



Rumble in the Bloch

Pearl Harbor holds boxing smoker. See story on page A-12



Project Homecoming

Giving Sailors a warm welcome. See story on page B-1.

Hawaii Navy News Briefs

Commander relieved

Lt. Cmdr. Mike Little, commanding officer for the forward-deployed mine countermeasures ship USS Patriot (MCM 7), received a punitive letter of reprimand and was relieved of command May 7 by Rear Adm. Victor Guillory, commander, Amphibious Force, U.S. 7th Fleet, following non-judicial punishment held in Sasebo, Japan.

The decision to relieve Little was made following a judge advocate general's investigation into an incident on March 19, when Patriot sustained damage to the hull and underwater sonar after grounding while transiting Chinhae Bay, Republic of Korea.

Arizona mishap

On the morning of May 8 at the Arizona Memorial Visitors Center, two adults were injured when it appears they were struck by a cleat and/or line that is used to secure the Navy's Arizona tour boats to the pier.

The Federal Fire Department responded and the two were immediately transported to Kaiser Permanente Hospital.

The Navy and National Park Service have initiated an investigation into the cause of the incident.

2005 BRAC

The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) report was released by the Secretary of Defense today. The office of the Secretary of Defense has launched a Web site to educate and inform DoD personnel and the public about how BRAC 2005 may affect them. Visit www.defenselink.mil/brac.

USS Paul Hamilton deploys



PHAN John T. Jackson

Familymembers wave goodbye to the guided missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) May 9 as she leaves Pearl Harbor on a regularly scheduled four-month deployment.

Compiled by
JO2 Devin Wright
Editor

Family and friends said goodbye to more than 300 officers and crew members of the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyer, USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) on May 9 at pier Bravo 24.

USS Paul Hamilton, commanded by Cmdr. Werner Julinka, is on a four-month deployment to Southeast Asia in support of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT). While deployed, the crew will train with numerous Southeast Asian navies to foster relations in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class (SW) Chris Hart, assigned to USS Paul Hamilton, is making his second deployment. He believes this one will prove to be even more meaningful than the first.

"This deployment should be a lot of fun," said Hart, "not only because we are going to make a lot of port visits, but because we are going to work with other navies. We are going to be able to show our status of force and let other countries know we are here to help," he said.

For some family members, the deployment is not something they are looking forward to.

"This is always hard," said Jackie Rudolf, girlfriend of a crewmember. "You are so used

to this person being around and helping with [things] that need to be taken care of to make a family work. Then all of a sudden that person, that support is gone. You think after so many deployments you would get used to it, but you don't. It never gets easier and you never get used to it. That's the job though. He is serving his country and I am proud to be with him," she said.

USS Paul Hamilton, along with multi-national forces, will conduct seamanship events, helicopter operations and various maritime exercises. After concluding CARAT, USS Paul Hamilton expects to visit Australia. The ship will return in mid-September.

Navy Region Hawai'i says 'aloha' to CMC

JO3 Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

After two years of serving the Navy and its Sailors in Hawai'i. Chief of Naval Operations - directed Region Master Chief to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (SWAW) Luis R. Cruz will complete his tour here May 31,

"We are certainly going to miss CNOCM Cruz's dynamic leadership here in region Hawai'i," said Capt. Ronald R. Cox, chief of staff, Navy Region Hawaii and commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor. "He has made a terrific impact on our Sailors and their families."

Cruz said some of his major objectives while in Hawai'i were to continue to improve the quality of life of Sailors and their families, communicate with commands and reduce the number of alcohol-related incidents.

"We should always be working to ensure Sailors conduct themselves in the manner that we expect," said Cruz. "If you adhere to the standards of the Navy and work hard, good things will come to you. The Navy is full of opportunities."

He also said another objective was to build a team of senior enlisted leaders on the island

"Senior leaders have to keep Sailors first and foremost on their minds," said Cruz. "I think we have built a great team here in Hawai'i that works well together."

Cruz will transfer to become the Chief of Naval Operations - directed Region Master Chief for Commander, Naval Forces Japan. CNOCM (SW) David A. Lajoie will relieve Cruz as the new CNOCM of

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.

"We are fortunate to have CNOCM Lajoie relieving as CNOCM CNRH," said Cox. "He enjoys my complete trust and confidence. With six years of experience as a CMC, including tours as Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and Naval Station Pearl Harbor CMC, where he was my CMC, he has clearly demonstrated all the tools to continue building on our successes."

"I met Master Chief Cruz when he was the CMC of Yokosuka Naval Base," said Lajoie. "We have developed a good friendship over that time. One thing that I have learned over the years working with him is he always has the best interest of the Sailor in mind. He is leaving big shoes to fill, and I am going to tell you he is going to be a tough act to follow. He is one of my mentors, but most of all a friend."

Lajoie said he hopes to preserve the efforts of Cruz, while always keeping Hawai'i's Sailors at the forefront.

"When you are given a well oiled machine, all you have to do is maintain it," he said. "Keeping the flow of communication around the region is the main goal. Trying to keep everyone on the same page is not always easy. As long as we all keep in mind, our job is to take care of Sailors. When you take care of your Sailors, everything else just falls into place."

Cruz said he enjoyed his time here in Hawai'i, and is proud of its Sailors who work hard every day.

"We have outstanding Sailors here in Hawai'i," said Cruz. "Hawai'i is a showcase for great things about the Navy."



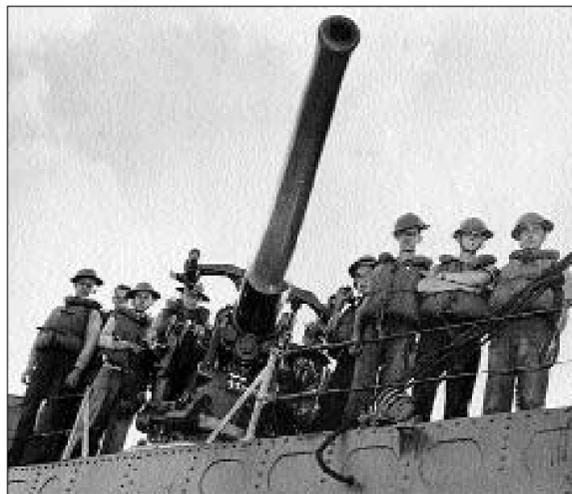
Mexican Sailors arrive in

USS Ward: One of the Navy's most famous destroyers

Alan S. Lloyd
National Director Emeritus,
Navy League of the United States

In the spring of 1941, the author (then a lad) and his family were traveling on the Union Pacific Railroad, sharing a pullman with Lt. j.g. O.W. (Bill) Goepner, gunnery officer aboard the USS Ward. This would result in their meeting and becoming friends with Lt. W.W. (Bill) Outerbridge, who was captain of the Ward, assigned to Pearl Harbor. After returning to Honolulu, I visited the Ward and had a chance to sit in the number three gunner's seat.

Later that year, in the dawning hours of Dec. 7, 1941, the USS Ward patrolled the Pacific waters fronting Pearl Harbor. While Japanese aircraft flew to their mission, her Naval Reserve crew manned the number three gun and fired two shots - the second shot hitting and piercing a Japanese midget sub.



Official U.S. Navy Photograph, from the collections of the Naval Historical Center

The USS Ward's number three gun and its crew cited for firing the first shot the day of Japan's raid on Hawai'i. Operating as part of the inshore patrol early in the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, this destroyer group spotted a submarine outside Pearl Harbor, opened fire and sank her.

It would take over 60 years to verify.

The Ward was a remarkable ship with a remarkable history as the fastest ship to ever be built from keel to launching: 17

days. This is a brief account of the Ward and her famous "first shot" role, as well as some of her other assignments and ironic demise.

Late in the day on Dec. 6,

1941, Lt. Bill Outerbridge took the USS Ward out to sea for the first time under his command. The Ward was one of four older ships assigned to off-shore patrol of a prohibited area at the entrance to Pearl Harbor. Patrol duty lasted a week and nothing significant had been happening for weeks.

Outerbridge would later recall, "This was the crew I first observed on 6 December 1941 . . . little did they think that on the next day they would fire the first shots of the war in the Pacific . . . in an encounter that came about an hour before the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor . . ."

0630 hours, Dec. 7: Target repair ship USS Antares is towing a 500-ton barge into Pearl Harbor. As the Antares approaches the harbor net gate, Seaman H.E. Raeubig spots something in the water astern of the Antares. Ward's officer of the deck, Bill Goepner, immediately calls his skipper, Bill Outerbridge to the bridge.

0640 hours: The Ward

▼ See USS WARD, A-7



Mark Llewellyn, commanding officer of Mercy's medical treatment facility. "We are proud to have shown the U.S. commitment to the people of Indonesia and we will always remember the friendships we made."

Mercy deployed Jan. 5 as part of Operation Unified Assistance to provide relief and humanitarian assistance following the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck the region on Dec. 26. From Feb. 6 to March 30, more than 500 U.S. Navy and NGO medical staff, volunteers from Project Hope, uniformed public health service members and Navy support

U.S. Hospital Ship USNS Mercy concludes emergency assistance mission in Nias

**U.S. Embassy
Press release**

The U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Mercy will depart the coast of Nias May 14, concluding 25 days of humanitarian assistance to victims of the 8.7 magnitude earthquake that struck the island March 28.

Upon arrival off the coast of Nias on April 5, Mercy's U.S. Navy medical and support staff, NGO Project Hope medical volunteers and members of the uniformed public health service provided assistance to international relief organizations and host nation medical teams ashore. As the only level three trauma hospital in the vicinity of Nias, Mercy evacuated 94 of the most seriously injured and ill patients via helicopter to the ship, where Mercy's doctors and medical personnel performed 123 surgeries and 19,311 medical proce-

dures.

Ashore, Mercy's medical teams performed 2,149 dental procedures and distributed 2,577 pairs of glasses to the people of Nias. Preventive medicine teams and public health personnel traveled across the island testing drinking water, spraying for mosquitoes and training local teams in mosquito and insect control. Mercy also provided public health training that will continue to benefit the people of Indonesia long after the ship departs. Personnel from Mercy and the combat store ships, USNS Niagara Falls and USNS San Jose, repaired equipment in a local pharmacy, a school library and a nursing school dormitory. Mercy's humanitarian assistance efforts extended to Simeulue as personnel inspected and filled 30 oxygen cylinders in support of the relief effort there.

Medical and dental servic-

es provided by Mercy during the Nias mission included neurology, optometry, ear nose and throat (ENT), obstetrics and gynecology, urology, pediatrics, primary and acute care, mental health, orthopedics, ophthalmology, immunizations, radiology, laboratory, prescriptions, dental extractions, pediatric surgery, general surgery and plastic surgery. As immediate relief needs on Nias have been met, Mercy will depart Indonesia for her homeport. On the way, Mercy will resume its mission to provide humanitarian assistance and medical care to Pacific island nations.

"The crew of USNS Mercy, along with the members of Project Hope, are honored to have been part of the worldwide assistance to the people of Indonesia in their time of need," said Capt.

Navy doctors advise Sailors to exercise with caution

**Journalist Seaman
Matthew Bullock**

*National Naval Medical
Center Public Affairs*

National Naval Medical Center's health experts are advising Sailors of the risks associated with exercising too hard in the summer heat.

According to Lauren Thomas, a weight management coordinator at the hospital's health and wellness center, some Sailors go to extreme measures to obtain "beach-worthy" bodies.

"A person may become inspired to begin running five miles a day, five times a week," she said. "Even though they have good intentions, this sudden increase in activity is very dangerous and increases

risk of injury."

Thomas said it is important to take things slowly, especially in the heat, when starting a new exercise regimen.

Thomas said the benefits of exercise are not only for physical appearance, but also for overall health and wellness, including heart health. A lack of physical activity can promote high blood pressure and high blood pressure can ultimately lead to a heart attack or stroke. Regular exercise expands arteries, making it easier for the heart to pump blood throughout the body with less pressure.

"The more you weigh, the higher your blood pressure can go," Thomas said. "Regular exercise helps lower blood pressure and assist weight loss."

**NAVAL STATION PEARL HARBOR
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

NOON: FRIDAY @ K-BAY KLIPPER

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Ball ball**

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PROCEEDS: NAVSTA Holiday Celebration

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

If it's broke, try and fix it

Opinion
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón
Staff Writer

There are certain things that seem to be constants in this world of ours. Someone is constantly trying to be more famous than someone else. Someone is constantly getting rich while someone else is getting poor. Good is constantly happening along with bad. And people are constantly complaining.

How often have you heard someone grouse about someone or something that is either personally fixable or something that other people really should know about? For example, how many of you have heard someone complain about something either in our paper or in one of our distinguished colleagues' papers in town?

Did this hypothetical complainer do anything about it? Did he or she write a letter to the editor? Did this person even attempt to have his or her voice heard? Is this person really you?

I'm operating under the assumption that we are all relatively intelligent people here. No one has all the answers and some of us might not even have the right questions. This newspaper, this Navy, this nation and this world will function better if we cooperate. Cooperation involves communication.

If you see a problem, complain about it and walk away from it, then you aren't being very useful. You're not really part of the problem. However, you're not part of the solution either. You're just an outside entity that doesn't belong.

Going back to the most basic of examples, if you see something in this paper you like, then let us know so we can do more of it. On the other hand, if there's something you don't agree with or if you feel there is something missing, then don't waste your time murmuring to your friends, family and co-workers.

As good as we are at getting the facts, we can't hear you if you don't talk to us. If

you want something changed, let us know. Don't just go to the officers in charge or to the chief. Knowing someone who is senior in rank doesn't make you more correct. It just means...

Well, in the context of a letter to the editor, it really doesn't mean anything except the fact that you aren't too sure of your argument and are willing to use coercion over rational thought. Call or e-mail JO2 Wright directly. He's the editor, after all. A letter to the him expressing your opinion is always welcome.

What can the letters be about? The easy answer is "anything." However, I do have to caution you. Please make sure the letters are relevant. Naturally, we probably won't print something up about the IRS guy who's harassing your great aunt Tille in Omaha because she's trying to claim her ten cats on her tax forms because she feels they're like her children.

Next, if I were any of you, I

wouldn't expect to see anything in print if it is laced with profanity. It doesn't matter how clever you are with it. If in doubt, try saying it a different way. You run a better chance of influencing with eloquence than with anger.

Look around. Read other commentary. Use your own critical thinking skills to decide which opinions are worth listening to and which are worth disagreeing with. Once you have an opinion, then share it.

Imagine what the world today would be like today if Ben Franklin just sat around his house complaining to his friends about British rule and had never written any of his famous letters. Imagine if all the the signers of the Declaration of Independence had decided it was just too much effort to put into words what they felt in their hearts to be true.

You don't have to write another Declaration of Independence. You just have to talk from the heart. Let us know what's on your mind.

Commentary

For Your Security and Safety

Proactive approach to crime prevention

MA1 Stacey Carfley
Commander, Navy
Region Hawai'i
Security Department

The Navy Region Hawai'i security department would like to make everyone aware that home and vehicle break-ins and theft are ongoing problems occurring throughout the island of Oahu. Now is the time for everyone to get involved and avoid becoming a victim of these crimes.

Here are some helpful security tips:

Automobiles

Although expensive, car alarms are a way to deter thieves. The average car alarms range in price from \$99 to \$700, depending on the model and features. They are not theftproof, but it deters thieves.

Another device that would help is to place a locking device on the steering wheel. These locking devices range in price from \$25-\$40. This method is not theftproof either, but may help deter a thief.

Last and most importantly, before you leave your vehicle always remember to remove all valuables and lock your windows and convertible tops down, doors unlocked and valuables in sight, you are giving a thief an invitation to take your property. If you must leave valuables inside your vehicle, put them out of sight even though this will not prevent them from being taken.

Homes

Remember to lock all of your windows and doors, even if you don't live on the ground level floor. Don't give someone a reason to break into your home and invade your privacy.

During the day, most of us are at work. If you leave a window cracked or the sliding door open, it is an open invitation for thieves to take a closer look. For all exterior doors, it's best to have deadbolt locks that extend at least one inch when it's in the locking position. A police lock works well on rear and basement doors. This is a metal bar bracketed against the inside of the door at an angle, which slides into a small hole in the floor. This device pre-

vents an intruder from jimmying or kicking in the door.

For sliding glass doors and window, it's best to use a piece of wood or metal bar in the track of your sliding doors. This prevents the door from being opened even if the lock is jimmied or removed. The majority of the windows in Hawai'i are referred to as louvers or jalousies. These windows are difficult to secure because the individual panels can easily be removed.

Recommendations to secure these windows would be applying a two-part epoxy resin to each panel or purchase and install the aluminum louver panel locks.

Note:

Before installing any form of theft prevention devices please check with your landlords or local housing representatives to ensure installation is allowed.

Mailboxes

Remember to remove your mail every day, especially if you have the conventional mailbox. All it takes is one time for a thief to steal your mail and you could become a victim of identity theft. If you're going on vacation, arrange to have your mail either picked up by a trusted friend or neighbor or have your mail held at the post office until your return.

You can help stop a would-be thief or robber. All it takes is a little attention on your part and a phone call to your local police department. Don't have the misconception that if you live or are onboard government property that crime does not happen. The Region crime statistics have shown that we have had an increase in crimes on base, in our government housing, at our Navy Exchange and Commissary and at White Plains Beach at Barbers Point. We need your help to lower our incident complaints by paying close attention to your valuables and taking that extra care to protect them from would be thieves. Crime prevention is everybody's responsibility.

(If you have any questions, concerns or want additional information on crime prevention tips, please contact the Navy Region Hawai'i crime prevention office at 474-6191.)

2005 Hurricane Preparedness Week begins Sunday

A proclamation by the president of the United States of America



Each year from June through November, Americans living on the eastern seaboard and along the Gulf of Mexico face an increased threat of hurricanes. These powerful storms can create severe flooding, cause power outages, and damage homes and businesses with their high winds, tornadoes, storm surges, and heavy rainfall. The effects of these storms can be devastating to families and cause lasting economic distress. During National Hurricane Preparedness Week, we call attention to the importance of planning ahead and securing our homes and property in advance of storms.

Last year, six hurricanes and three tropical storms hit the United States, causing the loss of dozens of lives and billions of dollars in damage. Across the United States, Americans responded to these natural disasters with extraordinary strength, compassion and generosity. Many volunteers donated their time and talents to help with the cleanup, recovery and rebuilding of communities devastated by the hurricanes and tropical storms.

To prepare for the 2005 hurricane season, I urge all our citizens to become aware of the dangers of hurricanes and tropical storms and to learn how to minimize their destructive effects. Our nation's weather researchers and forecasters continue to improve the accuracy of hurricane warnings, enabling residents and visitors to prepare for storms. By working together, federal, state, and local agencies, first responders, the news media and private citizens can help save lives and diminish the damage caused by these natural disasters.

Now, therefore, I George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 15 through May 21, 2005, as National Hurricane Preparedness Week. I call upon government agencies, private organizations, schools, and the news media to share information about hurricane preparedness and response to help save lives and prevent property damage. I also call upon Americans living in hurricane-prone areas of our nation to use this opportunity to learn more about protecting themselves against the effects of hurricanes and tropical storms.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of May, 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.

George W. Bush

Navy gets back under 'full sail'



U.S. Naval Historical Center Photograph.

While searching for the missing USS Conestoga (AT-54) southeast of Hawaii, the R-14 lost her powerplant. As repairs were unsuccessful, her crew rigged a jury sail, made of canvas battery deck covers, to the periscope and sailed her to Hilo. She arrived there on May 15, 1921, after five days under sail.

Free classified advertising for military in Hawai'i Navy News

Active duty and retired military, civil service and dependent personnel can advertise the sale of their personal property (including real estate) and services in ENN at no charge. The details are as follows: Classified items and services must represent an incidental exchange between the aforementioned personnel and not business operations. Requests for three-line free classified advertisements can be submitted via email, if from a ".mil" address (submit to: lkaneishi@honolulu.gannett.com), by phone at 521-9111 or by visiting www.honoluluadvertiser.com and clicking on "classified ads." More lines of advertising can be purchased at an additional fee. Requesters should include their military ID number and a call-back phone number.

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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.

Historic 1941 flag returns to Ford Island

Rebecca Hommon
*Counsel, Navy Region
 Hawai'i*

A tangible piece of our nation's history passed from the custody of the United States Navy to the National Park Service on Tuesday. The folded 48-star woven flag, housed in a simple pine box, had been raised and flown on Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941 over the Naval Air Station, Ford Island, in spite of an ongoing attack from the sky which resulted in the immediate loss of more than 2,000 American lives and bringing the United States into World War II. This historically significant symbol was transferred from Navy Region Hawai'i to the USS Arizona Memorial.

Navy Lt.j.g. Brett Lawrence, aide to Rear Adm. Micheal Vitale, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, presented the flag to Bernard Doyle, The National Park Service's chief ranger at the USS Arizona Memorial. USS Arizona Memorial curator, Marshall Owens, witnessed the transfer.

Marine Master Sgt. Aaron M. "George" Geiger, now in his 80s and living in Beaufort, S.C., in a telephone interview clarified that he was not at the Marine Barracks at Pearl, but was a lance corporal at the "Marine Barracks at NAS Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, T.H." meaning Territory of Hawai'i. He had joined the Marines and came to Hawai'i aboard the USS Cimarron in 1939. On the morning of the attack, he recalls he "didn't even have a shirt on" but went to get his weapon after the building shook and a bullet came "flying in." He recalls Corporal Young [first name unknown] asked him and some others to help with colors.

"All I did when I got out there - I grabbed the lanyard



and pulled the colors up,"

US Navy Photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane
 Lt.j.g. Brett Lawrence, aide to Rear Adm. Micheal Vitale, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, presents the flag to that was flown on Ford Island Dec. 7, 1941 to Bernard Doyle, The National Park Service's chief ranger at the USS Arizona Memorial visitor Center Tuesday.

Geiger said.

Having just turned 20, Geiger said he didn't wait around for formalities, but took cover and started shooting at the planes. The following day he found the damaged flag in a trash can ready to be burned along with Navy uniforms soaked in "black bunker oil." Rather than have it burned, he pulled the flag out and sent it home to his mother along with a box of clothes he was preparing to send home due to his pending transfer. He added the flag to the box.

Geiger said he'd forgotten about the flag for almost 50 years until his mother died in 1990. In sorting through her belongings, the clothing and the flag were found. Geiger had the 48-star flag cleaned



USMCR. National Archives Photo

While a Marine, foreground, looks skyward, the torpedoed battleship California (BB-44) lists to port. In the left background flies the flag that was donated to the Arizona Visitors center Tuesday.

and repaired, returning it to Hawai'i in 1991 as he proudly "carried it down Kalakaua Avenue" in a parade honoring the Pearl Harbor survivors on the 50th anniversary of the attack. He presented the cherished symbol to a Marine colonel who he knew would put it on display in a small museum at the Marine Barracks at Pearl Harbor in Puller Hall.

In 2004, the offices of South Carolina Representative Joe Wilson contacted the Marine Corps Museum asking to verify the location of the flag for Geiger. The flag was on display in the reception area for the Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, apparently having been passed to the regional commander when the Marines departed Pearl Harbor, consolidating else-

where on Oahu. When he learned of the flag's location, Geiger asked through Representative Wilson that the flag be transferred to the National Park Service for display at the USS Arizona Memorial Visitors Center.

"I want everybody that goes to Hawai'i to see that a Marine donated that flag - Aaron M. Geiger, born Nov. 3, 1921," said Geiger. "A man in

Louisiana offered me \$50,000 for the flag. I wouldn't take it. I thought it'd be better to let the American people see it."

Fully aware of the flag's symbolism, Geiger noted, "When you go into battle, you're prepared. You're taught to fight. We weren't ready for what the Japanese did to us. That wasn't fair - but they didn't get me."

USS San Francisco investigation completed

**U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs**

The U.S. Navy announced Monday the completion of the investigation into the Jan. 8 accident aboard the submarine USS San Francisco (SSN 711) that claimed the life of one Sailor.

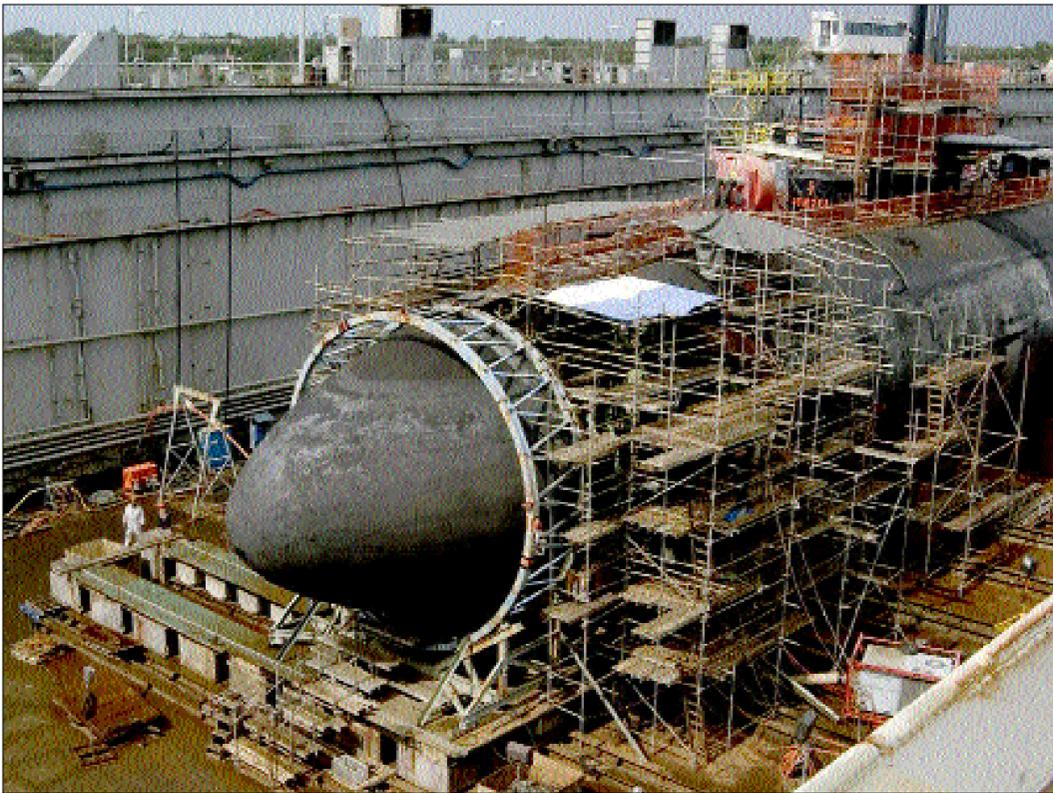
San Francisco struck an under-sea mountain about 360 miles southeast of its Guam homeport because its leaders and watch teams failed to develop and execute a safe voyage plan, concluded the command investigation into the incident.

"The findings of fact show that San Francisco, while transiting at flank (maximum) speed and submerged to 525 feet, hit a seamount that did not appear on the chart being used for navigation," the 124-page report said of the incident in the vicinity of the Caroline Islands.

"Other charts in San Francisco's possession did, however, clearly display a navigation hazard in the vicinity of the grounding," it said. "San Francisco's navigation team failed to review those charts adequately and transfer pertinent data to the chart being used for navigation, as relevant directives and the ship's own procedures required."

"If San Francisco's leaders and watch teams had complied with requisite procedures and exercised prudent navigation practices, the grounding would most likely have been avoided. Even if not wholly avoided, however, the grounding would not have been as severe and loss of life may have been prevented."

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Allen Ashley, 24, of Akron, Ohio, died aboard the submarine Jan. 9 from an "inevitably fatal" severe head injury sustained during the accident.



U.S. Navy photo

The Los Angeles-class submarine USS San Francisco (SSN 711), shown in dry dock, is having repairs made on its damaged bow. A new large steel dome about 20 feet high and 20 feet in diameter was put in the place of the damaged bow. San Francisco ran aground 350 miles south of Guam on Jan. 8, killing one crew member and injuring 23.

"Earlier evacuation or arrival of medical officers would not have changed the outcome for Ashley" the investigation said in regard to the two additional medical personnel flown aboard by helicopter and two attempts to medically evacuate him by helicopter.

Another 97 of 137 crew members reported injuries ranging from minor bruising and muscle strains to two who suffered dislocated shoulders. Sixty-eight of them were evaluated and treated aboard, while the remaining 29 were treated at Naval Hospital Guam when San Francisco

returned to port under its own power Jan. 10. Just three of them were admitted overnight for further evaluation and treatment.

As a result of the collision, U.S. 7th Fleet Commander Vice Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert relieved Cmdr. Kevin Mooney of his command of San Francisco on Feb.

12, following non-judicial punishment proceedings in Yokosuka, Japan. Mooney also received a letter of reprimand.

But Greenert, in his endorsement of the investigation, also praised Mooney's prior record and performance following the impact.

"Although the grounding incident compelled me to punish [him] and remove him from command, in my opinion it does not negate 19 years of exemplary service," the admiral wrote. "Prior to the grounding incident, USS San Francisco demonstrated a trend of continuing improvement and compiled an impressive record of achievement under [Mooney's] leadership. Moreover, the crew's post-grounding response under his direct leadership was commendable and enabled [the sub's] recovery and safe return to port."

Greenert also criticized the executive officer and navigation team for their share of the responsibility, saying their "failure to adequately and critically review applicable publications and available charts led to submission of an ill-advised voyage plan and hindered the commanding officer's ability to make fully informed safety-of-ship decisions."

Six crew members were punished March 22 by Capt. Bradley Gehrke, commander of Submarine Squadron 15 on Guam, to which San Francisco was assigned. None were identified due to privacy reasons, but they included enlisted, senior enlisted and officer. The punishments included reduction in rate and punitive letters of reprimand.

San Francisco remains in drydock in Apra Harbor, Guam under repair.

USS Nimitz Strike Group deploys

**Commander, U.S. Third Fleet
Public Affairs**

More than 6,200 Sailors from the USS Nimitz (CVN 68) Carrier Strike Group (CSG) deployed from San Diego on May 7 to conduct operations in the Central and Western Pacific. The ships will support the Global War on Terrorism with joint and combined operations and carry out other assignments as directed.

The Nimitz CSG includes Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 11, Destroyer Squadron 23, the Aegis-equipped guided-missile cruiser USS Princeton (CG 59), the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers USS Higgins (DDG 76) and USS Chafee (DDG 90), the fast combat support ship USNS Bridge (T-AOE 10), and the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724). All of the ships in the Nimitz CSG are homeported at San Diego, Calif. with the exception of Chafee and Louisville, both homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, and Bridge, homeported at Bremerton, Wash. Higgins departed May 6.

Nimitz is the flagship for the strike group commander, Rear Adm. Peter Daly, commander, Carrier Strike Group 11. On

deployment, Nimitz is also home to Commander, Destroyer Squadron 23, commanded by Capt. Gordan Van Hook, and Carrier Air Wing 11, commanded by Capt. Tom Cropper.

Capt. Ted Branch of Long Beach, Miss. commands Nimitz at the center of the strike group. Nimitz carries approximately 3.5 million gallons of fuel to support more than 70 aircraft and three escort ships, and enough weapons and stores for extended operations without replenishment. The flight deck covers 4.5 acres and looms almost seven stories above the water.

Nimitz's embarked air wing consists of the following types of aircraft: F/A-18C Hornet, F/A-18E/F Super Hornet, EA-6B Prowler, E-2C Hawkeye 2000, C-2A Greyhound and SH-60F/HH-60H Seahawk. These aircraft can be used to conduct inland strikes, support land battles and protect the strike group or other friendly shipping. The ship's two nuclear reactors give it virtually unlimited range and endurance and a top speed in excess of 30 knots. The ship's four catapults and four arresting gear engines enable it to launch and recover aircraft rapidly and simultaneously. The Nimitz CSG provides a visible presence to demonstrate resolve in a crisis.



Photo by PHAN Elisabeth Ann Saccotelli

Family members look on as the crew boards the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) and prepare to leave on a routine six-month deployment.

The Nimitz CSG's previous deployment included support for Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. However, a third of the ship's air wing returned from a two-month

deployment around Central and South America, embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) in July 2004.

Navy's first littoral combat ship honors freedom



Photo courtesy of Lockheed Martin Corporation

The LCS is an entirely new breed of U.S. Navy warship. A fast, agile and networked surface combatant, LCS's modular, focused-mission design will provide combatant commanders the required war-fighting capabilities and operational flexibility to ensure maritime dominance and access for the joint force.

**Special release from the
U.S. Department of Defense**

Secretary of the Navy Gordon England has selected the name "Freedom" for the Navy's first littoral combat ship (LCS).

The future USS Freedom acknowledges the enduring foundation of our nation and honors American communities from coast to coast which bear the name Freedom. States having towns named Freedom range from New York to California and include Indiana, Maine, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

"These new, fast and capable ships will increase the effectiveness of our naval forces and provide us with an ability to operate in the littoral areas of the world where the enemies of freedom seek to operate and hide" England said. "The USS Freedom and her crew will defend the noble cause for which they are named," he added.

LCS is an innovative combatant designed to counter challeng-

ing shallow-water threats in coastal regions, specifically mines, submarines and fast surface craft.

LCS ships will be fast, agile and networked surface combatants and will utilize focused-mission packages that deploy manned and unmanned vehicles to execute a variety of missions.

In May 2004, the Department of Defense awarded both Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics - Bath Iron Works, Bath, Maine, separate contract options for final system design with options for detail design and construction of up to two LCS ships.

In December 2004, the Department of the Navy awarded Lockheed Martin Corp., Maritime Systems & Sensors, Moorestown, N.J., a contract for detail design and construction of the first LCS. Lockheed Martin's teammates include Gibbs & Cox, Arlington, Va.; Marinette Marine, Marinette, Wis.; and Bollinger Shipyards, Lockport, La.

A keel-laying ceremony is scheduled for June 2 at Marinette Marine, Marinette, Wis.

Doran: Involvement part of education solution

JO1(SW) Alyssa Batarla
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Communication and involvement between schools and military leadership is the key to success in schools and communities, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Walter F. Doran said at the Military Youth Advisory Council's final meeting of the school year.

"These projects contribute to our collective success," Doran said at Adm. Arthur W. Radford High School on May 6. "They are good for the military and the cities and the towns that we live in, and military leaders need to be aware of the issues of our schools and be willing to get involved in these organizations. The military can then hopefully become a part of the solution to the challenges."

Doran was at the school in his final endeavor with the council he has

worked with since its conception in 2003 as the Pacific Fleet commander, a position he'll retire from this summer.

"It really has been wonderful for Ginny (Doran) and I to have had the opportunity to have been associated with Radford High School over the three years we've been here," said Doran. "It's important that we have a forum which brings together representatives from all of the armed services, our state and community leaders, as well as the principals and administrators of our schools. It is a wonderful partnership that we have and one that I believe is paying great dividends to the education of our children in the military and the children in the state of Hawai'i."

Among the 50 military and civilian representatives, students and school officials present at the meeting and luncheon was Hawaii State Sen.

Gary L. Hooser, vice chairman of the education and military affairs committee.

"I graduated from Radford High School in 1972 and my father was a chief boatswain's mate stationed at Pearl Harbor," said Hooser. "Being a Navy dependent and going to school here, it's really clear to me how important the relationship is between the military and the schools. ... So, I applaud the partnership that's happening here today and I offer my support and (assistance)."

The council meets on a monthly basis, giving those involved with eight local elementary, middle and high schools a medium for discussing school initiatives, problems and concerns. It allows the community, school and military the chance to work together on issues to enhance education.

Some of these projects include mil-

itary-school partnerships and working with the Military Child Education Coalition, an organization that has as one of its main goals easing the transition between schools for transferring military students. That is a goal shared by the Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF), a Hawaii-based organization that helped Radford High School where 80 percent of the student body are military dependents, develop a transition program for relocating students.

"Our military services are actively involved in partnerships with local schools," Doran said, "and we are fortunate to have schools like Radford that address the needs of our students by establishing programs such as their transition center."

"All of the armed services, including the Coast Guard and Hawaii's own National Guard, are actively

involved in school partnerships and, in all, we have 148 partnerships with local schools," Doran said. "Our servicemembers take part in programs that include tutoring, mentoring, leadership activities and assisting schools with self-help projects, much like this organization, the Military Youth Advisory Council."

"As with most ventures, success depends on communication and this organization ensured that the flow of the information regarding the education of our military children is reaching those who need it," concluded Doran. "Your insight and input are genuinely valued and you're making a real difference for the children of our community and our state."

Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet's continued support of the council will continue with a new school year, a new set of initiatives and the new Pacific Fleet Commander in the fall.



Airline
offers mili-
tary special
rates

USS Ward: First Shot veterans return to Pearl Harbor to be recognized

Continued from A-1

sounds general quarters and at 0645 hours, the number one gun on the bow opens fire on the suspicious object and misses. As the Ward steams forward, the crew on the number three gun, amidships on the starboard side, fires downward at a two-man Japanese midget submarine. The second shot finds its mark and punches a nice round hole in the base of the conning tower.

When Ward turns starboard, Seaman 2nd Class D.J. Lombardi at the depth charge racks on the fantail sees the hole punched through the surface of the submarine at the base of the conning tower.

0653 hours: Outerbridge sent this radio message to the Commandant, 14th Naval District: "We have attacked, fired upon and dropped depth charges upon submarine operating in defensive sea area."

0725 hours: Commandant, 14th Naval District orders the destroyer USS Monaghan (DD-354) to investigate the Ward's submarine contact.

0755 hours: 62 minutes after Ward's skipper sent his message, the first Japanese bombs hit the patrol squadron parking area on Ford Island.

The USS Ward was one of about 200 flush deck four-pipe tin can destroyers authorized and constructed in the closing days of World War I. Her first claim to fame was as the seventh four-piper constructed by the Mare Island Shipyard in California. She was built in a world-record 17 days: keel laid on May 15, 1918 and launched with 275,000 rivets on June 1. USS Ward was accepted by the Navy on July 24, 1918.

Eventually, USS Ward was decommissioned and placed into the mothball fleet on July 21, 1921. As World War II



Photo composite courtesy of the Hawaii Undersea Research Lab.

This ghostly composite of the Japanese two-man midget submarine discovered near the entrance to Pearl Harbor Naval Station in August 2002 shows the final resting place of the vessel. It was shot at and sunk by Naval Reservists manning the number three gun aboard the USS Ward (DD-139) in the early morning hours of Dec. 7, 1941.

heated up, Ward was recommissioned under the command of Lt. Hunter Wood on Feb. 13, 1941, and sent to Pearl Harbor. Later that year, Outerbridge sailed USS Ward with her naval Reservist crew into history.

On Sept. 30, 1942, Lt. Cmdr. R.H.

Wilkinson relieved Outerbridge as captain of the Ward. On Dec. 13, Wilkinson sailed Ward for Mare Island, Calif. and entered Puget Sound Navy Yard on Dec. 24, 1942, for a complete overhaul and conversion to an armed personnel (transport) destroyer and was redesignated as APD-16.

The conversion removed two of the Ward's four steam boilers to make room for between 147 to 200 troops. Her four four-inch guns and 12 torpedo tubes were replaced by four three-inch dual purpose and seven 20-mm anti-aircraft guns. Ward kept both depth charge stern tracks and gained six new depth charge projectiles.

The Ward retained her 26,000 h.p. steam turbines; however, with two boilers, her top speed was 29 knots. She also received four sets of heavy duty gravity type davits and tanks holding nine tons of diesel oil for her four new LCP-type landing craft.

Ward's full load displacement increased from 1,247 to 1,600 tons, but she kept her overall length of 314 feet and her basic tin can construction. Her complement was reduced from eight officers and 122 crew as a DD to eight officers and 108 crew as an APD.

The Ward was a very busy APD. On Jan. 15, 1943, Lt. F.W. Lemly assumed command and on Feb. 11, the newly-rebuilt APD-16 departed Puget Sound for San Francisco and the South Pacific. On Feb. 28, APD-16 crossed the equator; on April 7, she helped fight off an air attack on Tulagi and Guadalcanal and even shot down three Japanese aircraft.

From Aug. 15, 1943 to Oct. 17, 1944, APD-16 landed Army Soldiers and Marines on Vella Lavella, the Treasury Islands, Choiseul, Bougainville, Cape Gloucester and

Saidor in New Guinea, the Marshall Islands, Green Island, Emirau Island, Aitape, Biak, Cape Sansapor in New Guinea, Morotai, and Dinegat Island in Leyte Gulf.

On Oct. 30, 1944, Lt. Richard E. Farwell assumed command. On Nov. 28, Farwell was ordered to load troops from Leyte for the invasion of Ormoc Bay.

By the end of November, the Japanese had more troops on Leyte than had been there the previous month. Accordingly, Gen. Douglas MacArthur decided to slam the enemy's back door and sever his supply lines at Ormoc. So on Dec. 6, 1944, APD-16, the old USS Ward, sailed troops from Leyte for Ormoc Bay and the next day, Dec. 7, 1944, successfully landed those troops as directed. By 0751 hours, all landing craft had delivered their troops to the beach and returned to the ship.

Ward was then ordered to begin an anti-submarine patrol between Leyte and Ponson Island.

A short while later, enemy aircraft were seen at 0940 hours when nine twin engine bombers mounted an attack on the destroyer USS Mahan (DD-364). After taking anti-aircraft fire from Mahan during their attack, three bombers broke away from the main group about 15 minutes later and set out for the Ward. The first bomber began spewing smoke and crashed 600 yards astern. The second bomber flew in low over the forecabin, pancaking into the ocean.

The third bomber leveled off and flew into the Ward just above the water line on the port side, exploding in a ball of flames. While no bombs detonated, one of the plane's engines traveled completely through the ship,

setting a huge fire amidships and knocking the boilers out. With no boilers, there was no power for fire and bilge pumps.

By 1015 hours, the Crosby, Scout, O'Brien and Saunders had arrived to help the Ward. The O'Brien and Saunders put over firehoses and picked up Ward Sailors. Eventually, Farwell ordered, "All hands, prepare to abandon ship." Several of the crew were burned and injured, but there were no fatalities.

Men went to various ships: Farwell to the O'Brien. When he climbed to the bridge of the O'Brien, he was astonished to see the Ward's old skipper, Outerbridge.

By now the Ward was an inferno; diesel oil fuel tanks were blazing and flames were spreading everywhere. With her magazines under fiery assault and not likely to have been flooded, Ward was becoming an explosion hazard to the remaining ships.

Outerbridge requested to continue firefighting efforts, but he did set the O'Brien far enough off to load and train her guns on the Ward. And, three years to the day from the greatest moment of his career, Outerbridge gave the order for his modern 2,200 ton destroyer O'Brien to open fire and sink his first command.

The USS Ward (DD-139), aka APD-16, and her crew – initially almost all members of the 47th Division of the U.S. Naval Reserve from St. Paul, Minn. – participated in 16 invasions, several air attacks, sank a famous submarine and received a Navy Unit Commendation. Amazingly, during her entire career, the USS Ward had no battle fatalities. Her only loss was that of a crewman overboard at sea: Edward

Vice Chairman nominee Giambastiani visits troops in Afghanistan

American Forces Press Service

President George Bush's nominee to be the next vice chairman of the joint chiefs of staff arrived in Afghanistan on May 8 to visit with troops and tour U.S. and coalition compounds.

Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani Jr. said he was impressed with the improvements in the country.

"There's been tremendous progress here. Every time I come back to Afghanistan, the place is much improved and continues to make super progress," he said.

The admiral has been nominated to succeed Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace as vice chairman. Pace has been nominated to succeed Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers as joint chiefs chairman. Both nominations are subject to Senate approval.

Giambastiani contrasted his first visit to Afghanistan with his most recent, exactly three years later, both of which involved Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

"The last time I was here was on Dec. 7, 2004 for President Karzai's inauguration," he said. "The first time I came here was on Dec. 7, 2001 when I met with a guy named Hamid Karzai in a bombed-out hangar in Bagram."

Army Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, commander of Combined Forces Command Afghanistan, started Giambastiani's visit with an

overview of the command in his headquarters at Camp Eggers. After a short ride to Camp Phoenix on the outskirts of Kabul, Giambastiani met with Air Force Maj. Gen. John Brennan, chief of the Office of Military Cooperation Afghanistan (OMC-A). Brennan talked about the role of OMC-A in the reconstruction of Afghanistan's defense and security sectors.

Next, Giambastiani received an update from Army Brig. Gen. Richard Moorhead, commander of Coalition Joint Task Force Phoenix. The task force is responsible for the training of the Afghan National Army (ANA).

Giambastiani toured the Kabul Military Training Center and observed ANA soldiers in basic training. The tour then proceeded to the ANA compound at Pol-e Charkhi and the adjacent U.S. compound at Camp Blackhorse.

The admiral ate dinner with the troops at the Camp Blackhorse dining facility and presented commemorative coins to a few individuals before heading for the next stop on his visit, the International Security Assistance Force headquarters in Kabul.

Giambastiani currently serves as the commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command and is NATO's supreme allied commander for transformation.

For more news from around the fleet, visit www.navy.mil.

Admiral Thomas Fargo accepts new position

American Forces Press Service

Admiral Thomas Fargo, USN (Ret.) has accepted the position of vice chairman of the national Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund Board (PHMFB) of directors and will serve as chairman of the organization's newly-established Hawai'i Advisory Council (HAC).

The Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund (PHMF) was established by the Arizona Memorial Museum Association (AMMA) in 2003 at the request of the National Park Service to raise \$34 million to build a new Pearl Harbor Memorial Museum and Visitor Center at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i to replace the existing USS Arizona Memorial Museum and Visitor Center facility. Larger than expected visitation, structural deterioration due to water intrusion, inadequate climatic controls for museum artifacts, and insufficient educational and curatorial space all contribute to the urgent need to replace and expand the current museum and visitor center.

The Hawaii Advisory Council (HAC) was recently established as a locally-based division of the PHMF to encourage and recognize donations from individuals, families, corporations and foundations in Hawaii for major gift commitments to the PHMF. HAC will also honor through membership distinguished Hawaii residents who have made valuable contributions through the years to the preservation and presentation of the events related to the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and to winning the war in the Pacific.

"We are very excited and honored to welcome Admiral Fargo to the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund Board and his chairmanship of the new Hawai'i Advisory Council," said Dr. Ronald D. Sugar, chairman of PHMF and chairman, CEO and president of Northrop Grumman Corporation. "Admiral



Admiral Thomas Fargo

Fargo is widely-respected and admired worldwide in both the military and civilian communities, especially in Hawai'i. We are very fortunate to have his leadership and compassion for our mission to "remember, understand and honor" the sacred history of Pearl Harbor and the enormous sacrifices made to ensure our nation's freedom and democracy."

Fargo retired from the Navy on March 1 after serving as commander of the U.S. Pacific command since May 2002.

As the senior U.S. military commander in the Pacific and Indian Ocean areas, Fargo led the largest of the unified commands and directed Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force operations encompassing 43 countries bordered by two oceans, across an area that covered over 100 million square miles from the west coast of the United States to the east coast of Africa.

Born in San Diego, Calif. in June 1948, Fargo attended high school in Coronado, Calif. and Sasebo, Japan and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1970. Fargo is a 1989 recipient of the Vice Admiral James Bond Stockdale Award for Inspirational Leadership.

Since moving to Hawai'i in 1999, both Fargo and his wife Sarah have embraced Hawai'i and its community and have been extremely active in numerous community organizations and boards.

Fargo serves as Trex Enterprises' executive vice-president and, as chairman of the board, leads two of Trex's subsidiaries - Loeca Corporation, a high

speed, high bandwidth communications company; and Sago Systems Corporation, a homeland security company, developing state-of-the art security technologies.

"I am looking forward to working with the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund, especially its efforts to raise funds from and acknowledge donors and supporters right here in Hawai'i," said Fargo. "My family and I have made Hawai'i our home. Through the efforts of the Hawai'i Advisory Council, I hope to encourage my fellow residents and corporate citizens in Hawai'i to take pride and ownership in the stewardship of the USS Arizona Memorial which rests in our beautiful state and to join us in our efforts to preserve the legacy of Pearl Harbor for future generations to come."

Fargo will join 16 other Pearl Harbor Memorial Board directors from around the nation whose executive leadership includes PHMF Chairman Dr. Ronald D. Sugar, chairman, CEO and president of Northrop Grumman Corporation; PHMF honorary chairs Governor Linda Lingle, Senator Daniel Inouye, Senator Ted Stevens and Senator John McCain; and PHMF celebrity chair, Tom Hanks.

The Arizona Memorial Museum Association (AMMA) established the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund at the request of the National Park Service to raise \$34 million to build a new Pearl Harbor Memorial Museum and Visitor Center at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i to replace the existing USS Arizona Memorial Museum and Visitor Center facility.

Since its dedication in 1980 as the shoreside support facility to the USS Arizona Memorial, the USS Arizona Memorial Museum Visitor Center has experienced tremendous usage and high demand.

VP- 47 Changes hands



U.S. Navy Photo by PH3 Ian Anderson

Capt. W. F. Moran, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, speaks at Patrol Squadron 47's change of command ceremony. Cmdr. James Landers relieved Cmdr. Thomas McGovern as commanding officer of VP-47 May 6 at their hangar bay located on Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, Kaneohe Bay.

Pentagon ceremony honors Environmental Award winners

Terri Lukach

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- A senior DoD official thanked winners of the 2004 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards at a Pentagon ceremony May 4 for their "dedication to a strong national defense" and "commitment to environmental excellence."

"Every day, the men and women involved in the defense environmental program undertake the enormous - and essential - challenge of managing the abundant natural and cultural resources entrusted to the department," said Michael W. Wynne, undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics. "And you do so in a way that both supports our warfighters and protects public health and safety."

Besides congratulating the winners, Wynne also thanked the judges on behalf of Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. A panel of expert judges from government, the private sector and nongovernmental organizations selected the winners based on five categories: cultural resources management, environmental quality, environmental restoration, natural resources, conservation and pollution prevention.

Wynne said the department's environment program is based on a forward-looking commitment to sustain the training and testing capabilities the military needs for a strong national defense, while at the same time maintaining healthy ecosystems. He added that DoD's 2004 report to Congress "provides ample evidence" that the program is producing significant results.

"For example," Wynne said, "61 percent of all installations and properties contaminated in some way by past defense operations have undergone environmental

restoration; 94 percent of DoD's permitted wastewater systems meet regulatory standards for discharge limits; and the department has increased its purchases of environmentally friendly 'green' products by 24 percent.

"The Department of Defense is proud of our record," the undersecretary continued. "Furthermore, we are committed to pursuing a comprehensive, results-oriented environmental program that will continue this record of success well into the future."

In the category of Natural Resources Conservation, there were two winners. Fort Drum, N.Y., took the prize for its work in implementing an ecosystem approach to land management and establishing a wetland mitigation bank.

Lt. Col. Michael Tarpley of the Louisiana Army National Guard at Camp Beauregard won for leading an exemplary cultural resources program across five National Guard installations and 80 armories, achieving 100 percent compliance.

For Pollution Prevention on a non-industrial installation, the award went to Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Va., for its active pollution prevention program that has exceeded its hazardous waste goal for seven consecutive years, reduced waste shipped off site by more than 70 percent, and reduced energy consumption by one-quarter since 1985.

A second award for pollution prevention, on the individual/team level, went to the Pollution Prevention Team at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., for applying new technologies to processes that benefit both the environment and base missions, and for implementing an environmental management system that significantly decreased chemical use, sludge production and disposal costs.

For environmental quality, the awards went to Naval Air Depot Cherry Point,

N.C., and Misawa Air Base, Japan. Through timely and efficient environmental management practices at all levels, the Cherry Point depot reduced environmental risks, improved processes and enhanced the environment. Misawa distinguished itself through superior program management and by employing innovative and cost effective solutions to environmental challenges.

In the category of Cultural Resources Management, there was a tie between the Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and the 14th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Both received awards.

Parris Island took the prize for its exemplary commitment to cultural resources by balancing mission needs with the protection of natural resources. Hickam won the award for its innovative cultural resource management program that forged multiple interagency partnerships, contracts and agreements with state, federal and educational institutions.

The award for Environmental Restoration was also tied between Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., and Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific, Hawaii.

Keesler received the award for an accelerated restoration program that protected both the environment and human health. The base was one of the few in the Air Force to exceed defense environmental restoration program goals and the first facility in Mississippi to sign a land-use control assurance plan.

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific restored 86 sites with PCB-contaminated soil, addressing the problem comprehensively rather than site by site. They also used more efficient sampling techniques that saved time and money, and conducted tours of the site to keep the public informed of their progress.

In addition to the 10 winners, there were several runners-up in each category.

Connecticut kids collect pennies for Pearl Harbor

Special to Hawai'i Navy News

Thousands of miles away from Hawai'i, students at West Shore Middle School, Connecticut, are hard at work organizing a special "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" fundraising dinner taking place at their school May 18.

The students are selling \$10 tickets with proceeds going toward a nationwide effort to raise \$34 million to build a new Pearl Harbor Memorial Museum and Visitor Center. Students hope to raise funds and public awareness about the urgent need for a new visitor center.

The current site of the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center and Museum is sinking. Larger than expected visitation, structural deterioration due to water intrusion, inadequate climatic controls for the museum artifacts, and insufficient educational and curatorial space all contribute to the need to replace and expand the current museum and visitor center.

Students first learned about the plight of the current visitor center through Tom Acri, a West Shore Middle School teacher who had attended a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) teachers' workshop last August at the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawai'i that was sponsored by the East-West Center and the Arizona Memorial Museum Association. Students were distressed to learn about the possible fate of the visitor center and decided to help with the fund-raising efforts for the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund.

The enterprising students have already secured the attendance of prominent Connecticut government leaders who, to date, include Mayor James Richetelli Jr., State Senator Gayle Slossberg,

Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, as well as a personal thank you note from Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle.

Students sent a personal invitation and letter to Lingle requesting her attendance. The governor was touched and impressed by the efforts of West Shore Middle students and although unable to attend, immediately sent a letter of thanks, Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund pin and a personal donation back to West Shore.

West Shore Middle School is one of several schools nationwide taking part in the newly-launched "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" fund-raising program.

Combining curriculum and community service, "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" provides an opportunity for teachers and student to develop a deeper appreciation for the history surrounding the events of Dec. 7, 1941 and connect their lives to the future of one of America's most important historical sites. Sponsored by the Arizona Memorial Museum Association, teachers are provided with a packet of materials to work with students to organize their own "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" program.

Participating schools around the nation have launched a variety of innovative fund-raising projects ranging from creatively-decorated donation boxes to organizing specialty food drive sales. After completing the "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" program, schools are listed on the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund website honor roll of donors and receive a commemorative American flag that has flown over the USS Arizona - complete with a certificate of authenticity.

The program is offered along with the nationally-acclaimed "Witness to History," a free video conferencing program that connects Pearl Harbor survivors with schools nationwide and allows student world-

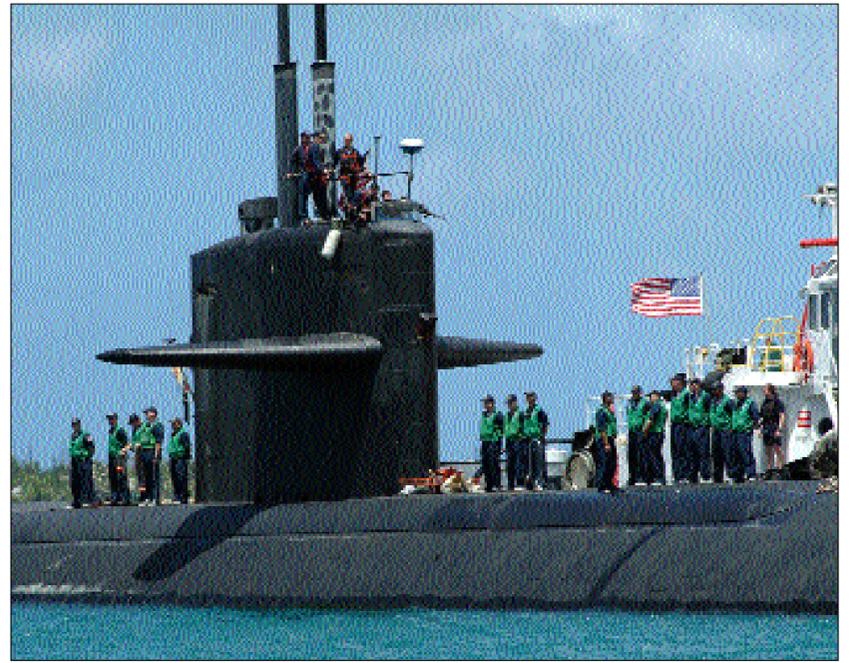
wide to interact with Pearl Harbor survivors while remaining in their classroom. In addition to learning about the Pearl Harbor attack through textbooks and school-based curriculums, students have the opportunity to obtain first hand accounts and interact live with Pearl Harbor survivors based in Hawai'i who were present that fateful day. "Witness to History" is funded by the Arizona Memorial Museum Association, sponsored by the National Park Service and U.S. Navy, and is made possible by the support of the Pearl Harbor Survivor Association Aloha Chapter volunteers.

"Many of our young students may never have the opportunity to visit the USS Arizona Memorial in person, nor will they have the chance to speak with a Pearl Harbor attack survivor to gain a better understanding of the tragic and courageous events that took place on Dec. 7, 1941," explained Acri. "As Pearl Harbor survivors get older, many may pass on, so it is imperative that we share their oral histories with as many students as possible. The "Witness to History" program provides a personal connection between Pearl Harbor survivors and our students and the "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" program helps ensure we're able to continue to share and preserve their memories."

Acri is trying to launch the first "Witness to History" program at West Shore Middle School after the "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" fund-raising project is completed.

For more information on the "Pennies for Pearl Harbor" and "Witness to History" programs, contact:

Toll free: (866) DEC-1941
Email: pennies@pearlharbormemorial.com or witness-to-history@hawaii.rr.com
Website: www.pearlharbormemorial.com



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Brandon W. Schulze

Sailors man the rails of the fast attack submarine USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) as it pulls into Apra Harbor, Guam during a scheduled port visit. Los Angeles is homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i and returned from a six-month deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism May 6th.

USS Los Angeles returns from six-month deployment

JO2 Corwin Colbert

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

USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) returned to Pearl Harbor from a Western Pacific deployment May 6.

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

"The morale was high," said Stanley. "The crew did an outstanding job prior to and during this deployment, I credit them for our deployment success."

Stanley said the submarine was modernized, in that both the fire control and communications systems were upgraded with commercial off-the-shelf technology.

"We had a lot of new equipment on board and our operators did an excellent job integrating them into the way we

conduct business every day," said Stanley.

For some Los Angeles Sailors, the highlight of the deployment was visiting various countries.

"Liberty ports were definitely the best part of the deployment," said Electronics Technician Seaman Timothy Bosch. "Singapore was a good port visit. It is very beautiful, the people are nice and the night life is great," he said. "However, the best port is returning home."

Los Angeles is the fourth naval ship to be named after the city of Los Angeles and is the lead ship of the 688 class. Los Angeles was launched April 6, 1974 at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company in Newport News, Va. and commissioned Nov. 13, 1976.

For related news, visit the Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Navy News Stand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/subpac.

Hawai'i Navy News Sports

Rumble in the Bloch

PHAN John T. Jackson
Fleet Imaging Center Pacific

The Surface Navy Association at Pearl Harbor held a boxing smoker last Friday at Bloch Arena.

Thirty-two fighters, both male and female, from seven ships and various shore commands took to the ring to compete against one another in three 90-second, hard-hitting rounds.

The boxing smoker was held in honor of Chief Boatswain Mate (retired) Herald Estes.

"I put this on mainly because of one guy, Chief Petty Officer BMC Retired Herald Estes, a 90-year-old Pearl Harbor World War II veteran," said Capt. David Armitage commanding officer Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific. "He used to fight in boxing smokers during his Navy career. He talks about those days and it always gets his blood flowing so I wanted to do this for him."

Estes acted as the special awards presenter at the boxing smoker, presenting a gold medal to the winner of each bout.

Precautions were taken to provide standby medical care if it was needed. Medical personnel from Naval Medical Clinic Pearl Harbor, Makalapa clinic as well as the Federal Fire Department were in attendance. All boxers were required to wear protective headgear as well as boxing gloves before climbing into the ring.

Although protective equipment was essential to each bout, it did not seem to affect Ezekiel "Ichiban" Pasha from the USS Salvor (ARS 52) who was fighting in the overweight category. Ichiban predicted he would send his opponent, "The Sleeper" from the USS Chung-Hoon, (DDG 32) to the mat.

"I am fighting the sleeper," said



PHAN John T. Jackson
Jason "Texas Takedown" Kiger, assigned to the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70), gets knocked backward after Seth "The Southern Sensation" Guidry, from the Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52), lands a right punch during the fourth match of the Surface Navy Association's boxing smoker.

Ichiban "That's what I plan on doing to him, putting him to sleep. He is as soft as a Krispy Kreme doughnut. He is going straight out. My executive officer and commanding officer are here. I can't go home a loser."

Ichiban was sent home just that. Late in the third round, it was all over for Ichiban. As the final bell rang with Ichiban down in points, the decision was made that "The Sleeper" was the victor and Ichiban had been defeated.

Chris "Mad Max" Bolsins, assigned to USS Salvor (ARS 52), squared off with his opponent "Dizzy Dee" Dalton from the USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 32) in the second fight of the counterweight division and the eighth match of the day. Mad Max came out strong at the beginning of round one and it was a match that went back and forth throughout the entire event, but at the end of the third bout Mad Max came out on top.

"As soon as I heard the bell ring,

I was in another world," admitted Mad Max. "Everything else was zoned out, it was just me and him."

Chief Herald Estes awarded a first place medal to Mad Max at the end of his bout.

"If you haven't experienced a boxing smoker, you ought to try it!" said Mad Max.

The Surface Navy Association (SNA) was incorporated in 1985 to promote greater coordination and communication among those in the military, business and academ-



PHAN John T. Jackson
Chief Boatswain's Mate (retired) Herald Estes presents a gold medal award and congratulates each boxer after the completion of each match during the Surface Navy Association's boxing smoker last Friday.

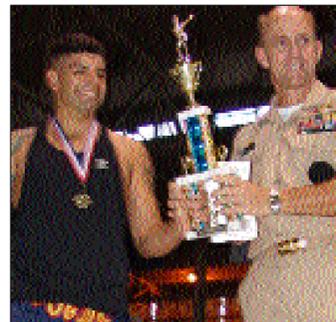


Photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane
Capt. David Armitage, the Pearl Harbor Surface Navy Association president presents the "Most Outstanding Fighter" trophy to "The Butcher" Barragan from USS RUSSELL.

ic communities who share a common interest in naval surface warfare and to support the activities of surface naval forces.

The association hopes to make the boxing smoker an annual event at Pearl Harbor.