



The guided-missile destroyers USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57), the Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Guadalupe (TAO 200) and the attack submarine USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) perform ship formations during exercise Koa Kai off the coast of the Oahu. Koa Kai is the primary integrated training event for Mid-Pacific Surface Combatant units with the goal of achieving deployment certifications and training. Koa Kai encompasses Hawaii-based surface, submarine and aviation assets, and other commands within the Hawaii region.

Hawaii ships ‘train as a force’ in Koa Kai

Story and photo by
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii
Public Affairs

Surface Navy and other combatant units participated in the Koa Kai 11-1 exercise in waters around the Hawaiian Islands on Nov. 12-17.

Koa Kai is the primary integrated training event for the mid-Pacific surface combatant units with the goal of achieving deployment certificates and training.

“This is the fourth, and by far the most robust, Koa Kai exercise. There are six surface ships, four sub-

marines, two helicopters, two U.S. P-3 aircraft, one Canadian P-3 aircraft and two unmanned aerial vehicles along with many other commands and staff participating in this exercise,” said Capt. Richard Clemmons, commander of Destroyer Squadron 31 (DESRON 31).

The guided-missile destroyers, USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), the guided missile-cruiser USS Lake Erie, and the guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) took part in the biannual exercise.

Other units that helped

support the middle Pacific surface combatant units during Koa Kai included the attack submarines USS Cheyenne (SSN 773), USS Tucson (SSN 770) and USS Pasadena (SSN 752); the ballistic-missile submarine USS Alabama (SSBN 731); the Military Sealift Command oiler USNS Guadalupe (TAO 200); aircraft from Helicopter Squadron Light 37 and Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, and the Royal Canadian Navy; two civilian hawk hunter jet aircrafts; and a civil air patrol Cessna 182.

“The purpose of Koa Kai is to conduct warfare and seamanship evolutions that

enable ships to transition from unit level basic training to more advanced, integrated training, and to exercise in a multi-ship environment that includes submarine and aviation forces,” Clemmons added. “Koa Kai serves as the primary means by which ships homeported in Hawaii are assessed as ready to perform their core missions in any area of responsibility.”

Sailors aboard the ships took part in various exercises during Koa Kai, including visit, board, search and seizure drills, anti-submarine warfare and live-fire ammunition exercises, among others.

Clemmons also com-

mented on the effect of Koa Kai on Hawaii-based ships.

“Koa Kai is very effective because it takes advantage of the unique makeup of surface, submarine and air assets based in Hawaii,” Clemmons said. “Koa Kai provides a unique opportunity for Hawaii-based ships, submarines and aircraft to operate and train together in the local waters. It allows participants the opportunity to operate together and train as a force rather than as individual units.”

Cmdr. David Miller, commanding officer of Reuben James, said that the ship and crew performed well during Koa

Kai. “Reuben James has done a great job during Koa Kai. We enjoy being out here and having the opportunity to work together with the other units” Miller said.

“We’re actually coming up on a deployment, so this exercise will really cap off our preparation and training.”

Koa Kai supports the Pacific Fleet’s Mid-Pacific Surface Combatant Operational Employment (MPSCOE) program, which calls for all of the Hawaii-based surface combatants to use the strategic location in the middle Pacific to conduct intermediate and advanced training.



Fliers from the 535th Airlift Squadron, 96th Air Refueling Squadron and the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron participate in refresher survival training while at Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii on Nov. 4. Aviators are required to complete survival training every three years and it is taught by a Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape instructor.

Airmen refresh survival skills

Story and photo by
Tech Sgt. Cohen Young

Defense Media Activity
Hawaii

Air-qualified Airmen were able to refresh their survival skills during training in a wooded area of Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii on Nov. 4.

Some jobs in the Air Force require special training in addition to one’s primary job and Airmen whose jobs require them to fly regularly are some of those who fall into this category.

These personnel are required to attend the survival evasion resistance escape (SERE) school at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash. for initial survival training. Additionally, a refresher is accomplished every three years for each person who maintains a flying position. That refresher is taught at the flier’s base or one near him or her, wherever there is a SERE instructor.

Because Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii is home to C-17 Globemaster III, KC-135 Stratotanker and F-22 Raptor crew members, there are plenty of

Airmen who need to maintain their efficiency regarding their survival skills.

“This is continual training for the aviators assigned to Hickam on the skills they learned at Fairchild on evasion and navigation through the woods in case the enemy is chasing them,” said Staff Sgt. Sergio Avalos, a SERE instructor assigned to the 15th Operations Support Squadron.

“We bring them up to speed on evasion tactics and recovery procedures,” added Avalos, a San Marino, Texas native.

The students at the refresher training participated in a classroom session and then proceeded to a wooded area where evasion, camouflage, fire making and recovery procedures were reviewed. The students were then introduced to a scenario where they had to evade and find their way to a recovery point.

The training reinforces previous training which taught the aviators how to respond if they are faced with a situation in which the aircraft they are on unexpectedly becomes inoperable and they must bail out or crash land in hazard

conditions or in unfriendly territory. This is not something that the aviators have to deal with normally, so it is beneficial for them to train in the event that such a scenario should happen.

“This is definitely a chance to get out and do something that we don’t normally do,” said Capt. Nathan Padgett of 535th Airlift Squadron, a native of Silver Spring, Md.

“As an aircraft commander, you want to make sure you know what to do in case of an emergency and you can help and lead your people,” Padgett added.

“This refresher training is good because it gives us a chance to hone the skills that we learned at Fairchild and might not have touched in a few years,” Padgett said.

Personal satisfaction is what drives the instructors because the students can apply the training they receive to a number of things besides an air crash.

“If they are out with their family and need a fire in an emergency, they can start a fire and sustain life because of some of the principles applied here,” Avalos explained.

Navy Region Hawaii celebrates Native American/ Alaskan Native Heritage Month

Story and photos by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawai’i
Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawai’i (CNRH) celebrated Native American/Alaskan Native Heritage Month at Lockwood Hall at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Nov. 18.

Coordinated by Senior Chief Engineman (SW/AW) Sidney Coverson, CNRH equal opportunity advisor, the celebration, themed, “Life is Sacred, Celebrate Healthy Native Communities,” consisted of speeches, music and cultural dances promoting Native American heritage.

“This is what these events are all about—getting outside of your comfort zones and seeing different cultures, and there are so many different cultures here in Hawaii,” Coverson said. “It’s a blessing really to get that close to it.”

Coverson also said that a lot of people don’t realize how many Native Americans we actually have here in Hawaii.

“A lot of them come to Hawaii via the military,” Coverson said. “They are here, and they do have a presence here.”

The keynote speaker was Army and Navy veteran Phillip Cornejo, a Lipan Apache Native American, who advocates for and promotes the Native American community.

“We also need to recognize all the difference we are bringing here,” Cornejo said. “We are not a melting pot anymore, and the military knows that. We are more like a fruit salad. We enjoy each flavor that it brings to that meal. It’s the same thing



Native American Dr. David Windhorse Long speaks to an audience as Senior Chief Electrician’s Mate (SW/AW) Sidney Coverson, assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH), hosts a Native American Heritage observance at Lockwood Hall on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. CNRH celebrated Native American Heritage month themed “Life is Sacred, Celebrate Healthy Native Communities,” by hosting a Native American presentation of dance, music and traditions.

in the military. We enjoy the Native Americans. We have a long history of service, a long history of fighting for our land. But we are not the only ones with that history. Many people have that history as well, and that’s what I like to capitalize when I talk about diversity,” Cornejo explained.

Currently, more than 15,000 active duty, reserve, and civilian members of the Navy total force declare themselves American Indian or Alaska Native. The inclusion of Native Americans and their many experiences, talents and viewpoints are essential to the Navy’s mission and operational readiness.

During the presenta-

tion, several Native Americans in their native garb performed traditional inter-tribal dances including a hoop dance, which is a form of storytelling dance incorporating anywhere from one to 30 hoops as props. The hoops were used to create static and dynamic shapes, representing various animals and storytelling elements.

One of the performers was Dr. David Bevet, a Shawnee/Cherokee Native American and military veteran.

“The theme is healthy communities, a healthy American community,” Bevet said. “America, for us, is given to us by our creator to protect and to

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2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition brings out the ‘beast’ See page A-2



Retired Navy chief is re-united with shipmates of Dec. 7 See page A-3



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Be Our Guest: USS Reuben James hosts Tiger Cruise See page A-6



Gilad leads ATG MIDPAC workout See page B-1



Logistics Readiness Squadron dominates Maintenance Group See page B-2

2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition brings out the 'beast'

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt.
Carolyn Viss

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Public Affairs

It was all about chompers and snifflers during the 2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Nov. 15 to 19.

Thirty-nine handlers from the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, as well as the Honolulu Police Department, Japan, Alaska, Ft. Huachuca, and Ft. Leonard Wood brought their K-9s through a series of events last week that served to both reward the dog teams for their hard work throughout the year and bring different services together.

"We started the week with building, warehouse and vehicle explosives detections and searches," said U.S. Army Master Sgt. Donald Nelson, 558th Military Police Company senior-ranking judge for the competition, sponsored by the 728th Military Police Battalion and the 13th Military Police



Detachment. "We took them to a [movement over urban terrain] site and had them go through buildings with gunfire and bombs going off; also explosives search. [Thursday] we took them through the agility obstacle course."

The week ended with Friday's obedience course, handler protection/aggression demonstration, and the hardest-hitting dog competition, won by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ricky Renfroe and his Belgian Malinois, Jimmy. Both are assigned to the 647th Security

Jimmy, a Belgian Malinois assigned to the 647th Security Forces Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, attacks a decoy during the 2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Nov. 19. Jimmy and his handler, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Ricky Renfroe, won the handler protection/aggression and hardest-hitting dog competitions during the week-long event, which served to both reward the dog teams for their hard work throughout the year and bring different services together.

Forces Squadron here.

"He's very high-strung; he likes to bite people," Sergeant Renfroe said of his 4-year-old dog, who almost died of heat stroke last year in training but recovered after several months of rehabilitation.

That statement alone proves this is not like any regular dog competition. The tricks of these beasts' trade are their abilities to detect and bite, and the prettiest dog isn't named the winner.

"There is just no replacement for a dog's nose," Sergeant Nelson said. "Dogs smell as we see. On the battle field, every team that goes out — and we have dogs attached to mostly special forces and infantry units — sees them as an invaluable asset."

A lot of teams will not even go out without a dog, he said. They can smell and hear things we never could.

"They've saved numerous lives, just like in Vietnam when dogs could hear trip wires," Sergeant Nelson continued. "They've stopped people from going through booby traps and danger areas. They're valuable to the mission, both abroad and out here."



HIANG crew chief has 28-year Air Force career

Tech. Sgt. Wayne Chen, a crew chief with the Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG), is this week's Hickam warrior.

Chen has served as both an active duty and reserve Airman throughout his 28-year career.

He is from Hawaii and when he isn't on duty, he enjoys hiking, sport shooting, and spending time with his two daughters.

As a member of the ANG, Chen said that he treasures the unique opportunity to serve both

the military and the local community in his Air Force service.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen



Two year old Anna Smith enjoys the fresh child safe paint and new games in the renovated Keiki Room at the USO airport while her parents arrange for transportation to her father's new command.

JIOC Sailors help refurbish USO keiki room

Story and photo by
Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

Sailors from the Joint Intelligence Operational Command (JIOC) Volunteer Program organized and implemented efforts to redesign the United Service Organization (USO) keiki room at the Honolulu International Airport.

Intelligence Specialist 1st Class (IS1) (AW) Matthew Sieminski, JIOC's volunteer program liaison, volunteers on Friday nights at the USO. It was during one of those shifts that he noticed that the keiki room needed some attention.

"The children were running around without any direction. Once we put some new paint and games in the room, they seemed thrilled to have some place to call their own. They love watching television and it gives their parents some much needed time to re-sort their thoughts and prepare for the next step in their journey," Sieminski shared.

ISS Jessica Genest volunteered to lead the operation

for JIOC and called for donations and volunteers, and organized fund-raising activities. According to Genest, their command bake sale raised more than \$300 which enabled them to purchase paint, games and other needed items for the keiki room.

"This was a fun project. It was easy to get people to volunteer to do something for the kids. I enjoyed it because it gave me something positive to do while my husband is deployed on the USS Boxer," Genest said.

Sieminski and Genest worked side-by-side with service members from their command to be able to provide new toys and furniture. "We even used child-friendly paint to brighten the room up while keeping in mind the safety of the child," Genest explained.

The USO organization has relied on volunteers to further their objective of providing support to America's troops since 1941. William Johnson, the Honolulu Airport USO Center operations manager, discussed the goal of the USO.

"We work to lift the spirits of America's troops and their families, and we will continue

to be here for them until everyone comes home," Johnson said.

The Honolulu International Airport USO often hosts more than 100 people a night. "Monday and Tuesdays are busy days for us here. They are leaving for boot camp and their families come here to see them off," Johnson said.

There are currently nine local military commands that assume direct support for the Honolulu Airport USO Center. The commands are responsible for supplying volunteers one night a week from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. or 8 p.m. to midnight. Johnson said, "We depend on our command participation."

While the USO is always looking for more volunteers and command sponsorships, he also recognizes how fortunate they are to have the support they currently experience. "JIOC has been a vital part of supporting the USO for years. Now with the newly renovated keiki room, we can provide yet another critical element to evolving needs of our service members," Johnson said.



Special Olympics
Hawaii

Special Olympics Slated for JBPHH Dec 4-5. Volunteers Needed.

Dr. Philip R. Breeze

Director of Public Affairs
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

The Special Olympics Holiday Classic is scheduled for December 4-5, 2010 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. This event includes a multi-division two-day Basketball tournament and Individual Skills Competition, Singles, and Unified(r) Team Bowling competitions, and traditional and Unified(r) Doubles Bocce tournaments for more than 800 athletes. More than 1,000 volunteers make this event happen.

Special Olympics Hawaii still needs a few more volunteers for the 2010 Holiday Classic at JBPHH. Saturday, December 4 (1900-2300). Opening Ceremonies Special Operations (Clean Up Crew) 12 volunteers needed at Hanger 34/35.

Saturday, December 4 (1330-1700) Basketball Officials (Experience preferred). Two referees needed to officiate three games at Sub Base Gym.

Please contact Cindy at volunteers@specialolympichawaii.org to sign up!

Special Olympics is founded on the belief that people with intellectual disabilities can, with proper instruction and encouragement, learn, enjoy and benefit from participation in individual and team sports, adapted as necessary to meet the needs of those with special mental and physical limitations.

This belief is borne out by the fact that more than 50 percent of Special Olympic athletes are employed but only 10 percent of the intellectually disabled who aren't athletes are employed. More than 50 Special Olympics competitions are held each year throughout Hawaii!

Special Olympics believes that through sports training and competition,

people with intellectual disabilities benefit physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. Families are also strengthened; and the community at large, can participate in and observe an environment of equality, respect and acceptance.

Special Olympics Inc. was established in December 1968 as a non-profit organization to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with mental retardation, and foster increased understanding and integration of people with mental retardation in the general community.

But its history began in 1946 when the Kennedy family founded the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., Foundation to honor the memory of Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., who was killed in World War II.

In 1963, Eunice Kennedy Shriver started a summer day camp for 100 local children and adults with mental retardation at her home in Rockville,

MD. The day camp's program successfully demonstrated that people with mental retardation not only participate in a wide variety of recreational experiences but also benefit from the experience. As a result, the Foundation decided to support the Foundation awarded more than 80 small grants to public and private organizations in the U.S. and Canada to enable them to create and administer day camps for people with mental retardation in their communities.

In the ensuing 47 years, countless thousands of individuals, families and communities have been enriched through the efforts of Special Olympics. Please come out and cheer the athletes on, or contact Cindy at volunteers@specialolympichawaii.org if you'd like to pitch in and help make the 2010 Special Olympics Holiday Classic the best ever.

Retired Navy chief is re-united with shipmates of Dec. 7

Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

Gentle trade wind breezes were blowing over the USS Utah on Nov. 19 as Retired Navy Chief Francis Pavlu was reunited with his fellow Pearl Harbor shipmates from the Dec. 7, 1941 attack.

Commonly known as Frank, he was a well-loved, patriotic Sailor whose life dream was to have his ashes scattered over the waters of Pearl Harbor, according to his grandson, Kenneth Wikoren, who attended the ceremony with his new bride, Shelly.

Full military honors were rendered, including a rifle salute, the sounding of Taps, and the flag folding and presentation ceremony, provided by the Navy Region Hawaii Ceremonial Guard and Pacific Fleet Band Bugler.

Born in 1917 in New Jersey, Frank joined the Navy at the age of 23 and was assigned to the USS Curtiss as a plank owner.

Jim Taylor, retired Navy Master Chief and Navy Region Hawaii's Pearl Harbor Survivor's Liaison, described Curtiss's involvement on Dec. 7, 1941. "She was tied up to mooring buoys right over there, just a short distance from where we will be scattering Frank's ashes. Like those on the other ships in the harbor, her crew immediately went to general quarters at their battle stations," Taylor explained.

He continued, "Shortly after the attack, a



Japanese mini-submarine fired a torpedo at the ship, but missed. Also during the attack, a crippled enemy dive bomber crashed into one of the

ship's big topside cranes and exploded, causing minor damage.

"The Curtiss endured yet another bomb through her midship's superstruc-

ture, penetrating down to the front of the hanger and exploded, blowing holes in the main and second decks," he said. According to Taylor, about

20 of the ship's crew were killed that day.

Frank survived the Pearl Harbor attack and remained in the Navy for 20 years. Upon retire-

ment, this American hero shared a special story with his grandson.

"He reluctantly described the events of that Sunday morning. At battle station, he was assigned to a gun mount near the radio shack and when the radio shack was hit by a Japanese bomb, he and other crew mates rescued two of the three men inside the compartment. "Till the end Pappy always felt that the third man could have been saved and that he could have done more," Wikoren recounted.

Frank was a life member of Pearl Harbor Survivors and a founding member of the U.S. Curtiss Association.

"Pappy was always patriotic. He was driving to the VFW hall three times a week up until the week before his death. This is what he wanted and we were glad to be able to do it for him," Wikoren said.

Kenneth and Shelly Wikoren are in Hawaii on their honeymoon. The trip had already been planned when Wikoren's 93-year-old grandfather passed on May 2.

"Our trip ended up having a greater mission than just visiting Pearl Harbor," said the new Mrs. Kenneth Wikoren. "This ceremony was so beautiful and impressive with the pomp and circumstance," she added.

Kenneth said, "Being here at the Utah, so close to where his ship was attacked, is very emotional. They went through a lot. It is so nice that the Navy does this for them in the end."

Diverse Views

What are you thankful for?

(Views from USS Lake Erie)



Gas Turbine Systems Technician (electrical) 1st Class Jose Carrillo

"I am always thankful for being in the company of friends and family. The food is always mouth-watering."

Gas Systems Mechanical Fireman Joseph Rearick

"I am thankful for my family and friends."



Engineman Fireman Juan Gomez

"I am thankful for the job I have now and for all the friends I have met since being onboard."

(Interviews and photos provided by Ens. Kelly Waller)
Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views?
Got opinions to share?
Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

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All letters must be accompanied by the writer's name, E-mail address and daytime telephone number. Letters are subject to editing to meet space constraints.

Letters and articles that are submitted to Hawaii Navy News may be published and/or distributed in print and electronic form.

E-mail letters to: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com.

Operation Little Vittles



U.S. Air Force photo

1st Lt. Gail Halvorsen and the 17th Military Air Transport Squadron rig some candy bars to miniature parachutes for German children in Berlin as part of Operation Little Vittles. As his C-54 plane approaches Tempelhof Air Base, Germany, he drops the homemade parachutes weighted with American candy bars and gum.

HO'okele

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And 'the walls came tumbling down' at Hickam

Hickam Communities

Pacific Air Forces Commander Gen. Gary North boarded an excavator and with the precision of an F-16 pilot demolished the last of more than 1,200 older homes at Hickam Communities on Nov. 17.

The demolition was a milestone in the Air Force's \$820 million residential development that includes the construction of 1,208 new homes, renovation of 428 historic homes, and building of property and maintenance management facilities and community recreational amenities. In just over five years, more than 1,500 Airmen and their families are living in a new or renovated home, and more are on the way.

In his remarks to guests, North emphasized the Air Force's commitment to enhancing the quality of life of its families by providing them with great homes, amenities and services.

The demolition took place in Onizuka Village, which soon will become one of the Air Force's most energy-efficient neighborhoods. All 304 new homes will be LEED Silver Certified; the first 104 homes completed received certification last month from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design - is a USGBC green building rating system. LEED homes are designed and built to meet rigorous standards, which includes a resident education program that teaches families about the sustainable elements of their home and how to maximize their home's energy-efficient features.

"Creating awareness about energy-efficiency and



Pacific Air Forces Commander Gen. Gary North boarded an excavator to help bring down the last of more than 1,200 old homes at Hickam Communities, located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii, on Nov. 17.

ultimately reducing energy consumption is the goal behind resident education," said Jerry Schmitz, project director for Hickam Communities, as he addressed guests attending the event.

"Reducing energy use is an important objective of the Department of Defense, and we are excited to have the opportunity to work with Air Force leadership and our families to achieve it," Schmitz said.

Construction and renovation at Hickam Communities will be completed in July 2013.

The story behind Onizuka Village

Onizuka Village, formerly called flight line housing, was named after Hawaii-born Ellison S. Onizuka (lieutenant colonel, USAF), NASA astronaut.

After receiving his commission at the University of Colorado through the four-year ROTC program, Onizuka entered active duty with the Air Force as a distinguished military graduate in 1970. In 1978, he was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA.

He first flew as a mission specialist on the first Space Shuttle Department

of Defense mission, which launched in January 1985. He then flew as a mission specialist on STS 51-L which was launched from the Kennedy Space Center on Jan. 28, 1986. Just one minute, 30 seconds after launch, the Orbiter Challenger exploded and the entire crew on board was lost.

Onizuka was presented the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award and National Defense Service Medal.



U.S. Air Force photo by Mark Brown

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

(Below) Operations Specialist Seaman Maurice Walker (foreground) and Quartermaster Seaman Apprentice Albert Ainuu (background) of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) takes an SRF-B class on the Battleship Missouri.

Photo courtesy of USS Lake Erie



(Above) Damage Control Fireman Jean Defournoy of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) spends time reading to children in grades preschool to sixth grade at Hickam Elementary. Many sailors from Lake Erie also participated.

Photo courtesy of USS Lake Erie

(RIGHT) Native American Dr. David Bevett performs a traditional inter-tribal dance during the Native American heritage observance at Lockwood Hall on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



(Left) USO Airport Center Manager, William Johnson and IS1(AW) Matthew Sieminski work together collecting items for the newly renovated Keiki Room sponsored by JIOC.

U.S. Navy photo by Brister Thomas

(Right) U.S. Army Sergeant Noah Carpenter and his military working dog "Bo" enjoy a quiet moment between events at the 2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, Nov. 19. Sergeant Carpenter and Bo are assigned to the 13th Military Police Detachment at Schofield.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss



(Left) Thirty-nine handlers from the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, as well as the Honolulu Police Department, Japan, Alaska, Ft. Huachuca, and Ft. Leonard Wood brought their K-9s to the 2010 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition Nov. 15 to 19 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The competition served to both reward the dog teams for their hard work throughout the year and bring different services together.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss

Be Our Guest: USS Reuben James hosts Tiger Cruise

Story and photo by
MC2 (AW) Eric J. Cutright

Navy Public Affairs Support Element
West Det. Hawaii

PACIFIC OCEAN, USS Reuben James (FFG 57) – The crew of the Oliver Hazard Perry-class guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) invited their families aboard for a two-day underway experience Nov. 18-19.

Sailors aboard Reuben James played hosts to 32 friends and loved ones as the ship transited from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to the island of Maui and back.

During their time at sea, the guests of the crew received tours of the ship and got to take part in a “Steel Beach” picnic held on the flight deck of the ship.

“The crew has been doing an excellent job and I thought that this would be a good reward for them,” said Cmdr. David Miller, commanding officer of Reuben James.

“They get to bring their families on board and show them what they do. I know that some of the Sailors brought their kids on board and are really excited to show them what daddy does out at sea.”

During the picnic the crew of Reuben James treated their guests to burgers, hot dogs, baked beans, soft drinks and more.

Don Bentley, father of a Reuben James Sailor, Tony Bentley, talked about his experience underway.

“I love this. This is what it's really about, being out here and being able to see my son Tony and what he and the Navy do out at sea is very enjoyable,” said Bentley.

Bentley, who is also a former Gas Turbine System Technician, talked about the difference between his time in the Navy and what he's seen now.

“I am surprised to see that the Navy is a lot of young kids. When I was in I thought that the Navy was a bunch of old guys. The chow has definitely gotten a lot better too.”

Other Sailors, such as Gas Turbine System Technician Mechanical (SW) 1st Class Glenn Mapalad, took the opportunity to bring their children underway with them.

“I know that my son Glyder told me that this has been more ‘funner’ than Chuck E. Cheese’s,” said Mapalad of his son.

The picnic was wrapped up after Reuben James made the short transit to Lahaina Harbor and anchored off of the coast of Maui.

“I hope that they really have a fun time out here with their family and friends. I know that a lot of the Sailors haven't had the opportunity to visit and I hope they have a really good time,” Miller said.



(Top photo) The First Class Mess onboard the Oliver Hazard Perry-class, guided-missile frigate, USS Reuben James (FFG 57) prepares food for a 'Steel Beach Picnic'. The crew of Reuben James got to spend a day at sea with their friends and loved ones as the ship made the transit from its homeport at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to the island of Maui. (Bottom left) Mechanical Gas Turbine System Technician 1st Class (SW) Glenn Mapalad spends a day at sea with his son Glyder onboard the Oliver Hazard Perry-class, guided-missile frigate, USS Reuben James (FFG 57). (Bottom right) Engineman 2nd Class (SW) Damien Butler hugs his daughter Trinity.

Native American/ Alaskan Native Heritage Month

Continued from A-1

keep healthy. When we dance, we hope that the audience can get something out of it. It fills us spiritually. We look forward in doing it again next year.”

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November as National American Indian Heritage Month. Today, National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month is celebrated to recognize the intertribal cultures of Native Americans and to inform the public of the rich heritage, history and traditions of American Indian and Native American peoples.

According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, 4.5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives comprise 1.5 percent of the total U.S. population.

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Hickam Field child survivor visits former home after 69 years

Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

As Dec. 7 grows closer, stories of heroism, friendship, horror and pain make their way to the headlines. Lawrence "Larry" Bush, was eight years old when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. After 69 years, this child-survivor is finally able to share his account of what happened on that fateful day in his own back yard at what was then Hickam Field.

"I remember looking out the kitchen window with my parents and my sister to see the Japanese attack planes bombing Pearl Harbor," Bush stated.

Bush and his five-year-old sister Delores had sailed with their parents from Brooklyn N.Y. just two years earlier through the Panama Canal into the Pacific Ocean, arriving in Honolulu where their father had accepted orders at Hickam Field as a Signal Corp master sergeant. They moved into quarters 416, the second house on the right, closest to the water tower.

Bush spoke with fond memories of life on Hickam. "We were a close knit family and enjoyed doing things together. Every weekend we went exploring the island as my dad drove us around in an old Ford convertible with a rumble seat," he remembered.

Bush started school in first grade at King Kamehameha School. In second grade, he moved to the brand new Hickam Field Elementary School just two weeks before the attack occurred.

Bush clearly remembers the details from that historic Sunday.

He ran outside to grab the funnies he and his sister loved to read. After returning to the house where they were enjoying their Sunday morning ritual, all of a sudden there was an incredibly loud noise. The house started to shake. He and his younger sister ran to the kitchen where his father looked at him, placed his hand on the shoulder of his only son, and said, "Son, the Japanese have finally attacked."

Bush remembers his dad leaving immediately to go to work while he and his sister, watching from their bedroom window, could see the smoke billowing from the oil tanks and Soldiers getting shot.

"We got dressed and my mom ran outside to tend to wounded Soldiers. I remember one in particular in front of our house. He was shot up pretty bad in the thigh and shoulder, and my mom applied first aid," Bush said.

What happened next is not spoken of in many history books, but Bush said that seeing a Japanese Zero plane fly through his neighborhood is permanently etched in his memory. "The Japanese pilot flew right by our house. He was so low we could see his face. He held his hand up and waved to us and did not shoot. But my father was already at work and was shot at by another plane," Bush remembered.

"My neighbor took my sister, my puppy and me into her house and hid us in the closet. We were in there a long time. Then she took us into the garage where we thought it might be safer," Bush continued.

"My dad came home and sent us off base. As we drove, we saw smoldering cars all over the road. There was a bulldozer at the front gate to keep the entrance open. Then a call came for all those with medical experience to return, and my mom dropped us off with a Navy family in a ditch. A Navy truck came and took us to the Salvation Army House," Bush recalled.

It was three days before he and his sister saw their mother again. Even then,



(Above) Larry Bush poses during a recent visit to Hawaii. Bush visited the former Hickam Field where he lived as a child during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. (Right) Newspaper clipping about how Bush's sister broke her leg while helping her father unload telephone wire from the back of a truck on Dec 7.

she only stayed briefly and the family was not reunited until the bomb shelters were erected on post. Their family was together for a short while before they were sent back to the mainland for safety.

Their father had been quickly promoted through the ranks and was Lt. Gerald Bush when he was killed in Europe just one week before the war-ending Battle of the Bulge.

His father's death shook the entire family. "My parents were so in love. They met and married in six months and people often commented about how they looked like they were still on their honeymoon. I never sacrificed a lot, but my father sure did," Bush said. "I do not think that our family ever recovered from our dad dying. But my memories of my family are warm and loving. We supported each other and enjoyed lots of fun times together. I was proud to be able to pass on this tradition of love and family with my own children," he said.

Bush laughed as he remembered, "I think I was



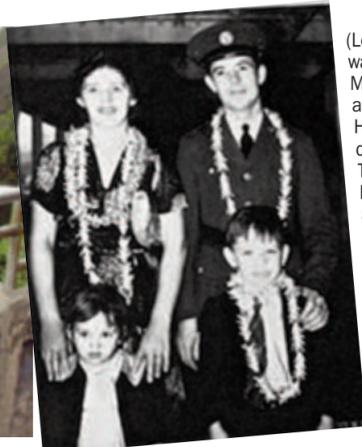
shell-shocked after the attack, but we did not know what that was back then. When we had to evacuate Hawaii, we moved to New Jersey with my aunt. I remember when they used to ring the school bell for lunch, it scared me so much I would run home."

Bush visited Hawaii the last week of October with his own son who is named after his dad, Gerald Bush. The trip brought back memories that had long been forgotten.

Bush served in the United States Navy and was a proud Sailor, "I was honored to serve my country like my father did. But it was never

the same as when I was a little boy living on Hickam," Bush said.

Escorted by Jesse Higa, volunteer historian and liaison for Dec. 7 survivors on Hickam, Bush and his son were able to tour the grounds where Bush once lived and played. "Jesse was wonderful. I cannot say enough about her professionalism and dedication to remembering. I never thought anyone would care



(Left) This photograph was taken in 1939 when Master Sgt Gerald Bush and his wife arrived in Honolulu with their children, Larry and Dee. They were living on Hickam Field during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Gerald Bush was soon promoted through the ranks to lieutenant while stationed in Europe. Bush died one week before the end of the war.

Bush Girl Heroine In Hickam Air Raid

Yes, we've read them all, the youngest sergeant — the oldest sergeant — and now Joe Doakes made sergeant before he learned how to peddle a jelly car. But Hickam's 12th Signal Platoon comes up with a few more, without a doubt the youngest, the bravest, and the bravest little sergeant of all, Miss Delores Claudette Bush, six year old daughter of Master Sergeant and Mrs. Gerald Bush of Hickam Field got her warrant Sunday, December 7.

Also included with the warrant as a sergeant in the Signal Corps was a station he being wounded in action.

It all started Sunday, December 7, when the Japanese air force attacked Hickam Field. One of the first things that had to be done to hold up our end of the war against Nagano was to establish adequate field communications. To do this entailed laying miles of telephone wire, and here is where the Bush family enters the scene.

Master Sergeant Bush is one of Hickam's foremost telephone experts, and as soon as the bombs started falling, he went to

work. Much of the wire used for laying field phones was stored in a temporary dump, and since it was near the Bush home, Sgt. Bush and his young daughter were the first ones on hand.

As soon as the other Signalmen arrived, everybody, including little Delores pitched in to get the wire out as soon as possible.

During the unloading, one of the heavy reels was dropped, falling across the legs of Miss Bush.

Bushed to the hospital by her father, Lt. White of the Medical unit found that the wire reel had fractured her right leg and badly bruised her left limb.

The fractured member was immediately put in a plaster cast, and the brave little girl, who stayed out in the hall of bombs to "help" the Signal Corps was returned to her mother.

Despite the bulky cast, Delores is still smiling, and as long as the Signal Corps has non-commissioned officers like her and her daddy, the American army will never lose an encounter because of faulty communications.

WHICH CORPS HERO — Pictured above with her mother, Mrs. Gerald Bush, little Delores smiling despite a broken leg suffered J-Day. She was given an honorary sergeantcy in the Signal Corps in which her father is a Master Sergeant.

about those of us who lived here then. Her caring has made this trip so healing," Bush said of his recent tour of Hickam.

Higa presented him with the newspaper that featured an article about how Bush's sister broke her leg while helping her father unload telephone wire from the back of a truck on Dec 7. She was called the "bravest little sergeant of J-Day" in the paper and was given an

"honorary sergeantcy" in the Signal Corps in which her father was a master sergeant at the time. His father, Master Sgt. Gerald Bush was responsible for laying most of Hickam's telephone wiring, Bush explained.

Bush encouraged others to return as well. "Our father was well-liked and remembering our wonderful life has really meant a lot to me."

Hawaii Sailors get hooked on CSADD

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Public Affairs

More than 600 Hawaii-based military personnel recently attended a Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) safety stand-down at Sharkey Theater at Pearl Harbor on Nov. 8.

Hosted by Commander Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Commander Surface Group Middle Pacific (MIDPAC) Hawaii CSADD chapter, the program's mission is to provide military members of all branches with the best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with the issues of drinking, reckless driving and other destructive decisions, while maintaining good order and discipline.



Commander Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Marcos Sibal makes the opening remarks and speaks about the dangers of the holiday period at the Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) all hands safety stand-down. The goal of the CSADD program is to encourage positive social interaction and development of leadership and decision-making skills. CSADD reinforces a culture of shipmates helping shipmates and contributes to command unity and mission readiness.

"The program is important because it's all about promoting good decision-making among junior Sailors, and the program is built by junior Sailors, E-5

and below," said Religious Program Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Lonnie McDade, the Hawaii CSADD president.

With the holidays coming up, McDade said the season can be hazardous for military service members.

"This is when we lose a lot of our Sailors," McDade said.

Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Lane Jones, the CSADD Hawaii regional team leader, agreed with McDade and said that holidays are statistically very dangerous.

"A lot of mishaps happen around the holidays due to people not paying attention. That's why we do a safety stand-down to keep people aware of what's going on," Jones said.

During the program, CSADD provided information on identity theft and

credit card fraud, alcohol abuse, "Spice" awareness training, theft of government and personal property, and motorcycle safety.

CNRH Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Marcos Sibal made the opening remarks during the event and said he was very proud of the people taking charge of this coalition and the idea of shipmates helping shipmates.

"Almost 28 years ago, you wouldn't see E-5s and below taking charge and making this happen like they are doing today," said Sibal, who has been in the Navy for just as long. "It just tells me that we have come a long way, and I'm so very proud. If we had this kind of program when I first came in the Navy, the guys I joined the Navy with in boot camp in San Diego would probably be still in the Navy, if they

had some kind of intervention like this from their peers," he continued.

CSADD began in 2008 when Rear Adm. Mark Boensel and Fleet Master Chief (AW/SW/SCW) Scott Benning, while assigned at Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, wanted to create an organization similar to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). The concept evolved as it addressed the basic decision-making process in many areas affecting Sailors on and off duty. With strong support from the Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, CSADD became an official Navy peer mentoring program in June 2010.

For more information about the Hawaii CSADD chapter, you can visit their Facebook page by searching "NRH MIDPAC CSADD."

Great American Smokeout assists submariners in kicking smoking habit for good

Story and photo by
MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

Sailors from submarines attached to Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam chose to use the Great American Smokeout (GASO) on Nov. 18 as an incentive to quit smoking altogether. No later than Dec. 31, all submarines are scheduled to ban smoking below decks.

Because tobacco use is such a serious issue and smoking is the most preventable cause of death in our society, the GASO has challenged smokers to quit for one day. The GASO is an American Cancer Society-sponsored initia-



Tracy Navarrete, (center) Naval Health Clinic, Hawaii, Health Promotions Director, educates spectators on the dangers of smoking and tobacco use during the Great American Smokeout (GASO) Nov. 18 on Ford Island. The GASO is an American Cancer Society sponsored initiative held annually across the United States to encourage smokers to quit smoking and promote the cessation of use of all types of tobacco - cigarettes, cigars, pipe, and chewing.

tive held annually across the United States to encourage smokers to quit

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cigarettes, cigars, pipes and chewing.

"Our part in supporting

the GASO this year is to promote awareness and educate participants on the long-term effects of smoking, second-hand smoke and smokeless tobacco," said Tracy Navarrete, health promotion director at Naval Health Clinic, Hawaii. "It is estimated that more individuals quit smoking during the GASO than any other day of the year," Navarrete said.

In conjunction with the GASO, smoking cessation assistance training programs are implemented on all COMSUBPAC submarines. The programs incorporate education and nicotine replacement therapy, such as nicotine patches and gum, to assist in kicking the smoking habit. Each submarine has two tobacco cessation training facilitators who are qualified to help participants

stop smoking by providing them with all the essential information and strategies needed to direct their own efforts at stopping.

"The instant you quit smoking, the reverse effects start happening immediately," said Chief Hospital Corpsman Dave Mathews, COMSUBPAC tobacco cessation training program coordinator. "We encourage our submariners to lead the healthiest lifestyle possible, both on land and out at sea."

According to the American Cancer Society, a number of changes begin to take place in the body shortly after a person quits smoking. Within 20 minutes after a smoker quits using tobacco, their blood pressure drops to normal. Eight hours after quitting, the carbon monoxide level in their blood returns to normal. Twenty-four hours later, their chances of a heart attack decreases. Ten years after putting down that last cigarette, the former smoker's lung cancer death rate is about half of a smoker's.

"As a smoker, I have tried numerous times to quit. I plan on using today as a starting point to finally kick this bad habit for good," said Fire Control Technician 2nd Class (SS) James Naglie, USS Texas (SSN 775) crew member.

As COMSUBPAC continues to support global maritime security and take on whatever challenges the mission brings, the GASO and smoking ban below decks is destined to ensure a healthier lifestyle for all submariners while they continue their silent service legacy as the world's greatest submarine force.

Additional resources to help "kick the habit" are available at each military medical treatment facility and at www.ucanquit2.org.

Airdrop training

Master Sgt. Brian Chewning, 15th Operations Group loadmaster, watches a "heavy" training pallet Nov. 18 near Joint Base Lewis-McChord during an airdrop training mission. The 535th AS aircrew trained in unrestricted descent assault landings, air drop, combat offloads, air refueling, night vision goggle training, combat offloads, low levels, mountainous terrain, assault landings, threat responses and multiple ship formation training during a five-day training trip to Washington Nov 12-17 and participated in the Mobility Air Forces Exercise at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Nov. 18.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares





Diamond Tips

Operation Warmheart

(Diamond Tips are provided by Air Force first sergeants to address concerns in the Air Force community and provide guidance to Airmen)

Master Sgt. Brad Green
15th Maintenance Group

If you asked every first sergeant why they became a first sergeant, I'm willing to bet the overwhelming bottom line response would be "to help people." After all, "My Job is People" is part of the First Sergeant Motto.

At some time during our career, we have been, or will be, affected by the actions of a first sergeant. They dedicate their time and energy to the needs, health, morale, discipline and welfare of our Airmen. Taking care of Airmen and their families is what they do.

Operation Warmheart is the key to the first sergeants' success. With the donations received, financial assistance is

provided to our Airmen and their families in times of crisis and family emergencies. It's also used during the holiday season to help provide hearty meals and gifts for the children of our families who have been having a tough time financially, or who may be spending the holidays without a loved one due to deployments or TDYs. We all know this time of year can be tough on military families. This is one easy way we can give back and help provide a memorable holiday for those in need.

Over the next couple weeks, you'll see Airmen outside the Bxtra, commissary and the shopette, collecting donations for Operation Warmheart. Please take a second to think of our Airmen who may be in need of a little boost this holiday season, or who may be dealing with a real family crisis. Every donation, big or small, helps take care of our Air Force family. Please do what you can to help.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Dec. 2 – Pearl Harbor survivors
Dec. 9 – Marines Toys for Tots concert
Dec. 16 – Koa Kai and CARAT
Dec. 23 – PACFLT Band

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?
Email editor@hookelenews.com or call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

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FISC, Army personnel, Navy Reservists haul massive Mendonca loadout

Story and photo by
Jim Murray

FISC Pearl Harbor Public
Affairs

Working around the clock in 12-hour shifts, a team of U.S. Army personnel, Naval Reservists from Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 8, and Ocean Terminals employees from the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pearl Harbor conducted one of Hawaii's largest military loadouts in years. Altogether, the team members loaded approximately 1,600 pieces of cargo aboard the USNS Mendonca (T-AKR 303).

The massive operation was complicated by the diverse cargo that was loaded. Rather than easily-handled crates and boxes, nearly all of the 1,600 pieces were composed of war-fighting equipment, containers, tanker trucks, construction vehicles, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles, humvees, large trucks . . . and even a bulldozer or two.

In addition, the Mendonca loadout was not able to begin until the ship was first offloaded. When the Mendonca arrived at FISC on Nov. 17, its holds were filled with containerized cargo and 14 brand new Chinook CH-47 helicopters belonging to the 25th Infantry Division's Combat Air Brigade. As soon as the ramp was set in place and safety meetings had been held, stevedores and Naval Reserve cargo handlers swarmed onto the ship to begin the offload. In no time, containers and helicopters were being hooked up, hoisted by the ship's crane, and eased over the side to the pier.

The loadout began on Saturday, Nov. 20, allowing no time for the Naval Reservists to enjoy a weekend in Hawaii. One by one, their engines straining, the



"A Chinook CH-47 helicopter is eased over the side of the USNS MENDONCA (T-AKR 303). On the pier awaiting its arrival are civilian and military personnel from FISCOPH Ocean Terminals and Navy Cargo Handling Battalion 8. Fourteen of the new multi-mission, heavy-lift helicopters were offloaded from the MENDONCA on 18 November. Mechanics reattached their propellers and prepared them for flight, and they were flown to their new home at Wheeler Army Airfield."

trucks and other vehicles were driven up the ship's ramp and lashed in place on one of the ship's seven decks. Readers who have never lashed cargo can't possibly realize how demanding the job can be. As the vehicles and containers come aboard, they are situated as close together as possible in one of the immense cargo holds below deck. Stevedores use heavy chains to lash the vehicles down, preventing them from careening across the hold during rough seas. As each additional vehicle is lashed into place, the work area becomes more and more confining, and stevedores find themselves squeezing through a labyrinth of chains and closely-packed vehicles.

The Mendonca certainly did not lack for cargo space. The ship has the equivalent of eight football fields of cargo area and is capable of carrying an entire U.S. Army armor or air assault battalion. The Mendonca is one of 19 large, medium-speed, roll-on/roll-off (LMSR) ships belonging to the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command. It is named for Army Sergeant Leroy Mendonca, who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for heroic action during the Korean Conflict.

If the back-to-back offload and loadout seem like they took a lot of time, they did. Although the operation was still underway when this article was written, it was expected to be completed the day prior to Thanksgiving, which will give everyone a well-deserved rest after nearly eight days of hot, demanding work on the pier.

The unloaded cargo belongs to the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team and is bound for the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, where it will be used in training exercises.