

## CNO talks to Hawaii Sailors, reaches out to families

MC1 Cynthia Clark

Defense Media Activity,  
Hawaii Det

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert visited with Sailors at various locations in and around Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Aug. 12 and 13.

The focus of Greenert’s visit was “to listen and learn, and understand what’s on people’s minds and to tell them that despite some uncertainty as we look into the future, there is some certainty.”

At Bloch Arena on Monday, the CNO re-enlisted Sailors and answered questions from those in attendance on issues such as sequestration and sexual assault and rising electricity costs.

During a visit to the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG-97) and the fast-attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN-762), Greenert addressed issues such as physical readiness and deployment lengths. He also visited with wounded warriors at Tripler Army Medical Center.

The CNO assured Sailors that when it comes to pay and benefits, the focus should remain on war fighting readiness and not the uncertainty of the future. “Simply put, pay, allowances and personnel and family benefits will remain



U.S. Navy photo by MGSN Johans Chavarro



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Julianne F. Metzger

U.S. Navy photo by MCC Julianne F. Metzger

(Top) CNO Adm. Jonathan Greenert answers questions during an all-hands call aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG-97). (Above left) CNO Adm. Jonathan Greenert holds an all-hands call at Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam to speak to Sailors about the current status of the Navy and answer any questions they have about the future of the fleet. (Above right) Adm. Greenert greets members of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions.

the same. So I’d like to remind them to focus on the mission at hand—war fighting first, operate forward and be ready.”

According to the CNO, the current re-balancing

efforts to the Asia-Pacific region are also not in jeopardy.

“The rebalance to the Asia-Pacific is proceeding ahead regardless of our budget limitations that

may be coming up in the future,” he continued.

“Hawaii is our gateway to the Pacific. It is the headquarters for the Pacific, and so it’s very important to this rebal-

ance. In fact, the number of ships here in Hawaii will grow throughout this decade to two more ships. Hawaii is the centerpiece geographically. It’s strategically important, and it’s

a big part of our future.”

Greenert also wanted Sailors to know that even with the budgetary issues and the increased responsibility of the Pacific, deployments and their durations are also on his mind.

“I want to get to the point where we can know and understand how long our deployments are going to be, and we’ll do that through the budget process,” he said.

“As they say, the world gets a vote. This is a very volatile area and the world is dynamic. We need to get to a more stable deployment, I understand that.”

While the CNO spent the trip speaking with Sailors here, he also reached out to families.

“I want to say thank you very much for what you’re doing. You take care of our Sailors. You’re the wind underneath their wings that enables them to be the best Sailors in the world and keeps us the finest Navy.”

Finally, he had this message for the Pacific Fleet.

“You are our asymmetrical advantage,” he concluded. “You are the difference between us and any other Navy regardless of technology. The Navy is more relevant than it has ever been. They’re going to be reaching out to you to get the job done and ensure security, so thanks for being part of the team.”

## USS Pearl Harbor visits Hawaii following multilateral Pacific Partnership

MC1 Amanda Dunford

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public  
Affairs

The dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52) is scheduled to arrive at Pearl Harbor today after completing the annual Pacific Partnership (PP13) mission, which this year visited six nations in the Oceania region beginning in May.

Pacific Partnership is the largest disaster response preparedness mission in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and has been conducted since 2006. PP13 mission ports included Samoa, Tonga, Republic of the Marshall



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tim D. Godbee

The Military Sealift Command dry cargo and ammunition ship USNS Mathew Perry (T-AKE 9), the amphibious dock landing ship USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52) and the Royal New Zealand Navy multi role vessel HMNZS Canterbury (LSL 421) transit the Vella Gulf during Pacific Partnership 2013.

Islands, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, and the Solomon Islands. Non-

governmental organizations partnered with militaries from the U.S.,

Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore,

South Korea and New Zealand. Pearl Harbor served as

a centerpiece of the operation and as the command platform for mission phases in Samoa, Tonga and the Marshall Islands.

Australia led the Papua New Guinea mission phase from the Royal Australian Navy’s HMAS Tobruk. The Royal New Zealand Navy’s HMNZS Canterbury served as the command platform in the Solomon Islands after New Zealand led from USS Pearl Harbor in Kiribati. PP13 marked the first time that partner nations took the lead of individual phases, a significant commitment milestone for future missions.

See PP13, A-3

## ALOHA! WELCOME HMAS PERTH (FFH 157)



## UH football practice at joint base

Senior quarterback Sean Schroeder warms up his throwing arm during a practice session last year. The University of Hawaii football team began practices Thursday at Earhart Field at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The joint base community may observe the practices from the sidelines. The practices will continue through Tuesday on the following schedule: Saturday, Aug. 17, 10:10 a.m.; Sunday, Aug. 18, 10:40 a.m.; Monday, Aug. 19, 2 p.m.; and Tuesday, Aug. 20, 11 a.m. Video recording of the practices will not be allowed. (See more photos on page A-5.)

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz



## Save Energy

Don’t dry clothes excessively. Drying laundry excessively uses more energy than is needed and is hard on fabrics. If you purchase a dryer, get one with an electronic sensor that shuts off the dryer when clothes are dry.



JBPHH gears up for Healthy Base Initiative  
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Pacific Partnership commemorates the 71st anniversary of Battle of Guadalcanal  
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Hickam Communities celebrates a ‘Night Out’  
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CNO visits USS Columbus at joint base  
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Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard graduates 132 apprentices  
See page A-4



NEX launches renovation project  
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# JBPHH gears up for Healthy Base Initiative

Grace Hew Len

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Obesity and tobacco use among U.S. military health care beneficiaries add more than \$3 billion per year to the Department of Defense (DoD) budget in health care costs and lost duty days.

Access to high-calorie foods and a more sedentary lifestyle have contributed to a nationwide obesity epidemic. Today, more than one-third of adult Americans are obese, and a fourth of potential new recruits are unqualified due to their weight.

In response to these health concerns regarding military service members and their families, DoD initiated the Healthy Base Initiative (HBI), a demonstration project that examines select military installations' efforts to support improved nutritional choices, increased physical activity, obesity reduction, and decreased tobacco use.

This week, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and a team of health professionals visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) to prepare the base for the Healthy Base Initiative. JBPHH is one of 14 bases selected as pilot sites for the year-long project, which seeks to catalogue the smartest practices being implemented to fight obesity and tobacco use and promote health and wellness among service members and their families.

HBI is part of Operation Live Well, which aims to make healthy living the easy choice and the social norm across the Department of Defense.

In a recent message announcing the Healthy Base Initiative, Chuck Milam, principal director at the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy and co-chair of the Healthy Base Initiative, said, "Our vision of success is an installation that provides an environment that makes healthy choices the easy choices, a place that encourages good nutrition, active lifestyles and tobacco-free living."

Key to the success is leadership that is committed to an active, healthy lifestyle like Capt. Jeffrey James, com-

mander of JBPHH.

"The Healthy Base Initiative could also be called the common sense initiative. It aligns what we already know about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle (good nutrition, regular exercise, no tobacco use) with more formal resiliency programs, such as the 21st Century Sailor, to help inform sound decision-making across a broad spectrum of subjects ranging from design of streets, sidewalks and crosswalks, to food options on base, to fitness programs offered to service members and their families," James said.

This holistic approach is especially applicable to JBPHH. "We recently completed a master development plan for the base that incorporates many healthy lifestyle features such as a more walkable/bikeable campus feel to the base, not to mention the fact that we have a climate that supports year-round healthy outdoor activities," added James.

During their installation assessment, the OSD team members interviewed key mission and installation support leaders, profiled on-base programs and facilities, assessed focus areas such as food and health and wellness, determined capabilities to track potential measures and metrics, and catalogued existing installation and/or service-level healthy initiatives, among others.

Key partners include health and medical experts, commissaries and dining facilities, exchanges, education resources, and morale, welfare and recreation programs.

During the assessment phase, the team will create an HBI profile, collect data on installation or service best practices, conduct service member familiarization, and create an action plan based on installation needs and opportunities.

"We are excited to assess/measure our current initiatives as well as incorporate new ideas that promote a healthy lifestyle. The results will ultimately net us a more effective fighting force, all the while improving the lives of our families and reducing unnecessary medical expenses borne out of poor lifestyle choices," James said.

JBPHH anticipates an installation-wide healthy base event to take place in October.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Steven Khor

Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Jonathan Greenert, speaks to Sailors of the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) at an awards ceremony Aug. 13. Greenert pinned the enlisted submarine warfare qualification on two Columbus Sailors during a visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

## CNO visits USS Columbus at joint base

Story and photo by MC2 Steven Khor

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

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert visited the Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) as part of a two-day visit to Hawaii on Aug. 13.

While visiting Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Greenert attended a topside awards ceremony with the Columbus crew in which he pinned the enlisted submarine warfare qualification on Yeoman 3rd Class Antonio Draughn and Fire Control Technician Seaman Parker Birchall. "Re-enlisting and recognizing Sailors is my favorite thing to do,"

Greenert remarked.

In addition to their submarine warfare qualification, or "dolphins," Greenert awarded each with certificates and a coin to recognize and commemorate their achievement.

Following the awards ceremony, Greenert talked to the crew and held a question and answer session where Sailors were able to hear from the Navy's top officer on topics ranging from quality of life issues to matters of operational importance in the Asia-Pacific region.

"You're my litmus test," Greenert said. "When I look across the Navy, if the submarine force has a problem, then I have a bigger problem."

A career submariner, Greenert lauded the Columbus crew and gave a nod to the submarine community and

the "amazing mystique" it carries.

"The work you do is incredibly important," he said. "You are a professional force, and we depend upon you a great deal."

Greenert added that America needs the Navy more than ever.

"The Navy is more relevant than it has ever been," said Greenert. "We will be counting on each and every one of you to get the job done."

Following the event, both Draughn and Birchall expressed their gratitude that Greenert was able to share in this milestone day.

"It's amazing. I never thought this would happen," said Birchall.

"It's an honor," said Draughn. "It's been a long process (attaining the qualification), and it was nice to have met the admiral."

## Pacific Fleet master chief visits USS Paul Hamilton

Story and photo by MC1 Amanda Dunford

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Pacific Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez visited Aug. 8 with the Sailors of USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) to talk about fleet priorities for the Pacific region.

Ramirez thanked Sailors for their performance following the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer's 277-day deployment.

"I wanted to welcome them home since they're one of the finest warships we have in the Navy and here on this waterfront," said Ramirez.

"I wanted to come and talk to their Sailors and thank them for what they did and also deliver my commander's mission to them."

Ramirez visited the wardroom and offered advice and stressed the importance of communication in a division.

"Every time I have a problem and I have to go deal with it, it's a lack of communication and nine times out of 10, it's from a divisional leader. And what makes the best division is communication from that LPO [leading



U.S. Pacific Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez talks with officers and midshipmen in the wardroom aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) during a round-table discussion.

petty officer], chief and division officer, the leadership triad," said Ramirez.

"At the end of the day, you talk between the triad, about what you did well, what you did badly and what you could have done, and you do this every day," he said.

Quartermaster 3rd Class Keith Woodcock was among the Sailors who attended the all hands call for E-6 and below with Ramirez. The open discussion forum allowed Ramirez to talk with Sailors about their role in

warfighting readiness, advancing regional partnerships and alliances, and purposeful forward presence.

"It's beneficial to see fleet on the deckplates because it boosts morale," said Woodcock. "This was a great opportunity for anyone to ask questions. Not every ship gets the chance to have a fleet master chief visit their ship."

Ramirez also discussed the current culture of the Navy. He talked about the importance of Sailors' responsibility for themselves

and their Sailors. He also discussed the Navy's intolerance of sexual assault, the effects it has on the Navy, and the value of Sailors and their families.

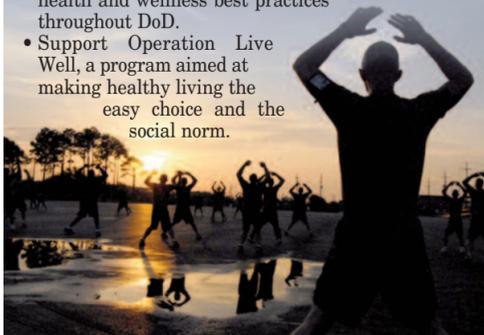
"In these times, Sailors wonder what's going on and for their families and civilians as well," said Ramirez.

"But I want them to know that they're valued, and that's what my commander brings back is that they are valued, and there are high-level people that are working really hard to get them the right things."

### Healthy highlights:

The Healthy Base Initiative aims to create an environment to help people get well, relieve stress, eat better, and exercise more. Highlights include:

- Promote a healthy and fit force, which is essential to national security.
- Increase awareness of the devastating impact of sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition choices.
- Empower the military community to make better nutritional choices, increase physical activity, decrease tobacco use and lose weight.
- Provide a hands-on look at service-level innovations, which can be used to promote health and wellness best practices throughout DoD.
- Support Operation Live Well, a program aimed at making healthy living the easy choice and the social norm.



**GOT SPORTS**  
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## Chief selectees run morning PT at Ford Island



Fiscal year 2014 chief selectees assigned at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam run under their guidons during a morning physical training session at Ford Island. Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and members of the chiefs' mess led the selectees on their run for motivation, instruction and leadership by example. The selectees are going through a six-week induction phase before officially advancing to chief petty officer.

U.S. Navy photo by CNC Rex Parmelee

Commentary

# Clear message from CNO to all: 'We're in this together'

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

This week Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert visited our region. During his visit, he met with Wounded Warriors at Tripler, was hosted aboard USS Halsey (DDG 97) and USS Columbus (SSN 762), conducted several award ceremonies, and spoke with hundreds of Sailors at an all-hands call at historic Bloch Arena on the joint base.

The CNO pledged to do as much as he could to protect Sailors' pay, tuition, family support services and retention in FY14, despite the threat of continuing sequestration. He challenged us to take ownership of the sexual assault problem in our military. And he answered questions and took suggestions from our Sailors from Region/MIDPAC and other area commands.

One Sailor offered a plan for on-the-spot recog-

chain of command, but also via social media platforms and in open house or town hall settings. **The electricity rate issue** I have a special interest in the issue raised about housing and energy costs to residents. This was a leading discussion topic I want to address here and in the weeks ahead.

Another asked about retirement benefits. One asked about the effects of rebalancing to the Pacific. Several Sailors recommended improvements to training and ship maintenance. Several more asked about housing and electricity rates.

As the CNO addressed these concerns and listened to suggestions, I noticed a common theme: We're in this together, we own the issues and problems, and we can work on solutions as a team. Adm. Greenert encouraged all of us to make our voices heard, not only via the

chain of command, but also via social media platforms and in open house or town hall settings.

**The electricity rate issue** I have a special interest in the issue raised about housing and energy costs to residents. This was a leading discussion topic I want to address here and in the weeks ahead.

We're facing an announced rate increase in FY14 of 123 percent for electricity here for NAV-FAC (Naval Facilities Engineering Command) Hawaii-supported customers.

In the weeks leading up to Oct. 1 and the start of the new fiscal year, I will be conducting a thorough review of options, and I will be working to communicate the realities of the situation and what it means for our families. We will also do our best to ensure every resident knows about the changes coming and how anyone can request an assessment or review of their energy consumption, resulting in tangible actions to reduce their utility bill.

Hawaii was a pilot site

for the Resident Energy Conservation Program several years ago with our public-private venture housing partners Forest City. Since then, RECP has been rolled out Navy-wide. At the beginning of FY13, RECP shifted to a 10 percent buffer, meaning those residents who exceeded the normal allowance of electricity by 10 percent for like-type housing had to spend more, while those who were below received more money back. With the upcoming rate increase beginning Oct. 1, those who save more energy will receive even more of a rebate, and those who exceed the buffer will have to pay more.

Here are the June 2013 electricity usage results: Our 4,130 Navy Forest City residents used an average of 1,338 kilowatt hours per home; 1,244 residents (32 percent) were above the 10 percent buffer, owing an average of \$63, while 1,234 residents (32 percent) were below the buffer, receiving an average rebate of \$67. The resident with the highest payment of \$515 was 85

percent above the 10 percent buffer for his like-type housing group, using a total 4,261 kwh in one month. The resident with the highest rebate of \$384 was 81 percent below his like-type housing group buffer, using a total of 333 kwh in one month.

How do some people consistently stay under the buffer? Why do some people conserve and do their best but are still over the buffer? These are some of the questions we'll continue to look into in coming weeks.

Is the system completely fair? I think we all know the answer to that question. Nothing is completely fair. What we can do is look at how we can make the system as fair as possible, commit to helping each other, and realize that every duty station has its pros and cons, its advantages and disadvantages: snow storms, commute time, crime rates, air quality, etc. Hawaii has some distinct advantages, in my opinion, compared with Norfolk and San Diego, where traffic and gas bills are a disadvantage.

## 'A better community'

We will get more information about electricity rates and energy security to our residents in various ways, and I would encourage everyone to look to the Ho'okele region/base newspaper and Forest City website (RECP) as good sources of accurate energy usage information - available both in print and online.

I'm impressed by the mostly solution-oriented dialogue I've seen so far about RECP and new electricity rates. Many of the social media conversations are focused on "working together for a better community" and "we're in this together."

The CNO closed his all-hands call this past Monday with a special request that Sailors thank their families on his behalf. Whether you have family here in Hawaii, back on the mainland, or somewhere else, I hope you do express appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

As the CNO said, "Thank your families for me. They're a very important part of the team."

## PP13 mission ports included six nations

Continued from A-1

"Sharing the lead responsibilities and logistical resourcing among partner nations kept this incredibly impactful mission sustainable in light of future fiscal challenges," said U.S. Navy Capt. Wallace Lovely, Pacific Partnership mission commander.

"I could not be more proud of the multilateral planning effort that has gone into this year's mission. It has been a true team effort," he said.

Overall, Pacific Partnership held 85 disaster response events, 49 engineering civic action projects,

treated 18,679 medical and dental patients, held 136 medical training engagements, evaluated 4,925 animals, hosted 208 subject matter expert exchanges, and organized 102 community service events.

"I congratulate all participating nations and organizations who demonstrated incredible commitment and leadership to improve our collective disaster response," said Fleet Commander Adm. Cecil Haney.

"Ultimately, multilateral missions such as Pacific Partnership benefit all Pacific nations by strengthening relationships that are critical to deter conflict while

increasing regional stability and enhancing peace and prosperity."

Pearl Harbor was commissioned May 30, 1998 and is homeported in San Diego, Calif. The Harpers Ferry-class dock landing ship is named after Pearl Harbor, the site of the Dec. 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Oahu and is the only ship named after that historic event. The attack on Pearl Harbor was the turning point for America as it declared war on Japan, leading the United States' entry into WWII.

During Pearl Harbor's visit, Sailors will enjoy many activities on Oahu, including tours of historic memorials in their namesake port.

## Diverse Views



### Why do you enjoy going to the pool?

**Paul Zacharias**  
Lifeguard and Water Safety Instructor



"Other than working as a life guard, I enjoy going to the pool because it provides fitness and aquatic experience and I love the water, swimming and all things water."

**Airman 1st Class John Ribbins**  
647th Force Support Squadron



"The base pool is safer and a great alternative for my children than the beach. Adults and children alike can be swept up in a rip current. I don't have to worry about things like this at the base pool."

**Mika Taylor**  
Lifeguard and Water Safety Instructor



"I enjoy going to the pool to exercise."

**Senior Airman Jose Rivera**  
647th Force Support Squadron



"I actually do not use the base pool at all. I see the need and want for one, but why use a base pool when you live in Hawaii? People should be enjoying the beaches."

**Mason Tavares**  
Family Member



"I enjoy just going to the pool for a good workout and have a good time."

**Airman 1st Class Jared Smith**  
647th Force Support Squadron



"The base pool is great for lap swimming. I believe in maintaining a high level of fitness, and lap swimming can help one in achieving that goal."

(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](mailto:editor@hookelenews.com) or [karen.spangler@navy.mil](mailto:karen.spangler@navy.mil)

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Contact the Ho'okele editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements.



## Flying the flag at the end of war



Official U.S. Navy photograph

USS Monterey (CVL-26) flies an extra-large U.S. ensign on the day news was first received of Japan's surrender, Aug. 15, 1945. The news was received 68 years ago as of yesterday. Monterey was then operating off Japan.

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# Pacific Partnership commemorates the 71st anniversary of Battle of Guadalcanal

MCC Chris Fowler

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West

HONIARA, Solomon Islands (NNS) -- Pacific Partnership 2013 leaders, crew members and partnership service members joined Aug. 7 with international dignitaries near the historic battle site, "Bloody Ridge," to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal.

Seventy-one years ago the mission was to provide liberty, said U.S. ambassador to the Solomon Islands, Walter E. North. Now standing in its wake is Pacific Partnership 2013, another mission to the Solomon Islands to provide liberty.

This time, rather than through war, liberty comes through increased maritime security and disaster preparedness.

"I had a chance to visit the various ground activities, both here and in Papua New Guinea, and it was awesome," said North. "I'm not surprised that our military, which is the best in the world, would do a remarkable job. The execution was amazing."

At the invitation of the U.S. Consular, Keithie Saunders, and on behalf of the U.S. Guadalcanal Memorial Committee, the ceremony honored those who fought and those who lost their lives in the effort to liberate the island and



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Samantha J. Webb  
Capt. Wallace Lovely, Pacific Partnership 2013 mission commander, renders honors for three fallen Marines during a ceremony at the Guadalcanal Memorial commemorating the 71st anniversary of the landing of U.S. Marines on Guadalcanal during World War II. The remains of the three Marines, who died during World War II, were discovered just days before the ceremony. (See additional photo on page A-5.)

secure an important logistics way point that prevented further Japanese expansion into the Pacific.

"The sacrifices born on these hallowed grounds must not be forgotten," said Capt. Wallace Lovely, PP13's mission commander, after recognizing the dignitaries and service members, both past and present.

"We stand here today as a continual reminder that the strength of our alliance was forged in the past sacrifices of those who came here

before us and of those who never left," he said.

For many in the audience, not forgetting was seen in a historical context, but for one person, Lt. Cmdr. Karrey Sanders, USS Pearl Harbor's (LSD 52) executive officer, not forgetting meant remembering someone whom he would never meet.

"My grandfather fought here," Sanders said. "I don't know much about his experiences during World War II because he never spoke about them until one

Thanksgiving when I was a BM2 [boatswain's mate second class]."

"It was after dinner and we were watching football. Out of nowhere, he started to talk about Guadalcanal," he said.

Sanders said his grandfather was a member of an aircraft squadron. One day he was assigned to go on a mission, but he was sick. A friend volunteered to go in his place.

"His friend never came back," said Sanders. "As my

grandfather was telling me the story, some of my other family members started to gather around to listen."

When his grandfather noticed the crowd, he stopped talking and never again spoke of the person who took his place on that ill-fated mission.

The Battle of Guadalcanal is remembered by many for its role in securing U.S. air superiority in the Pacific. It is also remembered for the sacrifice of the approximately 38,000 com-

bined U.S., Allied and Japanese men who lost their lives during the battle.

Perhaps none felt the history of those who died during the battle more than the Pacific Partnership's Marine Corps members. For Sgt. Jonathan Braun, a member of the civil military coordination center, standing on the very spot where such brutal fighting had happened 71 years ago to the hour, meant a lot.

"Looking around the island that morning, I could see smoke from fires, probably people just burning trash, but to me it seemed a fitting reminder of the fires that must have raged in these very hills during the battle," said Braun.

Braun spent the first three years of his career with 1st Marine Division, known as the Guadalcanal Division, a name they earned for their role in the battle.

"I'll talk about this ceremony for the rest of my career," said Braun. "Being able to represent 1st Marine Division at its fiercest battle is something I will always remember."

Pacific Partnership 2013 is a collaborative effort of military members and civilians from 10 partner nations including Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, New Zealand and the United States that improves maritime security through disaster preparedness.

# PACOM civil engineers give back to Sri Lankan community

Air Force  
Staff Sgt. Blake Mize

PACANGEL Public Affairs

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka--Seventeen U.S. Pacific Command civil engineers have been given the opportunity to utilize the skills they have honed throughout their time in the service to give back to a community in need.

The engineers include troops from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps who are supporting Operation Pacific Angel- Sri Lanka, a joint and combined humanitarian and military civil assistance mission led by Pacific Air Forces to provide medical and engineering support to the people of Jaffna.

The construction projects the engineers are completing alongside their Sri Lankan counterparts include installing electricity and plumbing where none existed before. The team is also installing commodes, urinals and sinks to replace holes in the ground and water spouts.

Additionally, the team is repairing roofs, painting buildings inside and out, installing lighting and fans, building walkways, pouring concrete and doing whatever else

is within their capabilities to refurbish the schools. These efforts are to improve quality of life for the students and to address safety concerns.

"For this specific mission, we're providing construction and repair to three local schools to make the facilities a more effective learning environment and more comfortable for the kids," said Air Force Lt. Col. Douglas Woodard, PACANGEL 13-4 mission commander from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

"The work we are doing here alongside our Sri Lankan counterparts will make the local community more resilient when another disaster strikes in the region," he said.

The construction projects are being conducted at Othe Atchelu Saivapragasa Vidyalayam Grade School, Kuddiyapaulam Mixed School and the Punnalaikkadduvan Primary Grade School in Jaffna.

For the most part, the engineers volunteered to support PACANGEL. Many liked the idea of using their skills to help those less fortunate.

"I loved what the mission was and what we're doing and I was excited to come along," said Air



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Kerry Jackson  
1st Lt. Renee Kittka, 354th Civil Engineering Squadron, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, paints a window during Operation Pacific Angel 13-4 in Jaffna, Sri Lanka on Aug. 6.

Force 1st Lt. Renee Kittka, 354th Civil Engineering Squadron base manager at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. "This is a

great opportunity."

There are a total of 55 U.S. military members participating in PACANGEL 13-4. Along with the

engineers, there are medical professionals providing health care to in-need Sri Lankans, as well as communication, contracting logistics, finance, public affairs and security personnel.

The PACANGEL operations are done every year in different countries throughout the Pacific region. "We typically conduct four operations per year but this year we're conducting five," Woodard said.

"Already this year we've been to Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Sri Lanka, and we're getting ready to head to Cambodia in September for our fifth mission," Woodard said operations like these are vital in improving our humanitarian assistance capabilities.

"There is significant benefit in participating in an event like this," he said. "Most obviously, it enhances our ability to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief efforts in the region. Secondly, it gives us experience with deploying aircraft and large numbers of personnel into and out of a partner nation, which is going to be required for a disaster response."

The Sri Lankan peoples' hospitality is making the operation much easier, Woodard said.

# Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard graduates 132 apprentices

Story and photo by  
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY & IMF) graduated 132 apprentices from its apprentice program at a ceremony held Aug. 9 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The graduates, representing 25 shops and 19 trades, completed four-year, full-time, paid apprenticeships that combined academic study with on-the-job work experience. They earned associate's degrees from Honolulu Community College as well as certification in their respective trades from the Navy and U.S. Department of Labor. Graduates transitioned to mechanic or journey worker status in shipyard jobs paying an average of nearly \$30 an hour.

"Welcome to your new role as leaders," said Capt. Brian Osgood, shipyard commander, as he congratulated the graduates.

"Every member of our



A Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard journey worker receives congratulations from Sen. Mazie Hirono after graduating from the 2013 Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Apprentice Program at a ceremony held Aug. 9 at Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

shipyard *ohana* looks forward to continuing to work with you every day for many years to come in order to keep the U.S. Pacific Fleet ships and submarines fit to fight."

Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie was keynote speaker at this year's graduating class.

"These graduates were chosen from amongst the

thousands that applied," the governor said. "They have met standards set 105 years ago when the shipyard was first founded. They represent a legacy of apprenticeship that goes back generations, all the way to the Middle Ages. It's a great honor and privilege to be here."

In a letter written by U.S. Sen. Mazie Hirono

and presented to each graduate, the senator expressed her congratulations to the 2013 class.

"As journeymen and women, you assume integral roles by helping to maintain the most powerful Navy in the world," the senator wrote. "I am confident in the shipyard leadership and your newly recognized skills which con-

tribute to make America strong."

Momilani Loveland, shop 57 insulator, and Kevin Matsumoto, shop 26 welder, offered remarks on behalf of the apprentice class.

Loveland reflected on her memories growing up as a shipyard child with both of her parents working at the yard. She said there were days her father had to work late or cancel vacations due to the shipyard's mission. Loveland's mother balanced life as a shipyarder along with the responsibilities of being the head of the household.

"It was hard growing up as a shipyard kid, but now that I am here, I understand why. I see the big picture," she said.

"I reflect upon what my parents have accomplished and what a legacy they have left me to carry on—to keep this shipyard viable and always 'fit to fight.'"

Matsumoto encouraged his fellow graduates to not change from the hard work and dedication they showed during the last four years to get through the program. He also challenged his peers to

own the shipyard.

"We're always told that each and every one of us plays a role in determining the future of the shipyard. It's true," Matsumoto exclaimed.

"If we continue to do the best work we can do, if we better ourselves and our shipyard, we will continue to show the Navy that we are the *no ka oi* shipyard and an invaluable asset."

Twenty-one individual awards were presented to the apprentice class. Nineteen received outstanding craftsman awards.

Freddie Ancheta, shop 56 pipefitter, was the recipient of the Federal Managers Association Chapter 19 Outstanding Scholar Award and Cheryl Yamanaka, shop 52 electronics measurement equipment mechanic, was presented the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard National Association of Superintendents Superior Craftsman Award.

The shipyard's first apprentice class graduated in 1924. More than 4,800 journey workers and future leaders have graduated from the program since its inception in 1924.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert visits the Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) for lunch and a tour of the ship Aug. 13. Prior to departing his visit to the ship the CNO was on-hand for an awards ceremony where he praised the ship's Sailors for doing an outstanding job in the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Recruit Rose Forest



U.S. Navy photos by MCSN Johans Chavarro  
(Left, Above) University of Hawaii football team members practice Aug. 15 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The practice took place on Earhart Field which overlooks the Hickam flight line.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Deshawn Thornton (left) and Culinary Specialist 1st Class Miguel Zavala prepare food at the Silver Dolphin Bistro at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in preparation for the Edward F. Ney Memorial Award for food excellence.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Samantha J. Webb

Sailors and Marines participating in Pacific Partnership 2013 look at a plaque at the Guadalcanal American Memorial during a ceremony commemorating the 71st anniversary of the landing of Marines on Guadalcanal during World War II.



(Left) U.S. Pacific Fleet Master Chief Marco Ramirez talks with Sailors on the mess decks aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) during an all-hands call Aug. 8.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI Amanda Dunford

# Halsey's back and ready to 'hit hard, hit fast and hit often'

Ensign Joseph H. Quinn

USS Halsey (DDG 97)

The past few months have been a busy time for USS Halsey, finishing a lengthy SRA (selective restricted availability) and completing multiple certifications and testing to get the ship ready for underway.

Across all departments and warfare areas, from technicians and engineers, to seamen and shiphandlers, Halsey's crew prepared their ship to get underway. It has been six months since Halsey last put to sea and, in that time, the crew has experienced a considerable turnover and has received two major upgrades to combat systems capability (in the undersea warfare and cryptologic areas).

Halsey's two-and-a-half day underway schedule of events went round-the-clock. In addition to re-ori-



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Johans Chavarro

The guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey (DDG 97) performs maneuvers off the coast of Oahu.

enting the crew to routine bridge, engineering and combat information center watchstanding and special details, Halsey "shook down" its engineering plant, tracked aircraft, shot its close-in weapon system gun, tested its installed damage control systems, calibrated antenna signals, ran its boats, and streamed its

newly installed anti-submarine array.

For all of the testing of new gadgets, cabling and valves, the most important aspect of this underway was the watch stander experience the crew gained. Halsey had not been underway for six months and during that time, nearly one-third of the crew were newly

reported Sailors.

Many of these Sailors recently completed their A-school and had never been to sea before. Two of these Sailors, Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 3rd Class Richard Sherman and Seaman Apprentice Abril Ramirez, talked about their first underway experience.

"I liked the underway a

lot. I had more time to work on my qualifications and even finished RPPO (repair parts petty officer) qual. I thought the ship did really well with responding to the drills," Sherman said.

Ramirez discussed what she thought about standing watch as helmsman under instruction while underway.

"It was a lot to learn at

first. I was getting orders to move the helm and steer the ship while I was still practicing proper repeat backs and verbiage to the conning officer. I had help from the master helmsman who helped me step-by-step. The underway gave me a lot of experience and time to work on my quals that I couldn't complete while in port," she said.

This underway provided the venue for new Sailors to learn their craft, experienced Sailors to hone their skills, and old salts to relive their glory days and train their reliefs.

"I am amazed at just how self-sufficient this ship is," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Devon Schefano, Halsey's new independent duty corpsman who has spent all of his career prior with the Marines.

USS Halsey is back and ready to "hit hard, hit fast, and hit often."

# Dolphin Store 'makes a splash' with grand re-opening

Meg Petrone

Contributing Writer

The Dolphin Store at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam held a celebration Aug. 2 in honor of its grand re-opening.

The store, which has been open for more than 15 years, is located on the submarine side of the base. Operated by the Pearl Harbor Submarine Spouses Association (PHSOSA) and the Pearl Harbor Submarine Officer's Spouses Charitable Association, it is volunteer driven.

Proceeds from the store's sales, along with donations from the annual Dolphin Scholarship Auction, are given to the Dolphin Scholarship Foundation and other local charities.

"Being a part of the Dolphin Store is rewarding, exciting and fun. The best part is we have the ability to give back to the children of submariners since we donate some of our proceeds to the Dolphin Scholarship



U.S. Navy photo by Brandon Bosworth

Trisha Marsh, manager, and Jody Finlay, buyer, arrange merchandise at the recently reopened Dolphin Store.

Foundation," said Michelle Rogeness, the shop's former manager.

When the store re-opened after closing for summer break, the new store manag-

er, Trisha Marsh, and the store's volunteers upgraded to a new point of sale system. The new system will not only keep volunteers from having to handwrite price tags, but

it will allow for an easier shopping experience for customers since everything will be priced ahead of time and merchandise will include barcodes.

The Naval Submarine Support Command woodshop renovated the store while it was closed.

The Dolphin Store is named after the warfare insignia that submariners earn after being on board for approximately one year and completing all of the necessary qualifications.

"It is a great and unique place that sells items that can be customized," said Lee-Anne Hardy, a Dolphin Store volunteer.

"We have great gifts for retirements, change of commands and other military events. It is also a great place to buy a unique and personal gift for family on the mainland," she said.

The majority of the volunteers at the store are wives of active duty submariners. "All of our volunteers have generous hearts.

Marsh arranged for vendors to be located outside of the store during the grand re-opening and promote their businesses. One of those vendors was Beach

Betty, a local military wife who creates custom signs.

"Having my products for sale at the Dolphin Store would be a great opportunity to expand my business, since people would be able to look at the signs in person rather than just online. Also, it still gives me the flexibility of working from home which is great," said Jill Pearson, the owner of Beach Betty.

Beach Betty is not the only home business vendor. About 85 percent of the Dolphin Store's vendors are home-based businesses that are run by military family members who are stationed all over the world.

The Dolphin Store is located in building 661 on Clark Street, next to the dive tower. With its re-opening, the Dolphin Store has also introduced new hours.

They will now be open from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, from 5 to 8 p.m. the first Friday of every month, and from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of each month.

Commentary

# Tips offered on disposal of electronic devices

**Marcus Hokama**

*Cyber Security Specialist  
Navy Region Hawaii*

In today's high-tech world we all generate high volumes of electronic waste (e-waste) every day and should know the proper way to safely dispose of it securely and in an environmentally safe way. Many manufacturers and retailers offer take-back, trade-in and recycling programs.

## Eliminate personal information from your electronic devices before disposing

Before recycling or donating your unused cell phones to a charity or friend, you need to ensure your personal information, pictures, messages and contacts are erased. Your cell phone more than likely contains large amounts of personal information.

Erase all stored information, phone numbers, contacts, messages and email. Using the "reset to factory default settings" is a quick and easy way to do this.



your cell phone. The safest and most secure way of doing this is to remove your hard drive before disposing of the device.

If you choose to donate or dispose of your computer with your hard-drive, it is recommended that you securely format or delete the entire drive's contents.

The University of Hawaii has an article specifically targeted to securely delete electronic information from your computer's hard drive at: <http://www.hawaii.edu/askus/706>.

## Properly donate/ recycle/ dispose of your electronic devices

Many cell phone carriers have donation, recycling or trade-in programs that will give you a credit toward a new purchase when you turn in your old cell phone. Many organizations accept cell phone donations. They will

either donate the device to those in need or use the profits from recycling non-working devices.

The Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) is a local non-profit organization that accepts both working and non-working cell phones. They provide donated phones in working condition to victims who are leaving abusive situations.

Money received from recycling non-working phones goes back into HSCADV programs. For more information, visit the nearest University of Hawaii bookstore or <http://www.bookstore.hawaii.edu/manoa/SiteText.aspx?id=3648>.

There are other organizations like HSCADV to which you can donate cell phones you no longer use.

Personal computer equipment can be donated to local schools and organizations. There are more than 150 schools throughout the state that participate in a program that rebuilds donated personal computers for use in classrooms through the Hawaii

Computers for Kids program, coordinated by the Rotary Club of Honolulu.

For more information, visit: <http://www.catii.com/comp4kids.html>.

Many non-alkaline batteries contain heavy metals. State law requires auto battery dealers to accept and recycle old auto batteries. You can also take them to a city convenience center.

Many retailers have collection boxes for cell phone, laptop, rechargeable batteries and power tool batteries. Regular alkaline batteries are no longer produced with heavy metals and can be disposed of with your normal trash.

Other electronic devices such as monitors, printers, digital cameras, televisions, etc. should also be disposed of properly.

Many manufacturers and retailers offer various programs so electronic devices can properly be disposed of or donated.

For more information on recycling electronic devices, visit the City & County of Honolulu's Division of Environmental Services website at [www.opala.org](http://www.opala.org).

## JBPHH Security Department offers theft prevention tips

### JBPHH Security Department

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security Department has identified an increased frequency of thefts at the base as the summer months advance. The department has released the following safety tips to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of theft:

- Lock all exterior doors and windows before leaving the house or going to bed.
- If residents expect to be absent from home for a few days, they should attempt to create the illusion that they are still present, such as leaving the lights on, having friends or neighbors walk through the house or parking their vehicle in the driveway.
- Keep the garage door closed and locked.

- Never leave a house key under a mat, under a flower pot, or above the door.
- Do not leave valuables like GPS units, MP3 players, laptops, wallets, purses and money visible in a vehicle. If possible, remove all valuables from the vehicle.
- Inventory valuables by taking photos or documenting serial numbers.
- Draw all curtains or shades at night to prevent viewing from the street.
- Light up your residence, lock your doors at all times, and call the JBPHH Security Department at 474-6754 or 449-9072 if something or someone looks suspicious.

For more crime prevention tips, contact Staff Sgt. Olivia Rogers-Stinson at 449-9710.

## Talking on the phone while driving is unsafe behavior

### Capt. Louis-Philippe Noel

*JBPHH Security Operations Officer*

Whether it is talking or texting, use of a cell phone while driving may result in a motorist being pulled over and cited by joint base police.

The increase in unsafe behavior on the road had led to the revision of the base traffic and parking regulation (JBPHHINST 5560.1), which will include the Big Five Plus Three program.

The Big Five Plus Three program has been implemented to identify traffic safety violations and issue the appropriate response.

For example, with the issuance of a citation for any of the safety violations under this program, the driver will also receive a mandatory court appearance.

The new JBPHHINST 5560.1 addresses many questions regarding cell phone use while driving.

One paragraph states, "All military and civilian operators of vehicles on the JBPHH installation shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely and legally parked or unless they are using a hands-free device. The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones, or other listening devices (except for hands-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited."

Driving with something in or over the ear(s) is dangerous.

First, not only does it prevent the driver from hearing warnings from sirens or first responders on foot, but in the event of a major vehicle accident tangled wires present an additional hazard and obstacle to medical personnel.

Additionally, Bluetooth headsets, though wireless, can still pre-

sent a major distraction to the driver should they malfunction or the driver have trouble finding the correct button to make a call.

Finally, the term "hands-free" has often been misinterpreted as placing the call on speaker phone while holding it in a free hand.

However when used in the base instruction, it refers to any equipment that enables the driver to talk freely without using a hand to manipulate an earpiece or a phone (often an installed Bluetooth equipped stereo or auxiliary stereo cable).

Although some may think that talking while holding a phone or wearing low-profile headphones are practices that may avoid detection from base security, they are still dangerous. Joint Base Security is here for safety as there is no such thing as a "free hand" while driving 4,000 pounds of moving metal.