

Memorial Day

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Hawai'i

Navy News

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U.S. Pacific Fleet reopens Makalapa Field

Story and photo by MC1 Michael Hight

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Joseph Walsh, deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, officially reopened the newly renovated Makalapa Field on May 13 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) headquarters.

Work on Makalapa Field included the installation of an irrigation system, new dugouts and backstop, and a leveling of the entire field. The event marked the conclusion of the renovation project, which began in September 2008 and cost approximately \$415,000 to complete.

The new field is the first part of an ongoing project to enhance fitness facilities around COMPACFLT headquarters.

"This is the first step to the revamping

of Makalapa compound," said Walsh. "From the completion of the fitness center in six months to the paved jogging path, the quality of life for our Sailors and their families will be greatly improved."

Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer,

Naval Station Pearl Harbor, joined Walsh at home plate to celebrate the completion of the new field.

"This is a really great field," said Kitchens. "A lot of thought and effort went into this project to benefit the Sailors at COMPACFLT"

The field

and upcoming projects will meet the needs of COMPACFLT Sailors and families for years to come, according to Sheryl Camp, director, Navy Region Hawai'i Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR).

"This area is another great location provided by the Hawai'i MWR," said Camp. "Sailors and their families can now enjoy the sports they love."



Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, addresses members of the Pacific Command and Naval Station Hawai'i security softball teams during the opening of newly-renovated Makalapa Field. The new \$415,000 field is the first part of an ongoing project to enhance fitness facilities around Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters.

USS Santa Fe departs for Western Pacific deployment

Story and photo by MC3 Luciano Marano

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

The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) departed Naval Station Pearl Harbor for a regularly-

scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region on May 15.

"The men of the Sante Fe have done a great job," said Capt. Christopher Kaiser, commander, Submarine Squadron Seven (CSS-7). "The sub is leaving in excellent material condition."

Sante Fe is the second

ship to be named in honor of the capital city of New Mexico. An improved Los Angeles-class submarine, she features the BSY-1 combat system, retractable bow planes and 12 vertical launch tubes for cruise missile strikes.

"These Sailors are more than ready to deploy and do great things," said Kaiser.



Families and friends watch as USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) departs Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 15 for a regularly scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Kevin S. O'Brien

The Honorable Ray Mabus is sworn in as the 75th Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) by Jeh Johnson, general counsel for the Department of Defense, during a ceremony at the Pentagon on May 19.

Mabus sworn in as new SECNAV

Department of Defense

Ray Mabus, former Mississippi governor and U.S. ambassador to the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, was sworn in May 19 as the 75th secretary of the Navy.

Leading the Navy and Marine Corps, Mabus will be responsible for an annual budget in excess of \$150 billion and almost 900,000 people.

The secretary of the Navy is responsible for conducting all the affairs of the Department of the Navy, including recruiting, organizing, supplying, equipping, training and mobilizing. Additionally, he oversees the construction, outfitting and repair of naval ships, equipment and facilities and is responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies and programs that are consistent with the national security policies and objectives established by

the president and the secretary of defense.

Prior to joining the administration of President Barack Obama, Mabus served in a variety of top posts in government and the private sector. In 1988, Mabus was elected governor of Mississippi where he stressed education and job creation. In 1994, he was appointed ambassador to Saudi Arabia, where during his tenure, the kingdom officially abandoned the boycott of U.S. businesses that trade with Israel. Mabus also was chairman and chief executive officer of Foamex, a large manufacturing company, and also served as a Navy surface warfare officer aboard the cruiser USS Little Rock.

Mabus is a native of Ackerman, Miss. and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi, a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University, and a law degree from Harvard Law School.



MDSU-1, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor host historic tour for students See page A-2



HURREX 09 set for May 26-29 See page A-3



Crommelin defeats Bremerton to keep pace with Port Royal See page A-4



Americans observe true meaning of Memorial Day See page B-1

MDSU-1, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor host historic tour for students

Story and photo by
MC3 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i
Public Affairs

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1 (MDSU-1), Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service hosted a tour of historic Pearl Harbor for more than 350 students from Waipahu Elementary School on May 15.

Along with receiving the historic tour, MDSU-1 had various displays set up for the students to view including armored vehicles and diving equipment, among others.

"This is a really great opportunity for the students to come out, enjoy themselves, and have fun," said Lt. Cmdr. Oscar Rojas, MDSU-1's executive officer. "Because of not having the ability to access the base, the students do not get to see a lot of the historic sites here at Pearl Harbor. We are more than delighted to be able to treat them to this event."

During the tour, the students enjoyed viewing the historic sites of Pearl Harbor including the USS Utah Memorial and Battleship Missouri Memorial.

"I have never been on a



Navy Diver 1st Class Alexander Grun, assigned to Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1, explains how diving equipment works to students from Waipahu Elementary School at Merry Point Landing onboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor. Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service Unit 1, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor hosted 350 students onboard NAVSTA Pearl Harbor during the school's first historical tour of the Navy installation.

tour like this," said a student. "I was really looking forward to seeing the different memorials."

"I have seen these sites before, but I have never been in the water right next to them," said another student. "It was just amazing how big the Battleship Missouri is when you're right next to it."

Senior Chief Navy Diver John Klukas, senior enlisted advisor of MDSU-1, noted the strong partnership between MDSU-1 and the school.

"MDSU-1 has been involved with Waipahu Elementary for about six years now," said Klukas. "We always try to help out in the community and schedule partnership events between the command and the school."

Paul DePrey, superintendent of the National Park Service, said the students had a great time while onboard NAVSTA Pearl Harbor.

"They really seemed to enjoy the tour as well as all of the exhibits that were here today," said DePrey. "It is important that the students have more knowledge about the history that Pearl Harbor holds, and there is no better way to do that than seeing it first hand."

USS Hawaii departs for Pearl Harbor



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Patrick Evans

USS Hawaii (SSN 776) departs Groton, Conn. enroute to its new homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i on May 13. Hawaii becomes the first Virginia-class submarine to be homeported at Pearl Harbor. It is a state-of-the-art submarine capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, irregular warfare and mine warfare. Commissioned on May 5, 2007, Hawaii was the third Virginia-class attack submarine constructed and the first to be named after the aloha state.

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Hawai'i Navy News Editorial



Summer season campaign focuses on keeping Sailors safe

Naval Safety Center Public Affairs

As the summer season kicks off with the approaching Memorial Day weekend, the Naval Safety Center (NSC) is making myriad resources available to commands so they can tailor their individual 2009 safety campaigns.

NSC's new campaign provides tools such as presentations, articles, videos and interactive discussion aids to promote the type of risk management that will allow Sailors to enjoy these activities successfully.

Campaign materials can be found at www.safetycenter.navy.mil/seasonal/summer09/index.asp.

The focus of this year's summer safety campaign is on enjoying off-duty time with families and friends. Many Sailors take advantage of the warm weather to plan vacations. They head to the beach or to the mountains. They fire up the motorcycle that sat idle in the garage all winter. But they need to do it smartly and safely.

"Risk management is largely common sense," said John Williams, a recreation safety specialist at the NSC.

"Make sure you're trained

to participate in the activities you want to enjoy and wear the right protective equipment."

In years past, the long Memorial Day weekend signified more than just an opportunity to honor fallen heroes and kick off the unofficial start to summer with a backyard barbecue. During the last decade, Memorial Day weekend began NSC's summer-long safety awareness campaign.

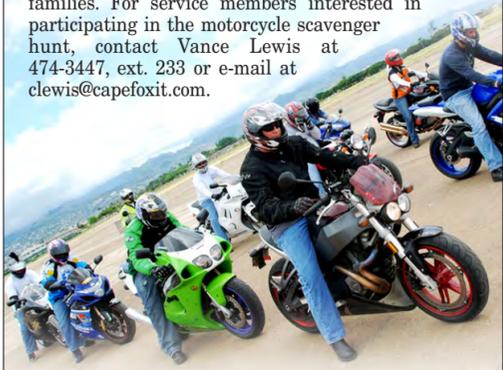
While this year's initiative doesn't have a catchy name as in years past, NSC is hoping the fleet can help change that for next year. The campaign Web site features a link that allows Sailors to offer their suggestions for a new name to the annual summer safety focus period.

"Ideas are pouring in," said April Phillips, NSC's summer safety campaign coordinator. "There's a lot of creativity out there and I'm sure that next year we'll have a very memorable name for our summer safety initiative."

The summer safety period runs through Labor Day and NSC's Web site will be updated throughout the campaign with more resources for an enjoyable summer and safe season.

Ride for Safety event planned today

Navy Region Hawai'i and Hickam Air Force Base will sponsor the 1st Armed Services "Ride for Safety" event which will begin at 9 a.m. today with a motorcycle "scavenger hunt" for military-affiliated motorcycle riding groups. From 1-5 p.m. there will also be a Motorcycle Hickam event at Hickam Air Force Base near Hickam Base Exchange (BX). The event will include a motorcycle show, range course, a stunt show and is open to active duty service members and their families. For service members interested in participating in the motorcycle scavenger hunt, contact Vance Lewis at 474-3447, ext. 233 or e-mail at clewis@capefoxit.com.



Grace Hew Len

Navy Region Hawai'i Environmental Public Affairs Officer

Tropical Cyclone Apikalia will set the stage for Navy Region Hawai'i's hurricane preparedness exercise, HURREX 09, set for May 26-29.

As the fictional storm approaches the Hawaiian Islands and intensifies to hurricane strength, Navy activities in Hawai'i will gear up to review and update their emergency preparedness plans relating to the threat of hurricanes in Hawai'i.

HURREX 09 allows Navy activities in Hawaii to review, exercise and validate their response plans and operational capabilities as they pertain to the threat of hurricanes and effects of severe weather.

The exercise also builds cooperation between the Navy's afloat and ashore force structure in response to the threat of hurricanes. Participating activities include Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Surface Group Middle

Pacific, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Pacific Missile Range Facility, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & IMF, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i and Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Pearl Harbor. Tenants of Navy installations and adjacent Department of Defense installations and activities will also be involved.

"The exercise will engage primary mission capabilities such as fleet and family readiness, fire and emergency services, emergency preparedness and security," said Cmdr. Jeanene Torrance, Navy Region Hawai'i's exercise director. Among the scenarios that will be tested this year are Naval Station Pearl Harbor's safe haven procedures and e-BEST gate access system and Fleet and Family Support Center's family assistance center plans.

The exercise will take place during normal working hours. Some activities may be apparent as various scenarios are exercised on base and at nearby off-base locations, such as the Navy Aloha Center and Navy Exchange Pearl Harbor.

The phrase, "exercise-exercise-exercise" will be used in all written and spoken communications by all participants. Public affairs notifications will include alerts over the Navy TV Channel, Morale, Welfare and Recreation marquees, and Navy Region Hawai'i Web site.

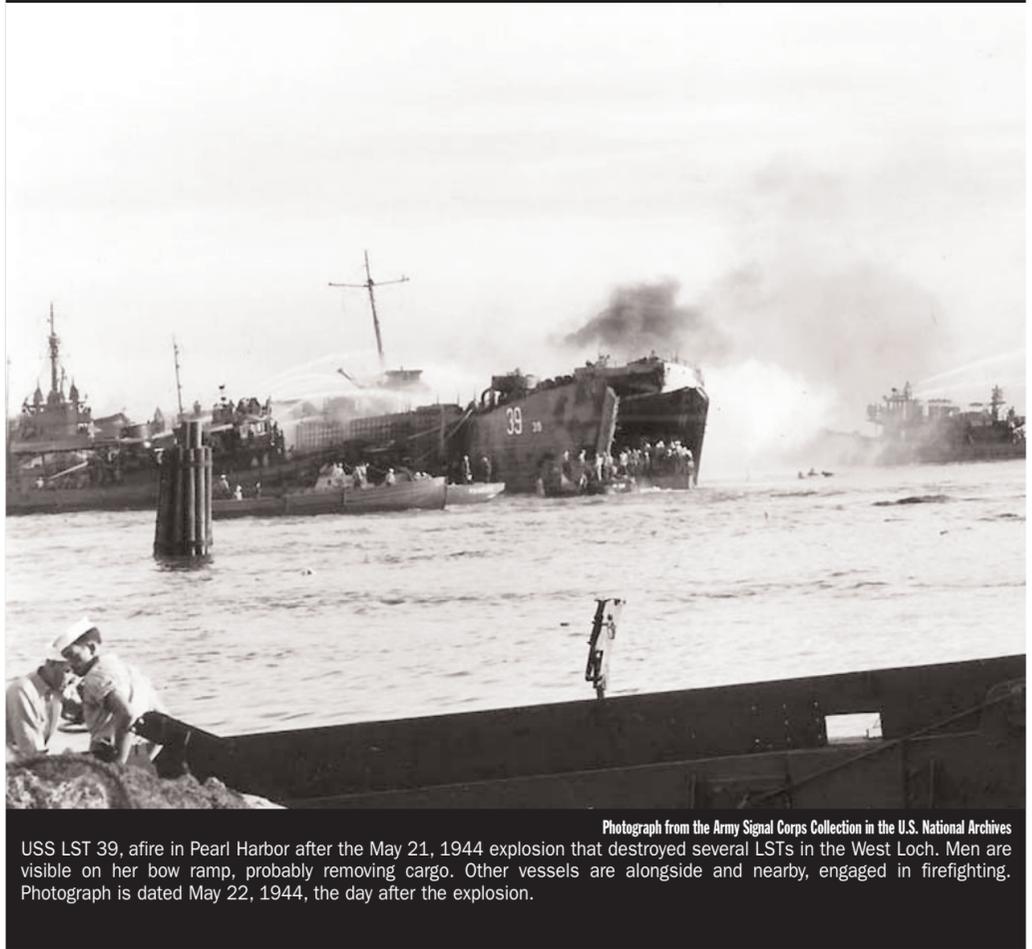
HURREX 09 is a reminder for all Navy commands to ensure that their members are educated in disaster preparedness. CNIC's Operation Prepare is a vital resource and can be accessed at the following Web site: www.ready.gov/america/getakit/navy.html or through the Operation Prepare link at www.cnic.navy.mil.

Navy families are reminded to review their family emergency plans and ensure that their emergency kits are stocked for a five to seven-day supply.

For more information, visit the disaster preparedness link at www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii.

(Watch for a special hurricane information pull-out section in the May 29 edition of Hawai'i Navy News.)

West Loch disaster aftermath



Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the U.S. National Archives

USS LST 39, afire in Pearl Harbor after the May 21, 1944 explosion that destroyed several LSTs in the West Loch. Men are visible on her bow ramp, probably removing cargo. Other vessels are alongside and nearby, engaged in firefighting. Photograph is dated May 22, 1944, the day after the explosion.

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Crommelin defeats Bremerton to keep pace with Port Royal

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

The USS Crommelin (FFG 37) softball team maintained a solid hold on second place in the intramural afloat standings after it defeated USS Bremerton (SSN698), 12-6, at Millican Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 16.

With the win, Crommelin improved its record to 8-1 and remained only one game behind the USS Port Royal (CG 73), who leads the division with an undefeated mark of 9-0.

"Get Port Royal out here," said Fire Controlman 1st Class Jeremy Spencer, who is the manager and pitcher for Crommelin. "We want to challenge them."

While Spencer and his teammates were feeling pretty good following their recent victory, things didn't start off well for Crommelin, who quickly fell behind in the first inning, when Bremerton came out swinging and quickly scored three runs.

The game teetered back and fourth until the bottom of the fourth inning, when

Navy News Sports

Crommelin, clinging to a 6-5 lead, exploded for six runs to take a commanding seven run advantage.

In the decisive inning, Crommelin batted around the order and connected on seven hits, which also included a two-run double by Spencer.

Not only were Crommelin hitters getting on base, but aggressive base running also contributed heavily to the team's big inning.

Although Crommelin was forced to battle back from being behind three runs, Master-at-Arms

1st Class Cory Fitzpatrick said that the team always keeps a positive attitude and

never lets down.

He stated that the never-give-up mentality stems from their work aboard ship, where Sailors give 100 percent support to each other.

"It all starts on the

ship and we carry it over to the field," noted Fitzpatrick. "It's just a teamwork type of attitude that we like to carry with us, whether it's a comrade on deployment or a day on the field."

As Crommelin's bats finally came alive, Spencer was doing his part as the team's pitcher to keep Bremerton off the base paths and away from home plate.

After giving up three runs in the top of the first, Spencer settled down to allow single runs in the second, fourth and fifth, while putting up zeros in three of the final six innings.

"I didn't do anything different. I just let my defense go to work," said Spencer, who received tremendous support from his outfield. "I love my outfield. They are the heart of this team."

Although Bremerton tried to come back by scoring a run in the top of the fifth, it would be too little, too late, as the players from the submarine saw its record drop to 1-7.

Electronics Technician 1st Class Dave Wietlisback of Bremerton said that not

being able to get out and practice has been the main reason for the team's hard-luck season.

While Bremerton has been able to be competitive in most of its games, said Wietlisback, things just seem to fall apart before the final out.

"We always seem to get one bad inning," stated Wietlisback. "It destroys us every week, but we still hang in there."

Even though there are quite a few more weeks to go in the season, Fitzpatrick said that Crommelin appears to have the right blend of experience and youth to finish the year on a very high note.

"Our young guys really hustle out there," said Fitzpatrick. "That seems to make the older guys push even harder."

Meanwhile, Spencer said he feels that Crommelin is getting better each week and if the trend continues, the team should give Port Royal a run for its money when the two teams finally meet.

"It's going to come down to defense and bats," said Spencer. "If we can keep our defense going, our bats will come in."



Master-at-Arms 1st Class Cory Fitzpatrick of USS Crommelin (FFG37) beats the throw to third base during the team's afloat intramural softball game against USS Bremerton (SSN698) at Millican Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 16.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard finishes USS Lake Erie on time, within budget

Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard finished a highly challenging selected restricted availability (SRA) on USS Lake Erie (CG 70) on time and within budget April 29.

"It was a win for our ship and a win for the Hawai'i maintenance community," said Capt. Ronald Boxall, commanding officer of Lake Erie. "I want to thank all concerned."

About \$35.6 million of the work was completed during the 19-week project. According to Yvonne Caires, project manager, an SRA of this type usually lasts around nine weeks. The main reason for the longer duration was an extensive and very complex ballistic missile defense (BMD) upgrade.

"This availability had a huge potential to fail," Boxall said. Not only was the BMD upgrade a first-ever installation, but the available workforce was also juggling demands from

many other ships, he noted. "Combined with other huge coordinated repairs and installations ... we were not optimistic at the outset," he said.

However, Boxall added that "from the beginning, our key to success was excellent planning by the maintenance team, forcing an integrated schedule early and often, maintaining constant communication, and vigilance in adhering to the agreed-upon integrated schedule."

Boxall said that he was particularly pleased that he

was able to operate his ship as a training platform during much of the SRA.

"More impressive than the timely completion ... was the fact that we were able to successfully train ship's force, from engineering to combat systems, over a month prior to the end of the availability," he said.

Caires pointed out that under the Navy's SHIP-MAIN initiative for surface ship maintenance, the captain of the ship heads the maintenance team. Boxall stressed communication and was very involved in

the availability and the schedule, she said.

"He wanted to know the road bumps ahead and our plans to fix them, and have the ship work with us to resolve them," she said.

She also commended Lake Erie's crew and SRA coordinator Lt. Jeff Peterson, contractor BAE Systems, the many alteration installation teams, and the Defense Missile Agency.

"They were all good to work with," she said.

Capt. Gregory Thomas, shipyard commander, cred-

ited Boxall's leadership as "the key enabler to success" on the SRA. "He did a remarkable job creating a maintenance teamwork that was unprecedented in my two years here," Thomas said.

Boxall said, "Lake Erie is fortunate to have had such a professional and dedicated, integrated maintenance team. Although there is always room for improvement, ... we should all be proud of the accomplishments during this (Chief of Naval Operations) availability."

Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup
 (Above) Chief Boatswain's Mate Gene Grausam explains about the different weapons systems to Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Waiakea High School onboard the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57). Reuben James is currently supporting the Pacific Fleet's Mid Pacific Surface Combatant Operational Employment. The program calls for all 11 Hawaii-based surface combatants to focus on the Western Pacific by conducting intermediate/advanced training and regular deployments in the Western Pacific, and is designed to improve the U.S. Pacific Fleet's war fighting readiness and effectiveness.

(Left) Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Det Pearl Harbor take part in semi-annual small arms weapon qualification training on May 9 at the Halawa Small Arms Range in Aiea.

U.S. Navy photo by UTCR Amanda Flores



(Right) Rear Adm. Joseph Walsh, deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, throws the first pitch before a softball game at newly renovated Makalapa Field. The new \$415,000 field is the first part of an on going project to enhance fitness facilities around COMPACFLT Headquarters.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Michael Hight



(Above) Coast Guard Helicopter Rescue Swimmer 2nd Class Jay Leahr displays the rescue equipment he uses during missions to local residents of Kauai at the Pacific Missile Range Facility's welcome aboard held May 16. PMRF's welcome aboard attracted more than 1,000 guests who were able to have a first hand look at the operations of the naval base.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay Pugh

A student from Waipahu Elementary School plays underwater tic-tac-toe with a Sailor assigned to Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1 at Merry Point Landing onboard Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor. Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, and the National Park Service hosted 350 students onboard NAVSTA Pearl Harbor during the school's first historical tour of Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Robert Stirrup



NIOC Hawai'i Sailor completes IA assignment

CT12 Theresa M. Buitron

Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i

Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Edwin Cordero of Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i will soon be leaving Hawai'i for a West PAC assignment after recently completing a seven-month tour as an individual augmentee in Iraq.

For his service on his team, Cordero was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for exceptionally meritorious service in a combat zone with exposure to risk of hostile action during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was happy to get the recognition and glad he took

the opportunity to give his service evaluation a boost.

After completing boot camp at Great Lakes, Ill. and finishing A School at Corry Station in Pensacola, Fla., Cordero came to NIOC Hawai'i in 2004. After working his first tour at the

DIRSUP shop at Pearl Harbor, he re-enlisted in July 2007.

Soon after, he was picked up for an IA billet to Iraq. Following three months of training, Cordero spent seven months in Iraq as a member of the Joint Expeditionary Signal Tactical Reconnaissance Detachment. He was able to see other aspects of the intelligence world and the Army side of the force during his time in Iraq. "I learned a lot out there. While working on this assignment, I got to see the effectiveness of intelligence out in the field.

For anyone who doesn't realize it, what gets done at shore commands is important and affected what we

did greatly," Cordero said.

"I got to work with the 101st Airborne Infantry Army team on the ground, and I give them a lot of respect - their work is rough. Working the tactical side was completely different than being behind a desk. I was running around Baghdad, working perimeter patrol. It was like being a cop. My time in Iraq was almost easier being in Iraq than in New York. I loved the job. It felt good, like a dream job. I got a lot of job satisfaction out of it," explained Cordero.

Overall, Cordero noted that his experience was eye-opening and he was able to learn about the fast pace tempo of the work Sailors and Soldiers do in that environment. "We were always on the move; there was a lot more thinking on your feet. It was satisfying to see the results of our work right away," he said.

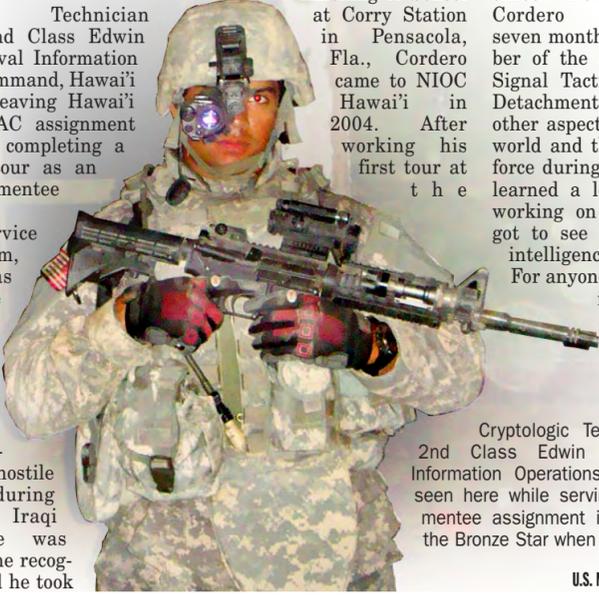
He joined the Navy in November 2003, just a few months after graduating from high school. "I grew up in the Bronx, the busy rush of New York. When Sept. 11 happened, I

wanted to go into the service right away," he said.

Although he had originally wanted to go into the Marines, the Navy ended up being a better fit for Cordero. "I wanted to work with computer systems and looked at the CTM field, but being a CTR proved to be a better job. It led to my opportunity to experience work here in Hawai'i and also the individual augmentee (IA) assignment to Iraq I went on last year."

He will go to San Diego, Calif. to prepare for his tour aboard the USS Nimitz (CVN 86). "I'll be out for about six-seven months. This will probably be a piece of cake compared to working in Iraq. And this time I get port calls," Cordero explained.

The end of this upcoming tour will signify his sixth year anniversary in the Navy. But this dedicated Sailor sees Navy on his horizon: "I am thinking about staying in 20 years. Maybe I will work toward becoming an officer." Whichever route he chooses, Cordero is sure to be a success.



Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class Edwin Cordero of Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i, seen here while serving an individual augmentee assignment in Iraq, was awarded the Bronze Star when he returned.

U.S. Navy photo by CTR2 Daniel Conant

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Willfully misusing government-owned vehicles has penalties

Navy Region Hawai'i Inspector General

From a fleet of vans, trucks, cars and golf carts, Sailors and Navy civilians use government-owned vehicles (GOVs) to transport goods and equipment, ferry personnel, and for other official purposes needed to "get the job done." Use of those same GOVs for unofficial purposes is strictly prohibited and the penalty for misuse can be stiff for both military members and civilians. Recently, civilian Navy employees were disciplined

strongly for willfully using GOVs for other than official purposes, and several military members received letters of instructions for their misuse of a GOV to conduct personal business.

Congress thought the use and misuse of GOVs was important enough that it enacted two laws specifically dealing with the issue. Title 31 of the United States Code (U.S.C.), section 1344, states that GOVs are only to be used for official purposes, and 31 U.S.C. 1349 (b) mandates that civilians who willfully use GOVs for unof-

ficial purposes "shall be suspended for at least one month and, when circumstances warrant, for a longer period or summarily removed from office." Military members who misuse GOVs may face discipline under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

Commander Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) has its own instruction dealing with the use of GOVs. COMNAVREGHIINST 11240.3F, "Transportation and Services," defines official purposes "as travel in an

official capacity, where the purpose of the trip is related to the performance of official duties in connection with activities conducted under official authorization." To provide clarification, the instruction even provides an example of a common misuse, which it defines as "the use of a government vehicle as transportation between the place of employment and domicile/residence or a public eatery/restaurant (within and outside of the installation)." While there are some lim-

ited exceptions allowing the use of GOVs to get food to eat (e.g., while on TDY, if it is unfeasible and would result in a substantial waste of government time to drive back to the workplace to get a personally owned vehicle), the general rule prohibiting the use of a GOV to get something to eat governs.

If you have any questions about whether your use of a GOV will be for an official or unofficial use, get clarification before using one. Ask a superior in your chain of command or contact the

Region Legal Service Office (RLSO). If the employee has the opportunity to get clarification, but fails to do so, he/she is still violating the law. When compared to a one-month suspension or facing discipline under the UCMJ, a few minutes to get clarification is time well spent.

To report incidences of fraud, waste, or mismanagement at CNRH, contact your chain of command or the CNRH IG hotline at 473-1782, at prlh-cnrhig@navy.mil, or by fax at 473-2541.

Seabees complete small arms weapons qualifications

Lt. Steve Slaby

Officer in Charge, Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303

Seabees from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Det Pearl Harbor completed semi-annual required weapons qualifications on May 9 at the Halawa Small

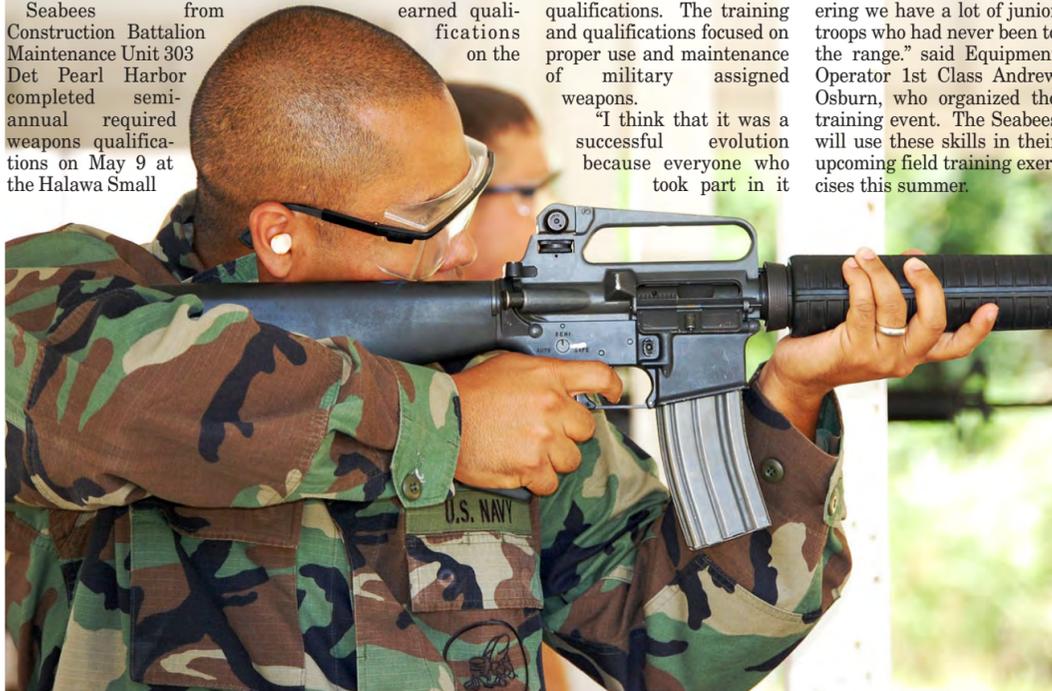
Arms Range in Aiea.

With support from gunners mate Sailors assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor Security, all 42 Seabees assigned to the unit earned qualifications on the

9mm M9 pistol, 5.56mm M16 rifle and M500 12-gauge shotgun. The weapons training was accomplished in order to hone military field skills and maintain weapons qualifications. The training and qualifications focused on proper use and maintenance of military assigned weapons.

"I think that it was a successful evolution because everyone who took part in it

came out with a better familiarization and understanding of basic fundamentals of small arms weapons. It was impressive that we had 100 percent qualification considering we have a lot of junior troops who had never been to the range," said Equipment Operator 1st Class Andrew Osburn, who organized the training event. The Seabees will use these skills in their upcoming field training exercises this summer.



U.S. Navy photo by UTCR Amanda Flores

Yeoman 1st Class (SW) James Lacour of Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Det Pearl Harbor qualifies on the 5.56mm M16 service rifle during semi-annual small arms weapon qualification training on May 9 at the Halawa Small Arms Range in Aiea.

Scott relieves Phillips at Patrol Squadron Nine change of command

Ensign Brad Berthelotte

Patrol Squadron Nine

Cmdr. Lance G. Scott relieved Cmdr. Curtis K. Phillips as commanding officer of Patrol Squadron Nine during a change of command ceremony held May 14.

Capt. Rod Urbano, commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, was the guest speaker for the ceremony held in hanger 104 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe.

Phillips departed after serving as commanding officer since May 2008. The "Golden Eagles" enjoyed a successful deployment to U.S. 5th Fleet over the past year under his guidance where they earned numerous achievements, including 30 years of mishap free flying, the Battle "E" and Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy.

He successfully led his aircrew and maintenance departments through

numerous missions and detachments, achieving a 99.8 percent mission completion rate for more than 650 sorties and 4,800 mishap free flight hours.

Phillips, his wife, and two children are looking forward to their next assignment with Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Forces U.S. 5th and 7th Fleets located in Misawa, Japan.

Scott takes over the reins after serving this past year as executive officer. He has reached this leadership pinnacle following a highly successful career which started at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy where he graduated in 1991 with a bachelor of science in marine transportation and license as third mate, unlimited tonnage ocean going vessels. He has served in numerous squadrons, the USS John F. Kennedy and shore staffs, including full joint professional military education in residence at the Naval War College during his 18 years of active duty.