



Photo illustration | U.S. Navy photos by MC1 Michael Hight and MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

CEREMONY AT PUNCHBOWL HONORS VETERANS

MC1 Michael Hight

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

In a show of appreciation, hundreds of people gathered at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) on Veterans Day to pay respect to those who have served.

"Our veterans fought so that people of all nations could be

free to speak openly, to worship as they please, to receive an education, to own property, to enjoy the benefits of their labors, and to help choose their own government," said keynote speaker Lt. Gen. Keith J. Stalder, commander of Marine Corps Forces Pacific.

"On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to thank all of those of you who have served our na-

tion in times of war and in times of peace. Our country and our liberties continue to flourish because of your efforts," Stalder said.

Music was provided by the Navy Pacific Fleet Band, as well as the Pearl City Community Church Choir. In addition, the ceremony included a rifle salute, Taps and a missing man flyover by F-15 jets from the

Hawai'i Air National Guard.

Gene Castagnetti, director of the Punchbowl cemetery and a veteran himself, served as master of ceremonies.

"On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, America pauses to reflect on this same hour, day and month of 1918, when the guns fell silent across Europe," said Castagnetti, a retired Marine

colonel. "At that time, World War I was characterized as the war to end all wars. Here it is, some 91 years later and unfortunately, that vision has not come to fruition."

Castagnetti described the occasion as a moment for "Americans to remember that the only reason we're free out here is because the veterans were willing to pay the price."

(Above photo) Military veterans were honored at Veterans Day events held Wednesday at various locations in Hawai'i, including National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), State Veterans Cemetery at Kaneohe and the Wahiawa Veterans Day Parade. A parade in honor of Veterans Day was also held at Hilo, Hawai'i on Nov. 7. See more Veterans Day photos on page A-5.

Hawai'i based commands win SECNAV Energy Awards

Krista Stehn

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i-Navy Region Hawai'i Energy Manager

Navy Region Hawai'i won four energy awards at the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Energy Awards ceremony held Oct. 27 at the Navy Memorial in Washington.

"These awards are indicative of the high pace of our energy program at Navy Region Hawai'i and it is only going to get more exciting in future months," said Capt. Bret Muilenburg, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i.

Naval Station Pearl Harbor and NAVFAC Hawai'i received the gold level of achievement for implementing outstanding energy efforts, the second highest level recognized by SECNAV.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility and the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai were winners of the blue level of achievement for displaying a well-rounded energy program. Awards were based on the energy and water achievements for fiscal year 2008.

"The projects we are involved in will generate secure energy from renewable sources and minimize adverse environmental effects," said Muilenburg.

The SECNAV Energy Awards were established to recognize outstanding commitment to energy and water conservation by Navy and Marine Corps installations and ships. The Department



U.S. Navy photo by Krista Stehn

An induction street light fixture is installed at a parking lot near Battleship Drive on Naval Station Pearl Harbor by a Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i employee. This project, expected to save Navy Region Hawai'i \$140,000 annually, contributed to NAVFAC Hawai'i being selected for the Secretary of the Navy Energy (Gold Level of Achievement) Award.

of the Navy Energy Program evaluates and classifies the overall energy performance of each installation and ship. Those that have exemplary energy conservation programs are ranked according to a system of platinum, gold, or blue achievers.

Competition for SECNAV

Energy Awards is based on various factors, including improvement in energy efficiency, number of energy projects executed during the fiscal year, amount of renewable energy generation, strength of energy awareness program, and the level of command support.



Cmdr. Alan Dorrbecker is piped ashore after being relieved as commanding officer of Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Greenville (SSN 772) by Cmdr. Anthony Carullo during a change of command ceremony held at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 3.

Carullo relieves Dorrbecker as new commanding officer of USS Greenville

Story and photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

Cmdr. Anthony Carullo relieved Cmdr. Alan Dorrbecker as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Greenville (SSN 772) in a change of command ceremony at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Nov. 3.

The guest speaker was Capt. Stanley Robertson, commander, Submarine Squadron One, who praised Dorrbecker and his recent accomplishments aboard Greenville.

"My task today is to appropriately recognize the accomplishments and leadership of a dedicated commanding officer and his crew who have done a tough job very well," said Robertson. "His dedicated stewardship

of our national assets and his conscientious leadership of his crew, who are a national treasure in their own right, is truly a cause for celebration."

Following his remarks, Robertson awarded Dorrbecker the Legion of Merit for his "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding duties during his tour as commanding officer."

Dorrbecker reflected on the many successes of his crew. "You flexed each time I asked you for more and, yet, you were unafraid to tell me when you had enough. You accomplished what was described to me as unachievable," he said. "The hours were long and seemingly without end, but you worked with diligence to make yourselves and your ship better."

As Carullo assumed command of Greenville, he too acknowledged the quality of

the crew he was inheriting.

"I am very proud to be on and a part of this great warship, modernized to be technically advanced, and with a crew as enthusiastic and ready to do its part to defend our values of freedom and democracy around the world," said Carullo. "It is with great honor and privilege that I will get to spend the next few years with my shipmates, the men of the USS Greenville, sharing both the good times and challenges with these great Americans."

Dorrbecker earned his commission through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps at Northwestern University, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering. His submarine sea tours include USS Boise (SSN 764), USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) and USS Jacksonville (SSN 699).



USS Columbia departs for western Pacific deployment See page A-2



ASYMCA holiday food basket program spreads holiday cheer to military families See page A-4



NAVFAC Hawai'i prepares for emergency situations with new facility See page A-6



Chafee shuts out fading Port Royal See page B-1

USS Columbia 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 Columbia (SSN 771) departed Naval Station Pearl Harbor for a regularly-scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region on Nov. 3.

"The crew is very excited," said Cmdr. Craig Blakely, USS Columbia commanding officer. "It's mostly a young group and everyone is eager to get out there and earn their pay."

"The crew has done a fabulous job, especially having just recently come out of the shipyard," said Capt. Christopher Kaiser, commander, Submarine Squadron Seven (CSS-7). "They've all worked very hard finding their skills and getting this ship and themselves ready for this deployment."

Columbia, commissioned in 1995, was the last 688-class submarine to be built at Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Conn. This submarine is one of the most versatile weapons in the world, capable of numerous types of missions in a myriad of regions, including long-range Tomahawk strike operations, anti-submarine and surface ship tracking operations, surveillance and intelligence gathering, and even special forces insertions.



Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Columbia (SSN 771) departed Naval Station Pearl Harbor for a regularly-scheduled deployment to the western Pacific region on Nov. 3.

Ford Island Bridge closure

All lanes of the Ford Island Bridge will be closed on Dec. 7 from 7 to 10 a.m. for the 68th Anniversary Commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor. A sign will be posted prior to the closure at the entrance to the Ford Island Bridge, notifying all personnel of closure date and time. In the event of an emergency on the day of the closure, please call the Federal Fire department by dialing 911 for immediate assistance.



Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

America kicks butts Nov. 19

Shari Lopatin

TriWest Healthcare Alliance

The Great American Smoke-out is Nov. 19 and a great time for smokers to kick the habit together.

Quitting smoking can also prevent the nation's fourth leading cause of death: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD.

"My dad smoked his entire life and I think that smoking is what, in fact, killed him eventually. But I wasn't thinking about that. I just thought it was a cool thing to do and I wanted to smoke, too," said Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson in a video interview posted on TRICARE's tobacco free Web site. "The reason I stopped smoking was because of my patients. Kicking an addiction is probably among the strongest things that we will ever do," said Robinson.

The American Lung Association says smoking is the main cause of COPD, which is a group of lung diseases that include emphysema and chronic bronchitis. According to the National Heart, Lung and Blood In-



stitute, this condition affects more than 12 million people in the United States.

COPD makes breathing hard by partly blocking your lungs' airways. It can cause colds that last weeks instead of days, frequent lung infec-

tions and difficulty keeping up with activities you enjoy, according to COPD-International.

While no cure exists for COPD, if you quit smoking, you'll see your symptoms start decreasing after one to

nine months, the American Lung Association says. This means less coughing, sinus congestion, fatigue and shortness of breath. Stopping your smoking habit will also help slow the progression of COPD.

Some other suggestions from COPD-International to improve your quality of life with COPD include healthy eating habits, a personal exercise program approved by your doctor, and following your medication routine all the time.

You can also practice some at-home breathing exercises to help train your body to breathe better. Find them at COPD-International at http://www.copdinternational.com/Library/Breathing_Exercises.htm.

For more information, visit any of the following online resources:

- TRICARE Tobacco Free: <http://www.tricare.mil/tobaccofree/default.aspx>
- TriWest Healthcare Alliance: www.triwest.com/copd
- American Cancer Society: www.americancancersociety.org
- www.smokefree.gov
- www.ucaquit2.org



Great American Smokeout

Every year, on the third Thursday of November, smokers across the nation take part in the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout by smoking less or choosing to quit for good.

The event challenges people to stop using tobacco and helps make people aware of the many tools they can use to quit for good. In many towns and communities, local volunteers support quitters, publicize the event, and press for laws that control tobacco use and discourage teenagers from starting.

On Nov. 19, anyone with base access is invited to join the health promotion department from Makalapa Health Clinic for the Great American Smokeout annual walk starting at 6 a.m. at the Missing Man Memorial at Hickam Air Force Base.

For more information on this event, call Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i, health promotion department, at 473-1880, ext. 2282, 2285 or 2386. For more information on the Great American Smokeout, visit www.cancer.org.

This week in NAVAL HISTORY

November 9

- 1921 - USS Olympia (C-6) arrives at the Washington Navy Yard from France carrying the body of the Unknown Soldier for interment at Arlington National Cemetery.
- 1950 - Task Force 77 makes first attack on the Yalu River bridges. In first engagement between MIG-15 and F9F jets (USS Philippine Sea), Lt. Cmdr. William T. Amen (VF-111) shoots down a MIG and becomes first Navy pilot to shoot down a jet aircraft.
- 1956 - Secretary of the Navy proposes the Polaris missile program to the Secretary of Defense.

November 10

- 1775 - Congress votes to raise two battalions of Continental Marines, establishing the Marine Corps.
- 1941 - U.S. escorted convoy WS 12, carrying 20,000 British troops to Singapore, sails from Halifax.

November 11

- 1967 - Landing craft from USS Navarro (APA-215) rescue 43 men from British SS Habib Marikar aground on a reef at Lincoln Island in the Tonkin Gulf.
- 1971 - USS Nathanael Greene (SSBN-636) launches a Poseidon C-3 missile in first surface launch of Poseidon missile.

November 12

- 1870 - Navy expedition to explore the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, southern Mexico, commanded by Capt. Robert W. Shufeldt, enters the Coatzacoalcos River to begin a survey for possible interoceanic canal. Support is provided by USS Kansas and USS Mayflower.
- 1918 - Armistice ends World War I.
- 1920 - Lenah S. Higbee becomes the first woman to be awarded the Navy Cross. It was awarded for her World War I service.
- 1921 - Washington Naval Conference begins.
- 1943 - Two Carrier Task Forces strike Japanese shipping at Rabaul, sinking one carrier and damaging other ships. Raid was first use of SB2C Curtiss Helldivers in combat.
- 1954 - November 11 is designated as Veterans Day to honor veterans of all U.S. wars.
- 1966 - Launch of Gemini 12, with Cmdr. James A. Lovell, Jr., USN, the command pilot. The mission lasted three days, 22 hours and 34 minutes and included 59 orbits at an altitude of 162.7 nautical miles. Recovery is made by HS-11 helicopter from USS Wasp (CVS-18).
- 1981 - Commissioning of first Trident-class nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarine, USS Ohio (SSBN-726).

November 13

- 1776 - Capt. John Paul Jones aboard USS Alfred accompanied by USS Providence captures British transport Mellish, carrying winter uniforms later used by Washington's troops.
- 1942 - Loss of USS Juneau (CL-52) during Battle of Guadalcanal results in loss of five Sullivan brothers.
- 1943 - Fifth Fleet carriers begin long-range night bombing attacks on Japanese positions in Gilberts and Marshalls in preparation for landings.
- 1957 - First firing of Regulus II bombardment missile.

Enjoying 'turkey day' aboard ship



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

Adm. William F. Halsey, commander, U.S. Third Fleet, eats Thanksgiving dinner with the crew of his flagship, USS New Jersey (BB 62), on Nov. 30, 1944.

Hawai'i Navy News

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Sponsored by the Surface Navy Association, Sailors assigned to USS Chafee (DDG 90) and other various commands brought their gloves, rakes and garden hoses to clean up the Navy veterans section of Oahu Cemetery in Honolulu on Nov. 9. More than 40 volunteers participated in the cemetery clean up as part of the preparations for Veteran's Day on Nov. 11.

Sailors honor veterans at Oahu Cemetery

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawai'i Public
Affairs

Sailors assigned to the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) brought their gloves, rakes and power washer units to clean up the Navy veterans section at Oahu Cemetery in Honolulu on Nov. 9.

Led by Chief Information Systems Technician (SW) Jerry Lawyer and hosted by the Surface Navy Association (SNA), the Chafee crew and about 40 volunteers from various commands participated in the project as part of preparations for Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

"This is a great opportunity to pay our respects to these national heroes, both past and present," said Lawyer. "It is always an honor to work with and learn from those who have been through what we are

going through as service members."

Hal Lewis, the cemetery site supervisor, welcomed the volunteers during the cloudy Monday morning. "The more help we can get, the better," said Lewis. "We appreciate it."

The SNA suggests events geared toward Sailors' professional development and community outreach. SNA sponsors the cemetery clean up twice a year, both on Veterans Day and on Memorial Day.

"Each holiday, a different ship will volunteer to take the lead on the clean up project," said Cmdr. Mike Freeman (Navy ret.) of SNA.

The volunteers cleaned and straightened several headstones. They also performed minor gardening. Lewis said the Navy headstones are made of white marble markers which tend to stain through time.

The cemetery is located on an 80-by-40 yard piece of

property purchased by the Navy. The plot was acquired in 1935 and a trust fund was established for the maintenance of the site.

"It's been there for quite some time," said Lewis. "There are still some available plots for anyone in the Navy who wants to be buried there."

There are more than 170 gravesites, 135 of which are in use. The earliest grave markers are dated in the 1800s and the most recent interments were in 2002.

"I see the ultimate sacrifice that these men and women made for us, a lot of us not even born yet," said Operations Specialist 1st Class Isaac Davis, assigned to Chafee. "The fact that they are willing to fight for our freedom and to make sure that we are able to walk around free and have rights... They've made the ultimate sacrifice. This is just a small price for us to do in their honor."

ASYMCA holiday food basket program spreads holiday cheer to military families

Story and photo by
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

This Thanksgiving holiday, Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) will again sponsor its annual holiday food basket program for military families in need.

"Our mission is to support our military families so the holiday basket program is just another way we are providing support and fulfilling [our mission]," said Sarah Glaze, family outreach director for ASYMCA.

The program provides Thanksgiving meals to military families (E-6 and below) chosen by various commands from Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe, as well as other military branches that have expressed the need for help during the holidays.

"Last year, we provided holiday baskets to 422 families island-wide," Glaze said. "Two hundred fifty families came from Pearl Harbor. So this year, I am expecting around 500 [families] so every donation helps."

The holiday "baskets" will include items such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, boxed desserts and a gift certificate for participants to purchase a turkey or ham at local participating grocery stores, she said.

Glaze also added that cash



Sarah Glaze, Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) outreach program director, displays the food pantry of donated food items given for the annual holiday basket program. Glaze said she hopes the program will provide Thanksgiving meals to more than 500 military families this year.

donations will be accepted in lieu of canned food items and will go toward turkey "coupons" that will be added to every basket.

"This will allow that family to purchase a fresh turkey for their meal near Thanksgiving holidays," she said. "This also gives a chance for people who don't want to buy canned food. They can donate and assist in this way, too."

Glaze said that people interested in helping can drop off donations at drop boxes at ASYMCA locations at Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe. She also added that ASYMCA plans to hold a food drive at the Navy Exchange on Nov. 14.

"Also, many people don't realize that we have an ongoing food pantry that we share with Fleet Family Service Center (FFSC) and Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS)," Glaze added. "So people should feel free to donate [year-round] if they want to, not just during the holidays."

For the Thanksgiving holiday basket program, ASYMCA is asking that donations be contributed by Nov. 19 so they will have enough time to assemble baskets in time for Nov. 26.

For more information about ASYMCA, visit www.asymcahi.org. For more information about the holiday food basket program, contact Glaze at 473-3398.

Requested non-perishable items for holiday food baskets

- Boxed desserts
- Boxed mash potatoes
- Boxed pie crusts
- Boxed stuffing
- Chicken broth
- Corn
- Cranberry sauce
- Cream of chicken soup
- Cream of mushroom soup
- Gravy
- Green beans
- Pumpkin pie filling
- Yams
- Cash donations in lieu of canned food items

Please drop off donations at ASYMCA Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe locations. For more information, call 473-3398.

Pearl Harbor *Highlights* VETERANS DAY

Yeoman 1st Class (SS) Al Shoehigh (Navy Ret.) places a lei on the plaque of each World War II submarine on 'eternal patrol during a Veterans Day ceremony held at the USS Parche Submarine Memorial Park at Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW/AW/SCW) Ronald Gutridge



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico
A WWII veteran, 85-year-old former Army Sgt. D. Zane Schlemmer of the 82nd Airborne Division, poses for a photo during the Veterans Day ceremony in Hawai'i State Cemetery, Kaneohe. The state of Hawai'i, where a quarter of the population is military or military-affiliated, celebrated Veterans Day with several ceremonies and parades around the islands.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico
Ruthie Dupries, Hawaiian hula dancer, dances to the music of Ke Akua Mana E (How Great Thou Art) during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Hawai'i State Cemetery in Kaneohe. The state of Hawai'i, where a quarter of the population is military or military-affiliated, celebrated Veterans Day with several ceremonies and parades around the islands.



U.S. Navy photo by Karen Spangler
Youngsters wave flags as they watch the Wahiawa Veterans Day parade on Nov. 11.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico
A joint service color guard presents the colors during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Hawai'i State Cemetery in Kaneohe. The state of Hawai'i, where a quarter of the population is military or military-affiliated, celebrated Veterans Day with several ceremonies and parades around the islands.

(Right) Sailors from Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station march through the main streets of Wahiawa during the Wahiawa Veterans Day Parade in Hawai'i.

U.S. Navy photo by Renee Neuman



Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor, waves to spectators lining the parade route as he walks in the Wahiawa Veterans Day parade.

U.S. Navy photo by Karen Spangler

NAVFAC Hawai'i prepares for emergency situations with new facility

Story and photo by
James Johnson

Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Hawai'i

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i completed its new emergency management control center (EMCC), which can withstand a category three hurricane, on Oct. 27 after a year-long upgrade of an existing building.

The EMCC fills a void for the command because prior to this project, there was no building able to withstand hurricane force winds and suitable for providing a space for leadership to coordinate efforts in the event of a catastrophic event.

Prior to completion of the EMCC, the coordination of emergency tasks was executed from a small service desk area in a building not rated to withstand winds more than 60 mph. In addition, the area was not large enough to support a full emergency services staff.

"When Oahu experienced an island-wide power outage



The new work area at Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i's emergency management control center provides more space and flexibility for emergency service desk personnel to complete their daily tasks in a more comfortable environment.

last December (2008), we had some inefficiencies because not all of our emergency management personnel were centrally located," said Lt. Cmdr. Gregory Benton, NAVFAC Hawai'i assistant emergency management officer. "Now we have all the assets in one place which will make it possible to coordinate our efforts simultaneously, with a global approach," Benton explained.

In the case of a catastrophic

event, which could be natural or human-caused, the EMCC officer and staff will move to the EMCC. The support staff will include a duty

officer, maintenance and utilities supervisors, logistics, planning and financial officers.

NAVFAC Hawai'i receives its requirements from Naval Station Pearl Harbor's emergency operations center (EOC) and Navy Region Hawai'i's regional operations center (ROC). Major coordination efforts include restoring water, electricity and power, responding to facility issues, and executing a refueling plan for the facilities that have emergency generators.

If needed, NAVFAC Hawai'i's EMCC can operate 24 hours a day, with staff rotating on 12-hour shifts. The building has been designed to accommodate long shifts. It has a conference area, a computer work area, a watch area, a break room and an enclosed office room for the com-

manding officer.

The renovated building features a reinforced roof and ceiling that will withstand a category three (130 mph) hurricane. The roof is secured with thick steel piping which is anchored to the walls and to the ground. The building has been re-wired and an emergency generator will maintain electricity even if there is a power outage.

"Disaster preparedness has been a big push the past few years," said Lt. Cmdr. Kent Hendricks, former assistant emergency management officer. "After the earthquake in 2006, the region did an after-action analysis that produced recommendations for various commands. Region determined we needed a building

that could withstand a strong force such as a hurricane."

Under normal conditions, the EMCC is staffed around the clock with emergency service desk personnel. They receive and coordinate incoming facility requirements through work orders from NAVFAC Hawai'i's supported commands.

"The new work area is an improvement in several ways over the old building [A8]," said Leland Lee, supervisory production controller. "The biggest thing is that now we have plenty of space to do our work. In A8, it could get tight during an emergency situation. Here, the emergency management officer and team have a whole other room from which to operate."

FISC Pearl Harbor improves fuel operations, maintains readiness

Lt. Curt Butler

Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers Public Affairs



Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pearl Harbor recently celebrated the completion of a comprehensive fuel supply and storage system project that will enhance efficiency and accountability within FISC Pearl Harbor's expansive fuel terminal operation.

The project, a joint effort with Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) and local area contractors, resulted in an interface tank, a 210,000-gallon capacity tank located in the FISC fuel storage area

and controlled and monitored remotely from an off-site command center.

The tank incorporates a control scheme known as automated fuel handling equipment (AFHE) in which the operation is fully automated to include gauging, pressure control and valve manipulation. If done manually, these processes would cost valuable work-hours each week that could be otherwise allocated.

The control scheme also incorporates several redundant safety features such as state-of-the-art controllable cameras, independent alarm systems, automatic overflow

protection and emergency containment.

When asked about the conception of the project, Lt. Cmdr. Scott Hedrick, the FISC Pearl Harbor fuels director, said. "After soliciting feedback from our junior civil servants, a key suggestion resulted in the installation of the proper automation that not only made the job easier, but more efficient."

In addition to improved efficiency at the interface tank, FISC Pearl Harbor will be able to better regulate the various fuel types coming from commercial sources in the local economy. Through the use of the interface tank as an intermediate stopping point between commercial vendors and the main fuel storage tanks, the Navy's options for procurement are increased.

In the past, FISC Pearl Harbor was limited to certain vendors for certain types of fuel, some being generated at local refineries and some arriving via commercial tanker. Fuel lines between commercial refineries and the FISC fuel storage area can now be purged of one type of fuel before a different product is sent through the same line. As a result, the quality of the product is not degraded through the mixture of two fuel types.

The interface tank promises to reduce the number of tanker visits per year and increase the availability of additional petroleum products.

This significant improvement to the fuel procurement process is one more step in the FISC's continuing effort

to maintain readiness and cut unnecessary costs.

At Navy Region Hawaii, FISC Pearl Harbor is the primary provider of the Air Force's jet fuel needs.

Streamlining of the fuel procurement process will no doubt pay dividends as the supply center continues to shoulder the Pacific's ever-increasing logistical needs.

FISC Pearl Harbor will play an integral role in the October 2010 merger of the Pearl Harbor Naval Station and the adjacent Hickam Air Force Base to form Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

FISC Pearl Harbor's mission is to provide quality and timely logistics and support services to Navy, Marine Corps, joint and allied forces throughout the Pacific Rim. FISC Pearl Harbor, one of seven supply centers under

Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers (COMFISCS), provides supply chain management, procurement, contracting and transportation services, technical and customer support, defense fuel products, and worldwide movement of personal property.

COMFISCS comprises more than 6,400 military and civilian logistics professionals operating as a single cohesive team providing global logistics services from more than 200 locations worldwide. A component of the Naval Supply Systems Command, headquartered at Mechanicsburg, Pa., COMFISCS is part of a worldwide logistics network of more than 25,000 military and civilian personnel providing combat capability through logistics.

Got Questions?

Write to us at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com



Photo courtesy of NIOC Hawai'i

Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 2nd Class Albert Su of Naval Information Operations Command Hawai'i completed the 2009 Xterra World Championship in Maui on Oct. 25. He completed the culmination of four years of training in four hours.

NIOC Hawai'i Sailor competes in Xterra World Championship

Ensign Melissa Ocasio

Naval Information Operations Command, Hawai'i

The Xterra World Championship triathlon race, including 600 international participants, was held in Kihei on Oct. 25. Athletes from more than 20 countries and 40 states gathered at the Maui Prince Hotel where the race began and ended. Their physical toughness was challenged over terrain including sun, water, sand, kiawe, cactus and lava rocks.

Cryptologic Technician (Networks) 2nd Class Albert Su, NIOC Hawai'i's own, competed all season long for the right to compete in the race. The event consisted of a grueling one-mile swim with 550 other swimmers "packed and kicking each other like sardines," said Su.

He also rode a bike 20 miles up and down a volcanic mountain with softball size lava rocks waiting

to trip the front bike tire. Following the bike portion of the race, Su ran 7.5 miles up and down the same volcanic mountain and then continued over the black sand beaches and through a forest.

Four hours of pure blood, sweat and tears later, he completed one of the world's toughest races. It took him four years of training just to qualify for this extreme off-road race. He finished 284th overall out of over 500 competitors, which is outstanding given the elite group of athletes that compete and finish the competition.



Joint base newspaper needs a name

Do you have ideas for a great name for the new joint base newspaper? We're seeking suggestions for a name for the combined newspaper for Pearl Harbor and Hickam.



Hawai'i Navy News, the Navy newspaper that now serves the Navy in Hawai'i, and the Hickam Kukini, the Air Force newspaper which serves the Air Force community in Hawai'i, will combine next year as the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam reaches full operational capability.

If you have an idea for a name for our joint newspaper, a name that would represent two great services and one special installation, please share it with us.

This is your opportunity to participate in the naming of the joint base newspaper, your newspaper. We look forward to hearing from you, our readers.

Please email your suggestions to Karen Spangler, managing editor of Hawai'i Navy News, at Karen.spangler@navy.mil.



U.S. Navy photo

Sailors from USS Texas (SSN 775) pose for a photo after a group re-enlistment Oct. 13 in the vicinity of the North Pole in the Arctic Ocean. USS Texas makes history by being the first Virginia-class nuclear fast attack submarine to conduct Arctic operations. USS Texas is currently in transit to its new homeport of Naval Station Pearl Harbor in Hawai'i.

USS Texas completes historic first for Virginia-class submarine

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

The Virginia-class submarine USS Texas (SSN 775) recently completed a historic exercise in the arctic region when it became the first vessel of its class, not only to operate in the region, but also to surface through the ice while in transit to its homeport of Pearl Harbor.

"Words cannot describe how impressed I am with my crew's performance and professionalism," said Cmdr. Robert Roncska, commanding officer of Texas. "The ship performed extremely well in the cold, under-ice environment and I am honored to carry on the tradition of arctic operations by our awesome submarine force."

Though the submarine force has continually operated in the

dangerous region successfully for more than 50 years, this occasion marked the first such venture by one of the Navy's newest assets.

"Once surfaced, the ship moored safely to the ice for over 24 hours," said Ensign James Robinson, supply officer. "Activities on the ice included a very special re-enlistment ceremony for 12 crew members and a pinning ceremony in which one crew member received his submarine warfare qualification dolphins, as well as some downtime to play touch football in the five-degree weather."

Virginia-class submarines are some of the most advanced machines in the world today. Initially announced in late 1998, these state-of-the-art vessels provide multiple-mission capabilities that allow Sailors to successfully op-

erate in the littorals as well as deep open oceans.

"All of the crew members are excited to have been able to be a part of such a great undertaking," said Robinson.

The impending arrival of Texas to Pearl Harbor later this year will mark the second of the Virginia-class subs to be stationed in the Pacific, following the historic arrival of USS Hawai'i (SSN 776) in July. The recent submarine arrivals and other submarine homeport shifts are in keeping with the Navy's force relocation plan, which ensures that 60 percent of the submarine force be stationed where it is most effective: the Pacific. By the end of 2009, 31 of the U.S. Navy's 53 fast attack submarines will be homeported in the Pacific, with 18 of those 31 homeported at Pearl Harbor.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Diverse Views*



Senior Chief Builder (SCW) Anthony Chance
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i Self Help

What do you know about Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam?

I'm pretty involved with the joint basing. I know that on Feb. 1, we start to become Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and all the facilities are going to be owned by the Navy. We are not necessarily going to see it on

the enlisted level. It's more of the integration of the upper echelon. Basically, we'll see a big change in the Air Force and how they are going to do business.

How is it going to affect Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i Self Help?

As for self-help, our jobs are really not going to change that much for right now. Of course, in every integration there is going to be some growing pains. But for all intents and purposes, it's going to work out. There are a lot of smart people that are in charge and they are going to make the best decisions.

Obviously there's going to be some questions that are going to arise and we are go-

ing to take care of it. I see it as a good thing. It's going ahead, and we're going to do it, and we are going to do it successfully.

What does Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam need to be successful?

I think the success of the joint basing is going to be ultimately the people accepting that it's going to happen. Instead of trying to find out ways that it's not going to work, let's find out ways it can work and come together. We have to be very serious that when it comes down to the mission that we are singing on the same page of music. In this scenario, teamwork is the key on both sides, the Air Force and the Navy.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawai'i Navy News upcoming segments

Nov. 19 – Defense Commissary Agency on Hawai'i products featuring Ben Wainwright
Dec. 3 – Pearl Harbor Day featuring a Pearl Harbor survivor

(The segments air at about 6:15 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.khon2.com/content/news/navynews/default.aspx>)

Got a story for KHON Hawai'i Navy News?

Email hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or call Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

STORY IDEAS?

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

Phone: (808) 473-2888

Email: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com

Hawaii Navy News