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On Memorial Day

"Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

- Maj. Gen. John A. Logan, Grand Army of the Republic - 1868

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HURREX
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America's war Casualties:	Killed	Wounded
Revolutionary War	25,324	8,445
Indian Wars	6,125	2,156
War of 1812	2,260	4,505
Civil War (north)	363,020	281,104
Civil War (south)	199,110	137,102
Spanish-American War	2,893	1, 637
Philippines War	4,273	2,840
World War I	116,708	204,002
World War II	408,306	670,846
Korean War	54,246	103,284
Vietnam War	58,219	153,356
Operation Desert Shield/Storm	363	357
Operation Enduring Freedom	296	718
Operation Iraqi Freedom	2,458	17,896

Volunteers from the Pearl Harbor Surface Navy Association clean up the grounds at the Oahu Cemetery Navy plot. Sailors from USS Chosin (CG 65) and USS O'Kane (DDG 77), along with two church groups, are at the cemetery today to prepare the site, which includes tombstones going back to the mid-1800s, for the Memorial Day weekend. See Memorial Day schedule on page A-3.

U.S. Navy photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane

COMPACFLT Headquarters pioneers pay-for-performance system

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

One hundred and seventy employees at the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Headquarters became pioneers April 30 when they converted from the general schedule (GS) personnel system to the new Department of Defense (DoD) National Security Personnel System (NSPS).

Their conversion marks the beginning of the historic transformation of DoD's human resources from a longevity-based civilian personnel system to a pay-for-performance system that gives employees the opportunity to be rewarded based on their contributions to the mission.

NSPS will create a more responsive and flexible DoD and Department of the Navy (DoN) civilian workforce, according to DoD officials.

COMPACFLT Headquarters volunteered, along with 11 other DoD organizations, to be part of Spiral 1.1, the first group of civilian employees to transition into the civilian human resources system.

"We have a successful record of leading transformational change and a strong commitment to building a high-performance workforce," said Maureen Kleintop, Pacific Fleet deputy chief of staff for total fleet force manpower and personnel. Employees were converted to pay bands that replaced the general schedule and have established results-focused performance plans that are clearly linked to COMPACFLT's mission and the commander's intent, according to Kleintop.

"NSPS is critical to the department's overall transformation to a results-oriented, performance-based culture. It will help us attract and retain the talent we need to execute our national security mission," said Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England, who also serves as the NSPS senior executive.

"Adm. Gary Roughead, as commander of the Pacific Fleet, believes our civilian workforce is vital to accomplishing our mission," said Kleintop during an April 12 Senate field hearing on NSPS, hosted by Senator George V. Voinovich of Ohio and Senator Daniel Akaka of Hawai'i.

Kleintop said the success of NSPS at COMPACFLT Headquarters will be largely attributable to the leadership and support from the fleet commander, because he [Adm. Roughead] has made NSPS implementation one of his top priorities.

COMPACFLT Headquarters provided a training program to managers, supervisors and employees in preparation for NSPS. Classroom and Web-based training covering human resources elements, with special emphasis on performance management, was delivered in April. This training was complemented by workshops designed to help supervisors and employees write job objectives that were strategically aligned.

"Employees are encouraged to work with their supervisors on establishing job objectives that reflect the important things they do every day to ensure mission success," said Mary Lacey, DoD program executive officer for NSPS.

According to Lacey, NSPS changes some fundamental business practices: raises and bonuses will be based on performance, starting salaries will be based on market conditions, and job objectives will have a line of sight to organizational objectives.

"We have promoted transparency and open lines of communication to assure the workforce we are committed to their success. Our communication and training strategies helped prepare our workforce for the transition," Kleintop said. "We have built credibility into each aspect of our deployment plan by involving people. The face-to-face communication structure provided by the NSPS implementation team, as well as event and training evaluations, allowed us to effectively incorporate employees' feedback into our strategies," she added.

Three concepts make up the core of NSPS:

- Accountability – Employees are responsible for their careers and performance, which will pay off through salary increases and bonuses.
- Flexibility – NSPS is a simplified and adaptable management system that places the right people in the right jobs at the right time.
- Results – Employee performance and contributions link to achieving organizational goals and DoD's critical mission.

"Employees at COMPACFLT Headquarters have mixed reactions towards NSPS," said Morena Gullett, Pacific Fleet NSPS program manager. "NSPS will dramatically change the way we compensate, promote and reward them. The conversion to this pay-for-performance system causes the concerns you would expect from such a cultural shift. We hope through continuing top leadership support, communication, training and performance cycle execution that our employees will see the benefits to be realized under NSPS," Gullett explained.

The performance appraisal cycle for COMPACFLT Headquarters employees began April 30 and ends Oct. 31. Guidance on the pay pool structure, funding and pay setting flexibilities will be released soon by Rear Adm. J.J. Donnelly, the COMPACFLT performance review authority.

Employees will receive their first performance pay increases in January 2007. Over the next several years, DoD plans to gradually move all eligible employees into NSPS. COMPACFLT Headquarters will use the lessons learned from its transformation to facilitate the NSPS conversion at subordinate commands.

HURREX

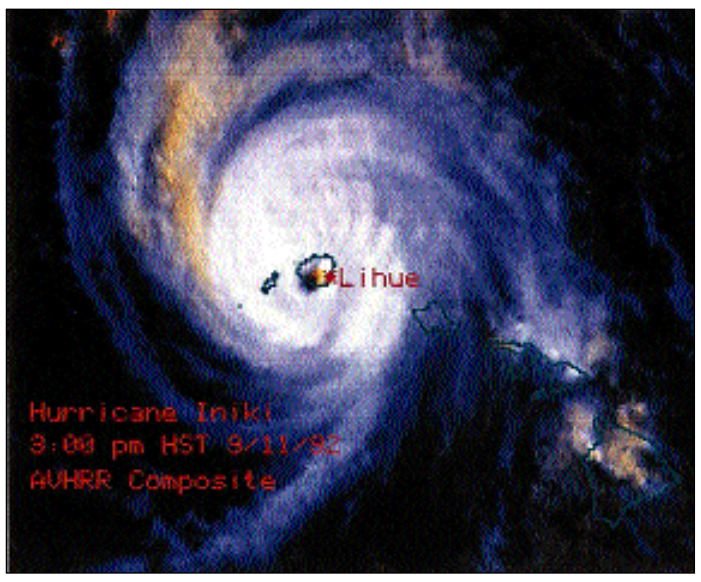

Photo by courtesy of NOAA

Hurricane Iniki, which hit the island of Kauai in September 1992, was the most destructive storm to strike Hawai'i in recorded history. Losses from the storm's sustained winds of 130 mph along with widespread water damage exceeded $2.3 billion. Hurricane season runs from June 1 to November here in Hawai'i so now is the time to familiarize yourself with information about hurricanes and to make the necessary preparations and formulate a disaster plan for your family. Navy Region Hawai'i held its annual Hurricane Preparedness Exercise (HURREX) from May 22-26. HURREX was conducted to prepare the region's naval installations and activities in the emergency management response to a major natural disaster. For the latest information on preparing for hurricane season, go to www.hawaii.navy.mil or watch for upcoming issues of Hawai'i Navy News.

Got Questions?

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Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Ceremonies take planning

FLTCM(AW/SW)
Jon R. Thompson

FLTCM(AW/SW) Jon R. Thompson

When was the last time you either attended or participated in a ceremony that went off perfectly, from the invocation to the benediction? Hopefully, you recall a recent event.

Ceremonies take planning - no matter how large or small they are. If you are placed in charge of coordinating a ceremony, you need to take the necessary time to ensure the plan works and every detail is covered.

Every ceremony needs to be conducted mindful of the audience, the crew and the person or persons being recognized. As a coordinator, you need to ask some of the most basic questions:

- What's the purpose of the ceremony?
- Who is attending?
- What is the best location?
- What kind of support do you need from others?
- Do you have all the necessary logistics, including stage, microphones, flags, tables, etc.?
- Do you have a photographer?

These are just a few of the questions you need to answer in the planning stage. Once you develop the answers, it is often wise to write and publish a 5060 notice that not only details what needs to be done, but who is responsible for doing it.

Ceremonies are hallmark events. For the person or persons being recognized, a ceremony is a formal way to mark significant achievements in their careers. If a detail is left out, or the ceremony is conducted in a less-than-professional manner, everyone in attendance leaves with a feeling that the person or persons being recognized weren't really worth the effort of orchestrating the ceremony correctly.

Small ceremonies, like re-enlistments, are often simple to plan. However, larger ceremonies like commissionings and changes of command require much more planning, especially if the ceremonies will be open to the public.

Here's a quick tip: If you are selected to plan a ceremony that will be open to the public, you might want to check with a senior journalist or public affairs officer. In any case, you should always try to consult previous plans to ensure yours addresses all aspects of the ceremony.

Getting back to the first question you should ask, 'What's the purpose of the ceremony?' - I think it's important to give that question some serious thought. The purpose is not to have a ceremony. I think many people get caught up in the logistics planning and are easily distracted from the reason a ceremony is being planned in the first place.

Here's what you should ask yourself: "If this ceremony was for me and my family, what would I want the ceremony to be like?" In every case, your answer should have something to do with a ceremony filled with tradition, professionalism and focus.

Why focus? I've attended quite a few ceremonies that included things that distracted from the overall ceremony. Too many guest speakers, too many citations, too many demonstrations - there should be a limit. The audience should be treated to a ceremony that is concise, yet fully illustrates the accomplishments of the person or persons being recognized. Any organized ceremony should be less than 60 minutes long - no exceptions!

Another quick tip: If you are going to include something special in the ceremony, like the "passing the flag" evolution, you need to practice and do it right. I've seen that particular display at many ceremonies and I've cringed as almost every element was unplanned and executed in a sloppy manner. That evolution is not easy. Do the necessary research to find out how to execute the evolution smartly and then practice it enough so the participants fully appreciate the seriousness and flow.

Finally, I'd like to offer that an emcee could make or break a ceremony. Just because someone is senior does not mean he or she is a fitting emcee. The emcee maintains the flow of a ceremony and must be well spoken, have a sense of timing and be flexible enough to recover from a mistake without the audience becoming aware of a change in the script.

Shipmates, the character of a ceremony must be consistent with the tone of the times and must not lose sight of the person or persons being honored. Remember, we are a nation at war and our service is vitally important to our country. Do your best to incorporate that patriotic service message through the ceremony and your audiences will not only appreciate the efforts of the person or persons being recognized, but also appreciate the service of every Sailor in the Navy.

Coordinating a ceremony is a big deal. It's not a quick task you do on the fly. Take the time to get it right. Take the time to manage all of the details and take the time to carefully plan…and then keep your notes and lessons learned so you can help others plan for future events.

Prayer for peace, Memorial Day 2006

George W. Bush

President of the United States of America

Throughout our history, the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States have placed the security of our nation before their own safety. America will be forever grateful for their service and sacrifice. On Memorial Day, we honor those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom.

Defending the ideals of our nation has required the service and sacrifice of those from every generation. From Valley Forge, across Europe and Asia, and in Afghanistan and Iraq, courageous Americans have given their lives so that others could live in freedom. These Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen took an oath to defend America and they upheld that oath with bravery and decency. They have liberated the oppressed, spread freedom and peace, and set a standard of courage and compassion for our nation. All who enjoy the blessings of liberty live in their debt.

This debt of gratitude extends also to the families who stood by our servicemen and women in times of war and times of peace. Each of the fallen has left behind loved ones who carry a burden of grief, and all Americans are inspired by the strength of these families.

At this important time in the history of freedom, a new generation of Americans is defending our flag and our liberty. These men and women carry on the legacy of our nation's fallen heroes and demonstrate that the United States Armed Forces remain the greatest force for freedom in human history.

Those who lost their lives in the defense of freedom helped protect our citizens and lay the foundation of peace for people everywhere. On Memorial Day, a grateful nation pays tribute to their personal courage, love of country and dedication to duty.

In respect for their devotion to America, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved on May 11, 1950, as amended (64 Stat. 158), has requested the president to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace and designating a period on that day when the people of the United States might unite in prayer. The Congress, by Public Law 106-579, has also designated the minute beginning at 3 p.m. local time on that day as a time for all Americans to observe the National Moment of Remembrance.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Memorial Day, May 29, 2006, as a day of prayer for permanent peace and I designate the hour beginning in each locality at 11 a.m. of that day as a time to unite in prayer. I also ask all Americans to observe the National Moment of Remembrance beginning at 3 p.m., local time, on Memorial Day. I encourage the media to participate in these observances. I also request the governors of the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the appropriate officials of all units of government to direct that the flag be flown at half staff until noon on this Memorial Day on all buildings, grounds and naval vessels throughout the United States, and in all areas under its jurisdiction and control. I also request the people of the United States to display the flag at half staff from their homes for the customary forenoon period.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

Memorial Day events

May 28

10:00 a.m. - Friends of the Natatorium Memorial Day Ceremony, Waikiki War Memorial.

10:00 a.m. - Pacific American Foundation Roll Call of Honor, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

1:00 p.m. - Boy Scout Good Turn Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

6:00 p.m. - Vietnam Veterans Candlelight Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

May 29

8:45 a.m. - Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

11:00 a.m. - Hawai'i Chapter, U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II Ceremony, Submarine Memorial Park, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

1:00 p.m. - Governor's Memorial Day Ceremony, Hawai'i State Veterans Cemetery, Kaneohe.

Hawai'i Navy News

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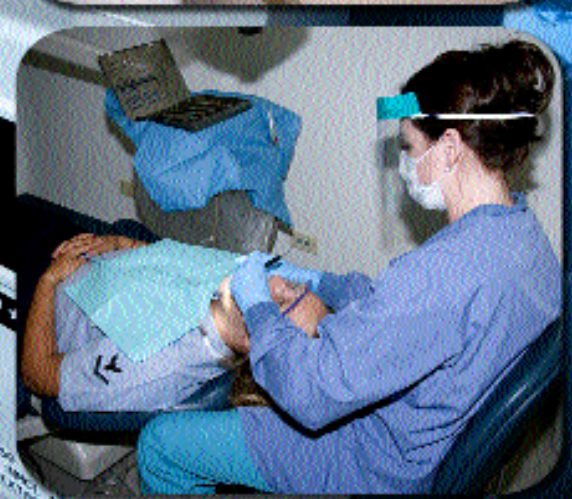
COMMAND IN THE Spotlight

NAVAL HEALTH CLINIC HAWAII

"ALWAYS STEAMING TO ASSIST"



./command/.

The clinic has 10.5 percent of the staff deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and has the second highest percentage of members deployed from the Navy Medicine West area of responsibility that includes military treatment facilities on the West Coast and in the Pacific area.

The command has established a welcoming center which provides health and wellness through prevention. Centers are located at Makalapa and Kaneohe Bay branch health clinics. This is a one-stop check-in for active duty, their family members and retired PRIME beneficiaries.

The command is the second military treatment facility in the Navy to have a Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Team (SMART) Center. This is a multi-disciplinary service made up of specialists in sports medicine and physical therapy.

./history/.

The history of Navy Medicine in Hawai'i began in 1890 when the fleet tug Iroquois, stationed here until 1901, was staffed with medical personnel who provided clinical assistance for naval personnel. The first U.S. Navy Hospital at Pearl Harbor was commissioned in 1915 and was constructed on the section of the naval base now known as "Hospital Point".

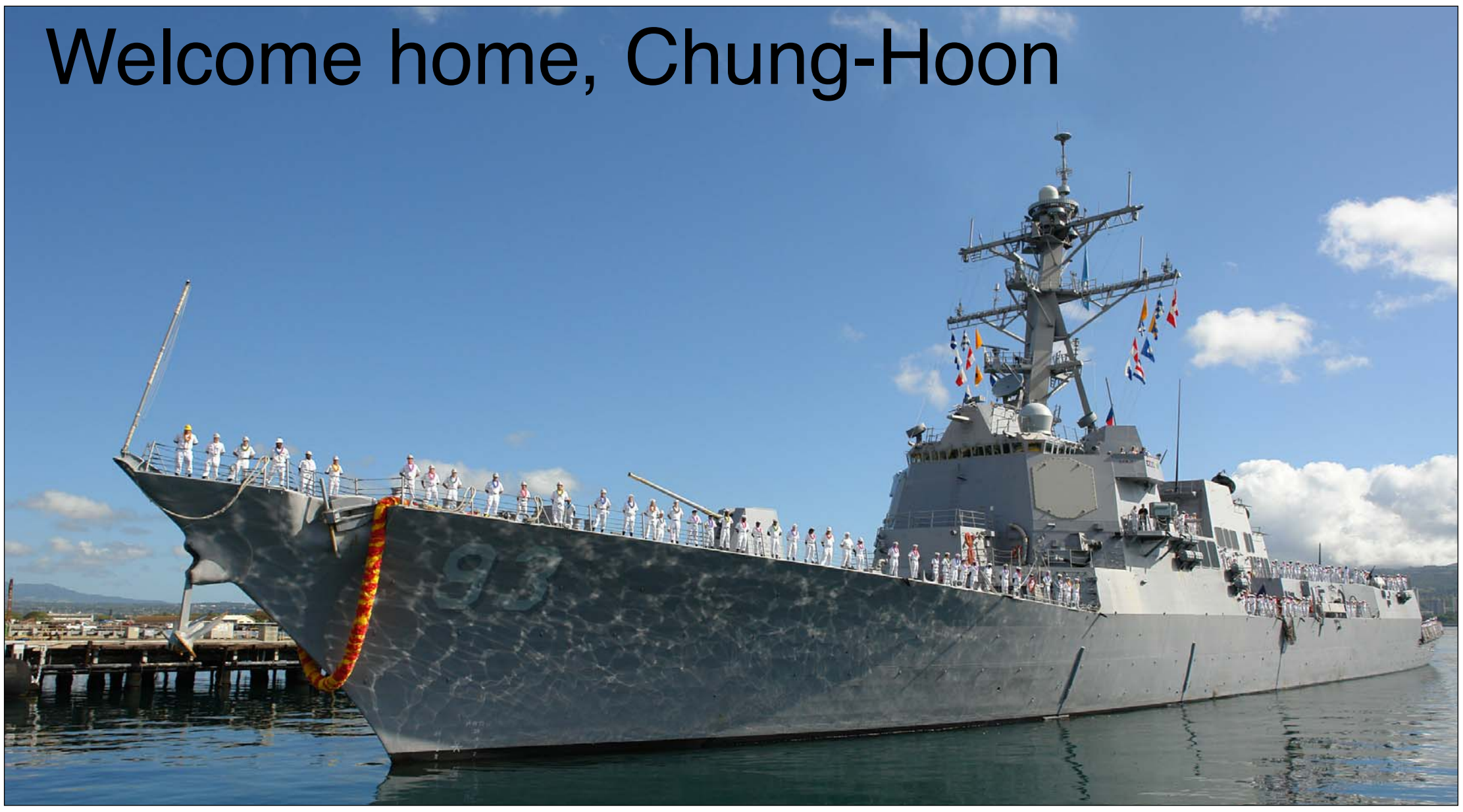
./function/.

We promote, protect and restore the health and readiness of all entrusted to us through patient and family-centered healthcare. The command directly supports a Navy and Marine Corps active duty population of approximately 21,000 along with about 21,000 family members. The command accommodates an average of 18,500 patient visits a month and is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

Illustration by HM1 (SW) Ken A. Gonzales, Fleet Imaging Center Pacific, Hawai'i

Pearl Harbor Highlights

Welcome home, Chung-Hoon



U.S. Navy photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane

Family and friends welcomed back more than 350 Sailors of the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyer, USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), as they returned from a four-month deployment yesterday morning. Chung-Hoon, commanded by Cmdr. David A. Welch, departed Pearl Harbor in January for its maiden deployment to the Western Pacific as part of U.S. Pacific Command Joint Task Force. During deployment, the Sailors from Chung-Hoon made several port visits including Malaysia, Saipan, Vanuatu, Australia and Tonga.

See more about Chung-Hoon's last port visit in the article below.

Chung-Hoon crew members serve Polynesian ohana

Lt. j.g. Valerie Van Ho

USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) Public Affairs

USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) visited Nuku'alofa, capital of the Kingdom of Tonga on May 15-18. On the first evening in port, the ship hosted a reception on the missile deck for local dignitaries, including Tongan civil and military officials and members of the local community.

The port call was designed to give the Sailors of Hawai'i's guided missile destroyer an opportunity to relax after a busy operational period conducting expanded maritime interdiction operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The port call to Tonga was an opportunity to experience another Polynesian culture and see a new island. For two Chung-Hoon plankowners, Chief Boatswain's Mate (SW) Kapiolani Malamala and Sonar Technician 2nd Class (SW) David Hafoka, both natives of Tonga who moved to Hawai'i, the visit was a reunion with family members and friends. Malamala, who left when he was 10 to move with his family to Hawai'i where he graduated from Kalaheo High School, said, "I was really excited to come. I had a chance to see my entire family, all the cousins and aunts and uncles I haven't seen since I was 10. I went to see my old elementary school. I miss the food and the people most. It was good to have both again."

The crew also had the opportunity to continue to serve the community. The ship sponsored two community service activities. On May 17, 19 shipmates adopted a half-mile stretch of waterfront road immediately outside the Tongan Naval Base and cleaned up litter. "We collected about 40 to maybe 60 bags of rubbish," said Senior Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) William Caraballo, who organized the event. He continued, "During our day, we had a few of the locals come by and say 'hi' and we even had some help to collect the bags that we had staged along the road. They got a truck and went to work alongside their American brothers and sisters." The following day, 25 Sailors worked at Vailo Health Ministries Kingdom of Tonga, repairing plumbing, computers, copier machines, refrigeration, and conducted clean up, replacing mattresses and providing general assistance.

The ship returned to its homeport in Pearl Harbor Wednesday after a four-month deployment. For more information, including photos of the ship's travels, visit the ship's Web site at www.chung-hoon.navy.mil.

U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Jason Swink

A golfer enjoys a few rounds of play on the newly-opened front nine holes at the Navy-Marine Golf Course. The back nine holes of the course are currently undergoing renovation and will remain closed for the next few months.

U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Jason Swink

Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle congratulates Store Keeper 1st Class Hotencia Bacio from Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai for outstanding community service. Bacio has volunteered her time for several causes and organizations including: habitat restoration, Kauai Battered Women's Shelter, March of Dimes and welcome home parades for troops. When asked why she does so much, Bacios said, "It's a small community, I love the people. I love doing it."

U.S. Navy photo by JOC(SW) Joe Kane

Pacific Fleet Master Chief Rick West addresses the Pearl Harbor Chapter of the Surface Navy Association (SNA) on May 5 at Lockwood Hall, Submarine Base Pearl Harbor. West was invited by the SNA to discuss topics ranging from personal readiness to the changing role of the Navy in augmenting forward deployed armed forces in the global war on terrorism. More than 100 Sailors attended the lunchtime event and the SNA signed up an additional 14 members including 12 chief petty officers.

Momilani Elementary students contribute $400 to Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

Jim Murray

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center

"In my nearly 30 years of service, this is the first time I can remember a school donating to Navy-Marine Corps Relief [Society] (NMCRS)," said Master Chief Store Keeper (SW/AW) Luciano Comia, senior enlisted leader at the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC), Pearl Harbor.

Comia was referring to students at Momilani Elementary School, who collected soda cans to raise money for the NMCRS. During a family fun night held May 5 in the school cafeteria, Doreen Higa, the school's principal, made the surprise monetary presentation to Comia. One hundred percent of the students, who range from kindergartners to sixth graders, contributed to the donation.

Situated in the cool highlands overlooking Pearl Harbor, Momilani has won two national Blue Ribbon School awards and is admired across the state for the quality of its academic program as well as its strong emphasis on character education. The May 2006 issue of Honolulu Magazine ranked Momilani as number one in its "grading of public schools" article.

Momilani and FISC Pearl are in the seventh year of a rewarding educational partnership. At least once a week, FISC military and civilian personnel visit Momilani to read to students, conduct exercises with them, tutor, weed whack, promote drug-free awareness, or perform campus beautification projects. In November 2005, the roles were reversed when Momilani's entire student body and staff boarded buses and visited FISC for a day.

Including the $400 donation from Momilani Elementary, FISC Pearl raised $9,110 for Navy-Marine Corps Relief, an increase of five percent over last year's total.

U.S. Navy Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Anthony Hunt

Doreen Higa, principal of Momilani Elementary School, presents a $400 donation for Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to SKCM(SW/AW) Luciano Comia and SHCS(SW) Michael Gladden.

PMRF Job Fair

U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Johnny Michael

(Left) Dan Momohara, director of Pacific Missile Range Facility's (PMRF) threat simulation branch, shows an interested jobseeker the procedures for applying for federal jobs online. Personnel from PMRF attended the recent Kauai Job Fair 2006 to provide information to Kauai residents who may be interested in working at the Navy facility.

Free classified advertising for military in Hawaii Navy News

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New submarine radio room computer keeps Sailors in touch with training

FT1 Christopher Carlson

Naval Submarine Training Center, Pacific (NSTCP) Public Affairs

Naval Submarine Training Center, Pacific (NSTCP) has added a new system to its inventory of state-of-the-art training equipment. Last week, the Multi-Reconfigurable Training System (MRTS) Radio Room Team Trainer was opened for training.

The MRTS is a network of high-definition, touch-screen computer display panels configured to emulate a 688-class submarine radio room. This trainer provides submarine radiomen the ability to practice normal underway submarine radio room operations while in port. Training operations can include voice communications, message traffic processing, daily watch standing and security operations. MRTS touch screen panels can be configured to match the components and layout of each submarine's radio room.

Using the touch screen, operators can open panels, push buttons and rotate knobs. There is even a fully functioning touch screen safe with electronically turning dials. Students are provided scenarios that vary from routine evolutions to more advanced applications of the radio room. Once the scenario begins, students must properly line up their equipment to allow for successful communication. The high fidelity simulator allows for voice and text/data transfers between students and instructors in case assistance is required during the scenario.

Instructors also have their own touch screen displays to monitor student progress. These displays consist of an interactive block diagram of the radio room setup. Equipment and signal paths are highlighted once they are properly aligned. With this tool, instructors observe which settings are incorrect, enabling them to help the students determine line-up faults. Instructors can also insert faults to provide a troubleshooting scenario for submarine crews. These faults include incorrect settings and failed crypto loads.

"What makes the new MRTS radio room trainer so great is its capability to be configured to any boat on the waterfront. Submarines tend to have different radio room layouts and we can give them what they have," stated Electronics Technician 1st Class (SS) Michael Lopez. "Additionally, the boats have been asking for a radio room trainer and it feels good to provide them this state-of-the-art trainer."

These capabilities come at a fraction of the cost of using real hardware and without the costly upkeep for shipboard equipment. MRTS was created by the combined efforts of Naval Sea Systems Command 92L1, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, and Naval Air Systems Command, Orlando, Fla.

U.S. Navy photo

ET1(SS) Michael Lopez utilizes the touch screen displays to demonstrate the capabilities of the new MRTS Trainer.

HECO dedicates Ford Island substation

Karen S. Spangler

Editor

Navy officials and representatives from Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) dedicated a $22 million electrical upgrade on Ford Island at a ceremony held May 23.

The upgrade will provide increased capacity and reliability for the planned expansion and redevelopment of Ford Island, directly linking the island to the 21st century. The new substation will help meet future demands for electricity as the Navy continues to renovate and modernize Ford Island.

Improvements include a pair of mile-long, 46-kilovolt transmission lines, the longest underground transmission installation in Hawai'i.

The new substation at Ford Island also adds 40 megavolt-amperes (MVA) of capacity, two new steel poles and 7,000 circuit feet of new 46-kilovolt overhead conductors from the Makalapa Substation.

"This unique project rose out of the close, working relationship between Hawaiian Electric and the military community in Hawai'i," said Mike May, president and CEO of HECO. "The military is not only one of our largest and most important customers, it is also one of our most valuable partners and the future development of Ford Island as a visitor attraction and national historic landmark is of great importance to the military and to all of us in Hawai'i," he noted.

Remarks at the ceremony were also offered by Rear Adm. Michael Vitale, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; Rear Adm. Gary Engle, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific; and Tom Joaquin, senior vice-president of operations for HECO.

Navy and HECO officials recounted some of the challenges and opportunities that the project presented.

For the first time in Hawai'i, horizontal directional drilling (HDD) was used to install underground sub-transmission cables to run parallel to the Admiral Clarey Bridge which connects Ford Island to the mainland of Oahu. Because of marine traffic, laying the cable on the bottom of the harbor was not feasible. HDD was selected as the best construction method to accomplish the job.

Using HDD, engineers drilled two tunnels that were 36 inches in diameter and positioned about 65 feet under the Pearl Harbor channel. Steel casings measuring 24 inches in diameter were welded together to form two massive, mile-long pipe strings. Each of the pipe strings contained six high-density, polyethylene ducts which were pre-installed in the pipes above ground. Then the pipe string assemblies were pulled back through the drill paths using a 750,000-pound drill rig.

According to HECO officials, the project - from start of drilling to completion of the cable installation - took nearly four months to complete. They described the project as the "longest underground 46-kilovolt installation in Hawai'i and possibly one of the longest in the world."

Construction of the project was completed in less than one year.

U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Jason Swink

Navy officials and representatives from HECO untie a maile lei at the dedication and blessing of the new $22 million subtsation on Ford Island.

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Hawaii Navy News

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MDSU 1 hosts annual drug and alcohol awareness fair

Story and photos by PH2 Justin Nesbitt

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One

HT2 Aaron Cominio suits up and assists Federal Fire Department personnel during a "jaws of life" demonstration.

Kirk Karma from Naval Station Pearl Harbor Security conducts a breathalyzer to determine the blood alcohol level of QMC (DV) David Martin.

DCC (DV) Somsack Phanthavong undergoes a field sobriety test, courtesy of the Honolulu Police Department.

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One (MDSU 1) hosted its annual drug and alcohol awareness fair recently with active duty personnel from four regional diving commands and their family members in attendance. Participants included Federal Fire Department, Honolulu Police Department, Navy Region Hawai'i Fitness, Trial Services Office, and medical personnel from Tripler Army Medical Center, Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i at Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base's Tri-Service Addictions Recovery Facility (TRI-SARF).

Machinist's Mate 1st Class Charles Parsons and Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Sara Gourley coordinated the event. "The purpose of the event was to provide our regional dive commands and their family members with statistics, facts and information on a wide range of topics dealing with alcohol," said Gourley. "We wanted to make the event interactive and get away from bland power point presentations – we wanted the command to participate rather than be a passive audience," said Parsons.

While the focus was on alcohol awareness, there were other activities and exhibits. Navy Region Hawai'i Fitness provided exercise instruction in yoga and spin classes. Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i, health promotions department, provided on-site blood pressure, cholesterol and body fat screenings, and informative exhibits and pamphlets on a variety of health-related issues. The Federal Fire Department was also on hand and provided a "jaws of life" demonstration - gaining access to a car that, coincidentally, was involved in an alcohol-related crash.

Lt. Dave Norkin of Pearl Harbor Trial Services Office assisted by providing information on a wide variety of questions dealing with driving under the influence (DUI). "My current job is to provide Navy Region Hawai'i commands with legal advice and assistance so I normally do not get to interact or represent individual Sailors - this was a nice change of pace," said Norkin, who logged more than 800 questions from Sailors who wanted facts on DUI legal issues.

Kirk Karma, a civilian with Naval Station Pearl Harbor security, conducted a dosing experiment as the main event. The command chose male and female subjects who varied in height, weight and body type. They consumed alcoholic beverages of their choice in a controlled environment. Every hour, they were given a field sobriety test and a breathalyzer exam to track their blood alcohol content (BAC). As the fair came to a close, the Honolulu Police Department (HPD) conducted field sobriety tests on participants and discussed the telltale signs of intoxication. "The Honolulu Police Department was great; it was interesting to see how much of an effect even a small quantity of alcohol has on the body," said Chief Quartermaster (DV) David Martin, a participant in the dosing experiment.

For those not participating in the alcohol experiment, Hickam AFB TRI-SARF provided other ways to show the effects of alcohol, including coordination tests using "beer goggles" that simulated various BACs and other interactive displays and activities. The wife of MDSU 1 Command Master Chief Rick Bettua was on hand and commented on the success of the event. "I think everyone learned a lot and I was impressed by the command's invitation to spouses and teens and the variety of presentations and topics covered," she said.

"We wanted to let the audience watch a person go from sober to intoxicated," said Gourley. "We wanted everyone to see the effects of alcohol on the human body and how it affects people differently, both physically and mentally."

"This was a rewarding experience for me, the function had shock value and I could see it had an impact on those in attendance," said Parsons. "If we stopped one individual from getting behind the wheel when impaired, then we met our objective, but I am certain that we accomplished more than that."

For a detailed script including events and points of contact to hold your own alcohol fair, call 471-9292, ext. 223. For information about the U.S. Navy Diver program, contact the MDSU 1 dive motivator/recruiter, BMC (MDV) Paul Adams at 471-9292, ext. 274.