

Vice President Biden visits with service members at joint base

MC1 Cynthia Clark
Defense Media Activity, Hawaii

Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Dr. Jill Biden, visited with service members and their families during a stopover July 27 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The vice president and his wife were on their way back to Washington, D.C. from an overseas trip to Asia and Singapore.

"America's strength in the Pacific has never been greater," said Biden. "This rebalancing to Asia is a reassertion of our historic role. We are, and will remain, a resident Pacific power."

During his visit to joint base, Vice President Biden thanked those who stand the watch at home while their loved ones are deployed.

"Military families make up one percent of the population, and 99 percent of the rest of the population owes you our thanks for the incredible sacrifices you make," he said.

"The unseen sacrifices—the birthdays and weddings missed, the birth of a child or



Vice President Joe Biden speaks to service members and their families during a USO-sponsored barbecue at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). During the visit, Biden highlighted the sacrifices of military members and their families as well as the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region.

a funeral, the baseball games, the dance competitions, the child receiving an award, the mother reading a bedtime story, the father helping you with your homework—that's all missed when you're deployed," the vice president said.

Some of the families at the event expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to meet with the vice president. "I think it's a really great experience for my children. This may be a once in a lifetime thing for them," said Kelly Boyd, wife of Petty Officer 1st Class Keith Boyd from Navy Information Operations Command, Kunia.

"They were very sincere, and it was nice for them to come to our little island and take the time to visit with us."

Vice President Biden also shared a message from Washington with those in attendance.

"No one has paid a higher price than military families. I want you to know how much, on behalf of the president, Michelle Obama, Jill and I, how much we honor your service."

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey

In the aftermath of Flossie: A reminder not to be complacent

Karen S. Spangler
Managing Editor

Although the impending arrival of Tropical Storm Flossie in the islands this past week received considerable fanfare, her exit left less impact than was expected. Some lingering showers and high humidity hung around through the middle of the week after Flossie had deteriorated and left the vicinity of the islands.

But local civil defense officials and emergency management officials at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) remind residents not to become complacent.

"Hawaii is reaching the peak of hurricane season. If you are not prepared for a hurricane, Tropical Storm Flossie should have been your wake up call. The time to

get ready is now," said Daniel Dubois, emergency management officer for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

As tropical storm warnings and watches were broadcast across the islands, officials at JBPHH went into alert status and stood up the emergency operations center (EOC).

Dubois said the JBPHH EOC was inundated with phone calls asking about early

release of personnel from JBPHH and CNRH departments and tenant commands.

"Early release is a commander's decision. If you have a question about early release, contact your command's admin section, not the EOC," Dubois said.

According to the National Weather Service, Hurricane Gil has now formed in eastern Pacific waters. Weather forecasters don't have many details about Gil and where the storm might be headed. But one thing is for sure. It's not a matter of if the islands will be hit by one of the big storms, but when.

Disaster preparedness officials caution, you never know when a disaster is going to hit, so be prepared. The three most important things for island residents to remember are: be informed, have a plan and

make a kit.

Hurricane season started June 1 but the season extends until the end of November. However, the islands are also susceptible to other natural disasters such as tsunamis, earthquakes, flash flooding and high winds. It's important to heed the information provided by emergency management officials because no one knows when islanders might be faced with an emergency situation.

Have you put your disaster kit together yet? Do you have a family evacuation plan? Do you know the location of evacuation shelters?

"Ensure you have an emergency plan and your kit is ready to go. Disasters often happen with little warning and being prepared is critical. Don't forget about your

See FLOSSIE, A-4

Football great visits USS Paul Hamilton Sailors

(Right) Herschel Walker, former NFL player, stands with Cmdr. Luke A. Frost, commanding officer of guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Walker, Heisman Trophy winner, professional athlete, author and businessman, suffers from dissociative identity disorder and is the national spokesperson for the Patriot Support Program. (Below) Walker sits among midshipmen during an informational brief about the guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton.

U.S. Navy photos by MASN Johans Chavarro



Save Energy

Use the microwave. Cook using your microwave oven rather than your standard oven or range. It creates less heat and humidity in your home.



USS Santa Fe departs for western Pacific deployment
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Former Pan Am employees revisit old Clipper landing site
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Former USS Solace survivor laid to rest at Utah Memorial
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Pearl Harbor to mark centennial milestone
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Museum guests celebrate Amelia Earhart's 116th birthday
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Sharkey Theater reopens Saturday with new upgrades
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USS Santa Fe departs for western Pacific deployment

Story and photos by MC2 Steven Khor

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

Hugs and kisses from families and friends were part of the good-byes at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as the Los Angeles-class, fast-attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) departed July 29 for a deployment to the western Pacific region.

Cmdr. Timothy Poe, Santa Fe's commanding officer, noted that the submarine and its crew were excited to get underway to the western Pacific and train on numerous mission

areas as well as participate in theater security cooperation engagements.

"Santa Fe is in excellent condition. Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard personnel have worked diligently to ensure the ship is in even better condition than when she was commissioned," said Poe.

According to Poe, of the 140 Sailors who will be deploying, 80 of the Sailors will be on their first deployment.

He said Santa Fe's goal is to build the next generation of war fighters. The Sailors will qualify in submarines and gain the critical experience and knowledge to propel the submarine force for many years.

Poe added that the crew



(Left) Machinist's Mate 1st Class Stevahn Allen of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) hugs his girlfriend at a luncheon prior to the submarine's departure from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Above) Santa Fe departs July 29 for a deployment to the western Pacific region.

Photo illustration

will serve with honor and commitment that will reflect greatly on the U.S. Navy and her namesake city of Santa Fe, N.M.

For Culinary Specialist Seaman Dustin Bullock, a first deployment brings much excitement.

"I'm pretty excited about it. It's going to be a learning experience. I am looking forward to the port visits, seeing the different cultures and lifestyles and trying different things," said Bullock.

Santa Fe is the second ship to be named in honor of the capital city of New Mexico. As an improved Los Angeles-class, it features retractable bow planes and 12 vertical launch tubes for cruise missile strikes.

Former Pan Am employees revisit old Clipper landing site

Story and photos by Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

About two dozen former employees of Pan American World Airways, better known as Pan Am, gathered at Pearl City Peninsula on July 18 to reminisce and visit the site where Pan Am's Clippers landed en route from the U.S. west coast to Asia.

Clippers were "flying boats": fixed-winged seaplanes with a hull allowing them to land on water. The first Pan Am Clipper to land at Pan American Airways Ocean Air Base Number One at the Pearl City Peninsula was the famous "China Clipper." It touched down in the waters of Pearl Harbor on Nov. 23, 1935 after 21 hours and 20 minutes of flying time. At least 3,000 people gathered to greet the clipper.

Waikiki Before Waikiki

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Pearl City and Pearl Harbor were very popular with the yachting community and the island's wealthier residents. Jeff Dodge, historical architect at Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), described the area as "Waikiki before Waikiki was Waikiki." Many prominent Hawaii families had homes at the peninsula, including the Dillingham, Atkinson, Dowsett and Cooke families.

Many of these homes eventually became what were known as "Clipper houses" where crews of Pan Am's transpacific flights rested in between trips. To accommodate more people, the Clipper houses were fur-



(Top) Little remains of the dock Pan Am Clippers stopped at en route to Asia. (Left) A plaque marks the spot at Pearl City Peninsula where the Pan Am "China Clipper" landed in 1935. (Above) "Clipper houses" were used by the crews of Pan Am's transpacific flights to rest between trips.

nished with hammocks instead of conventional beds. Today, only two of the original houses are still standing.

Even less of the dock for the flying boats remains.

"The dock was once intact and much larger," said Paula Helfrich as she pointed to the remnants of the dock. Helfrich worked for Pan American World Airways from 1965 to 1986 and flew the line in six locations all over the world.

"Past where it ends now, there were 400 to 500 yards of wooden docks," she said. "Planes had an unimpeded

ability to coast in and land."

At one point, Pan Am planes landed at Pearl City Peninsula about two to three times a week, and about 75 Pan Am employees worked at the location. However, the days of the Clippers at Pearl Harbor were numbered.

Like so much else in America, everything changed as a result of the Dec. 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

"There were three or four Clippers in the water when the attack started," said Helfrich. "They were dragged on land to get them

away from the bombs."

Pan Am employees quickly went out on boats to lend whatever assistance they could and ended up rescuing more than 250 people. By nightfall, the rescue efforts were essentially over, and workers turned to the sad task of recovering bodies.

Remembering 50th Anniversary

Dec. 7 essentially marked the end of Pan Am's time at Pearl Harbor.

"Soon after the attack they moved to Lagoon Drive," said Dodge.

In November 1985, there was an event to celebrate the

50th anniversary of the first Pan Am "China Clipper" flight. Diane Vanderzanden, who worked as a flight attendant for the company in Hawaii from 1963 to 1986, participated in the celebration.

"We invited famous people who were friends of Pan Am," she said. "About seven limos came down a dirt road to the peninsula. It was pretty hot, so we had to hold umbrellas for our guests."

A ceremony was held at the landing site of the Clippers, and then the guests traveled in a convoy to the Royal Hawaiian Hotel

in Waikiki where they were staying.

Pan Am continued to operate in Hawaii until the company ceased Pacific operations in 1986. Besides remnants of the landing dock and a couple of the homes used as Clipper houses, little of Pan American Airways Ocean Air Base Number One in Pearl City remains.

A memorial plaque at Pearl City Peninsula marks the spot where the "China Clipper" made history, ensuring that, while the famed Clipper planes are long gone, they will not be forgotten.



Photo courtesy of Pacific Aviation Museum

Historic Clipper site brings back memories for former employees

Meg Petrone

Contributing Writer

More than 70 years after the Pan Am Clippers came to Hawaii, former Pan Am employees and family members joined together July 18 to celebrate and remember the great journey and accomplishments of Pan Am's flying days.

During the 1930s, Pan Am "flying boats," better known as the Pan Am Clippers, used Ford Island as a landing base and terminal. The Clippers subsequently relocated to Pearl City Peninsula due to an increase in activity on Ford Island.

"I remember we were all close and, in time, I started bringing groups of school kids down so that they could learn and see firsthand what Pan Am was doing, and I remember Alex Luca being very instrumental in that," said Paula Helfrich, who formerly worked for Pan American World Airways.

Luca was in charge of the crash boat, which meant he accompanied the "flying boats"

out for takeoff in case of an emergency.

However, on Dec. 7, 1941, Luca's job intensified. Instead of running a crash boat for "just in case" purposes, he was responding to a horrific scene—the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"Virginia Seams was the first Pan Am member to witness the attack on Pearl Harbor, and she screamed for help immediately. Everyone in the area began dragging the three or four Clippers that were in port to land to try and avoid the bombs," Helfrich said.

She explained that Luca immediately began running the crash boat. At first, he rescued Sailors in hopes that they would have a chance of survival. Later, he began retrieving the bodies of those who died in the attack.

Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Pan Am stopped all flights from Pearl City Peninsula.

On Nov. 22, 1985, a plaque was placed at Pearl City Peninsula in honor of Pan Am on the 50th anniversary of its first



Paula Helfrich (left), longtime Pan Am employee discusses the history of the airline at Pearl City Peninsula with Jeff Dodge (right), historical architect at Naval Facilities Engineering Command.

transpacific flight. A celebration took place for the unveiling of the plaque and many-honored

guests were in attendance. However, just a few days prior to the unveiling, Helfrich and

another employee decided to add a little piece of history to the plaque.

"We made a roster of all the employees' names and years of service with Pan Am and, in the dead of night, we placed it into the foundation before the plaque was set," Helfrich said.

She explained that the employees of Pan Am were just your everyday people, but said that each employee brought his own unique aspect and that's what kept things going so smoothly.

During their visit, the former employees and family members walked around Pearl City Peninsula, sharing stories from the past and filling in missing pieces of history.

"I grew up on a farm and I went to college and became a teacher, and I did teach for two years. Then here I was, flying around the world. It was a wonderful experience," said Diane Vanderzanden, who was a Pan Am flight attendant for 23 years.

"I am a tourist at heart, and I believe that's how many of us were," she said.

Commentary

VP visit shows power of community, teamwork, planning

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Last Saturday's visit by Vice President Biden and Dr. Jill Biden showed the importance of community, the power of teamwork and the reason for good planning.

Our joint base team led the way in planning and conducting the VP family picnic at Ward Field. Well done!

With help from the USO, the PACAF Band, 50

security personnel, 100 galley volunteers, *hula halau* dancers, MWR, EMTs and others, our

team came together – on short notice – to give the Vice President and Dr. Biden a warm Hawaii welcome.

The visit made me think of the common values we all share, no matter what uniform (or *aloha* shirt) we wear, no matter our rank, position or viewpoint. I thought about how much we can achieve when we realize how much we have in common and agree to work together. The VP visit helped us feel a better sense of belonging, part of a greater cause.

The visit also brought to mind how and why we do planning.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower once said, "...plans are useless, but planning is indispensable." In other words, no plan stays perfectly intact in the face of combat, major disaster or any other major event. But in order for a plan to be flexible and adaptable, you must have a plan. Last Saturday I saw the results of thoughtful, adaptable process planning.

The process was developed by people who know their business in material readiness, equipment preparedness, safety and security. The plan was carried out by committed people with unique skill sets, speed of trust and a sense of purpose.

That kind of teamwork and execution can be counted on across the spec-



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro
Vice President Joe Biden shakes hands with a young *halau* dancer during a USO-sponsored barbecue at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

trum of operations – whether we are faced with a VP picnic or a humanitarian assistance operation. No matter what the call, I am confident our talented team here in Hawaii will rise to the occasion.

From the planning process, to the running of the event itself, to sharing in the unique experience, it was clear we were all connected, part of a team. Vice President and Dr. Biden spent an extended time with us, taking photos with military families and thanking them for their service. There were

lots of smiles and expressions of gratitude and appreciation.

I'm sure more people wish they could have participated. Unfortunately, USO could only invite a limited number of guests, and invitations were made available to all services. By far, most of the people who enjoyed the picnic were junior or mid-level enlisted service members, junior officers and families.

The vice president's message to all of us reinforced the importance of our strategic mission and historic role

here in Hawaii.

When the CNO talks about the "Be Ready" tenet of his sailing directions, he says, "Harness the teamwork, talent and imagination of our diverse force to be ready..."

This applies locally here in Hawaii as well as globally, wherever we serve. As the vice president told us, the cooperation and understanding we build throughout our region contributes to stability in the Pacific.

In other words, we are part of a great team, a great community and a great cause.

Diverse Views



What is your best idea as to how Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Pacific Missile Range Facility can meet the target of reducing energy consumption by 3 percent each year?

Master Sgt. Freddy Meza-Romero
647th Force Support Squadron



"Educating our Airmen further about cost-saving initiatives and techniques would be the best way to conserve energy. We don't necessarily need to reinvent the wheel; we just need to grease it."



Edward Woo
Navy Region Hawaii

"Solar panels, especially in Kauai. At Barking Sands, there are never clouds or rain and solar panels would be most beneficial out there."

Staff Sgt. Julie Bascoe
647th Command Support



"Powering down our equipment at the end of the work day would be the best way to real the energy conservation goals. I see people leaving their monitors and lights on all of the time when I leave. A simple action of everyone turning them off could easily help the base reach their goals."



OS1 James Darden
Silver Dolphin Base Galley

"Make sure leaky faucets are fixed. As it leaks, it is money going down the drain. Make sure the lights are turned off when no one is in the space, especially during the weekend when no one is there. Make sure the ACs are in a certain degree."

Capt. Daniel Lee
Air Force Legal Operations Agency



"A simple changing of temperature would be an easy way to conserve energy, even if it is as simple of increasing the central air temperature by one or two degrees in larger buildings throughout the joint base. It would barely be noticeable by most people working and could save the base in energy costs."



PS1 Darwin Esmino
Navy Operation Support Center, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"In NOSC Pearl Harbor, before leaving the building we secure all AC units, lights and also during the day we maintain 80 degrees for the settings of our ACs and all the unused computers. We turn them down and with that, I'm pretty sure it would help out to reduce the energy consumption to at least 3 percent each year."

Staff Sgt. Violeta Martinez
Air Force Legal Operations Agency



"Spot-checks in the dorms could help save energy. Think of all the electronics Airmen might keep plugged in and running during the workday. Also, unplug chargers from walls when not in use. Even if they are not plugged into any electronics, they are still drawing energy."



Tech. Sgt. Peter Maselli
647th Force Support Squadron

"The answer is simple. Shorten every workday by 3 percent and you will see a savings of 3 percent. We could also install more motion detectors in and around the work areas to shut lights and other items off when they are not in use."

(Provided by SrA Christopher Stoltz 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

Aupaka Pedestrian Gate to open for school

Beginning the first day of school on Aug. 5, JBPHH security will open the Aupaka Pedestrian Gate. The hours will be 7 to 8:30 a.m. and 2 to 3:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 7 to 8:30 a.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. The gate will be

open on that schedule throughout the school year. Drivers are reminded to be especially cautious in the vicinity of schools and crosswalks.

A birds-eye view of historic Pearl Harbor



Official U.S. Navy photograph

An aerial view of the Naval Operating Base, Pearl Harbor, looks southwest on Oct. 30, 1941. Ford Island Naval Air Station is in the center, with the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard just beyond it, across the channel. The airfield in the upper left-center is the Army's Hickam Field.

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Bringham replaces Kerr as USS Bremerton commanding officer

Story and photo by
MC2 Steven Khor

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

Cmdr. Wesley Bringham replaced Cmdr. Caleb Kerr as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Bremerton (SSN 698) during a time-honored ceremony held July 26 at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Capt. James Childs, commander of Commander Submarine Squadron One, was the guest speaker. He praised Kerr for his exceptional performance while in command of Bremerton.

"Caleb, congratulations on a tremendous tour in the most important job in the Navy and the pinnacle of naval service," said Childs.



Cmdr. Caleb Kerr is piped ashore after being relieved by Cmdr. Wesley Bringham as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Bremerton (SSN 698).

Kerr said he is proud of having the opportunity to be in command of Bremerton.

"It has been an honor to serve with all of you for the past three years, and I look forward to hearing about the continued success of the 'Bad Fish.' Be true, work hard, work smart, work together, be ready, win wars," said Kerr.

During the ceremony, Kerr received the Meritorious Service Medal for his performance as the commanding officer of Bremerton from June 2010 to July 2013.

Among Kerr's awards are the Bronze Star, Combat Action Ribbon and Meritorious Service Medal as well as other unit awards and commendations.

As Bringham assumed command of Bremerton, he thanked Kerr for turning

over a great command and an even greater crew. His first words were of admiration.

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your new commanding officer. To safely navigate our upcoming transitions, I ask you to press on, maintaining your steady strain on the fundamental submarining that is so clearly a reflection of Capt. Kerr's gifted leadership," said Bringham.

USS Bremerton is named in honor of the city of Bremerton, Wash. Commissioned in March 28, 1981, Bremerton is the 10th ship of the Los Angeles-class of nuclear attack submarines. The submarine is 362 feet long, displaces 6,900 tons, and can be armed with sophisticated Mark-48 torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Girl Scouts leave cookies at home, indulge in local history

Story and photos by
SrA Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor
Hickam Public Affairs

In most cases, when someone hears the words "Girl Scouts," they immediately think of the delicious cookies they sell. While it is true that Girl Scouts are known more for selling Thin Mints and Samoas, the Hickam Pearl Harbor Ohana Girl Scouts visited The Fort Kamehameha and Halealoha Haleamau Burial Platform on July 25—not to sell cookies, but to indulge in the treat that is local Hawaiian history.

A group of 60 Girl Scouts and scout leaders visited the platform area, located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), with intentions of learning more about the culture around them. The scouts visited in order to obtain the *ohana* badge, a unique Girl Scout badge set specifically for those who learn about Hawaiian culture, its ecosystem and its history.

The visit included three groups who taught the scouts about the Halealoha Haleamau Burial Platform. This included a display with archaeological artifacts found in the area; information about the ti leaf plant, its care and native and introduced plants in Hawaii; and the history of Fort Kamehameha housing area.

"I have wanted to visit here [Fort Kamehameha and Halealoha Haleamau Burial Platform] for a while now, and I just thought it would be a good spot for the



The Hickam Pearl Harbor Girl Scouts visited the Fort Kamehameha and Halealoha Burial Platform area July 25, in hopes of obtaining their *Ohana* badge. While there, they were able to learn about the history of the platform and Fort Kamehameha area. They also were able to see artifacts collected in the area and learn about the *Ti* Leaf.

girls to visit," said Sharon Work, Hickam Pearl Harbor Ohana Girl Scout leader. "Learning about native Hawaiian culture is our duty while we are here."

As part of the visit, Jessie Higa, JBPHH volunteer base historian, brought the scouts through the historic homes of Fort Kamehameha to help the children understand the

importance of maintaining and preserving history and even showed them examples of those who did not.

"I took children on a walk through the historical Fort Kamehameha houses that

were built in 1916 for the Army Coast Artillery families," she said. "The children learned how the land has been transformed and how we best take care of it."

Unfortunately, the trans-

formation has not been the best for much of the area. Higa showed the scouts various examples of historic homes that have been damaged and broken into. She stressed the importance of maintaining and helping preserve history, especially if you have the opportunity to do so.

"This visit is important because military children have a phenomenal opportunity to learn about history right here in their backyard," she said.

"It impacts them personally and they have a deeper connection, ownership and appreciation with the history than they could have grasped from a textbook. I believe the key to preserving our base history is through an 'on site' educational experience," Higa said.

Jeff Pantaleo, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii archeologist, said it is important to educate our youth, especially from on-base schools, so they understand past cultures and landscapes. By understanding our past, he said, we can better appreciate other cultures and appreciate where we came from and how we can be better individuals and take care of the *aina*. At the end of the visit, not only did the Girl Scouts leave knowing they have earned their *ohana* badge, but they were given a better understanding of Hawaiian culture.

They also learned the real treat is to do your best to help, rather than hinder. It's also easier on the hips.

Stebbins becomes new CO of MDSU-1

Commander, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group One
Public Affairs

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit One (MDSU-1) held a change of command ceremony July 12 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam.

During the ceremony, Cmdr. Jeffrey W. Stebbins relieved Cmdr. Thomas P. Murphy as commanding officer of MDSU-1.

"You maintained the highest state of mission readiness despite an arduous operational schedule during which the command trained, equipped and deployed seven combat-ready mobile diving and salvage companies to locations all over the world, conducting priority missions, numerous exercises, salvage operations and unexploded ordnance responses," said Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, commander, Navy Region Northwest.

Under Murphy's leadership, MDSU-1 deployed forces to the U.S. 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th Fleet areas of responsibility in support of national security objectives. Murphy successfully deployed twice as Commander, Task Group 56.1 and 56.9 where he led MDSU-1 and explosive ordnance disposal Sailors in the completion of more than 950 high-risk operations throughout multiple regions with zero mishaps and 100 percent mission success.

Murphy was commissioned in 1993 at State University New York Maritime College after earning a degree in business administration. His next assignment will be as chief of staff for Commander, Mine Countermeasures Squadron Seven in Sasebo, Japan.

Stebbins, a native of Hingham, Mass., received his commission in 1998 through Officer Candidate School after previously earning a degree in economics from St. Michael's College in Burlington, Vt. Prior to assuming command, Stebbins served in the current operations directorate at Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet in Hawaii.

"To the officers and crew of MDSU-1, it is my greatest honor to serve with you. We will maintain the extraordinary tradition of expeditionary diving excellence already established and continue to raise the bar as the best diving unit in the Navy," said Stebbins.

MDSU-1 is one of the Navy's diving and salvage units, prepared to rapidly deploy combat-ready, expeditionary warfare capable, specialized dive teams to conduct harbor and waterway clearance, emergent underwater repairs, and salvage operations in all environments.

Island residents urged to take precautions

Continued from A-1

pets when you are working on your plan and emergency kit," Dubois advised.

He also stressed the importance of residents collecting the food, water, batteries and other supplies that they need ahead of time. Too often, people wait until the last minute to purchase plywood and board up their homes, purchase the necessary supplies, etc., he noted.

He cautioned that residents should not wait until the 24-hour hurricane warning advisory has been issued to begin to prepare. "That's too late – preparations should be made long before that," he said.

By waiting too long to prepare, residents may find that it is impossible to find the essentials that they need to ride out the storm.

Island residents should also keep in mind that if there are power outages, ATMs (automated teller machines) would not be operable and couldn't dispense money, and the pumps at gas stations would not work.

Remembering that it is a matter of when, not if, a hurricane or natural disaster may occur, Dubois offered some advice for island residents.

"Emergency public information is made available on Facebook and the Straight Talk Line (421-4000), Nixle and CDNS [computer desktop notification system]. EM [emergency management] and PAO [public affairs office] will provide emergency information as the event unfolds," Dubois said.

"If you hear the mass warning and notification sirens (Giant Voice) sound, go to the JBPHH Facebook site or Straight Talk line for further information. Register for Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam on Nixle (www.nixle.com) to receive text messages direct to your phone and email," he added.

Hurricane/disaster preparedness information can be found on the Navy Region Hawaii Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NavyRegionHawaii and on the JBPHH Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JointBasePearlHarborHickam.

Information is also available on the Navy Region Hawaii website at www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii, the JBPHH website at www.cnic.navy.mil/PearlHarborHickam, and on JBPHH TV Channel 2.

Go to www.ready.gov, www.ready.navy.mil or www.beready.af.mil for information on what you need in your emergency kit.

All residents are advised to take the following preparedness actions:

- Fill up the fuel tank in your vehicle(s).
 - Have some spare cash on hand. The amount you would normally spend in one week is a good plan.
 - Be aware of the hazards that hurricanes and tropical storms create – destructive storm surge, severe flooding and high winds.
 - Know the location of your nearest hurricane shelter but do not automatically go there. Locations and opening times will be broadcast over TV and radio. See this link for Hawaii hurricane evacuation shelters: <http://ow.ly/nyy09>
 - Know if you are located in a tsunami evacuation zone. Evacuation zones for hurricanes and tropical storms are the same as those for tsunami events. Evacuation zones are printed in the yellow tabbed section of your telephone white pages. Or see this link for an interactive evacuation zone map <http://tsunami.csc.noaa.gov/>.
 - Consider designating an off-island friend as a family emergency contact should you be separated following a hurricane or other disaster.
- When phone systems are restored, family members can check in with this person.
- Plan to care for your family pets in the event you have to evacuate your home. Do not leave pets at home. If your home is not safe for you, it is not safe for your pets.
 - Find out if your insurance policy covers flood damage.
 - Stock a seven-day supply of non-perishable foods and emergency supplies.
 - Make sure you have a battery-operated radio, flashlight and spare batteries on hand at all times.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



(Left) Rear Adm. James F. Caldwell, commander of Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet, points out what he has translated to Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shigeeda about the *hinomaru yosegaki*, a good luck flag, after a ceremony at the Consulate-General of Japan in Honolulu. Caldwell's uncle received the flag during WWII and Caldwell returned it to the Consul General in the hopes that it will eventually be returned to the family members of the former Japanese soldier.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 David Kolmel



(Right) Machinist's Mate 1st Class Nate Hansen of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Santa Fe (SSN 763) holds his daughter, Roselyn, and jokes with his wife, Rachel, at a luncheon prior to the submarine's departure July 29 from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a deployment to the western Pacific region.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Steven Khor



(Left) Former U.S. Army Capt. Myron "Skip" Kawakami, Bronze Star recipient, addresses the crowd during his Bronze Star medal ceremony held July 26 at the 15th Wing headquarters building at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jerome S. Tayborn

(Right) Capt. Wallace Lovely, Pacific Partnership 2013 mission commander, thanks students for handmade floral necklaces during a welcoming ceremony held at Seghe Hospital during Pacific Partnership 2013. Working at the invitation of each host nation, U.S. Navy forces are joined by non-governmental organizations and regional partners that include Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, and New Zealand to improve maritime security, conduct humanitarian assistance and strengthen disaster-response preparedness.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Carlos M. Vazquez II



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Michelle Thomas

Members of the 647th Force Support Squadron and the Hawaii Air National Guard 154th Force Support Squadron prepare to dismantle "Base X" on the last day of an operational readiness exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The week-long exercise demonstrated the effective use of total force integration with active duty and Hawaii Air National Guard Airmen working side-by-side to accomplish the mission.

Former USS Solace survivor laid to rest at Utah Memorial

Story and photos by
MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West, Detachment
Hawaii

A Pearl Harbor survivor was laid to rest during an ash scattering ceremony held July 24 at the USS Utah Memorial at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Family members of Yeoman 1st Class Alphonse "Al" Vanden Brul scattered his remains, along with a portion of his late wife's, into the harbor where he was reunited with shipmates who lost their lives during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii, started the ceremony by giving a short overview of Vanden Brul's life.

Al, along with his twin brother John, was born Nov. 28, 1918 during a flu epidemic in Rochester, N.Y., and later both of the brothers joined the Navy Reserve at the age of 17. Due to the approaching war, the brothers were called to active duty in April 1941.

In June 1941 Vanden Brul and his brother were sent to join the Navy's newest ship USS Solace (AH-5), a hospital ship stationed at Pearl Harbor.

During the morning of the attack, Al was assigned to duties in the laundry room. As he was getting ready to head out for church, some of the nurses onboard looked out of the ship and saw USS Utah get hit and roll over.

Later that day, boats were

pulling alongside the Solace with casualties, some alive and others dead. His job was to put his living shipmates into hospital beds and take the deceased to the stern of the ship to be identified later, along with the gruesome burning of blood-drenched bed sheets.

"The Vanden Brul family is quite amazing, four brothers in the Navy during World War II," said Jim Taylor.

"Herbert earned a degree in law after leaving the Navy, Robert actually retired from the Navy, John and Al worked at Eastman Kodak after receiving their honorable discharges and retired in the early 1980s."

Al passed away recently on May 29. Family members recalled that he always talked about the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, particularly during the last few years of his life, which is the reason they returned his remains here at Pearl Harbor.

"Al would tell you he was not a hero. He was simply doing his job as everyone was expected to do, nothing more, nothing less" said Capt. Lawrence Scruggs, deputy commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility.

"He embodies the spirit and tradition of our rich Navy. His life is an inspiration to us in this time of war and challenge. I stand here today to say, shipmate...we have the watch," Scruggs said.

Family members, including Al's daughters, attended the ceremony which included a three-volley salute, sounding of Taps, and presentation of the American flag to the family.



Ceremony honors Bronze Star recipient 40 years later

Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

More than 40 years after earning a Bronze Star Medal, a Vietnam veteran was formally presented the decoration in a ceremony held July 26 at joint base.

The Bronze Star was officially awarded to former U.S. Army Capt. Myron Kawakami during his final assignment at Fort Lewis, Wash. in 1971 though there was never a ceremony or presentation.

The Bronze Star Medal is an individual military award of the United States Armed Forces. It may be awarded for acts of heroism, acts of merit, or meritorious service in a combat zone.

The medal, awarded for Kawakami's meritorious duty in Vietnam, was presented by 15th Wing commander, Col. Johnny Roscoe.

"Service, motivation, inspiration and courage—you are the epitome of all of these," Roscoe told Kawakami before presenting him with his medal.

Roscoe also told Kawakami the amount of time it took to have the medal properly presented in no way diminishes the importance of his service.

"We do remember, and we do believe that your service deserves to be honored," he said.

Kawakami, who joined the Army as part of the Dental Corps, deployed to the 137th Medical



Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, pins a Bronze Star on former U.S. Army Capt. Myron "Skip" Kawakami during his decoration ceremony July 26 at the 15th Wing headquarters building at joint base.

Detachment in Long Binh, Vietnam in September of 1969 where he focused on improving the life of his patients.

While in Vietnam, Kawakami was forward-deployed to an engineering battalion in Dong Tam, a one square-mile station in Mekong Delta. As the solo dentist for his unit, he took care of his primary

duties and pitched in wherever he was needed. This frequently meant assisting the medical personnel under fire and helping out at the aid station when there was not enough medical help to treat the wounded.

Kawakami was commended by his commanding officers for his "exemplary total patient care in

the field of dentistry and his restorative techniques."

"I was just doing my job," Kawakami said of his time in Vietnam.

"From the time I was commissioned, I realized [going to] Vietnam was a very real possibility," he said.

"Time goes so quickly. I remem-

ber it just like it was yesterday. The day I got my orders was a day I'll always remember."

After accepting the medal from Roscoe, Kawakami expressed his gratitude for the "long overdue" ceremony.

"Thank you so much," he said. "It's like waiting for something you felt would never happen, yet it's happening."

Kawakami said the medal had been hidden away in his night stand for more than 40 years before the ceremony.

"The best thing about my Vietnam saga is today," he said.

Recognizing the efforts of his fellow comrades in battle, Kawakami said he was accepting his medal on behalf of all the other men and women who were never told "thank you" for serving in Vietnam.

Although his Vietnam days are long behind him, Kawakami continues to serve his country and honor service members today through his work with the Friends of Hickam organization.

Members of Friends of Hickam serve as facilitators between the 15th Wing and the Hawaii community and work to promote closer relationships between the base and the local community, a job Roscoe said is, "truly service in every sense of the word."

"This is America saying thank you today," Roscoe said in regard to Kawakami's time in Vietnam and his long-time commitment to Hickam Airmen.

FACSFAC Pearl Harbor supports flight school for girls

Don Robbins

Assistant Editor

Fleet Area Control Surveillance Center San Diego Detachment Pearl Harbor (FACSFAC SD Det. Pearl Harbor) recently played an integral part in educating the young women of the advanced flight school program hosted by the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island.

Air Traffic Control Chief Joe Garza and Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Timothy Fortier provided an indoctrination course on the air traffic control side of aviation. The course included an overview of air traffic control procedures, a "rules of the road" course brief, phraseology (language used to control actual aircraft) and the dynamics of air traffic control operations within and surrounding the Hawaiian Islands.

This course rules brief was specifically intended to capture, in easily understood terms, a day in the life of an air traffic controller for these young students who represent the future face of aviation, Fortier explained.

"This was my first experience working with the flight school at

the Pacific Aviation Museum. The motivation and the skill level of these young women is impressive and shows that the youth of today is willing to learn and excel at all aspects," said Fortier.

"I thoroughly enjoyed teaching these ladies the ins and outs of air traffic control, and hope that I may have sparked an interest so strong, that I may have been teaching my relief for when I retire in 11 years," Fortier added.

The air traffic control team at FACSFAC led by Garza and Fortier constructed a simulator based scenario in the radar operations control center using actual air traffic control radar scopes, enabling the girls to vector (turn) an aircraft through a simple maze which was created for this event.

This scenario-based simulator is identical to the one used to teach journeyman air traffic controllers, as well as those who are studying to become controllers at the U. S. Navy's Air Traffic Control School in Pensacola, Fla.

These young students were able to apply what they had been taught in the classroom environment by participating in this life-like scenario, and they helped guide the simulated aircraft safely



Air-Traffic Controller 1st Class Timothy Fortier runs the simulation on the watch floor.

home. The girls really enjoyed this simulator, and some students expressed an interest in going into the air traffic control

field, Fortier said.

"I have been participating in this mentoring program (flight school for girls) for over a year. The

advanced flight school for girls curriculum picks up where the basic flight school for girls program left off," said Cmdr. Hillary Darby, FACSFAC Pearl Harbor officer-in-charge.

"This new course represents an opportunity for young ladies to immerse themselves in various aspects of aviation and perhaps inspire them to embrace non-traditional career fields and opportunities," said Darby.

"It is exciting to watch these young women taking it to the next level and the collective 'can do spirit' that emerges as they gain confidence throughout the three day-course," Darby added.

Dr. Shauna Tonkin, Pacific Aviation Museum's education director, said the FACSFAC team had a professional and cordial demeanor. Tonkin added, "The excellent simulation they prepared exceeded my expectations. They created meaningful activities that exemplify the values of our program."

"FACSFAC SD DET Pearl Harbor takes great pride in mentoring the youth of tomorrow, and looks forward to fostering their relationship with the Pacific Aviation Museum," said Fortier.

Photo by Dr. Shauna E. Tonkin

Lehua Elementary School hosts Summer Robotics Academy

David Tom

School Liaison Officer, Navy Region Hawaii

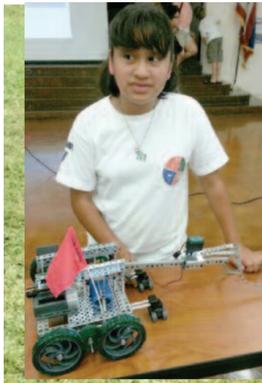
Summer is the time of the year that most students look forward to: a time for relaxing, playing and vacation. However, for 25 students (including eight military students from the Pearl City Peninsula) from seven public schools in the Pearl City Complex, this summer was one of intense and fun learning at the summer robotics academy held at Lehua Elementary School.

The academy was organized by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific (SSC Pacific) and sponsored by the National Defense Education Program (NDEP) to promote future science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers by engaging elementary and middle school students with hands-on activities.

The SSC Pacific team has been supporting Lehua and 22 other K-12 schools, mostly in the leeward district, by providing relevance of math, science and technology. During the academy, SSC Pacific's scientists and engineers served as mentors and coaches for each student.

The Menchaca family said they thoroughly enjoyed their experience. According to 11-year old Thalia, "This was my first time working with robotics. I wanted to try something new, and it was a fun learning opportunity."

Her 13-year old brother, Victor, started during the school year with



Thalia Menchaca (inset) and her brother participate in the summer robotics academy at Lehua Elementary School.

Photo courtesy of Lehua Elementary School



the Lehua Visionaries (engineering club) and served as an academy mentor. "I wanted to learn more, teach and give back to the academy and the community," Victor said.

According to their mother, Angie Menchaca, "Victor looked forward to it every day, and he's now excit-

ed about school."

For the Nauta family, the academy impetus was slightly different and started with 8-year old son Jayden. He was allowed to join Lehua Visionaries midway through his third grade year even though the minimum age

was fourth grade.

"Jayden was so excited with Visionaries that he convinced his 12-year old sister, Jasmynne, to join him at the summer academy," said his mom, Melody Nauta. Jayden,

"I liked building stuff in robotics and learning to program the robots

in the computer," said Jayden.

"I got to learn something I thought I never would learn in my entire life—graphic design and photo manipulation," said Jasmynne, who also served as a mentor.

"I was also the PR person for the academy to the community, and it increased my confidence in my communication skills," she said.

"Our colleagues are continually impressed with the students' enthusiasm and quick learning," said Nick Kamin, SSC Pacific's k-12 education outreach coordinator in Hawaii.

"It was a true win-win effort for SSC Pacific and Lehua, bringing students from seven schools within three districts going through the summer robotics academy."

"I really appreciate the work done by Michael Wright and Jennifer Kim, the program directors, as well as Hai Nguyen and the Pearl City High School Robotics Club students for serving as academy mentors. I am also thankful for the support of Nick Kamin and SPAWAR, as well as recently retired Principal Fay Toyama, without whom none of this would have been possible," said Joseph Halfmann, newly appointed principal at Lehua Elementary.

"Our students learned that science and technology are exciting, and that a future in STEM is possible and achievable," said Halfmann.

Victor Menchaca has big dreams. "When I become an adult, I want to be a cybersecurity professional in the United States Navy."

Children need nutritious meals to fuel energy for school

Lt. Julie Holcomb

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

It's that time of year again. Thousands of children will be returning to school from a long summer with lunch bags in hand. For some parents, ensuring their children receive the proper nutrition is a challenge.

A healthy lifestyle includes getting enough sleep, exercising, and eating the right kinds of food. This process begins and ends in the home.

"If children are running on empty, there is not enough fuel for the brain. Even when we are just sitting there, just listening and trying to pay attention, the brain uses a lot of energy," said Anna Tai, Tripler Army Medical Center's pediatric dietitian.

"It's important for kids to eat something in the morning, so they are able to stay focused during the day," Tai said.

According to nutritionists, breakfast is a very important meal. This first meal of the day replenishes essential nutrients to the body after a long sleep.

It stimulates the body's metabolism and increases concentration. Unfortunately, many children do not eat breakfast on a regular basis.

"Schools don't give children a lot of time to eat



anytime. There are a lot of kids who would rather spend their time playing than sitting down and eating a whole meal," said Tai.

Tai recommended that parents offer foods that have a carbohydrate and protein base to set their children up for success during the first part of the day.

Tai explained that the journey to healthy eating does not stop at breakfast. Children need the right foods to get them over the hump at lunchtime, she said. If your kids brown bag it, packing them colorful vegetables with tasty dips helps you make fruits and vegetables fun to eat.

"I tell [parents] to think of lunch as a big snack. You can pack a lot of different things like string cheese, a hardboiled egg, yogurt, fruit cups, dried fruits, nuts, trail mix, all different kinds of snacks," said Tai.

"That way the kids can

eat a little, go play, and then eat a little more when they are hungry again."

A healthy lifestyle includes physical activity. In some schools, the physical education requirement has been all but eliminated to accommodate the growing concen-

tration on academics.

"I've noticed some schools don't even have P.E. [physical education] at all. That's something we need to start paying attention to," said Tai.

"Nowadays, a lot of children don't get as much of the outside activity we used to get when we were younger. Most of them just sit at home and play on their computers. They are still eating a lot but not burning the calories."

By encouraging after-school activities, parents can ensure their children are catching up on the physical activity missed throughout the day at school.

As a parent, it might be necessary to monitor what your child is eating after school.

While it is important to eat regularly to maintain an active metabolism, after school snacks can be loaded with fat and empty calories. If parents want their children to eat healthy fruits and vegetables, they have to make them more readily available.

"When kids are hungry and want something to eat, they want it right away. It's easier to grab a bag of chips, open it up, and start eating," said Tai.

For easy access, fruits and vegetables can be washed, cut and portioned ahead of time, making them easy alternatives to junk food.

By keeping unhealthy food out of the kitchen, parents can eliminate a child's temptation for that bag of chips. This is espe-

cially effective for older children.

"Parents are really busy. They just have no time to prepare a healthy meal. For kids who are a little bit older, they can stay home by themselves so they can just eat whatever they want," said Tai.

Most importantly, parents can be good role models for healthy eating at home. The way parents cook and eat sets an example, good or bad, for their children.

"Food should be something to be enjoyed," said Tai.

By taking steps to make healthy eating fun and interactive, parents can make a lasting, positive impact on the nutritional health of their children.

PEARL HARBOR CENTENNIAL

Pearl Harbor to mark centennial milestone

Jim Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii Historian

A centennial milestone in Pearl Harbor's history will take place this weekend. On Aug. 4, 1913, the commandant and administrative personnel of the Naval Station in Honolulu moved to building one at the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard.

The iconic building one, only partially completed in 1913, was one of the first structures on the naval base and has served as the headquarters for the shipyard, the naval station and the 14th Naval District in its long history.

Though the movement of Adm. Charles Moore to his new offices at Pearl Harbor was significant, it was only one of many steps in the long development of the historic Pearl Harbor naval base.

The U.S. Navy's interest in the Pacific was established as early as 1818 when the USS Macedonian, a 28-gun frigate under the command of Capt. John Downes, rounded Cape Horn to begin a regular naval presence in the region. A few years later in 1821, the Pacific Squadron was formed with headquarters at Valparaiso, Chile and Callao, Peru which patrolled the waters off of South America and later the west coast of the United States.

Hawaii was at the center of the Navy's increased presence in the Pacific as the nineteenth century wore on. In 1820 the first missionaries arrived from New England and by mid-century, vast numbers of American whaling ships found shelter and provisions mostly in Honolulu and Lahaina. American naval captains were often called upon to mediate disputes between the two groups.

In the nineteenth century, it was often naval officers who represented the nation's interests in remote



(Top) The USS Michigan and USS South Carolina moored outside the dry dock in July of 1920. (Left) Navy officers and officials from the Honolulu Iron Works meet at the entrance to Building One in 1920. (Above) Building One under construction in 1913.

regions of the world and, as a result, the first treaty between the Kingdom of Hawaii and the United States was signed by Commodore Thomas Catesby ap Jones of the USS Peacock in December of 1826.

In 1836 the United States Congress authorized the president to conduct an exploration of the Pacific Ocean and South Seas—which would be the most extensive scientific expedition of its kind in the nation's short history, rivaling even Lewis and Clark. The expedition, often referred to the Wilkes Expedition after its commander Commodore Charles Wilkes, pulled

into Hawaii in September of 1840 and remained for the next seven months, surveying the Hawaiian Islands including Pearl Harbor.

Though a dead reef blocked the channel entrance to the harbor, Wilkes commented, "If the water upon the bar should be deepened, which I doubt not can be effected, it would afford the best and most capacious harbor in the Pacific." Though his country was not quite ready to take on the challenge, his words would prove prophetic.

America underwent a Pacific rebalancing of sorts in the closing years of the nineteenth century as

Europe sought colonies and other territorial privileges in the resource-rich regions of China and Southeast Asia. The emergence of Japan as a world power also alarmed many in the United States who began to consider the Pacific Ocean as a natural extension of U.S. interests.

Once again Hawaii was thrust to the forefront as the reciprocity treaties of 1875 and 1887, so important to the sugar interests and economic prosperity of the islands, brought a closer bond between the Kingdom of Hawaii and the American consumer.

Hawaii's military significance was not lost on strategists either as one historian wrote, "Hawaii's remoteness gave an unparalleled geostrategic significance, particularly in the days of coal-fired armored warships. A fleet based at Hawaii could control a huge expanse of the earth. The Pacific Ocean is the largest geographical feature on the globe, covering nearly 64.2 million square miles, more than all the land area of the earth combined. Its isolated position made Hawaii unique: no other position on earth dominates so absolutely such a vast area."

Whoever controlled Hawaii and the protected waters of Pearl Harbor controlled the Pacific transit between the two hemispheres. No enemy could reach the west coast of the United States without refueling in Hawaii.

As a condition of the reciprocity treaty of 1887, the United States was granted exclusive access to Pearl Harbor and the right to develop a naval base there. Congress and the Navy were reluctant to build bases outside of American territory that could end up in the hands of a foreign power, and the American people were not interested in annexing new territory.

The acquisition of the former Spanish colonies of the Philippines and Guam during the Spanish-American War, and the need to refuel ships traveling to the new U.S. possessions, led to America's annexation of Hawaii in 1898. By 1908 the United States had begun the development of a naval base at Pearl Harbor that would become the centerpiece of the nation's emerging focus in the focus.

The Spanish American War finally brought American annexation in 1898, and the United States began the development of a naval base in Pearl Harbor.



PEARL HARBOR CENTENNIAL

The following dates are significant milestones in the establishment of the naval base at Pearl Harbor:

Sept. 23, 1840 – The Wilkes Expedition arrives in Honolulu. The Hawaiian Islands, including Pearl Harbor, are surveyed for the next seven months.

Nov. 29, 1887 – The Kingdom of Hawaii grants the United States "the exclusive right to enter the harbor of the Pearl River in the Island of Oahu, and to establish and maintain there a coaling and repair

station for the use of vessels of the United States."

July 7, 1898 – President McKinley signs the bill of annexation passed by both houses of Congress and the Hawaiian Islands become a territory of the United States.

Nov. 17, 1899 – Secretary of the Navy John D. Long redesignates the coaling station in Honolulu as Naval Station Honolulu.

May 13, 1908 – Congress appropriates funds for the dredging of Pearl Harbor "to admit the largest vessels."

Dec. 14, 1911 – The USS California (ACR-6) becomes the first large ship to enter Pearl Harbor.

Aug. 4, 1913 – The commandant and administrative personnel of the Naval Station in Honolulu move to building one at the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard.

April 18, 1916 – The 14th Naval District is established at Pearl Harbor.

Aug. 21, 1919 – Pearl Harbor Naval Station is formally dedicated by Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels.

Navy Region Hawaii represented on CNIC Navy Teen Council

Justin Hirai
and Helen Ko

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Jordyn Merritt has been selected to represent Navy Region Hawaii on the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Navy Teen Council for 2013-2014.

She will begin her representation early this month at the Navy Teen Council (NTC) Forum in Washington, D.C. There she will meet with other NTC representatives from around the world and discuss Navy teen issues and possible solutions, the development of the 2014 NTC Annual Project and formally out-brief Navy leaders.

Merritt earned her selection by submitting an essay, explaining why she would be a good representative for her teen center. She had a short amount of time to



Jordyn Merritt plays a game of Scrabble with Adrian Acasio and others at the JBPHH Teen Center.

work on the essay and spent afternoons at the Pearl Harbor-Hickam Teen Center, where she received support from Adrian Acasio,

teen center staff member. Merritt credited the teen center with being a safe, great place to be with a relaxing atmosphere.

"The people who work here make the teen center what it is. They support you, and if you want to do something, they will find a

way to help you," Merritt said.

The task of representing Navy Region Hawaii will be a big responsibility for the 15-year-old, but she said she is ready and excited. Merritt's family has only been stationed at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) for a month, and others say she has already proven to be a responsible, committed and very outgoing teen center member.

"She's just one of those people when you first talk to them, you know they just have it together and want to get involved," said Dana Smith, youth support coordinator. An example of her involvement and commitment is when she and a few other teens showed up three hours early to help setup the All-American All-Nighter lock-in over the past Fourth of July weekend.

Merritt said she is eager to be the first JBPHH teen

to speak with fellow teens and leaders in the Navy support group at the council forum. Her goals are to increase the knowledge of the JBPHH Teen Center, making sure that if problems arise they can be fixed, ensure change is possible, and also make sure the teen center has what it needs to support all members. She said the opportunity is very encouraging for her, since she has a goal of pursuing a career in the field of leadership.

"She will bring our perspective to the table, so to speak. There are factors in our successes and failures that are unique to us in Hawaii and JBPHH," Smith said. "She will also bring back the feelings and personal concerns from other youth that can't always be communicated in writing with bulletin and notes. The whole Merritt family has been a positive force. It's just great having their involvement," Smith said.

USS Lake Erie and Sailors celebrates 20th anniversary of commissioning

Ensign Austin Kim

USS Lake Erie (CG 70)
Public Affairs

The crew of the USS Lake Erie (CG 70) celebrated the 20th anniversary of the ship's commissioning on July 24 with Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Lake Erie is commanded by Capt. John S. Banigan and is homeported in at joint base.

Lt. Cmdr. Raphael Castillejo, the ship's newest crew member and executive officer, is among those on the ship who will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the ship's namesake Sept. 10. The Battle of Lake Erie, which



took place during the War of 1812.

Castillejo said, "Lake Erie's success has truly been a testament to the invaluable work put forth by her dedicated crew. Their pride in duty and their passion for service embodies the famous words flown by Com-

modore Perry at the Battle of Lake Erie. 'Don't give up the ship!'"

In addition, John Paul Jones, a national hero during the time of the War of 1812, said, "Sailors count more than guns in the rating of a ship."

Over the past 20 years, Navy's 24th Ticonderoga-

(Left) Sailors of the USS Lake Erie gather to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ship's commissioning.

(Right) A Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block 1B interceptor missile is launched from the guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70).

U.S. Navy photos by
USS Lake Erie Public Affairs



class, guided-missile cruiser Lake Erie has served the nation in both U.S. and multi-national operations. Just months following commissioning, Lake Erie deployed with the Constellation Strike Group and has since continued to serve throughout the Pacific theater.

With the introduction of technological advances, in early July 2000 the Navy designated Lake Erie as a theater-wide test ship for the Aegis lightweight exo-atmospheric projectile intercept flight-test series.

On Feb. 20, 2008, Lake Erie acquired internation-

al recognition for eliminating an ailing satellite with a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3).

Most recently, in Lake Erie's 21st consecutive test event, the ship served as fire control radar for a ground-based missile defense capability ground-based interceptor.