

FOR THE NAVY AND AIR FORCE TEAM IN HAWAII

HO'OKELE

SEPTEMBER 2020

INSIDE:

**Happy
73rd
Birthday
Air Force**

**RIMPAC
Concludes**

Remembering
Sept. 2, 1945 - End of WWII



USS Chung-Hoon launches SM-2 missile

Guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) launches an SM-2 missile during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2020 Aug. 26. Ten nations, 22 ships, one submarine, and more than 5,300 personnel participated in Exercise RIMPAC from Aug. 17 to 31 at sea around the Hawaiian Islands. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Devin Langer)



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Ho'okele is a free publication.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, JBPHH, Hawaii, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876. This is an authorized publication primarily for members of the uniformed military services and their families in Hawaii. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, and the military branch of services and do not imply endorsement thereof. A Hui Hou!

Your Navy Team in Hawaii

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii oversees two installations: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, on Kauai. As Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, we provide oversight for the ten surface ships homeported at JBPHH. Navy aircraft squadrons are also co-located at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Oahu, and training is sometimes also conducted on other islands, but most Navy assets are located at JBPHH and PMRF. These two installations serve fleet, fighter and family under the direction of Commander, Navy Installations Command.

A guided-missile cruiser and destroyers of Commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific deploy independently or as part of a group for Commander, U.S. Third Fleet and in the Seventh Fleet and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility. The Navy, including your Navy team in Hawaii, builds partnerships and strengthens interoperability in the Pacific. Each year, Navy ships, submarines and aircraft from Hawaii participate in various training exercises with allies and friends in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to strengthen interoperability. Navy service members and civilians conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions in the South Pacific and in Asia. Working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy in Hawaii provides drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement operations for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In even-numbered years Hawaii hosts the biennial summer Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the world's largest military maritime exercise, featuring more than two dozen nations and 25,000 personnel.

The Navy family in Hawaii comprises around 50,000 people, most of whom are active duty service members and their families, and includes nearly 15,000 civilians and contractors as part of our workforce.

JBPHH includes the Pearl Harbor waterfront, Hickam flight line, Wahiawa annex and several other areas in West Oahu and provides a major logistics and other support hub for the military and military families. Supporting the nation's ballistic missile defense initiative, the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the western coast of "The Garden Island," is the world's largest instrumented multidimensional testing and training missile range.

We provide services to the U.S. Pacific Command, one of DOD's six geographic combatant commands, with an area of responsibility covering half the globe. We directly support two component commands whose headquarters are on JBPHH: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Force. Close to our own Region/MIDPAC headquarters command is Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. With 18 forward-deployable combat-ready U.S. Navy submarines, Pearl Harbor is home to the largest submarine presence in the Pacific. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, on JBPHH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region we support more than 100 tenant commands.

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Diverse VIEWS

National Cooking Day and Family Day falls in September, What is your favorite family recipe and why?

By David D. Underwood, Jr., MC1 Erickson Magno and MC2 Charles Oki



MC1 Michael Zingaro
COMSUBPAC

"My paternal grandmother's shepherd's pie. Hands down, no question. I am instantly brought back to a simpler time of fond memories sitting around my grandmother's dining room table, sharing a laugh and meal with those most important to me."



TSgt Jeffrey Espinosa
15th Medical Group

"The quintessential Philippine dish known as adobo. Adobo is a method of marinating and stewing meat with a mix of vinegar, soy sauce and spices. It tops my list of favorite dishes because not only is it easy to prepare, but my family's version is by far the best."



AZ2 Kalyne Walker
PMRF

"My favorite is my grandma's mac and cheese. That's the dish my mom will always bring for any event. I would always watch her make it and now I've perfected it myself. It brings back a lot of memories for me."

(Note: Photographers were 6 feet away from subject while social distancing.)



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Commander, Navy Region Hawaii And Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific
REAR ADM. ROBERT CHADWICK



Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
CAPT. ERIK SPITZER



Commanding Officer Pacific Missile Range Facility
CAPT. TIMOTHY YOUNG



RIMPAC 2020 CONCLUDES



By RIMPAC 2020 Public Affairs

The international maritime exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2020 concluded Aug. 31 following two weeks of at-sea-only training events conducted around the Hawaiian Islands.

This year's event included 53 replenishment-at-sea events, 101 pallets of cargo distributed, over 16,000 rounds of small arms munitions shot, over 1,000 large caliber weapons fired, 13 missiles expended, and 1,100 pounds of mail delivered.

Hosted by U.S. Pacific Fleet, RIMPAC 2020 was led by U.S. Vice Adm. Scott Conn, commander of the U.S. 3rd Fleet.

"Our formidable team of capable, adaptive partners has spent the last two weeks demonstrating that we have the resolve and ability to operate together in these challenging times," said Conn. "We strengthened relationships and deepened our sense of trust in one another. Each one of our navies has something to offer and that diverse range of knowledge and professionalism is what makes us stronger, and allows

us to work together to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific and ultimately, our collective prosperity."

This year's exercise includes forces from Australia, Brunei, Canada, France, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, and the United States.

The at-sea-only construct for RIMPAC 2020 was developed to ensure the safety of all military forces participating, and Hawaii's population, by minimizing shore-based contingents, while striking a balance between combating future adversaries and the COVID-19 threat. Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet crafted the modified RIMPAC plan as a way to conduct a meaningful exercise with maximum training value and minimum risk to the force, allies and partners, and the people of Hawaii.

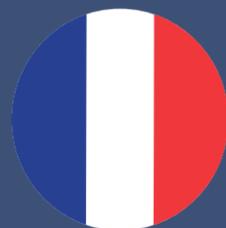
This RIMPAC marks the first time a non-U.S. military woman, Capt. Phillipa Hay of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), led a RIMPAC task force of more than 2,500 Sailors.

"I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to all participating nations in RIMPAC 2020. Our mutual commitment toward a free and open Indo-Pacific will ensure unfettered open access to the seas and airways upon which our people and economies depend, now and into the future," said Adm. John C. Aquilino, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The biennial exercise contributes to the increased lethality, resiliency, and agility needed by the Joint and Combined Force to deter and defeat aggression by major powers across all domains and levels of conflict. The exercise provides a unique training opportunity that strengthens international maritime partnerships, enhances interoperability, and improves the readiness of participating forces for a wide range of potential operations. The relevant, realistic training program included multinational anti-submarine warfare, maritime intercept operations, and live-fire training events, among other cooperative training opportunities.



(U.S. Navy photos by MCSN Lily Gebauer and MCSN Isaak Martinez; Royal Australian navy photos, and Republic of the Philippines navy photos by SN1 Pataueg)





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1 Multinational navy ships and a submarine steam in formation during a group sail off the coast of Hawaii during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 21. (Royal Canadian navy photo by MS Dan Bard)

2 Republic of Korea navy ship ROKS Seoae Ryu Seong-ryong (DDG 993), Royal New Zealand navy ship HMNZS Manawanui (A09) and Republic of Singapore navy Formidable-class frigate RSS Supreme (FFG 73) transit the Pacific Ocean while participating in a gunnery exercise (GUNEX) during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 19. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Jenna Dobson)

3 Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) ship JS Ashigara (DDG 178) participates in a missile exercise (MISSILEX) during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 17. (JMSDF courtesy photo)

4 U.S. Navy Machinist Mate 2nd Class Ryan Null, from Hurricane, W.V., climbs a ladder to board guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) while conducting visit, board, search and seizure training during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 19. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Devin M. Langer)

5 U.S. Navy Sailors attach cargo to an MH-60S Sea Hawk assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 21 during a vertical replenishment (VERTREP) on the flight deck of U.S. Navy Wasp-class amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2) during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 22. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jenna Dobson)

6 Royal Canadian navy ship HMCS Winnipeg (FFH 334) conducts a replenishment-at-sea (RAS) with U.S. Navy Fleet Replenishment Oiler USNS Henry J. Kaiser (T-AO 187) during Exercise RIMPAC Aug. 22. (Royal Canadian Navy photo by Leading Seaman Valerie LeClair)

7 U.S. Navy Sailors heave a line during a replenishment-at-sea (RAS) exercise with fleet replenishment oiler USNS Henry J. Kaiser (T-AO 187) aboard Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Dewey (DDG 105) during Exercise RIMPAC 2020 Aug. 20. (U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Deirdre Marsac)

8 Royal Australian navy ship HMAS Arunta (FFH 151) executes a live missile firing off the coast of Hawaii during Exercise RIMPAC Aug. 23. (Royal Australian Navy courtesy photo)

(Layout by GSEZ Lexie Perez)

HAPPY 73RD BIRTHDAY, AIR FORCE



By Col. Dan Dobbels, 15th Wing commander

Looking at our aircraft now, it may be hard to believe that American air power started with Benjamin Franklin thinking about using hot-air balloons in warfare in 1783.

Fast-forward to today, the C-17 Globemaster III and F-22 Raptors are frequently seen in the Hawaiian skies projecting power and securing peace across the Indo-Pacific.

As the Air Force celebrates its 73rd birthday, the heart of our service is always the Airmen.

Recently two Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) Airmen and a Schofield Barracks Soldier came to the aid of a Honolulu Police Department officer, who is thankfully doing well after being thrown off her motorcycle following a crash. In another instance, a JBPHH Airman used his skills from the Air Force to ease tensions with a disruptive passenger, helping to safeguard all of the passengers on board.

Our Airmen do extraordinary things each day, such as spending countless hours transporting 14 vintage warbirds with zero safety mishaps to celebrate the 75th commemoration of World War II and posturing to rescue two American astronauts in the Pacific region in support of NASA's Commercial Crew Program.

JBPHH Airmen are leading diversity, inclusion, and belongingness efforts as the Air Force works to recruit and retain diverse Airmen to ensure the service is culturally competent and operationally effective.

The Air Force has more work to do to better leverage the diversity among Airmen. However, it also makes me proud to be an Airman knowing Gen. C.Q. Brown, chief of staff of the Air Force, and Chief Master Sgt. JoAnne Bass, chief master sergeant of the Air Force, are leading the Air Force. Both with ties to Hawaii, Brown, who is the former Pacific Air Forces commander, is the first African American service chief, and Bass, who was born in Mililani, is the first woman and first Asian American to serve as the highest ranking non commissioned member of a U.S. military service.

At 73 years young, there are no signs of the Air Force slowing down, largely due to the service's continued focus on innovation.

As an example, the TRON team composed of JBPHH Airmen created a flight scheduling application, called Puckboard, in less than 8 months. In the future, this application can be adapted across the Department of Defense. Another Airman developed a faster and safer way to install an air-to-air interrogator on an F-22.

It is impossible to think of the Air Force's 73rd birthday without also acknowledging the COVID-19 global pandemic.

As the world quickly adopted to the "new normal," so did JBPHH Airmen. Our 15th Medical Group quickly changed how they operated to take care of our Airmen and families while also implementing protocol to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Airmen from the 535th Airlift Squadron transported medical professionals to Guam and the 735th Air Mobility Squadron partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Federal Emergency Management Agency to deliver more than 31,000 pounds critical supplies to the Marianas Islands.

Many Airmen sprang into action by making face masks and shields to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Our Airman also collected more than 500 pounds of food to help the local Hawaiian community.

The critical role Hawaii plays in the legacy of AIR POWER actually predates the Air Force. The earliest record of an Army Air Corps unit in Hawaii belongs to the 6th Aero Squadron, which was designated as the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps in the Hawaiian Department. The 6th Aero Squadron arrived March 13, 1917, from San Diego, California, and was stationed at Fort Kamehameha.

As a testament to our appreciation for the Hawaiian community, the 15th and 154th Wings flew across the Hawaiian Islands to salute the frontline works battling COVID-19 and everyone who is doing their part to spread Aloha and not germs.

Just as COVID-19 showed the world, we never know what the next challenge will be. The Air Force continues to organize, train, and equip, to be ready for anything that threatens the American way of life. Most notably, the establishment of the U.S. Space Force increases the United States' competitive edge in space.

Taking care of the mission starts at home. To our Hawaiian community, mahalo for sharing the "aloha spirit" with our Airmen. To our ohanas, thank you for your continued love and support of your Airmen.

To the Sky Warriors, you all are amazing Airmen to work with. I smile each day when I hear about your accomplishments. Thank you for being part of the world's great Air Force. Please join me in celebrating the Air Force's birthday. I salute you and your dedication to our nation.

Happy 73rd birthday, Air Force!

Remembering Sept. 2, 1945: End of World War II

Compiled by Navy Region Hawaii

The year 2020 marks the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II. America's involvement in this global conflict began with the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and ended with the signing of the instrument of surrender on the decks of the USS Missouri.

The theme for the historic tribute is "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope," providing the foundation for programs and events to pay tribute to the Greatest Generation for restoring peace to the world.

The National 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II recognizes this historic year with events at Pearl Harbor from Aug. 29 to Sept. 2 and Washington D.C. from Sept. 24 to 27.

The events on Oahu included the aerial parades of World War II aircraft from Aug. 29 to 30. A live stream of the official ceremony of the 75th World War II Commemoration will be available at 8:30 a.m. HST on Sept. 2 at <https://www.75thwwiicommemoration.org/>

The commemoration is headed by co-chairs retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Daryll D.M. Wong and retired Navy Capt. Steven W. Colon along with honorary co-chairs Hawaii Gov. David Ige and Adm. Phil Davidson, commander, U.S. Indo Pacific Command. National honorary co-chairs include Senators Bob and Elizabeth Dole, joined by Linda Hope, who represents the Bob Hope Legacy as part of the Bob and Dolores Hope Foundation, the presenting sponsor of the 75th World War II Commemoration.



TIMELINE OF EVENTS: (Source: <https://www.75thwwiicommemoration.org/>)

WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC (1941-43)

With Britain facing Germany in Europe, the United States was the only nation capable of combating Japanese aggression, which by late 1941 included an expansion of its ongoing war with China and the seizure of European colonial holdings in the Far East. On Dec. 7, 1941, 360 Japanese aircraft attacked the major U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, taking the Americans completely by surprise and claiming the lives of more than 2,300 troops. The attack on Pearl Harbor served to unify American public opinion in favor of entering World War II, and on Dec. 8 Congress declared war on Japan with only one dissenting vote. Germany and the other Axis Powers promptly declared war on the United States.

After a long string of Japanese victories, the U.S. Pacific Fleet won the Battle of Midway in June 1942, which proved to be a turning point in the war. On Guadalcanal, one of the southern Solomon Islands, the Allies also had success against Japanese forces in a series of battles from August 1942 to February 1943, helping turn the tide further in the Pacific. In mid-1943, Allied naval forces began an aggressive counterattack against Japan, involving a series of amphibious assaults on key Japanese-held islands in the Pacific. This "island hopping" strategy proved successful, and Allied forces moved closer to their ultimate goal of invading the Japanese homeland.

TOWARD ALLIED VICTORY IN WORLD WAR II (1943-45)

In North Africa, British and American forces had defeated the Italians and Germans by 1943. An Allied invasion of Sicily and Italy followed, and Mussolini's government fell in July 1943, though Allied fighting against the Germans in Italy would continue until 1945.

On World War II's Eastern Front, a Soviet counteroffensive launched in November 1942 ended the bloody Battle of Stalingrad, which had seen some of the fiercest combat of the war. The approach of winter, along with dwindling food and medical supplies, spelled the end for German troops there, and the last of them surrendered on January 31, 1943.

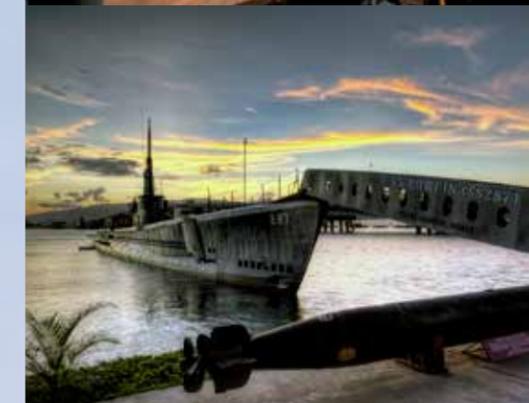
On June 6, 1944-celebrated as "D-Day"- Allies began a massive invasion of Europe, landing 156,000 British, Canadian and American soldiers on the beaches of Normandy, France. In responsive, Hitler poured all the remaining strength of his army into Western Europe, ensuring Germany's defeat in the east. Soviet troops soon advanced into Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Romania, while Hitler gathered his forces to drive the Americans and British back from Germany in the Battle of the Bulge (December 1944-January 1945), the last major German offensive of the war.

An intensive aerial bombardment in February 1945 preceded the Allied land invasion of Germany, and by the time Germany formally surrendered on May 8, Soviet forces had occupied much of the country. Hitler was already dead, having died by suicide on April 30 in his Berlin bunker.

WORLD WAR II ENDS (1945)

At the Potsdam Conference of July-August 1945, U.S. President Harry S. Truman (who had taken office after Roosevelt's death in April), Churchill and Stalin discussed the ongoing war with Japan as well as the peace settlement with Germany. Post-war Germany would be divided into four occupation zones, to be controlled by the Soviet Union, Britain, the United States and France. On the divisive matter of eastern Europe's future, Churchill and Truman acquiesced to Stalin, as they needed Soviet cooperation in the war against Japan.

Heavy casualties sustained in the campaigns at Iwo Jima (February 1945) and Okinawa (April-June 1945), and fears of the even costlier land invasion of Japan led Truman to authorize the use of a new and devastating weapon. Developed during a top secret operation code-named "The Manhattan Project," the atomic bomb was unleashed on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in early August. On Aug. 15, the Japanese government issued a statement declaring they would accept the terms of the Potsdam Declaration, and on Sept. 2, U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur accepted Japan's formal surrender aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.



COVER STORY

WARBIRDS ARRIVE IN HAWAII



1 The USS Essex (LHD 2) conducts a lift of opportunity of vintage military aircraft. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii in recognition of the World War II veterans and civilians who contributed to the end of the war. (Photo by MC2 Kenneth Rodriguez Santiago)

2 A B-25 Mitchell, a historic vintage military aircraft, a group known as the "Warbirds", arrive in Pearl Harbor aboard USS Essex (LHD 2) for the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii. (Photo by MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell)

3 A North American T-6 Texan, a historic vintage military aircraft, a group known as the "Warbirds", arrive in Pearl Harbor aboard USS Essex (LHD 2) for the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii. (Photo by MCSN Jaimar Carson Bondurant)

4 A Grumman TBM Avenger, a historic vintage military aircraft, a group known as the "Warbirds", arrive in Pearl Harbor aboard USS Essex (LHD 2) for the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II Aug. 11. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii. (Photo by MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell)

5 A North American SNJ-5 Texan (left) and a North American P-51 Mustang, historic vintage military aircraft, a group known as the "Warbirds", arrive on USS Essex (LHD 2) for the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II Aug. 11. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii. (Photo by MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell)

6 A Consolidated PBY Catalina, a historic vintage military aircraft, a group known as the "Warbirds," arrive in Pearl Harbor aboard USS Essex (LHD 2) for the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II Aug. 12. "Salute Their Service, Honor Their Hope" is the theme of the commemoration in Hawaii. (Photo by MC2 Jessica O. Blackwell)

Layout by MC2 Charles Oki

RELENTLESS PURSUIT



A DETERMINED NATION

NATIONAL ★ POW/MIA ★ RECOGNITION DAY

September 18, 2020

WWW.DPAA.MIL



POW/MIA RECOGNITION: Relentless pursuit, a determined nation

By DPAA and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

A national-level ceremony is held on every National POW/MIA Recognition Day on Sept. 18. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials.

In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.

Each year several events are held to honor and recognize events at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu. Some of the events include a Reveille ceremony, a 24-hour run and a reading of the names at JBPHH. The main POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony is held at Punchbowl.

No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.



Reading of the Names: Master Sgt. Angel Jenkins, Transportation Command Patient Movements Requirements Center superintendent, scrolls through a list of prisoners of war and those missing in action, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Sept. 18, 2018. (U.S. Air Force file photo by Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman)



Volunteers from the 15th Wing participate in a Reveille Ceremony for Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Week, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Sept. 17, 2018. (U.S. Air Force file photo by Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman)

(Layout by GSE2 Lexie Perez)

NEVER FORGET



NEW YORK • WASHINGTON D.C. • PENNSYLVANIA

(Layout by MC2 Charles Oki and CSSE2 Lexie Perez)

JBP-H SUPPORTS

FIRST INDO-PACIFIC AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION MISSION

FOR COVID-19

Story by 2nd Lt. Amber Kelly-Herard and
2nd Lt. Michael Longoria
15th Wing Public Affairs
Photos by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Nelson Jr.

When an active-duty service member tested positive for the coronavirus, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam stood ready to ensure the patient reached Travis Air Force Base safely.

This was the first time the Transport Isolation System (TIS) was employed during an aeromedical evacuation mission in support of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility.

The 515th Air Mobility Operations Wing (AMOW) played a pivotal role in this mission that required two trans-Pacific flights.

“The 515th AMOW’s support to the first TIS deployment within the U.S. INDOPACOM area of responsibility included flightline and maintenance operations to ensure the aircraft, patient, and crews landed and departed safely while minimizing ground time,” said Col. Jason Terry, 515th AMOW commander. “In situations like these, Mobility Airmen persistently forward deployed to these strategic en-route locations at a high readiness level with the right expertise and equipment was critical to ensuring the global reach needed to get the patient in the hands of higher-level care as quickly as possible.”

Recently, Staff Sgt. Sarah Myers, 735th Air Mobility Squadron command and control operations controller, was informed an incoming aircraft experienced an engine issue after taking off.

Myers quickly assembled a team of experts for this no-fail mission.

Staff Sgt. Scott Coen, 735th AMS Maintenance Operations Control Center controller coordinated the aircraft parking and maintenance requirements. Then the ground support team, led by Master Sgt. Justin Stanford, 735th AMS Aircraft Maintenance

unit lead production superintendent, and Shawn Murdoch, Air Transport Operations Center duty officer, quickly assessed the engine and other vital mission requirements.

Myers coordinated with the 647th Security Forces Squadron and 15th Medical Group Public Health. She also secured a back-up aircraft to guarantee the mission never missed a beat. These combined efforts resulted in the C-17 aircraft returning to a fully mission capable status.

Lt. Col. Penny Cunningham, Pacific Air Forces Command flight nurse, also noted the quick coordination that took place to execute the mission.

“This mission was a great display of how aeromedical evacuation operates, from our logistics team procuring personnel protective equipment kits for pilots and other personnel to ensuring crew bed-down and transportation was firmly established,” she said. “No matter what AOR we are in, we always have AE members that will support and ensure the mission and crew are taken care of.”

The patient made it safely to the David Grant USAF Medical Center at Travis AFB. Travis is one of three staging areas for the U.S. Air Force’s specialized aeromedical evacuation missions relating to the ongoing COVID-19 global pandemic.

Currently, only the C-130H Hercules, the C-130J Super Hercules and the C-17 aircraft are able to carry the TIS capsules. This makes Travis AFB, with its fleet of 13 C-17s and location on the west coast, a crucial player in the Air Force’s efforts to repatriate service members and civilians who remain in foreign countries due to COVID-19.

To read the full story, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xfJJm>



HOW TO REPORT COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE (CRB)




LOOKING FOR PALM DAMAGE

Beetles feed on palm hearts and emerging fronds creating V-cuts, scalloped edges or bore-holes. Common food sources are palms such as: coconut, fan, date, and royal.

Collect close up images of bore-hole damage and wide-shot photos of scalloped edging and V-cuts.

IDENTIFYING BEETLES

If you find a beetle or larvae use gloves to place into a ventilated and sealed hard plastic or glass container.

Note distinguishing characteristics and collect quality photos. (CRB are black, have a horn, and average ~2 inch. in length)

Record a video of the larvae crawling and get a photo of the underside. - this helps to distinguish it from other similar larvae.



REPORTING A FALLEN TRAP

1. Locate the 10 digit trap number on the side of the trap. (xxxxxx-xx-xx)
2. If fallen, place the trap in a secured area.
3. Note the location of the trap (specific address or landmarks)
4. Call the CRB Response and relay the information you've collected.

CONTACT

Email: BeetleBustersHI@gmail.com
 Pest Hotline: (808) 643-PEST (7378)



September is National Suicide Prevention Month

I felt powerless to #BeThere for my ohana

By 15th Wing, Suicide Prevention lead

I will never forget the devastating shock. I had no idea she wanted to die—she was smart, beautiful and quite hilarious. She had expressed excitement about her spring break trip to California to see the Broadway play, Hamilton. Our family was struggling, but what could have made her feel like this?

You will be surprised by who and how many people are touched by the issue of suicide. My young adult child who I admire, love and respect sent me a message on Feb. 21 stating, "I'm okay but I can't talk for the next few days... Phone broke." I attempted to clarify but no response.

I never expected what happened next. I received a text message around 9 p.m. on Feb. 23 from my daughter's college roommate. She asked if I spoke with my daughter because nobody saw or heard from her in three days. I immediately picked up the phone and called her roommate. She explained, "Officer McKenna is here at our apartment to take a missing person's report."

I remained calm and spoke with the officer to ask what I could do to assist with locating my daughter. He requested information about her phone so they could ping it. He relayed if she was found he could only share she was okay and could not reveal her location.

I thanked him and telephoned my husband to inform him of the situation. He proceeded to contact our phone provider and gather necessary information while I called those close to me to pray.

Again, I called my daughter's roommate to gather more information. She explained my daughter left a suicide note and the rent for the next 6 months.

I knew she was having a hard time because she told me she felt depressed and things were not going well. Each day I called, sent an encouraging message and instructed her to make an appointment with her school counseling services. She eventually responded via text that she had an appointment and she would be fine.

Now, I wondered where I went wrong. I am the Suicide Prevention Program Manager who teaches Air Force military, civilian, and family members daily about suicide prevention.

How could I miss the signs of suicide? I felt so afraid, helpless, and powerless as I waited to hear from the officer after we provided him the information. I felt like I could not breathe as I tried to block out the thought that I would never see her again.

An hour felt like 20 hours as I prayed and pleaded with God. I called the nice officer every 30 minutes for an update. He explained they contacted the local hospitals, jails, etc. but no luck.

Our phone provider sent my daughter's incoming and outgoing call log for the days requested. She did not answer any incoming calls for the past three days and she only had two outgoing calls.....Both to 911. I was puzzled but my faith and hope were growing stronger.

Finally, I received a call from Officer McKenna. He stated, my daughter was safe and would soon call me. He explained how happy he was for me and my family. I was no closer to knowing her whereabouts but I gave God a heartfelt praise and called those close to me to share the good news!

I later learned my daughter was on a bridge and was going to

jump to her death. But for whatever reason she changed her mind and called the local hospital and 911 to come and get her. Turns out she completed a safety plan with the therapist which included these actions. I truly believe the safety plan was essential in a time when it was difficult for her to think clearly. I always encouraged my children to ask for help, but I realize that I was not practicing what I preach.

During this season of my life I was dealing with family medical problems, financial obligations, marital problems, college recruitment challenges with my son, and now my daughter in the hospital for wanting to end her life. Of course, I was very busy and committed to my work as I was hosting a DoD team to pilot a Suicide Prevention Program called Resources Exist Asking Can Help.

After hosting the R.E.A.C.H Team, I took leave to #BeThere for my daughter but never once gave my leaders a chance to support me and my family. We recently suffered a loss in the unit and I did not want to take their time away from the mission. To be transparent, I was not connected enough with my leaders to be open and honest about my challenges.

There are a few things I hope others will take from me sharing my story. First, using supportive services and completing a safety plan with your provider can save a life. All of our jobs are important but never forget to #BeThere for your family.

I did not feel included or connected with my leaders. If we are going to Protect Our Ohana then we all must make every effort to #ConnectToProtect. Check in with neighbors, co-workers, and loved ones, educate yourself on the resources, follow-up with those who are struggling to make sure the support is working, and attend personal and life skills webinars.

(Layout by Anna General)

Are you or someone you know on a path to suicide? Know the **WARNING SIGNS!**

 **I** Ideation Thoughts of suicide (expressed, threatened, written).

 **S** Substance Abuse Increased or excessive alcohol or drug use.

 **P** Purposelessness Seeing no reason for living, having no sense of meaning or purpose in life.

 **A** Anxiety Anxiousness, agitation, nightmares, inability to sleep or excessive sleeping.

 **T** Trapped Feeling as though there is no way out of current circumstances.

 **H** Hopelessness Feeling hopeless about oneself, others or the future.

 **W** Withdrawal Isolating from friends, family, usual activities, society.

 **A** Anger Feelings of rage or uncontrollable anger, seeking revenge for perceived wrongs.

 **R** Recklessness Acting without regard for consequences, excessively risky behavior.

 **M** Mood Change Dramatic changes in mood, unstable mood.

What to do:

ASK

Ask your shipmate questions that will help you get help: "Are you thinking about killing yourself? Do you have a plan to kill yourself?"

CARE

Tell your shipmate that you are concerned about him or her. Without judgment, express why you're concerned. They may not show it, but they likely appreciate that someone cared enough to say something.

TREAT

Take your shipmate to get help immediately by seeking a Navy chaplain, medical professional or trusted leader. Call 911 if danger is imminent.

You don't have to see every sign to ACT.

Help is always available through the Military Crisis Line.

Call 1-800-273-TALK (press 1), text 838255 or visit

www.militarycrisisline.net



#BeThere for Every Sailor, Every Day.

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