

## HAWAI'I SAILORS RETURN FROM IRAQ



Photos by Lance Cpl. Cassandra Yoho

Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class William Torres and Aviation Warfare Systems Operator 2nd Class Jack Canady from Patrol Squadron Four greet their girlfriends with a hug in hangar 105 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe. (Below) Sailors from Patrol Squadron Four arrive at hangar 105 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe on May 31 after a six-month deployment to Iraq.

Marine Corps Base Hawai'i  
Public Affairs

Approximately 140 Sailors with the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron Four returned to Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe from Iraq on May 31 after completing a seven-month deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Skinny Dragons were assigned to the Ali Air Base, Iraq and Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.

The squadron's P-3C Orion aircraft conducted long-range surveillance and collected tactical images of the battle space.

Those images were transmitted to commanders in real-time via satellite communications to support Marine Corps and Army ground forces in Iraq.



Photo Illustration



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Thini M. Jones

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead congratulates Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky, commanding officer of the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai, Hawai'i, for receiving an award in the installation category of the Fiscal Year 2008 Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Awards during a ceremony May 28 at the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C.

### PMRF in Hawai'i wins CNO award for exceptional environmental stewardship

MC2 (SW) Rebekah Blowers

Chief of Naval Operations  
Public Affairs

(Editor's Note: Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawai'i was one of the winners of the Fiscal Year 2008 CNO Environmental Awards in the installation category.)

The chief of naval operations (CNO) presented the Fiscal Year 2008 CNO Environmental Awards on May 28 at the Navy Memorial in

Washington D.C.

Adm. Gary Roughead, CNO, presented 29 awards to Navy ships, installations and individuals or teams for their exceptional environmental stewardship.

"What happens in our environment and to our natural resources is a matter of national security. What happens in our environment cannot be dealt with at some later date; it must be addressed now, and we must keep it on our minds constantly," Roughead said. "The bases, ships and Sailors

that we recognize and honor today are doing just that."

CNO said that taking care of the environment is an inherent part of the Navy's culture.

"Perhaps more than any other service, than any other profession, a Sailor is intimately linked to the environment, and our interest in preserving that environment goes far back in our history," Roughead said.

CNO applauded the winners and said they are

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### Not all heroes wear medals

Story and photo by Lt. j.g. Carrie K Sanders

Naval Information  
Operations Command,  
Hawai'i Public Affairs

Ken Mohney and his son Michael rang the bell of building 324 on Pearl Harbor on May 18, hoping someone would let them in.

The building, now occupied by Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i (NIOC Hawai'i), was once the hospital on Pearl Harbor. It was where Mohney as a young Sailor and his

shipmates were sent to duty from time to time. It was also home to the morgue, where Pharmacists' Mate Mohney was sent to learn about the harsh realities of war by having to come face to face with death.

As he recently walked the site and through the machine shop that once was the morgue, he could picture the way it was, a hospital, his work place and a temporary resting place for the men of the downed aircraft he had witnessed. He said it didn't feel like so much time had passed, but he knew it did.

On that day, the members of NIOC Hawai'i set up a reception for Mohney, a man who served our country honorably during World War II. A man who served only three years, but lived a lifetime of experience and was given a command coin and the chance to tell his stories to an enamored group of today's Sailors.

Mohney could have talked all day. His memory was crisp and his pride full. When the time came for him to depart, he said, "I may not have joined the Navy to be a hero, but you sure made me

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Ken Mohney, a WWII veteran and former Navy pharmacists' mate, spent hours speaking to members of Naval Information Operations Command Hawai'i on May 18. He was able to recall many stories of life on the island in the months and years following the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Pearl Harbor celebrates Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month See page A-2



24th Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon See page A-2



SUBPAC uses Force to win doubleheader See page B-2



NOSC hosts field trip for Salt Lake Elementary students See page B-1

# Pearl Harbor celebrates Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

Story and photo by  
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i  
Public Affairs

Sailors and civilians assigned to various commands on Oahu celebrated Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month at Lockwood Hall onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 29.

The event began with students from Radford High School performing traditional Hawaiian hula and Tahitian dances for the audience.

This year's theme for Asian/Pacific Heritage Month, "Lighting the Past, Present and Future," set the tone for the event's guest speakers.

Dr. Amy Agbayani, director of student equity excellence and diversity at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, touched on the rich history of Asian/Pacific Americans.

"Asian/Pacific Americans come from many different backgrounds dating all the way back to 1843 and the arrival of the first Japanese



Students from Radford High School perform a traditional Hawaiian hula dance during the Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month celebration on May 29 at Lockwood Hall onboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor. This year's theme for Asian/Pacific Heritage Month was "Lighting the Past, Present, and Future".

immigrants," said Agbayani. "America would not be as strong as it is today without diversity that has been instilled throughout the past and present

continuing into the future." Maj. Gen. Robert Lee, adjutant general of the state of Hawai'i, noted the contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans in

the U.S. military. "Asian/Pacific Americans have come a long way to help create a diversified U.S. military as the way we know it today," said Lee. "It

is important to recognize our Asian/Pacific ancestors and their service to the U.S. helping open the door for future service members." Capt. Donald Hodge,

chief of staff for Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, presented Agbayani and Lee with appreciation plaques and thanked them for their contributions.

"I want to express my deepest thanks to Maj. Gen. Lee and Dr. Agbayani for going above and beyond their normal duties and taking time to speak upon the rich history and the vibrant future of Asian/Pacific Americans," said Hodge.

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 a week to a month-long celebration and in May 1992, the month of May was permanently designated as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month."

## Hawai'i community recognizes troops during 24th Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon

Story and photo by  
MC1 (SW/AW) Shane Tuck

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public  
Affairs

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i hosted its 24th annual Hawai'i Military Appreciation Luncheon on May 21 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu, paying tribute to the Sailors, Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen throughout the Pacific.

The event stood as a reminder of the close and unique bond that exists between Hawai'i and the military services.

"The men and women who are stationed here adopt Hawai'i as their home and many do indeed become part of that uniquely Hawaiian institution, the 'ohana,' or family," said Lt. Gen. Keith Stalder, the event's keynote speaker and commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific. "This place is so special that they want to give something back and they do in many ways."

During the luncheon, seven of Hawai'i's outstanding service members were recognized for their service as well as their contributions to the local community.

Operations Specialist 1st Class Terrish Bilbrey represented the Navy during the event as outstanding Sailor of the Year.

"The sincere, warm appreciation we received reminded me of how proud I am to serve, and it was an honor to be recognized during such a memorable event," said Bilbrey. "Also, spending time with the other awardees was a great experience. There's so much to learn and take away from an experience like this ... I just want to thank everyone who made this possible."

All awardees received two airline tickets and a two-night stay at Kilauea Military Camp, which is located in the Volcanoes National Park, Hawai'i.

"When they announced that I was receiving a free trip to the Big Island, I was blown away," said Bilbrey. "What a wonderful surprise and I'm so thankful to the folks who made this possible. I can't wait to go."

In addition to recognizing the outstanding service members, a key theme of this year's event was to welcome home deployed troops and individual augmentees.

"The U.S. military is an all volunteer force of the men and women of America," said Chuck Little, the event's master of ceremonies and



Staff Sgt. Michael Ciccolone, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i; Tech. Sgt. Rodney Cathcart, Hickam Air Force Base; and Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) Terrish Bilbrey, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, are recognized as three of Hawai'i's outstanding service members during the 24th Annual Hawaii Military Appreciation Luncheon held May 21 in Honolulu. The awardees were recognized for their military service and contributions to the local community. The event was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i and stood as a reminder of the close and unique bond that exists between Hawai'i and the military services.

deputy director, public affairs, U.S. Marine Forces Pacific. "This is especially commendable during these difficult times when the nation is embroiled in protracted wars on two fronts, yet we have young Americans who volunteer to serve and deploy in harm's way. We wel-

come home the troops and celebrate their return to their families and loved ones."

All of the service members in attendance were reminded of the important role they play as a part of the local community.

"As we recognize the service and sacrifices of so many,

I'd like you to remember that you are part of a long and proud legacy of dedication and service, both in your jobs and in the community," Stalder said. "I ask that we all re-dedicate ourselves to making our lives, and the lives of those in the community that has embraced us,

the best that they can be."

The troops weren't the only people recognized during the luncheon. Stalder made it a point to ensure that the local community members in attendance knew how much their support is appreciated.

"I want to thank the civilians and members of the community in the room for their participation in our partnership," Stalder said. "It is because of your invaluable support that we are able to maintain a presence here in Hawai'i and the western Pacific. You support all of our troops in their efforts to defend all of our liberties, as well as support their families that remain here while they are on deployment. I want to personally thank you for your outstanding support, in so many ways."

Little concluded the event by again recognizing the local community's efforts in honoring and supporting the U.S. armed forces.

"It has been said that there is no other place in the United States that places so much emphasis in honoring its military than in Hawai'i," Little said. "This luncheon continued the tradition of honoring the military and recognized Hawai'i's outstanding service members."

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# Hawaii Navy News Editorial

## Navy Region Hawai'i holds HURREX 09

Grace Hew Len

Navy Region Hawai'i  
Environmental Public  
Affairs

Navy Region Hawai'i's Hurricane Preparedness Exercise (HURREX) 09 concluded May 29, following a four-day event that tested the emergency preparedness plans of Navy activities in Hawai'i. The exercise engaged primary mission capabilities such as fleet and family readiness, fire and emergency services, emergency preparedness and security.

"The exercise was very successful," said Claude Shaw, Navy Region Hawai'i's director for operations. "Participation in the planning and execution was the best ever."

This year's exercise incorporated several firsts. According to Cmdr. Jeanene Torrance, Navy Region Hawai'i exercise



U.S. Navy photo

As part of Navy Region Hawai'i's hurricane preparedness exercise, a Navy family prepares to board an NEX bus that will transport them to their safe haven location on base. As part of the exercise, Naval Station Pearl Harbor tested the safe haven operations process at the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange, which involved registering families, ensuring that they have their disaster kits with them, and transporting them by bus to their designated Navy shelter.

director, this was the first time Naval Station Pearl

Harbor tested its gate access system, eBEST,

which verifies mission-essential personnel for base access. Security personnel exercised eBEST to validate employment procedures at the gate and familiarize personnel with the equipment.

Naval Station Pearl Harbor (NAVSTA) and Pacific Missile Range Facility's (PMRF) safe haven procedures also shared the spotlight this year. NAVSTA and PMRF exercised the process of registering families and transporting families to a safe haven, or Navy shelter. The Navy utilizes safe havens to provide protection for personnel from destructive weather. Safe havens are activated at tropical storm condition of readiness two, or when destructive winds are possible within 24 hours.

As part of the exercise, pre-selected Navy personnel with disaster kits in hand reported to the

Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) to register their families and then board an NEX bus to their designated onbase shelter. The goal of the exercise was to validate the process of registering Navy family members who would require safe haven shelter during an emergency.

NEX reported that the event was a success and the lessons learned during the registration process will help the different agencies involved provide the proper level of service during an emergency.

Other highlights included the use of new tools for officially alerting personnel and commands to changes in tropical cyclone conditions of readiness levels. The computer desktop notification system (CDNS) alerts personnel with a message that pops up on their desktop. The automated

telephone notification system, commonly known as TAS, notifies personnel by telephone with an automated message.

Regional Dispatch Center and Naval Maritime Forecast Center both carried out continuity of operations drills, which was an essential element of the exercise.

HURREX also helped to identify areas that need attention, such as personnel release procedures and stocking of materials like plywood and sandbags.

June 1 kicked off the start of Hawai'i's hurricane season which runs until November. While the forecast is for a "mild" season this year, Navy personnel and families are reminded to review and restock their disaster kits. For a list of essential supplies and other disaster preparedness information, visit [www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii](http://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii).

Commentary

### Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

## Fire exits ... more than just a way out!

Victor Flint

Battalion Chief, Federal  
Fire Department

The fire exit is much more than a way out of your building. The fire exit is a lifesaver in more ways than one.

First of all, there should be more than one fire exit. There should be at least two or more for all buildings. Unfortunately, there have been a few tragic fires where people were trapped inside because the fire exits were locked and/or blocked.

It's human nature; we go out the way we come in. But if that way out is blocked by heat, smoke, flames and fumes, we would have to know another way out or we would get trapped. That is the purpose of more than one fire exit.

Take a minute to look for the illuminated fire exit signs in your building. You will find these fire exit signs above and close to fire exit doors. It's through these fire exit doors that will lead you safely out of your building.

The fire exit is much more than a door; it's a

system. First, it's a door that usually swings out and closes automatically. By the door swinging out, it prevents people from piling up behind the door. With the door automatically closing, it minimizes fresh air from feeding the fire and heat, and smoke and fumes from following you out the door.

Secondly, a fire alarm pull station should be close to the door. In the event of a fire, you can pull the handle and activate the fire alarm as you exit the building. Remember to muster at your outside meeting place.

Third, a fire extinguisher should be near the door. Then you do not have to look around for the fire extinguisher. It should be near the fire exit.

The Federal Fire Department recommends that you take a minute and get familiar with your fire exit. Remember, the fire exit is more than a way out - it's a system of safety .... for you!

For more information about fire exits and other fire-related questions, call Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint at 471-3303, ext. 633.

## BATTLE OF MIDWAY

Survivors from Yorktown head to Pearl Harbor



Official U.S. Navy photograph, now in the collections of the U.S. National Archives

USS Yorktown survivors are checked in on board USS Fulton (AS-11), after being transferred from USS Portland (CA-35) for transportation to Pearl Harbor, June 6, 1942. Note life jackets, which appear to be oil-stained.

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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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# CAP director inspires federal managers to hire more disabled workers

Story and photo by Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

Since its inception in 1990, the Department of Defense Computer and Electronic Accommodations (CAP) program has assisted in more than 76,000 accommodations to federal employees with disabilities by providing assistive technology that allows them to keep their government positions and continue working.

However, according to Dinah Cohen, CAP program director, despite her organization's notable efforts, the current recruitment of disabled workers by the federal government diminishes every year and is currently at a record low of only .92 percent of today's total federal workforce.

In a special training seminar held at Hickam Officer's Club on June 1, Cohen gave a spirited lecture that encouraged all hiring authorities of various federal and government agencies to not only consider hiring more disabled employees or wounded warriors, but also reiterated the important resources and services available to them by the CAP program.

"Every year, we are telling these employees that we don't care and that [because you are dis-



Yolande Fong, chief of resources support division for Pacific Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) command, presents Dinah Cohen, Department of Defense Computer and Electronic Accommodations (CAP) program director, with a picture of Pearl Harbor during a training seminar at Hickam Officer's Club on June 1. Also in the picture are Caroline Michael, president of Federally Employed Women Aloha Chapter, and Hawai'i's U.S. Attorney Edward Kubo. As guest speaker for the seminar, Cohen discussed services provided by the CAP program and encouraged local federal and government agencies to consider hiring more employees with disabilities.

abled], you have lost your value," she told the attendees. "If we did that to any other minority group, there would be people marching at Capitol Hill. We need you to get angry and start caring about employees with disabilities. Only then, will we

start to make a difference," she added.

The primary mission of CAP is to provide assistive technology to disabled workers, allowing them to access data and information necessary to complete their jobs. CAP assistive technology

includes voice recognition and video communication technology for keyboards of disabled workers, screen readers and magnification software for visually impaired workers as well as teletypewriter (TTY) and personal amplification devices for the

hearing impaired.

"Our goal is for equal access so everybody can have the same opportunity to participate and access information in the work center," she explained. "This not only will engage your employees, but also empower them."

During her lecture, Cohen also reviewed several CAP accommodation solutions for hiring managers including the "schedule A" program, that enables a federal employer to non-competitively hire a candidate with a disability without even posting the available position.

Other solutions involve a Department of Defense and Labor-sponsored workforce recruitment program that screens college students with disabilities from more than 180 colleges and universities all over the country for summer internship positions.

"The federal government should serve as the model employer and mirror the American population," said Cohen. "And the talent in the disability community should not be overlooked. We have the best and the brightest and need to tap into this population."

Mona Yamada, Fleet Industrial Supply Center (FISC) executive director, said her command has not only been actively recruit-

ing people with targeted disabilities for the past year, but has also hired more than a dozen disabled workers for various job positions.

"We just decided that is something that we wanted to do," she said at the seminar. "We have been [utilizing] CAP services with our workers and they have absolutely helped. [In fact], we would be lost without these resources."

Yamada said she hopes that after this seminar, more military installations will be inspired to consider employees with disabilities for available federal positions.

"My experience with hiring the handicapped has been very positive," she said. "The people are excited to be at work and they give us 200 percent. In fact, one of our supervisors told me that if he had one more person like [the one we had hired with a disability] that he wouldn't need half his crew. So that is what kind of employees they are," she added.

Supervisors and managers interested in hiring people with disabilities should review their vacant positions and contact Colleen Martineau, the disability program manager, at 474-5140 or email at colleen.martineau@navy.mil.

For more information on the CAP program, visit [www.tricare.mil/cap](http://www.tricare.mil/cap).

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# Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MCI (SW/AW) Shane Tuck

Service members from a joint service color guard stand ready to present the colors during the 24th Annual Hawai'i Military Appreciation Luncheon held May 21 in Honolulu. The event was hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i and paid tribute to the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen throughout the Pacific. The event stood as a reminder of the close and unique bond that exists between Hawai'i and the military services. (See story on page A-2.)



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 (AW) Eric J. Cutright

Navy Region Hawai'i's Hurricane Preparedness Exercise (HURREX) 09 concluded May 29, following a four-day event that tested the emergency preparedness plans of Navy activities in Hawai'i. As part of the exercise, pre-selected Navy personnel with disaster kits in hand reported to the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) to register their families and then boarded an NEX bus to their designated onbase shelter. The goal of the exercise was to validate the process of registering Navy family members who would require safe haven shelter during an emergency.

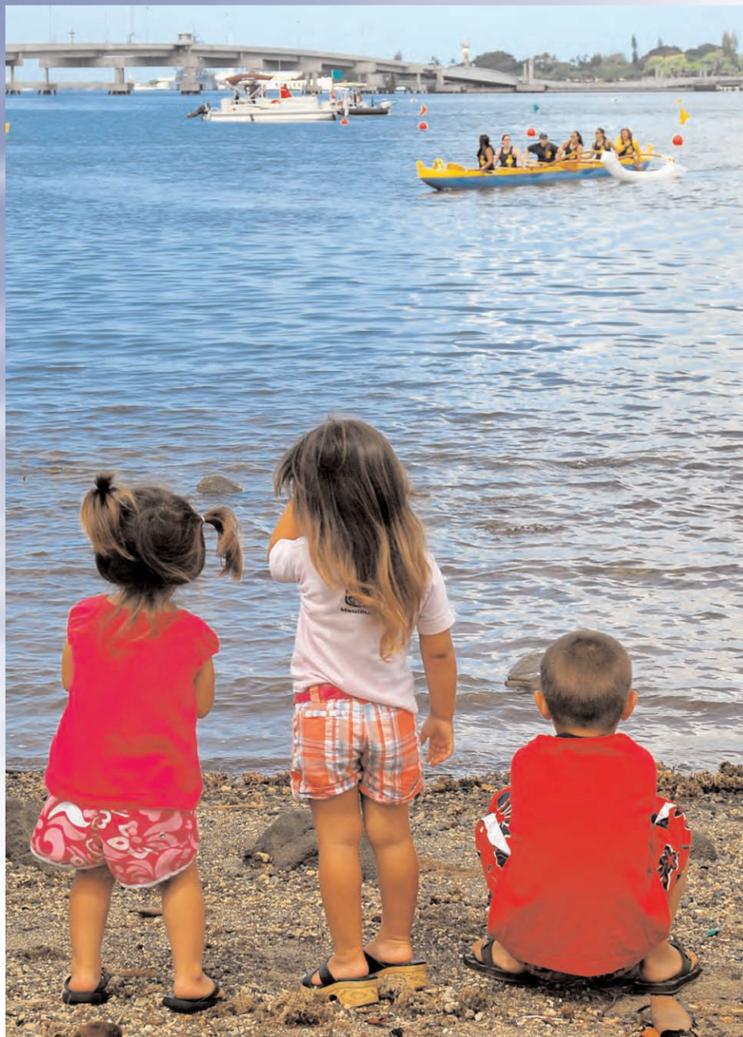


U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Carrie K Sanders

Ken Mohney, a WWII veteran and Navy pharmacists' mate, received a Naval Information Operations Command Hawai'i command coin from Lt. Michael Curtis on May 18 during a visit to NIO. Mohney and his son were visiting Hawai'i and stopped in to see the old hospital where the edler Mohney worked during the war. To his surprise, Mohney received a hero's welcome from the crew.

(Below) Canoe paddlers jockey for prime positions during the Hawai'i Wounded Warrior Canoe Regatta that was hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) at Rainbow Bay Marina Canoe Hale at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 30. The regatta was held to honor members of the armed forces who were wounded while serving their country. The first annual event drew 67 teams and 286 active duty paddlers. (See story on page A-7.)

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.

Children watch participants in the Hawai'i Wounded Warrior's Canoe Regatta race along the shores of Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 30. The race is a tribute to those in Hawai'i who have been hurt serving their country. All branches of the military, as well as police officers and firefighters, are given the chance to compete against each other for canoe supremacy in the first "Hawai'i Wounded Warrior's Canoe Regatta."



# Lake Erie Sailor returns from Afghanistan

Lt. j.g. (SW) Benjamin Desmond

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

Yeoman 1st Class (SW) Bryan Withrow has traded in his desert camouflage and once again found himself in a crisp pair of coveralls. "I feel like I'm back where I belong," said Withrow, administrative division leading petty officer on USS Lake Erie (CG 70), when asked about his recent return to sea duty.

After a six-month individual augmentee tour to Headquarters International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul, Afghanistan, Withrow said, "It's definitely good to be back, but it was a good experience."

The ISAF has been operating in Afghanistan under NATO command since 2003 as a major influence in reconstruction and development and has been working closely with the Afghan National Army (ANA) to provide stability and security throughout the country. Filling a



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of USS Lake Erie

YN1 (SW) Bryan Withrow with unidentified Turkish soldier.

chief petty officer's billet in the counter improvised explosive device branch (CIED) of the NATO run, Headquarters ISAF, Withrow had a variety of experiences both in and out of his rate.

During several weeks of intense training at the Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training Command in Fort Jackson, S.C., with the assistance of Army drill sergeants, he was trained in topics ranging from first aid and chemical and biological attack, to land navigation and weapons employment.

Upon completion of his training in South Carolina, he then traveled through Kuwait, where he took part in several training convoys, and eventually arrived in Kabul.

As the CIED admin chief, Withrow not only coordinated and prepared 86 CIED meetings and conferences for international and joint officer, enlisted and civilian personnel, but also operated well outside of the yeoman rate. Far from his clerical work in the surface Navy, Withrow

found himself serving as a tactical vehicle driver on some of the most dangerous routes in Kabul. "It was quite a change from office work," he said in regard to his 70-plus tactical movement missions as a Humvee driver.

Withrow exemplifies the flexibility of today's Navy team and the ever expanding joint military efforts throughout the world. Working closely with staff from more than 42 countries, including British, French, Italian, Irish and Afghan Army, Navy and Air Force personnel, his work at ISAF epitomized the definition of 'joint.'

Awarded the NATO Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal and the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Withrow has spent the last few months transitioning back into life at sea onboard the Lake Erie. Managing the administrative division as leading petty officer, he is far from his dry base in Kabul and in his words, "back where [he] belongs."

# Pearl Harbor Shipyard clears out tons of clutter

Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

The fifth in a series of all-hands cleanups held recently at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard resulted in nearly 450 pallets of scrap material and equipment being removed from the command.

Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor, praised the effort, calling it a "fantastic job" by the shipyard team.

Robert Lucia, electrical

shop general foreman, when asked what sort of material was being hauled away from behind his shop building, answered, "Everything and anything."

The area had become a collection point since last October, he explained. Awaiting pickup for disposal or recycling were cabling, dismantled wooden shipping crates, lockers, old furniture, scrap metal, and antiquated equipment. Among the more unusual items were a radar dome and a barbecue grill.

The quarterly cleanups known as hui malama –

Hawaiian for "take care team" – are part of the shipyard's waterfront transformation and vision to become an outstanding naval shipyard by 2012. The cleanups also prepare the way for implementing an ambitious, long-range modernization plan that includes the construction of new buildings.

The first cleanup was initiated last July and since then "we've cleared away tons - thousands of tons - from the shipyard," said Kevin Liborio, production resources department manager for Lean and safety.

To illustrate his point, he gestured toward the waterfront area directly across from the electrical shop. Less than a year ago, multi-story staging and other structures filled the area. Today, much of what once blocked the skyline is gone.

"Before you couldn't even see the blue (portal) cranes," he said. "Now we have space for a new building."

Capt. Gregory Thomas, shipyard commander, commended Liborio for managing the cleanups. "Thank you for your leadership," he

said. "Your enthusiasm, positive attitude, and bias towards action brighten my day and help make this the best place I've ever served."

Liborio credited a combined effort by management, the unions and "most of all, the workers" for the positive results of hui malama. "We're headed in the right direction," he said.

According to Liborio, many mechanics hang on to something because they think they might need it sometime in the future. However, there are costs involved in storage and taking up space in an area that

could be put to better use, he noted. "I'm not saying 'Throw everything away,' but we have to decide what do we really need to keep," he said.

As for how much more outdated material still needs to be cleared out of the shipyard, Liborio estimated, "We're about 50 percent there."

The last hui malama turned up material from when the shipyard last worked on USS Seadragon (SSN 584), he said. "That was in the 1980s ... so you know we're getting closer to the bottom of the pile."

## NAVFAC Hawai'i seeks public comment on public works project

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i (NAVFAC HI) is seeking public comment for a public works project to install a 10-inch water line at

Iroquois Point housing. This public works project is scheduled to start in June 2009. The water line extension will provide a secondary source of potable water for the residents of Iroquois Point housing.

The project will start along

Cormorant Avenue from Iroquois Point Elementary School and the NEX building 6882 and proceed west, terminating at Kela Place in Puuloa Housing (Tax Map Key 9-1-01:001).

The proposed site is within

FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) Zone A (no base flood elevations determined) and pursuant to Executive Order 11988 Floodplain Management. No significant direct, indirect or cumulative environmental impacts are expected as a result

of the proposed project.

Send comments to: Navy Region Hawaii, Environmental Public Affairs Officer, Grace Hew Len, 473-2926 or email Grace.Hewlen@navy.mil. Comment deadline is June 18, 2009.

**STORY IDEAS?**

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

Phone: (808) 473-2888

Email: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

**Hawaii Navy News**

# Armed forces regatta honors Wounded Warriors

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

If there are any lines of distinction that separate the men and women of our armed forces, there was certainly no hint of it at the Hawai'i Wounded Warrior Canoe Regatta that was held at Rainbow Bay Marina Canoe Hale at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 30.

The event, which awarded trophies for the top finishers in five categories, thoroughly surpassed all expectations, as active duty personnel from all branches of the military joined forces to honor fellow comrades that paid a huge sacrifice for our country.

"First and foremost, this was a way to recognize our Wounded Warriors and our community, and secondly it was a sporting event," said Capt. Don Hodge, chief of staff, Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. "It was a way for us to get all these great folks together and understand how important our Wounded Warrior program is."

Gerald Hamilton, MWR outdoor recreation program director, said that the outpouring of support was a true testament to the camaraderie that is shared among members of the armed forces.

While Hamilton stated that he knew the event was going to attract a good following, he had no idea just



Canoe paddlers jockey for prime positions during the Hawai'i Wounded Warrior Canoe Regatta at Rainbow Bay Marina Canoe Hale at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on May 30. The regatta was held to honor members of the armed forces who were wounded while serving their country. The first annual event drew 67 teams and 286 active duty paddlers.

how popular the meet was going to be — especially since this was the first one ever held in the islands.

"We were thinking, maybe 10 to 15 team max," admitted Hamilton. "We ended up with 67 teams. It really took off. We had 286 military active duty paddling here today."

"I've talked with many of the active duty members that are here, and they all said that they have never ever seen this many military paddlers in one place."

The races, which took place on the waters of Pearl Harbor, began

with trials at 9:30 a.m., and final competitions ended the event at 2 p.m.

In the Heroes Division, the Stokers, whose members consisted of Marines from the Wounded Warriors Detachment at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, placed first with a time of 2:11.

The Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) came in first in the Mixed Crew finals, with a time of 1:59.9; and in the overall championship finals by gliding through the waters in 1:56.9.

Meanwhile, the Ho'o Kanaka Na Hui Wa'a B team was victorious in the Military Clubs finals, with a time of 1:59.4; and the Ho'o Kanaka Na Hui Wa'a D squad also clocked through the sprint course at 1:59.4.

Rick Maurer, who was a paddler on the HFD overall championship team, said that he had a tremendous time spending the day out in a canoe for a good cause.

Still, as he and his teammates collected their first-place trophy, he noted that winning the title was small in comparison to the price

of each Wounded Warrior paid for our freedom.

"This is a reminder of the blessed lives that we generally live because, sometimes, it's easy for us to forget the sacrifices that others made for you," said Maurer. "For us to be able to honor them and at the same time be a winner, this is a double victory. What better result can you have?"

As one of the Wounded Warriors, Gunnery Sgt. John Allen of the Wounded Warriors Detachment at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i said that he was overwhelmed at the level of support that was shown by all members of the armed forces.

Allen, who will be retiring in July after 20 years of service, had his right leg and other parts of his body penetrated by shrapnel that was projected by an improvised explosive device (IED) while he was patrolling the outskirts of Fallujah, Iraq in 2006.

He said that the fellowship that was experienced at the regatta was a perfect salve for him and his fellow Wounded Warriors to take their mind off the pain and suffering that has become a part of their lives.

"Anytime you do something like this, it helps you set things aside, even if it's only for a couple of hours," he commented. "For the hours that we were here, your mind isn't thinking about where you have been and what you did. So this is a really good event."

## Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i honors World War II hero

Continued from A-1

feel like one today." Some heroes don't wear medals - some heroes have their son standing proudly by, a coin in their pocket, and respect in the hearts of all who know them.

On Feb. 20, 1942, a young man from Oregon named Kenneth Mohney joined the U.S. Navy. This was a significant date for Ken as it was the two-year anniversary of his mother's passing away from a heart affliction. It also happened to be just two and a half months after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and America's official entrance into WWII. Ken felt it was a good time to leave home and do something with his life.

After boot camp in San Diego, young Seaman Mohney was sent to pharmacists' mate A-School to train to be a corpsman. After his training in San Diego, he was sent for some follow-on training in Bremerton, Wash. and then to his first duty station, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. He was initially assigned to the ear, nose and throat ward of the medical facility there.

One evening when he was on duty, a young Sailor came to him complaining of profuse bleeding inside his throat at the site of a recent surgery done by a doctor with quick hands and archaic equipment. Pharmacists' Mate 3rd Class Mohney was told by a doctor on duty, who was at a party on the other side of the island, "Don't call unless it is an emergency."

This was an emergency, Mohney thought, and he called the doctor right away. To his chagrin, the doctor simply yelled, "Can't you stop a simple bleeding?"

Mohney knew it wasn't a simple bleed and he knew the doctor would not be leaving his party. He recalled, "That was the moment I first knew what duty meant." That night Mohney risked getting into trouble by leaving his post to get help for the ailing Sailor. Later that evening at Aiea Naval Hospital, now the location for Camp H. M. Smith, the patient received numerous blood transfusions and was told he wouldn't have made it through the night without having received the help he needed. Pharmacists' Mate Mohney didn't receive any kudos for his actions that night; instead he got a reprimand and a threat of court martial from the doctor who would rather have parted than check on his patient.

When asked about his decisions that night, Mohney said, "I didn't come in the Navy to be a hero, but I saved that man's life and if any of you would have done it, I would call you a hero." He didn't get court martial for his actions, as a matter of fact. Very shortly after, the doctor Mohney dealt with that night had a heart attack and was reassigned back to the states. (Hawai'i was only a territory at that time).

His next assignment while stationed in Pearl Harbor brought Mohney to

the barge located alongside USS Arizona. At that time, the Navy was trying to salvage the ship and she was partially afloat. It was Mohney's duty to assist with any medical necessities that arose for the men working on Arizona.

While he was on duty one evening, a young Sailor came to the duty desk with a bottle of pills in his hand. He asked the duty corpsman, Pharmacists' Mate Mohney, whether or not the pills in his hand were enough to kill himself. He was suicidal and just wanted to know if it would do the trick. Being fearful for the man's life, yet armed with the knowledge that the pills would not kill the kid but just help him into a deep sleep, Mohney said, "Sure, you have enough and I will show you where to do it." Mohney knew if he told the young Sailor that the pills would, in fact, not kill him that the young Sailor would go find another means of committing suicide. Mohney felt that getting the Sailor to take the pills would allow him to go seek help. He left his post to lead the Sailor to a storage room filled with mattresses and left him alone to slumber. This gave Mohney enough time to seek the help of shore patrol.

Sure enough, the Sailor's life was saved that night. When questioned about his decision to leave his post for the second time in his short career, he said, "I didn't join the Navy to be a hero, but I had the chance to save

another life that night" and he did. Pharmacists' Mate 3rd Class Mohney didn't receive an award for his efforts that night either, but at least he didn't get scolded. He knew the country was at war, he wasn't looking for medals, he just wanted to do what was right.

Another story Ken Mohney remembered vividly was a time when two airplanes flying routine maneuvering exercises over Oahu clipped wings. "One flew on to Landry Field and crashed near the drydocks," he recalled. Mohney was on his way to his barracks when he heard of the accident. A metal cage pulled by a tractor normally used to shuttle workers was used to shuttle about 20 dead Airmen to the morgue in the basement of the Pearl Harbor Hospital. Mohney and other corpsmen were ordered to the morgue to desensitize them to the realities of war.

After 25 months in Hawai'i, now Pharmacists' Mate 2nd Class Mohney, was reassigned to San Francisco, Calif. He was excited to go to his new duty station "in the states" to finish out his obli-

gation of service. When he arrived there, he was stunned to find that the living quarters he was assigned were old horse stables. There were six men to a stall and the half door that led in still had chew marks from its former guests.

His assignment in California was with an advanced base personnel unit. He was in charge of laundry, and as such, "gave myself liberty each night," one of the perks of being senior. The city of San Francisco, at the time, was not Sailor-friendly. Mohney recalls, "Sailors were not treated very well, were not given good service, and were required to pay more at times for goods and services."

On the night the end of the war was declared, the Sailors took to the streets to celebrate. Mohney headed toward the San Francisco Opera House to watch a movie. That evening, as he headed back to the barracks, Mohney was approached by a drunken man all too happy to see him. He quickly realized that it was the very doctor from Hawai'i who threatened him with court martial

the night he left his post to save a Sailor's life. Mohney simply said "Hello doctor, sir" and kept walking. After a number of paces, Mohney turned back to look at the doctor to find him looking absolutely confused. The doctor had no idea what he had put the young Sailor through all those months before. Mohney was not going to give him the satisfaction of an explanation. He simply walked on.

His time in the Navy was spent helping Sailors and savings lives during one of our nation's hardest eras. He made tough choices while he served and continued his service to our country after his tour of duty ended.

After three years, eight months and 10 days of dedicated service to the nation in a time of war, Pharmacists' Mate 2nd Class Mohney was honorably discharged from the Navy. He returned home to Oregon where he became a teacher and married a lovely woman. Unable to have children, Mohney and his wife chose to foster children, about 250 kids in all, eventually adopting four of them.

## Pacific Conference focuses on 'art, science' of knowledge management

Bill Doughty

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The art and science of knowledge management (KM) was a theme in opening remarks by the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet for the 2009 Pacific Fleet Knowledge Management Conference on May 27-29.

Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, challenged Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy KM experts from throughout the Pacific to learn more about "command and control" and interoperability of knowledge management tools.

"Management of information, management of communication, has become cutting edge for our services," Willard said.

"In the cyber domain, it's important to understand the architecture of information, the technical side, but we need to understand the art of it, as well," he continued.

Battlefield knowledge management is literally often in the hands of a young Marine holding a personal digital assistant outside a door in Afghanistan. It's in the information provided to a joint task force



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Sarah Murphy

Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, addresses participants of the Pacific Fleet Knowledge Management Conference on May 27 at the Ford island Conference Center.

commander from satellites in space, submarines deep in the ocean and sensors and other sources deployed in between.

"It's very important for knowledge managers in the military to understand command and control and understand warfighting. There has been a tendency to focus on the tools, but 90 percent of knowledge management is understanding the process," said Army Lt. Col. Rich Durost, chief of knowledge management for Standing Joint Force Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command.

As for tools, Durost, like others at the conference, hopes to see continued progress in aligning and standardizing military

knowledge management.

"We're really a big enterprise. Wouldn't it be good to have an enterprise system, a DoD standard?" he asked.

Col. Brian Mace, command information officer for Marine Corps Forces Pacific, suggests looking at other enterprises for clues to standardize tool sets, such as protection mechanisms for their systems.

"We should be looking at what industry is doing – financial institutions, Microsoft. For Microsoft, their source code is like their gold. What are they doing to secure their gold?" said Mace.

In a question-and-answer session, Willard offered to continue to be an advocate of knowledge management

across Department of Defense. He challenged the group to adapt curriculum and champion the teaching of KM for warfighters. And, he applauded the Pacific Fleet knowledge managers, led by Jamie Hatch, knowledge management officer.

Hatch believes Willard's commitment is key to KM's continued success in supporting the Navy's maritime strategy, A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower.

"I believe the power of Adm. Willard's words and his conviction, as a warfighter and a leader, to wrap KM into his work in command and control will help take our work to the next level. I could not have been happier or prouder to serve the Pacific Fleet than I was today," she said.

Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Kechia Scott, KM community manager for Naval Health Care Clinic Hawai'i, attended the conference to learn more about knowledge management tools such as eKM and to be able to network with subject matter experts.

Commenting on Willard's opening remarks, Scott concluded, "The admiral wants all services to embrace knowledge management and work together for the common good."

## Environmental award

Continued from A-1

not only conserving resources, reducing pollution, recycling, and maintaining the local environment around them, but they are also markedly restoring crucial habitats and endangered species. He said it wasn't just up to the winners to be conscious of the environment around them.

"We must all continue down the path that they have set. It must be a focus for all of our commands. Today we're going to recognize those who really have stood apart, but as I said last year when we were together for these awards – the group here has to carry that message forward and has to share the lessons, their passion, their interest and their objectives with other commands in our Navy at large," Roughead said.

The annual CNO Environmental Awards program recognizes Navy people, ships and installations for their outstanding environmental stewardship. The 29 winners were selected in the following categories: natural resources conservation large installation, cultural resources management installation, cultural resources management individual or team, environmental quality industrial installation, environmental quality overseas installation, environmental quality small ship, pollution prevention non-industrial installation, pollution prevention individual or team, environmental restoration installation and environmental planning team.

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