Navy Region Hawaii welcomes new commander

See Pg. 8
Ensign Adrienne Wang participates in the “MURPH Challenge,” a physical fitness event named for the ship’s namesake, Lt. Michael Murphy, consisting of a one-mile run, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, 300 squats, and a final one-mile run, on the aft missile deck aboard the Ariege Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112), May 27. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Justin R. Pacheco)
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 JBPBH. 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 JBPBH 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.

JBPBH 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 JBPBH: 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 JBPBH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region we support more than 100 tenant commands.
The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88), along with the “Easyriders” of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 37, Detachment One, returned to Pearl Harbor following a deployment to the U.S. Seventh Fleet area of operations, June 13.

Since departing Pearl Harbor in January, Preble participated in multiple exercises with international allies throughout the Indo-Pacific region, strengthening global relations and partnerships while maintaining combat readiness.

“I am incredibly proud of the Preble crew and all they’ve accomplished over the last few months,” said Rear Adm. Daniel Dwyer, commander, Carrier Strike Group 9. “They safely and professionally operated in a variety of complex environments throughout the Indo-Pacific, including the South China Sea.”

Along with the USS Blue Ridge, Preble participated in the Langkawi International Maritime Exposition on the island of Langkawi, Malaysia, where the ship’s crew hosted tours and a static helicopter display at the air show.

Preble also participated in a cooperative deployment with the Royal Australian navy and Republic of Korea forces, as well as a training exercise with the Philippine navy. Returning to Malaysia, Preble hosted the U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia along with Malaysian dignitaries for a traditional breaking of the fast meal in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

“We were so happy to host the breaking of the fast on our flight deck,” said Cmdr. Leonardo Giovannelli, Preble’s commanding officer. “We are the first U.S. naval vessel to do so, and it was an honor to serve as ambassadors to our friends in Malaysia. It was a truly unique experience for everybody.”

While in seventh fleet, Preble also supported the John C. Stennis Strike Group.

“I am so proud of our crew and everything they have accomplished over this deployment,” said Cmdr. Giovannelli. “We were able to accomplish an impressively wide range of operations flawlessly due to our crew’s professionalism and flexibility. This deployment tested our ability to operate independently, seamlessly integrate into strike group operations and strengthen ties with our allies, and be ambassadors for our great nation. Our dynamic team performed flawlessly at every level.”

Preble is homeported in Pearl Harbor, and this marks its second homecoming from deployment in as many years.

For more information on USS Preble visit: https://www.public.navy.mil/surfor/ddg88/Pages/default.aspx
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A Sailor assigned to Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) kisses his wife during a homecoming ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 13. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Allen Michael McNair)

A Sailor assigned to Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) reunites with her child during a homecoming ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 13. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Allen Michael McNair)

Family members cheer as Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) returns during a homecoming ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 13. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Allen Michael McNair)
On the 75th anniversary of the ship’s commissioning, the famous American battleship USS Missouri (BB 43), will sail again via the nation’s mailstream with the issuance of the USS Missouri forever stamps.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) dedicated the stamps, June 11, during a ceremony on its deck pier side in Pearl Harbor.

“The USS Missouri is one of the most famous naval battleships to ever sail the sea and now the postal service is proud to add it to our roster of commemorative stamps,” said Jeffrey C. Johnson, USPS acting enterprise analytics vice president, who dedicated the stamp. “As a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, I had the honor to serve in the United States Navy and I recognize the importance this great ship brings to American history and this ‘forever’ stamp will continue to help tell that vital story.”

Others attended the celebration including USS Missouri Memorial Association President and CEO Mike Carr, and retired U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Samuel Cox, director, Naval History and Heritage Command, Curator of the Navy.

The USS Missouri was commissioned on June 11, 1944. As a fast battleship, it was affectionately nicknamed “Mighty Mo.”

The ship joined the military efforts of the United States in the Pacific theater of operations during the last months of World War II. On Sept. 2, 1945, in a ceremony that was broadcast around the world, USS Missouri played one of the most momentous roles in the conflict when military officials from the Allied powers and imperial Japan convened on its deck and signed the documents confirming Japan’s surrender and ending the war.

USS Missouri earned numerous combat awards and citations during its decades of service. Decommissioned for the second and final time in 1992 and removed from the Navy’s ship registry in 1995, USS Missouri now rests as a memorial and museum at the Battleship USS Missouri Memorial in Pearl Harbor.

The stamp art depicts USS Missouri from a low vantage point almost at sea level, cutting through the water at a moderate speed commensurate with entering or leaving port. Large and imposing in the frame, USS Missouri is shown in the disruptive camouflage she wore from her commissioning until a refit in early 1945. Clouds loom in the background, tinged with gold and rose from the sun’s rays.

Designed by art director Greg Breeding, the stamp features a digital illustration created by Dan Cosgrove.

The USS Missouri stamp is being issued as a forever stamp. This forever stamp will always be equal in value to the current first-class mail one-ounce price.
**What movie are you looking forward to this summer and why?**

Submitted by Helen Zukeran and David D. Underwood, Jr.

- **Tech. Sgt. Jina Callahan**
  692 Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group (692 ISRG)

  "Lion King. I’m a 90s kid so it’s a nice memory. I also get to take my son to it."

- **Chief Information Systems Technician Marcus Wade**
  Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii (NIOC)

  "Men in Black: International"

- **Staff Sgt. Breanna Orsi**
  8th Intelligence Squadron

  "Looking forward to Dark Phoenix coming out. I love the Marvel Universe and all its super heroes."

- **Staff Sgt. Trent Thomas**
  37th Intelligence Squadron

  "Men In Black International. Chris Hemsworth and Tessa Thompson look like they are going to make a good duo!"

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**49th TES demonstrates capabilities from the Pacific**

*Story and photo by Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman, 15th Wing Public Affairs*

Hickam Sky Warriors took notice of a visiting aircraft this week as a B-52 Stratofortress and aircrew, assigned to the 49th Test and Evaluation Squadron (TES) from Barksdale Air Force Base, performed operations at Joint base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 22 – 31.

“Our goal is to support a joint initiative with the Navy, to enhance the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command’s mission,” said Lt. Col. Joseph Little, 49th TES commander.

During the week, the B-52 conducted the final and largest demonstration of the Quickstrike 64-ER Naval mine project, a USINDOPACOM initiative as part of ongoing efforts to modernize and enhance military readiness throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

“The B-52 is an ideal airframe for testing the QS64-ER, as it has the ability to carry multiple mentions, as well as the speed and range needed to support this joint project,” Little said.

The 49th TES perfects lethality by executing conventional and nuclear operational test and evaluation, and developing tactics, techniques and procedures to maximize joint force integration, and validate capabilities.

“The effort of the Naval mine project was spearheaded by USINDOPACOM to meet the requirements of the region,” said Little.

According to Dr. George Ka‘iliwai III, USINDOPACOM director of requirements and resources, while current mine technology is effective it has been largely unchanged since World War II. The innovations and capabilities introduced by the QS-ER project allows our forces to generate more effective minefields from longer ranges quicker than before.

The Naval mine project is part of a two-year joint effort to develop, test and operationally demonstrate the capabilities of the QS64-ER that combines Joint Direct Attack Munitions technology and munition alterations. The combination of which allows the QS64-ER to be delivered long range and high altitudes.

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**Service members restore historic reef**

Aviation Boatswain’s Mate (Fuels) 2nd Class Michael Buscher, assigned to the Honolulu Military Entry Processing Station, moves a wheelbarrow full of invasive plants during a “50 for 50” community improvement initiative event held at Ahua Reef Wetlands on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 31. The program comprises 50 community improvement projects, featuring 50-or-more Sailors and Airmen, representing Hawaii, the 50th of the United States. The restoration is part of an ongoing effort to clear out invasive plants that are taking over the historic reef. The Ahua Reef beach shoreline along the coast of Oahu provides a refuge for rare wetland plants and animals. (U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Charles Oki)
Command change for Navy Region Hawaii, MIDPAC

A Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) change of command ceremony was held June 14 at Kilo Pier on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Rear Adm. Robert Chadwick II relieved Rear Adm. Brian Fort as commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. Serving in command since July 2017, Fort leaves Hawaii to become commander of U.S. Naval Forces Japan and Navy Region Japan. Chadwick comes to Hawaii after serving as the commandant of midshipmen for the U.S. Naval Academy.

The program began with a hula performance as guests arrived. Capt. James Jenks, chief of staff for Navy Region Hawaii provided opening remarks, followed by a performance from the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, the parading of colors by the JBPHH honor guard, the national anthem, and the chanting of the Oli - Hawaiian blessing by Kahu Kordell.

Adm. John Aquilino, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, was keynote speaker at the ceremony and praised Fort for the accomplishments he achieved in his two years as commander.

“For the past two years, Brian has been dedicated to three key mission sets here in Hawaii - Sailors and their families, the local community, and ensuring the readiness of our forces,” said Aquilino.

“His support to the warfighter - uniformed Sailors and civilians - has been unparalleled. Brian realized that the cornerstone of success was taking care of Sailors and their families first. This ensured they could focus on their mission - whatever, wherever, and whenever it was needed. Your personal impact will leave a lasting, positive impact for years to come.”

Fort thanked Aquilino for his kind words and provided his final remarks as commander of CNRH and MIDPAC.

“I am humbled to have the honor to speak for the final time as commander, Navy Region Hawaii and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. I intend to enjoy every final minute of it,” said Fort.

“As a Navy leader, I have always enjoyed both aspects and over the past week, I’ve enjoyed the opportunity to get to know my new friend and shipmate, Rear Adm. Rob Chadwick. Congratulations on assuming command today and good luck to you. The men and women of the region and MIDPAC are fortunate to have you at the helm.”

Chadwick said he looks forward to the challenges ahead as the new commander of CNRH and MIDPAC, and conclude with a congratulatory message for Fort on his next tour.

“I have big shoes to fill and I want to thank you for a great turnover,” said Chadwick “I want to congratulate you on a phenomenal tour; your staff in Japan are lucky to have you in command. Congratulations on your new role. I am joining an amazing team in Hawaii and look forward to knowing all of you. I look forward to the challenges ahead and to provide undivided support to our Sailors and families.”

CNRH has leadership oversight of JBPHH on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai. MIDPAC has leadership oversight of the 10 surface ships homeported in Hawaii.
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The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) returned June 6 to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after completing its latest six-month deployment.

The crew was greeted on the historic submarine piers of Pearl Harbor by a bustling crowd of well-wishers and families, eager to welcome the Sailors home after a successful deployment.

“Every member of the crew prepared for, sustained and successfully executed all phases of this deployment,” said Cmdr. Sterling S. Jordan, commanding officer of Hawaii. “From our initial training to the final transit home, we overcame challenges together.”

Jordan expressed pride in the accomplishments and performance of the crew with 65 percent completing their first deployment.

“As commanding officer it is has been my privilege to lead such a fine group of professional young men who selflessly carry out our nation’s most important tasking and I could not be more proud of their accomplishments,” said Jordan.

During the deployment, four babies were born and 13 Sailors and 2 officers earned their submarine warfare qualification.

“The success and fate of the Hawaii depends on every member of this team,” said Jordan. “We can all take solace in what we have contributed to the larger mission of peace through demonstrated and overt operational proficiency.”

At 377-feet long, USS Hawaii is slightly longer than a football field. The vessel has a 34-foot beam, and is able to dive to depths greater than 800 feet and will operate at speeds in excess of 25 knots submerged.

By MC1 Daniel Hinton
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

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“Every member of the crew performed above and beyond their own expectations as a result of rigorous study and preparation,” said Master Chief Machinist’s Mate Jeffery L. Hiscocks, Hawaii chief of the boat.

Hiscocks said the combined effort of strong senior leadership and motivated Sailors led to the crew performing beyond perceived limitations and maximized the ship’s potential.

During their deployment, Hawaii traveled over 40,000 nautical miles conducting operations vital to national security and engaged in a number of international cooperation activities including an exercise with the French aircraft carrier Charles De Gaulle.

“One of the most memorable moments of the deployment for me was pulling into our first foreign port as a crew,” said Machinist’s Mate (Nuclear) 2nd Class Jason J. Rutkoski, a Sailor assigned to Hawaii. “Many of the junior members of the crew have only known the waters around Pearl Harbor. Coming from a small town in rural Pennsylvania I had never imagined setting foot in a place like Japan.”

Affectionately known as the “war canoe” by its crew, USS Hawaii was escorted through Pearl Harbor’s historic waters by outrigger canoes, also known as waka, by members of the Outrigger Canoe Club.

“It was awesome seeing the canoes in the water escorting us through the harbor,” said Hiscocks. “Coming home from deployment is always special but being able to arrive in the namesake vessel for the state and be greeted by a Hawaiian blessing was a special moment I know the crew won’t soon forget.”

A Sailor assigned to the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) greets his loved ones after arriving at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, after completing its latest deployment, June 6. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Daniel Hinton)
Native oysters find new home in Pearl Harbor waters
By Helen Zukeran, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The ceremonial event for the Oyster Restoration project took place June 5 on Ford Island with 300 native oysters, half a centimeter in size, taking the plunge into the waters of Pearl Harbor. The two species of oysters native to Pearl Harbor, Dendostrea sandvicensis (Hawaiian Oyster) and Pinctada margaritifera (Blacklip Pearl Oyster) were placed in cages and set down into the water by Rear Adm. Brian Fort, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific; Nainoa Thompson, president of Polynesian Voyaging Society, and Waterkeeper Alliance president, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

Aunty Kehau, Native Hawaii Civic Club representative, began the ceremony with an Oli, a Hawaiian chant, and concluded with another Oli done in sign language after lowering the second cage of oysters.

Other notable guests included Bruce Matthews, dean of the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management at the University of Hawaii Hilo; and Brian Neilson from the State of Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources.

“This is not just putting oysters in the water; this is shifting the minds and hearts of the community and to shift world views. This is a time where Hawaii has a chance to stand up and do something,” Thompson said.

Oysters filter up to 40 gallons of water per day and removes harmful pollutants, heavy metals, oils, and microplastics in the water. By allowing the native oysters to grow in the waters of Pearl Harbor, they hope to repopulate the species, while improving water quality and clarity.

“Our missions is fishable, swimmable, drinkable water and oysters touch upon a large part of that; oysters filter water to improve quality and clarity,” said Rhiannon Chandler-Lao, executive director of Oahu Waterkeepers.

The Oyster Restoration Project is a collaboration with the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Oahu Waterkeepers. It is modeled after successful partnerships with waterkeeper organizations on the mainland to restore native Hawaiian oysters for bioremediation.
USS Oklahoma Sailor, hero laid to rest at JBPHH

Story and photos by MC1 Corwin Colbert
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Radioman 3rd Class Jack Goldwater was finally given a hero’s burial, June 7, during an ash scattering at the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl-Harbor Hickam.

Goldwater was killed as a crewmember of the 27,000-ton Nevada class battleship USS Oklahoma at Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.

Moored outboard of USS Maryland (BB-46), the ship was hit by a great number of Japanese Type 91 aerial torpedoes. With its port side torn open over much of its length, Oklahoma rapidly rolled over and sank to the harbor bottom, with the loss of over 400 of its crew.

Goldwater’s remains were buried at Punchbowl and listed as unknown until they were positively identified in March 2018.

“I was completely shocked when I got the phone call,” said Diane Goldwater Munck, Goldwater’s niece. “It was pretty incredible that my uncle was identified with such few remains. It was amazing.”

Goldwater’s ashes were scattered at the location of the “Forgotten Ship,” and where many other Navy brothers’ and sisters’ ashes were laid to rest. That ship, USS Utah, while moored on the same infamous day, was hit by Japanese aerial torpedo attack, rolled over and sank. A few years later the ship’s hull was partially righted and moved closer to Ford Island, where she remains today as a memorial.

“I didn’t realize how significant this memorial was until I got here. Just listening to the history and the admiral speak how significant this place is for even present officers brought a lot of comfort to me,” she said.

More than 50 Navy Sailors and civilians along with Goldwater’s family members and Rear Adm. Brian Fort, commander, Navy Region Hawaii, attended the traditional Navy ash scattering ceremony.

“Amazing, amazing. I was floored at the number of people, the 21-gun salute, the attention to detail and the kindness shown to me and my children was phenomenal,” Munck said.
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Cmdr. Matthew Lewis (right) is relieved of command of the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777), by Cmdr. Michael Fisher (left) during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 31.

Story and photos by MC1 Daniel Hinton
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

The Virginia-class, fast attack submarine USS North Carolina (SSN 777) held a change of command ceremony at the historic submarine piers of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, May 31. Cmdr. Matthew Lewis, commanding officer of North Carolina, was relieved by Cmdr. Michael Fisher, after more than 30 months in command of the vessel.

Capt. Richard E. Seif, chief of staff and deputy commander of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, was the guest speaker for the ceremony and shared stories of his time working with Lewis. “I remember the first time I visited the North Carolina across the water in drydock,” said Seif. “It was clear that you and your crew had a lot on your plate, but it was also clear that you were the right man for the job.”

Seif evoked a quote from famous North Carolinian, Michael Jordan, to describe the performance of the crew and captain. “Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen, and under your leadership Matt, the crew of North Carolina made it happen,” said Seif. “Not only did you get North Carolina back out to sea early but you also delivered a front-line submarine crew, ready for operational tasking from day one.”

Seif also welcomed Fisher to the waterfront and expressed confidence in his ability to perform. “I know first-hand that you are the right man for the job to lead this motivated team through any challenge that may come their way.” During the ceremony, Capt. Wes Bringham, commander, Submarine Squadron 1 presented Lewis with a Meritorious Service Medal for exceptional conduct while serving as commanding officer of the vessel from January 2017 to May 2019.

Lewis thanked all in attendance and lauded the North Carolina crew’s ability to handle adversity. “Our crew understood the task and challenge that lied in front of us,” said Lewis. “If successful, we would restore an already assumed to be lost deployment from the lifetime of the ship. Looking back at the past two years, I am astonished and honored to have worked with our Sailors to bring North Carolina back to the fleet.”

Fisher, addressing his new crew for the first time after assuming command, commended them on their recent accomplishments. “To the crew of North Carolina, your camaraderie, positive attitude, and exceptional work ethic are contagious,” said Fisher. “I am overjoyed to have this opportunity with you, and I have no doubt that as a team we will accomplish tremendous things together as patriots and ready warfighters on one of the most advanced warships in the world.”

“We will live as a team, train as a team, fight as a team, and we will succeed as a team.” Fisher previously served as executive officer aboard USS Boise (SSN 764), and most recently as Submarine Squadron 1 deputy commander for readiness.

Commissioned May 2008, North Carolina is the fourth U.S. Navy ship to carry the name, North Carolina. The Virginia-class boat joined the fleet in December 2006. The state-of-the-art submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance.
Capt. Andrew Hertel, left, is relieved by Capt. Lance Thompson, right, during the change of command ceremony of Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific at Parche Memorial on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 4.

Story and photos by MC1 Daniel Hinton
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) held a change of command ceremony at Parche Memorial on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, June 4.

Capt. Andrew Hertel, commanding officer of NSTCP, was relieved by Capt. Lance Thompson, after more than 30 months in command.

Rear Adm. Blake L. Converse, commander of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, the guest speaker for the ceremony, commended Hertel on an outstanding command tour and leaving NSTCP in excellent condition.

"I don’t think anyone would argue that NSTCP is certainly the most capable, productive and innovative training facility in the Force," said Converse. "Under your leadership, NSTCP continued to deliver the highest quality tactical, operational and engineering training to our submarine crews to enable me to deploy safe, combat-capable crews for deployments across the globe."

Converse welcomed Thompson to his new assignment and expressed confidence that he would excel in the position as the commanding officer of NSTCP. "You understand the importance of fostering innovation and developing a competitive atmosphere that spurs rapid improvement," said Converse. "You are the right man to lead this motivated training team."

During the ceremony, Converse presented Hertel with a Legion of Merit Medal for exceptionally meritorious service while serving as commanding officer of NSTCP from January 2017 to June 2019.

Hertel took the time to thank those in attendance as well as the men and women he has led. "The quality of the people I got to work with every day was eye-watering," said Hertel. "The average crew member at NSTCP was competing for Sailor of the year on his ship."

Hertel concluded his remarks by citing former president Theodore Roosevelt’s Man in the Arena remarks and crediting all the crews of the fast-attack submarines in the Pacific Submarine Force for their relentless mission execution. "We have all been that proverbial ‘doer of deeds’ and now it is our role to be the maligned critic, and observe those men and women who are in the arena today," said Hertel. "These crews who will go forward, strive valiantly, spending themselves for a worthy cause and they will be the key in ensuring our Navy knows triumph in the end."

Thompson, addressing the crew for the first time as commanding officer, praised Hertel on his success at NSTCP and stated his eagerness to work with his new staff. "Andy, congratulations on a fantastic tour," said Thompson. "I am excited to work with such a talented staff to continue making a difference by training Pacific Fleet submarines in Pearl Harbor and Guam."

NSTCP was first established in January 1962 as Fleet Submarine Training Center. Today, it is comprised of approximately 120 permanently assigned officer, enlisted and civilian instructors, training more than 25,000 Sailors each year.
Navy returns to flying union jack

By Jim Neuman
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific hosted a commemoration ceremony aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) on Tuesday, June 4 to mark the 77th anniversary of the Battle of Midway.

The Battle of Midway, considered by many to be the greatest victory in American naval history, occurred six months after Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor. From June 3-7, 1942, the U.S. Navy decisively defeated an attacking fleet of the Imperial Japanese Navy near Midway Atoll, inflicting devastating damage on the Japanese fleet that proved irreparable.

This year’s commemoration coincided with the reintroduction of the union jack aboard all ships of the U.S. Navy. As the Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) band played the national anthem, the 50-star union jack was hoisted up the jackstaff of the Chung-Hoon for the first time since 2002.

The ceremony began with music from the PACFLT band followed by remarks from Capt. Joseph Naman, chief of staff, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. In his remarks Naman stated, “With the decisive victory at Midway the United States would begin the long struggle to roll back a proud and determined foe. It would be the unconquerable spirit of this great nation and the United States Navy that would turn the tables on the Axis powers.”

The U.S Navy flies the jack flag on a ship’s bow while in port. The familiar flag with a rattlesnake and the words “Don’t Tread on Me” has traditionally represented the Navy’s history all the way back to the Revolutionary War. By custom, the honor of flying that flag is reserved only for the commissioned ship having the longest total period in active status. In 2002, the Navy ordered all ships to fly the “Don’t Tread on Me” flag as a symbol of our resolve following the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Earlier this year, the Chief of Naval Operations instituted the change back to the union jack with the exhortation, “Make no mistake: we have entered a new era of competition. We must recommit to the core attributes that made us successful at Midway: integrity, accountability, initiative, and toughness. For more than 240 years, the union jack, flying proudly from jackstaffs aboard U.S. Navy warships, has symbolized these strengths.”

As of June 4, in conjunction with the commemoration of the Battle of Midway the only warship authorized to fly the rattlesnake jack is USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), the oldest ship in active status.

Naman concluded his remarks with the charge to the Sailors of the Chung-Hoon, “Your role in the United States Navy is vital. The job you are doing right now will contribute to the overall success or failure in the challenges facing our generation. That’s the reminder of the union jack and the lesson that the Battle of Midway teaches us.”

PMRF dedicates plaque to honor Sailor’s contributions

Story and photo by MC2 Sara B. Sexton, PMRF Public Affairs

Service members, friends and family attended a ceremony honoring Stu “Bub” Burley, June 4, at Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Barking Sands in Kauai.

During the ceremony, a plaque detailing Burley’s contribution to the Navy, PMRF and the local community, was revealed at the REGULUS 1 guided-missile static display on base.

Seaman Stu “Bub” Burley arrived at Bonham Air Force Base, Barking Sands in 1956 with the delivery of the REGULUS 1 guided-missile Unit 1 from the Naval Air Missile Test Center, Point Mugu, California, and became synonymous with what would become PMRF throughout his career and into retirement.

The ceremony began with an invocation from David Herr, a bishop of the Kalaheo chapter of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and continued with remarks from Burley’s friends and family.

“Stu served many, and he did good,” said Jim Jung, Lions Club member and friend of Burley. “He served youngsters through the boy scouts, and young rocket men. He served seniors through the AARP [American Association of Retired Persons]. He served his country through the United States Navy.”

Additional friends spoke about their interaction with Burley, including Kauai County Mayor Derek Kawakami and Kauai Council Chair Arryl Kaneshiro.

“My personal interaction with Uncle Stu was short compared to everyone else’s,” said Kawakami. “We had a short period in our lives where the time together on earth actually intersected, but the profound mark that he left with me, with his positivity, with his ability to give back to this community will shape me in everything that I do for the rest of my life.”

Capt. Vinnie Johnson, commanding officer of PMRF, concluded the ceremony saying he wanted to keep his remarks short, but wanted to remember Burley’s significant impact on the base and the community. He invited the group to join him in unveiling the plaque.

The attendees walked to the REGULUS 1 guided-missile static display to observe the new dedication plaque and ended the event with refreshments and more stories remembering the time spent with Burley.
Hawaii, West Virginia ANG join in total force collaboration

By Senior Airman John Linzmeier
154th Wing Public Affairs

Members of the West Virginia Air National Guard worked alongside Sailors and Airmen at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as part of a total-force-integration training opportunity May 13-24.

The team of 69 guardsmen, based out of the 167th Air Wing in Martinsburg, focused on improving their ability to function in a total-force environment by working alongside active duty members from the 15th Wing and the Hawaii Air National Guard’s 154th Wing.

“From the minute we met with the force support squadron from the 15th Wing and Hawaii Air National Guard, they were immediately welcoming,” said 2nd Lt. Margaret Mayberry, 167th Force Support Squadron acting commander and services flight chief. “We could get a sense of the ‘aloha spirit’ and family. They immediately wanted to show us around and learn from us as much as we wanted to learn from them.”

For active duty service members, it’s normal to have a wide exposure to other bases, as members are constantly moving from station to station every few years. But for members of the Air National Guard, the majority of staff will remain at their home station for long periods of time. Annual training opportunities, such as this, help diversify and influence daily operations.

Mayberry and other mission planners crafted a diverse schedule for their time on island, which enabled the West Virginia Airmen to spend half of their work days with active-duty units and the other half with local guardsmen — an opportunity which is not available at their home station.

“Seeing active duty and guard units and how they work with each other is really valuable for us,” said Mayberry, “because when you’re within your own bubble and not actively training with other joint forces, you’re not going to be able to see and understand the benefits of other practices.”

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam hosts partnered units on a regular basis in order to combine their capabilities with joint and bilateral forces and other military components.

Due to an ongoing flow of deployment taskings, some departments on-island are left understaffed. Tech. Sgt. Matthew Pyne, 154th Logistics Readiness Squadron Individual Protective Equipment and Individual Equipment Element NCO in charge, said his team is always excited to work with visiting units because it helps them to take on large projects and learn new organizational skills.

“They were very knowledgeable in the inventory section,” said Pyne. “We are doing a full-scale inventory right now for our ‘chem gear’ and now we’re pulling back about 2,000 M-50 masks. They showed us different ways to consolidate our equipment, so now we have more space to do our inventory and work more effectively.”

The West Virginia Airmen also integrated with several other squadrons and sections from both air wings, to include Force Support, Logistics Readiness, Contracting, Communications, and Public Affairs.

At the end of each duty day, Airmen gathered to discuss the lessons learned and review their experiences, such as refueling an F-22 Raptor for the first time or helping administer a routine physical fitness test.

“It’s been highly rewarding to create new partnerships here,” said Mayberry. “As a leader, some of the wonderful pieces I’ve seen is how my Airmen have been able to collaborate with new teams and see how quickly they can apply new concepts, not only with other guard units, but active duty as well. It helps us to understand the importance of the total-force mission.”

NEX awards student $1,000 for good grades

Story and photo by Stephanie Lau
NEX Pearl Harbor Marketing

Ezra Jackson, a military family member and an eighth grader from Hawaii Technology Academy won a check for $1,000 from the Navy Exchange (NEX) A-OK student reward program, May 20.

Jackson placed third place among other winners worldwide for the second quarter of the 2018-2019 school year.

When asked what the money will go towards, Ezra replied, “The money will go towards private pilot license training when I turn 15. I am learning about aviation through the Hickam Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron. I am already getting experience with the Civil Air Patrol orientation flights, however, I would like to earn my private pilot’s license.”

His future plans are to go to the U.S. Air Force Academy, if accepted. He has worked in the Civil Air Patrol to achieve the Billy Mitchell award which will hopefully give him the advantage when applying. If accepted into the Air Force Academy, he hopes to be a C-17 pilot for the Air Force.

His message for other student hopefuls that participate in the scholarship program is to join an organization that helps them grow as a person and learn about future career aspirations.

The A-OK student reward program is a way of supporting students in the military community by rewarding hard work and good grades. To qualify, students must maintain a minimum of a “B” average or equivalent. Any student from the first grade through high school is eligible. Every quarter, three students can win a check for $3,000, $2,000, and $1,000.

For more information about the A-OK program, visit https://www.mynavyexchange.com/nex/enterprise-info/a-ok-students or contact the NEX at (808) 423-3287.
Chuck Milligan puts on entrancing show at JBPHH

Chuck Milligan, comedy hypnotist entertains the audience as he puts a trance on volunteers. (Photo by MWR Marketing)

By Reid Tokeshi
JBPHH Morale, Welfare and Recreation

When audiences see a performer step on stage, they hope they are about to see a good show. But when comedy hypnotist, Chuck Milligan brought his hypnosis show to Club Pearl’s Paradise Lounge at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), June 1, it was members of the audience who became the stars of the show.

During the show, Milligan asked for volunteers. Twenty volunteers rushed to the stage. In the end about 15 brave participants made the cut, including a few that Milligan pulled on stage. The patrons who were left in the audience watched and laughed over the next hour as the volunteers on stage put on a performance through the power of hypnosis.

The hypnotist pulled the strings and played with all the senses of his “stars,” making them say, see and feel things they never expected to do on stage in front of friends and family. Details of Milligan’s show were kept secret to avoid spoiling his act. It was all in fun as Milligan made sure to keep the dignity of all participants intact by the end of the night.

As the show ended, some patrons stuck around to talk and take photos with Milligan. For more than 20 years, Milligan has been performing for military bases around the world, including JBPHH.

Military families meet NBA All-Stars at JBPHH

JBPHH MWR hosted the NBA Hoops for Troops event presented by the USO June 5. Former NBA players Ray Allen, Roy Hibbert, Kevin Ollie and former WNBA player/coach Taj McWilliams-Franklin stopped by Tradewinds to meet fans and sign autographs. (Photo by Justin Hirai)
**Au’au Channel Swim Challenge**

Now – Take the challenge and swim the equivalent length of the channel between Lanai and Maui, a distance of 9.5 miles. Complete this free challenge all month at all JBPHH pools. The first 15 to finish the challenge will receive a prize. For more information, call 808-473-0394.

**Father’s Day Massage Special**

Now – Treat dad or someone special to a 90-minute massage in the month of June for only $80 at the Hickam Memorial Fitness Center. Open to ages 18 and up. For more information, call 808-448-2214.

**Barbers Point Invitational Golf Tournament**

Now – Registration is being accepted now until June 23 for the Barbers Point Invitational Golf Tournament happening July 11 to 13 at Barbers Point Golf Course. Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than Jun 23. Cost is $175 for active duty military and $200 for all others. For more information, call 808-682-1911.

**Power Game Days**

Now – Come out and enjoy non-traditional bowling games at all three JBPHH bowling centers for just $10 per hour/lane for up to five people. Power Game Days happen on Mondays from 5 to 9 p.m. at Naval Station Bowling Center, Wednesdays from 5 to 9 p.m. at Hickam Bowling Center and Fridays from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Escape Bowling Center at Wahiawa Annex. For more information, call 808-473-2574.

**Family Night Dodgeball**

June 18 – Parents versus teens in this fun playground game at the Teen Center from 5:30 to 7 p.m. This event is free and open to teens and their families. For more information, call 808-448-1068.

**Paint & Sip**

June 19 – Paint your masterpiece while sipping on a beverage from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Tradewinds. Cost is $40 and includes all art supplies. Advance sign up is recommended. For more information, call 808-448-9907.

**King of the Hill Bowling**

June 20 – Bowl the highest score for the month of June every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Naval Station Bowling Center, and win ten free games and be declared King of the Hill. Bowl two games free. Open to active-duty only. For more information, call 808-473-2574.

**Paintball for Teens**

June 21 – Join the Teen Center on this fun field trip from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is $20 per person and open to teens registered with the program. For more information, call 808-448-1068.

**Ahua Reef Wetland Restoration**

June 28 – Volunteers needed to help restore a coastal wetland from 8 to 11 a.m. at Ahua Reef Wetland on Hickam. Activities include pulling invasive weeds and trash pickup. Ages 12 and over welcome. To participate, please email Ashley.n.dunn ctr@navy.mil or call 224-249-2180.

**Hail and Farewell Summer BBQ**

June 22 – Come and enjoy a summer barbecue with great food and say farewell to those moving to new adventures from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Teen Center. Event is free and open to all teens. For more information, call 808-448-1068.

**Summer Swim Lessons**

June 24 – Register online for summer swim lessons at the Hickam Family Pool. Lessons consist of eight 30-minute sessions. For more information, call 808-448-2384.

**Float Night**

June 28 – Bring your floats and enjoy free ice cream floats from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Hickam Family Pool. This event is free and open to all ages. For more information, call 808-448-2384.

**Concert in the Park**

June 13 – Receive golf tips from the professionals at the Navy-Marine Golf Course from noon to 1 p.m. Event is free and open to authorized patrons. For more information, call 808-471-0142.

**Coffee Talk**

June 13 – Learn, share and connect with other Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) families from 9 to 10 a.m. at MFSC Pearl Harbor. Open to authorized patrons. For more information, call 808-474-1999 or register online at https://jbphh.greatlifehawaii.com/support.

**Concert in the Park**

June 28 – Enjoy the music of Naked Waiters, an ukulele pop group, while relaxing on the lawn fronting Hickam Harbor starting from 5 p.m. Event is free and it’s BYOB (bring your own blankets, bottles and bites). For more information, visit www.greatlifehawaii.com.

**Abandoned Vehicle Auction**

June 29 – View a selection of abandoned vehicles from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the lot near Porter Gate. Vehicles will be sold as is. Open to U.S. military and DoD cardholders.

**Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey**

Now until June 24 - Speak up and let your voices be heard by participating in this year’s survey which measures job satisfaction, employee engagement, and diversity and inclusion. Visit www.opm.gov/fev/about/.

**Great Navy Campout**

July 29 – View a selection of abandoned vehicles from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the lot near Porter Gate. Vehicles will be sold as is. Open to U.S. military and DoD cardholders.

**PMRF Most West Freedom Fest**

July 3 - Pacific Missile Range Facility will host its 2019 Most West Freedom Fest on the grounds of Shenanigans restaurant at Barking Sands, Kauai from 5 to 11 p.m. Popular Hawai‘i-based band The Green will headline the entertainment along with Kaua‘i bands The Homestead and KA HĀ. This year’s event will include a fireworks display, food booths and games. Admission is free. Free parking available on base, no outside food, beverages, coolers, pets, weapons or personal fireworks allowed. For more information, call 808-335-4380.

**4th of July Celebration at JBPHH**

July 4 - The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Welfare and Recreation will celebrate America’s birthday at Ward Field from 3 to 9:30 p.m. The event will feature a live concert by ’Vertical Horizon,’ an alternative rock band; a variety of free family activities including a petting zoo, lawn games, balloon twisting, inflatables, rides and more. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. The fireworks display will begin at 9 p.m. For detailed information, visit https://jbphh.greatlifehawaii.com/
Department of Defense
LGBT PRIDE MONTH

Pride In All Who Serve