

## Col. Barrett takes command of 15th Wing

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

15th Wing Public Affairs

During what was labeled a "family tradition," the 15th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam welcomed its new commander, Col. Sam Barrett, during a change-of-command ceremony officiated by Lt. Gen. Hawk Carlisle, 13th Air Force commander, on May 18 in the shadow of Freedom Tower.

Barrett, a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, assumed the reins of command as a new wing commander from Col. Giovanni Tuck. Tuck has been commander of 15th Airlift Wing at Hickam Air Force Base since June 2008. Prior to this Hawaii assignment, he was vice commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis AFB, Calif. He is a command pilot with more than 4,800 flying hours.

In a message to the Air Force community which was published in the May 14 edition of the Hickam Kukini, Tuck offered a special thanks and aloha. "You are among the finest professionals, young and old, ever assembled on the planet. You have delivered at each and every turn and our nation owes you a huge debt of gratitude, as do I. And there is so much to be proud of," Tuck said.

He now heads to the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. where he will be the executive officer to Gen. Carrol H. "Howie" Chandler, vice chief of staff of the U.S. Air Force.

Also during the ceremony, the 15th Airlift Wing colors



Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, salutes the colors during his change of command ceremony May 18. The change of command also included a re-designation from the 15th Airlift Wing to the 15th Wing and remains assigned to the 13th Air Force. The re-designation reflects the mission change of the 15th Wing that will activate an active duty F-22 squadron and KC-135 squadron this summer.

were retired and the 15th Wing colors were unfurled again in preparation of the arrival of the F-22 Raptor and the KC-135 Stratotanker mission to the wing.

"To command an Air Force combat wing is certainly the high honor in my life," Barrett said. "To do so in an organization that is already a part of my family, heart and soul is a dream come true."

A command pilot with more than 4,200 flight hours, Barrett has spent the past year as vice commander of the wing, getting to know the people and

mission. Carlisle said that choosing Barrett to lead the 15th Wing was one of the easiest decisions he has ever made as a commander. He said that he is confident that Barrett is prepared for the challenges ahead, a preparation that began in his early life with his father, Col. (Ret.) Sam Barrett, also being a wing commander.

"Sam, I know that you didn't just learn from the Air Force how to command," Carlisle said, speaking directly to the new wing commander. "You had a tremendous role model during your formative years moving

to each new assignment. Retired Col. and Mrs. Barrett, you set the tone and prepared Sam to be here today as he and Kelly followed exactly in your footsteps and take command of a wing...it is now a family tradition of being wing commanders as Barretts."

Under his command, Barrett looks forward to continued success. He acknowledged the men and women in his new command and commended them for never faltering through the many challenges they have already faced together.

"This is a big, tough command job," said Col. (Ret.) Sam Barrett, the new wing commander's father. "It's a big job. It's a whole lot worse than what I had, so much going on and it's only going to get bigger."

The wing will grow larger throughout the summer months with the arrival of two new weapon systems. Barrett looks forward to the Hawaii Air National Guard partnership of the 15th Wing and the 154th Wing as the F-22 and the KC-135 missions are added to the arsenal of C-17s at Hickam.

The 15th Airlift Wing re-designation to the 15th Wing reflects the growth of the mission. The 15th Wing will activate an active duty F-22 squadron and KC-135 squadron. These two new weapons systems will be employed and maintained under a total force partnership with the Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG), similar to the C-17 weapons system. The main difference is that the state of Hawaii will own the F-22s and the active duty force will add four KC-135s to complement the HIANG's current fleet of KC-135 aircraft.

"We are family already," Barrett said. "Our success is literally bounded by our partnership. I'm confident that together we will continue to succeed."

The newest wing commander said the word family, or ohana, is the "most important word in his vocabulary." Barrett, his sisters and now his children have all grown up on Air Force bases. He said they understand the sacrifices of Air Force families from more than one perspective. The Barretts are an Air Force family, with a little shade of green.

"You stand on hallowed ground, ground where American blood was shed," Barrett said. "Never, never forget what you do each and every day enables the freedom and security of over 300 million Americans, and many millions more around the world. It is because of you that the American dream is alive and well. Make no mistake you are America's heroes."

## Military Appreciation Month to feature Welcome Home Heroes Parade and Family Day at the Zoo

Charles Ota

Military Affairs, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii

The grand finale of this year's Military Appreciation Month event will be a Military Appreciation Day in Waikiki on Saturday, sponsored by USO Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu.

The day will begin with a Welcome Home Heroes parade of Hawaii's military troops, past and present, down Kalakaua Avenue from Fort DeRussy to Kapiolani Park, starting at 9:30 a.m., which includes veterans from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars joining with today's warfighters and wounded warriors. It will honor Hawaii's military warriors, past and present.

This parade provides Hawaii's appreciative ohana with the chance to say mahalo to our heroes of past wars, and to those serving on the front lines of today's wars in the Middle East and on patrol every day in the Pacific.

The parade will be followed by day-long entertainment at the band stand in Kapiolani Park, and free admission for military families to the Honolulu Zoo. (See page B2 for the schedule for the free shuttle bus from the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange.)

On May 29, there will be a Hawaii Military Bands Mele from 7 to 10 p.m. at Fort DeRussy's Kuroda Field.

This year marks the 25th



Images courtesy of Honolulu Zoo

anniversary for Hawaii's military appreciation celebration. The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii started this tradition in 1985, with its Military Affairs Council and the Armed Services Committee, as a one-day event on Armed Forces Day.

The celebration was later extended to a week-long event, and Hawaii became

the first state to honor the military throughout the month of May.

While Hawaii remains the U.S. military headquarters for national security in the Pacific, the military's role has been expanded to include humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and enabling global commerce and trade for Pacific nations.



Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) David Taylor and his wife, Lindsay Hearne, the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) ombudsman, enjoy their time together while stationed in Hawaii. Taylor and Hearne spent their first year of marriage separated when Taylor was deployed on an individual augmentee assignment. Now reunited with her husband, Hearne gives assistance whenever possible to other JBPHH spouses whose service members are deployed overseas.

### Individual augmentees: A family's perspective

MC2 (SW) Mark Logico  
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The second in a series of Navy individual augmentee (IA) perspectives aired on Hawaii Navy News, a weekly program of the Honolulu Fox-affiliated KHON2 TV station on May 13 and is available online at [HTTP://bit.ly/KHONNavy](http://bit.ly/KHONNavy).

Focusing on a family's perspective, Master-at-Arms 1st Class (SW) David Taylor and his wife, Lindsay Hearne, talked about their experiences and the way they coped with the challenges of an IA deployment.

"I've been in the military for 15 years," said Taylor. "I've been on several different deployments. This is actually the first time

I've been boots on the ground, actually there, actually involved where I should have been. It was very rewarding for my career."

An IA is a Sailor who is temporarily assisted to augment another command in support of overseas contingency operations. The Navy is sending IAs to assist commands in other branches of the service, primarily the Army and Marine Corps. These assignments are not on ships, but on the ground in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

Taylor served in Kabul, Afghanistan and provided protective security services to the commanding general, International Security Assistance Forces/US Forces Afghanistan from December 2008 to July 2009. Taylor currently serves at Joint Base Pearl

Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Security Department, where he is assigned to the harbor patrol unit.

There are some aspects of an IA deployment that present special challenges for Sailors and their families. These include relatively short notice of the deployment, deployments that are typically longer than Sailors are used to, training for the deployment that is different, and there may be an element of danger not associated with shipboard deployments.

"Basically, we worry for him every day, whether we are going to hear from him or not," said Hearne. "We see a lot of stories on the news. He's always telling me, don't look at the stories. You can see a lot of explosions, and it kind of puts

See IA, A-4



Two EODMU-3 Sailors receive Bronze Star Medals See page A-2



Luncheon event honors Hawaii's bond with military See page A-4



CNRH celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month See page A-4



Military and civilians mingle in goodwill games See page B-1

# Two EODMU-3 Sailors receive Bronze Star Medals

Story and photos by  
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public  
Affairs

Two Sailors assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) Three Detachment Middle Pacific received Bronze Star Medals during an awards ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, West Loch Annex on May 14.

Lt. Joseph Schippert and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician 1st Class Robert Moses were both presented with the Bronze Star Medal by Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, for their performance during operations while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Schippert served as the operations officer for 10 explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams at seven forward operating bases spread



Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii commander, and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, presents the Bronze Star Medal to Lt. Joseph Schippert (left photo), assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Mobile Unit Three Detachment Middle Pacific, and to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician 1st Class Robert Moses (right photo), assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Mobile Unit Three Detachment Middle Pacific, during an awards ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam West Loch Annex on May 14. Schippert was awarded the Bronze Star Medal by the Secretary of the Army for serving as the operations officer for 10 EOD teams at seven forward-operating bases while on a seven-month deployment in Iraq. Moses was awarded the Bronze Star Medal by the Secretary of the Army for serving as team leader and leading petty officer of his EOD unit while on a seven-month deployment in Iraq.

over the 7,000 square mile Diyalah province area of operations. He provided critical reporting and counter-insurgency intelligence for more than 125 missions, including the destruction of

5,446 pounds of explosives. Schippert also provided Stryker brigade combat teams with EOD training and support.

"It feels great to receive this award, but I really owe



all of the credit to my team," said Schippert. "I'm very fortunate to lead a great team that does everything in such a precise manner."

Moses served as team leader and leading petty of-

ficer of his EOD unit in Iraq. He ensured the unit was well-equipped and trained, contributing to a high success rate for the U.S. Army operating in the Salah Ad Din province.

Moses personally performed more than 40 EOD missions, including 10 time-sensitive target operations where he directly participated in pursuit and capture of 11 suspected or known enemy weapons and explosives traffickers, insurgents, bomb makers and high level al-Qaeda leaders or members.

"It is an honor to be recognized for the Bronze Star Medal," said Moses. "This has been a very humbling experience, but ultimately I just see it as doing my job and carrying out the mission at hand."

At the end of the ceremony, Smith thanked Schippert and Moses for their service during their seven-month deployment to Iraq.

"I really want to express my appreciation for putting your lives at risk for our military and our country," Smith said. "The both of you have done a tremendous job and I'm honored that I was able to present these Bronze Star Medals to you."

# Pearl Harbor submarines get head start on smoking ban

Story and photo by  
MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

USS Olympia (SSN 717), USS Greenville (SSN 772), USS Pasadena (SSN 752) and USS La Jolla (SSN 701), attached to Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, are getting a head start on the upcoming smoking ban below decks on submarines that is scheduled to become effective no later than Dec. 31.

In conjunction with the policy change, smoking cessation assistance training programs are being implemented on all COMSUBPAC submarines. The programs will incorporate education techniques and nicotine replacement therapy, such as nicotine patches and nicotine gum, to assist in kicking the smoking habit.

These four submarines are getting a head start on this policy by implementing the training programs well ahead of the effective date for the new policy. Each submarine has two tobacco cessation training facilitators who are qualified to help participants stop smoking by providing them with all of the essential



Electronics Technician 2nd Class (SS) Edward Johnson (right), USS Greenville (SSN 772) tobacco cessation coordinator, and Senior Chief Machinist's Mate (SS) Paul Davenport, Greenville chief of the boat, exchange cigarettes for nicotine patches and nicotine gum on May 11 to assist in kicking the smoking habit. The crew of Greenville is getting a head start on the upcoming smoking ban below decks on submarines, scheduled to become effective no later than Dec. 31.

information and strategies needed to direct their own efforts at stopping.

Olympia facilitators are working closely with their soon-to-be former smokers to ensure that they have both the physical and psychological support they need to make this program successful.

"Our overall team approach was that the permanent ban is the right answer to a healthier and longer life so why wait six months to start," said Cmdr. Michael Coughlin,

Olympia commanding officer. "The first phase of our plan took place during our last underway period where we reduced the allowed amount of smoking, which went smoothly. However, the next phase, further nicotine amount reduction leading to the final cessation step of being smoke-free prior to our departure for deployment this summer, will undoubtedly be the real test."

The crew of Greenville is taking a strong approach to the new policy by participating

in the smoking cessation programs while in homeport.

"Our cessation training program consists of four one-hour group sessions that take place twice a week," said Electronics Technician 2nd Class (SS) Edward Johnson, Greenville tobacco cessation coordinator. "Along with this training and the distribution of the patches and gum, I think our submarine will have no problem meeting our goal of being smoke free by May 21."

With all of the risk factors associated with smoking, this policy not only promotes cleaner air on submarines, it protects the non-smoker from nicotine byproducts and promotes a healthier lifestyle which, in turn, increases overall military readiness.

"We want our submariners to understand that this policy is not intended to punish smokers. It is to protect the non-smokers from the hazards of second-hand smoke," said Chief Hospital Corpsman Dave Mathews, COMSUBPAC tobacco cessation training program coordinator.

Machinist's Mate 3rd Class (SS) Theodore Bennett, a La Jolla crew member, is currently enrolled in the smoking cessation assistance training program.

"I have been a smoker for five years and have tried to quit numerous times," said Bennett. "With this program and the support of my shipmates, I now have the confidence that I can kick this habit not only while we are under-

way, but for good."

Non-smokers are also looking forward to the new policy.

"Being a junior submariner and a non-smoker, it gives me a great sense of well-being knowing that my future in the submarine force will not be compromised by the dangers of second-hand smoke," said Electronics Technician Seaman Dennis Crist, Pasadena crew member.

As COMSUBPAC continues to support global maritime security and take on whatever challenges the mission brings, the smoking ban below decks is destined to ensure a healthier lifestyle for all submariners while they continue their silent service legacy as the world's greatest submarine force.

# 'Chosin Few' veterans visit USS Chosin, Share battle's importance with Sailors

Story and photo by  
Ensign Daron Weber

USS Chosin (CG 65) Public  
Affairs Officer

Nearly 50 years have passed since the hard-fought Battle of Chosin Reservoir, a decisive battle in the Korean War. For two former Marines who survived the bloody conflict, it means remembering the battle and sharing its importance with crew members aboard USS Chosin (CG 65).

"It should go down as one of the three major battles ever in the United States Marine Corps," explained Manert Kennedy, 80, a former Marine staff sergeant and survivor of the battle, to a handful of Chosin Sailors when he recently visited the ship.

"It was a significant effort in stopping the domination of communism in the Far East," Kennedy noted.

The Battle of Chosin Reservoir was a brutal 17 day battle in freezing conditions located in the north-eastern part of Korea. As many as 60,000 Chinese forces surrounded and ambushed 30,000 UN forces. Despite having half the troop size, UN forces broke free while inflicting crippling losses to the Chinese.

According to Kennedy, then assigned to 2nd Platoon, Dog Company, 2nd Battalion, 1st Regimental Combat



Manert Kennedy, a former Marine staff sergeant and survivor of the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, discusses the battle with Sailors aboard the Chosin when he visited the Navy ship.

Team, there were approximately 17,000 survivors of the bloody conflict. Only 1,800 are alive today.

Kennedy was accompanied on his visit to Chosin by Lt. Col. Tom Kalus, United States Marine Corps (ret.).

Kalus and Kennedy took part in a small tour - going through the crew's mess, missile deck and engineering spaces. What they really enjoyed most was sharing some American war history with the crew.

"All of us Chosin survivors are very proud to have a ship named after our campaign and we love sharing the battle's impact with Sailors and reminding ourselves of the battle's role in American history," said Kalus.

The Battle of Chosin Reservoir is a fixture in the culture of Chosin. Pictures, paintings, plaques, medals and other relics of the battle are displayed throughout the ship's passageways and messes. The ship's motto is "Invictus," which is Latin for "unconquered."

"It's important we never forget about the battle, and it's also important that we never forget about human resiliency and the grit and determination of the Navy-Marine Corps team throughout our nation's history," said Cmdr. Steve Bienkowski, executive officer of Chosin. "Having the Chosin survivors visit our ship reminds us of that," he said.

# Hawaii prepares for coming hurricane season

Story and photo by  
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public  
Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Emergency Management teams hosted the "Operation Prepare-Hurricane Awareness" campaign on May 14.

JBPHH-based Sailors, Airmen and civilians provided specific information on hurricanes in Hawaii and on several non-perishable items for disaster kits that are available at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) and Hickam Army and Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES).

Operation Prepare, a fleet-wide education and awareness campaign on emergency preparedness, provides military family members with valuable tools and resources



Staff Sgt. Nathan Hargrafen (right) talks to a shopper about building a disaster kit at the Hickam Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Emergency Management teams are campaigning for Operation Prepare-Hurricane Awareness in preparation for hurricane season from June through November.

to help them be more prepared in the event of natural disasters.

"Be informed, have a plan,

make a kit," said Daniel T. DuBois, the JBPHH emergency manager. "If you remember nothing else about

Operation Prepare, remember three things: Be informed, have a plan, make a kit."

Lt. Nathan Martinez, CNRH emergency manager, said that the purpose of this campaign is to prepare everybody for the upcoming hurricane season from June through November.

Hurricanes, tropical cyclones which include intense thunderstorms and strong winds, are a major concern, especially in Hawaii. Hurricane Iniki was the last major hurricane to hit Hawaii on Sept. 11, 1992. Iniki was a category four hurricane that delivered winds 131 to 155 miles per hour, destroyed more than 1,400 houses in Kauai and caused \$1.8 billion in damages, equivalent to \$2.8 billion in today's economy.

"Hurricane Iniki clobbered Kauai," said DuBois. "It came right below Oahu. If you go on the Web and you look at

the pictures, the whole west coast of Oahu, power lines were down all over the place. There were major traffic stalls. It took a couple of days to get the water and electricity back up again. It took weeks to get into Kauai. Iniki went right over the top and hit the very heart."

Hawaii is located more than 2,500 miles from mainland United States. DuBois said that because of the distance, Hawaii is in a difficult position to receive immediate relief and rescue from the mainland.

"It takes a container ship five to seven days to get here from California, depending on how fast it's moving," said DuBois. "Our port facility is only 15 feet above water. So if we are hit by a category four hurricane, Sand Island, which is the main port facility, is probably going to be underwater and covered in debris for a while. It's going to take time to get that port back up.

"We have contingency plans to use the port here in Pearl Harbor to offload the cargo, but while Sand Island can turn over 60 containers an hour at Sand Island, we will be really lucky if we are turning over 10 containers an hour," he explained.

"The other problem is the reef runway," noted DuBois. Honolulu International Airport has four major runways, which it shares with the neighboring JBPHH. The principal runway, also known as the reef runway, was the world's first major runway constructed entirely offshore.

"The reef runway can easily be wiped out by a hurricane," said DuBois. "It's going to take three to five days to clear the runway and get it back in operation."

Martinez said the important thing is to make sure that everybody has all that they need to survive for three to five days without food or power.

## Protect your personal property and identity while deployed or underway

Lt. j.g. Andrea M. Gordon

Naval Legal Service Office

Property crimes make up an overwhelming majority of all crimes. Homes, garages, cars and computers are all susceptible to the attention of thieves. Generally, most property crimes occur when you are not there. Locks only keep honest people out.

Single service members often have no one to watch their personal belongings during a deployment or a period underway. Married service members may also want to consider additional steps to protect their personal belongings, their identity and their credit while they are away. The bottom line for all of us: Our absence is a

critical component in planning for our security.

### Protect your home

There are few things more upsetting than returning home and discovering your house has been burglarized. Some simple techniques can help. Use an alarm system or home security system. Lock all doors and windows, including garage doors. Depending on your budget, you may wish to install motion detector lights on the outside of your residence. Cover your garage windows to prevent anyone from seeing the contents of your garage and whether your car is at home.

Set the ringer on your telephone on low. A loudly ringing, unanswered phone is a sign no one is home. Arrange

to have mail and packages picked up or forwarded. Stop newspaper delivery.

Enlist the help of a trusted friend to monitor your property and imitate every day habits. Be careful, however, when asking an acquaintance or neighbor to monitor your belongings.

Keep your travel plans to yourself unless your lease requires you to notify your landlord during an absence or you wish to contact local police under a community home-watch program.

### Secure and insure your valuables

Most thefts are performed by amateurs and opportunists, not skilled intruders. With that simple rule in mind, there is nothing more inviting for a

prospective thief than to see valuable items in plain view within your vehicle or home. Move small valuable property items and personal documents to a hidden, fireproof box or safe, or consider renting a bank safe deposit box. Consider storage for larger items, such as electronics and vehicles. Choose a government or a reputable storage company and take steps to ensure timely payment for the storage of your items while away. If you choose to store your items, provide a trusted family member with a special power of attorney to assist you with storage or retrieval of your vehicle or belongings if necessary.

Unfortunately, despite our best attempts, preventive steps may fail. In such circum-

stances, renters' insurance is certainly a valuable substitute for a loss. As part of your financial plan, you should budget for renters' insurance or homeowners' insurance with a low deductible to compensate for losses, especially during deployment or an underway period.

Take pictures or do a home videotaping of your valuables to aid in their identification if they should be lost or stolen. (If you take pictures, use a business address when you take the film in for developing and pay for it with cash.) These steps will ensure timely processing and proper compensation for your loss.

### Protect your identity

Remember that your personal documents are just as

important as your furniture and electronics. Social security cards, legal documents, passports, unused credit cards, tax returns, and bills should all be secured in a fire proof box or safe before your departure. Unused documents with personal identifying information should be shredded, not placed in drawers or trashcans.

When you are deployed or underway, you may want to consider additional steps to protect your identity and credit. You may place an extended fraud alert or security freeze on your credit report with all three credit bureaus: Equifax (<https://www.equifax-us.custhelp.com>), Experian (<https://www.experian.com>) and TransUnion (<https://www.transunion.com>).

## Diverse Views

### What are your plans for Memorial Day?

From Sailors at  
Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two



PS2 (AW/SW)  
Russell Cruz

"I plan to spend time with family by taking them to Bellows Air Force Base to enjoy some fun in the sun."

LS2 (SW)  
Maria Garcia



"I will be volunteering with the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy in Kapolei, which is a last-chance program to help young adults earn their GED. Afterwards, I plan to attend church."



ISC (AW/SW)  
Cedrick Thomas

"I'm going to the beach. Then I will visit some Navy veterans and make some calls to old Navy shipmates because it's a day we should all reflect upon the men and women who have gone before us to allow us the opportunity to be where we are today."

YN1 (AW/SW/EXW)  
Tameica Williamson



"I'm taking my daughter to the beach, then we'll catch up on some movies and, finally, take her to visit the Bishop Museum to learn about the history of Hawaii."

(Photos/ information provided by  
Lt. j.g. Evita Salles)



## Anniversary of Pearl Harbor's West Loch explosion

May 1944

Official U.S. Navy photograph, U.S. National Archives

On May 21, 1944, during preparations for the invasion of Saipan, an accidental ordnance blast on Landing Ship Tank (LST) 353 sets off cataclysmic ammunition explosions at West Loch, Pearl Harbor, killing 163 and injuring 396. Pictured is an aerial photograph of Pearl Harbor's West Loch, showing the burning Landing Ship Tanks (LST) at berths T-8 and T-9. Six tank landing ships (LST-39, LST-43, LST-69, LST-179, LST-353, LST-480), three tank landing craft (LCT-961, LCT-963, LCT-983), and 17 track landing vehicles (LTVs) were destroyed in explosions and fires.

## Hawaii Navy News

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## CNRH celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Story and photo by  
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Sailors and civilians assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawaii celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 19 at Lockwood Hall.

This year's theme for Asian Pacific Heritage Month was "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce."

Vice Adm. (retired) Robert Kihune served as the guest speaker for the event.

"It is important for us to recognize all of the things that Asian Pacific Americans have done to pave the way for our future generations," said Kihune. "Diversity is our Navy's strength and our country's strength. Diversity is part of our global economy and it is here to stay."

Kihune also talked about when he served in the military and how he was accepted.

"Before I went to the U.S. Naval



The 'Ulelehua hula dancers perform a traditional Hawaiian hula for staff and guests of Commander, Navy Region Hawaii during the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at Lockwood Hall on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 19. This year's theme for Asian Pacific Heritage month was "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce."

Academy, I thought that I would have problems there because I was half-Japanese and half-Hawaiian," explained Kihune. "When I arrived there, the commanders and mid-

shipmen didn't care what race I was. They saw me as another member of the greatest Navy in the world. The Navy has been, and still is, making great strides to create a strong, cul-

turally diverse workforce."

During the ceremony, the 'Ulelehua hula dancers performed traditional Hawaiian hula dances.

To conclude the ceremony, Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, offered thanks to the participants.

"I want to express my appreciation to Vice Adm. Kihune for coming to speak at today's ceremony, and I also want to thank the 'Ulelehua hula dancers for an outstanding show," said Smith.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated in May to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States.

Congress passed a joint congressional resolution in 1978 to commemorate Asian American Heritage Week during the first week of May. In 1990, Congress voted to expand it from one week to a month-long celebration and in May 1992, the month of May was permanently designated as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.



## Luncheon event honors Hawaii's bond with military

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

As part of May's celebration of Military Appreciation Month, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii welcomed members of the Navy, Air Force, Army, Marines and Coast Guard to the 25th Annual Military Recognition Luncheon at the Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village on May 18.

The event highlighted the unique relationship between the armed forces and the state of Hawaii with opening remarks from Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona and an inspiring address from keynote speaker Lt. Gen. Herbert J. Carlisle, Commander 13th Air Force, Hickam Air Force Base.

During the festivities, seven members of the armed forces were feted with the Outstanding Service Members in

the Community Service Award for their outstanding contributions on and off base.

Army Sgt. Gregory Bowling, Marine Cpl. Stefan Gilwa, Air Force Staff Sgt. Tony Jacobsmeier, Navy Culinary Specialist 1st Class Shennan Pacheco, Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Terrence Thornburgh, Army Sgt. Tony Wood and Hawaii Air National Guard Senior Airman Yommala Xaysanith made up the group of service award recipients this year.

"These men and women in uniform today are the finest this country has to offer," said Carlisle. "These are amazing men and women."

Army Ret. Lt. Col. Darrell Large was presented with the Doleman Award, and the afternoon also acknowledged current high school graduates who have been accepted to attend service academies in the fall.

"Honolulu has the distinction of being home to the Army,

Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard," said Charles Ota, vice president, military affairs, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. "Most cities have only one service and because of that, it's a unique situation for Hawaii. That's the reason why we feel it's (Military Appreciation Month) important. The military spends almost seven billion a year in Hawaii, so that helps our state in many ways."

Besides bolstering Hawaii's economy, Ota also noted that many service members volunteer their time to help various charitable organizations within the state.

"The members of the military know that they are here for three or four years, but they want to be part of the community," pointed out Ota. "Most of them enjoy volunteering for school mentorship, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and things like that."

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander of Navy Region

Hawaii, and Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, praised the seven people who were recognized with the service award, but noted that the recipients represent only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to being out in the community.

"I don't think folks necessarily know how much the military is out within the community," stated Smith. "It's our home, our neighborhood and we have a responsibility to being involved."

For Pacheco, he said that offering a helping hand is a way to give back to the community, while presenting the Navy as a positive influence.

In his off time, Pacheco has volunteered for Adopt a Highway, Meals on Wheels and Adopt a School, where he assists children with after-school reading and the Letters to Warriors program.

"In order to get the community to back us, it's a give-and-

take situation," said Pacheco, who is with Commander United States Pacific Fleet (COM-PACFLT) and was born and raised in Hawaii. "Communities support the military and we support them. It's a joint effort on both sides."

Fellow service award recipient, Jacobsmeier also acknowledged the importance of service to his country and community.

Jacobsmeier spends much of his off-duty hours at the bedside of ill and wounded Soldiers at Tripler Army Medical Center – boosting their morale to help them recover.

"It's a wonderful thing how the community and members of the military can work together to do many things," said Jacobsmeier. "It all starts by looking at yourself and realizing that there are people out there that need help, and you can get in there to make a difference."

(See photo on page A-5)

## IA: Perspectives

Continued from A-1

a lot of fear in your heart because you want to make sure that your spouse comes home."

Taylor, who was deployed to Afghanistan for eight months, said what he missed most was the normal day-to-day life.

"When you're moving around inside the country and you're moving from place to place, there's always the fear," said Taylor. "You always have to be on your guard. You will always have to be what we call, 'amped up and ready to go.' I missed the day-to-day safety and normal day-to-day life - not having to worry about things blowing up or being shot at or things like that."

Since the IA Sailor is deploying as an individual, and not with their unit, Sailors and their families may feel somewhat isolated from others in the command.

Command ombudsmen help support IAs by providing a resource of information and opening the lines of communication between the spouses, Sailors and the command leadership. Hearne is currently the Navy's ombudsman for JBP HH.

"I deal with a lot of IAs now," said Hearne. "I try to get in contact with the spouses and family members every month to make sure that they're ok and see if there's anything they want to talk about, basically just having all your life matters in order."

As of March, there are 10,504 Sailors serving in IA assignments. More than 4,000 Sailors are in the pre-deployment status and approximately 1,800 Sailors are in mission-specific training.

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



(Left) Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Raymond Hoke of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard autographs a 'welcome home' banner after being greeted at Honolulu International Airport by his fellow shipyard Sailors on May 6. Engineman 2nd Class Nicolas Lopez holds up the welcome banner. Hoke was an individual augmentee (IA) and supported detainee operations for nine months at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. He was away from the shipyard for about 350 days.

U.S. Navy photo by MMFN Dustan Longhini

(Right) Musicians from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and the Hawaii Army National Guard perform during the combined military band concert May 15 at the Hawaii Theatre, Honolulu.

U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Tim Meyer



(Left) Col. Charles R. Baumgardner assumes command of the new 647 Air Base Group at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 18 at Hickam.

USAF photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

(Right) Vice Adm. (Retired) Robert Kihune talks to Sailors and civilians assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawaii during the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration at Lockwood Hall on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. This year's theme for Asian Pacific Heritage month was "Diverse Leadership for a Diverse Workforce."

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stürup



(Left) Culinary Specialist 1st Class Shennan Pacheco of Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT), receives an Outstanding Service Members in the Community Service Award during ceremonies at the 25th Annual Military Recognition Luncheon, Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village, on May 18. Pacheco was one of seven servicemen to gain recognition by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii for their volunteer service on and off base.

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz

(Right) Chief Master Sgt. Troy Eden of 324th Intelligence Squadron, and Information Systems Technician Seaman Ikwan Williams of Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii, team up on the grill for a Mother's Day picnic that was held at NIOC Hawaii's KTA pavillion. The event was hosted by senior enlisted leadership from the 324th IS and NIOC Hawaii, the NIOC Hawaii Chief Petty Officer's Association, Junior Enlisted Organization and Family Readiness Group.

U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Melissa Ocasio





U.S. Navy photo by DC2 (SW) James Sheldon

The official party, (left to right) Cmdr. Derek Trinque, incoming O'Kane commanding officer; Capt. David Welch Deputy Commander of Destroyer Squadron 31, Cmdr. Tim Steadman, outgoing O'Kane commanding officer; and Lt. Shawn Osborne; salute during the parading of the colors prior to the USS O'Kane change of command on May 7.

## Cmdr. Trinque relieves Cmdr. Steadman as O'Kane CO

**Ensign  
Lauren St. Pierre-Hetz**

*USS O'Kane (DDG 77)  
Public Affairs*

In a time-honored ceremony held May 7 on the flight deck of USS O'Kane (DDG 77), Cmdr. Derek Trinque relieved Cmdr. Timothy Steadman as commanding officer of O'Kane.

Steadman leaves the ship after an 18-month tour highlighted by deployments to the U.S. 5th Fleet and U.S. 7th Fleet regions. Additionally, O'Kane completed a highly successful assessment by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) and supported ballistic missile defense test-

ing during a Missile Defense Agency Flight Test (FTX-06).

O'Kane's crew sent their commander off aloha style from a ship currently undergoing a maintenance availability in preparation for yet another deployment. Recalling his time aboard, Steadman commended the crew for its unmatched work ethic, professionalism and perseverance through a challenging operational schedule. "I'd like to thank the magnificent crew of the mighty O'Kane for the honor and privilege of serving with them," Steadman said.

Lauding Steadman's accomplishments during his command, the guest speak-

er, Capt. Dave Welch, deputy commodore of Destroyer Squadron 31, said, "[Cmdr. Steadman] has been energized by the experience. Why? Because this assignment placed him exactly where he wanted to be and where he was most effective as a naval officer - at sea, in command, leading Sailors, completing operational tasks in support of vital national interests, representing the United States and the U.S. Navy to allies and friends."

Steadman's next assign-

ment will be with the White House Military Office in Washington, D.C.

Trinque is a native of Holliston, Mass. and a 1992 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Most recently serving as executive officer of O'Kane, he is fully prepared for the challenges of his new assignment.

"I am humbled and inspired by the opportunity to command this warship and honored to lead a crew that represents the very best our nation has to offer," said Trinque.

## KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

- May 27 - Military Appreciation Month with Hawaiian musician Amy Hanaiali'i
- June 3 - Battle of Midway with PHNSY and Pacific Aviation Museum
- June 10 - JMSDF
- June 17 - Individual augmentees - Hospital Corps perspective
- June 23 - Hurricane season
- June 30 - Starbase Atlantis - Joe Barrett, director

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

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Email [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com) or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

## STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements:

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**Hawaii Navy News**

# Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard executes double undocking

Katie Vanes

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard  
Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard successfully undocked USS Hawaii (SSN 776) on May 5 and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) on May 7.

Hawaii, in Dry Dock two since March 31 as part of her continuous maintenance availability (CMAV), became the inaugural U.S. Pacific fleet Virginia-class (VACL) submarine to undock at Pearl Harbor. Shipyard workers then rapidly transitioned to Dry Dock four to remove Paul Hamilton two days later.

"It was a very challenging evolution conducted over three days – undocking Hawaii on Wednesday and returning the dry dock to normal condition in order to undock Paul Hamilton on Friday," said Lt. Lorenz Tate, shipyard docking officer. "It was especially challenging to plan the docking in accordance with the first- and second-shift personnel turnover, ensuring a safe maneuver."

Paul Hamilton underwent \$20 million of hull preservation, shafting and valve work during the dry-docking selected restricted availability (DSRA). "The undocking was successful and the ship is set to finish its availability



(Left) Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard prepares to undock Arleigh Burke-class destroyer Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) after undergoing hull preservation, shafting and valve work during DSRA.



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

(Right) USS Hawaii (SSN 776) undergoes routine inspections and repairs in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. The Virginia-class submarine entered dry dock March 30. Hawaii is the first U.S. Pacific Fleet Virginia-class submarine to enter dry dock in Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by Liane Nakahara

on schedule May 21," said Capt. Lynn Hampton, head of the surface ship maintenance department at the shipyard.

Hawaii is undergoing \$2.5 million of regular maintenance during its CMAV at the shipyard. Submarines are routinely dry-docked every four to six years to perform work that cannot be completed pier-side. The Hawaii project

team went through nearly two years of preparation for VACL docking evolutions. During the undocking, Navy divers carefully inspected the warship as she lifted off the blocks in the dry dock – an extra precaution not normally employed for Los Angeles-class submarines.

"Superintendent Jeff Long and his project team did a superb job

in executing the Hawaii CMAV," said Cmdr. Leonard Laforteza, VACL program manager. "The dry-docking of our first Virginia-class submarine not only validated what we had planned, but also provided us lessons learned that we can apply to future dry-dockings. We are now in a position to redefine some of the areas to improve in that only be-

came evident after executing an actual dry-docking."

According to Laforteza, the shipyard will perform its first extended dry-docking selected restricted availability (EDSRA) of a VACL submarine in summer 2012.

"The USS Hawaii docking and undocking have great significance for the shipyard," said Rear Adm. (select) Greg Thomas, shipyard commander. "Our future depends, to a large extent, on Virginia-class submarines. By successfully executing these complex evolutions on Hawaii, we are demonstrating our ability to support the Navy's next generation of submarines."

Hawaii, which arrived at Pearl Harbor last July 23, is the first VACL submarine to be homeported at Pearl Harbor and the first commissioned U.S. Navy vessel to bear the name of the aloha state. Hawaii represents the very latest in submarine technology and capability. She features an advanced combat control system and sensors and improved surveillance, reconnaissance and special operations forces (SEAL) capabilities. Seventeen of the 30 Pacific-based attack submarines are homeported at Pearl Harbor, and each of these contributes about \$17 million a year to the local economy in Hawaii, according to Gov. Linda Lingle.

# Federal Fire Department, Hawaii expands emergency medical service

Victor Flint, Battalion  
Chief

Federal Fire Department,  
Hawaii

Effective in April, the Federal Fire Department (FFD), Hawaii expanded emergency medical service (EMS) to the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station (NCTAMS) Pacific.

FFD will initiate basic life support (BLS) ambulance transport services for the people and command of NCTAMS.

FFD EMS is a Hawaii state-licensed EMS ambulance provider.

The new ambulance unit will be designated as Medic 7 and will be quartered at FFD Fire Station Seven, Wahiawa.

Medic 7 will be augmented by an advanced life support (ALS) unit for cases requiring ALS care. In cases where the estimated arrival time (ETA) for the ALS unit exceeds the required ETA, the Medic 7 team will initiate transport to the nearest appropriate medical facility and provide patient care within their scope of practice.

All personnel assigned to Medic 7 are firefighters certified at the Hawaii State EMT - Basic and National Registry of

Emergency Medical Technicians - Intermediate level under the direction of the FFD EMS medical director.

For more information, contact Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint at 471-3303, ext. 633.

U.S. Navy photo courtesy of  
Federal Fire Department

Medic 7 personnel, John Harrell (captain/MET I) and Justin Lee (firefighter/EMT I), treat a patient before transport to Wahiawa General Hospital. Medic 7 provides emergency medical service for NCTAMS. Medic 7 is quartered at Federal Fire Department Hawaii fire station Seven at NCTAMS.

