

# TAKING SOME HEAT

Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Hector Floresdiaz demonstrates firefighting to students attending the Center for Naval Engineering (CNE) Learning Site Pearl Harbor. Floresdiaz is an instructor at the CNE Learning Site Pearl Harbor teaching naval engineering, basic and advanced damage control, aviation and machinery room firefighting tactics.

Photo illustration | U.S. Navy photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



## Army jump starts ‘Ordnance Reef’ technology demonstration

Russell Dodson

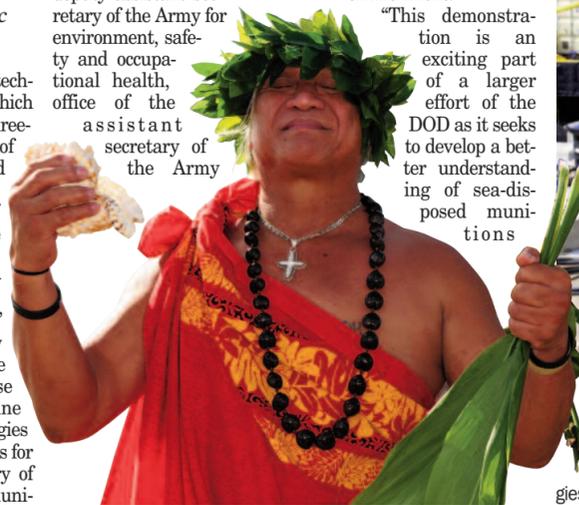
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

The “Ordnance Reef” technology demonstration, which will be used during a three-week demonstration of remote recovery and barge-mounted destruction technologies of munitions near the Waianae coast, received a Hawaiian blessing during its debut on July 8.

The “Ordnance Reef” demonstration will allow the Army and the Department of Defense (DoD) to determine whether these technologies meet DOD’s requirements for safe and remote recovery of underwater military munitions, said Hershell Wolfe, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for environment, safety and occupational health, office of the assistant secretary of the Army

for installations, energy and environment.

“This demonstration is an exciting part of a larger effort of the DOD as it seeks to develop a better understanding of sea-disposed munitions in an ocean environment,” he said.



U.S. Army photos by USARPAC

Ordnance Reef kicks off technology demonstration and Hawaiian blessing ceremony on July 8 at Ford Island. The technology will be used during a three-week demonstration of remote recovery and barge-mounted destruction technologies of munitions off Ordnance Reef near the Waianae coast.

in an ocean environment,” he said.

After several years of close coordination and planning with leeward communities and state and federal agencies, the Army plans to conduct the 21-day technology demonstration to assess the feasibility of adapting remotely-operated technology, or robots, according to Wolfe.

The technologies being used are the remotely operated underwater munitions recovery system, or ROUMRS, and the energetic hazards demilitarization system, or EHDS.

ROUMRS is an innovative use of off-the-shelf commercial technology that employs

See ARMY, A-8

## 15 OG says aloha to new commander

Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, takes the guidon from Col. Jeffrey Morgan, outgoing 15th Operations Group commander, during a change of command ceremony, July 8 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Morgan is making a permanent change of station to the Pentagon and relinquished command to Col. David Baldessari, 15 OG commander. Baldessari, a U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, entered the Air Force in 1989. He is a command pilot with more than 3,700 flight hours. He previously served as the United States Transportation command liaison officer to North American Aero Space Defense.

U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood Jr.



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Service members honor WWII veteran Harold Estes  
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Chosin finishes modernization  
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Security Squadron wins base softball championship  
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# Service members honor WWII veteran Harold Estes

Story and photos by  
MCSN Dustin W. Sisco

Navy Public Affairs Support  
Element West Det Hawaii

Hawaii service members and close friends honored the life of a World War II veteran and retired Navy chief petty officer in Honolulu and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on July 9-11.

Hundreds of people attended a memorial service on July 9 aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial for retired Chief Boatswain's Mate Harold B. Estes, who died May 17. His

ashes were interred during a ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on July 11.

Estes received full honors during the memorial ceremony, including whistle salutes from five naval ships and a color guard administered by the National Sojourners Inc. in Hawaii.

Mike Buck, the master of ceremonies for the event, said Estes achieved many important accomplishments in his life.

"He is credited with reinvigorating the leadership and membership of the Honolulu Navy League, as well as helping to bring the USS

Bowfin submarine and this ship, the Battleship Missouri, to Hawaii," said Buck. "Both iconic vessels are now anchor members of the Pearl Harbor historic sites."

At the interment ceremony, the chief petty officers who attended the memorial service paid their respects to Estes by dropping their right collar device into a box which was interred with Estes' remains.

Close friends of Estes gave remarks about the late chief

petty officer.

"The number of people here today is a testimony to what a special person Harold Estes was and how many people's lives he touched in so many different ways," said Alexander Gaston, close friend of Estes.

Estes enlisted in the Navy in 1934 at age 19. Including service in World War II, Estes served aboard the battleship USS California, the tug USS IUKA II,

attack transport USS Henrico and a variety of other ships and shore commands.

After retiring from the Navy on June 15, 1955, Estes received several honorary titles, including Pacific Fleet command master chief.

Even after Estes retired, he served the Navy far beyond his 21 years of active service, said Buck. "His involvement with

the Navy and the chief petty officer community lasted until his passing and will last for years to come."



(This note to the Estes story was offered by Keith DeMello of McNeil Wilson.)

A couple days after the

public remembrance ceremony on July 9, Chief Harold B. Estes' ashes were interred at National Memorial Cemetery of the

Pacific (Punchbowl) in a private ceremony on July 11. Estes was laid to rest with his wife Doris at 3:30 p.m.

There were about 200 Navy chiefs in attendance who filed past his urn, and each one dropped their anchor in a wooden box

made out of the original teakwood deck on the main deck of the Battleship Missouri. As the vault in the columbarium was

being sealed, all of us Navy chiefs sang "Anchors Aweigh." Once a chief ... always a chief.

## PRT JET Airmen are first units to receive OCPs for everyday wear

Capt. David Tomiyama

PRT Khost Public Affairs

(Editor's note: Capt. Tomiyama is from 15th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, currently deployed to Afghanistan.)

KHOST PROVINCE, Afghanistan – As the green of the battle dress uniform fades into Air Force history, a new 'green' is beginning for Airmen deploying to Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

More than 180 Joint Expeditionary Tasking (JET) Airmen assigned to provincial reconstruction teams (PRT) are wearing the OEF camouflage pattern, or "multi-cams," as their everyday uniform during their nearly year-long deployment to Afghanistan this summer.

While many individual Airmen have already been issued the joint service solution uniform, the PRTs are the first Air Force units to don the OCPs. The uniform gives Airmen unique benefits and features that the Airman battle system-ground (ABS-G) and



U.S. Air Force photo by SrA Sandra Welch

The Operation Enduring Freedom camouflage pattern, or "multi-cam", uniform is the official uniform for all Airmen performing missions "outside the wire" in Afghanistan. The uniform has been issued to individual and small teams of joint expeditionary Airmen since January.

Airman battle uniform (ABU) cannot deliver. These features are important to PRT JET Airmen due to the high number of "outside the wire" tasks they perform to support the international security assistance force mission to bring security, governance, agricultural support, reconstruction and devel-

opment to Afghanistan and its people.

"OCPs have a more advanced camouflage pattern that blends in with the Afghan terrain, making our Airmen safer and more effective on the battlefield," said Lt. Col. Shawna McGowan, Air Force future programs branch chief.

"The material is also flame resistant, lighter weight than the ABS-G or ABU, and contains a pre-applied bug repellent."

OCPs were issued in April to PRT JET Airmen during the two month-long combat skills training at Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, Ind. Some Airmen began wearing the uniform as early as possible to get used to the unique pattern and features. Feedback has been positive.

"OCPs are significantly lighter and breathe easier than ABUs," said Senior Airman Sandra Welch, PRT Khost photographer from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. "ABUs and Arizona equals extreme heat, OCPs and Afghanistan is a much cooler combination."

All of the issued uniforms and equipment for Airmen deploying to Afghanistan are in the OCP pattern. These include the seven-layer extended cold weather clothing system, advanced combat helmet, combat shirt, improved outer tactical vest, ruck sack, assault pack and elbow and knee pads.

While unit patches went away

with the BDUs, Airmen who don OCPs will be able to attach unit identifiers with their uniforms. OCPs mirror the Army combat uniform with velcro name tapes and rank on the chest and velcro unit patches and American flag on the shoulders. JET Airmen stand out from their Soldier and Sailor counterparts wearing OCPs due to their "spice brown"-colored name and service tapes and enlisted ranks.

The first JET Airmen to wear OCPs were a military working dog team aligned with the Army's 10th Mountain Division in January. Air Force-led PRTs can have as much as 38 JET Airmen. These Airmen come from a wider background of career fields, including personnel, logistics, communications, medical, public affairs, services, intelligence, security forces and maintenance.

In a memo dated Sept. 29, 2010 by Lt. Gen. Gilmory Hostage III, U.S. Air Forces Central Command, Southwest Asia, OCPs became the ground-combat uniform to be worn by all Airmen performing missions outside the wire in Afghanistan.

## USS Chung-Hoon joins in Vietnam collaboration today

U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs

DA NANG, VIETNAM – The U.S. Navy began naval exchange activities with the Vietnam People's Navy on July 15 in Da Nang in conjunction with the 16th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

This seven-day collaboration will focus on non-combatant events and skills exchanges in areas such as navigation and maintenance. Medical and dental civic action projects, ship visits, band concerts, community service events, and U.S.-Vietnamese Navy sporting events are also planned. These activities underscore the closer ties between the U.S. and Vietnam.

"This exchange helps our respective Sailors gain a greater understanding of one another and builds



The guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) transits in waters surrounding the island of Oahu during the Koa Kai photo exercise. Hawaii-based surface Navy and other combatant units participated in Koa Kai 11-2, an integrated training event with the goal of attaining deployment certificates and training.

important relationships between our navies for the future," said Rear Adm. Tom Carney, commander, Task Force 73 and commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific.

U.S. units participating

in the naval exchange activities include the guided missile destroyers USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and USS Preble (DDG 88); the rescue and salvage ship USNS

Safeguard (T-ARS 50); Sailors from Task Force 73, Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific, and a mobile diving and salvage detachment.

The U.S. Navy has had several successful port vis-

its to Vietnam in recent years. In 2009, USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) hosted the first-ever fly-out of visitors from Vietnam to a U.S. aircraft carrier, and the U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) and

the destroyer USS Lassen (DDG 82), commanded by H.B. Le, a Vietnamese-American, visited in November 2009.

In 2010, another fly-out of visitors occurred to USS George Washington (CVN 73), and USS John S. McCain (DDG 56) visited Da Nang as part of naval exchange activities. USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) also visited Vietnam in May 2010 as part of a large-scale humanitarian assistance mission, Pacific Partnership.

In addition to port visits, two U.S. Navy military sealift command ships have undergone voyage repairs at Vietnamese shipyards. Safeguard (T-ARS 50) had work completed at Saigon Shipmarine shipyard in August-September 2009, and USNS Richard E. Byrd (T-AKE 4) in February-March 2010 had work done by Cam Rahn shipyard, at Hong Koi port, Van Phong Bay.

# Warrior of the Week: DC1 Floresdiaz has sights on Navy career

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

A Hawaii-based petty officer thought he would get out of the Navy because of Perform-to-Serve (PTS), but when he was selected for the next rank he said it felt like something heavy fell off his back.

Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Hector Floresdiaz, who is an instructor and course manager assigned to the Center for Naval Engineering Learning Site Pearl Harbor (CNE LS PH), has been in the Navy for more than nine years. During his military career, he has served aboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) in Japan and USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) in Italy.

Initially, Floresdiaz did not worry about PTS. He had five consecutive "early promote" recommendations in his evaluation and fitness reports. He recently returned from an individual augmented deployment to Iraq. As

one of the top instructors at the CNE LS PH, Floresdiaz earned praise from his chain of command causing him to relax during the PTS process.

According to Naval Personnel Command, PTS is designed to help the Navy keep the best and brightest Sailors while shaping the Navy force to meet future requirements. Sailors E6 and below with less than 14 years in the Navy must apply for a PTS quota to re-enlist. Using Fleet RIDE (Rating Identification Engine), Sailors are given the option to choose to stay in-rate or convert to a different rating. The number of available quotas is different for every rate and rating and changes every month based on needs of the Navy and status of current inventory.

Unfortunately for Floresdiaz, he was not awarded one quota up to his last look on May 2011.

"When they told me no, I was worried," said Floresdiaz. "I told my career counselor to put me in for whatever rate available, I don't care, so long as it keeps my foot in the door. So on the last one, the

sixth one came in. They said, "no, you didn't get accepted." "That's when it hit me, I'm out," said Floresdiaz. "It was horrible, man. Nobody expected that. I guess it's because I don't have the right NEC (Navy enlisted classification code). I guess I didn't make first class fast enough. I tried to stay positive, even though I was going to get kicked out."

Dejected, Floresdiaz began making plans for life outside the military. He opted to join the Reserves so as to keep a foot in the door.

"The hardest part was where we were going to live," said Floresdiaz. "I was from California, but I didn't want to go back. If I had a choice, if I knew a year out that I was getting out, I would start a year out to go look for a place, choose a state where I want to stay. But with such s h o r t

notice, we were scrambling just to get anything, any job anywhere. Unfortunately, for me, even though I have almost nine years of fire fighting experience, it didn't help me get a job out there as a fire fighter. Anything you do out there, you got to have a degree somehow," he explained.

Toward the end of May, Floresdiaz's leading chief petty officer, Chief Damage Controlman Tommy Thompson, encouraged Floresdiaz to look at his profile sheet which contained the results of his last advancement cycle.

"When I saw the word 'selected,' I did not understand," said Floresdiaz. "I was two weeks away from taking terminal leave. Everybody kept telling me to look at my profile sheet. I said I'm not going to look at it. What for? It doesn't matter. I didn't want to even pay attention to that."

After seeing the word 'selected' in his profile sheet,

Floresdiaz said his chief began calling several people, including at Naval Personnel Command, to confirm the advancement and the possibility for Floresdiaz to stay in the Navy.

Later, Floresdiaz and Thompson received an email with an attached memorandum from Rear Adm. Anthony Kurta, the director of military personnel plans and policy, stating that in-rate quotas will be granted to qualified Sailors advanced via Navy-wide advancement exam within 12 months of separation.

"It was like something heavy just fell off my back," said Floresdiaz. "It was like I was carrying a rock, and then all of a sudden the rock was not there."

Relieved, Floresdiaz began preparations for his re-enlistment for the maximum of six years in the Navy. He is scheduled to re-enlist on July 19.

"Don't think that just because you're a great Sailor and you follow all the rules that means you are going to stay in," said Floresdiaz. "My advice to other personnel is for you to get your ASVAB score higher. Study for the test if you still have that time because it does make a difference."

Today, Floresdiaz said he hopes to continue his career in the Navy to complete his full 20 years before retiring. He hopes to return to Japan and one day earn a degree.

"I definitely want to thank the top management. If it wasn't for their support, I would have went crazy during this time. They gave me all the time I needed to take care of the things I needed to take care of. They were behind my back and making sure I was okay. Every Sailor needs that. Every Sailor needs their chain-of-command to be behind them because, if not, it doesn't work."



**DAMAGE CONTROLMAN 1ST CLASS (SW) HECTOR FLORESDIAZ**



## Diverse Views



What are you doing to help support the Navy's effort in energy conservation?



BM2 (SW) Abed Menard

"As a pier supervisor, one of my jobs is to make sure all electronics and lights are off when not in use."

BM2 (SW/AW) William Busby III



"At the end of the day, I make sure to shut off all of the lights and turn off the AC units so it doesn't waste electricity."



EN2 (SW) Daniel Nieves

"The Arizona Memorial white boats that we use are bio-diesel and are eco-friendly because they produce less emission."

(Provided by MC2 Robert Stirrup)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

## Giving 'props' to the aircraft at Hickam



Photo courtesy of T. Merrill, retired 154th Wing historian

A Hawaii Air National Guard 199th Fighter Squadron F-47N "Thunderbolt" is parked on the ramp at the former Hickam Air Force Base, circa 1947-1948. This rare photo shows markings that were quickly replaced by standard USAF and ANG markings. Shown are the unusual "HNG" (Hawaii National Guard) marking and the Hawaii National Guard's "Key To The Pacific" emblem where the USAF star would later go.

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## Upcoming blood drives scheduled

Summer is here, and the Armed Services Blood Program wants to remind you that donations are still needed now. Blood drives will be held:

- July 19 and 20, 84th Engineers Battalion (6:30-11:30 a.m.) Schofield
- July 27, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Systems Center (9 a.m.-1 p.m.), Pearl City
- July 29, Schofield Exchange (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- Aug. 9, Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- Aug. 10, 205th MI Battalion (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) Fort Shafter building 520
- Aug. 15, Schofield Health Clinic (10 a.m.-3 p.m.)
- Aug. 16 Camp Smith (8 a.m.-1 p.m.) Pollock Theater

# Midshipmen learn lessons at sea aboard Lake Erie

Story and photo by  
Ensign Kelly E. Waller

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)  
Public Affairs Officer

Eleven midshipmen came aboard USS Lake Erie (CG 70) to gain firsthand experience on a warship, including learning man overboard drills and engineering, while having the opportunity to fire crew serve weapons.

The Pearl Harbor-based Aegis cruiser continuously trains to maintain deterrence at sea. Joining the Lake Erie from the U.S. Naval Academy and NROTC units from universities across the country, the midshipmen recently embarked Lake Erie for their summer training cruises, each paired with running mates.

Running mates included both officer and enlisted personnel and act as mentors. Midshipmen followed them on a daily basis, assisted in daily routines, and asked questions to gain a better understanding of shipboard life.

Capt. William Johnson, the commanding officer of Lake Erie, decided to integrate the midshipman into the crew, offering them unparalleled opportunities for education and excitement at sea.

"The midshipmen learned about maritime air defense as and Aegis ballistic missile



Midshipmen aboard USS Lake Erie (CG 70) are taught how to fire an MT 240.

defense while aboard. This was a great learning opportunity, and we kept the mids very busy," explained Johnson.

One important exercise is the man overboard drill. Johnson allowed the first and second class midshipmen to act as conning officers during the procedures. The

role of the conning officer is to control the ship's movement via throttle and rudder orders given to the helm. It is his or her responsibility to quickly return to the overboard Sailor and precisely maneuver the ship to facilitate the swiftest and safest recovery.

"I enjoyed having the

conn. Exploring the main spaces after the drill to see how my orders affected the ship's movement was a great experience," said Midshipman 2nd Class Matthew Rosenfeld of the Illinois Institute of Technology. "The intricate engineering systems are incredible and also a bit overwhelming to

piece together."

The effort of every Sailor is required as the crew must have full accountability of all personnel on board and be prepared to lower the RHIBs (rigid-hull inflatable boats) to the water, with a search and rescue swimmer on standby.

An operationally ready engineering plant is crucial

to successfully recovering a man overboard. In order to minimize the amount of time a Sailor is in the water, the conning officer requires full power of all four of the ship's engines and full use of her rudder. Each midshipman had the opportunity to grasp the significance and importance of conducting man overboard drills.

"Having the midshipmen aboard is a real treat," said Johnson. "We have the opportunity to show off this great ship while informing the future officers as to life on board, both as a junior officer or as enlisted personnel so that the midshipmen may make positive career choices in their future."

Beyond man overboard drills in a seamanship training environment, the gunners' mates made ready their weapons. Firing rounds is one of the most exciting scenarios in which any midshipman can participate.

Midshipman 2nd Class Mark Banigan from Texas A&M was the first to fire off the starboard bridge wing. "Shooting the 240 was an awesome experience," said Banigan. "Learning radar systems and Aegis with my running mate was an eye opener. Also, sitting in on the operations/intelligence brief gave me the opportunity to see the smaller details to the overall picture."

## USS Lake Erie qualifies for 17th consecutive Blue 'E'

Ensign Kelly E. Waller

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)  
Public Affairs Officer

USS Lake Erie (CG 70) qualified for its 17th consecutive Blue 'E,' achieving high scores in the supply department, ship's store and food service excellence.

The ship's supply department qualified for its 17th consecutive Blue 'E' with an overall score of "outstanding," signifying another year of excellence in the supply department.

The retail operations division qualified for the Ship's Store Excellence Award and with a score of 97 percent, they are a front runner for the NEXCOM Best in Class award.

The food service division scored a "98 percent" during the supply management certification (SMC) inspection, which was the highest score on the Pearl Harbor waterfront in more than two



U.S. Navy photo by ET3 Matthew Rodriguez

The supply department of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) earned its 17th consecutive Blue 'E.'

years. This earned a nomination for the 2011 Robert F. Ney Award for food ser-

vice excellence. "This award recognizes a full team effort from auxil-

iary men, electricians, culinary specialists and ship's servicemen," said Capt. William Johnson, commanding officer of Lake Erie. "Everyone pulled together toward the common goal which was the pinnacle of months of preparation. Thank you to the Afloat Training Group that assisted us in achieving these superior marks," Johnson said.

SMC is a thorough inspection of all facets of supply, which occurs every 24 months and includes, but is not limited to, ship's store operations, food service operations, logistics readiness and accountability, hazardous materials management and postal operations.

Preparations were being rounded up off the coast of California just prior to the SMC inspection. Between port visits and a busy operational schedule, the ship pulled together its efforts, resulting in a successful

completion to an intense inspection.

"The crew takes pride in what they do," said Senior Chief Logistics Specialist Reynaldo Katigbak.

Katigbak, who has led the ship in preparations for the inspection. "It is the ownership attitude that separates us from other ships."

"I'm very proud of my team's ability to pull together and work diligently towards meeting my expectations for SMC," said Lt. Chris Roesner, supply officer. "We would not have been successful without support from the engineers who kept our gear running and information technicians who ensured our operating systems were in top notch condition," he explained.

Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Kristoff Morgan was noticed by the inspection team for his professional and military bearing. "I was just doing my job," said Morgan. "My electrical team takes

pride in their work, which is exactly what I train them to do."

The Sailors behind the efforts received bravo zulus from the inspectors for their work. A bravo zulu is a naval signal and phrase meaning 'well done' and is used to recognize those who have stood out among their peers. The Sailors worked overtime in the evenings and on weekends to complete the job.

Ship's Serviceman Seaman Justin Corbin received an outstanding job in the ship's store, resulting in the ship's store being recommended as the best food storeroom on the waterfront.

"It has become a tradition for USS Lake Erie to earn the Blue 'E' and it feels an honor to take in continuing the tradition," said Corbin. "The division as a whole worked to ensure its success by working long hours days and night."

Commentary

## A humbled Sailor

MC1 (EXW) Donald Randall

Do you believe in fate? I like to think that I don't, but today made me question that belief once again.

Today, I went to a post office I do not use often, a

few days later than I had intended. While in line, I offered my place to someone with a baby. The young father declined. This put me in front of a very somber looking postman.

He looked at my khaki uniform and asked what branch I was in. I told him Navy. He said, "My son was a Marine." I explained the new uniform to him and how the Marines got a kick

out of teasing the "Marine wanna be" uniforms.

"Have you been to Afghanistan?" he asked. I told him no and proceeded to explain where I had been. The post man stuck out a shaky hand and thanked me for my service. Then with tears in his eyes, he said, "My son did not make it back."

I was absolutely floored. I awkwardly expressed my

condolences and promised to offer up a prayer for his son. I did not really know what to say.

He thanked me again for my services, shook my hand again and made a hasty retreat to the back room. When he shook my hand, I felt the hand of my father. He was almost tender. Maybe he felt the hand of his son. I know in some way I reminded him of his son.

Every day, young men and women in uniform go into harm's way to defend freedom and democracy around the world. Today, a man who paid the ultimate price thanked me. It is I who should thank him.

I was very humbled today. I shall strive to be a better Sailor because of it. Maybe there was a reason I was in that post office today.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



The guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) gets underway after departing dry dock four at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard on July 6 following a maintenance availability under the Navy's cruiser modernization program (CMP). The goal of CMP is to ensure achievement of the 35-year expected service life for each of the Navy's 22 Ticonderoga-class cruisers.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup



(Left) Army Medical Lab Specialist Sgt. Jeremiah Jackson from Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) Blood Donor Unit draws blood from Chief Logistics Specialist Matt Edwards of Naval Submarine Support Command (NSSC) during the NSSC blood drive July 11 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Hosted by the Armed Services Blood Program and the blood donor unit from TAMC, the donations will be used in support of surgical needs at military medical units throughout Iraq and Afghanistan.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Guttridge

(Right) Yeoman 2nd Class (SS) Thomas Holt of Naval Submarine Support Command (NSSC) donates blood during the NSSC blood drive July 11 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Hosted by the Armed Services Blood Program and the blood donor unit from Tripler Army Medical Center, the donations will be used in support of surgical needs at military medical units throughout Iraq and Afghanistan.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Guttridge



U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Renee' Acosta presents Maj. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, Pacific Air Forces director of operations, plans, requirements and programs, with an oversized check for Combined Federal Campaign overseas donations to the Family Support and Youth Programs during the PACAF staff meeting July 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Edward Schulz blows bubbles while a Micronesian girl tries to catch them at the Nanpei medical civic action project site during Pacific Partnership 2011.

U.S. Navy photo by Kristopher Radder



## Pacific Partnership teams up with University of Hawaii to provide humanitarian aid

MC3 Christopher Farrington

Pacific Partnership 2011  
Public Affairs

POHNPEI, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) (NNS) -- The University of Hawaii teamed up with Pacific Partnership 2011 to create a partnership with the university's school of nursing on July 7.

The University of Hawaii's school of nursing will work with Pacific Partnership, an annual humanitarian assistance initiative sponsored by the U.S. Pacific Fleet, to provide medical aid and educational outreach to the South Pacific and Oceania regions.

"Pacific Partnership is a great opportunity to work together on numerous humanitarian projects that will benefit the people of the region," said Teresa Parsons, an Army colonel (ret.) and professor of nursing at the University of Hawaii. "The Navy is able to transport a large amount of supplies and personnel to the Pacific. At the same



U.S. Navy photo by Eli J

Lt. Cmdr. Margaret Bayard uses a training prop to demonstrate neonatal resuscitation at a subject matter expert exchange with nurses and health care providers at the Pohnpei State Department of Health Services during Pacific Partnership 2011.

time, the university has long standing relationships with these countries that have been strengthened through various volunteer and study abroad programs over the years."

Parsons is the first representative from the University of Hawaii to participate in Pacific Partnership. She is currently embarked aboard the amphibious transport

dock ship USS Cleveland (LPD 7), which is the flagship for Pacific Partnership 2011. She travels ashore almost every day to engage in medical capacity programs for the

people of FSM.

"The university has a robust group of individuals, faculty and students, with diverse backgrounds in medical care that are eager to interact with the people in the region," Parsons continued. "Students will also learn about the local culture and about the different types of medicine and diseases in that part of the world."

Although only two members of the university faculty are participating this year, the university plans to assign more faculty and students to the Pacific Partnership 2012 mission, where they will work side-by-side with Navy corpsmen and doctors and medical contingents from Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and other countries.

"The growth of the University of Hawaii program will bring an even larger 'whole of government' approach to humanitarian assistance missions like Pacific Partnership," said Capt. Jesse A. Wilson, Pacific Partnership 2011 mission commander and

commander, Destroyer Squadron 23. "Pacific Partnership will be able to benefit from the University of Hawaii's longstanding relationships with the people of the Pacific and utilize subject matter experts like Professor Parsons," Wilson explained.

Wilson believes this partnership will expand the vision for Pacific Partnership and help improve lasting relationships in the region.

"It will be a unique experience for our Navy and partner nation medical contingent working together with the University of Hawaii's school of nursing," continued Wilson. "Our combined team will be able to share experiences and expertise to the benefit of the host nation people we work with and serve."

Aimed at improving interoperability between host and partner nations, Pacific Partnership 2011 has completed its mission in Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste and is currently in the Federated States of Micronesia.

## NPC reminds Sailors to register dependents in DEERS, keep enrollments current

MC3 Andrea Smithluedke

Navy Personnel Command  
Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) -- Navy Personnel Command (NPC) reminded Sailors on July 5 to enroll new spouses in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS).

In addition to marriage, Sailors must update DEERS within 60 days of any other life-changing event such as divorce, birth of a child or adoption and death of a dependent. Failure to do so could result in breaks in eligibility for family members.

"DEERS is an automated information system which maintains critical data on service members and dependents, that is used to determine eligibility for military benefits and entitlements," said Kathy Wardlaw, records management and benefits division director, NPC.

DEERS maintains more than 23 million personnel-and-benefits records for active-duty, Reservists,

retired military, Department of Defense (DOD) contractors and civil service personnel and their families.

The system is also responsible for producing DOD identification (ID) cards, including common access cards, and supports delivery of medical, dental, educational and life insurance benefits.

Previously, DEERS could be accessed through the myDODbenefits Portal on the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) Web site. The online system has been upgraded and can now be accessed through the website milConnect. Sponsors and eligible beneficiaries can still access DEERS through the DMDC website under 'beneficiaries' or users can go directly to the new milConnect website, <http://milconnect.dmdc.mil/>.

Sponsors, spouses and eligible beneficiaries over 18 years old are able to perform the following functions on milConnect: update contact information in DEERS instantly, view current health care eligibility, man-



U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Angela Webb

Senior Chief Explosive Ordnance technician Aaron Ryan and his bride, Barbara Borowy, pose for photographers in Times Square following their wedding ceremony on the famed military island. They joined four other military couples pledging their love and commitment for each other, as well as the country, in a ceremony covered widely by the New York media.

age TRICARE enrollments, locate the nearest military ID card issuing facility, view personnel information, transfer post-9/11 G.I. Bill benefits to eligible family members, update civilian employment information, view Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) information, obtain proof of insurance if currently in a TRICARE-managed program, find answers to frequently asked questions about health care eligibility and more.

"Most Sailors assume that changing their record of emergency data (page 2) will automatically update their DEERS status, but they are two separate data systems," said Wardlaw. "The page 2 is a Navy data input into the Navy personnel system and DEERS is the official DOD repository for family member information."

Contact information in DEERS can be updated online, in-person, by phone, fax or mail. Two secure online options are either the new milConnect website or TRICARE Beneficiary Web

Enrollment Web site. Both are available to people who have an active Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS)-issued myPay personal identification number.

For those who would like to update their DEERS information in person, the Real-time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) site locator online allows service members and beneficiaries to locate RAPIDS site nearest to them. More than 900 RAPIDS sites in 23 different countries use DEERS data to provide ID cards or related personnel support to eligible persons.

Beneficiaries can call the DMDC support office at 800-538-9552 to update addresses, e-mail addresses and phone numbers. Changes can also be faxed to 831-655-8317, or mailed to DMDC Support Office, 400 Gigling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771. Any other questions regarding DEERS can be directed to the NPC Customer Service Center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC.

## Pearl Harbor commissary takes inventory

Pearl Harbor commissary will conduct its annual accountability inventory July 20.

The adjusted store hours for July 20 will be from 9

a.m. to 3 p.m. The entire operation will be inventoried, and the store will re-open for normal business at 9 a.m. July 21.

# NAVFAC Hawaii archaeologist begins site monitoring project

Story and photo by Thomas Obungen

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Public Affairs

Jeff Pantaleo, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii's first archaeologist, recently began a large-scale site monitoring project at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

The project involves drilling and evaluating soil cores on JBPHH land that will be developed in the future. Due to its location, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) designated the site as critical for Native Hawaiian remains and artifacts, which means sampling is needed to determine that new construction will not disturb anything buried at the location.

"There's a delicate balance between preserving the Native Hawaiian cul-



Jeff Pantaleo (center), Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii's first archaeologist, points out proposed coring locations with the potential for discovery of artifacts to Jeff Fong, an archaeologist at NAVFAC Pacific, and April Teekell, an environmental planner with NAVFAC Hawaii. The displaced soil will be surveyed to determine that the site is suitable for new construction.

ture and fulfilling the Navy's mission," said Pantaleo. "It's manageable if you have the right information and can communi-

cate well with both parties."

As part of the command's environmental planning team, Pantaleo

oversees preliminary and emergency site evaluations of projects in culturally sensitive areas on JBPHH, which is home to national

historic landmarks, such as the USS Arizona and Hickam Field, and native Hawaiian sites.

"Having an archaeologist on staff provides real time response on historic and cultural issues while lessening the load on our sister command, NAVFAC Pacific, who has provided reach-back support for projects in the past" said Andy Huang, NAVFAC Hawaii supervisory environmental engineer.

Since coming aboard in late April, Pantaleo has been acclimating himself to Navy policies and reviewing previous projects that were supported by archaeologists from NAVFAC Pacific. Prior to joining NAVFAC Hawaii, he worked for the Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and, before that, as the contracted lead archaeologist at the former Hickam Air Force Base.

Although new to the

command, he is not a novice when it comes to archaeology. With more than 30 years of experience, he has developed healthy working relationships with many state regulators and local historic groups.

When he is not in the field, Pantaleo is the Navy's liaison during National Historic Preservation Act consultations with the Hawaii SHPO, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Historic Hawaii Foundation and other local groups.

A Chicago native, Pantaleo came to Hawaii with an interest in volcanoes and the desire to study geology. That quickly changed to archaeology when he took a class that melded the two. He earned his degree from the University of Hawaii Manoa and received his graduate degree from San Diego State before starting his career at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

# Social networking sites could affect your security clearance

Robert J. Lauderdale

15th Wing Information Protection Office, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam

If you are a military service member or a Department of Defense (DoD) employee, and you possess a security clearance or if you ever want to apply for one, be mindful of your postings and contacts online, particularly on social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

Information placed on these sites and potential contacts may pose risks to gaining and keeping a security clearance. Question 14 of the National Agency

Questionnaire (SF-86) asks for names of your relatives and associates.

The term "associate" is defined as any foreign national that you or your spouse are bound to by affection, obligation, or close and continuing contact. Continuing contact with a foreign national used to include a clear exchange between both parties, visits outside the coun-

try, mail, phone calls or e-mails. Social networking sites bring a gray area into the definition of an associate and continuing con-

tact. Your list of friends on Facebook may include foreign nationals,



or you could have foreign followers on your Twitter page. The current major questions include: Is giving a foreign national access to your social networking page as a "friend" considered close and continuing contact, even if you never directly message contacted them? Is having access to your updated information enough for a

person to be considered an associate?

Unfortunately, this uncharted territory can ensnare a potential or current clearance holder. Foreign intelligence agencies have used social networking sites in an attempt to gather information. They have been known to befriend Facebook users who automatically accept their "friend" requests.

When dealing with a security clearance, keep in mind the HAM principles: honesty, accuracy and mitigation. Honesty and accuracy are the most important factors when filling out an SF-86 questionnaire. It is always better to report a contact that could jeopardize your clearance

than to appear evasive or dishonest.

During an interview following your SF-86 submission, you will be asked more questions about your background. Discuss any concerns with an attorney before the interview. An attorney's advice can give you a better chance at reversing an adverse determination.

If a disqualifying condition is found, you want to show that the issue is not as severe as it appears. If you receive a letter of intent to deny or revoke a clearance, you could have as little as 45 days to respond. The appeal must be a thorough brief that emphasizes mitigating factors and cites relevant legal precedents.

## Turn off lights when not needed

(Provided by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii Energy Team)

### MYTH

It's better to leave fluorescent lights on rather than turning them off when you leave a room, since turning them on and off makes the bulb burn out faster.

### REALITY

While it is true that

switching fluorescent lights on and off does shorten the operating life of the bulbs, it is also true that their operating life is shortened by leaving them lit. Leaving a light on when the room is empty also consumes unnecessary energy. Unless the switching frequency is greater than once every few minutes, it is generally cost effective to turn the lights off as needed.



# New Hawaii law assists homeowners facing foreclosure

Michael R. Vieira

Naval Legal Service Office  
Pacific, Detachment Pearl  
Harbor

Nearly 24,000 foreclosure actions were initiated in Hawaii over the past two years. Recently, however, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie signed Act 48, a new law making it more difficult and time consuming for lenders to foreclose.

In Hawaii, lenders may elect to foreclose either judicially (through a court process) or, if the mortgage includes certain language, nonjudicially. In the majority of cases, lenders choose to proceed nonjudicially, as the lack of court involvement

often results in a quicker foreclosure with fewer expenses to be borne by the lender. Act 48 amends Hawaii's prior foreclosure laws and creates what has been dubbed as one of the nation's toughest foreclosure laws.

## End to nonjudicial foreclosures

Act 48 provides a one-year moratorium on certain nonjudicial foreclosures, called Part I foreclosures (Part I refers to the set of Hawaii laws that most lenders follow to conduct nonjudicial foreclosures). Although lenders which have already started nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings are not barred from completing the

process, no new proceedings can be commenced until July 2012. While there is another type of nonjudicial foreclosure called a Part II nonjudicial foreclosure, due to onerous requirements, virtually no lenders pursue Part II nonjudicial foreclosures. The practical reality of this is that it is unlikely that lenders will be proceeding with nonjudicial foreclosures in the next year.

## Dispute resolution process

Act 48 also creates a "dispute resolution" process, providing borrowers who are owner-occupants a forum to negotiate an agreement to avoid foreclosure or minimize their damages in cases

where foreclosure is unavoidable. Through this process, borrowers may force the lender to attend a meeting moderated by a neutral facilitator before the foreclosure can continue. A similar dispute resolution process in Nevada reportedly assisted 46 percent of homeowners in the program to avoid foreclosure.

The dispute resolution process benefits struggling homeowners as many borrowers have unsuccessfully tried to communicate with their lender to discuss repayment plans or loan modifications. Many times, the homeowner is unable to reach any representative who can provide them with real solutions. In fact, many

homeowners have been told by their lenders that their loan modification proposal is being reviewed only to later learn that during the evaluation period, the home was auctioned. The new program prevents the lender from completing the foreclosure during the dispute resolution process and during pending loan modification negotiations.

## Conversion to judicial foreclosure

Under Act 48, in the event that the borrower wishes to dispute the lender's ability to foreclose, the borrower may convert a nonjudicial foreclosure to a judicial action. This provision also applies to pending nonjudicial foreclo-

sure which were started before the law was enacted.

The law will not prevent foreclosure. Despite the creation of a dispute resolution process, the law does not require that a lender modify a borrower's loan or waive amounts due. Nevertheless, the law may help some homeowners by bringing the lender to the negotiating table. Struggling homeowners should consult with an attorney and begin considering their options before foreclosure proceedings are commenced.

*An attorney at the Naval Legal Service Office Pacific can assist you for free. Call (808) 473-4717 or DSN (315) 473-4717 for information or to schedule an appointment.*

## New operations facilities to be built in Hawaii

Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities  
Engineering Command  
Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii awarded a \$13 million, firm fixed-price task order to Watts-Healy Tibbitts Joint Venture of Honolulu, under a multiple-award construction contract for new operations facilities at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH).

The project will include the demolition of four severely deteriorated, inadequate semi-permanent structures that were built in the 1970s.

They will be replaced with two new buildings that will consolidate MCBH's waterfront operations department and expand current storage capabilities.

"The facilities in use today are temporary metal/wood framed structures which, due to age and prolonged

exposure to the elements, have deteriorated to the point where structural integrity is compromised," said Lyle Fong, MCBH architect. "We are extremely excited that the new buildings will provide our military personnel with modern facilities where they will be able to effectively execute their mission."

The work to be performed provides for the design and construction of two new buildings. The first is a low-rise, reinforced concrete building that includes a disaster response emergency operations center, office spaces, quarterdeck, training room, lounge, bunk rooms and bathroom facilities. The second facility will be a one-story, pre-engineered metal building to support maintenance operations.

Four proposals were received for this task order, and the project is expected to be completed in January 2014.

## Army tries remote recovery

Continued from A-1

a remotely-operated vehicle and techniques adapted from underwater search and recovery efforts.

EHDS consists of a band saw and radiant/convection batch ovens, or RCBO. EHDS's cutting technology is designed to remotely cut recovered military munitions to expose the explosive fill compounds for thermal treatment in the RCBO.

The remote cutting of military munitions also constitutes demilitarization.

The EHDS's RCBO is designed to thermally treat an explosive compound fill until it non-explosively

decomposes and degrades into nonhazardous materials.

After thermal treatment, any resulting scrap metal will be inspected and, if appropriate, documented as safe, making it available for recycling.

"When we are done with the process, all we have is the steel, which we recycle locally," said Spencer Nelsen, ARA Inc.

The Army plans to post updates throughout the demonstration and upon completion of the performance of this project, including video from the various remotely-operated vehicles.

For more information, visit [ordnancereefhawaii.org](http://ordnancereefhawaii.org).

## PSD to have limited appointments July 19-22

The CAD/ID card site at Personnel Support Detachment, Pearl Harbor will be operating at a reduced capacity from July 19-22 to support DEERS/RAPIDS hardware upgrades.

There will be a limited number of appointment reservations available online and anticipate lengthy wait times

for walk in appointments. Normal operations are expected to resume July 25.

To schedule an appointment or locate an alternative CAC/ID card site, visit <http://appointments.cac.navy.mil>.

For more information call 471-2405, ext. 5209 or email [jerry.batorne.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:jerry.batorne.ctr@navy.mil).

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

July 21 – Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

July 28 – Pets for Patriots

Aug. 4 – UH/Pacific Partnership 2011

Aug. 11 – PHNSY apprentice graduation

Aug. 18 – Pacific Aviation Museum Biggest Little Airshow

(The segments currently air between 6:20 and 6:30 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONavy>)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?

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