and well-articulated essay."



Photo by Lacy Lynn

A young patron at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange tests one of the toy cars on display. The NEX has been named one of the 25 best places to work in Hawai'i. The official ranking will be announced March 25.

NEX: Organization, employees key to success

Continued from A-1

The "Best Places to Work in Hawai'i" program ranks companies in two categories based on the company's size. With more than 1,300 employees, the NEX falls into the category of companies with 100 employees or more.

"It's like a family, like home. You know everybody," said Digna Doble, an associate in the camera department, who has been employed at the NEX since 1990.

To participate in the BCG evaluation, each company

pays a processing fee and then completes a two-part assessment. The assessment is comprised of a detailed organizational inventory and a random sample of over 100 employee surveys.

BCG compiles the data and ranks work places. After the awards ceremony, BCG sends a detailed report to each company with suggestions for improvement.

This is the NEX's first year participating in the BCG survey, but they, like many other large retailers, have taken

part in the Claes Fornell International (CFI) Group's employee satisfaction survey for several years.

The CFI Group survey is another form of feedback from employees to management. In the first survey, taken in 1998, an associate suggested placing bulletin boards around the stores with sales information on them; now every location has one.

Last year's survey led to an internal newsletter for associates.

"Everyone's really emotion-

ally connected to this place whether you're a customer or you work here," said Manz.

Julie Agarma, another NEX sales associate agreed.

"I like working with people," she said. "I like my co-workers and have a good time."

The Mall at Pearl Harbor is the world's largest NEX and the winner of several Bingham awards. It is open from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. For information, call 423-3330.

For customer service, call 423-3274.

GOT SPORTS

Phone: (808)473-2888

hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

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

