

NAVFAC Hawai'i CEC officer killed in Afghanistan

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i

Lt. j.g. Francis L. Toner IV, a Hawai'i-based Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) officer, died March 27 when an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier opened fire on U. S. Navy personnel assigned to Combined Security Transition Command - Afghanistan (CSTC-A) at Camp Shaheen in Mazar-E-Sharif, Afghanistan.

The attack also claimed the life of another Navy officer, Lt. Florence B. Choe, Medical Service Corps, and a third was wounded. The ANA soldier killed himself immediately after the incident.

Toner, 26, had been in Afghanistan since October 2008, serving on a one-year individual augmentee (IA) assignment with CSTC-A.

"He was an exceptional young man and naval officer," said Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i. "He made a great difference while in Afghanistan just as he did while serving in Hawai'i. Those he touched during his life will never forget his smile, sense of humor, competitive spirit, outstanding work ethic and love of country."

In his monthly IA status reports, Toner described his experiences in Afghanistan as "extremely rewarding." In addition to his assignments, he enjoyed interacting with local Afghan children and teaching ANA soldiers how to play softball.

"I would [ask], 'What do you need,

what do you need,' and he would say, 'Send books for the kids, send shoes,' and you know...he just loved those people," said his wife in an interview with KPVI News 6 in Pocatello, Idaho. "I just hope

"He made a great difference while in Afghanistan just as he did while serving in Hawai'i."

Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg
Commanding officer of NAVFAC

that people realize that it's not in vain and those people deserve a chance and he fought for that...and I supported him."

Toner started on his path to becoming a naval officer when he was recruited to play football at the Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, N.Y. He received a bachelor of science degree in marine engineering and shipyard management. Upon graduation, he was directly commissioned into the U.S. Navy.

After attending, and graduating from, the Civil Engineer Corps Officers School, class 236, Toner reported to his first duty assignment at NAVFAC Hawai'i as officer in charge of self help (a

Seabee unit). His last assignment at the command, prior to deploying to Afghanistan, was as assistant public works officer for West Oahu.

"He is our hero," said Lt. Paul McCord, a CEC officer who worked with Toner at NAVFAC Hawai'i. "Frank was an amazing officer and friend. His smile and selfless attitude were infectious. He was kind to everyone he met and consistently went out of his way to help whoever and wherever he could and he took immense amounts of pride in everything he did."

State and national flags in his home state of Rhode Island were ordered to be flown at half-mast until Toner is laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. He is survived by his wife, parents and three siblings.

"Please keep Brooke and the family in your thoughts and prayers," requested Rear Adm. Greg Shear, commander NAVFAC.

A Facebook page has been created in his memory for friends and family to post messages and memories, named "Never forget Francis L. Toner IV."

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i will host a memorial service at 10 a.m. Friday at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel. For military attendees, uniform is summer whites. A reception will follow the service. Anyone who wishes to donate food for the reception should contact Ensign Jamie McFarland at 291-4312.

A full military funeral with honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery.



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Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, signs the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation during a ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Services Center on March 31. The proclamation signing officially marked April as Child Abuse Prevention month and the Month of the Military Child for Navy Region Hawai'i. This year's theme for the Hawai'i area is "Celebrating Our Future Heroes" and the national theme is "Promoting Healthy Families in the Community."

CNRH proclaims April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Month of Military Child

Story and photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, signed a Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation on March 30 during a ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Services Center (FFSC).

The proclamation signing officially marked April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and the Month of the Military Child for Navy Region Hawai'i. This year's theme for the Hawai'i area is "Celebrating Our Future Heroes" and the national theme is "Promoting Healthy Families in the Community."

"I consider this issue to be very important," said

Smith. "I realize that all of our children deserve the same upbringing as I had. Through our education process, skills and resources for our kids, we will help drive this out and do away with child abuse."

The Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time set aside each April since 1986 to recognize the special sacrifices children make as part of a military family and to take action in preventing child abuse.

The first clause of the proclamation states that preventing child abuse and neglect is a community-wide issue that depends on involvement among people throughout the community.

Smith thanked the members of community child programs in the area for their efforts in supporting the military families in Hawai'i.

"I applaud all of you for your efforts and the importance you place upon

removing child abuse from our society," said Smith. "All you do on a daily basis helps these kids and I am truly appreciative to you for what you provide them."

According to the Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation, the Navy community has an obligation to become actively involved in prevention by supporting parents to raise children in a safe, healthy and nurturing environment. Also, the community must join together in the quest to stop child abuse and neglect because getting involved holds the possibility of saving a child's life.

Accompanying Smith for the signing were HI Sen. Will Espero (D-Hawai'i) and more than a dozen children from throughout the community.

"My father served in the Navy for 21 years so I fully understand what these families go through," said

See PROCLAMATION, A-9

PACFLT commander optimizes communication opportunities

MCCS Melissa F. Weatherspoon

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) spoke about Navy leadership's obligation to engage in emerging media as a way to successfully communicate with all Navy audiences in his podcast and blog posted March 25.

"I think the opportunity to employ a podcast or to engage in a blog are effective means of communication that are better accepted than some traditional means than we formerly believed strongly in," Adm. Robert F. Willard said in his podcast, the Rat-Pac Report.

Speaking from his own experiences since kicking off his weekly podcast in September 2007 and his blog in September 2008, the commander of the Navy's largest fleet recognized that engaging in social media may feel a bit uneasy at first for Navy leadership. But he quickly acknowledged that in doing so, the rewards of the communication tools will be realized.

"I have already seen the benefits ... just some of the responses that I get back, critical or not, are of value to me as a Navy leader here in Pacific Fleet to understand the tenor out there in certain subject matters," he said. "I've had my podcast quoted back to me in foreign audiences and when that occurs, that convinces me that these are media the Navy would be well-served to continue to explore and



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Roland A. Franklin

Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks to Filipino Marine Lt. Gen. Nelson Allaga, commander of Western Mindanao Forces, at Camp Navarro. The U.S. Joint Special Operations Task Force, Philippines, is helping the Armed Forces of the Philippines foster peace and security in the southern Philippines at the request of the Philippine government.

adapt to, whenever we see the opportunity."

Willard's announced plans for Pacific Partnership 2009 (PP 09) via a blog post March 3 and his podcast about humanitarian mission was played March 23. To open the PP09 planning conference in San Diego.

Willard's staff also understands the importance of today's interactive online media, as seen in a recent post by the knowledge management officer.

"I often receive very positive comments about your blog and podcasts from people I meet in my travels," wrote Jamie Hatch in her blog post dated March 29. "Your willingness to communicate in this manner demonstrates that senior leadership recognizes the power of 'new media'

and is responding to a significant cultural shift as millennials continue to enter and advance in the workforce. Fleet master Chief Tom Howard's blog [Mooring Lines] is another great example of leadership staying ahead of the game and reaching out in new ways."

Hatch is an active member of the Web 2.0 community and actively operates a team blog, "Common Knowledge," and a Twitter site, "CPFKMO."

Links to the commander's blog and podcast and Fleet Master Chief Tom Howard's blog can be found on the Pacific Fleet Web site, www.cpf.navy.mil. A new podcast is launched every Wednesday. Upcoming podcasts will highlight duty in Japan and active-reserve integration.



Pearl Harbor observes Women's History Month See page A-2



Navy, Army hold CBRNE exercise on Ford Island See page A-2



NMCRS Quick Assist Loan provides emergency relief to Sailors, Marines See page A-7



Navy youth score with NFL Flag Football See page B-1

Pearl Harbor observes Women's History Month

Story and photo by
MC3 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i Public
Affairs

Sailors and civilians assigned to various commands throughout the Oahu region celebrated the 22nd annual observance of Women's History Month at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor on March 30.

This year's theme for Women's History Month, "Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet," focused on women's contributions toward helping the environment.

The event began with the recital of a poem about the history of women by Chief Religious Program Specialist Tshombe Harris, assigned to Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Guest speakers for the event included Capt. Janet Stewart, commanding officer, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific, and Maria Tome, renewable and transportation energy program manager for the Hawai'i State Energy Office.

"It's important to celebrate Women's History Month and recognize where we have come from. Women have many benefits now



Capt. Janet Stewart, commanding officer, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific, gives her remarks during an observance of Women's History Month at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor on March 30. This year's theme for Women's History Month, "Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet," focused on women's contributions towards helping the environment.

that they did not have in the past and we will continue to build upon our history, making it easier for our young and future women to be successful," said Stewart.

Tome's speech noted the importance of contributing to a greener environment.

"We have done a lot to help the environment and we still will con-

tinue to give knowledge and influence people to make a cleaner and greener environment," said Tome. "Hawai'i is one of the most environmentally friendly states

in the country."

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, reflected on the importance of this year's Women's History Month theme.

"The theme of this year's event should be important to everyone here as it applies to us all," said Smith. "Capt. Stewart and Ms. Tome are key examples of what this year's Women's History Month theme is all about."

Smith expressed his appreciation to Stewart and Tome by presenting them with plaques for inspirational leadership and outstanding community involvement at the end of the event.

"We greatly appreciate everything that you do," said Smith. "It is great to celebrate our women's history and honor these two ladies for what they've accomplished."

This year marks the 31st observance of women's history in the United States. It began as "Women's History Week" in 1978 and later changed to "Women's History Month" in 1987. National Women's History Month provides an opportunity to educate the general public about the significant role of women in American history and contemporary society.

Navy, Army hold CBRNE exercise on Ford Island

Story and photo by
MC3 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i
Public Affairs

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor's emergency operations center incident management team along with the Hawai'i Army National Guard's 93rd Civil Support Team (CST) held a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) exercise on historic Ford Island on March 25.

The event was held to help train and assess Naval Security Forces, Federal Fire Department, Emergency Operations Center and the 93rd CST for preparation in case of real world events.

"It's important to make sure that all personnel involved know how to react to these scenarios in case a real world event does happen," said Ray



Personnel assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor review a map of the affected area during a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive exercise on historic Ford Island on March 25. The event was held to train and assess Naval Security Forces, Federal Fire Department, Emergency Operations Center and the 93rd Civil Support Team for preparation in case of real world events.

Toves, exercise director of the event.

Different elements of

the drill included manning decontamination stations, conducting tests on

the CBRNE agents, among others.

Personnel assigned to

NAVSTA Pearl Harbor Security's canine detachment played one of the largest roles in the event, finding multiple CBRNE agents while searching the premises with military working dogs.

"I think that we performed well during the exercise," said Master-At-Arms 2nd Class Jeye Pena, assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor Security's canine detachment. "All of our training with the dogs pays dividends as we found all of the CBRNE agents that were planted."

Having great teamwork among more than 65 personnel was a huge factor in helping the drill run smoothly.

"It's very important for everyone to be on the same page for events like this," said Cmdr. Lawrence Hill, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor's executive officer and training team leader for the drill. "We've

had great communication between all of our different stations, making the drill run without a hitch."

Toves noted that personnel spend many days planning and training for an event like this.

"Planning an event this large can take range from 90 days to six months," said Toves. "Personnel spend at least two months constantly training for these types of drills."

Ensuring the team would be ready to respond in case of an actual casualty in the area is key to the maritime strategy presented by Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead.

"We train very well here at Pearl Harbor for scenarios like these and I have complete confidence that we will perform exactly the way we train if an actual casualty does happen," said Hill.

STORY IDEAS?

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Hawaii Navy News

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

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Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.



You've just lost everything in a fire
.... now what?

Statistics show that everyone will be involved in a fire at one point or another in our lives. So what would you do if you lost everything? The first hours after the fire are the most confusing and filled with anxiety. Most people are not able to think clearly because they have been traumatized by one of the worst events that they will ever experience and certainly never forget. So what do you do?

After the fire is declared out by the fire department, certain actions must be taken to secure property and start the recovery process. So plan ahead. Here are some helpful guidelines to assist you if (when) you are involved with a structure type of fire:

- Do not go back into the structure. Once out, stay out and stay out of the way. But stick around. Do not leave the scene.
- If you come home to discover that your home was involved, do not go into the structure without speaking to a fire

department official and/or your housing representative. The reason is that the structure may not be stable and the atmosphere in the structure could be deadly from the fumes. Also, you do not want to compromise the investigation.

- Work with the fire department investigator to find out what actually happened that caused the fire.
 - Contact the American Red Cross and other relief services for some immediate aid and assistance.
 - Call your insurance company. Even in government housing, you should have renters' insurance. Important papers and receipts should be secured in a fire resistant box or safe.
 - Discard food, beverages and medications exposed to heat and smoke.
 - Let others know of your relocation, (employer, family, school, etc.).
- For more information, contact Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint at 471-3303, ext. 633.

MCPON's CPO birthday message: Anchor up chiefs

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West

On the occasion of the chief petty officers' 116th birthday, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West sent the following on March 30.

"On April 1, our entire mess will pause to celebrate the 116th birthday of the United States Navy chief petty officer. Traditionally, this is a time for each of us to look at the honored traditions of our mess and the heritage associated with it.

In the days leading up to our birthday, I've taken some time to read up on many of my predecessors. One I'd like to discuss with you this year is our fifth Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, MCPON Billy Sanders.

"Twenty-five years ago, MCPON Sanders was leading an enlisted force that was gradually downsizing and he was stressing a need to keep our ranks filled with the best possible people.

"He turned his attention to the senior enlisted and said that there was no room for mediocrity. He



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Jennifer A. Villalovos

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) (SS/SW) Rick D. West gave his message on the occasion of the chief petty officers' 116th birthday March 30.

addressed the entire group and told the master chiefs, senior chiefs and chiefs that, "It's clear from your years of service that you have made a career decision to remain in the Navy - that's not enough. It's time to be a professional military man or woman."

"It's time," Sanders wrote, "to be Navy."

What a statement, and look at how relevant it is today as we reach the end of a time where our force has grown smaller. Leadership at the CPO level has never been more important and Sanders' words still apply.

I'd recommend each of you take the time to read up on the history of our mess. I think you'll find, as I did, that the lessons from our past have remained current to this day.

Happy birthday, shipmates. I really appreciate the hard work you do every single day.

Don't forget those who have gone before us and the standards they set for us all. Keeping our heritage alive is a mess responsibility.

Thank you for your leadership.

Anchor up and hooyah Navy chiefs!"

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Hawai'i Navy News welcomes letters to the editor for the editorial page on any subject as long as they are in good taste.

All letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, E-mail address and daytime telephone number. Letters are subject to editing to meet space constraints.

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E-mail letters to: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com.

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Navy, Marine Corps host Spring Camp '09 for JROTC cadets

Story and photos by
MC3 (AW) Eric J. Cutright

Naval Public Affairs Support
Element West Det. Hawai'i

Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets visited Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor and Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) - Kaneohe on March 23-25 as part of their annual NJROTC Spring Camp event.

Spring Camp is a three-day event held in Oahu that sends NJROTC cadets to military commands in the area and allows them to interact with active duty military members. This year's spring camp featured four different high schools' NJROTC programs, totaling 133 cadets.

"I think this is really important for the cadets because during the school year we provide them with an academic and leadership program, and we view the Navy as a vehicle for teaching both citizenship and leadership," said Hank Van Oss, senior naval science instructor at Kalaheo High School. "What this camp does is it gets our cadets out in



Kalaheo High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets prepare to march in formation during Spring Camp '09. (Right) Kalaheo High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) cadet commanding officer, Arin Nunes, climbs a rock wall on March 25 during Spring Camp '09.

the field and it orientates them to various aspects of the military. It really just enhances a lot of the training that they get during the academic year."

At MCBH, the cadets had opportunities to observe military working dogs in action, participate in an obstacle course, and witness explosive ordinance disposal robots. The cadets also worked as teams in a unique challenge called the leadership reaction course. Cadets were

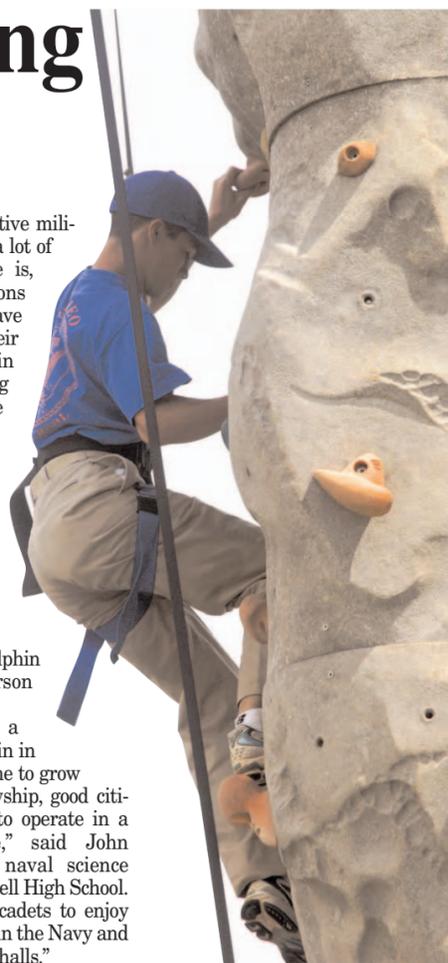
grouped together and put in various rooms, each with a unique challenge for them to solve. Many of the problems that the cadets faced did not have a definitive solution, but instead were used to see how the cadets worked together as a team to solve them.

At Naval Station Pearl Harbor the cadets took a white boat tour of historic landmarks such as the Arizona, Nevada and Utah Memorials.

"Working with active military, you get to see a lot of what their lifestyle is, what their opinions are, and it really gave us a window into their lives," said Arin Nunes, commanding officer of the Kalaheo High School cadets.

With spring camp's full schedule, the Navy and Marine Corps bases also hosted the cadets for lunch and dinner at their respective chow halls: the Silver Dolphin Bistro and Anderson Hall.

"Spring camp is a time when cadets join in spring fun and a time to grow in leadership, fellowship, good citizenship and learn to operate in a military structure," said John Hutchison, senior naval science instructor at Campbell High School. "It also allows the cadets to enjoy some real good food in the Navy and Marine Corps chow halls."



Seabees celebrate 67th Birthday Ball at Hale Koa

Story and photo by
MC2 John W. Ciccarelli

Naval Public Affairs Support
Element West Det. Hawai'i

Sailors from Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific and Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) attended the 2009 Hawai'i Seabee Birthday Ball held at the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu on March 28.

The birthday ball was held in celebration of the 67th anniversary of the Seabees, the 142nd anniversary of the CEC and the 167th anniversary of NAVFAC.

The ceremony began with remarks from Rear Adm. Michael



The oldest Seabee, Cmdr. Thomas C. Thetford, and the youngest Seabee, Builder Clinton Howell, Rear Adm. Richard E. Cellon, commander 1st Naval Construction Division, and Rear Adm. Michael A. Giorgione, commander NAVFAC, Pacific cut the Seabee's birthday cake with a ceremonial cutlass during the 2009 Seabee Ball.

Giorgione, commander, NAVFAC Pacific and deputy commander, First Naval Construction Division (1NCD) Pacific, celebrating the history of the Seabees.

"Tonight is a very important night to come together and pay our respects to the service that we uphold to our great nation and our Navy, and a great time to gather together to remember and honor each other," said Giorgione.

After the introduction, Giorgione welcomed the guests and introduced Rear Adm. Richard E. Cellon, commander, 1NCD.

Cellon talked about the importance of Seabees in the Navy's mission and how they have made a difference over the past 67 years.

"There has never been a better time than right now to be a United States Navy Seabee," he said. "There are currently 2,500 Seabees deployed around the world promoting peace and prosperity."

After Cellon's remarks, the crowd was called to attention for the re-enlistment of Builder 2nd Class (SCW) Andrew Kraus, assigned to NAVFAC Pacific Seabee Self-help, as he was sworn in by Cellon.

"I am absolutely honored to be here tonight to re-enlist in front of my fellow Seabees," said Kraus.

At the end of the night the youngest Seabee, Builder Constructionman Recruit Clinton

Howell, assigned to NAVFAC Pacific Seabee Self-Help, and the oldest, Cmdr. Thomas C. Thetford, assigned to J132-Exercise and Readiness, U.S. Pacific Command, cut the Seabee birthday cake using a ceremonial cutlass.

"The Seabee Ball has been a great experience, but a little intimidating with all the petty officers and officers around. I just have to remember that they all started somewhere too, which gives me something to look forward to," said Howell.

"It's great to be a part of this family, and that is what this is - a family, guiding and leading me in the right directions, not only how to be a Sailor, but also a Seabee."

Pearl Harbor Highlights

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and a four-year-old from Kids Cove Child Development Center, tie a blue ribbon signifying child abuse prevention to the antenna of Smith's vehicle following the Month of the Military Child and Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation signing ceremony at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Services Center on March 31. The proclamation signing officially marked April as Child Abuse Prevention Month and The Month of The Military Child for Navy Region Hawaii. This year's theme for the Hawai'i area is "Celebrating Our Future Heroes," and the national theme is "Promoting Healthy Families in the Community."

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup

(Below) Personnel assigned to Navy Region Hawai'i's Federal Fire Department (FFD) set up a decontamination station during a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive exercise on historic Ford Island on March 25. The event was held to train and assess Naval Security Forces, Emergency Operations Center, FFD and the 93rd Civil Support Team for preparation in case of real world events.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup

Master-At-Arms 2nd Class Michael Hartter (left) and Master-At-Arms 2nd Class Jeye Pena search a building with military working dog Bady during a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive exercise on historic Ford Island on March 25.

(Below) Journey bassist Ross Valory is given a tour of the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) submarine multi-mission team trainer (SMMTT) and Virginia-class ship control operator trainer (VSCOT) during a tour of Naval Station Pearl Harbor Submarine Base on March 27. Valory and guests began their tour at the Battleship Missouri Missouri (BB 63) followed by lunch with the Sailors at the Silver Dolphin Bistro before touring the fast-attack submarine USS Los Angeles (SSN 688)

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Luciano Marano



Journey bassist Ross Valory and guests record a promotion for Navy News Hawai'i television in front of fast-attack submarine USS Los Angeles (SSN 688) during a tour of Naval Station Pearl Harbor Submarine Base on March 27. Valory and guests began their tour at the Battleship Missouri Memorial (BB 63) followed by lunch with Sailors at the Silver Dolphin Bistro before touring the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) submarine multi-mission team trainer (SMMTT) and Virginia-class ship control operator trainer (VSCOT).

U.S. Navy photo by MCC Josh Thompson (SW/AW/SG)

Sailor gets anchors with special help from ATG MIDPAC

Story and photo by
MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public
Affairs

Chief Operations Specialist (SW) Joshua Pearsall, assigned to Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific (ATG MIDPAC), received his fowled anchors and chief petty officer (CPO) combination cover during a special chief pinning ceremony at the U.S. Pacific Fleet Boathouse on March 27.

Pearsall, who joined the Navy in 2001, was transformed from a first class petty officer into a CPO as one of three Navy-wide Sailors selected during the January 2009 Special CPO Selection board.

After a re-assessment of the eligibility of his 2008 Chief Petty Officer exam, it was found that Pearsall was eligible to take the test. After being submitted for the January 2009 Special CPO Selection board, he was selected for CPO in February 2009.

"I really felt a bit of bewilderment because it's not a process you see very often," said the native of Binghamton, N.Y. "It was just one of those things we were shooting for as a long-shot and I was shell-shocked when I



Chief Operations Specialist (SW) Joshua Pearsall, assigned to Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific, is piped aboard after receiving his anchors during a special chief pinning ceremony at the U.S. Pacific Fleet Boathouse on March 27. Pearsall was one of three Navy-wide Sailors selected to become chief petty officers (CPO) during the January 2009 Special CPO Selection board.

found out that I had made it."

Once selected, Pearsall was put through a personal induction period in order to receive his anchors and combination cover during the ceremony. To assist Pearsall, more than 75 ATG MIDPAC CPOs created a compact

three-week course based on the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy's guiding principles and instructions for the induction process.

"It was an awesome experience to be a part of this. It brought back lot of pride and professional-

ism," said Master Chief Hull Technician (SW) Russell Hackler, ATG MIDPAC's command master chief. "This affirmed the fact that if you put a bunch of chiefs together, you can pretty much get anything done. This CPO mess came through in crunch time and made

a good representation of the Navy chief to the different commands in Hawai'i."

The 28-year-old Pearsall was more than grateful to have his fellow brothers and sisters in the CPO mess guide him through the process allowing him to wear the khaki uniform synonymous with a Navy chief.

"To see them all come together to get me through the process shows that there is a lot of heritage and camaraderie and it's impressive what a group of chiefs can accomplish in a short amount of time," said Pearsall.

The event's guest speaker, CMDCM (SW/AW) William Holz, command master chief for Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, was not surprised to see some of his fellow Hawai'i chiefs provide the necessary leadership for this daunting task.

"Chiefs are held responsible for and have the authority to accomplish and are held accountable for leading Sailors," said Holz. "This CPO mess understands what the job is and they are up for it. No matter what the task is, they'll figure out a way to get it done like they have here today."

COMSUBPAC acquires new warfare asset

MC3 Luciano Marano

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

Remaining on the cutting edge of a field as technologically advanced and fast-paced as anti-submarine warfare is a daunting task and one that requires a talented and dedicated workforce. To that end, Pearl Harbor-based Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) has officially added Commander, Undersea Surveillance (CUS) as its newest asset in maintaining global maritime superiority.

The Navy's Integrated undersea surveillance system (IUSS) consists of CUS and several other commands including IUSS Operations Support Center (IOSC) located at Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek in Norfolk, Va., and the Joint Maritime Facility (JMF) located on the Royal Air Force (RAF) station St. Mawgan in Cornwall, England as well as two naval ocean processing facilities (NOPF) in Dam Neck, Va. and Whidbey Island, Wash., respectively.

IUSS is responsible not only for the tracking and detecting of submarines, but also the collection and cataloging of acoustic and hydrographic information and the maintenance of communication equipment necessary to carry out such operational missions.

The organization, previ-

ously administratively controlled by Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (CNMOC) at the Stennis Space Center in Miss., is now working in close conjunction with SUBPAC in order to better assist the active submarine force.

"The transition will be officially complete by Friday," said Cmdr. Todd Zvorak, the SUBPAC IUSS transition officer. "The transfer is to better align IUSS with operational commanders and bring the program back in line with the operational submarine force."

Founded in 1958, Commander, Oceanographic System Atlantic (COSL) functioned as type commander for all the Navy's Atlantic-based facilities and was the front-runner in the evaluation of all acoustic data processed by those sites. In 1991 the mission was declassified and COSL became Commander, Undersea Surveillance, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CUSL). It was not until 1994, with the decommissioning of Commander, Undersea Surveillance, U.S. Pacific Fleet (CUSP) that CUSL became CUS and assumed administrative control of all undersea surveillance sites world-wide.

"IUSS provides a surveillance capability," said Zvorak. "So we at SUBPAC have been a sort of customer of theirs and now we are making sure that those capabilities offer the greatest benefit possible to our active commanders in the fleet."

Ford Island project provides pedestrian improvements



U.S. Navy photo by James Johnson

Seabees from CBMU 303 made safety improvements for pedestrians along Lexington Road on Ford Island by constructing a new 315 foot sidewalk, painting a crosswalk, and relocating an underground sprinkler system. The project was used as a training project to improve the Seabee's planning and execution for future projects. "Almost all of the crew was new to this type of construction and everyone learned a great deal," said Lt. Steve Slaby, CBMU 303 officer in charge.

STORY IDEAS?

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Hawaii Navy News

NMCRS Quick Assist Loan provides emergency relief to Sailors, Marines

Story and photo by
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

In light of the nation's current economic climate, Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Pearl Harbor is now offering a Quick Assist Loan (QAL) program that lends up to \$300 in financial assistance to all active duty Sailors and Marines.

According to Felix Navarro, relief services assistant at NMCRS Pearl Harbor, QAL loans are designed to help Sailors or Marines with emergency needs for basic living expenses, including housing, utilities, food, emergency airfare or car repairs.

"Many Sailors or Marines may need [quick access] to emergency money for things like food or car repairs," Navarro said. "This loan provides them relief so they can make it until their next pay day."



Cha Cha Jenkins, case worker for Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Pearl Harbor, assists an applicant in need of financial assistance. NMCRS Pearl Harbor is currently offering a program, called Quick Assist Loan (QAL), designed to offer up to a \$300 interest-free loan to all active duty Sailors and Marines.

Navarro added that the QAL program is a reasonable alternative to payday loans and other forms of predatory lending, which

have in the past left many military service members with exorbitant interest fees.

"This program is an important

alternative to payday loans so that our Sailors and Marines will not get left with [other program's] high interest," Navarro said. "With the QAL program, [eligible] Sailors and Marines can get an interest-free loan and will have anywhere from three to 10 months to pay us back."

Interest-free QAL loans are available up to \$300. Only active duty Sailors or Marines are eligible to receive a QAL loan. Navarro also noted that another advantage for eligible recipients is the speedy QAL loan process that only takes up to 15 minutes.

"With this program, Sailors or Marines can come into our office and within 15 minutes, they will receive \$300 interest-free loan," he said. "In the past, [many] commands were saying it took too long for a Sailor (who only needed a few hundred dollars) to go through the whole [paperwork] process. But this way, they can come in, get the money they need and go right back

to work, all within 15 minutes," he continued.

Navarro said all the eligible applicant needs to bring in to the appointment is their current LES and military identification card. Applicants are urged to make an appointment for the QAL loan at NMCRS Pearl Harbor office.

"As always, we would like the Navy and Marine Corps service members to make NMCRS their first resource in order to get help," Navarro said.

Other NMCRS programs and resources include the NMCRS Thrift Shop, Baby for Budget classes, and visiting nurses who will see newborns up to two weeks old and their mothers at their home residences.

For more information on QAL program or NMCRS Pearl Harbor, call 423-1314 or visit www.pixi.com/~nmcrshi. For more information on NMCRS, visit www.nmcrs.org.

Shipyard to sponsor University of Hawai'i engineering scholarship

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Taking part in robotic competitions can inspire a student to seek a dream career in science, technology, engineering or math and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is providing the means to make that dream come true.

The shipyard will fund up to four years' tuition, fees, and books at the University of Hawai'i's College of Engineering for a highly-qualified high school senior involved in robotics.

The purpose of this novel and innovative program is to offer high school graduating seniors who have participated in FIRST robotic competitions the opportunity to complete a degree in engineering. (FIRST, an acronym for For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and

Technology, is a non-profit organization that designs robotic competitions for young people as a challenging and fun way to motivate them to pursue careers in science and technology.)

In addition to funding an engineering education, the Navy will provide the recipient student with a summer employment opportunity in the shipyard's engineering department.

"Our commitment is to the development of interest and competence in engineering, math and science," said Capt. Greg R. Thomas, commander of the shipyard. Robotics, with its emphasis on engineering, teamwork and a vision of "gracious professionalism," aligns perfectly with the Navy's and the shipyard's mission, vision, core values and guiding principles.

Thomas noted that the

shipyard, with its more than 580 engineers, is the largest employer of engineers in the state of Hawai'i. Shipyard engineering talent includes mechanical, structural, welding, electrical and nuclear engineers, and naval architects,

This unique opportunity includes a commitment of continued professional employment in an engineering discipline. Upon completion of the program, the graduate, in addition to being offered a full-time position at the shipyard, will also have the flexibility to work in another organization vital to national defense.

Thomas said the shipyard will work with state government officials and Department of Education representatives to select the best qualified FIRST robotics student each year.

VP squadrons 'hunt and kill' submarines in simulated scenario

Lt. Chris Denton and Lt. Jeremy Yarborough

Weapons Tactics Unit, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two

Eight combat aircrews from Patrol Squadron Nine and Patrol Squadron 47 competed March 9-12 in anti-submarine warfare against one another in the simulator.

Crews were simulating real world scenarios to prosecute a foreign submarine that posed a threat to friendly forces and were evaluated on time critical actions by Wing 2's weapons and tactics instructors.

After eight simulator events and deliberation by the judges, VP-47 was victorious and awarded the Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 2 ASW Rodeo Trophy.

Capt. Rodney Urbano, commodore of CPRW-2, spoke on the subject of anti-submarine warfare and the ASW Rodeo's role. "ASW is the core competency for the maritime patrol and reconnaissance force and therefore, it is imperative for our aircrews to continually train and sharpen those skills. Our quarterly ASW Rodeo provides our aircrews another opportunity to hone those critical skills through friendly, but fierce, competition while fostering crew cohesiveness," he said.

"I am impressed and proud of the performance shown by all participating crews and would like to give a specific congratulations to VP-47, Combat Air Crew Seven for outperforming their peers in this challenging event," Urbano added.

The P-3 was originally designed for anti-submarine warfare (ASW). Since OIF/OEF, all P-3 squadrons deployed from Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) - Kanoeha have focused on intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance in support of coalition troops in Iraq and Afghanistan or on a recognized maritime picture and anti-piracy operations in support of coalition vessels in the Arabian Gulf and Horn of Africa.

Last year Rear Adm. William F. Moran, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group, directed a refocusing of effort on ASW proficiency. CPRW-2 holds an ASW Rodeo quarterly to increase proficiency, morale and to cultivate a spirit of friendly competition between MCBH P-3 squadrons.

Road work scheduled at Bougainville Drive starting from Valkenburg Street

James Johnson

Naval Facilities
Engineering Command
Hawaii

Starting April 13, drivers will experience various road closures and other traffic disruptions along Bougainville Drive between Valkenburg Street and Borie Drive in the Moanalua Shopping Center area near Pearl Harbor due to road widening and pavement repair work.

The project is aimed at improving safety by widening Bougainville Drive and reducing the sharp "S" curves that exist between Valkenburg and De



U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley

The intersection of Bougainville Drive and Valkenburg Street, near the Navy Exchange Furniture Store, is close to the area where road construction will be occurring. The project will begin April 13 and is scheduled for completion in August.

Haven streets. In addition, repairs to the pavement will be made as well as

other safety measures such as relocation of a fence at an entrance to the Navy

Exchange (NEX) Garden Center.

Improvements have been divided into six sections or phases to reduce impact to local businesses.

Road work is expected to be completed by late August 2009. During this time, traffic lanes will be closed along Bougainville Drive, requiring one-way traffic or detours.

The current construction schedule is as follows:

- Phase one: April 13-27, affecting Bougainville Drive between Borie Drive and De Haven Street. Traffic will be diverted to Warden Avenue.

- Phase two: April 28-May 20, affecting the southbound lane of

Bougainville Drive, north of De Haven Drive to Spense Street. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane and drivers are encouraged to use other roads in the area and detour Bougainville Drive altogether.

- Phase three: May 21-June 5, affecting the corner of Bougainville Drive and Spense Street. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane through the intersection.

- Phase four: June 8 - July 2, affecting the northbound lane of Bougainville Drive, north of DeHaven Drive to Spense Street. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane and drivers are encouraged to use detours.

- Phase five: July 6-29,

affecting Bougainville Drive between Spense Street and Hennley Street. Traffic will be diverted to Warden Avenue.

- Phase six: July 30-Aug. 24, affecting Bougainville Drive between the Hennley Street intersection and Valkenburg Street. Traffic on Hennley Street will be closed at the intersection with Bougainville Drive and Hennley Street will be accessible via Valkenburg Street or Warden Avenue.

Road work on the project will be executed by Su-Mo/Nan Inc., a Joint Venture. Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii awarded the \$3.3 million, design-build on Sept. 18, 2008.

Document control supervisor selected as shipyard supervisor of quarter

Story and photo by
Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval
Shipyard Public Affairs

Charlene Fukushima, the supervisor of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's document control branch, was selected as the winner of the Federal Managers Association's (FMA) First-Line Supervisor of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2008.

Brendan Cravalho, president of FMA Pearl Harbor Chapter 19, presented Fukushima with the award certificate Feb. 10 at the expanded staff meeting.

"If you ever wondered how the mail got from

one end of the shipyard to the other or from NAVSEA to your desk, Charlene and her team is the answer," he said.

Fukushima supervises the mailroom as part of her responsibilities. She was cited for leading a diverse, motivated team of up to 12 individuals in providing vital document control services. This includes the handling of naval messages and many sensitive files while observing strict security guidelines.

Yvette Flynn, division head, nominated Fukushima for the award and described her performance as exemplary. Fukushima's team understands the importance of getting the mail



Charlene Fukushima (standing), Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard document control branch head, and Charles Scalera, management analyst, share a light moment while discussing security containers. Fukushima was selected by the Pearl Harbor chapter of the Federal Managers Association as the command's First-Line Supervisor of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2008.

to the right people at the right time and how that helps the shipyard fulfill

its mission of keeping Pacific Fleet ships "fit to fight."

Flynn noted that Fukushima creates a learning environment among her staff and encourages them to broaden their capabilities. Her efforts at staff cross-training have benefited the individuals involved as well as the shipyard.

An example of Fukushima's emphasis on customer service was bringing the issuance of transportation incentives to the waterfront. This streamlined distribution and saved mechanics time away from the job.

Another process improvement by Fukushima is transitioning toward a paperless system for messages. The innovation will save

money, increase security, speed up delivery, and minimize physical handling and movement of documents.

In addition, Fukushima chairs the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Board, which fosters camaraderie, teamwork and quality of work life among the nearly 4,700-person shipyard workforce. She was significantly involved with the lunch wagon meal service, as well as major events such as the centennial celebration and annual Summer Splash command picnic.

"My team does all the work," Fukushima said. "I'm just there to provide guidance and the tools they need."

Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i announces changes in Makalapa Clinic hours

Naval Health Clinic
Hawaii

The Naval Health Clinic Hawaii has implemented new medical care hours at the Makalapa Clinic. The new hours, in response to beneficiaries' needs based on feedback and utilization.

The new hours at the clinic are: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays and holidays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sundays, 8 a.m.-noon.

Full capability of outpatient medical services will be available during weekday hours of operation and full outpatient medical services, includ-

ing immunizations, will be offered the first Saturday of the month at the clinic.

These changes are an effort to provide effective delivery of quality health care during days of the week and times that patients have most wanted care. Primary care managers will also be

more available to their families during the week at all clinic locations.

- Call NHCH's central appointments at 473-0247.

- Log on to www.tricareonline.com (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week) and click on the link under "My Health" (includes infor-

mation on pharmacy, enrollment and TRI-CARE benefits).

To speak to a medical care provider anytime the clinics are closed, call the Provider After-hours Access Line at 473-0247, option three. You will be given the option to speak with an answering service who will contact an

after-hours provider. The provider will return your call as soon as possible. Please be aware that the provider has no access to labs, X-rays, appointments or medical records.

For emergencies, dial 911 or go to Tripler Army Medical Center or the nearest emergency room.

Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation

Continued from A-1

Espero. "We need to continue to provide support and look at this subject at a very young age so these children do not end up in bad situations as they get older in life."

Espero and HI Rep. Lynn Finnegan (R-Hawaii), each gave their thanks and presented Smith with a certificate on behalf of the state of Hawaii, commending the Pearl Harbor FFSC for its awareness and prevention efforts regarding child abuse.

Also acknowledged was Navy Capt. Tamara Grigsby, staff pediatrician and medical consultant for child abuse and neglect at Tripler Army Medical Center, who

was presented with the 2009 'Pueo' Award by Pearl Harbor FFSC for her work as one of the Navy's leading child abuse and neglect diagnosticians.

As the ceremony concluded, blue ribbons signifying child abuse prevention were distributed to those in attendance. Following the presentation of the ribbons, the attendees watched as Smith and a four-year-old child tied a single blue ribbon to the antenna of his vehicle.

Events scheduled throughout the month include the second annual father-daughter dance at Catlin Clubhouse on April 4 and SpringFest and child safety seat checkup at Ward Field onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor on April 25.

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