

Navy in Hawaii wins top prize for energy

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam was the big winner Wednesday in a ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. recognizing commands that are leading the way in energy security.

Capt. Jeff James, joint base commander, and teams from Hawaii were on hand to receive the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Energy and Water Management Award.

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus recognized select commands for leading the Department of the Navy in reducing energy and water consumption, increasing use of renewable energy sources and constructing sustainable facilities, all while maintaining mission readiness.

"These awards demonstrate the progress that we have made in the last three and a half years to change the way we think about and the way we produce and use energy," Mabus said. "We are working towards these energy goals to help us become a more effective military force to help us accomplish the mission that the nation gives us."

Navy leaders have shown how renewable



U.S. Navy photo

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus announces energy and water management awards at an Oct. 3 ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial.

energy saves lives on the battlefield and provides independence from foreign sources of energy.

Hawaii leads

As SECNAV Platinum Command Award winner, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is authorized to fly the SECNAV Energy Flag for one year. There is also a cash award of \$45,000.

The USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) was honored with Platinum level status for afloat commands and will receive a \$5,000 award.

Also earning recognition

were the Pacific Missile Range Facility, receiving Gold level of achievement, and the USS Hopper (DDG 70), awarded Blue level of achievement.

"Congratulations to everyone — past and present, ashore and afloat — who earned this tremendous recognition," said Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. Pearl Harbor-Hickam, USS Paul Hamilton, PMRF and USS Hopper are commended for

strong leadership, commitment and advocacy for energy and water management. I am extremely proud that the honors we received recognize our 'one team' — both the installations and the waterfront."

Among the accomplishments leading to JBP HH winning the 2012 SECNAV Energy and Water Management Award include reducing energy consumption by 18 percent in the first year of FOC [full operational capability], constructing photo-

voltic systems at five JBP HH facilities and at the Pacific Missile Range, and conducting more than \$6.5 million in energy and water efficiency projects in fiscal year 2011.

The JBP HH energy team is comprised of Katie Ramirez and Amy Nishijima, installation energy managers, who are also part of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, as well as building energy monitors who conduct weekly audits of energy usage.

"This is a truly a team award, and represents the collective efforts of every command and individual across the entire joint base," said Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, after first being notified of the award.

"The sheer size and diversity of this base — ranging from SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team One on the Pearl City Peninsula to the Hawaii Air National Guard on Hickam to the Naval Communications/Telecommunications Area Master Station at Wahiawa Annex, and everything in-between — make this recognition all the more meaningful," he said.

"I couldn't be prouder to be associated with the outstanding military service members, DoD civilians and families residing onboard JBP HH. It is their commitment and willingness to go the extra mile that make achievements like this possible. As you drive by the flagpole at the JBP HH HQ building and see the SECNAV Energy Award flag proudly waving in the warm trade winds, you can rightly feel a sense of satisfaction knowing that you helped put it there," James said.

See ENERGY, A-3

Frigate USS Reuben James heads out on last deployment

MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Det. Hawaii

The Oliver Hazard Perry class guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for one last independent seven-month deployment to the Western Pacific Oct. 3.

The ship and crew will operate forward to strengthen partnerships and alliances in the Western Pacific and provide maritime security near vital sea lanes.

"We are going to get better, we are going to be doing a lot of training," said Johannes Gonzales, command master chief. "We want our Sailors to depart the Reuben James and go to the different commands and ships on the waterfront and hold our name proud."

The ship has deployed multiple times to the Western Pacific and Eastern Pacific since its commission supporting both Maritime Intercept Operations (MIO), Operation Enduring Freedom and counter drug activities. She has also participated in multiple exercises including Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC),

See REUBEN JAMES, A-4



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Diana Quimlan

Sailors aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) handle the lines in preparation for a departure on a final seven-month deployment from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Reuben James is scheduled to be decommissioned during the summer of 2013.

Ship named after War of 1812 Sailor

USS Reuben James (FFG 57) has ties to the War of 1812, which commemorates its bicentennial this year.

Reuben James, homeported at Joint-Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, is an Oliver Hazard Perry class frigate named after a hero in the Barbary Wars against piracy, who saved the life of Lt. Stephen Decatur.

Boatswain's Mate Reuben James went on to fight in the War of 1812.

FFG57 is the third ship to hold the name Reuben James.

The Oliver Hazard Perry class of frigates is named after the American Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of the naval Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812.



U.S. Navy photos by MC3 Sean Furey

(Left) Medal of Honor recipients Harold Fritz, Leo Thorsness and Thomas Hudner salute the Medal of Honor Wreath.

Congressional Medal of Honor memorial stone dedicated

MC2 David Kolmel

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

52 of the 81 living Congressional Medal of Honor recipients gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Oct. 3 for a ceremony to dedicate a memorial stone.

The stone is dedicated to the men and woman who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The stone will later be placed on the cemetery's memorial walk.

"Well that's a very prominent spot, so I think it's a recognition of their special service," Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Tom Kelley said.

To the people that received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the stone represents the struggles of war and the bravery of the service members who served the country.

"(The stone) I know what it repre-

See MOH, A-4



U.S. Navy photos by MC3 Sean Furey

The Medal of Honor Memorial Stone is unveiled during the ceremony.



13th Air Force inactivates, merges with PACAF See page A-2



Navy to commission guided-missile destroyer Michael Murphy See page A-2



Makahiki tomorrow at Hickam Beach See page A-2



Chung-Hoon commemorates eight years afloat with birthday celebration See page A-6



Military joins clean up for National Public Lands Day See page B-1



No obstacle too big for Wounded Warriors See page B-2

13th Air Force inactivates, merges with PACAF

PACAF Public Affairs

The 13th Air Force, headquartered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, inactivated Sept. 28, in a ceremony which celebrated its 70-year history of supporting the Pacific region.

The operational roles and responsibilities of 13th AF will be assumed by Pacific Air Forces, making the command an operational component MAJCOM headquarters, or a C-MAJCOM.

These roles and responsibilities involve planning and executing airpower operations across the Asia-Pacific region — excluding the Korea theater — across the range of military operations, from peacetime engagement to major combat operations.

The transition will be seamless as the 13th AF and PACAF staffs have worked side-by-side throughout the past year in order to prepare for this merger.

“Our commitment to the region remains steadfast,” said Lt. Gen Ted Kresge, formerly the 13th Air Force commander and now the PACAF vice commander. “The joining of 13th AF and



(Left) Gen. Herbert J. “Hawk” Carlisle, commander, Pacific Air Forces, furls the 13th Air Force flag during the inactivation ceremony of the unit Sept. 28 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. U.S. Air Force photo by Edward S. Foster (Right) Lt. Gen. Stanley T. Kresge, former 13th Air Force commander, passes the guidon to Gen. Herbert J. “Hawk” Carlisle, Pacific Air Forces commander, to signify relinquishing his command during the 13th Air Force inactivation ceremony Sept. 28. U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Victoria Meyer

PACAF not only ensures an effective response in a crisis, but also facilitates increased trust and interop-

erability with allies and partners.”

The inactivation of 13th AF is a part of an Air Force

initiative calling for the inactivation of three numbered air forces and the consolidation of their duties

to other units. In addition to the inactivation of 13th AF, 19th AF at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph,

Texas, and 17th AF at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, inactivated earlier this year.

Navy to commission guided-missile destroyer Michael Murphy

Department of Defense Public Affairs

NEW YORK (NNS) – The Navy will commission the newest guided-missile destroyer, Michael Murphy (DDG 112), Oct. 6, during a 10 a.m. EDT ceremony at Pier 88 in Manhattan, N.Y.

The ship will be homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, which is also the location of its namesake's former command.

“It's truly an honor for all of us that are part of this initial crew to not only bring this great warship into the Fleet, but to also do our part in upholding the legacy of Lt. Murphy and his 18 additional Operation Red Wings teammates that gave the ultimate sacrifice,” said Cmdr. Tom Shultz, commanding officer of PCU Michael Murphy (DDG 112).

Shultz and many of the 280-person crew have trained in Bath, Maine, for close to a year to safely sail the ship away and begin their transit to the ship's future homeport of Pearl Harbor and also the location of Lt. Murphy's former command, SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1.

The newest destroyer honors Navy SEAL (Sea, Air, Land) Lt. Michael P. Murphy, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions during Operation Red Wings in Afghanistan June 28, 2005.

Murphy led a four-man team



The guided-missile destroyer Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) Michael Murphy (DDG 112) makes its way through New York Harbor in preparation for its commissioning Oct. 6. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Erik Swanson

tasked with finding a key Taliban leader in the mountainous terrain near Asadabad, Afghanistan, when they came under fire from a much larger enemy force with superior tactical position.

Mortally wounded while exposing himself to enemy fire, Murphy knowingly left his position of cover to get a clear signal in order to communicate with his headquarters.

While being shot at repeatedly, Murphy calmly provided his unit's location and requested immediate support for his element. He returned to his cover

position to continue the fight until finally succumbing to wounds.

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus will deliver the ceremony's principal address. Maureen Murphy will serve as sponsor of the ship named for her late son. The ceremony will be highlighted by a time-honored Navy tradition when she gives the first order to “man our ship and bring her to life!”

“This ship honors the courage, service and sacrifice of Lt. Michael Murphy, his Red Wings brothers, fellow SEALs, special operators and service

members around the world who answer the call of duty every day,” said Mabus.

“It is absolutely fitting that the USS Michael Murphy bears a SEAL trident on her crest because, much like Michael and every Navy SEAL who has earned the honor of wearing the trident, this ship is designed to counter threats from above and below the surface of the oceans, in the air and on land.”

Designated DDG 112, Michael Murphy is the 62nd Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, capable of conducting operations from peacetime presence

and crisis management to sea control and power projection. Michael Murphy is capable of fighting air, surface and sub-surface battles simultaneously and will contain a myriad of offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime warfare.

“USS Michael Murphy, the most flexible, lethal and multi-mission capable ship of its kind, represents the backbone of our surface combatant fleet,” said Adm. Jonathan Greenert, chief of naval operations. “It is one of the best destroyers in the world. This ship will operate forward around the globe, assuring allies, projecting power and defending our nation. And, like its namesake Lt. Michael Murphy, this ship will serve to protect, influence and win in an era of uncertainty.”

Cmdr. Thomas E. Shultz, a native of El Cajon, Calif., is the commanding officer of the ship and will lead the crew of 279 officers and enlisted personnel.

The 9,200-ton Michael Murphy was built by General Dynamics Bath Iron Works. The ship is 509 feet in length, has a waterline beam of 59 feet, and has a navigational draft of 31 feet.

Four gas turbine engines will power the ship to speeds in excess of 30 knots. The commissioning ceremony will be live at www.livestream.com/usnavy and the conversation can be joined on Twitter with the hash tag #MURPH.

747 Communications Squadron earns Air Force-wide award



U.S. Air Force photo by Michael J. Pausic

From left, S. Sanford Schlitt (chairman of the board, Air Force Association), Tech. Sgt. Michael Langer (747 Communications Squadron (CS)), Tech Sgt. Matthew Henderson (747 CS), Staff Sgt. James Goodman (747 CS), Lt. Col. Dave Hillman (747 CS/CC) and Gen. Hawk Carlisle (commander, Pacific Air Forces) are on hand as the Citation of Honor Award is presented at a Sept. 17 ceremony to the 747 Communications Squadron (CS) located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The 747 Communications Squadron is only the second “cyber unit” in the Air Force to receive this award and the first in 30 years to obtain such recognition.

Makahiki tomorrow at Hickam Beach

Grace Hew Len

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs Director

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) will celebrate *Kapuai'kaula Makahiki* from 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 6 at Hickam Harbor Beach.

Military and civilian personnel, their families and sponsored guests are invited to observe *makahiki*, an ancient Hawaiian celebration known as a “Hawaiian Thanksgiving.”

The free event is organized by the Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, in partnership with JBPHH.

Families are invited to bring their beach chairs and mats to enjoy the festivities and take part in *makahiki* games, such as *o'o* (spear throwing) and

'ulu maika (stone rolling). Winners will receive homemade kahili or feather standard, as prizes and compete for the “grand champion” plaque.

Before the *makahiki* begins at 9 a.m., paddlers in canoes carrying the Hawaiian deity, Lono, will make a journey from Iroquois Point to Hickam Harbor. Once near shore, the blast of the *pu* (conch shell), will announce their arrival, ushering the start of the *makahiki* with a procession from the beach to the *makahiki* site in the grassy area near Sam Choy's Seafood Grille.

In ancient Hawaiian history, Lono was the embodiment of peace and welfare, and all warfare was strictly forbidden during the time of *makahiki*. The focus on health and welfare made games of skill that tested

a healthy body and mind a focal point of the *makahiki* games.

For more than 2,000 years, the significance of Lono and his contributions to the beliefs and practices of the early Hawaiian people influenced the celebration of events held during *makahiki* festivals throughout the Hawaiian Islands.

According to the ancient calendar of Hawaii, the Hawaiian new year begins on the first night of the rising star constellation *Makali'i*, or Pleiades. The four months following the rise of the *Makali'i*, from October to the end of January, were set aside as a time for Lono to give thanksgiving for the bounty of land and sea.

For more information, contact the JBPHH public affairs Office at 473-2926.

Commissaries announce Columbus Day hours

In observance of Columbus Day on Oct. 8, the Pearl Harbor Commissary store hours of operation will be 9

a.m. to 5 p.m. The Hickam Commissary will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the holiday.

The Pearl Harbor Commissary at 471-8402, ext. 101 or the Hickam Commissary at 449-1363.

For more information,

CNO and MCPON to host worldwide Navy Birthday all hands call

Defense Media Activity - Navy

WASHINGTON (NNS) — In celebration of the Navy's 237th birthday, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) will hold a worldwide all hands call, Oct. 11, at 1p.m. EST. The all-hands call will be televised on Direct-To-Sailor (DTS), The Pentagon Channel (www.pentagonchannel.mil) and online without the chat function at www.navy.mil, and with the chat function at www.livestream.com/usnavy.

Questions may be submitted in advance for CNO and MCPON to answer live at the all-hands call. Submissions should be emailed to usntownhall@gmail.com prior to and during the all hands call. Questions can also be posed during the all-hands call via www.livestream.com/usnavy.

Personnel submitting questions should

include their name, rank, rate and command.

"October is the month of our Navy's birth and as such it is an appropriate time to reflect on the integral role we play in accomplishing the Navy's warfighting mission," Vice Adm. Richard W. Hunt, director of the Navy Staff in the Pentagon, explained in the NAVADMIN announcing the event.

Information about the Worldwide Navy Birthday all hands call can be found in NAVADMIN 303/12 <http://bit.ly/QZaIR0>.

October is #Warfighting Month focusing on Navy warfighters, a fast and flexible force deployed worldwide to preserve peace, protect commerce, and deter aggression on, above, and below the sea.

For more information, visit www.navy.mil, www.facebook.com/usnavy, or www.twitter.com/usnavy.

Bell-ringing ceremony to honor 237th Navy Birthday to be held Oct. 12

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific will host a bell-ringing ceremony in honor of the 237th Navy Birthday at 8:30 a.m. Oct. 12 at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center lanai.

Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, will serve as keynote speaker.

The ceremony will also include music by the Pacific Fleet Band, the national anthem, an invocation, reading of the Secretary of the Navy's birthday message, and benediction.

Military attire for the event is summer white or service equivalent for E-7 and above. Attire is Navy service uniform or service equivalent for E-6 and below. Civilian attire is business aloha.

The ceremony is open to the public. Reserved seats are for invited guests, who should take their seats by 8:20 a.m. RSVP by Oct. 9.

In addition, all commands

within Navy Region Hawaii are to ring their bells at 9 a.m. Oct. 12 as they are able.

The date Oct. 13, 2012 will commemorate the Navy's 237th birthday, beginning with the establishment of the Navy in 1775 and continuing to the current modern fleet.

The age-old practice of sounding the bell during watches, on the hour and half-hour, is symbolic. From historic sailing vessels in the late 18th century to every command today, it signals that someone stands the watch.

According to the Navy's birthday message, bell ringing serves as a reminder of history, heritage and accomplishments of the naval service, and it is intended to be an enduring tradition of the Navy birthday celebration.

Other upcoming Navy birthday commemoration events include:

- The Chiefs Mess will host an observance at Sharkey Theater on Oct. 10.
- A special boat tour of Pearl Harbor Oct. 12 hosted by the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii historian.
- The Navy Officers' Ball

Oct. 13 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Retired Capt. Gerald Coffee, a Vietnam Prisoner of War held in captivity for seven years, will serve as guest speaker.

- The Navy Region Hawaii Enlisted Birthday Ball Oct. 13 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hawaii Ballroom.

- Pacific Missile Range Facility Navy Birthday Ball Oct. 26 at the Grand Hyatt Ballroom, Poipu, Kauai. Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, deputy commander and chief of staff, U.S. Pacific Fleet, will serve as guest speaker.

For more information on the Oct. 12 bell-ringing event, call Ensign Michelle Downs at 473-2920 or email michelle.l.downs@navy.mil.

More information about the Navy's history is available on the Naval History and Heritage Command website www.history.navy.mil.



U.S. Navy photo

From left, Roger Natsuhara, acting assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations and Environment); Capt. Jeff James, commander Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam; Amy Hanada, NAVFAC Hawaii, JBPHH installation energy manager; Katie Ramirez, NAVFAC Hawaii, JBPHH installation energy manager; Bryan Law, NAVFAC Hawaii, commander, Navy Region Hawaii energy program manager; Krista Stehn NAVFAC headquarters, energy program analyst; and Vice Adm. William French, CNIC Commander, attend the Oct. 3 Secretary of the Navy Energy and Water Management Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Energy award received

Continued from A-1

Achievements recognized

The DoN is cultivating a culture of energy efficiency on shore and at sea resulting in enhanced energy readiness and innovation. DoN is a widely recognized leader in renewable energy production. Equivalent of 19 percent of DoN shore electricity consumption comes from alternative sources.

Eight Navy and Marine Corps commands were recognized for exemplary energy and water savings which resulted in combined energy savings in 2011 of more than 418,500 million British thermal units (MBtu), enough energy for more than 4,144 homes for an entire year. The commands brought new renewable energy systems on line that produce 48,700 MBtu per year, equal to the energy requirements of 482 homes per year. Water savings were more than 37.5 million gallons, equivalent to 57 Olympic-size swimming pools. Cost avoidance in 2011 topped more than \$16.7 million.

Navy commands undergo a rigorous evaluation of their overall energy and water management performance and are ranked according to a system of SECNAV award winners, then platinum, gold or blue level of achievement. Ten platinum, 51 gold and 36 blue commands were also recognized during the ceremony.

Mabus emphasized DoN's aggressive energy and water consumption goals laid out three years ago. These five goals

strengthen the strategic, tactical and operational capabilities of the Navy and Marine Corps while enhancing environmental stewardship:

The DoN's five energy goals are:

- Increase alternative energy use DoN-wide: By 2020, 50 percent of total DoN energy consumption will come from alternative sources;
- Sail the "Great Green Fleet": DoN demonstrated a Green Strike Group in local operations in 2012 and will sail it by 2016;
- Reduce non-tactical petroleum use: by 2015; DoN will reduce petroleum use in the commercial vehicle fleet by 50 percent;
- Energy ashore: by 2020, DoN will produce at least 50 percent of shore-based energy requirements from alternative sources; 50 percent of DoN installations will be net-zero; and
- Energy efficient acquisition: evaluation of energy factors will be mandatory when awarding contracts for systems and buildings.

"We have energy goals that we want to achieve and because of the courage, bold actions and innovations of our winners today, we will achieve these goals," Mabus said. "We are on the path to create a new energy future that will increase the security of this country because that is what the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps have always done."

For more news on U.S. Department of the Navy Energy, visit <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil>.

Navy celebrates birthday with cake cutting



Naval History and Heritage Command photo

During a Navy bicentennial birthday cake cutting ceremony, Capt. R.A. Miller gives a hand to the oldest and youngest Sailors aboard the USS Coronado (LPD) in Bremerhaven, Germany in 1975. This year, the Navy will celebrate the 237th anniversary of the Navy on Oct. 13.

Diverse Views

What's your favorite snack? And why?

Airman 1st Class Greg Jones
324th Intelligence Squadron

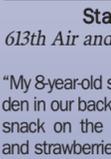


"Island life is no stranger to me. Being born in Trinidad, to where I was raised in Miami, fruit has been a delicious snack anytime of the day."



Chief Operations Specialist
Marcus Allen
Destroyer Squadron 31

"I like a lot of snack foods. My favorite cheat foods when I'm not training are pizza and ice cream. I just like the way they taste."



Staff Sgt. Summer Chenault
613th Air and Space Operations Center

"My 8-year-old son and I have a container garden in our backyard here on base. We love to snack on the cherry tomatoes, cucumbers and strawberries that we grow fresh."



Damage Control Fireman
Cameron Mims
USS Croomelin (FFG 37)

"Sunflower seeds. They're tasty, and I grew up eating them in Louisiana."

(Provided by David Underwood Jr. and Brandon Bosworth)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

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Recon Marines wrap up final qualifications with dive in unique territory

Cpl. John Robbart III

15th Marine Expeditionary Unit

Select reconnaissance Marines from Reconnaissance Platoon, Battalion Landing Team 3/5, 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Force Reconnaissance Platoon, 15th MEU, dived in to a unique opportunity to honor the fallen and to start the western Pacific 12-02 deployment, Sept. 17-24.

The swift, silent and deadly divers used the time to sharpen their skills and qualify for some of the unique missions the Marines could be called upon to conduct during the deployment. They viewed the USS Arizona Memorial from an exceptional vantage point and simultaneously earned an open-circuit dive qualification. An open-circuit dive is similar to recreational diving since the Marines use compressed air tanks.

The Force Reconnaissance Platoon acts as a direct action element for the MEU commander, while the BLT's Reconnaissance Platoon pro-



U.S. Marines photo by Cpl. Bobby Hunt

Reconnaissance Marines with the 15th MEU swim to the USS Arizona during a qualification dive at Pearl Harbor, Sept. 19.

vides amphibious reconnaissance capabilities to the BLT commander.

"The dive gave us an appreciation of the monument and gave us a chance to pay our respects to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice," said Capt. Drew A. MacDougall, platoon commander, Reconnaissance Platoon, BLT 3/5, 15th MEU.

The USS Arizona has been at the bottom of Pearl Harbor

for more than 70 years. Approximately 1,000 members of the crew died on the USS Arizona, several of whose remains are still inside the skin of the ship to this day.

"This was really a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Staff Sgt. Roland C. LeBlanc, assistant platoon sergeant, Reconnaissance Platoon, BLT 3/5, 15th MEU. "We were all very excited to go

and experience something like this. It was the best way to start a deployment," added the 28-year-old native of Chicago.

A military dive qualification requirement is needed in order to dive around the monument, and only a couple hundred people have ever dove down there, said MacDougall.

"It was a real honor and privilege to be able to dive it,"

said Gunnery Sgt. Brent M. Wright, platoon sergeant, Reconnaissance Platoon, BLT 3/5, 15th MEU. "It was very humbling to see all of the history [behind the monument]."

After the dive, the platoons' leadership gave a history lesson covering the events surrounding the sinking of the USS Arizona. The class took place inside the national monument, which is open to the public, and they impressed upon them the magnitude of diving at the memorial.

"I am truly honored to have been a part of this dive. It was one of the best experiences I've ever had," said Cpl. Bobby D. Hunt, reconnaissance Marine, Reconnaissance Platoon, BLT 3/5, 15th MEU. "Over the course of the week, we were able to refine our standard operating procedures before joining the rest of the MEU for the deployment," added the 20-year-old native of Enterprise, Utah.

In addition to qualifying at the memorial, the teams also qualified on the windward side of the island at Kaneohe Bay on Marine

Corps Base Hawaii.

"We spent the week confirming and expanding the dive capabilities that BLT Recon and Force Recon provide to the MEU," said MacDougall. "Over the course of the week, we conducted two 500-meter swims and two 1000-meter swims at day and night. We also conducted a final exercise, practicing infiltration and exfiltration," added the 28-year-old native of Newport R.I.

Exercises such as this cannot be conducted without the assistance of other units. To help make the training possible, the Marines were supported with gear and boats from 4th Force Reconnaissance Company at MCB Hawaii. Mobile Dive Salvage Unit 1 in Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service assisted the Marines by guiding them around the monument.

The 15th MEU is currently embarked as part of the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group, while they serve as the nation's rapid-response sea-based Marine Air Ground Task Force for western Pacific Deployment 12-02.

MOH

Continued from A-1

sents, and to me that's the most important thing," Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyanura said. "It's quite an honor to have people recognize the Medal of Honor for what it is."

For the active duty service members who attended the service, it gave them a chance to honor those members who have preceded them and it reminds them why they joined.

"This is just a subtle reminder for me of why I joined the military, and what it is I am fighting for," said Marine Cpl. Kyle Cummings, with Combat Logistics Battalion 3.

There are 32 people who are buried in Punchbowl who are Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.

The Congressional Medal of Honor is the United States of America's highest military honor, awarded for acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty.

The event is part of a weeklong celebration to honor the recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor throughout the Honolulu area.



Medal of Honor recipients pose for a photo during the Medal of Honor Memorial Stone Dedication Ceremony Oct. 3 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).



(Far left) Ken E. Stumpf, recipient of the Medal of Honor, talks with Kimberly Joyce Bayudan from Farrington High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Command. (Right) Donald "Doc" Ballard (left) and George "Bud" Day, both recipients of the Medal of Honor, attend the Medal of Honor Memorial Stone Dedication Ceremony.

Utah Memorial will be closed through Oct. 31

The USS Utah Memorial located on Ford Island at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will be closed for renovations through Oct. 31. The closure began Oct. 1.

The work includes the recycling of three existing ramps replacing them with a new concrete ramp, the installation of wire cables between existing rails, repainting the Memorial deck and various landscape

improvements. Completion of the project will bring the memorial into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

All equipment, supplies and labor associated with the USS Utah Memorial renovation are donated to the National Park Service as part of an Eagle Scout Service Project from Troop 180 of the Aloha Council.

Reuben James

Continued from A-1

Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) and Koa Kai.

"Reuben James has worked very hard to prepare to deploy, everything we've asked them to do, they have answered the call and now they will answer the call of their nation as we sail over the horizon and say farewell

to our family and friends," said Cmdr. Daniel Valascho, commanding officer of Reuben James. "I'm proud of them all and I know they are excited to participate in the ship's final deployment before decommission."

Gonzales said it's a special time and it has been challenging but the Sailors have worked very hard preparing to get her underway.

FFG 57 is the third Navy ship to have the name Reuben James. The first ship was DD 245, which was sunk during World War II, and the second was DE 153, decommissioned in 1947.

The Reuben James was commissioned March 22, 1986 and is scheduled to be decommissioned during the summer of 2013.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



(Left) Members of the graduating Department of the Navy guard class for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam take their oath of service Sept. 28 at a hangar at Pacific Aviation Museum. Contract guard services transitioned to the government effective Sept. 30 at the joint base.

U.S. Navy photo by CW03 Thomas Muehlhauser



(Right) A Department of the Navy guard takes over duty at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam from a Hana Group guard at midnight Sept. 29. Contract guard services transitioned to the government effective Sept. 30 at the joint base.

U.S. Navy photo by CW03 Thomas Muehlhauser



(Left) Sailors from Pacific Missile Range Facility and veterans participated in a recent Native American Kauai Powwow on the island. The event included a blessing of the grounds and a grand entry. During the ceremony, the arena is filled with dancers wearing their grand regalia.

Photo courtesy of Pacific Missile Range Facility



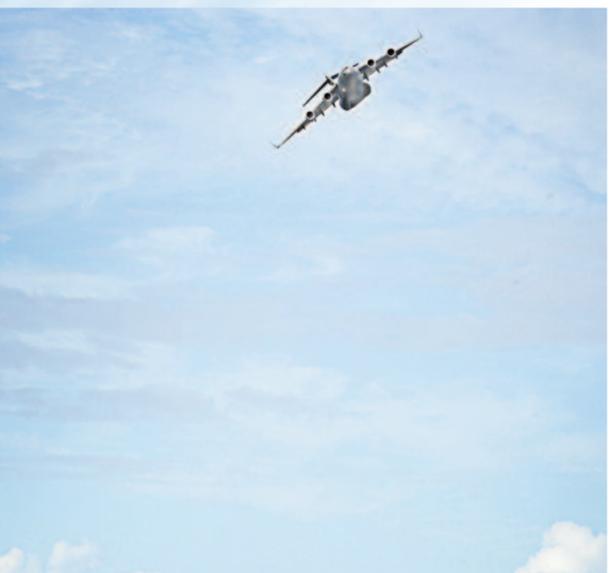
(Right) Senior Airman Christopher Rainwater and Airman 1st Class Breanna Soutra, 647th Security Forces Squadron, participate in a National POW/MIA Recognition Day run Sept. 20 on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood, Jr



(Above) Aviation enthusiasts tour a static C-17 Globemaster III at the 2012 Kaneohe Bay Air Show at Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Lauren Main



(Below) The Pacific Air Forces C-17 Globemaster III demonstration team performs a demo at the 2012 Kaneohe Bay Air Show at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Sept. 29. The demonstration team performed a short-taxi landing with reverse thrust engines as well as other maneuvers which make the C-17 the most capable cargo aircraft in the world.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Lauren Main



Chung-Hoon commemorates eight years afloat with birthday celebration

Ensign Augustus Karisch

SOUTH PACIFIC – Sept. 18, 2012 marked the eighth anniversary of the commissioning of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93).

Her crew celebrated with a birthday cake and a program that included personal anecdotes from three Sailors and an original poem from two more, along with a brief history lesson and an inspirational speech from Cmdr. Justin Orlich, Chung-Hoon's commanding officer.

Chung-Hoon is named after Rear Adm. Gordon P. Chung-Hoon, who graduated from Punahou School and later became the first graduate of the United States Naval Academy of Hawaiian ancestry. Chung-Hoon commanded USS Sigsbee (DD 502) during World War II, fighting in the Pacific theater and ultimately earning a Silver Star and Navy Cross.

Chung-Hoon's motto is "Imua e na koa kai" (Hawaiian for, "Go forward sea warriors") and the ship strives to provide its young Sailors with extraordinary opportunities to excel.

Logistics Specialist Second Class, Krystal Spencer made the point that, "Many of us get to the ship as teenagers who don't know a whole lot about the world. Chung-Hoon gave me a place to grow up into a better woman and Sailor."



Photo by PS3 Domicia Humphries

Crew members celebrate the eighth anniversary of the commissioning of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93).

Quartermaster Third Class, Christopher Brock spoke about the pride and sense of accomplishment he felt at being able to finally strike a rate after arriving as an undesignated Seaman.

"It's a pretty big deal for us [undesignated Seamen] to pick a rate, pass the advancement exam, and put on Third Class," he said. "It wouldn't have been possible without

the great leadership and crew of this ship."

The crew honored its namesake and celebrated serving on "Hawaii's Destroyer." "The crew takes a lot of pride in the opportunity to serve aboard a ship commemorating a war hero like Rear Adm. Chung-Hoon, especially one tied so closely to its heritage here in Pearl Harbor," Ensign Travis Leary said.

USS Russell welcomes Army Soldiers as visitors

Lt. Jada Johnson

Operations Officer

USS Russell (DDG 59) recently went green (and purple) with a visit from Army Soldiers of 1st Platoon, Delta Company, 25th Infantry Division from Schofield Barracks.

The platoon spent the morning touring Russell, a ballistic missile defense destroyer homeported in Pearl Harbor at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, to get an understanding of the U.S. Navy's at-sea capabilities.

Lt. Suneal Chandran, Russell's training officer, led the platoon throughout the ship,

focusing on the bridge, topside spaces and combat information center.

The highlight of the tour was "definitely the guns," said Chandran, "they were extremely interested in our firepower."

Members of a heavy weapons platoon (part of a light infantry battalion), the Soldiers were most intrigued by Russell's warfighting capabilities.

"Tomahawk missile operator sounds like a pretty cool job, even if you never get to fire them!" said 2nd Lt. Grue, the platoon leader.

The tour provided an excellent opportunity for 1st Platoon and Russell crewmembers to interact and learn about one another's respective services.



Hidden treasures abound on USS Crommelin

Lt. j.g. Luke J. Adams

USS Crommelin (FFG 37) Public Affairs

As crew members secure equipment and offload years of operational gear on the soon-to-be decommissioned USS Crommelin (FFG 37), decades of hidden treasures are emerging, and Sailors are realizing that there is more to their task than just shutting off the power.

"It's our job to make sure that this ship and the noble missions her crew conducted will never be forgotten," said Lt. j.g. Blaise Cummo, the ship's navigator and historical curator.

"Certain things like the ship's commissioning plaque and the ship's bell are being sent to Washington, D.C. to

be saved for posterity," he said.

In addition to the "big ticket" items like the commissioning plaque, Sailors all over the ship are finding artifacts of both personal and historic significance.

"This is the original promotional booklet for the air search radar," said Electronics Technician Seaman Dane Throop, holding a dog-eared booklet full of bleached color photos and technical expositions. "It's really cool to find old stuff like this."

And in the wardroom, they found a rare treasure indeed—a pamphlet from Crommelin's commissioning ceremony, complete with photos of her first crew members.

"Look at the beards on

those guys," said Ensign Andrew Jeter, the electrical officer. "A lot has changed since then."

But while styles and regulations may have changed since Crommelin was commissioned 30 years ago, the Sailors said that one thing has remained constant—their love and care for their ship.

"I'll always remember this as my first ship, where I went from a green college graduate to an experienced naval officer," Jeter said. "I'm going to miss this old girl."

Crommelin, the 28th ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry-class, guided-missile frigates, will finish up her 30 years of commissioned service with a decommissioning ceremony on Oct. 26.

Traffic will be redirected during Saturday's Making Strides walk

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam operations

The American Cancer Society will host the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. this Saturday, Oct. 6 from Richardson Field to Ford Island.

More than 10,000 people are expected to participate in the

walk to support the fight against breast cancer.

The five-mile route will start at Richardson Field, cross the Adm. Clarey (Ford Island) Bridge on the North Lane closest to Aloha Stadium, circle the Ford Island runway, cross the bridge again in the north lane, and finish at Richardson Field.

The biggest impact to vehicle traffic on Ford Island will be

between 7 and 8 a.m. The north lane of the Ford Island/Adm. Clarey Bridge (the lane closest to Aiea) will be closed, and traffic will be one-way (outbound only) on the south lane from 7 to 8 a.m.

From 8 to 10:30 a.m., lanes on the bridge will not be closed but the south lane will be contra-flowed to allow for two-way traffic until the event is finished at 1 p.m.

Drivers should be alert for pedestrians throughout the event. Residents on Ford Island should expect delays and redirection by traffic control personnel and posted signs around the airfield.

The right lane of east-bound Kamehameha Highway between the Salt Lake Boulevard lanes will be closed from approximate-

ly 5:30 to 11 a.m.

Honolulu Police Department will be directing traffic at the Ford Island/Kamehameha Highway intersection.

Traffic control personnel will be stationed at intersections on Ford Island to assist walkers and motorists.

Drivers should be cautious of road guards and walkers.

(See related story on page B-6)