

Change of command highlights history, 'rebalance' in Hawaii

MC2 Nardel Gervacio
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) held a change of command ceremony July 10 at the Battleship Missouri Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr. relieved Rear Adm. Fernandez "Frank" Ponds as region and MIDPAC commander. USS Arizona Memorial stood as a backdrop to the ceremony and a constant reminder of World War II history.

The ceremony was held in the shadow of the former USS Missouri (BB 63), site of the signing of surrender that ended the war in the Pacific.

The event began with the arrival of the official party and parading of colors, followed by the national anthem, sung by Seaman Steven Martinez who is assigned to guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112).

Students from Hickam Elementary School were on hand to sing "Hawaii Pono'i." Kumu Hula Kaleo Trinidad provided an *oli* (Hawaiian poem and chant), and Kahu Kelekena Bishaw of Kamehameha Schools offered a Hawaiian blessing and presented lei to the official party.

Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, was keynote speaker, and Vice Adm. William D. French, commander, Navy Installations Command, presided at the ceremony.

Each speaker acknowledged the significance of Pearl Harbor's history and

mentioned Hawaii's place in the ongoing rebalancing to Indo/Asia/Pacific. French, Haney, Ponds and Williams each expressed appreciation for the attendance of recently retired U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka, senior distinguished visitor. Dozens of other dignitaries and flag and general officers were also in attendance.

"Today we salute the efforts of Frank and Carol Ponds and welcome Rick and Susie Williams to the Pacific Fleet and to the Hawaii *ohana*," said Haney in his opening remarks.

"I know this transition is bittersweet for the Ponds [family], who enjoyed the wonderful *aloha* and the spirit of Hawaii *ohana*."

"The presence of so many guests, including distinguished leaders, friends and families from the community, is a clear reflection of the remarkable relationship between our Navy and the Hawaii community as well as the great work by Frank and Carol," said Haney.

"Frank has passionately led the charge to balance the budget reduction while supporting the operational readiness of middle Pacific warships and quality of life initiatives for our most valued assets, our people — our Sailors, our civilians and, of course, the families that support them," he said.

French highlighted Ponds' many accomplishments. "You will be missed here in Hawaii, but I'm confident you will have an equally impactful tour in San Diego. Our nation is stronger because of leaders like Frank Ponds. I'll miss your bold leadership and



U.S. Navy Photos by MC2 Nardel Gervacio
Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, passes through side boys at the conclusion of a change of command for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. Ponds was relieved by Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr. during a ceremony held at the Battleship Missouri Memorial, July 10.

See page A-5 for additional photos

sage advice and your insightful perspective on the operational CNIC enterprise, an enterprise you made better every day."

French then presented Ponds with the Legion of Merit award.

Ponds began his address by saying, "I'm going to give



Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr., commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, passes through side boys at the conclusion of a change of command for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

you a couple of words to think about as I give my remarks. The first one is "teamwork," and the second one is "thank you" because that is how it all happens.

Teamwork is essential for success, and everything that you've heard today is all about teamwork."

"This day provides me with the perfect opportunity to recognize the many faces that Carol and I have

See change of command, A-8

CNIC and new Navy Region Hawaii admiral tour PMRF

Story and photo by Stefan Alford

Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs

Two days prior to the official change of command, the incoming commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific was already personally familiarizing himself with one of the installations under his regional control during a visit July 8 to Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands (PMRF), Kauai.

Rear Adm. Richard L.

Williams Jr. assumed regional oversight of PMRF as the commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and took the opportunity to get a closer look at the Kauai installation's mission and its people.

"I'm extremely impressed," he said, following the half-day orientation provided to him and Vice Adm. William D. French, commander, Navy Installations Command.

The two flag officers received a PMRF command brief, windshield tour and an aerial overview by heli-

copter of the base and its outlying facilities at Makaha Ridge, Kokee and Port Allen.

"I have a great appreciation for superior ranges and the important role of ground truth analysis in validating and verifying weapons systems and training our Sailors," said Williams, referring to one of his previous assignments with the Missile Defense Agency, as well as his surface warfare training experience on the PMRF range in the mid-2000s.

Williams and French were hosted by Capt.

Nicholas Mongillo, then-PMRF commanding officer, and new commanding officer, Capt. Bruce W. Hay, who took the reins at a change of command ceremony Thursday.

The admirals were provided with an overview of range operations and missile testing, infrastructure

and military construction programs, and the way ahead as PMRF engages with a myriad of customers on new programs, including the joint NASA and University of Hawaii micro-satellite Super Strypi test launch next year.

"A lot of people don't understand the capability

this base brings to the Navy as a whole," added French, who is responsible for worldwide shore installation support under the Chief of Naval Operations.

"With the programs that are coming here, plus all the testing and training we do with our allies, this is a critical location," French said.



Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams, incoming commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, (Second from right), listens as Vice Adm. William D. French (right), commander of Navy Installations Command, speaks with Department of the Navy military and civilian employees at Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai on July 8.

HMS Daring pulls into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan
The Royal Navy's newest Type 45 guided-missile destroyer HMS Daring (D32) pulls into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled port visit. The Daring's deployment includes contributing to maritime security in the Asia Pacific, conducting science and technology trials and representing the United Kingdom in Exercise Bersama Lima, a training exercise.

Save Energy

Flick off the light switch when you leave a room.



Japanese Minister of Defense honors American veterans at National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific
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Son of Arizona Memorial designer visits historic site
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Super senior Airman saves lives in Samoa
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Legislators, energy industry reps tour JBPHH hydrogen fuel cell facility
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National Oceans Month celebrates clean beaches
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Philippine ship arrives, BRP Ramon Alcazar tours available
See page B-5

Japanese Minister of Defense honors American heroes

Story and photos by
MC1 Cynthia Clark

Defense Media
Activity, Hawaii

Japanese Minister of Defense Itsunori Onodera visited National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) on July 1 to honor American heroes. He laid a wreath in honor of those lost at in

wartime, as well as visited the gravesite of the late Sen. Daniel Inouye.

Onodera also met with U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Pacific Fleet leadership.

"The Japanese have a very close association with us," said Gene Castagnetti, director of the cemetery.

"As a former adversary, we have progressed over 50 plus

years, so that we are great allies. This can be seen in the numerous visits we've had by Japanese dignitaries that started with the Emperor Akihito in 1994."

According to Castagnetti, it is visits like these that are important in keeping the diplomatic relations between our two countries strong.

"He set an example of reconcili-

ation and healing between the United States and Japan," Castagnetti continued. "It shows we have a strong commitment with each other."

In addition to honoring American veterans, Onodera also paid respect to the late Sen. Daniel Inouye, who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his heroic actions in World War II and was the first Japanese-

American elected to both Congress and the U.S. Senate.

"Minister Onodera shared with me he met our late senator on three different occasions," Castagnetti said.

"The senator showed great, great compassion to build those diplomatic bridges and was very instrumental in making sure Japan and America became strong allies we are today."



Japanese Minister of Defense Itsunori Onodera honors American heroes during a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on July 1.



Japanese Minister of Defense Itsunori Onodera pays his respects to the late U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye.

Super senior Airman saves lives in Samoa

Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Heroes are typically thought to be super human beings with extraordinary strength, capable of leaping over tall buildings in a single bound, shooting fire out of their eyes and in some cases even flying. However, for two very fortunate women, their hero recently came in the form of a super Senior Airman deployed from the 15th Wing.

It was a typical day for Senior Airman Rainier Jeffrey as he rode to the Upolu Hospital in Samoa. As a medical technician deployed with the Navy in support of the humanitarian operation Pacific Partnership 13, it was Jeffrey's job to share medical knowledge with the auxiliary nurses at the village hospitals in Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Canada, as well as provide medical assistance to the villagers.

Acting in a dental technician capacity for this deployment, it was Jeffrey's job to in-process patients, check their vital signs and document pertinent medical information in their charts.

This particular day, the rain had deterred many of the locals from making the trek to the clinic, so Jeffrey decided to busy himself training the local dental staff on proper patient care and documentation procedures.

He was eating his lunch when the day took an unexpected turn as he was summoned into the treatment room by one of the local auxiliary nurses to assist with an elderly patient in distress.

Her pulse was irregular, her breathing was shallow and her extremities were getting cold and clammy. Jeffrey sprang into action, initiating manual chest compressions, instructing his counterpart on how to administer proper rescue

breaths, and inserting an intravenous fluids bag. The resuscitation was a success, and the patient became stable. With the absence of hot water to warm fluids, Jeffrey improvised by using an MRE heating packet to warm the IV and covered the patient with blankets to keep her warm as they waited for the ambulance to arrive.

Believing the hard part was over, Jeffrey went to update the patient's family on her condition.

Moments later, he was approached by one of the auxiliary nurses with more shocking news. A patient had gone into labor and, without her midwife present or the help of a physician, he would have to deliver the baby by himself. A few big pushes later and Jeffrey had successfully made it through his first delivery.

The midwife arrived just in time to finish afterbirth care and, surprisingly enough, help deliver the woman's second baby. It

turned out the patient was pregnant with twins. But nevertheless, Jeffrey's work was done. He'd managed to deliver the first baby and keep the patient stable until trained help arrived.

"I feel like any armed forces medic in my position would have done the same thing," he said, reflecting back on the day.

"Springing into action is what we are all trained to do in a tactical setting regardless of rank or specialty. I enjoy being a medic, and I definitely got an opportunity to do something that day that truly made me proud to be an Air Force medical technician."

Jeffrey, who has been in the Air Force for three years, said though he realizes he probably helped save lives that day, he doesn't consider himself a hero for doing what he was trained to do.

"My first thought was just to respond," he said. "At first I was drawing a blank because I was over thinking

things, but as my hands started moving my training came back to me, and I started remembering the right steps and proper medical procedures. Though I was in no way completely comfortable, the adrenaline kicked in and the knowledge started resurfacing as I needed it, and it became second nature in a matter of seconds."

Maj Wanda Edwards, Jeffrey's supervisor, said she was not surprised by Jeffrey's actions when she had heard about the day's events.

"He is not one to sit by and let others take care of things," she said of Jeffrey. "His compassion and dedication were evident by his swift actions and immediate response at the clinic."

The major said she knows all too well the fear, excitement and sense of responsibility that comes with having a critical patient, but Jeffrey conducted himself exactly as she would have in the same situation.

"Out of my three deploy-

ments, he is by far the best medical technician that I have had the pleasure to be deployed with," she said.

"I am so proud of him, and his professionalism and leadership shines through every day. As medical responders, we never know what we will face and to know that I can trust our Airmen to not only respond appropriately, but exceed the expectations and respond as I would have."

Two saved lives and one baby later, Jeffrey recalls how what started out as a normal day ended up becoming anything but.

"After the shock of the event wears off, you realize that everything you did resulted in keeping someone alive," he said.

"The sheer thought brings an overwhelming sense of happiness, elation and a sigh of relief gets sprinkled in there somewhere. It's a mass of mixed emotions and truly an indescribable feeling."



Senior Airman Rainier Jeffrey, 15th Medical Group, checks a young patient's blood pressure and pulse during a recent stop for humanitarian operation Pacific Partnership 13. Photo courtesy of Pacific Partnership

Admirals meet with midshipmen



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Amanda Dunford

Adm. Cecil Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks with midshipmen from the USS Chafee (DDG 90) and USS Hopper (DDG 70) at Tea House lanai during an open discussion forum July 3. The open discussion gave midshipmen the opportunity to have a frank exchange with senior naval officers during their summer cruise training.

15th Comptroller Squadron changes hands

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Jerome
S. Tayborn

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Comptroller Squadron (CPTS) officially changed hands June 27. Maj. Amanda B. Evans assumed command from Lt. Col. Theresa Sheppard at a change-of-command ceremony held at the Missing Man Formation at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"From Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, presidential visits, the first joint base total force integration inspection, Rim of the Pacific Exercises, Airman leadership school and Hawaii 5-0 filmings, you have supported the men and women of the 15th Wing and all of Team Hickam in countless ways through professionalism and dedication," said Sheppard, addressing the flight for the

final time as commander.

"Despite being small and transitional, you rose to every occasion and continuously got the job done. So many things you do are not glamorous, but essential for our success. I know that I have only touched the tip of the iceberg for all the things you all have done, but know that I have learned so much from you.

"Thanks for the teamwork and sharing your lives with me. I think we made it a little better along the way," Sheppard said.

She was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal for her outstanding service and accomplishments as commander to the 15th CPTS and wing staff agencies.

Just before relinquishing command, Sheppard thanked her family, special guests, 15th Wing leadership, and group and squadron commanders.

Evans, incoming commander, comes to Team Hickam from the 628th Comptroller Squadron, 628th Air Base Wing, Joint Base Charleston, S.C., where she served as the IMA comptroller.

As the new 15th CPTS commander, Evans is responsible for the morale, welfare and good order and discipline of the Airmen who provide financial services and support to 11,500 active duty Air Force, family members, civilians and retired military personnel.

She provides financial advice and decision support in the execution of the 15th Wing's \$30 million AF budget and the accounting of \$600 million for 65 tenant and 118 geographically separated units.

"Sheppard, you have been a great leader over the last couple of years. The squadron has provided world-class customer service



Members of the 15th Wing Honor Guard present the colors prior to the singing of the national anthem at the 15th Comptroller Squadron change of command ceremony June 27 at the Missing Man Formation at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Maj. Amanda B. Evans assumed command from Lt. Col. Theresa Sheppard.

across the base and through the MAJCOM staff. And it's evident that they take pride in this squadron and the work that they do here. Their growth and development is because of your leadership, and I promise to continue that legacy for

you," said Evans after taking command.

"To the men and women of the 15th CPTS, we know it's all about providing great customer service and ensuring that we wisely spend taxpayers' dollars that are entrusted to us. It's important that

we do our jobs well because the men and women of this installation deserve it. I am proud to be your new commander, and I look forward to working with you and leading you, to become the best finance squadron in Pacific Air Forces," she said.

Diverse Views



What is your family's favorite summer activity?

Electrician's Mate 3rd Class
Cindy Martinez
Navy Region Hawaii



"My favorite family activity would be barbecuing and spending time with my friends, because it allows you to get to know people at a different level."



Kimberly Moore
HQ PACAF

"Paddling. It's amazing exercise, fun to be on the ocean, and we're always surprised what ocean animals come up alongside our canoes."

Tech. Sgt. LaMarr Coleman
15th Aerospace
Medicine Squadron



"We like Bellows. The waves are good for boogie boarding and the sand is more comfortable and not as crowded as Waikiki."



Religious Programs Specialist
2nd Class Alan G. Rubalcava
Joint Base Pearl
Harbor-Hickam

"My favorite family activity is watching movies and checking out the summer blockbusters because it's a relaxing activity. I enjoy movies."

Capt. Daniel Montilla
96th Air Refueling Squadron



"My wife and I spend as much time as we can at Kailua Beach. A good day at the beach is usually followed by shave ice from Island Snow."



Culinary Specialist 1st Class
Tarrell Brown
Joint Base Pearl
Harbor-Hickam

"We like to go swimming. We like the beach and, growing up in a place where they don't have any beaches, we take our son out to the beach and just enjoy the weather."

Provided by David Underwood Jr.
and MC2 Nardel Gervacio

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

Naturalization ceremony on board Mighty Mo



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro

Army Spc. Maroi Ngirmidol shakes the hand of Rear Adm. Bret Muilenburg, commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific and Pacific Fleet civil engineer, after becoming a U.S. citizen during a naturalization ceremony on board the Battleship Missouri Memorial at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The ceremony, which celebrated our nation's 237th birthday, welcomed more than 100 new citizens during the Independence Day celebration.

Commanders confer at Ford Island



Official U.S. Navy photograph

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Joe Taylor (left) and Lt. Cmdr. William O. Burch, Jr., stand beside a Torpedo Squadron Five (VT-5) TBD-1 "Devastator" torpedo plane June 6, 1942 at Naval Air Station, Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Both men had commanded USS Yorktown (CV-5) squadrons, which were transferred from Yorktown's air group just prior to the World War II Battle of Midway.

HO'okele

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Son of Arizona Memorial designer visits historic site

Jim Neuman

*Navy Region
Hawaii historian*

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, former commander of Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, paid one final visit to the USS Arizona Memorial on July 8 before transferring command to incoming CNRH Rear Adm. Richard Williams.

His special guest on the visit was Jahn-Peter Preis, a lifelong resident of Hawaii and the son of Alfred Preis whose design for the Arizona Memorial was chosen by the Navy back in 1959.

As the party boarded the iconic memorial, Preis talked about his father's vision for a memorial at Pearl Harbor.

"He knew that there should be a memorial here. It was just a matter of where it would go. The wreckage of the Arizona was the obvious choice. My father was a very peaceful man. His design is an expression of his heart," Jahn-Peter said.

Alfred was in a unique position to appreciate the value of human freedom and express those ideas through the memorial. Born in Vienna, he fled

Austria in 1939 after the country had been annexed by Nazi Germany and eventually settled with his wife in Honolulu.

Ironically, following the Dec. 7, 1941 attack and declaration of war against the Axis powers, he was held for three months at the Sand Island Detainment Camp as part of the internment policy of Japanese and German Americans. Despite these unfortunate circumstances, Alfred never lost faith in America and, according to his son, "ultimately he believed in the good of the country."

Alfred's design of the Arizona Memorial was simple, elegant and rich with a subtle symbolism reflecting his belief that America is basically a peaceful nation that would have to be provoked to war but, once aroused, would persevere to ultimate victory. The memorial would represent a bridge between the past and the present, from defeat to victory.

"It is designed basically like a span bridge," explained Jahn-Peter. "The structure spans either side of the wreckage, without touching the ship itself." Interestingly, the large open spaces of the memorial, including the huge entry way, observation deck and

21 windows, were incorporated, not so much for symbolic purposes, but as an engineering consideration to cut down on the weight of the structure. The dip at the center over the wreckage was incorporated in order to properly distribute the weight.

Though unintended, Alfred himself recognized that the symbolism is consistent with the overall vision. The attack on Pearl Harbor and the wreckage of the Arizona represents the low point in America's involvement in World War II, but the roofline rises back to a high point over the shrine room and the memory of those who gave their lives in defense of their country.

The memorial continues to evoke a sense of contemplation and quiet gratitude. As he stood and looked around at the finished work of his father's design, Jahn-Peter said, "I'm moved every time I come back here. It is kind of a spiritual experience, and I am moved by everything that it stands for. It is a very powerful expression of my father's vision."

The public would seem to agree. The USS Arizona Memorial remains the foremost tourist attraction in Hawaii, with one and a half million visitors each year.



U.S. Navy photo by LT. Jef Ross

Jim Neuman (far left), historian for Navy Region Hawaii, describes the events of Dec. 7, 1941 to (clockwise from left) Vice Adm. William French, commander of Navy Installations Command; Jahn-Peter Preis, son of the designer of the Arizona Memorial; Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr., new commander of Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC); Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, former commander of CNRH and MIDPAC; and family members during a visit July 8 to the Arizona Memorial.

The elegant white structure spanning the final resting place of more than 900 Sailors and Marines provides the opportunity for visitors from around the world to reflect on the

meaning of vigilance in the face of tyranny, selfless courage under fire, and the defense of freedom for the cause of peace.

Following his death in 1993, Alfred's legacy was

forever tied to the monument that he loved when his ashes were scattered from the memorial's viewing well and mingled with those he worked so hard to remember.

Ribbon-cutting ceremony marks completion of CFE-DMHA renovations



(Above left) A new building for the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (COE-DMHA). (Above right) Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Thomas L. Conant, deputy commander of U.S. Pacific Command, addresses the audience during the ribbon-cutting ceremony which unveiled a new location for the center.

Sila Manahane

*Naval Facilities Engineering
Command, Hawaii*

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DMHA) on June 26 to celebrate renovations of Ford Island's historic building 76 at Joint Base

Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

"This is an exciting day for us," said Pam Milligan, CFE director. "This historic building, on this lovely and historic site, offers a new beginning for the center which is in the process of re-engineering itself to fill an expanded role in building regional civil-military disaster management capacity. We expect it will enhance our capability and assist

us in our efforts."

The program included comments from Milligan; Lt. Gen. Thomas Conant, deputy commander for U.S. Pacific Command; and Peter Verga, chief of staff for the undersecretary of defense for policy.

Kahu David Patterson provided the traditional Hawaiian blessing of the land, building, employees and visitors who will

enter the new facility.

"No matter where we travel, no matter who we talk to, one theme that comes up from our 36 nations across the Pacific is that they want expertise, they want help with that intellectual discovery that comes with how you manage humanitarian assistance and how you think about training and educating the workforce, the government and the people," said Conant.

"This is what the Center for Excellence is all about and why I am so passionate about it," he added.

Efforts to assist the CFE-DMHA move to Ford Island came from the late Sen. Daniel K. Inouye's understanding about the organization's mission to aid in humanitarian relief and recognizing its impact on a global scale. His leadership in Congress drove the project to fruition and resulted in a facility that will enhance the center's capability, create a better working environment for its personnel, and, at the same time, save a historic structure on Pearl Harbor.

Building 76 was built in 1940 under the architectural guidance of the architectural firm, C.W. Dickey, and served as a naval medical facility on Ford Island. During the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, more than 960 wounded Sailors and Airmen and 452 casualties were admitted over a three-hour period. The original structure withstood a bomb that exploded in its courtyard at the center of the facility. It also has battled weathering conditions throughout the years.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii awarded the task order for \$6.4 million to a Kapolei-based building servicing company, FOPCO Inc., in June 2011. The renovation project was initiated on September 2011.

The building also received various energy enhancements such as photovoltaic (PV) roof-mounted panels, automatic dimming interior lights, occupancy sensors, low-flow plumbing fixtures and advanced metering for utilities which are projected to save 42 percent in energy savings per year. These improvements are intended to place the building on U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) list of internationally-recognized "green" building certification system — Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver.

"This facility will improve the quality of life for CFE staff, and increase mission capability said Doug Wallace, CFE's deputy director for plans and partnerships.

"For the first time, we will have our own on-site classroom, enhanced VTC conferencing capability, and the building's optimal energy efficiency design will ensure greatly reduced utility costs," Wallace said.

CFE-DMHA was established by Congress in 1994 and is a direct-reporting unit of U.S. Pacific Command. Its mission is to enhance civil-military preparedness and response through collaborative partnerships, applied research, education and training.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Change of command highlights



(from left) Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr., Incoming commander of Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, outgoing commander of CNRH and MIDPAC, and Vice Adm. William D. French, commander of Navy Installations Command, listen to introductions during a change of command for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr., relieved Rear Adm. Frank Ponds as commander during the ceremony.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Toan Nguyen



Flags fly in gusty winds at the change of command ceremony.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Cervacio



Rear Adm. Frank L. Ponds, outgoing commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, salutes as his command flag is lowered during a change of command ceremony at the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr. relieved Ponds during the ceremony.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro



The Hickam Elementary School Chorus and violinist Ethan play traditional Hawaiian music during a change of command ceremony at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro



Sailors assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam stand in formation during a change of command for Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Toan Nguyen

Reserve and active duty plumbers get job done



Tech. Sgt. Benjamin M. Johnson, (bottom left), a plumber with the 647th Civil Engineering Squadron, uses his cell phone to photograph a leak in a water main break on Kuntz Avenue across from the Hickam Shoppette, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 27. Airman 1st Class Robert T. Shikina, (top right), a plumber with the 624th Regional Support Group.



Airman 1st Class Robert T. Shikina, left, a plumber with the 624th Regional Support Group holds the tape measure for Tech. Sgt. Benjamin M. Johnson, right, a plumber with the 647th Civil Engineering Squadron, as he measures off the proper length of PVC pipe needed to replace the cast iron pipe that had sprung a leak.

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Phyllis E. Keith

624th Regional Support Group Public Affairs

It was another sunny day on the island of Oahu—84 degrees and no chance of rain. The only problem was that a water main had sprung a leak on Kuntz Avenue near the Hickam Shoppette, and the street would flood if it was not repaired.

This presented no worries for the plumbers of the 647th Civil Engineering Squadron (CES), 647th Air Base Group, 15th Wing at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) who were joined by two Air Force Reserve plumbers from the 624th Civil Engineering Squadron, 624th Regional Support Group.

Supervising the job was

Tech. Sgt. Benjamin M. Johnson, a plumber with the 647th CES who has 13 years of experience. Johnson said it's not uncommon for a water main break to occur every day, sometimes twice a day.

"Most of the time, Murphy's Law dictates that it happens Friday, right before we go home for the weekend," he said.

The crew started at 4 a.m. with the heavy equipment operators, called "dirt boys," digging up the street where the leak was detected. An abandoned fuel line and communication lines were lying on top of the water main, creating an obstacle.

"It's not necessarily supposed to be that way, but it's old," said Johnson.

After the dirt boys exposed the pipes, Johnson directed the Reservists to turn on the water and locat-

ed the leak. Water spurted from a hairline crack in the six-inch pipe. The two Reservists went in the pit and used shovels to clear away dirt around the pipe.

One of the Reservists, Senior Airman Tito M. Irlas, who performed his two weeks of annual Air Force Reserve training, said working with the active duty personnel hones his plumbing skills and reinforces safety procedures. In his civilian job, he is a welding inspector at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and said he doesn't often get to fix a water main break during his Air Force Reserve weekends.

The other Reservist, Airman 1st Class Robert T. Shikina, joined the Air Force Reserve last August and is on a 360-day active duty tour funded by Air Force Reserve Command's Seasoning Training

Program. Shikina, a reporter for the Honolulu Star-Advertiser, said he loves learning a skill like plumbing. He said the impact on people is direct and, hence, the job rewarding. "We know it's going to stop the road from flooding," he said.

Johnson said he selected the two Reservists for the job so they could get hands-on training.

The plumbers used a snap tool powered by hydraulic pressure to sever the cast-iron pipe. They measured the correct length of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe needed to replace it, using couplings to secure the PVC in place.

Johnson pointed out that the blue PVC pipe is "C900," which means it conforms to the American Water Works Association's

standards for high pressure pipes used to transport potable water. It is lightweight and easier to handle compared to the old cast iron pipe that is seldom made nowadays.

"Seeing how they worked around the abandoned fuel line and the comm lines was new for me," said Shikina.

After the new pipe was secured, the Reservists turned on the water to check their repair. It was good to go. The grand finale was when the plumbers shot water through a fire hydrant into the shoppette parking lot to clear out any debris or dirt that may have gotten into the line while they were fixing it. Johnson timed it while Shikina manned the valve key that controlled the flow.

"When we do deploy, this

helps us to be able to perform the job," said Irlas.

Johnson said he welcomes Reservists anytime he can utilize them. He said their maturity and civilian job experience make them good listeners who can pick up new tasks easily.

Shikina said he appreciates training full time with the active duty because they bring a lot of experience to the table, especially Johnson, a former Red Horse member who has deployed to build new bases.

"I've been doing this for a long time and there's always something to learn," Johnson said.

In the Air Force Reserve, all career fields are eligible for STP active duty tours after tech school; the length of training depends on the career field.

PMRF range safety and access initiative balances security with public's right to beaches

Stefan Alford

Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs

To accommodate future range operations, ensure safety, and guarantee continued public access to its shoreline here, the U.S. Navy has developed a range safety and access initiative (RSAI).

The RSAI consists of a written policy that formalizes the existing rules for beach access, as well as a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposed modification of the current danger zone in waters of the Pacific Ocean off the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands, Kauai.

Currently, PMRF's danger zone is situated near the north launch pads, but the modification is necessary to include planned launches from a southern pad as part of the University of Hawaii and NASA's Super Strypi project. The proposal would increase the water area his-

torically noted on nautical charts as 334.1390. As proposed, the danger zone would extend along approximately seven miles of shoreline adjacent to PMRF and range seaward between 2.96 and 4.16 nautical miles.

"Public access to the beaches for swimming, fishing, surfing, etc. will not be

Mongillo, recent outgoing PMRF commander, who noted that such events historically occur an average of 25 times per year, from anywhere between 30 minutes to a few hours at a time.

The U.S. Navy conducts missile defense activities, test missile launches, and training activities at



File photo

Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF)

affected except during launches and training events, in line with current policy," said Capt. Nicholas

PMRF. The modification is necessary to protect the public from hazards associated with range operations,

test and training activities, and increased force protection conditions.

Public access to the area would be provided to the maximum extent practicable as is current policy, said Mongillo. Under the RSAI, the proposed danger zone would be closed to the public only during range operations, test and training activities, and force protection conditions that are determined to pose a hazard to the general public, which is also no change from existing policy. In addition, only those sections that might pose a hazard would be closed and not the entire shoreline, said Mongillo.

The other three are force protection measures, public safety during range operations, and protection of threatened and endangered animal and plant species and habitats designated as critical pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.

Various levels of public access to the beaches and

water areas along PMRF's seven-mile coastline have existed for decades. After the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, most civilian beach access was restricted.

In 2005, PMRF introduced the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) guest card program. This program allows card-holding civilians to access PMRF through the main gate, travel unrestricted to Majors Bay recreation area or Shenanigans beach restaurant, use Majors Bay and Shenanigans facilities, and access beach areas. In August 2012, PMRF further relaxed beach access along its north and south boundaries to facilitate walk-in civilian beach use.

"MWR guest card holders will continue to enjoy main gate access, 365 days per year, unless heightened FPCON is in effect," said Mongillo.

Danger zone regulations are issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in response to requests made

by other Department of Defense agencies.

The proposed PMRF modification is a separate request from one recently withdrawn by the U.S. Army National Guard Hawaii for its shooting range at Kekaha. Although the Kekaha Range Facility and PMRF are directly adjacent to each other, the PMRF proposal is an independent action and the Corps of Engineers notes that the proposal would have practically no economic impact on the public, no anticipated navigational hazard, and no interference with existing waterborne traffic.

Public notices providing additional information about the proposal were published in the Federal Register and on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District website (www.poh.usace.army.mil) on July 1. The public has 30 days from this posting to provide comments on the proposal.

Reviews ensure shipyard is ready for projects

David Tomiyama

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Code 1160 Public Affairs

Since the end of December, the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard has actively held readiness reviews in support of major maintenance jobs on the USS Texas (SSN 775) extended dry docked selective restrictive availability project. The reviews saved time and money in completing depot level maintenance on the shipyard's first Virginia-class (VACL) submarine Chief of Navy Operations (CNO) availability.

Readiness reviews involve looking at every angle of a special attention job and making sure each code or shop is ready to perform.

"These reviews get engineering, testing, production, communities of practice and project management involved to ensure a collaborative effort," said Kevin Alford, shipyard job readiness key functional area leader.

"In some ways this is a cost-benefit analysis. The cost of a one-hour meeting that fixes paperwork, gets all the right materials pushed to the workers, and ensures they are in possession of the special tools gives us the benefit of not having to stop production work on the boat," Alford explained.

Readiness review's primary focus is to eliminate work stoppages. When work stops due to physical or administrative reasons, the project schedule can be thrown off. Workers rely heavily on fol-

lowing a schedule due to the tricky nature of performing and integrating maintenance on a submarine.

A schedule gives each code or shop a designated timeframe to work on an area, pack up their tools and materials, and clear out for the next group of workers to begin work. When work stoppages occur, it creates a delay that extends beyond just the area that is being worked on to delaying numerous codes and shops from beginning work.

The concept of readiness reviews has always been a part of shipyard maintenance. Adding VACL to the shipyard has brought a formalized and structured approach to reviews.

"This is the first time a sole person is responsible for con-



File photo

USS Texas

ducting different meetings, following up and holding a hot wash," said Alford.

"It's not a new concept but in the past it was just production and non-nuclear engi-

neering getting together, no real structure, format, agenda, and no facilitator taking a lead position."

Recent successes include work performed on the

sonar dome, thrust bearings, main seawater pump, general electrical work, steering and diving plain, bow planes, and shafting, rudder rust preservative, rotational deployment mechanism, exhaust boot, all of which had reviews before the maintenance began.

"The work we do on Texas is a first for us, so it makes sense to get together and talk through the labor. It has now become second nature to hold reviews," said Erwin Ford, Texas project mechanical zone manager. Future reviews are already planned for mechanical and electrical testing.

"What we capture here will help on future VACL CNO availabilities at the shipyard," Ford said.

Legislators, energy industry reps tour JBPHH hydrogen fuel cell facility



A group of state legislators and energy industry representatives toured the hydrogen fuel cell facility at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on July 1.

JBPHH photo by SrA Christopher Stoltz

Lt. Hannah Roberts

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

A group of state legislators and energy industry representatives toured the hydrogen fuel cell facility at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Hickam on July 1.

Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, hosted the tour, which included demonstrations of the fleet of hydrogen fuel cell vehicles (FCVs), a test drive, and a tour of the hydrogen production plant. The office

of Mark Nakashima, Big Island state representative, coordinated the tour for the group to learn about the viability of hydrogen fuel cell technology.

"The objectives of the tour were to increase awareness among legislators and business leaders of

the viability of hydrogen fuel cell technology to build support for commercialization and to review the latest status of the project and see how the technology can be rolled out for consumer use," said Lyle Fujikawa, aide to Nakashima.

The high level interest in this technology stems from the potential to "revolutionize transportation" and limit petroleum imports and greenhouse gas emissions. Increasing fuel prices and stronger policies to move away from fossil fuels for environmental concerns have placed renewable energy and green technologies in a prominent position in lawmakers' and industries eyes.

Ed Russell, project manager for Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technology (HCATT), and Chris Colquitt, General Motors (GM) Hawaii site leader for Advanced Technology Demonstrations Programs, briefed the group and offered test drives of the hydrogen-powered Chevy Equinox.

Colquitt said the versatility and robust nature of the

hydrogen fleet has many military applications and serves as a perfect substitute for many command vehicles. The hydrogen fuel cell technology provides a safe, clean and economically viable substitution to traditional combustion engine models.

After a test drive in the hydrogen-powered Chevy Equinox, common reactions were that fuel cell vehicles (FCVs) drive like a normal car, and it's hard to tell the difference.

Along with the Navy and Air Force at JBPHH, the Army and Marine Corps use nearly 120 FCVs.

"Hawaii is an excellent proving ground to develop this technology and requisite infrastructure.

The Hawaiian Islands allow for a high year-round access of renewable energy sources, and only a handful of hydrogen fueling stations are needed to cover the entire population's demand," Colquitt said.

"The limited possible ranges vehicles can travel on Oahu make it an especially convenient location to develop the vehicles and infrastructure."

Hawaii also endures the nation's highest fuel prices. The high fiscal and environmental cost of fossil fuel vehicles are motivations enough to develop the technologies required to transport service members and their families on the islands—cheaply, cleanly and safely.

Russell said large scale availability of the FCVs is still years away. On July 2, GM and Honda announced a partnership to bring hydrogen fuel cell vehicles to consumers by 2020.

He explained that the expensive infrastructure required to generate the electricity to produce hydrogen must be greatly expanded to ensure vehicles can conveniently refuel and keep up with consumer demand.

Likewise, the cars' engineering and driving abilities have gaps to make up in order to be the viable substitution for traditional cars. "If industry giants, military leaders and elected officials come together on this challenge, there is a lot of potential for FCVs in the future," he said.

Change of command

Continued from A-1

encountered over the past 20 months. It's an opportunity to thank those I worked for and worked with for their tremendous hard work, support and their sacrifice," Ponds said.

He ended his remarks by addressing Williams. "You will soon have the privilege to lead the pride of our Navy. I ask that you give them your all, because I can assure you they will give you all that they have."

Following the reading of orders, Williams officially became commander of Navy Region Hawaii with oversight of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Pacific Missile Range Facility and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, leading the 11 surface ships homeported in Hawaii.

Williams congratulated Ponds

"for his superb leadership, exceptional expertise in advancing this region and leading all the dynamic challenges facing our Navy and our military today."

"You did it with class and you're a hard act to follow," Williams said.

Williams thanked his family who were in attendance and pledged his support to military families.

"Without the foundation of a strong household unit to help shoulder the burden of our Navy life, Sailors like us could not do our jobs," he said.

Williams is a native of Pittsford, N.Y. He comes to Hawaii after leading the assessments branch for the staff of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Ponds, a native of Autaugaville, Ala., has served as commander of CNRN/MIDPAC since November 2011. He leaves Hawaii to become commander of Expeditionary Strike Group Three in San Diego.



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro. Photo Illustration

Rear Adm. Frank L. Ponds, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams Jr. shake hands following a change of command ceremony at the Battleship Missouri Memorial on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Williams relieved Ponds during the ceremony.