

U.S. Pacific Fleet commander visits China

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Adm. Gary Roughead, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, arrived in China on Nov. 11, making his first visit to the country as commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

During the week-long trip, Roughead is scheduled to call on the U.S. ambassador in Beijing and visit with China's civilian and military leaders. He will also visit USS Juneau (LPD 10), which will be participating in a search and rescue exercise with the People's Liberation Army (PLA) navy and making a port visit to the southern city of Zhanjiang.

"Enhancing our navy-to-navy relationships is especially important so we can cooperate in our many areas of mutual interest," Roughead said. "Through routine dialogue and exercise, our navies can improve the ability to coordinate naval operations in missions such as maritime security, search and rescue, and humanitarian relief."

Roughead's visit to China and the upcoming search and rescue exercise build upon other recent activities, including the visit of PLA navy ships to U.S. ports, military personnel exchanges and a recent gathering of Western Pacific naval leaders in Honolulu.

Earlier this year, two Chinese navy ships - the destroyer Qingdao (DDG 113) and oiler Hongzhu (AOR 881) - visited

Pearl Harbor and San Diego and completed the first phase of a two-part exercise between the two navies as agreed to in the Military Maritime Consultative Agreement.

The first phase consisted of communications and passing exercises off the coast of Oahu, Hawai'i on Sept. 10 with USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) and a search and rescue exercise off the coast of southern California on Sept. 20 with USS Shoup (DDG 86). The second phase is to occur off the coast of China during Roughead's visit.

These exercises contribute to improved working relationships and act as a foundation for increasing disaster responsiveness and promoting regional security.

The Pacific Fleet has an established record of working with regional navies. Earlier this month, Roughead hosted the 10th Western Pacific Naval Symposium in Honolulu, a biennial gathering of naval leaders from the region - including China - that foster discussion on topics such as exercises, regional security, military exchange programs, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

"We are all professional sailors," Roughead said. "The Western Pacific Naval Symposium brings regional naval leaders together to discuss matters of importance and interest that lead to enhanced regional security and prosperity."



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Gomez

U.S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Gary Roughead Commander and Rear Adm. Lin Yongain, People's Liberation Army (Navy) Deputy Chief of Staff for the South Sea Fleet (SSF) conduct a press conference on Nov. 11 following the arrival of the amphibious transport dock USS Juneau (LPD 10) for a scheduled port visit and a search and rescue exercise (SAREX). Juneau's port visit and SAREX is intended to increase transparency and cooperation between the two navies and nations.

Parade honors military veterans



U.S. Navy photo by PSC (SW/AW) Christopher Stone

A military veteran marches in the annual Veterans' Day parade held Nov. 10 in Wahiawa. The event marked the 61st year that the Wahiawa Lions Club has sponsored the Veterans' Day parade. It featured military services from around the island as well as local bands and civic organizations.

A visit from the Royal Netherlands navy



U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

The Royal Netherlands navy ship, HNLMS Tromp (F803), arrived at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 10. The air defense and command frigate has a crew of approximately 170. The crew participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial and visited various sites throughout Oahu. HNLMS Tromp is scheduled to sail back to the Netherlands following a circumnavigation of the world. This is the first Dutch navy ship to visit Hawai'i in more than 50 years.



PMRF hosts first 'welcome aboard' event
See page A-2



Port Royal Sailors clean up Oahu Cemetery
See page A-10



Honoring Veterans aboard historic battleship
See page A-4



Students on target at Family Fun Fair
See page B-1

Pacific Missile Range Facility hosts first 'Welcome Aboard' event

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW/AW) Johnny
Michael

*Pacific Missile Range
Facility, Kaua'i*

The U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on Kaua'i opened its gates on Nov. 10 for its first ever "Welcome Aboard" event. An estimated 1,000 visitors came aboard the installation to see what the Navy does at the small, remote test and training base located on the west side of Kaua'i.

"This is my first time here," said Jim Meeker who has been a Kaua'i resident for three years. "I'll definitely be coming back next year."

Meeker noted that both of his parents were aviators and he was pleased to see the aircraft on display, including the C-17 Globemaster III and F-15 Eagle from the Hawai'i Air National Guard (HIANG), an HH-65 Dolphin from the U.S. Coast Guard, and one of PMRF's own U.S. Navy

C-26 Metroliners.

Other attractions on display were a boat from PMRF's Seaborne Targets department, electronic warfare equipment PMRF uses during test and training missions, aerial and seaborne targets, a HIANG radar suite, nearly 20 shiny vintage autos from Kaua'i Classic Cars, and a dragster from the Kaua'i Racing Association.

Guests found relief from the sun in the cavernous base air operations hangar, which housed food booths from St. Theresa's School of Kekaha and the Family of the Hawai'i Air Guard as well as booths for the Kaua'i Food Bank and Toys for Tots. A variety of information stands were also located in the hangar, offering guests a chance to see for themselves the various operations and missions conducted at the base.

A 'firefighter rodeo' competition was held between the Kaua'i Fire Department and PMRF Crash & Fire which included four separate

events. Although PMRF's team came out strong winning the first event, KFD swept the final three. Both sides enjoyed the events and look forward to next year's competition.

"I thought everyone was happy," said Bob Ceconi, PMRF fire chief. "I definitely want to continue these games next year."

PMRF last held a similar event in 1996 and according to Capt. Mark Darrah, the base commanding officer, 'Welcome Aboard PMRF' will become an annual event. He noted that it would give Kaua'i residents the opportunity to come out to the base and see for themselves the broad range of operations PMRF conducts.

"This is a great community builder for us," said Darrah. "Our goal is to get people excited to come out to PMRF, to enjoy an afternoon with us and to give insight into the important work we do for our nation here. What was really exciting for me was seeing the young people show up in great numbers and discover-



Firefighters from the Kaua'i Fire Department (KFD) sprint a bucket of water down to an awaiting barrel during a relay event as part of the 'firefighter rodeo' which took place between the Pacific Missile Range Facility Crash and Fire team and the KFD team. The relay was part of the recent 'Welcome Aboard' event held at PMRF.

ing for themselves the many opportunities available to them here at PMRF."

Plans for 'Welcome Aboard PMRF 2007' are already underway, as well as the

next public event which is scheduled for Independence Day 2007.

Preserving history while moving forward



U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

Rear Adm. T. G. Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, and Commander, Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific, welcomes representatives from private and governmental historic preservation consulting parties to the 2006 Cultural Resources Management Annual Review Conference hosted by Navy Region Hawai'i's environmental department. The conference, held at Naval Station Pearl Harbor from Nov. 14-16, provided historic preservation team members from Navy Region Hawai'i Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific and Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i with a forum to discuss plans for new military construction projects and provide updates on plans for historic facilities and the future USS Oklahoma Memorial, all of which are located near the Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The region commander focused on the importance of transforming to support the Navy of the 21st century. "We need to keep in mind the future as well as the past," said Alexander as he emphasized the need for the Navy in Hawai'i to modernize and transform to remain relevant as it moves forward. With varying perspectives, finding a balance between the Navy's military mission and its historical preservation responsibilities can be challenging, but he urged the group to keep focused. "We can't afford to get bogged down...we must be able to reach compromises and move forward, starting here, today," said Alexander. Among the consulting participants at the eighth annual conference were representatives from the State Historic Preservation Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Advisory Council for Historic Preservation, Historic Hawai'i Foundation and the National Park Service.

Naval Safety Center advises service members on safe driving

MC3 Patrick Grieco
Fleet Public Affairs Center
Atlantic

As the holiday season approaches, the Naval Safety Center on Naval Station Norfolk is reminding Sailors and Marines to practice safe driving.

"Your loved ones expect you to come home," said Robert Crisler, executive assistant of the Shore Safety Program Directorate for the Naval Safety Center. "They love you and they expect you to be there to take care of them."

The Department of the Navy lost 78 Sailors and 66 Marines on the highways last fiscal year, pushing the Navy to its highest traffic fatality rate in a decade. The Marine Corps also saw its heaviest losses in four years.

Sailors and Marines should examine risk factors and determine safe ways to avoid them. Practicing safe habits like using seatbelts, checking tire pressure before leaving and checking antifreeze levels can make the difference between life and death, said Crisler.

"It's a mere two to three seconds sometimes and it can save your life and others', too," Crisler said. "This fiscal year alone, we already have four traffic deaths. We don't need any more."

The Safety Center has several programs to help service members. Such programs include Traffic 5100, 24/7: Operation Summer Force Prevention and the Army-developed program called TRIPS, which allows any

Navy Knowledge Online user to sign in and plan a trip. The program assesses any risk involved in the trip for the driver to see and sends a copy to their supervisor.

Another way the safety center is attempting to lessen the fatality rate is by identifying risky behavior and what causes auto accidents. One way they are doing this is with the Driver Assessment Tool.

The Driver Assessment Tool program is run by Dr. Rene Reitz from Kansas State University, which looks at risk taking from a behavioral sense.

"We look at any past problems people may have had," Crisler said. "We also work with the JAG [Judge Advocate General] office to ensure privacy."

"The Christmas season is coming up and people are becoming more distracted," Williams said. "We just ask people to stop and be mindful of their situations. We've had way too many deaths."

Drivers can help prevent these deaths by using good judgment and showing responsibility. Drivers should try slowing down more, obeying the speed limit and leaving adequate time to rest before driving.

"We really ask that people examine their own behaviors when driving," Williams said. "If it doesn't appear to be a good thing, it is more than likely not a good thing."

For more information on safety, visit the safety center's Web site at www.safety-center.navy.mil.

Commentary

Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

Fried turkey is good ... but don't cook your goose

Victor M. Flint

Battalion Chief, Federal Fire Department



U.S. Navy photo

Use caution with an outdoor turkey fryer.

Deep fried turkey is a delicious Thanksgiving holiday alternative. Deep turkey fryers can be purchased from a number of retail outlets. You can purchase complete kits as well. The price you pay will be related to the size and model of fryer that you pick. When done right, the aroma, the presentation and the taste are a delight. It also takes way less time to cook.

Turkey cooks at three-and-a-half minutes per pound. A 17-pound turkey can be fully cooked and ready to go in about an hour - not bad.

The Federal Fire Department recommends the following guidelines if you are planning to deep fry your next turkey:

- Do not use the fryer inside. Fry outside only.
- Do not attempt to place the deep fat frying pot filled with oil and turkey over a campfire. Use a gas-operated type of burner with a retaining ring.

- Do not use animal fat frying oil. Use only a vegetable, peanut or cottonseed oil.

- Do not attempt to put a big turkey in a little pot. To avoid oil overflow spills, place turkey in the pot, then fill pot with water to four inches from the top. Mark the level of the water on the pot. Then remove the turkey from the water and mark that water level on the pot. Make sure that the pot is big enough for the job. The turkey needs to be completely immersed in the oil.

- Do not attempt to place a frozen or partially thawed turkey in the hot oil. The oil will splatter,

pop and spit all over the place.

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

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

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

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

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

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

For more information about deep frying and other fire-related questions, call Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint at 474-7785.

Enjoying 'turkey day' aboard ship



Official U.S. Navy photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives

Adm. William F. Halsey, Commander, Third Fleet, eats Thanksgiving dinner with the crew of his flagship, USS New Jersey (BB 62), on Nov. 30, 1944.

Hawaii Navy News

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Members of the Navy Region Hawai'i ceremonial detail perform a 21-gun salute at a sunset service on board Battleship Missouri Memorial for a Veterans' Day Memorial Service.

Veterans honored aboard historic battleship

Story and photos by
MC2 Justin P. Nesbitt

Fleet Public Affairs Center
Detachment Hawai'i

Military veterans, along with friends and family members, gathered to honor those who have served their country at a sunset ceremony held Nov. 11 on board the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Service members representing all

branches of the military attended the ceremony on the aft deck of the floating World War II museum. Speeches were made, the Navy Band performed, proper military honors were rendered and memories exchanged.

For one veteran in particular, this was a special ceremony. Storekeeper Seaman Joseph F. McCullough served in the Navy during the 1960s when anti-war protests were at an

all-time high.

"I am proud of my service and hold my head up high and want to honor the boys who didn't make it back," said McCullough. "I also did two tours in Vietnam in the Merchant Marines, which makes this ceremony very important to me."

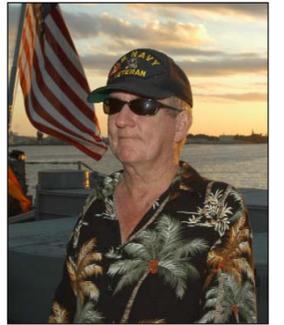
One of the guest speakers was Brandy Williams, whose husband was killed in Iraq.

"On this day, I lost not only my husband, but my soulmate,

my best friend, the father of my children, and America lost a brave and courageous Soldier," said Williams. "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to honor my husband today, and let us all pay tribute to veterans past and present not only today, but every day."

Sounds of the Aloha Chorus performing an "Armed Forces Medley" and "God Bless America" were part of the closing ceremony.

Right: Joseph F. McCullough observes the sunset service on board Battleship Missouri Memorial for a Veterans' Day Memorial Service. McCullough is a veteran of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Merchant Marines. Veterans, along with friends and family members, gathered to honor those who have served. Service members representing all branches attended the ceremony.



Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (SW) Cynthia Clark
 Al Shoehigh, member of the Hawai'i Chapter of U.S. Submarine Veterans, placed a lei honoring his fellow shipmates on 'eternal patrol' during a Veterans' Day ceremony held Nov. 11 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW/AW) Johnny Michael
 The U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kaua'i opened its gates on Nov. 10 for its first ever 'Welcome Aboard' event. An estimated 1,000 visitors came aboard the installation to see what the Navy does at the small, remote test and training base located on the west side of Kaua'i. As part of the event, nearly 20 shiny vintage autos from Kaua'i Classic Cars and a dragster from the Kaua'i Racing Association were on display.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (SW) Cynthia Clark
 Stan Nicholls, Hawai'i Chapter U.S. Submarine Veterans state commander, tolls the bell in remembrance of his fellow shipmates during a Veterans' Day ceremony held Nov. 11 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray
 U.S. Navy Sailors from around the island march down California street in Hawaii during the oldest parade in Hawai'i. This is the 61st year that the Wahiawa Lions Club has sponsored the Veterans' Day parade that features military services from around the island as well as local bands and civic organizations.

PRNOC at NCTAMS...an important link in keeping Navy families connected

Story and photo by
PSC (SW/AW) Chris Stone

*Naval Computer and
Telecommunications Area
Master Station, Pacific Public
Affairs*

Advancements in technology were taken to new heights by means of Web access and electronic mail (e-mail) miles away from home. The routine mail call that we "salty dogs" were used to is long gone. Instead, it is replaced by the daily routine of opening up our e-mails and going straight to browsing the inbox for e-mails from our loved ones.

Even the routine of reading the newspaper while drinking coffee on the 'front porch' (mess decks) is becoming extinct. Someday, going to see the doctor will be a thing of the past as well. Sick call lines will decline and the doctor will be able to diagnose your health issues straight through the Internet.

Ever wonder how our mighty U.S. Navy vessels receive connectivity for e-mail and web browsing while away from the pier? That's where the Pacific Region

Network Operations Center (PRNOC) steps in. PRNOC is the Internet service provider for the Pacific fleet - providing e-mail services, Web access, Web hosting, firewall services and sensitive compartmented information fleet services. PRNOC also provides support to regional network operations centers across the Pacific.

"We are the Pacific Fleet's trouble call desk for anything e-mail and Internet-related," said Communications Chief (CTOC) (SW/AW) Lisa Albrecht, division officer/leading chief petty officer. "The NOC [network operations center] is always ready to help and get the ships back online when something goes wrong; we know how important network connectivity is to the fleet."

PRNOC is manned by 56 military, two government service and 25 contractors. The PRNOC watch center is on a 24/7 watch rotation. There are five watch standers in each watch team. The watch center is responsible for answering trouble tickets coming from the fleet.

"I love this job. I feel like I have been given an unparalleled responsibility to make sure that

the ships can do their mission," said Information Technician 3rd Class Ryan Sullivan, a native of San Diego. "The work is hard, but I like the challenges. Besides, I look forward to going to the beach on my off days so I work hard and play hard."

Upon receipt of trouble tickets, NOC watch standers work with the fleet to detect and fix network problems. PRNOC has log-in access to the routers and switches to aid in rapid restoration and minimizing down time.

"I joined the Navy to be around professional communicators. My shipmates and the equipment I work with are evidence of this professionalism and I wouldn't trade this for anything else," stated Information Technician Seaman James Landis. "I feel important here because my skills are needed," he added.

A dose of good news through e-mail in the morning keeps us going through the day, even if the deployment is going on to the fifth month. Next time you step aboard your ship and check your e-mail, you can thank PRNOC for keeping you in touch with your loved ones when you are miles away from shore.



IT3 Ryan Sullivan tends to a Pacific Fleet customer while CTOC(SW/AW) Lisa Albrecht checks status of connectivity on one of the many terminals owned by Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific Pacific Region Network Operations Center.

A submariner reflects on Veterans' Day

**Commentary by
Capt. Chuck Merkel**

*Commanding Officer,
Submarine Training Center
Pacific and Training Support
Department Hawaii*

I have been lucky enough to have been stationed in Pearl Harbor for most of my naval career. Through the years, I have attended and participated in numerous award ceremonies, changes of commands and retirement ceremonies at the Submarine Memorial Park, but I had never taken the time to attend either the Memorial Day or Veterans' Day ceremonies at the memorial until this past Veterans' Day.

One week before Veterans' Day this year, I spoke at the Parche Memorial for the retirement ceremony of a shipmate from my first boat, USS Bremerton. My remarks included the following comments about the legacy of our submarine force in World War II:

"We are gathered here this afternoon at the Parche Memorial, a place of honor for our submarine force. This memorial was built to honor the 52 submarines and nearly 3600 men who remain on eternal patrol over 60 years after the end of World War II. There is a plaque up here behind me for each of those 52 submarines that were lost as well as a plaque for men who gave their lives on boats that were not sunk. Behind you is the bridge of USS Parche. On that bridge, Red Ramage earned the Congressional Medal of Honor in a night time surface engagement on 31 July 1944 that was described as "PARCHE versus all hell." In a 46 minute running and gunning battle, Parche sank four ships and damaged another. Parche was nearly rammed by the enemy vessels several times and the gunfire was so thick that for a time, Red Ramage sent everyone else below decks. When Red Ramage was questioned by a reporter once, all he said was, "I got mad" The submariners of World War II paid a heavy price and we must continue to honor their legacy. Last year's discovery of Lagarto and this year's discovery of Wahoo and Grunion continue to serve as reminders of the sacrifice of that generation. The number of World War II submariners gets smaller every year."

As I prepared these remarks, I realized that I was going to attend this year's [Veterans' Day] ceremony. My daughter and I arrived at the ceremony early enough to watch the submarine veterans (SUBVET) arrive. Most of them were wearing their blue vests, embroidered with the boats that they served on and decorated with patches from various SUBVET reunions over the years. While it was good to see a number of World War II veterans present, it was also reassuring to see younger veterans who had the names of nuclear submarines on their vests. We sat behind an elderly gentleman and his wife. What

immediately caught my eye was the top boat listed on the back of his vest – USS Wahoo (SS-238).

The heart of the ceremony is the roll call and tolling of the bell for each submarine lost during World War II. Although I had observed the roll call before, I had never seen the placing of lei at the memorial. All of the veterans and some widows participated in this part of the ceremony. What I found particularly touching was that many of the submarine veterans of World War

II arrived at the ceremony walking with the assistance of a cane, but when called upon to participate, they all left their canes behind at their seats.

Following the roll call and wreath presentations, Rear Adm. Joseph Mulloy gave his address. With the recent announcement of the discovery of the wreck of Wahoo in La Perouse Strait, his remarks appropriately included the history of Mush Morton and Wahoo, the legendary submarine and skipper who "shook off the shackles and

set the pace."

As Adm. Mulloy talked about the "Wahoo is expendable" speech that Mush Morton gave his crew before departing Brisbane in Jan. 1943, I noticed that the gentleman seated in front of me beginning to shake and his wife took his hand to comfort him. I knew that he had been there – this man had served on Wahoo under Mush Morton.

The ceremony closed with a 21-gun salute and the playing of Taps.

At the end of the ceremo-

ny, I introduced myself to the gentlemen who had sat in front of me. He had indeed been a Wahoo crew member and was present at Mush Morton's speech in Brisbane, Australia. He had nothing but praise for Mush Morton. He had a hard time maintaining his composure while he talked briefly with me. Our conversation ended without me learning his full name, but the first name embroidered on his vest was Bill.

Adm. Nimitz said it best: "It was to the submarine force that I looked to carry

the load until the great industrial activity could produce the weapons we so sorely needed to carry the war to the enemy. It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril."

Bill, it was an honor to get to shake your hand and talk with you. For you and all of the other submarine veterans of World War II, thank you for the great sacrifices that you made in your honorable service to our nation.

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USS Port Royal Sailors clean Oahu Cemetery

Ensign Rachael Pitchford
USS Port Royal (CG 73)
Public Affairs

As he knelt beside the headstone of a former Sailor, Gunner's Mate 1st Class Marcus Rodgers gently sponged years of dirt away from the etchings of the marble edifice.

The buildup of dirt and grime slowly disappeared to reveal the name Charles Moran and two crossed cannons, the rating badge of a gunner's mate. Not much is known about Gunner Charles Moran, who died

more than 100 years ago aboard the U.S. flag ship California.

However, his service to his country is still strongly felt by those who have followed in the same career path and have come to pay their respects to their brothers-in-arms at Oahu Cemetery.

On the day before Veterans' Day, Rodgers, along with 25 other Sailors from USS Port Royal (CG 73), gathered sponges, brushes and hoses to clean and preserve the grave-stones of Navy Sailors in Oahu Cemetery.

After Quarter Master 3rd Class Robert Green raised the Navy flag over the section of the cemetery devoted to service members, Port Royal Sailors began scrubbing away dirt to reveal the names of Sailors who passed away aboard U.S. Navy warships. Along with cleaning the markers, the volunteers also straightened and stabilized the stones that were leaning and sinking into the ground.

For Port Royal Sailors, the cemetery cleanup was more than an opportunity to observe Veterans' Day.

Many of the gravesites memorialize Sailors who died in the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Other Sailors, like Charles Moran, died over half a century before, but their cause of death remains unknown.

In 1939, the U.S. Navy purchased this particular area of land in Oahu Cemetery to bury their Sailors.

The graves memorialize the honor, courage and commitment of these veterans and reminded Port Royal Sailors why they chose to serve their country.

Gunner's Mate 1st Class Marcus Rodgers, along with 25 other Sailors from USS Port Royal (CG 73), gathered sponges, brushes and hoses to clean and preserve the gravestones of Navy Sailors in Oahu Cemetery on Veterans' Day. Rodgers places a flag at the marble edifice of Charles Moran, who died more than 100 years ago aboard the U.S. flag ship California.



U.S. Navy photo

Hawai'i Navy News Online www.hawaii.navy.mil

NAVFAC Pacific receives U.S. Pacific Air Forces design award

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

In a ceremony held Nov. 1 at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawai'i, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific (NAVFAC Pacific) received the prestigious U.S. Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) Design Agent of the Year award.

NAVFAC Pacific was recognized for exceeding PACAF's design milestones, including project cost and schedule. Specifically, the command was recognized for its excellence in the design of many facilities on Guam and Wake Island for the PACAF, including a stunning new medical and dental clinic and Global Hawk hangar.

At the ceremony it was announced that "NAVFAC Pacific led all PACAF design agents in completing \$100 million in project designs and awards within programmed budget targets, which included the \$53 million Global Hawk aircraft hangar. NAVFAC Pacific's technical expertise and program management skills were also essential to developing execution strategy and the concept designs for our intelligence surveillance

and reconnaissance and strike projects at Anderson Air Force Base."

Receiving an individual award at the ceremony was Garrett Fong, NAVFAC Pacific project manager, who was recognized as PACAF's Civilian Project Manager of the Year in the design and construction category.

"Congratulations are in order for our staff involved in the Air Force projects," said Clyde Morita, NAVFAC Pacific chief engineer and capital improvements business line manager. "I also want to thank our entire department for their professional performance in exceeding the expectations of our clients. Your continued level of excellence is appreciated by all and contributes greatly to honors like this."

To win the award, the NAVFAC Pacific design staff minimized lost design effort with a proactive management team, who provided exceptional coordination by being very responsive and keeping the client involved and updated. A key management focus was to ensure a close working relationship between NAVFAC Pacific and Air Force personnel in first defining project goals and requirements.



Photo courtesy of NAVFAC Pacific

Garrett Fong (right), a project manager for Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific, receives an award as U.S. Pacific Air Force's (PACAF) Civilian Project Manager of the Year in the design and construction category, during a ceremony held Nov. 1 at Hickam Air Force Base. NAVFAC Pacific was recognized for its excellence in the design of many facilities on Guam and Wake Island for PACAF, including a new medical and dental clinic and Global Hawk hangar.

CNRC helping to streamline transition from active to reserve

MC2 (AWSW) Gabriel Owens

Commander, Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Recruiting Command (CNRC) started beta testing a new program in early November to streamline the process for Sailors wishing to transfer to the Reserves upon the expiration of their active-duty contract.

Called the Fleet to Navy

Operational Support Center (NOSC) Program, this initiative is being beta tested at selected commands around the fleet.

"We're looking to make the transition from active-duty to Reserve more like transferring," said Capt. Ray Wynne, operations director at CNRC. "The less paperwork and hassle, the better we can recruit active duty to Reserve."

Under the new initiative, instead of being recruited by a "waterfront" recruiter when a Sailor is nearing the end of his

contract, the member is contacted by their command career counselor (CCC). Once a Sailor indicates the desire to enter into the Reserves, the CCC can now contact CNRC's "cyberspace" recruiters directly to begin the process.

"Cyberspace can then set up contact with the nearest recruiter and NOSC to where the member is planning to live after service," said Wynne. "Before the member even separates, they'll have a sponsor and a welcome aboard package from their NOSC."

The separating Sailor will still attend Transitional Assistance Program (TAP) and participate in other separation activities. The CCC will assist the Sailor getting their transfer to Reserve affiliation kit ready before separation.

Upon separation, the member takes their kit to their local recruiter within 10 days. The recruiter gains the Sailor to the Reserves and verifies the first drill dates.

The beta test is scheduled to continue until September 2007.

Construction activities around Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor Chapel roof repair

Roofing repairs on the Pearl Harbor Chapel began Nov. 1. The project will involve some environmental remediation work and replacement of the roof. Efforts will be coordinated to eliminate any disruptions to the chapel's schedule of religious services. There will be a temporary loss of parking spots at the rear of the building to locate the construction dumpster. The first phase of work will be executed on the main chapel building (building 1600) and then progress to the smaller adjacent buildings - 1601, 1602 and 1603. The roofing project is expected to last two months, with Dec. 31 as the scheduled completion date.