

## Welcome home, USS Chosin

### Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

The Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) is scheduled to return today to its homeport at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam following a deployment to the western Pacific.

Commanded by Capt. Patrick Kelly, the ship and its crew of nearly 340 Sailors conducted integrated operations with allies and partners during the ship's six-month deployment.

In October, Chosin participated in the International Fleet Review held in Sydney, Australia. Additionally, the ship participated in a number of multilateral-fleet-training exercises conducted along the coast of Australia.

"It was an honor for Chosin to represent the United States Navy in a



The Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) conducts exercises off the coast of Hawaii on March 26 2012, following a departure from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy file photo by MCI Daniel Barker

contingent of over 20 international warships that joined the Royal Australian navy in their most significant commemorative event of the last 100 years," said Kelly. "I was especially excited for Chosin's Sailors

as this was for many a one-in-a-lifetime experience."

Throughout the summer, Chosin conducted theater security operations with partner nations while providing deterrence, promoting peace and security, and

preserving freedom of the seas.

"I am proud of our Chosin team," Kelly said. "And we are all thankful for the strong support of our families and loved ones throughout the deployment."

Chosin is one of 10 surface ships currently assigned to Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. The ship is the first U.S. Navy warship named in commemoration of the First Marine Division's heroism at the

Chosin Reservoir in the Korean War. The ship's motto is "invictus," Latin for invincible or unconquered.

U.S. Navy guided-missile cruisers are primarily multi-mission [air warfare (AW), undersea warfare (USW), naval surface fire support (NSFS) and surface warfare (SUW)] surface combatants capable of supporting carrier strike groups and amphibious forces, operating independently, and serving as flagships of surface action groups.

Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific leads and manages the overall warfighting capability of the surface combatant force homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. MIDPAC ships support U.S. Pacific Fleet in leading America's rebalance to the Pacific.

For more information about USS Chosin, visit [www.chosin.navy.mil](http://www.chosin.navy.mil).

## Republic of Korea ships to arrive in Hawaii today

### Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Two Republic of Korea ships are scheduled to arrive in Hawaii today for a port visit.

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, will welcome ROK Dae Jo Yeong (DDH-997) and ROK Hwacheon (AOE-59) to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Subsequent to the Korean ships' arrival, USS Chosin (CG 65) will return to Pearl Harbor after a six-month deployment to the western Pacific. During its deployment, Chosin visited various ports including the Republic of Korea port of

Busan. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the bond between the two nations.

USS Port Royal (CG 73) will be the host ship for ROK Dae Jo Yeong. USS Lake Erie (CG 70) will be the host ship for ROK Hwacheon.

During their visit, the ROK ships will participate in a wreath-laying ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The ROK Navy Band and ROK Navy Color Guard will give a performance at Ala Moana Park at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

The sailors from the ROK ships will also have the opportunity to participate in a cultural tour of Oahu.



The Korean ship Dae Jo Yeong (DDG 977) is guided into Naval Base San Diego on Oct. 17 with the help of a tugboat after passing underneath the Coronado Bridge. Dae Jo Yeong will be open for tours for DoD CAC holders today at Bravo Pier 26 from 1 to 4 p.m.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSI Michael C. Barton

## Harris presents Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy to VP- 9

### Patrol Squadron Nine Public Affairs

Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, presented the "Golden Eagles" of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP 9) with the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy during a ceremony held Nov. 15 at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe.

The trophy is awarded annually to the ship or aircraft squadron achieving the greatest improvement during the preceding year in operational readiness, inspections, retention and improvement in the battle efficiency award program. One trophy is awarded each year in the Pacific Fleet and one in the Atlantic.

"Congratulations to each of you for your efforts in earning this prestigious award," Harris told squadron members.

"As a fellow P-3 aviator, I know how important this award is and how difficult it



Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr. (right), commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, presents the U.S. Pacific Fleet Arleigh Burke Trophy to Cmdr. Brian D. Weiss, Patrol Squadron (VP) 9 commanding officer, in a ceremony at Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

U.S. Navy photo by MCI Kory Kepner

is to earn. This is recognition of your impactful work while deployed in support of Operation Active Endeavor. I'm proud that you are part

of the Pacific Fleet team," Harris said.

Harris wished them fair winds and best of luck on their upcoming deployment

back to the U.S. 6th Fleet area.

During the period of the award, VP-9 was deployed to the U.S. 6th Fleet area of

responsibility where the Golden Eagles flew hundreds of missions from multiple detachment sites while maintaining their 35-year record of mishap-free flying.

Cmdr. Brian Weiss, VP-9 commanding officer, said he was proud to share the Arleigh Burke trophy with his squadron and attributed their cooperation and work ethic as important factors.

"Our success is a product of our teamwork," said Weiss. "No one person is more important than any other. This award belongs to everyone—from our maintenance professionals to those who operate our aircraft to those who provide administrative and intelligence support."

Enlisted Sailors of VP-9 said they were honored to receive the trophy and glad to see their efforts acknowledged.

"It makes it especially satisfying because you don't really think of the award as a P-3 award. You think of it as a surface award," said

Aircrewman Operator 1st Class Beau Brian. "It's great to have all of our hard work recognized so high up."

Lt. Cmdr. Daniel Kitzmiller, the squadron's former maintenance officer, said he couldn't agree more.

"Earning the Arleigh Burke was a great honor and testament to the hard work of our outstanding Sailors," Kitzmiller said.

"Every Sailor should feel great pride knowing their long hours and continuous level of excellence earned the squadron as well as themselves such an exceptional honor," he said.

VP-9 was established on March 15, 1951 and is assigned to Patrol Reconnaissance Wing Two, providing maritime patrol and anti-submarine warfare services to its fleet and wing commanders. The squadron consists of 71 officers and 276 enlisted personnel who maintain and operate eight Lockheed P-3C "Orion" aircraft.



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# SECNAV meets with Sailors, Marines in Afghanistan

Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

AFGHANISTAN (NNS) – Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus visited Afghanistan on Nov. 18-19 to meet with Sailors and Marines deployed to the region.

This was Mabus' 12th trip to Afghanistan and, while some things have changed over the course of those 12 visits, one thing has not.

"Every time I've been here I've been impressed and amazed by the skill, the courage, the sacrifice and the commitment of all of the Sailors and Marines who are serving here," said Mabus.

He began his visit with a stop at Camp Leatherneck and Camp Bastion where he met with coalition leadership. He took a break to eat breakfast and lunch with Sailors and Marines, speaking to them about the current state of affairs in their area.

"We're now in a transition period with our partners in the Afghan National Forces, moving them into the lead combat role," Mabus said. "We're moving more toward being advisors and trainers, and we're beginning to bring our Marines, Sailors and equipment home."

Before departing Camp Bastion, Mabus took the time to meet with Marines assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 165.

His next stop was Kabul, where he met with U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, commander, International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

Following the meeting, Mabus conducted an all-hands call for



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Arif Patani

Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus meets with Marines assigned to the Lady Ace of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 165 on Nov. 19. Mabus is in the region to meet with Sailors and Marines, and civilian and military officials as part of a multi-nation visit to the U.S. European, Africa and Central Command areas of responsibility. (See additional photos on page A-5.)

Sailors and Marines, thanking them for their efforts in the region.

"Thank you for doing the difficult job you are doing; thank you for how well you're doing everything," said Mabus.

"Thank you for the courage and commitment you bring, and thank you for the sacrifices you and your

families are making in order for you to do this incredibly important job."

He also communicated the importance of building partnerships to those in attendance.

"The defense strategy that the president announced states that we need to concentrate on doing three things," Mabus said.

"We need to concentrate on the western Pacific. We need to concentrate on the Arabian Gulf, and that includes this effort (Afghanistan), and we need to concentrate on building partnerships. That last one is what you are doing so well here. It's that last one that's going to be crucial not only here, but

around the world."

Mabus' stop in Afghanistan is part of a multi-nation visit to the U.S. European, Africa and Central Command areas of responsibility focused on reinforcing existing partnerships and visiting Sailors and Marines providing forward presence.

## Thanksgiving events include races, meals, chapel services

Thanksgiving celebrations have been scheduled at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and around Oahu. They include:

- The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Turkey Trot 5k Run/Walk will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Hickam Fitness Center.

This race is free and no registration is required. Prizes will be awarded to the top male and female winners. For more information, call 448-2214.

- Bellows Air Force Station

will hold a free turkey trot Saturday beginning at 8 a.m. with check-in at 7 a.m. All participants will be entered to win prizes. There will be one grand prize and turkey giveaways.

In addition, a *makahiki* (festival) will be held Saturday at Bellows from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The events are open to active duty military, military retirees, Reservists, National Guard, current or retired Department of Defense civilian employees with an authorized ID card, and their families. For more information, call 259-4136 or 927-1867 about the *makahiki*.

• Hale Aina dining facility will serve a Thanksgiving Day holiday meal from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Nov. 28. The meal cost is ala carte.

The Silver Dolphin Bistro will serve its Thanksgiving Day holiday meal from 2 to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$7.60. Both facilities' meals will be open to active duty military, their families, Department of Defense civilians and retirees. For more information, call 473-2948.

• The annual MWR Thanksgiving buffet will be held Nov. 28 at the Hickam Officers' Club. Patrons can choose from an 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. seating on the lanai or at noon in the dining room. This buffet features traditional and Hawaiian items. Reservations are required before Nov. 25. For information and reservations, call 488-4608.

• Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel will host a Thanksgiving dinner and service from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 28. There

will also be a Thanksgiving Mass at the Hickam Chapel Center from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel from 9 to 10 a.m. For more information, email Richard.o.tiff@navy.mil.

- Thanksgiving Day Spin with the Pilgrims will be held from 8 to 10 a.m. Nov. 28 at Hickam Fitness Center, spin room, building 1113. No reservations are needed, but patrons should arrive early to get a bike. For more information, call 448-2214.

Commentary

# Tradition and legacy from Battle of Chosin in Korean War

USS Chosin defines readiness, commitment, partnership with ROK

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

The MIDPAC guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) returns today from a six-and-a-half month deployment to the western Pacific. At nearly the same time this morning, we will welcome Republic of Korea navy ships ROK Dae Jo Yeong and ROK Hwacheon, Commander, Cruise Training Task Group.

Chosin is named for the Battle of Chosin Reservoir in the Korean War. The battle – fought by courageous Marines, mostly the U.S. 1st Marine Division, and other U.S. service members and allies – was some of the fiercest fighting in modern warfare. And it was fought during one of the coldest winters in recorded history on the Korean Peninsula in late November and early December in 1950.

Looking back more than 60 years later, we know the Korean War preserved freedom and democracy for South Korea and provided a better way of life for millions of people over many generations. The U.S. Navy had a critical role in supporting Marines and UN Allies throughout the war.

Our surface ships, submarines and aircraft provided sea control -- effectively blockading North Korea's coastlines and denying enemy shipments while ensuring mobility of sea lanes for our side.

Aircraft from Task

Force 77 carriers and escorts provided strikes and support. Cruisers, destroyers and other ships put a barrage of fire between our troops and the enemy.

Pearl Harbor's own Mighty Mo, battleship USS Missouri (BB 63), added the weight of her 16-inch guns to the fight.

Naval forces provided the key strategic advantage.

We demonstrated and reinforced fundamental naval principles in the Korean War – sea control, power projection, counter-mine warfare, controlled evacuation and interoperability. That legacy lives on in our maritime strategy today, which our ships and Sailors continue to carry out.

We should remember this week – and every other week for that matter – the challenges associated with these deployments. The sacrifice and time away from home can be stressful for Sailors and their families.

Work-ups are particularly challenging as our crews train for a myriad of contingencies, from humanitarian assistance



U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Andrew Albin

Sailors aboard the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG-65) pull the towing line from a tug boat as their ship arrives in Busan, Republic of Korea Aug. 1, 2013.

and search-and-rescue to the full spectrum of combat. But the return on investment is worthwhile, and our skill sets are both admired and respected by international navies worldwide.

So let's think about the significance of USS Chosin's return to Pearl Harbor coinciding with our ROK partners' visit today.

Accomplishments like Chosin's are recognized by foreign navies as they admire our warfighting readiness in exercises and sustainment at sea. An important lesson is how our ships attract great partners and inspire like-minded nations to share

interests, commit to ideals of freedom, and agree to work together for the common good.

USS Chosin's deployment included a visit to Busan, Republic of Korea in July, where the U.S. Navy and ROK team participated in bilateral Aegis interoperability training.

Chosin operated with other units in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operation demonstrating tactical prowess and flawless execution during high-tempo operations in the South and East China Seas.

Visits to the Philippines, Singapore and Australia provided an opportunity to continue building partnerships and conducting inte-

grated operations with our allies and partners. On an individual basis, our Sailors conducted exchanges and built friendships that will only strengthen in the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise next summer.

Deployments like Chosin's to the western Pacific matter, as history taught us in naval battles in Korea. Partnership-building matters. Today we see the results of our efforts as our ROK partners come to visit.

As we welcome back USS Chosin from deployment and greet the ROK Navy today, we expect to have members of the "Chosin Few" pierside – veterans

who fought fearlessly at the "Frozen Chosin."

The brave veterans of the Battle of Chosin Reservoir take a special pride in their namesake on our waterfront: USS Chosin.

These warriors can also be proud of their commitment to warfighting readiness in the Korean War. Those who fought for survival while operating forward earned a legacy of stability, freedom and prosperity for us and our allies and friends.

USS Chosin and our other ships homeported here in Hawaii that operate forward are protecting that legacy today and for generations to come.

## Diverse Views



### What is your fondest Thanksgiving memory?



MC2 Steven Khor  
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

"The first Thanksgiving out of 'A' school, when I was without my family for the first time in a long time. Just to be able to spend time with other caring Americans in San Diego, them welcoming us in their household really brought a smile to my face. It really showed what the Thanksgiving holiday is about."

Senior Airman Eric Escamilla  
15th Wing Finance



"The fondest Thanksgiving memory I have is the one of my first Thanksgiving here in the United States. I am originally from Mexico and it was the first year I was reunited with my family."



Lt. J.g. Marc Sunby  
NCTAMS PAC

"When I was a kid, going up to my grandparents' house in northern Wisconsin and deer hunting."

Airman 1st Class Zach Forauer  
15th Wing Finance



"The best memory I have of Thanksgiving is when my family and I make turkey wraps. Having the chance to spend time with family and friends is important."



Senior Airman Amber Acosta  
15th Wing Finance

"The most fond memory I have of Thanksgiving is the first one away from home. I missed my family, but it was the first Thanksgiving I spent without them. I made the entire meal by myself and it turned out pretty great. It was also my first Thanksgiving with my husband's family."

Provided by Lt. J.g. Eric Galassi  
and SrA Christopher Stoltz

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)

## USS Missouri fires shell during bombardment



U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph

The USS Missouri (BB-63) forward turret fires a 16-inch shell at enemy forces attacking Hungnam, North Korea, during a night bombardment in December 1950. In the background, LSMRs are firing rockets, with both ends of the trajectory visible. This is a composite image, made with two negatives taken only a few minutes apart. The photograph is dated Dec. 28, 1950, but was probably taken Dec. 23-24.

## HO'okele

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## Sterling Cale reflects on Pearl Harbor attack, Guadalcanal



(Above and right) Sterling Cale, a Pearl Harbor survivor, speaks to Sailors as part of U.S. Pacific Command Chief Petty Officer 365 for a heritage event at the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Cale spent the remainder of World War II with the 1st Marine Division at Guadalcanal and in 1948 he transferred to the U.S. Army. Cale also served in Korea from 1950-1951 and Vietnam from 1955-1974.

U.S. Navy photos by MCSN Johans Chavarro



### Commentary

## Have we honored our solemn obligation to our veterans?

Collin Sitz

Radford High School student, ninth grade

(Editor's note: Collin won first place in a recent essay contest sponsored by the Battleship Memorial Association for his essay.)

In a day that some see as a simple addendum to the weekend, Nov. 11 stands as a reminder to us that we have more thanks to give than just for our food. In a worldwide fight for control, America was struck with one of the most devastating attacks, the raid on Pearl Harbor.

And after this day, thousands answered the call, guided by their well spoken leader in

Washington and took to sky, land and sea to avenge those who fell that day.

And for years they fought and suffered but the product of this lethal campaign was one of glory. One of the most moving and inspirational answers to the sacrifices was that of Chester W. Nimitz.

After a long and hard fought war, Fleet Admiral Nimitz addressed the people of America, reminding them of their obligation to ensure that the sacrifice of our servicemen and women will help us make this world a better and safer place. He was referring to our veterans, but what is a veteran?

To me a veteran is a lot

of things. A veteran is an upholder of freedom and peace. A veteran is one who defends and defended our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. But most importantly, a veteran is someone that we owe everything to. Now, over 50 years from that day aboard the Missouri, we ask the question: Have we honored this solemn obligation to these heroes?

By definition, an obligation is a binding promise that offers a sense of duty. Much like the veterans of America answered the call, we, too, must do our part. I find that we can accomplish this by showing how far the world has come.

They say that the best

way to repay your parents for raising you is to show them that you can take care of yourself. We must take this very approach and show that we are beyond violence and bloodshed. Because of them, the world has evolved into a society in which we don't need to fight. We live in a time of peace and as long as we can uphold this peace, I feel that we will fulfill this obligation.

But what more can we do to show our thanks and express our gratitude? On a nationwide scale, America has put forward many events and displays of appreciation. On Nov. 11 we celebrate Veterans Day, a holiday in which we praise and give thanks to our brothers and sis-

ters, fallen and breathing, for defending our freedom at all costs.

But like the refusal to litter on Earth Day or the making of resolutions on New Years, is it really enough to practice this once a year? You can do things every day to honor our veterans. By reciting the pledge of allegiance every morning, singing the anthem of our great nation aloud, you are taking pride in what they helped create.

By hoisting that flag or even listening to one of their stories, you are showing compassion for the men and women who kept us going. We should perform these acts of patriotism daily and encourage others to do the

same. This shows how much we care about their sacrifices to the nation they fought for.

I, too, plan on taking part in these acts, not only because I feel it's a necessity as an American citizen, but also because it fills me with pride. It makes me happy when I see multiple people working together to improve the world around them. This is why I look up to our veterans, and this is why I hope when they look back at us they smile.

Thank you again to our servicemen and service-women, wherever you may reside, for defending our soil and bringing us together as one unit, one nation, the United States of America.

# Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Cmdr. Justin Orlich, outgoing commanding officer of USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), passes through the sideboys as he arrives at a recent change of command ceremony aboard USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93). Cmdr. Ryan Collins assumed command. (See additional photo and story on page A-6.)

U.S. Navy photo by PS2 (SW) Domicia Humphries

Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus coins a Marine assigned to the Lady Ace of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 165 during a visit to Afghanistan on Nov. 18-19.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Arif Patani



Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Ray Mabus meets with Marines assigned to the Lady Ace of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 165.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Arif Patani

Crew members of the USS Halsey (DDG 97) participate in a morning formation run Nov. 20, pausing at stops along their route to reflect on the significance of Ford Island.

Photo courtesy of USS Halsey



Nimitz Elementary School students observe Veterans Day.

Photo courtesy of Nimitz Elementary School

# Collins takes over command of USS Chung-Hoon

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

Sailors of Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) and her crew bid farewell and following seas to Cmdr. Justin Orlich during a change of command ceremony held recently at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Orlich was relieved as commanding officer by Cmdr. Ryan Collins, who has served as USS Chung-Hoon's executive officer since October 2012.

The ceremony marked the end of a memorable 23-month command tour for Orlich. He was USS Chung-Hoon's sixth commanding officer, assuming command during the ship's final port call of her 2011 WESTPAC deployment on Nov. 23, 2011 in Papeete, Tahiti.

Chung-Hoon most recently deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations from April to October of 2013. The ship excelled at all operational tasking, including hundreds of hours of focused operations in the constrained waters of the East and South China Seas.

During her sixth month western Pacific deployment, Chung-Hoon participated in six multinational exercises, most notably Exercise Talisman Saber with the Royal Australian navy, U.S. 7th



U.S. Navy photo by PS2 (SW) Domicia Humphries

Cmdr. Ryan Collins (left), incoming commanding officer, and Cmdr. Justin Orlich (center), outgoing commanding officer, report to Capt. Wallace Lovely, commander of Destroyer Squadron 31, during a change of command ceremony held aboard USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93).

Fleet's premier exercise for practicing combat operations with allied nations.

Under Orlich's command, Chung-Hoon exercised seamless integration into the Nimitz, George Washington and Bonhomme Richard Strike

Groups as the air and missile defense commander.

Orlich has been assigned to the United States Pacific Command.

Collins is a 1997 graduate of Washington State University where he earned a bachelor of science in biology and was commis-

sioned through the Navy ROTC program.

He completed his first department head tour on USS Hopper (DDG 70) as the chief engineer. During that tour, he was awarded the 2006 U.S. Surface Forces Leadership Award. His follow-on

tour was at Destroyer Squadron 31 as the operations officer. He most recently served as flag aide and aide de camp to U.S. Pacific Fleet and U.S. Pacific Command as part of a two-year assignment.

"It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your executive officer and an even greater privilege to serve now as your commanding officer. Every day I have been truly awed at the hard work, dedication and talent you exhibit in everything you do," Collins told the crew as he became the ship's commanding officer.

Chung-Hoon is a guided-missile destroyer that is a multi-mission, anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-surface warfare multi-warfare surface combatant - an important component of the Navy's rebalancing of assets and forces to the Pacific.

The ship is named in honor of Native Hawaiian Rear Adm. Gordon Pai'ea Chung-Hoon, recipient of the Navy Cross and Silver Star in World War II for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism as commanding officer of USS Sigsbee (DD 502) from May 1944 to October 1945.

The ship's motto is, "Imua e na Koa Kai" which translates from Hawaiian to "Go Forward Sea Warriors."

## COMSUBPAC announces Sailors of the Year for FY 2013

MC2 Steven Khor

Commander Submarine Force Pacific Public Affairs

Commander Submarine Force Pacific (COMSUBPAC) announced the staff Sailors of the Year for fiscal year 2013 at an awards ceremony held recently at Lockwood Hall at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Among the awardees are Intelligence Specialist 3rd Class Henry Wendelin, who was named the Blue Jacket of the Year, Logistics Specialist

2nd Class Jason Norman as Junior Sailor of the Year and Information Systems Technician 1st Class Bryana Eastman as the Senior Sailor of the Year.

Norman's selection as Junior Sailor of the Year stems from his management of COMSUBPAC's \$800,000 supply budget for more than 560 military and civilian personnel and for demonstrating leadership with the command's Morale, Welfare and Recreation committee, Submarine Birthday Ball committee and the com-

mand's fitness programs.

"I really appreciate everyone else around me. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be here. It's not just about me but everyone else supporting me," said Norman.

Wendelin provided key personnel with constant and concise intelligence information in the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility. He also supported the multiple submarine deployments, ensuring all Pacific Fleet submarines had the ability to complete their missions. As assistant command fitness

leader, he enhanced the command's designated fitness training sessions and helped many in the command with their fitness goals.

"I'm very ecstatic. It's a very proud moment for me, and I'm really glad," said Wendelin.

Eastman went on to compete with the Naval Submarine Support Command's Sailor of the Year, Machinist's Mate 1st Class Dean Marvin, and was selected to represent the Pearl Harbor area in the upcoming COMSUBPAC Shore Sailor of the

Year competition early next year.

"I'm very nervous but excited at the same time for the upcoming events. It's an honor to be selected, and I'm very appreciative of all the team support that everyone has given me," said Eastman.

"Eastman has extensive community involvement, continued education (both military and college) and visionary leadership striving to make things better each and every day," said COMSUBPAC Command Master Chief, Master Chief Fire Control

Technician Jon Consford. "Her presence, tone and devotion to Sailors and our Navy is the exact image of 'leadership by example.'"

The Sailor of the Year program recognizes the top Senior, Junior and Bluejacket Sailors who best represent the large number of dedicated professionals. Sustained superior performance, proven leadership, self-improvement, command and community involvement, self-expression, military bearing and appearance are all key facets of the best all-around Sailors.



<http://www.hookelenews.com/> or visit <https://www.cnicy.navy.mil/Hawaii/index.htm>





Photo courtesy of Nimitz Elementary School

Sgt. 1st Class Alehandra Marshall, Master Sgt. Roger Neri and Tech Sgt. Jon Douglas raise the flag at Nimitz Elementary School during a Veterans Day observance.

## Nimitz students host flag ceremony

**Berenice Saavedra**

Parent Community Network  
Coordinator, Nimitz Elementary School

Students at Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Elementary School held a special Veterans Day flag ceremony Nov. 8 to honor the heroes in their community.

The special guests at the event were the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Honor Guard, who raised the flags.

"I feel honored that the JBPHH

Honor Guard took time out of their day to do this for the school," said Junior Patrol Officer (JPO) 2 Lt. Brenden Edmonson from C Squad. More than 50 JPOs hosted this commemorating event, led the flag ceremony, and concluded it with a one-on-one session with the JBPHH Honor Guard.

Marcy Kagami, school principal, thanked the veterans in the crowd and expressed to the students the importance of honoring these brave heroes on this special day.

## Students celebrate Veterans Day with USS Chung-Hoon Sailors

**Will Moore**

USS Chung-Hoon  
(DDG 93)

Elementary school students in Waianae were recently given a very special explanation of Veterans Day. All seven kindergarten classrooms at Leihoku Elementary School were visited by Sailors from USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) as they observed the holiday.

Sailors from USS Chung-Hoon volunteered time to visit with kindergartners at the school. Along with Veterans Day, the visitors explained day-to-day life in the military, uniforms, Navy ships, teamwork and entertained plenty of creative questions from the

five-year-olds.

Students learned to salute and also spent time with real life heroes. Following presentations and questions, most classes continued the Veterans Day lesson with arts and crafts which allowed the visitors to meet individual students.

"Having Sailors that represented diverse positions and jobs in the Navy was helpful for the students to better understand all of the hard work that goes into serving our country," said Melissa Christensen, a kindergarten teacher and organizer of the event.

"It was wonderful to watch the kids' faces light up when they were able to interact with such highly respected people."

Among the 12 Chung-Hoon Sailors were Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Domicia Humphries and Sailor of the Year, Sonar Technician (Surface) 1st Class Matthew Massetti.

"It was an awesome opportunity for us to show the children what Veterans Day means to us and how we honor those who serve in fullness for our great country. To see the children full of joy and excitement just because we were there was memorable and unforgettable," Humphries said.

The Leihoku students presented handmade paper lei to each Sailor. Students tried on dress white covers that were much too large for kindergarten heads.

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# Demolition completed for former BEQs at JBPHH

Sila Manahane

Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Hawaii Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii, working with multiple contractors, is conducting a large-scale demolition project at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) which is projected to have an estimated annual savings of \$314,674.

"This effort removes excess and inadequate bachelor enlisted quarters (BEQ) square footage from housing inventory at JBPHH," said Frank Ho, NAVFAC Hawaii project manager.

"The actual savings is the annual maintenance, sustainment and operational cost-avoidance achieved by demolishing these buildings. In these fiscally constrained times, the funds can be put to good use for other priorities," Ho said.

The three, five-story bachelor enlisted quarters buildings – 1626, 1627 and 1628 – originally erected in 1984, were located just inside the base fence line next to Kamehameha Highway on the old Naval Submarine Base portion of JBPHH. They had a total of 37,417 square feet, but no longer meet the standards of anti-terrorism/force pro-



U.S. Navy photo by Denise Emsley

Contractor personnel from local firm Trace Industries Inc. work at demolishing the three, five-story concrete masonry bachelor enlisted officer buildings at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Cleanup continues and should be completed in January 2014.

tection (AT/FP) guidelines or base needs.

"The total cost for this project is \$2.91 million and was funded by Commander Navy Installation Command as part of their footprint reduction program,"

said Ho. "The decision to use contractor and NAVFAC Hawaii in-house workers to accomplish this task was to provide a cost-effective and safe demolition."

NAVFAC Hawaii environmental personnel car-

ried out the pre-demolition remediation work, including the removal and disposal of fluorescent light ballasts with traces of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) and asbestos floor tiles as well as sound and

heat insulating foam material on the exterior of the buildings.

Trace Industries, Inc. employees began the demolition of the BEQs the week of Oct. 7. They completed bringing down the struc-

tures on Oct. 27. NAVFAC Hawaii transportation workers immediately began separating metal recyclable materials from the construction debris and loading numerous trucks with rubble for removal from JBPHH.

"Our heavy equipment operator and truck drivers are very busy with the cleanup and hauling of construction debris which is still in progress," said Joe Aubrey, NAVFAC Hawaii transportation equipment operations supervisor. "We are anticipating this phase of the project to be complete by the end of January 2014."

Approximately 147,000 tons of debris is being removed from the site with metals being diverted to recycling services and the remaining material will be transported to a local landfill.

To restore the site for proper water runoff and lighting for the adjacent parking lot, the storm drain and electrical work will be performed by NAVFAC Hawaii's public works shops.

Landscaping restoration, which includes backfill, compacting and grassing of the area, will be accomplished by another contractor. The project is expected to be finished by June 2014.