

Ponds selected grand marshal for Martin Luther King Jr. Parade

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Rear Adm. Frank L. Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, has been selected to be the grand marshal for the 25th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade Jan. 21.

The parade will begin at 9 a.m. from Ala Moana Park's Magic Island and end at Kapiolani Park, where the Unity Rally featuring entertainment and food will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

January 21, 2013 will mark the 25th anniversary of the Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday in Hawaii. Gov. John Waihee proclaimed the first Hawaii Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Jan. 16, 1989. President Ronald Reagan signed the law proclaiming Martin Luther King, Jr. Day a federal holiday on Nov. 2, 1983.

Like the late King, Ponds hails from the South.

"I grew up in the rural Alabama tri city area of Selma, Montgomery and Birmingham in the 1960s," he said. "I saw the impact of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement first hand. Dr. King's legacy of equality, unity and justice for all is an inspiration to everyone in the world — no matter what creed, color or nationality."

Ponds earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama in 1982. He received his commission from Officer Candidate School in June 1983. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (fifth award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (third award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various service and campaign awards.



Ponds holds a Master of Science Degree in information systems technology from George Washington University, a Master of Science Degree in military studies from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and a Master of Science Degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College, National Defense University. Ponds reported as commander for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific in November 2011.

Pond's accomplishments and position at Pearl Harbor serve as examples of how far African Americans have come in the U.S. Navy.

During World War II non-white Sailors were expected to be messmen, stewards or "cabin boys," regardless of their education or skill levels.

They were not trained for combat, nor did they wear the traditional anchor on their uniforms. Frank Knox, who served as Secretary of the Navy from 1940-44, wrote "the policy of not enlisting men of the colored races for any branch of the naval service but the messmen branch was adopted to meet the best interests of general ship efficiency."

Things began to slowly change after the end of the war and the start of the civil rights movement. By the 1960s and 1970s, African Americans were command-

ing Naval ships, submarines, and shore installations. In 1974, the U.S. Navy issued its first Naval Equal Opportunity Manual. Two years later it issued the first Navy Affirmative Action Plan.

Today, there are 78,000 enlisted African American men and women and an additional 3,000 African American officers serving in the Navy, including 17 active duty admirals. Eleven Navy ships have been named in honor of African Americans.

"Today, the United States

Navy Region Hawaii to hold Martin Luther King Jr. observance

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

The 2013 Navy Region Hawaii Martin Luther King Day observance is scheduled for 10 a.m., Jan. 17 at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel. This one-hour event seeks to promote awareness of the impact Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., had on the civil rights movement in the United States.

Martin Luther King Day celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King, Jr., an influential American civil rights leader. He is best known for his campaign to end racial segregation and promote equality in the United States.

The official party at the event includes Rear Adm. Frank L. Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Capt. Mark S. Manfredi, chief of staff of Navy Region Hawaii, Capt. Brent E. Smith, chief of staff of Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and Captain Sal Aguilera, Navy Region Hawaii command chaplain. Ponds will also serve as guest speaker, and Aguilera will perform the benediction.

A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony.

QM2 Megan Steffy is the coordinating officer for this event. She can be reached at 474-6549.

Navy exemplifies that legacy of equality, unity and justice for all," said Rear Adm. Ponds. "Our military and civilian workforce and supportive family members at Region Hawaii and MID-PAC are a strong, unified and capable team. We are committed to building partnerships, promoting cooperation and protecting the ideals and freedoms for which Dr. King fought and died. Therefore, I am especially proud to serve as Grand Marshal of Hawaii's 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Parade."

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"Today, the United States

Military moms are showered with appreciation

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Forty military mothers and moms-to-be whose spouses are deployed members of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy and Coast Guard, as well as the spouses of several wounded warriors, were honored during Operation Shower "You are my Sunshine," Jan. 8, at the Ka Makani Recreation Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"It was more than I expected, and I kinda felt like I was on Oprah being showered with so much," said Tech. Sgt. Dina Maldonado, 15th Operations Support Squadron, "I didn't expect all this. It's really nice."

Operation Shower is a group baby shower where military moms and moms-to-be are treated to a lunch, and doted on with more than \$1,000 worth of gifts, all donations made by people and businesses across the country supporting military families. The moms also get the opportunity to meet and share stories with other military moms-to-be in similar situations.

"It's always wonderful to be a part of one of these events and have the opportunity to say thank you to the military and the moms specifically," said Holly Finchem, wife of PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem. "In gifting the moms, we know that we are gifting the whole family and saying thank you to the dads as well."



(Above) Danica Elliott, wife of a 25th Combat Aviation Brigade Soldier, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, and daughter Idra, 2, looks at items they picked out of the "Showers in a Box" during Operation Shower, Jan. 8 at the Ka Makani Community Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

During a Hawaiian style lunch of a salad, grilled chicken, rice and dessert, the moms spent time with guests, sponsors and other moms swapping stories about their trials and triumphs during their husbands' absence.

"I love hearing their stories, where their from, how their family is growing, and I enjoy learning a bit about their individual experiences," Finchem said.

For nearly an hour after lunch, the women were showered upon with gift

after gift of appreciation, most of which were surprised to the point of emotional tears.

"Military spouses by nature are proud, as well they should be," Finchem said. "With that pride, sometimes that means they are less willing to accept help and certainly would never ask for it. I do see in these rooms that you don't get that Oprah Winfrey type of reaction when a gift is given because these women are humbled by it. For that reason, it touches us even more. We know how hard they work all the time to be so independent and self-sufficient. That's why it's even

more special to give these gifts."

The highlight of the event and the staple of the Operation Shower organization is their signature "Shower in a Box." Each mom received a box containing an array of unique baby products and gift items for mothers and babies that have been generously donated by companies and event sponsors. From onesies and baby bottles to clothing, crib bedding, diaper bags and toys, the gifts go a long way toward raising the spirits of the moms-to-be, some of whom would not otherwise

See SHOWER, A-4

President, First Lady say aloha



President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama wave farewell to spectators as they board Air Force One before departing Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Jan. 5. The President and his family stayed on the island as part of their annual tradition of vacationing in Oahu during the holidays.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen



The year 2012 in review: celebrating Navy, Air Force teamwork See page A-2



Special frocking ceremony held for Sailor See page A-4



Wounded Warriors split double header against Hickam Airmen See page B-1



Senator Inouye: honor, courage, commitment See page A-3



One night: looking back at Elvis Presley's Bloch Arena concert See page A-6



COMPACFLT tops banner year of intramural sports See page B-2

The year 2012 in review: celebrating Navy, Air Force teamwork

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

January of a new year has arrived, and it is time to take a glimpse back over the past 12 months, celebrating the triumphs and remembering the sad losses.

The year's memories culminated with events surrounding Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Day. Last year marked the 71st anniversary, serving as a solemn reminder for many of the Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans who were able to attend. In 2012, the year's keynote speaker was Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Harkening back to the beginning of the year, in January, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jon Greenert spoke at Navy Region Hawaii and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam about the rebalancing to Asia-Pacific, providing a reminder of Hawaii's strategic importance as the gateway to the western Pacific, reinforcing the need to position ships, submarines and aircraft here in Hawaii-warfighting ready and poised to operate forward.

In February, Airmen from the 15th Wing, 154th Wing, and 647th Air Base Group celebrated successfully completing several inspections.

More than 180 major command evaluators selected from across the Air Force, under the direction of the Pacific Air Forces Inspector General, conducted five major inspections: a consolidated unit inspection, logistics compliance assessment program, standardization and evaluation program for weather operations, airfield operations compliance inspection, and aircrew standardization/evaluation visit.

In May, the 647th Civil Engineer Squadron from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, brought the "bull" to Bellows Air Force Station, Hawaii, to practice their ability to respond to contingency operations worldwide.

In times of crisis or military need, Base Engineer Emergency Force, or PRIME BEEF teams deploy to austere locations and provide runways, water supply facilities, electricity, housing, and other essential facilities to support joint and coalition forces worldwide.

In June the military commemorated another 70th anniversary, the Battle of Midway.

The Navy celebrated this milestone throughout the world because it represented the ingenuity, courage and power of the Navy in turning the tide of World War II. The past year also marked nationwide observances of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 as the Navy demonstrated its commitment to learning the lessons of history.

Then, this past summer, installations on Oahu and Kauai hosted the world's largest international maritime exercise ever conducted, Rim of the Pacific 2012. The Navy and Air Force in Hawaii worked as one team to support RIMPAC's 22 nations, providing 25,000 participants with world-class training, logistics and other support. Some MIDPAC surface ships participated directly in RIMPAC, including in the first demonstration of the Great Green Fleet and the power and potential of renewable energy. Others participated



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert conducts an all hands call to more than 500 Hawaii-based Sailors at Sharkey Theater on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Airmen from the 15th Wing, 154th Wing and 647th Air Base group stand in formation at the consolidated unit inspection outbrief Feb. 17 at JBPHH.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Jay C. Pugh

Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky, left, commanding officer of the PMRF, Barking Sands, along with other volunteers removes an injured green sea turtle from the shores of Nohili at PMRF.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

JBPHH conducted force protection drills during April, as part of Citadel Protect/Citadel Pacific, the Pacific theater's annual anti-terrorism exercise.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines stationed at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, sprint the final leg of the two-mile Team Hickam Warrior Run May 3.



U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

The Navy Region Hawaii Honors and Ceremonies Detachment participates in a ceremony commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Battle of Midway at Midway Atoll June 4.



Photo illustration

Installations on Oahu and Kauai hosted the world's largest international maritime exercise ever conducted, Rim of the Pacific 2012.



U.S. Navy file photo

Volunteers participate in a work day at Pouhala Marsh near Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Exercise participants stay low under "Alarm Red, Mission-Oriented Protective Posture 4" conditions during an Operational Readiness Exercise scenario.



U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Lauren Main

Maj. (Ret.) Drew Dix, a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War and Medal of Honor recipient, speaks to Airmen about his military service while visiting the Pacific Air Forces Headquarters Oct. 4.



Photo illustration

The guided-missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) was decommissioned after nearly 30 years of operations.



Photo illustration

Dec. 7, Pearl Harbor Day, marked the 71st anniversary, serving as a solemn reminder for Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans.

in deployments-spending months away from loved ones-standing the watch, defending freedom.

Joint and coalition partners, including Airmen from Joint Base Pearl Hickam, participated in RIMPAC operations.

In September, Airmen from the 15th Wing, 647th Air Base Group, and 154th Wing participated in an Operational Readiness Exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam focused on testing the ability of Airmen to don Mission-Oriented Protective Posture, or "MOPP" gear, and survive simulated chemical attacks in an austere environment while keeping the mission rolling.

Medal of Honor recipients as part of their convention visited

both sides of Joint Base of Pearl Harbor-Hickam in October to tour the base and share stories of their service.

Most recently, the Navy and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam said farewell to one of its frigates, USS Crommelin (FFG 37), decommissioned after her three decades of service. Then, on Nov. 23, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam welcomed the Navy's newest guided-missile destroyer to its waterfront, USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112). The ship has a heroic namesake, the Navy SEAL who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for action in Afghanistan.

Many of the commands and tenant commands here in Hawaii were recognized by SECNAV and

CNO with awards for environmental stewardship, historic preservation, and energy and water management. They were recognized for their efforts by the late-U.S. Sen. Dan Inouye, who passed away in December, and the Hawaii state legislature.

Whether fighting wildfires, doing beach cleanups, or helping in local school programs, service members, civilians and family members at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii showed citizenship in their communities and gave back to build trust, harmony and cooperation.

The Navy and Air Force team at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam worked in alignment to

meet and exceed the challenges of joint basing.

Hawaiian culture and traditional games took center stage at the makahiki celebration at the Hickam side of the joint base in October, emphasizing the rich history of the people, the deep importance of the land and the spirit of aloha.

In the past year, together, the Navy and Air Force at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam have promoted safety awareness, sexual assault prevention and Spice abuse prevention. They opened state-of-the-art fitness and child development centers, offered job fairs and training programs, and provided Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs for service members and their families.

Senator Inouye: honor, courage, commitment

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

Senator Daniel K. Inouye's dedication to the people of Hawaii for more than half a century was unparalleled. His commitment to a strong national defense base in the Pacific was unmatched.

Well known and well chronicled are his courage on the battlefield, honor in the halls of Congress, and commitment to a strong and ready military. What I remember most, though, was his warm and generous nature, always showing the spirit of Aloha in all he did. He was a teacher and a mentor.

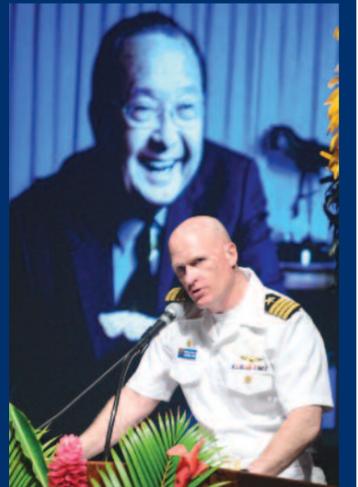
As the incoming commander for Navy Region Hawaii, I met with Senator Inouye in his office in Washington, D.C. Despite his busy schedule as Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, he showed a personal interest in me, my new command and our Navy. We spent an extended time "talking story" about family, service, sacrifice and his love of Hawaii — for the people of the 'aina and for the natural beauty of the islands.

Senator Inouye was a true visionary. He valued education, supported innovation and championed new and renewable sources of



Senator Daniel K. Inouye; Capt. Jeffrey James, commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, participate in a traditional Hawaiian blessing with Kahu Kordell Kekoa during a Oct. 24 grand opening ceremony for the new Ford Island Child Development Center (CDC).

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech Sgt. Michael Holzworth



(Above) Capt. Nicholas Mongillo, commanding officer of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, speaks during a Dec. 28 memorial service honoring the late Senator Daniel Inouye.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Matthew J. Diendorf



(Left) Irene Hirano Inouye, wife of recently deceased Sen. Daniel K. Inouye receives a folded U.S. flag from U.S. Army Pacific Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski during a memorial service in honor of the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific Dec. 23, 2012.

Department of Defense photo by Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth

energy. He also knew that protecting global commerce at sea meant jobs and a growing economy back home.

Demonstrating his devotion to our military and

their families, he made a special point to participate wherever possible in ground breaking ceremonies or grand openings at our installations — from operational facilities at Pacific

Missile Range Facility on Kauai to the newest Ford Island Child Development Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam last October.

Throughout his lifetime,

Senator Inouye epitomized honor, courage and commitment. He cared for and about people. He believed in inclusion, cooperation and strength of character. He believed that a strong mili-

tary — ready at all times — can prevent war. He was a truly great American hero, and he will be missed.

This commentary by Rear Adm. Ponds appeared on the Navy Blog Dec. 20, 2012.

Naval Inspector General to conduct area visit, climate survey

Navy Region Hawaii Inspector General

The Naval Inspector General (NAVINGEN) will conduct an area visit to Hawaii from March 7 to 22. Approximately 40 inspectors will visit vari-

ous Navy commands, including Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Pacific Missile Range Facility, Navy Information Operations Command, Hawaii, Naval Operational Support

Center, Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, and others as determined by NAVINGEN.

The main focus of area visits is quality of life and quality of work life for the fleet, fighter and family members, with a secondary focus on ensuring that statutory and regulatory programs are implemented and are being complied with across the area visited.

NAVINGEN requests that all Navy personnel in Hawaii, including active duty military, civilians and active duty spouses, participate in a short online climate survey to evaluate command climate and quality of work life.

One survey will target all military and civilian (excluding contractors) personnel assigned to Navy commands in Hawaii, and the other survey will target active duty

spouses to obtain the Navy family perspective. Maximum participation in the surveys is encouraged.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, stated, "This is a great opportunity to let big Navy know what you think about the various issues affecting quality of Navy life in Hawaii. As one who previously served on the NAVINGEN team, I

know that participating in this survey is time well spent, and NAVINGEN is listening to your concerns."

The on line survey has begun and will be open through Feb. 8 at: <http://www.ig.navy.mil/Hawaii-AreaVisit.htm>.

For more information, call Lt. j.g. Stephanie Menzen at 473-2206, or the Navy Region Hawaii Inspector General, John Cosson, at 471-1958.

Diverse Views



"In your opinion what was the best military movie ever made and why?"



Tech. Sgt. Sean Warnet
624 Regional Support Group

"'Jarhead' — most realistic of my personal experience."

IT2 Katherine Sourivong
Navy Region Hawaii



"'Men of Honor' about a famous Navy diver. I saw it before I joined the Navy. I was impressed by the challenges he had to overcome. He was very admirable and honorable."



Master Sgt. Mike VonAhnen
15th Medical Group

"'Saving Private Ryan' — World War II vets verified that the opening beach scene was nearly as it was during the actual 6 Jun 44 invasion. The entire movie is awesome! Thanks to the Greatest generation."

Lt. Cmdr. Kaarin Coe
Navy Region Hawaii



"'A Few Good Men.' I liked Jack Nicholson's character. He seemed like a real Marine — very patriotic and very passionate. I first saw the movie as a civilian. I like it a little less now that I'm in the Navy."



Senior Master Sgt. James Kenwolf
48th Aerial Port Squadron

"'Glory' - Civil War timeframe. The story truly captures the racial barriers of that time in America's history. It dealt with diversity and abolishing slavery, and is a testament of what truly makes this country great."

QM2 Megan Steffy
Navy Region Hawaii



"'The Guardian' is a movie about Coast Guard rescue teams. It made me realize what rescues divers do, and it touched my heart knowing that they go to save someone else's life even though they may die themselves."

(Provided by David Underwood Jr. and Brandon Bosworth)

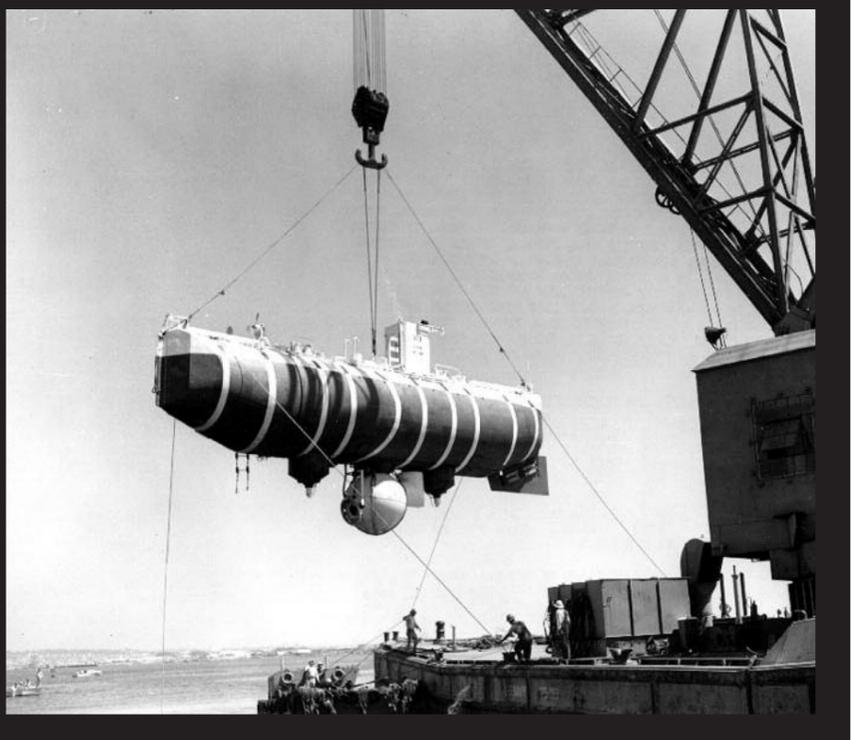
Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views?
Got opinions to share?

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

Bathyscaphe Trieste made history with Navy

On Jan. 23, 1960, the bathyscaphe Trieste made history when it reached the deepest part of the world's oceans, descending seven miles to the bottom of Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench off Guam. Trieste, a deep-diving research bathyscaphe, was launched in 1953 near Naples, Italy, by the Swiss scientist Auguste Piccard. After several years of operations in the Mediterranean, it was purchased by the U.S. Navy. Trieste conducted tests in the Pacific during the next several years, including a dive to the deepest part of the ocean in January 1960. In 1963, Trieste went to the Atlantic and searched for the lost submarine USS Thresher (SSN 593).

Photo courtesy of the Naval History and Heritage Command



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Patrol Squadron Nine returns home from deployment

Lt. j.g. Nicholas Henderson

Patrol Squadron Nine Public Affairs

As the last Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) P-3 Orion touched down at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, after more than six months abroad, the Golden Eagles were finally home.

The Golden Eagles officially ended their deployment on Dec. 12 when Cmdr. Craig T. Mattingly, VP-9 commanding officer, stepped off the plane to his family.

"What a wonderful feeling to be back with family and friends," said Mattingly. "The team executed over 5,600 hours during deployment. I have seen these numbers before but not over such a vast landscape of mission sets. I am proud of the Golden Eagles. I challenged each to go out and make the difference, every day, and that, they did."

Spanning Europe, Africa, and

the Middle East while fulfilling Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance support in the Fifth and Sixth Fleet Areas of Responsibility, the squadron completed 805 missions that encompassed a total of 5631.7 mishap-free flight hours and 13 detachments engaging 45 regional nations.

Immediately following the attack on the U.S. Consulate in Libya, the Golden Eagles provided military presence through intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance flights. The squadron executed missions around the clock for two months to enhance regional stability.

Outside of mission execution, VP-9 personnel participated in several community outreach projects through volunteerism. In total, the Golden Eagles supported eight community relations projects in Sicily to include an ancient ruins cleanup project in the city of Catania, food drives for the town of Motta, refurbishment of a local



Commanding Officer Craig Mattingly hugs his daughters. (See additional photo on page A-5.)

church and outreach to local orphanages.

"The Sailors of VP-9 were the best community relations (COMREL) squadron the base has ever experienced," said Dr. Alberto Lunetta, public affairs officer, Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily. Appreciation from the local communities was overwhelming.

Additionally, the Golden Eagles sanitized the grounds of a wildlife cheetah refuge in Djibouti and attended local English discussion groups. Throughout deployment, the Golden Eagles continued to engage with the local communities in which they resided.

"The selflessness, commitment and dedication of every Golden Eagle Sailor are testaments of the quality of our nations men and women who serve," said Mattingly. "The Golden Eagles are more than an aviation squadron, we are a family who works together to make the world a better place, both at home and abroad."

Special frocking ceremony held for Sailor

Story and photos by CTRC (IDW/SW/AW) Frank Migliaccio

Navy Information Operations Comman Hawaii

On Dec. 5, in a slightly cramped hospital room on the sixth deck of Tripler Army Medical Center a group of Sailors recently gathered to recognize one of their own. Fifteen Sailors and family members from Navy Information Operations Command, Hawaii, were present to witness the frocking ceremony for Cryptologic Technician, Collection, Second Class Kayla Riggall.

Riggall said it meant everything to have her grandfather pin her rank. Surrounded by his family, her grandfather Ernest Vaughn passed away later that afternoon at the age of 79.

Riggall had just returned from being deployed for 97 days aboard USS George Washington (CVN 73). Upon checking back into her command, she learned that she had passed her late advancement exam and was selected to Petty Officer Second Class.

Riggall's grandfather, Ernest Vaughn, a former Army specialist who served in the 1950s, had been waiting on the island on vacation patiently for two months for her return. "While I was gone, I had



discussed the idea of him pinning me if I made it. He was really excited about it," Riggall said.

Just after her return, Vaughn fell gravely ill and was hospitalized at Tripler Hospital. At Riggall's request, her chain of command quickly organized the ceremony for the next day. Lt. j.g. James Thomas, Riggall's division officer, summed up his feelings on making the ceremony happen.

"It was very good. It gave us a

chance to show our appreciation for a Sailor that has done really good work. It gave the chain of command a chance to show the Sailor and all of our Sailors that we care about them," Thomas said.

While the Sailors present stood at attention for the reading of the frocking letter, Riggall knelt down long enough for her grandfather to gently pin both of her shiny new second class rank insignia to her collar from his wheelchair. While it was difficult for him to speak, his smile was easy to see for everyone in attendance.

Lt. j.g. Nicholas Hughes, who performed the ceremony, said, "Not only was it a privilege to take part in P.O. Riggall's promotion ceremony but also an honor to share this important moment with those she cares most about, especially her grandfather." Afterwards everyone lined up to congratulate Petty Officer Riggall and shake hands with her grandfather. Thomas had praise for his Sailor. "I told her grandfather that he should be very proud of her and that she is a great asset to the command," Thomas said.



A special frocking ceremony took place on Dec. 5, for Cryptologic Technician, Collection, Second Class Kayla Riggall as she was selected to Petty Officer Second Class. Her grandfather pinned her rank.

Navy League Honolulu seeks IA returnees for recognition luncheon

The Honolulu Navy League will host an individual augmentee (IA) recognition luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at the Ala Moana Hotel. The event is for all returned Sailors and their spouse or guest Sailors who were "boots on the ground" IA for overseas contingency operation support assignment (OSA) or global war on terrorism support assignment (GSA).

Sign-in for IA/GSA Sailors begins at 10:30 a.m. All commanding and executive officers and command master chiefs are invited to attend.

Spouses will also be recognized for their loyalty and steadfast support of the IA Sailor. Uniform for Navy personnel is service uniform, other services are class equivalent. Aloha attire for civilians is requested.

Registration forms will be distributed through the command master chief/senior enlisted network and must be completed to obtain a ticket.

Bring completed form to the Military and Family Support Center (MFSC) to pick up tickets until Feb. 14 at \$40 per person.

Luncheon will be paid by the Navy League for the IA Sailor and their spouse or one guest. Forms and tickets are available at MFSC, Moanalua Navy Services Center, 4827 Bougainville Drive. Checks are made payable to Navy League of Honolulu. For more information, contact the MFSC at 474-1999.

IA Sailors/Marines who will attend are asked to send electronic pictures of themselves while IA deployed to jeffery.vanblaracum@navy.mil or 473-8000, ext 6327.

Operation Shower

Continued from A-1

have the opportunity to experience a baby shower.

"It's pretty incredible to be here and feel supported from everyone, especially at the close of this year," said Elizabeth Nixon, wife of U.S. Army Capt. Brandon Nixon, 25th Combat Aviation Battalion, who is scheduled to return any day from nearly a year-long deployment. "I'm feeling overwhelmed and grateful that there are so many people who do care and support us."

The program was created in 2007 by LeAnn Morrissey, chief shower officer. Morrissey identified a need for honoring military moms, specifically the ones typically holding everything together at home while their spouses serve in austere environments.

"We really try to convey that it's not just gifts, it's appreciation and a thank you," Morrissey said. "Each thing they receive is from someone from across the country that wanted to donate that item, or who wanted to provide us funds so we could give it."

This is the 28th time the organization has put on the showers since the first four Showers in a Box were presented nearly five years ago and the first time in Hawaii. More than 1,000 moms over that period have received a baby shower.

"We feel very showered with love. Amazing. Beautiful," said Holly Terhune, 15th Operations Support Squadron, who is seven months pregnant and whose husband is deployed to Afghanistan. "This is more than I could have ever imagined."

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Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



(Left) President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama are greeted by military servicemembers their families before departing Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Jan. 5. The President and his family stayed on the island as part of their annual tradition of vacationing in Oahu during the holidays.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

(Below) A member of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) embraces his wife.

Photos by MC1 Scott A. Buchholz



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen

Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, speaks to Airmen during the 15th WG commander's call at the base theater Dec. 18 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. During the call, wing leadership discussed the wing's mission, priorities and established a path of direct access in reporting sexual assault allegations to wing leaders.

(Right) Members of the Upper Iowa University basketball team take a tour of the USS Arizona Memorial. The team was in Hawaii playing Hawaii Pacific University's basketball team at Bloch Arena on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Dustin W. Sisco

(Below) The guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) is docked at its homeport of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The new destroyer is named in honor of Lt. (SEAL) Michael P. Murphy, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions in combat as leader of a four-man reconnaissance team in Afghanistan. Murphy was the first person to be awarded the medal for actions in Afghanistan and the first member of the U.S. Navy to receive the award since the Vietnam War.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker



U.S. Navy Photograph by MC2 Daniel Barker

The guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) passes by the USS Arizona Memorial as the ship departs Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for the last time while homeported in Hawaii.



U.S. Navy Photograph by MC2 Daniel Barker

Sailors display holiday lights aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) during the 2012 Holiday Ship/Submarine Lighting Contest. This year's event was judged by invitees including Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, Rear Adm James Caldwell, Maj. Gen. Russell Handy and Rear Adm. Robert Girrier.



U.S. Navy Photograph by MC2 Daniel Barker

Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) prepare to depart Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for the last time while homeported in Hawaii. The crew is scheduled to swap hulls with USS Halsey (DDG 97) out of San Diego in late January.

Local Air Force Reserve units tally \$1.8 million impact on Oahu economy

940th Wing Public Affairs and

Capt. David Tomiyama
713th Combat Operations Squadron Public Affairs



Air Force Reserve jobs with the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam-based 701st Combat Operations Squadron (COS) Detachment 1 and the 713th COS Detachment 1, funneled more than \$1.8 million into local Oahu communities, according to the 940th Wing's fiscal year 2012 economic impact statement.

The report tallied an annual payroll of \$1,339,323 for 45 civilian and military jobs hosted by the two COS detachments belonging to the Beale Air Force Base, Calif., reserve

wing. In addition, an estimated 10 community jobs were potentially created by the units, adding an estimated annual dollar value of \$457,000 to the total impact.

"As a reserve unit, our people are our greatest asset," said Col. Kevin Cavanagh, 940th Wing commander. "When we invest in payroll, that money ends up in the local communities where our Citizen Airmen and their

families live and work."

The 701st COS provides well-trained, experienced air and space operations center warfighters to support the Korean theater of operations in joint and combined exercises during peacetime and real-world operations in time of war.

The 701st COS augments the combined air and space operations center at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, as part of the senior decision-mak-

ing element for the combined forces air component commander and integrates with active duty forces in command and control of theater combat air forces. The 701st COS provides expert personnel in the areas of combat operations, combat plans, intelligence, strategy, communications and logistics.

The 713th COS is the only unit in the Air Force Reserve Command associated directly to a component major command. As a total force integration unit with Pacific Air Forces Headquarters, the squadron provides steady state, contingency and wartime augmentation to the PACAF Air Force Forces staff through reach back capability and the ability to deploy through-

out the Pacific Theater.

The 713th COS delivers mission essential, operational level command and control capability and continuity across the entire spectrum of military operations from humanitarian assistance to combat operations. The 713th COS develops and leverages Reserve personnel subject matter expertise to integrate into the AFFOR staff to plan and create effects, from strategy to task, to meet AFFOR commander/joint force air component commander goals and objectives.

"Reservists and civilians like the men and women assigned to our detachments at Hickam play an integral part in the Air Force mission, providing valuable expertise and con-

tinuity," said Cavanagh.

The 940th Wing is the Air Force Reserve Command's leading provider of command and control, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance and home to the Global Hawk remotely piloted aircraft. Airmen of the 940th WG have participated in numerous humanitarian missions across the globe and have made contributions to U.S. operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya.

Nearly 1,200 members are assigned to the 940th Wing at Beale AFB, including five geographically separated units at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Va., March Air Reserve Base, Calif., and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

One night: looking back at Elvis Presley's Bloch Arena concert

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

On Jan. 14, the classic Elvis Presley concert film "Aloha from Hawaii" will be screened at the Neil Blaisdell Arena. This screening commemorates the 40th anniversary of Elvis's famous 1973 Honolulu concert. The show was broadcast live via satellite with over 1 billion people watching worldwide, and "Aloha from Hawaii" is considered to be the most watched broadcast by an individual entertainer in television history.

Yet just over a decade earlier, Elvis had put on another concert in Hawaii, and that show, while not as well known, remains an important part of the history of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

On March 25, 1961, Elvis Presley performed a benefit concert at Bloch Arena to raise money for the construction of the USS Arizona Memorial. More than 4,000 fans attended the show, paying from \$3 all the way to \$100 a ticket. The concert, which Elvis hoped would raise \$50,000, in fact raised \$54,000.

The money was sorely needed. President Dwight D. Eisenhower had approved the creation of memorial in 1958. \$500,00 was needed for its construction. However, within a couple of years, donations slowed and the memorial fund was in dire need of cash. Elvis Presley's infamous manager, Col. Tom Parker, heard about the situation, and he and Elvis offered to do a benefit concert.

Rear. Adm. Robert L. Campbell introduced Presley, saying, "He is a fine American. He has had many starring roles, not the least of these has been as a soldier in the U.S. Army." During his hour on stage, Elvis sang 15 songs: "Heartbreak Hotel," "All Shook Up," "A Fool Such As I," "I Got a Woman," "Love Me," "Such a Night," "Reconsider Baby," "I Need Your Love Tonight," "That's All Right," "Don't Be Cruel," "One Night," "Are You Lonesome Tonight," "It's Now or Never," "Swing Down Sweet Chariot," and "Hound Dog."

The Bloch Arena concert received rave reviews from the Honolulu Advertiser, which described it as "fast-paced and slick. It jumped. When Elvis came on the teenagers screamed for 2 1/2 minutes without let-up. Elvis was wearing his famous gold



jacket with silvery glints like sequins, dark blue trousers and a white shirt and a blue string tie."

This would be the last time Elvis would wear his "famous gold jacket" in concert. It was also the last he would perform live for over 8 years.

The USS Arizona Memorial was finally dedicated Memorial Day, May 30, 1962 just over a year after Elvis's charity concert. It marks the resting place of 1,102 of the 1,177 sailors and Marines killed on the USS Arizona during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941



(Far left) Elvis Presley performed a charity concert to raise money for the USS Arizona Memorial at Bloch Arena March 25, 1961.

(Left) Elvis Presley visited the completed USS Arizona Memorial Aug. 15, 1965.

Photos courtesy of Honolulu Star-Advertiser archives.

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U.S. Navy photo courtesy of USS O'Kane

Preservation work is done on the wildcat and capstan. The anchor and anchor chain have been removed for preservation.

O'Kane enters selected restricted availability during the holidays

Lt. j.g. Kate Kazimer
USS O'Kane Public Affairs

USS O'Kane (DDG 77) recently entered its \$11.5 million selected restricted availability (SRA) maintenance period within a month of returning from nearly an eight-month deployment.

This overhaul is the first step in a series of maintenance periods that will prepare the ship for the training and inspection cycle, and ultimately, for the next deployment. A ship typically enters SRA, which lasts for a few months, after its deployment.

This is an opportunity for installing upgraded equipment, in addition to conducting major repairs. Among the big ticket items in the SRA plans are the overhauls of the berthings (the crew's living spaces). While minor habitability upgrades are made during other, shorter maintenance periods, the SRA provides enough time to do a full overhaul of the system.

"We are trying to tackle jobs that would normally require us to be in dry dock. The sheer number of tanks being worked on, the complete overhaul of the galley and over half of the berthing spaces, normally this would be done while the ship is out of the water," Lt. Michael Arnold, said the ship's maintenance management officer.

Another challenge for this SRA is accommodating for the holidays. Juggling leave, schools, and all of the maintenance requires flexibility and foresight. Additionally, agencies like the shipyard have required safety briefs and training sessions for their workers to attend.

"It's tough," Lt. j.g. Andrew Hetzner, O'Kane's ordnance officer, said. "In addition to my normal duties, I have to track all of the departmental work since I am filling in for my department head while he's on leave."

"Things have leveled out now that we've established our new work space. Moving the local area network and

setting up all of the computers in our annex barge was a challenge, especially when we were still required to be in the ship's communications center while the contractors were working on our equipment," said Information Systems Technician Second Class Raquel Brusher.

When they were about a quarter of the way through the SRA, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and ship's force workers took the time to assess the maintenance schedule. While some jobs took more time than anticipated, others were accomplished well ahead of schedule.

"We are completing these tanks quicker [than ever]... We are on track to complete them with a new land-speed record," BAE's project manager, Manny DelRio, said.

O'Kane Sailors and contractors worked to keep the ship safe and the maintenance on schedule, in order to get O'Kane through the post-SRA training and assessment cycle.

NEX Mall parking lot work to have impacts

The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) Mall parking lot is scheduled to be restriped and resealed from Jan. 14 through April 22.

The parking lot has been divided into seven sections which includes the asphalt area located behind the mall.

As a result, the following list identifies some of the things that will be impacted during the respective phases:

- Traffic flow (all seven phases)
- Big white tent (phase one)
- Tax trailer (phase one)
- Buses (phases one to four)
- Tire center (phases six and seven)
- Store deliveries (phases six and seven)
- Associate and manager parking phases six and seven)
- Auto detailing (phase seven)



(Above) The Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange Mall will be restriped and resealed in seven phases from Jan. 14 through April 22. For more information call the NEX at 423-3287.

Correction

In the article "DESRON 31's top chefs battle in new competition" published in the Dec. 14 issue of Ho'okele, Commodore Wallace Lovely's rank was incorrectly listed. Ho'okele regrets the error.

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