

PRESIDENT OBAMA, FAMILY DEPART HAWAII AFTER HOLIDAY



(Below) President Barack Obama, his wife Michelle and their children greet Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander, and his wife Shelley, and Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, and his wife Kelly, as the president and first family prepare to depart Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Jan. 3. The president arrived on Dec. 22, and Air Force One remained at the base while the president vacationed in Hawaii with his family.

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



(Above) President Barack Obama and his wife Michelle wave as they prepare to depart Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii on Jan. 3.

U.S. Air Force photo by A1C Lauren Main

CNO, MCPON visit with Sailors in Hawaii

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead visited Sailors in Hawaii and spoke at the Tenth Annual Hawaii-Military Partnership Conference in Honolulu on Jan. 5-7.

Roughead and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick D. West met with Sailors from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii and Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, and fielded questions ranging from Perform to Serve (PTS) to current Navy operations.

"It is great to be back on the waterfront in Pearl Harbor," said Roughead during an all hands call at Sharkey Theater on JBPHH. "I think it's no surprise to you that we as a Navy are very busy today."



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead (above photo) and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West (right photo) speaks with Sailors during an all-hands call aboard the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70). West spoke with Sailors about the Navy of today and tomorrow.

Photo illustration | U.S. Navy photos by MCC Tiffini Jones Vanderwyst and MC2 (SW) Class Mark Logico

At the conference, Roughead and West discussed a wide array of topics including manning levels, fleet readiness and troop deployments in regions like the Middle East, western Pacific and Asia.

"We believe that there is a lot more to the world than the Middle East, and especially with those who have served out here, the western Pacific and Asia remain extraordinarily important. Today we have about 15,000 Sailors serving on the ground there in Iraq and Afghanistan," Roughead said.

Roughead also mentioned the significance of the Information Dominance Corps which consists of more than 44,000 active and Reserve officer, enlisted and civilian personnel Navywide.

"The world of cyberspace is going to continually open up, and that's why we reorganized ourselves in the Navy to create a directorate of information dominance where we brought

See CNO, MCPON, A-8

CNO presents Presidential Volunteer Service Award to retired command master chief

Story and photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) presented the Presidential Volunteer Service Award to a retired U.S. Navy command master chief during an awards ceremony at Sharkey Theatre at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Jan. 7.

James Taylor, volunteer Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii, was awarded the Call to Service pin by Adm. Gary Roughead.

Taylor has been personally responsible for planning, overseeing and conducting approximately 250 burial honors for Pearl Harbor survivors, and has donated more than 3,000 hours of his time over the past

two years to the Navy. "For 54 years, you have served our nation in uniform, in civil service, and now as a volunteer for Commander, Navy Region Hawaii," Roughead noted. "It is individuals like you who make our Navy and nation a better place, and I know your work is especially appreciated by all who have received your support."

"Your actions bring great credit to our Navy, and I send you my personal thanks for extending yourself to veterans and their families," Roughead added. Taylor said that he was both surprised and honored when he was called on stage to receive the award.

"I was shocked when I first found out that I was receiving an award from the president of the United States," Taylor said. "It is an



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead presents the Presidential Volunteer Service Award to retired Command Master Chief James Taylor as his wife, Nora, looks on during an awards ceremony at Sharkey Theater at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Jan. 7. Taylor, who serves as the Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii, was awarded the Call to Service pin for volunteering more than 4,000 hours during his lifetime.

honor to be nominated by the CNO." Taylor said he couldn't have earned the award by himself. "There are a lot of people in my life that

helped me get to where I'm at, and I feel they are the true reason why I'm standing where I'm at today," Taylor stated.

The Presidential Volunteer Service Award Call to Service pin is reserved for those who have committed themselves to more than 4,000 volunteer hours over a lifetime.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation was established in 2003 to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making throughout the community.

The council created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

(Please see related story on page A-8.)



Forest City Residents are now in live billing phase for excess energy usage See page A-4



96th Air Refueling Squadron starts flying at Hickam See page A-9



Tops in Blue will perform at Freedom Tower See page B-2



P3s relocate to 15th Wing See page A-8



2010: The year that was See page B-1



Martial artists hold seminar at historic JBPHH See page B-3

Looking back at 2010

Brister Thomas

Contributing Writer

January of a new year has arrived, and it is time to take a glimpse back over the past 12 months, celebrating the great triumphs and remembering the sad losses.

The year 2010 marked one of the most anticipated military joint-basing efforts which was successfully executed by combining two historical bases, Hickam Air Force Base and Naval Station Pearl Harbor into Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

JBPHH was named among one of the most thriving joint-base initiatives by visiting Brig. Gen. Scott West who said, "We are proud of these associated legacies. Today starts another journey."

During the planning and implementation of joint basing, both bases worked continuously to meet the ever expanding needs of

the American military service. One such example is the combining of the base newspapers. Hickam's Kukuni and Pearl Harbor's Hawaii Navy News now report to their readers through the joint base paper titled, Ho'okele which began publication on June 4.

Col. Sam Barrett took command of 15th Airlift Wing, later stood up as 15th Wing, relieving Col. Giovanni Tuck.

The Air Force activated two air wings on Hickam Air Force Base over the summer. The F-15 Eagles from the 199th fighter Squadron, Hawaii Air National Guard (HIANG) completed their last training mission from JBPHH. It was an exciting day when the first of the F-22 Raptors, a fifth-generation fighter, that will be based at JBPHH arrived.

Col. Brian Hill assumed command of the new KC-135 squadron to be housed on Hickam.

Local commands from Hickam and Pearl Harbor rallied to provide international relief efforts to the devastation caused by earthquakes in Haiti through sending supplies, organizational support and personnel.

Successful flight tests were conducted between Japan and the United States as they concluded their Aegis ballistic missile defense intercept flight test off the

coast of Kauai.

Hawaii welcomed its namesake Virginia-class submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776), hosted by Linda Lingle, then governor of Hawaii.

Navy Pacific Command implemented its first-ever longitudinal research project to study Hawaii education and military children.

The Rim of the Pacific Exercise, a multi-national exercise with more than 14 nations, 34 ships, five submarines, more than 100 aircraft and 20,000 personnel participating, was held June 23 through Aug. 1 in the ocean waters off the coast of Hawaii.

JPBHH also had a chance to "go Hollywood" this past year by hosting feature films like "Battleship." The new "Hawaii-Five-O" television show began filming on the island, frequently showing up at military locations, such as Ford Island housing and the Battleship Missouri Memorial, to film action sequences. Numerous documentary shows by Discovery Channel, National Geographic and ESPN covered local military endeavors and athletes.

October was designated as Domestic Violence Month for Navy Region Hawaii by Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and commander of Naval Surface Group

Middle Pacific, with the signing of an official proclamation.

With regret, the passing of Navy Lt. John William Finn, the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient, was reported. He died May 27, two months shy of his 101st birthday. Finn was the last survivor of 15 Sailors who received the Medal of Honor for heroism during the 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

The National Park Service and the U.S. Navy hosted a joint memorial ceremony to commemorate the 69th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7. More than 200 Pearl Harbor survivors and other WWII veterans attended services at the newly dedicated \$56 million Pearl Harbor Visitor Center at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, formerly known as the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center. Air Force service members also held a memorial service as they gathered beneath Old Glory, flown on the same flagpole that Airmen perished protecting during the attack.

As time passes, it may be incumbent upon us all to remember the events, celebrate the achievements, and plan for a new year filled with numerous positive accomplishments.



Photo illustration

Shipyard Sailor serves the nation, one community at a time

Liane Nakahara

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

For Electronics Technician 1st Class John Garcia, his work is not complete until he has given back to the community and encouraged others to do so as well. The driving force behind several organizations at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Garcia does his best to balance being a husband and father with being a Sailor and an active volunteer.

Garcia currently serves as the shipyard's volunteers coordinator, schools partnership program officer, Military Morale Welfare and Recreation president, and Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) coordinator, and the First Class Petty Officers Association president. He also volunteers as a driver with the Sailors Against Drunk Driving Program. On top of it all, he still has enough energy to play soccer on the shipyard's intramural team.

"He is as hardworking as he is giving," said Capt. Larry Hill, deputy shipyard commander. "He puts the same amount of effort into community service as he does his job and his family."

At work at the shipyard, Garcia was assigned to the USS Chicago (SSN 721) engineered overhaul as the ship's safety officer. He was responsible for all safety issues concerning the ship's crew during the long maintenance availability.

"As an integral part of the project team, his dedication helped the shipyard successfully undock Chicago six weeks earlier than originally scheduled," Hill said.

Despite the often long hours that come with that responsibility, Garcia still makes the time to give back to the community. He said that he owes a lot to his wife and children, who are truly supportive of his community service efforts and understand the sacrifices he makes to his personal time.

"If there is a military fundraiser or volunteer cleanup,

blood drive or project going on at one of the shipyard's partnered schools, you had better believe that Petty Officer Garcia is there sweating alongside every volunteer from this command," Hill said.

Since being stationed at the shipyard in August 2008, Garcia has coordinated or participated in dozens of community service projects, ranging from events for shipyard military personnel to school and environmental beautification projects to March of Dimes and Easter Seals fund-raising events.

"Garcia has been a key reason why the shipyard's community outreach is so wide and has helped us to win community service awards from the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Chief of Naval Operations," Hill noted. "He certainly is one of the most outstanding first class petty officers I have ever had the pleasure of serving with," he added.

As the schools partnership program officer, Garcia oversees all of the command's volunteer activities with the

shipyard's three partnered schools - Manana Elementary School, Aliamanu Middle School and James Campbell High School. He also participates as a mentor and volunteer coordinator for the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy, school robotics teams and Pearl Harbor Kai Read Along program.

Garcia has been able to revive Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) participation and the Shipyard Captain's Cup military intramural sports tournament, along with increasing fund-raising events to support all of the command's community service activities.

"My happiest moment will be when I don't have to coordinate community service projects for anyone because they are all too busy doing it on their own," Garcia said. "It may be an impossible goal, but life and the Navy have taught me to keep working until the impossible has been achieved. Then I'll move on to the next impossible goal."



**ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN 1ST CLASS
JOHN GARCIA**

Diverse Views



What does the observance of Martin Luther King Day mean to you?

MSgt Janet Wilson
HQ PACAF/A3/5/8

"I think of freedom - a reminder and appreciation of what Dr. King did for everyone, and the ability to have equal rights and opportunities."



Yvonne Francolini
Air Force spouse

"Great for the equality of all people and that everyone, regardless of race, gender or religion has the opportunity to go as far as they want to go."

Lt Brandon Palmer
Commander's Action Group,
Hickam

"It makes me think about civil rights issues."



**Aviation Structural Mechanic
3rd Class (SS)
Roshawn Thomas**
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"Martin Luther King Day is to honor a man who was a pioneer in the civil rights movement as he fought for equality for everyone in our country."

**Chief Culinary Specialist (SW)
Lane Jones**
Navy Region Hawaii

"The first thing that comes to mind when I hear Martin Luther King is diversity. He was instrumental in helping desegregate the United States."



(Provided by David Underwood and
MC2 Robert Stirrup)

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

headline



(U.S. Air Force photo)

This Ferrying Command B-24 displays American flag markings to indicate neutrality prior to U.S. entry into World War II in 1941. The AAF had fewer than a dozen such B-24s converted to carrying cargo and passengers, plus 40 to 50 twin-engine transports.

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

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Forest City Residents are now in live billing phase for excessive energy use

Story and photo by
Paris M. Cousin

*Navy Housing Hawaii
Forest City Residential
Management*

Jan. 1 marked the start of the live billing phase in the Department of Navy's Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP). This means that residents in Forest City Communities are now responsible for the electricity they consume in their home.

The good news is that residents only have to pay for excessive use—in other words, only for the use that exceeds 20 percent of an established average for their like-type group of homes. Residents who do not exceed this buffer will not be billed for electricity, and residents whose monthly use is more than 20 percent below the average will actually get a rebate.

Forest City residents received a mock electric bill each month for the past three months. The mock bill allowed each resident to see how their monthly consumption compared to others living in similar homes in their neighborhood. Residents will receive their last mock bill approximately Jan. 15. The mock bill will show them their use for the month of December, and they will receive their first live bill in mid-February for their



Forest City Resident Programming Thermostat to 78 Degrees

January use.

The RECP is the Navy and Marine Corps' pilot program that complies with Department of Defense policy for military services to encourage residents in public-private venture (PPV) housing to conserve energy. The policy mandated that PPV projects establish a utility allowance based on a reasonable estimate of average consumption for each geographic area.

Residents who conserved utilities could keep the difference between the allowance and the actual cost, while those who exceeded the allowance would pay out-of-pocket for excessive use. The Air Force and Army have already implemented similar programs across the country, and

locally, residents living in Army PPV housing are in the midst of their mock billing period.

Military members receive a monthly housing allowance that is computed based on local price data to cover market rent, average utilities and average renter's insurance. The Department of the Navy and Forest City jointly established average electricity baselines within each Forest City neighborhood, based on size, number of bedrooms and similar construction. This methodology ensured resident consumption was compared to a more appropriate average of like-type Forest City homes versus homes in the civilian community.

During the mock billing

period, Forest City sent home assessment teams to visit those homes where monthly electricity use was much higher than in similar homes. According to Greg Raap, Forest City's director of property management, the teams found the following common factors in these homes:

- Some residents were not using compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) bulbs. According to Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO), every incandescent bulb is costing approximately \$1 per month more than a CFL. Some homes had an additional appliance, such as portable air conditioner, dehumidifier, extra refrigerator or freezer. HECO says a portable air conditioner can cost anywhere from \$48 to \$74 per month to operate, depending on size. An extra refrigerator or freezer can cost anywhere from \$20 to \$50 per month.

- Other homes had solar water heater timers that were being used incorrectly. When running on electricity only, the water heater can cost more than \$100 per month. Having the timer clock set correctly can reduce this cost by 80 percent by using the sun to heat water during the day. Instructions on how to set your solar water heater timing box can be found on Forest City's website at

www.fcnavyhawaii.com under the RECP tab.

- Many homes had low air conditioning temperature settings. Per HECO, each degree the thermostat is set above 75 will reduce energy use by three percent.

Many Forest City residents have taken advantage of the website tool, <http://www.yardiutilitiesph.com>, to frequently check the electricity use of their own home during the month and see what their end-of-month bill would look like based on their current use.

Kari Diaz, Forest City general manager, said, "Over 900 residents have completed the easy registration and their use of the website has certainly helped them reduce energy consumption. The website provides daily updates for household consumption and our most energy-conscious neighbors check it quite often to track their progress."

Data collected during the mock billing period indicate the average consumption per Forest City home in September, October and November has been about eight percent lower than the average consumption a year ago for each of those months.

According to Darryl Nii, Navy Region Hawaii PPV program director, the RECP concept for PPV residents to pay for utili-

ties is similar to what the majority of military members stationed in Hawaii are already doing, but better. Approximately 55 percent of the Hawaii military population live in community housing and pay their entire electric bill—and sometimes water bill as well. Forest City residents will only pay for electricity use that exceeds 20 percent of the monthly average usage for their like-type homes.

There are two noteworthy benefits to the RECP, Nii added. "First, it helps the ecosystem and reduces the nation's dependence on foreign oil. Second, it reduces the PPV project's electric bill where the lion's share of money not spent on utilities is used toward operations, maintenance and long-term reinvestments in the homes and neighborhood," he said.

"Sailors and their families are the primary beneficiaries from utility conservation because it's their homes and neighborhoods that get improved," he explained.

For more information about the RECP, residents should contact Darryl Nii, Navy Region Hawaii, at 474-1825 or Darryl.nii@navy.mil or their Forest City Resident Services office. The Navy Region Hawaii RECP website is at <http://greatlifehawaii.com/recp>.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance ceremony planned for Jan. 14

There will be a Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance ceremony from 7:30 to 9 a.m. on Jan. 14 at the Hickam Chapel Center. Military and civilian personnel are encouraged to attend. Clothing attire is uniform of the day for military attendees and aloha business attire for civilian attendees.



Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



(Left) Lt. Gen. Ted Kresge, 13th Air Force commander, asks job related questions to Airman 1st Class Gabriela Lopez and Airman 1st Class Jeremy Billiot, Aircraft Structural Maintenance journeymen with the 15th Maintenance Squadron, during a visit to the 15th Maintenance Group at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii Jan. 4. General Kresge met 15th Wing Airmen and learned the mission and functions of various units here during his visit to the wing.

U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Lauren Main

(Below) Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead toured USS Lake Erie (CG 70) on Jan. 7. During his visit, he held an all hands call to meet the Sailors assigned to the ballistic missile defense test ship. The CNO also held a question and answer session on matters pertaining to the fleet. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Rick West also attended. The ship's Junior Sailor of the Year, Quartermaster 2nd Class Ronald Masulis (pictured third from the left), had the opportunity to meet the MCPON.

U.S. Navy photo by ISC Jason Snellings



(Below) The 15th Wing formation led by (left to right) Chief Master Sgt. Craig Recker, 15th Wing command chief, and Col. Sam Barrett, 15th Wing commander, takes off as the first Warrior Run of 2011 begins Jan. 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Nearly 1,100 participants ran the approximately two-mile course.

U.S. Air Force photo by A1C Lauren Main



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge

(Above) Master Chief Electronics Technician (SS) Tyrone Oien, chief of the boat; Cmdr. Gary Pinkerton, commanding officer; and Lt. Cmdr. Steve Garza, executive officer, of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) accept the 2010 CSS-7 Battle Efficiency (Battle "E") award from Capt. James Pitts, commander, Submarine Squadron Seven (CSS-7), at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on Jan. 6. The Battle "E" is an award of merit presented to the most proficient ship in each squadron, and recognizes sustained superior technical performance and continuous combat readiness throughout the year.



(Left) Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Clifton Jackson performs preventive maintenance on the MK-45 5-inch/54-caliber lightweight gun aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77). O'Kane is deployed as part of Commander, Task Force-Iraqi Maritime supporting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Elisandro Diaz

(Right) Chief Electronics Technician (SS) John Westbay explains the basic operations of a torpedo tube to a group of Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) fighters during a tour of the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Bremerton (SSN 698) at the submarine piers onboard Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Jan. 6. The MMA group is part of the Fighters for Fighters events sponsored by Armed Forces Entertainment and taking place throughout the month of Jan. in Hawaii, Guam and Japan.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Ronald Gutridge





Photo illustration

PAO 'go-to-guy' honors veterans, continues naval service through volunteerism

Story and photo by
Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

When you ask Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison for Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office, exactly what his volunteer position entails, without skipping a beat the former master chief shoots straight from the hip.

"I guess you could call me the 'go-to-guy,'" he replied. "Because I do everything from Pearl Harbor survivor burials and scattering of ashes ceremonies to harbor tours and flying flags. Anything that needs to get done, I am there."

Despite his candor, Taylor is quite the modest man.

For starters, he personally oversees all of the Pearl Harbor survivor and Navy veteran burials, interments and scattering of ashes ceremonies every year, including coordinating all ceremonial details with Navy Region Ceremonial Guard, Pacific Fleet Band and chaplains.

He also makes all the personal arrangements for traveling family members, including providing ground transportation and assisting with lodging reservations.

Since March 2008, Taylor has been carrying out all these duties as a Navy volunteer.

"I came to PAO the Monday following my last day as the assistant officer-in-charge of the Naval Brig," he said. "I knew I still wanted to serve the Navy in some way and I had worked with [Pearl Harbor] Survivors in years prior so I thought I could find something that would let me continue coordinating their

burials," he added.

He said he decided to "create this position" at public affairs because he felt compelled to fulfill the final wishes of America's 'Greatest Generation.'

"I cherish having the ability to meet the families of our deserving heroes," Taylor said. "Simply put, those who served this great country set the example to keep our nation's history preserved. We must never forget those who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor and continued to serve in [many ways] violent situations throughout WWII. Their stories deserve to be told and their final wishes to return to their shipmates deserved to be honored," he added.

Over the past decade, Taylor estimates he has personally coordinated more than 220 Pearl Harbor survivor and military veteran burials and scattering of ashes ceremonies.

Thanks to his 33 years of active duty Navy service and 18 years as a civil service employee, Taylor said he relies on his more than 50-year naval experience when working closely with military veterans and family members to honor the dearly departed.

"As a [Navy] veteran, I'm aware of the situations of military life and the plight of the military man and woman," he explained. "This enables me to provide the best possible services and knowledge to veterans and their families while also giving the right balance of sympathy and strength when needed."

When asked what is his favorite memory, Taylor is hard-pressed to answer.

"That is a tough one," he said as he pondered the question. "I have coordinated over 245 scattering of

ashes and burial services over the years and every one of them has provided me with many tremendous and happy memories. So I guess you could say I have over 245 'favorite memories,'" he added.

As for his future, Taylor admitted that although he wouldn't mind a "paying gig," he remains completely dedicated to his volunteer position, for both professional and personal reasons.

"I will remain here as long as the Navy wants me and as long as I continue to get the magnificent support from the chain of command," he offered. "I think it is important to stay involved because I am a firm believer that one who works hard, long hours all of their life will die if they stop. I have served in or for the Navy for over 54 years and find it nearly impossible to leave."

As Taylor sees it, being a devoted Navy volunteer is not only about wanting to pay tribute to so many of the Navy's finest as much as it is about paying homage to his unexpected, yet fruitful Navy career.

"I love the Navy and will continue to serve as long as I am mentally and physically able," he said. "The Navy is keeping me alive, why quit?"

P3s relocate to 15th Wing

Story and photo by
Airman 1st Class
Lauren Main

15th Wing Public Affairs

About 10 U.S. Navy P-3 Orion aircraft, normally operating from Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), Kaneohe Bay, have found a temporary home on the 15th Wing's (15th WG) flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The P-3s, which are part of the Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two at MCBH are at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam due to runway reconstruction.

The aircraft are relocated here for about two months. The estimated completion date for the construction at MCBH is Feb. 15.

According to U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Steve Platt, Wing Two operations officer, the operations and mission have not been affected by the relocation.

"This is essentially the first big test of joint basing," Platt said. "So far this has all coincided really well with the whole concept of joint basing. It's made it much easier to receive support."

A memorandum of agreement signed by the Navy outlined the specifics as to what and how much support would be given, said Glen Bailey, 15th Wing logistics management specialist.

"The 15th WG is tasked to provide support such as airfield management, communications, flight and weapons safety, and aircraft maintenance," Bailey said.

Although the aircraft have their own maintainers and mechanics, facilities to maintain the P-3s are still required.

Administrative work



U.S. Navy Airman Joseph Hays, an aviation structural mechanic, checks the hydraulic line on the P-3 Orion as Airman Michael Dimio, also an aviation structural mechanic, watches on the 15th Wing flightline Jan. 6. The aircraft are temporarily being housed by the 15th Wing due to runway construction at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The P-3s were initially released to the Navy in 1962 and are used to detect enemy submarines and aircraft. They are also used to view battlespace in order to relay information instant to ground troops.

and flight planning for the aircraft sorties is being done in a temporary facility normally reserved for transient operations, according to Bailey.

The increases in personnel and operations due to the P-3s' presence here have not affected the 15th WG mission, said Master Sgt. Jonathan Green, airfield operations manager.

The P-3 aircraft was originally designed as a land-based, long-range,

anti-submarine warfare patrol aircraft, according to a U.S. Navy fact sheet. The P-3C's mission evolved in the late 1990s and early 21st century to include surveillance of the battlespace, either at sea or over land.

Its long range and long loiter time capabilities were used during Operation Iraqi Freedom to view battlespace and instant provide that information to ground troops, especially U.S. Marines.

CNO, MCPON visit

Continued from A-1

our intelligence and command and control together. We created the U.S. 10th Fleet. We actually reactivated it from its World War II roots. That is our cyber fleet," Roughead said.

Recently, the U.S. Pacific Command director for intelligence presented the first group of

Sailors from Navy Region Hawaii with the new information dominance warfare insignia last Dec. 15. Those who were qualified to obtain a pin included information warfare officers, naval intelligence officers, meteorological and oceanography officers, information professional officers, space cadre officers and any enlisted

rate that is assigned to an information dominance command.

During the three-day visit, Roughead and West also met with Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie and Adm. Patrick M. Walsh, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet at the conference to discuss the significance of Hawaii in the Navy's strategy.

96th Air Refueling Squadron starts flying at Hickam

Story and photos by Master Sgt. Cohen A. Young

Defense Media Activity

The 96th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam recently performed its first operational mission by refueling B-52 bombers from the 5th Wing at Minot AFB, N.D.

The 96th ARS stood up at Hickam in September and has been conducting training sorties since then. The recent December refueling mission marked the squadron's first operational mission at Hickam.

The squadron won't be fully operational until August 2011, according to Lt. Col Brian Hill, 96th ARS commander.

"It's very satisfying and



gratifying to me to conduct our first mission as a

squadron," Hill said. "To be able show what we are capa-

ble of and what we're building here is very exciting.

There's a lot of hard work and sweat being put into by great people here."

The active-duty squadron worked with the 174th ARS, 185th Air Refueling Wing, Iowa Air National Guard (ANG) in refueling the bombers during consecutive night missions while in Hawaii.

Members of the Sioux City, Iowa ANG were happy to work with their active-duty partners.

"It's always a good experience working with the active duty on missions like this," said Capt. Duane Boyle, 174th ARS pilot. "We have the same background and have completed the same training, and we're happy to be part of this start with them."

During the two night missions, the 96th and 174th ARS off-loaded more than

400,000 pounds of fuel to the bombers.

During the last few months, the squadron has constantly been involved through training and with arrival of more and more personnel. Capt. Jasmine McCann, 96th ARS pilot, arrived in December and is already in the thick of the squadron's important moments.

"I'm just getting here and to have a chance to stand up a squadron is really cool," McCann said. "It's really nice to have our first mission with our natural bombing partner. The B-52 and KC-135 are considered a mated pair, so this is great," she added.

The 96th ARS is starting slow, but picking up speed as it looks toward this August and being a major factor in what occurs in the Pacific.

Naval Submarine Support Command changes hands

MC2 Ronald Gutridge

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

Cmdr. Brett Fillmore assumed command of Naval Submarine Support Command (NSSC) Pearl Harbor, relieving Capt. William Stevenson, during a traditional change of command ceremony held at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Dec. 17.

As commanding officer of NSSC, Stevenson assisted three local submarine squadrons, providing them and the 18 homeported and visiting submarines with administrative, medical, legal, operational, maintenance and logistics support. Among other accomplishments in 2010, NSSC indoctrinated more than 400 Sailors who reported to Pearl Harbor submarines into the Pacific Submarine Force, managed more than 40 month-long maintenance periods for submarines, and processed nearly 100,000 repair

part requests.

Capt. Daryl Caudle, commodore, Submarine Squadron Three, presided over the change of command ceremony. He offered remarks on NSSC and Stevenson's leadership.

"Capt. Bill Stevenson has truly been an extraordinary and highly effective leader across the spectrum of support services and processes that NSSC provides," Caudle said. "NSSC is an integral and necessary component to material and personnel readiness of our submarine force. I know I speak for all three commodores when I say how much Bill's leadership has impacted the overall performance of our submarines."

Following his remarks and prior to the official reading of orders and transfer of command to Fillmore, Caudle presented Stevenson with the Legion of Merit for his exceptionally meritorious service during his time at NSSC.

Stevenson reflected on his time spent at NSSC and thanked his personnel for their hard work and



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach

Capt. William Stevenson is piped ashore after being relieved as commanding officer of Naval Submarine Support Command (NSSC) Pearl Harbor by Cmdr. Brett Fillmore during a traditional change of command ceremony held at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Dec. 17.

dedication.

"I have been privileged to lead an amazing team of high performers

who, day in and day out, work to support submarines," Stevenson said.

Fillmore is a 1991 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. His previous assignment was as the deputy commander for readiness for Submarine Squadron Seven.

While assuming command, Fillmore reflected on the submarine heritage resident at Pearl Harbor and tasked his command to keep Pearl Harbor-based submarines ready.

"To the staff of Naval Submarine Support Command Pearl Harbor, today is a great opportunity to be reminded that you are essential to American submarine operations originating from this unrivaled homeport," Fillmore said. "Each of you has a role that is not supplemental or incidental, but crucial. Your assignment to NSSC Pearl Harbor carries a responsibility to keep Pearl Harbor-based submarines ready."

Stevenson's next assignment will be the Commander Submarine Force Pacific representative to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

All-hazards response team gains CERF validation

Staff Sgt. Carolyn Viss

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

The Army and Air Force Hawaii National Guardsmen all-hazards response team stood up a CBRNE (chemical, biological, nuclear, high-yield explosive) Enhanced Response Force (CERF) at Bellows Air Force Station on Dec. 13 to 18 in order to be evaluated by the Joint Interagency Training and Education Center.

The CERF team was validated after six days of setup and training scenarios, in which the total-force team responded to a "blast" from a dirty bomb containing the sarin gas – a nerve agent – and had to conduct search and extraction, decontamination, and medical treatment on the "victims" of the scenario.

"This exercise we're going through is evaluation of the team to be sure they meet standards set by the National Guard bureau as far as responding to the disaster and treating the casualties that come out of the disaster," said Air Force Col. Stanley Sato, 154th Medical Group commander from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

The CERF has been around since 2004 and is evaluated biennially, according to Sato. Going through the validation together is particularly valuable since the Army's team changes when a whole unit deploys, whereas the Air Force medical team has remained much the same for six years, through three exercises.

"The Guard's primary mission is homeland defense – typically we've responded to earthquakes, floods, storm

cleanup, etc.," Sato said. "We've never had any incident with weapons of mass destruction in Hawaii like they did in the Oklahoma City bombing, but anything that might happen to the homeland, we would be there," he continued.

Originally, there were 12 teams set up in nine Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions, and Hawaii is a strategic location because of its isolation in the Pacific, he said. Guardsmen are not the primary responders. "Typically local first responders would come out, like firefighters, paramedics, police ... but when they get overwhelmed they would call in the CERF," Sato explained. "(We) can never be too ready to respond. With a mass casualty disaster, local EMS system can be overwhelmed in a matter of hours."

Capt. Aaron Blanchard, operations officer for Hawaii National Guard CERF taskforce, said the Army's Alpha Company combat engineers and Headquarters Company Soldiers have special equipment training and readiness in addition to their federal and "go to war" missions.

"Everyone on this task force is a volunteer from the unit," he said.

"Our goal is not to replace the first responders and civil authorities - they are absolutely in charge of any incident, but what we train to be and seek to be is that 'tier two' level of response," Blanchard said.

"If a disaster occurs, the Guard could be called up by the governor to respond immediately; additionally, they could be sent to another state in an other-than-federal



status, supporting not only Hawaii but another state or territory," Blanchard said.

"We enjoy being out here," he said. "It's a tough week for everybody, but we definitely stand ready to support civil authorities in a disaster. We've done it before, and we're ready to do it again."

Hawaii National Guardsmen dressed in Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear assist "victims" of a dirty bomb explosion during a Homeland Defense Response validation exercise at Bellows Air Force Station, Hawaii, Dec. 16, 2010.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Jan. 20 – Centennial of Naval Aviation:
Pacific Missile Range Facility and
CPRW-2

Jan. 27 – Energy topic

Feb. 3 – Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

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