

## CNO and MCPON visit Pearl Harbor

MC2 (SW) Ben A. Gonzales

Fleet Public Affairs Center  
Detachment Hawai'i

Adm. Mike Mullen, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. met with Pearl Harbor Sailors on board USS Pasadena (SSN 752), USS Russell (DDG 59) and at two all-hands calls at Sharkey Theater at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 7.

While touring major fleet concentration areas to observe regional business practices and before participating in the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet change-of-command, the CNO and MCPON took time to address issues concerning Sailors.

"If we don't know an answer to a question, we get a little bit smarter by going back and looking that up,

finding out, maybe digging a little bit deeper and maybe we could head off a potential problem instead of reacting to it," said Campa.

The CNO and MCPON answered many Sailors' questions on several topics including education, advancements and the delay on the new uniforms.

"I'm anxious about getting Sailors these new uniforms," said Mullen. "It's got to be high enough quality where it's representative of (the Navy) and is actually a uniform you would want to wear."

While at breakfast with Pasadena Sailors, Mullen asked Sailors where they were from, who was up for orders, and where they were headed.

He also showed that the CNO is allowed to have a sense of humor. While talking to one of Pasadena's culinary specialists, Mullen asked, "Can you cook?" When the

petty officer answered in the affirmative, the CNO deadpanned, "Good. You'll find out how important that is on your next deployment."

Some of the more serious questions turned toward individual augmentees, upcoming deployments and current manning issues.

"I've never heard a Sailor in all my years say, 'I have enough people,'" said Mullen. "The Navy's been completely manned since (the year) 2000, but now we're taking a look at not just manning, but the right fit."

"We have to have the right people in the right places, not just bodies. We're looking at manning now from a standpoint of (Navy employment codes) to make sure the Sailors filling certain billets are qualified and have the right training," added the CNO.

▼ See CNO, A-2



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Chad J. McNeely

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Mike Mullen answers questions from the Sailors of guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) at Naval Station Pearl Harbor during an all hands call on the fantail on May 7. Mullen was joined by Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. During their visit, Mullen and Campa enjoyed a steel beach picnic aboard the ship.

## Willard assumes command of U.S. Pacific Fleet

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Adm. Robert F. Willard relieved Adm. Gary Roughead as commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, during a change of command ceremony held Tuesday at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Adm. Michael G. Mullen, chief of naval operations (CNO), presided over the ceremony, which overlooked the historic USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Missouri Memorial. He recognized Roughead for the "latest chapter in what has truly been an amazing career" and passed the helm to Willard, "sitting like a Tomcat (of which he flew) ... waiting to launch."

"Next to heroism and war, this ceremony represents the zenith of military achievement - a significant milestone in the careers of two great naval officers," Mullen said.

Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, joined the CNO



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight

Adm. Robert F. Willard (far left) relieves Adm. Gary Roughead (far right) as commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, during a change of command ceremony held Tuesday at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Adm. Michael G. Mullen, chief of naval operations, joined by Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, presided over the ceremony, which overlooked the historical USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Missouri Memorial.

in praising Roughead for his many contributions to the Pacific Fleet and to the state of Hawai'i. He welcomed Willard to the Navy's largest fleet command, which encompasses more than 100 million square miles and 172 ships and submarines, 1,296 aircraft and 122,000 Sailors, Reservists and civilians.

"It is my privilege ... to speak for all the men and women - Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, civilians and the entire Pacific Command - in expressing our sincere thanks to Gary Roughead for (his) service in this world's largest and most demanding naval theater, United States Pacific Fleet," Keating said. "You have made great strides in terms of security, engagement and an open relationship with all the 43 countries in our area of responsibility."

During his tour as U.S. Pacific Fleet commander, Roughead, as spoken of by both Mullen and Keating, remained focused on

warfighting, force posturing, building regional relationships and, most importantly, leading the fleet.

"At Pacific Fleet we set warfighting as our number one priority and it must be that way," Roughead said. "We have demonstrated that our naval forces are ready and flexible and agile."

"I have seen first hand the readiness you have delivered today. The ships looked great. But what impressed me most were the Sailors," said Mullen as he spoke of recent visits to Pacific Fleet ships and submarines. "Their pride and professionalism filled my chest with pride. These are your people, our people. They are ready and they want to make a difference. They are a testament to your leadership."

Mullen also spoke of the contributions made by Roughead's wife, Ellen, thanking her for her leader-

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## USS Lake Erie deploys to Western Pacific

MCSN John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Fleet Public Affairs Center  
Detachment, Hawai'i

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) departed Pearl Harbor on May 4 to the Western Pacific in support of the global war on terrorism and to conduct maritime security.

The Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser and its 330-member crew will perform ship-to-ship maneuvers and be the Navy's test platform for ballistic missile defense.

"[I'm] Excited, I cannot even put it into words, seeing all the foreign countries I've only been able to see in books," said Cryptologic Technician (Technical) Seaman Isaac Mitchell of Dallas.

For Mitchell, the departure marked a call to duty to support his country, "For my

first deployment, I'm ready to get busy doing the job I was trained to do. This is the real deal and I'm hopeful to do my best for my country and the Navy," he said.

Family members gathered pierside early in the morning to say their goodbyes and to show support for their Sailors.

"It's so hard to watch him go. I know his job requires him to leave. I know he's doing it for the greater good of this country and I am so proud of him," said the wife of a Lake Erie Sailor.

For the crew of the Lake Erie, training began months ago in the form of pre-deployment underway periods and hours of training evolutions, preparing them for this full operational deployment.

"Going out on deployment gives the Sailors experience beyond any other," said

Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Herbert M. Ellis Jr. "This is when all the hard work they put into all the training is used in a real world environment and I could not ask for a better group of Sailors."

Modern U.S. Navy guided missile cruisers perform primarily in a battle force role. The ships are multi-mission surface combatants capable of supporting carrier battle groups, amphibious forces or operating independently and as flagships of surface action groups.

Cruisers are equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles, giving them additional long-range strike mission capability.

Lake Erie will return later this summer to its homeport of Pearl Harbor to family and shipmates who will be waiting pierside to hear of their adventures serving the Navy in the Western Pacific.



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

Family members say goodbye as Sailors aboard the Pearl Harbor-based, guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) depart May 4 for a deployment to the western Pacific. Lake Erie recently conducted a successful ballistic missile defense exercise in the Hawai'i operating area, successfully engaging targets using the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) shipboard weapon system. The test demonstrated Lake Erie's ability to engage a ballistic missile threat and defend itself from attack at the same time.



USS Port Royal corpsmen receive Navy and Marine Corps Medal See page A-2



VP-4 change of command See page A-4



Navy commissions USS Hawai'i See page A-3



Fun in the sun...at summer camps See page B-1

# USS Port Royal corpsmen receive Navy and Marine Corps Medal

Story and photos by  
MCI James E. Foehl

Commander, Navy Region  
Hawai'i Public Affairs

Chief Hospital Corpsman Doreen E. Lehner from Mount Gilead, Ohio along with Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Heather A. Watts from Pharr, Texas, both assigned to Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) homeported at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal on May 7 on board Port Royal.

The award was presented to the Port Royal Sailors by Vice Adm. Samuel Locklear, commander, U.S. Third Fleet, for the Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Mike Mullen. The award was for extraordinary heroism while rescuing an Iraqi Southern Oil Company worker overcome by smoke inhalation during an explosion on the Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT) on May 26, 2006.

"This award is critically important to the Navy because it is representative of the heroic actions of those two young women in uniform," said Locklear. "Those types of values are what this country is built on. It's representative of the quality of [Sailors] serving in the United States Navy today."

At the time of the incident, Lehner from Mount Gilead, Ohio and Watts from Pharr, Texas were assigned to the Port Royal and deployed as part of Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 3 in support of maritime security operations in the North Persian Gulf.

"Chief Lehner was on the fantail waiting to be transferred to the USS Germantown (LSD 42). While she was out there, she spotted the explosion," said Watts.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Heather A. Watts and Chief Hospital Corpsman Doreen E. Lehner are awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal by Vice Adm. Samuel Locklear, commander, Third U.S. Fleet, at a ceremony May 7 on board USS Port Royal (CG 73) at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Locklear met with Sailors of the Port Royal during his visit. Watts and Lehner are both assigned to the Port Royal medical department.

In an immediate response to the explosion, Lehner and Watts quickly prepared their medical supplies to accommodate for mass casualties before departing the Port Royal to render assistance at the scene of the fire.

Upon their arrival at the scene via a rigid hull inflatable boat (RHIB), the corpsmen assisted Sailors from the USS Decatur (DDG 73) with the damage control efforts as they monitored for heat stress casualties and supplied water to the fire fighters.

"They requested us to leave because they were expecting a second explosion," said Lehner. "We were on our way out and that's when [we learned] there was a man down."

Placing their lives in im-

minent danger to come to the aide of the Iraqi worker, the two hospital corpsmen braved the conflagration with complete disregard for their own safety.

"He was so depleted, he was posturing. His arms and legs were cramping and moving all around. The Iraqis were grabbing his arms and legs and massaging them and praying," said Lehner.

The corpsmen began treatment to the victim and inserted an oral pharyngeal to clear his airway. "When we put the airway in, he shot up and came back to life like a miracle, gasping for air," said Lehner.

After continuing to resuscitating the patient, Lehner and Watts directed his evacuation past raging 50-foot

flames, sagging steel beams and billowing smoke.

"The fire was so hot, the metal was burning," said Lehner. "As we were leaving, the Iraqis were following us saying, God bless you, God bless you."

Successfully overcoming all barriers and resuscitating the man three additional times during transit to the Germantown, the corpsmen kept the man alive.

"It was a blessing. I never experienced a situation of that nature, where I would find myself at the will of trying to save another man's life," said Watts.

"I think what is important was the impression that we left on the Iraqi people and that we got the opportunity from our training in the Navy



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Vice Adm. Samuel Locklear, commander, Third U.S. Fleet, addresses the crew of Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73) during an awards ceremony on board the ship at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 7. Locklear met with Sailors of the Port Royal during his visit and awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Chief Hospital Corpsman Doreen E. Lehner and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Heather A. Watts, both assigned to Port Royal medical department.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Capt. David Adler, commanding officer, USS Port Royal (CG 73), greets Vice Adm. Samuel Locklear, commander, Third U.S. Fleet on the quarterdeck during a visit May 7 to the Port Royal at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Locklear met with Sailors of the Port Royal during his visit and awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal to Chief Hospital Corpsman Doreen E. Lehner and Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Heather A. Watts, both assigned to Port Royal medical department.

to save a life out there," said Lehner.

The Navy and Marine Corps Medal is the second highest non-combatant medal awarded to Sailors and Marines of

the U.S. Navy and is awarded for heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy, for acts of lifesaving or attempted lifesaving actions performed at the risk of one's own life.

## PACIFIC FLEET Continued from A-1

ship, her involvement in a diverse array of activities, and her commitment to improving the quality of life for the Pacific Fleet families. She received the distinguished public service award.

Before relinquishing command, Roughead thanked all in attendance and all who supported him during his time in Hawai'i, specifically, the event that culminated his tour – the May 5 commissioning of the Navy's newest fast-attack submarine, USS Hawai'i (SSN 776).

"It was the perfect event to close out my time as Pacific Fleet commander," Roughead said. "I want to thank the citizens of Hawai'i, the 'aloha state,' who represent the

unwavering support and the firm commitment to what our Navy and our military does here in the Pacific."

Following the Pacific Fleet tour, Roughead leaves the islands of Hawai'i for Virginia where he will relieve Adm. John B. Nathman as commander, Fleet Forces Command later this month in Norfolk. A 1973 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Roughead assumed command of U.S. Pacific Fleet on July 8, 2005, just nine months after reporting as second-in-command of U.S. Pacific Command in October 2004.

Willard, also a 1973 graduate of the Naval Academy, most recently completed his assignment as the 34th vice chief of naval operations in Washington, D.C.

Mullen, expressed his

utmost confidence in Willard and his wife, Donna, as they embark on the journey of leading the Pacific Fleet.

"They are excited and they are the right couple at the right time to assume the watch. Our Navy has a way of finding good talent, fitting just the right people in the right place even as the superb ones move on," Mullen said as he posed to Willard a similar challenge given to Adm. Chester Nimitz in World War II. At the onset of the war, "Adm. Chester Nimitz received word ... to take command of the Pacific Fleet. Nimitz wrote back, 'It is a great responsibility and I will do my utmost to meet it.' (Bob,) I know you will do the utmost to meet it as well."

After reading his orders, Willard echoed the historic

significance of commanding the Pacific Fleet and accepted the challenge set out before him.

"For a U.S. naval officer, there are few leadership assignments that highlight the tradition, the history and the operational opportunities than the Pacific Fleet, whether by ensuring regional partners by our presence, sharing our knowledge of the maritime domain to promote safety, helping enforce the laws of the sea, or actively defending friends and the United States from threats of attack from on, under or above the seas," Willard said. "The Pacific Fleet remains vital to our nation and to this region. I have every confidence in this fleet's capabilities. I am thrilled and humbled to be given the opportunity to command," he said.

## CNO Continued from A-1

The CNO and MCPON also went to Fleet and Family Services as well as the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society. Mullen said he always goes to these two services no matter what base he visits. He says he can find out more about what's going on with local Sailors from those facilities in 20 minutes than he can throughout the rest of his stay.

With recent information campaigns geared toward

warning Sailors about financial traps like payday loan offices, other businesses geared toward taking advantage of junior Sailors financially through high-interest loans, and the new initiatives toward 'deployability and employability,' the MCPON always wants to see if the message is getting out.

"These visits are really a great chance to see how policies and the direction we put out in the Navy are working out, especially how they are working out on the deck plates," explained Campa.

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**Hawaii Navy News**

# Navy commissions attack sub USS Hawai'i

MC1 (SW) Ira J. Elinson

Naval Submarine Base New London Public Affairs

GROTON, Conn. (NNS) -- Under clear blue New England skies, the Navy's newest attack submarine, USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) was commissioned May 5 on the Thames River at Naval Submarine Base New London, in Groton, Conn.

The ceremony, complete with hula dancers, war canoes and leis, brought North Shore flavor to the shores of New England. Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle, sponsor of Hawai'i, spoke the words that the Navy, and especially the crew, had waited to hear since its christening in June 2006. In a time-honored Navy tradition, Lingle directed, "Man our ship and bring her to life!"

The third submarine of the Virginia-class, SSN 776 recognizes the tremendous support the Navy has enjoyed from the people of the "aloha state" and honors the rich heritage of submarines in the Pacific theater.

"Most people, when they hear the word Hawai'i, they immediately conjure up pictures of beautiful beaches,

lovely dancers and moonlit nights," said Hawai'i Sen. Daniel K. Inouye. "Hawai'i is all that and more: Our sons and daughters have participated in every war since we became part of the United States."

"While most of the Western Pacific is, for the most part free, ships like Hawai'i and the men who serve on her will help ensure that freedom for future generations," said Adm. Gary Roughead, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, as he delivered the ceremony's principal address.

Hawai'i has improved stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and special warfare enhancements that will enable it to meet the Navy's multi-mission requirements. Hawai'i's capabilities include: anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, special forces delivery and support, and covert mine warfare. In addition to these mission areas, Hawai'i will be able to strike targets ashore with precision Tomahawk cruise missiles and conduct covert long-term surveillance of land areas, coastal waters or other maritime forces. With enhanced communications

connectivity, the submarine also will provide unique, fully-integrated strike group and joint task force support.

"People who tour the ship speak of the technology, com-

puter displays and fiber optics," said Lingle, "but it is the spirit of its Sailors that makes this ship great."

Capt. David A. Solms, a native of Colorado Springs,

Colo., is the ship's commanding officer, leading a crew of approximately 134 officers and enlisted personnel.

Hawai'i will complete a post-commissioning shakedown

period and continue readying for its first deployment from Naval Submarine Base New London. The ship will eventually be homeported in Hawai'i in 2009.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Shawn P. Eklund

Sailors "man the ship" and officially bring the newest Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) to life during her commissioning ceremony on May 5 in Groton, Conn. Hawai'i is the third Virginia-class submarine to be commissioned and part of the first major U.S. Navy combatant vessel class designed with the post-Cold War security environment in mind.

## Safety is crucial during critical days of summer

MCSN Kieshia Savage

Fleet Public Affairs Center Atlantic

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Every year motor vehicle accidents claim the lives of Sailors, especially during the critical days of summer, Memorial Day through Labor Day.

According to the Naval Safety Center, as the volume of vehicles on roadways increase so does the risk of mishaps, injuries and deaths. By practicing traffic safety regularly, Sailors not only protect themselves and loved ones, but others on the road.

The Naval Safety Center tries to keep mishaps down by hosting a variety of presentations and trainings to help Sailors identify motor vehicle safety hazards and prepare them for safer road trips.

A program called Travel Risk Planning System (TRiPS) plans whole road trips and identifies possible problems before drivers get behind the wheel. The Navy and Marine Corps version of the program started in August 2006 and with more than 30,000 service members registered, 18,000 travel risk assessments have been completed with a successful zero fatality rate.

"A Sailor goes onto the safety center's Web site and completes a TRiPS risk assessment where they answer questions pertaining to their vehicle and future trip plans," said Dale Wisnieski, a traffic and motorcycle safety specialist at the Naval Safety Center.

"The risk assessment will then say whether the trip is low, medium or high risk and give some scenarios of members that have died in accidents. Once the entire assessment is complete, an email is sent to the Sailors' supervisor which opens up any problematic areas from the assessment to be discussed," said Wisnieski.

"The whole idea is to get people thinking about their upcoming trip, get supervisors involved with their personnel, and help Sailors plan a safe trip," he added.

Master Chief Machinist's Mate (SWAW) James Cooke, traffic safety specialist at the Naval Safety Center/Traffic Safety Division, provided some simple tips that could mean the difference between life, injury or death after getting behind the wheel.

"Don't drink and drive, always wear a seatbelt, don't drive [when you're] fatigued and take breaks every two hours or so when traveling long distances," said Cooke.

Cooke also suggested keeping realistic thoughts about travel time and avoiding road rage.

The Navy is having one of its best years regarding motor vehicle-related fatalities in more than five years.

Dan Steber, media officer at the Naval Safety Center, said 80 percent of motor vehicle mishaps involve human error and most people take the act of driving for granted.

"The most dangerous thing you do every day isn't what you do at work, it's getting in your car and driving," Steber said. "I don't think we always take that so seriously and that's part of the problem. We take it for granted that we're in our car and everything's fine, but more incidents and deaths happen there than they do at work."

Sometimes just hearing motor vehicle accident stories isn't enough to make an impact on a person's daily routine.

Presentations like "Street Smart" drive the message home by allowing Sailors a chance to hear stories from families that lost loved ones in motor vehicle accidents. Those families sometimes bring in articles of clothing worn by the victim at the time of the accident.

"I think the presentations make a big difference because people get to see it firsthand and it brings reality to them," said Bonnie Revelle, a traffic safety specialist at the Naval Safety Center. "We just want to drive into service members' minds that this can happen to them."

As for motorcyclists, safety measures are just as important because bikes are no match for motor vehicles on the road. A simple mistake or misjudgment on the highway increases the rate for fatality.

"Riders that have not ridden in a couple years should take a refresher course to sharpen their skills, make sure the motorcycle is serviced regularly, follow all Department of Transportation proper protective equipment riding gear guidelines, and obey speed laws," said Wisnieski.

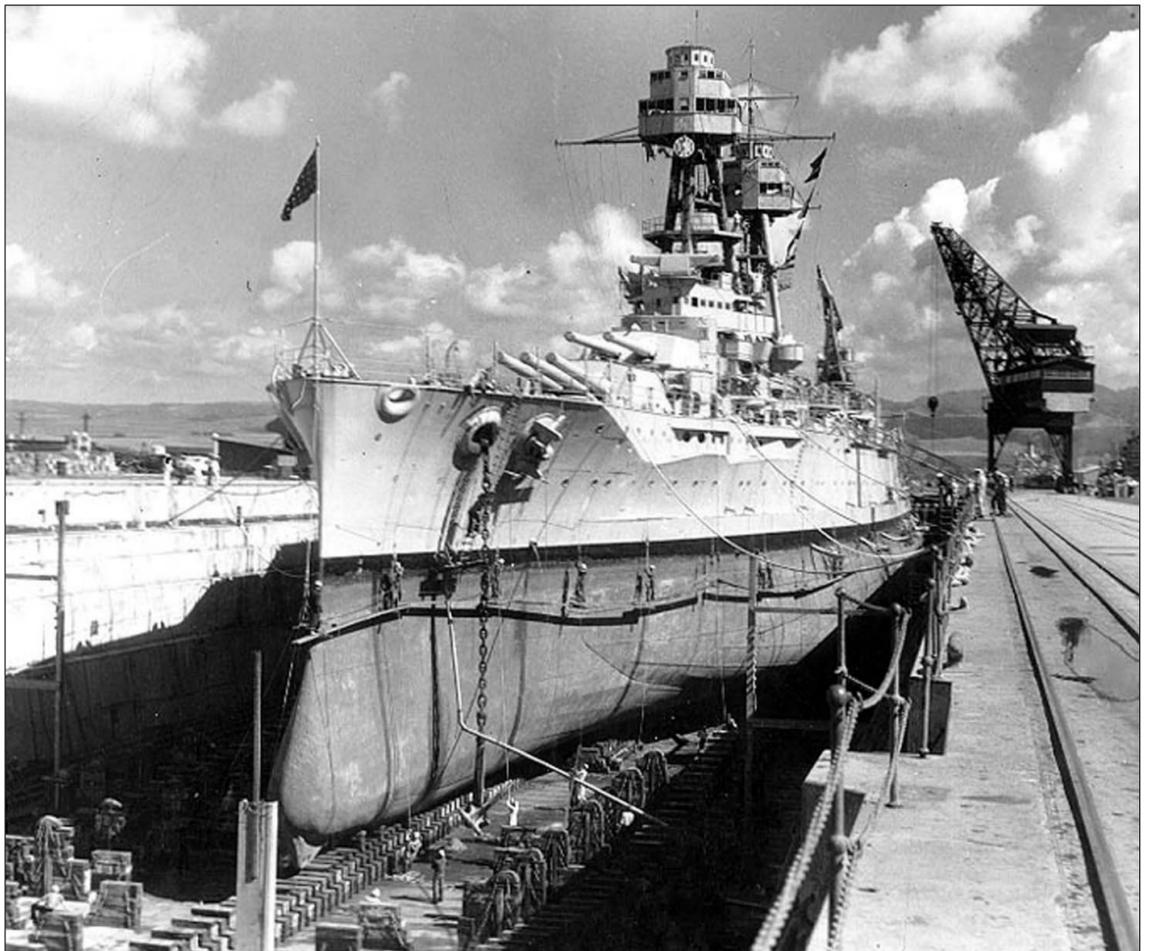
Although the Navy offers presentations and information about safety, commands share the responsibility in delivering this information throughout the fleet.

"All commands need to take responsibility for their Sailors, and Sailors need to take care of each other," said Wisnieski. "All commands should have emergency contact numbers that will allow Sailors to get home safely."

Wisnieski urges all Sailors from senior to junior to always take the time to take care of a shipmate.

To access TRiPS and for more information visit [www.safetycenter.navy.mil](http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil).

## USS Nevada in drydock at Pearl Harbor



U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph

USS Nevada (BB 36) is shown in dry dock number one at the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, Hawai'i, circa 1935. Note men painting her boot topping from stages rigged over the side and outline of her anti-torpedo "blister" where it merges with her forward hull.

## Hawai'i Navy News

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## 'Skinny Dragons' hold change of command



U.S. Navy photo

Cmdr. Wade D. Turvold passed command of Patrol Squadron 4 (VP 4) to Cmdr. Leonard E. Reed during a change of command ceremony held May 3 at hangar 971 at Misawa Air Base, Japan. VP 4, based at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe, is currently deployed in support of Seventh Fleet.

# 'Skinny Dragons' hold change of command

Lt. j.g. Danny McMaster

Patrol Squadron Four Public Affairs

The 'Skinny Dragons' of Patrol Squadron Four at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe Bay, currently deployed in support of Seventh Fleet, said their final farewell to Cmdr. Wade D. Turvold, commanding officer, on May 3 as he concluded a successful tour as squadron commanding officer. The event was held at hangar 971 at Misawa Air Base, Japan.

Turvold passed command to Cmdr. Leonard E. Reed, executive officer, as the squadron prepares for its final stretch of a successful six-month deployment.

Turvold stood proudly in front of his squadron, invited guests and VIPs in attendance and was publicly honored for his hard work, dedication to excellence and service to his country as commander of one of the finest squadrons in the Navy.

The guest speaker was Rear Adm. Arthur J. Johnson, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force Seventh Fleet, whose words inspired all in attendance.

As the two read their official orders, the tradition of passing command authority, accountability and responsibility forward from one commander to the next came to pass. Turvold, in his final moments as 'Dragon One,' addressed the distinguished audience, commenting on his pride and appreciation for the squadron's hard work and dedication to being the very best in the maritime

patrol reconnaissance aircraft (MPRA) community. The completion of Turvold's tour closed another milestone chapter in the commander's career. He and his wife and their two children will embark on the new challenges and adventures ahead as he prepares to assume the title of operations officer, Commander, Task Force 72, Misawa, Japan.

Reed assumed the command of VP-4 during a challenging time of transition and growth for the entire MPRA community. Upon assuming the position, he is immediately tasked with incorporating the new consolidated maintenance organization (CMO) and the warfare development officer (WDO) force structure into the command. Streamlining and becoming a more effective force capable squadron, he will be required to maintain combat readiness all 12 months of the year.

He previously served as the assistant operations officer aboard the USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) and worked for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

Established in 1928, Patrol Squadron Four has proudly defended our nation's oceans through numerous interdictions, conflicts and rescues. Now in their 34th year of mishap-free flying, with over 220,000 flight hours, the 'Skinny Dragons' of Patrol Squadron Four, led by Reed, look forward to many more years as the leader in Navy maritime patrol and reconnaissance aviation, emboldened by their motto, "pride and excellence."

## Basketball diplomacy: Paul Hamilton's basketball team wins friends in Japan

Ensign Aaron Dausman

USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60)

During a brief theater engagement port visit, the basketball team from the Hawai'i-based, guided missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) was called upon to serve as diplomats and ambassadors in the small community of Maizuru, Japan. The visit, deemed a significant piece of the U.S. regional engage-

ment initiative, afforded Paul Hamilton Sailors the opportunity to play a few friendly games of basketball against their host, sailors from the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force based in Maizuru.

Paul Hamilton, a perennial intramural powerhouse back in Pearl Harbor, won both games, but the greater victory was seeing 18- and 19-year-old Sailors understand their roles as ambassadors of their respective

countries and their navies.

After the game, the Japanese sailors treated the Paul Hamilton hoops team to a tour of their museum and a Japanese-style barbecue where Japanese and American Sailors mixed easily and enjoyed the Japanese cooking.

The games were hard-fought, but were defined more by a general sense of sportsmanship, camaraderie and the realization that although the two cultures are separat-

ed by many miles, the both have a great deal in common in a love for sports and the sea. As General Douglas MacArthur said, "On the fields of friendly strife are sown the seeds of victory." The love of sport and thrill of competition will always transcend cultural, language and national barriers. The Sailors of Paul Hamilton look forward to engaging their allies in friendly competition wherever their deployment takes them.

www.hnn.navy.mil  
Hawaii Navy News  
Online

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN John W Ciccarelli Jr.

Sailors of guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) say their good-byes as the ship pulls away from pierside on May 4. Currently, Lake Erie is the Navy's theater wide ballistic missile defense test ship on a scheduled deployment supporting operations in the Pacific.



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN John W Ciccarelli Jr.

Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Neizen Pascual of Hawai'i kisses his daughter good-bye before being deployed aboard guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) on May 4.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Capt. Charles Barker, commanding officer, Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i, speaks to Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School students, parents and faculty during an opening ceremony for a May Day celebration at the school on May 4. Prior to the student's May Day presentations, Barker re-affirmed Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i's commitment as the school's military partner to the students, faculty and family members.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Sailors assigned to Japanese Training Squadron (JTS) ships JS Kashima (TV 3508), JS Sawagiri (DD 157) and JS Shimayuki, board a U.S. Navy white boat assigned to USS Arizona Memorial Detachment at Merry Point Landing, Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 3. More than 180 Japanese sailors toured the historic Navy sights of Pearl Harbor on their visit.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Engineman 1st Class Joshua Schultz, assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i barge crew, secures a line while mooring at Merry Point Landing, Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 3. Rear Adm. T.G. Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, hosted a tour of Pearl Harbor for Rear Adm. Yasushi Matsushi, Commander Japanese Training Squadron, during his visit to Hawai'i.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Ben A. Gonzales

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Mike Mullen speaks to Sailors from the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Pasadena (SSN 752) on May 7 before making his way to the mess decks during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. and CNO are touring major fleet concentration areas to observe regional business practices and to address issues concerning Sailors such as rating mergers, individual augmentees (IA), retirement plans and the future of the Navy.



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Adm. Robert F. Willard, formerly Vice Chief of Naval Operations; Adm. Mike G. Mullen, Chief of Naval Operations; and Adm. Gary Roughead, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, take their seats during a change of command ceremony for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Willard assumed command of U.S. Pacific Fleet from Roughead during the ceremony on May 8.

Adm. Mike G. Mullen, Chief of Naval Operations, delivers his remarks during a change of command ceremony for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 8. Adm. Robert F. Willard, formerly Vice Chief of Naval Operations, assumed command of U.S. Pacific Fleet from Adm. Gary Roughead during the ceremony.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl



Adm. Gary Roughead, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, salutes as he is piped through the sideboys during a change of command ceremony for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 8. Adm. Robert F. Willard, formerly Vice Chief of Naval Operations, assumed command of U.S. Pacific Fleet from Roughead during the ceremony.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

# ATG MIDPAC proves good stewards make good neighbors

*Afloat Training Group  
Middle Pacific*

Beach clean-ups, playground construction, speech judging and little league coaching were just a few of the ways the Sailors of Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC) were "good neighbors" in 2006. That commitment to the community and the environment was recognized recently when the command received four awards in a span of less than two weeks.

In early March, ATG MIDPAC was named the 2006 CNO Project Good Neighbor Flagship award winner (small shore command). The next day they received word they had also won the 2006 Navy Environmental Stewardship Flagship Award recipient (small shore command). A few days later, Rear Adm. T.G. Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, named ATG MIDPAC as the winner of similar awards for Navy Region Hawai'i.

The Good Neighbor award recognizes commands for outstanding community service projects. The environmental stewardship award commends commands for their outreach efforts both on and off base to enhance their communities, making them a better place for all to live.

"I couldn't be more proud of all of the warriors at ATG MIDPAC," commented Commodore Dell Epperson, commander of ATG MIDPAC. "At the beginning of 2006, we set a number of goals for ourselves as part of our overall command strategy. Right up there at the top was to constantly seek ways to actively support our community. We wanted to ensure our island remained the paradise that drew us here in the first place. Winning these awards recog-



U.S. Navy photo by MC1(AW/SW) James Foehl

Sailors assigned to Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC) participated in a community clean-up project in March 2006 on Ford Island. The effort was led by Commodore Dell Epperson, Commander, ATG MIDPAC, and coordinated by Senior Chief Ship's Serviceman Leon Hazley. The command was recently named the 2006 CNO Project Good Neighbor Flagship award winner (small shore command) and the 2006 Navy Environmental Stewardship Flagship Award recipient (small shore command).

nizes the hard work of every member of ATG and their families to achieve that goal," he said.

While it was a command-wide effort, Epperson specifically singled out Senior Chief Ship's Serviceman (SW) Leon Hazley, the community service coordinator for the command, calling him a natural-born cheerleader who inspires everyone to get involved.

"Our Sailors were already participating in a variety of projects," Hazley stressed. "As a group, we did an Earth Day clean-up around the island end of the Ford Island Bridge. Several served as judges for the Olelo Noeau speech and debate contests. For two days, we took vans of volunteers to the River of Life Mission. Another time, we cleaned up a section of

the Pouhala Marsh. All of this was in addition to what individual Sailors were already doing in their spare time. My task was easy when you work with such a giving group of men and women," he noted.

In addition to these tasks, ATG MIDPAC continues a long-standing partnership with Iroquois Point Elementary School.

Throughout the year, Sailors serve as tutors and help out with special projects such as cleaning up playgrounds and renovating old buildings. Recently the command was able to provide funding for a new marquee sign at the school.

Community involvement remains a priority in 2007 as the command strives to conduct one major service proj-

ect each quarter on top of the multitude of smaller efforts. "This is our home and these are our neighbors," Hazley observed. "Part of Commodore Epperson's command philosophy is 'live by the golden rule.' If we treat our neighbors and Mother Earth as we would want to be treated, it will all come back around to us. A little bit of effort goes a long way."