

ESG 3 arrives at Pearl Harbor today



Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Three ships from Expeditionary Strike Group Three (ESG 3) arrives in Pearl Harbor today en route to a Western Pacific deployment. USS Peleliu (LHA 5), USS Ogden (LPD 5) and USS Germantown (LSD 42) left their homeport of San Diego, Calif. Feb. 15 and while in Pearl Harbor will meet up with USS Port Royal (CG 73) and USS Reuben James (FFG 57), who will join them on their six-month deployment.

Reuben James is a 453-foot-long Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate commanded by Cmdr. Logan Jones.

The ship is a multi-mission platform designed to escort and protect carrier strike groups, expeditionary strike groups, underway replenishment groups and convoys in addition to conducting anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare. Port Royal, commanded by Capt. David Matawitz is the Navy's 27th Aegis-class guided missile cruiser, and the last cruiser constructed in the 20th century.

Port Royal is designed to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of carrier battle groups, expeditionary strike groups, surface actions groups, amphibious assault groups, and as an integral part of mar-

itime interdiction forces. The ships of ESG 3 will operate in the Pacific and Indian Oceans in support of the global war on terrorism, and other missions as required by the combatant commander.

Brig. Gen. Carl Jensen, USMC, commands ESG 3 from his flagship, Peleliu. Embarked Marines from the Camp Pendleton-based 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) are also part of ESG 3.

For more information on Reuben James, or Port Royal visit at www.reuben-james.navy.mil and www.port-royal.navy.mil.

"I expect ESG 3 to make a positive difference wherever she sails, whether that involves actual combat operations, maritime security operations, humanitarian assistance operations, or anything in between. We bring a lot of capability to the table and are ready to perform an incredibly diverse mission set."

--Marine Brig. Gen. Carl B. Jensen, ESG 3 commander

Photo illustration

USS Hopper participates in Sky Hunter BMD test
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Keeping Navy pets healthy
page B-1

Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

Town hall meeting

A town hall meeting has been scheduled to provide information to Navy housing residents about phases two and three of public-private venture (PPV). A meeting is planned for 6:30 p.m. March 1 at the Moanalua Terrace Community Center for residents of Hale Moku, Halawa, Little Makalapa and Red Hill. For more information, call 474-1803 or 474-1804.

Volunteers Needed for Survey

Survey takers are needed for the 2006 Sea Services Women's Leadership Symposium, to be held March 21, aboard Marine Corps Base Hawai'i. Survey takers can go to <http://tinyurl.com/araat> to take the survey. For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. Desarae Janszen at 541-2125, or by e-mail at djanszen@d14.uscg.mil; or Master Sgt. Milton White, MCB Hawai'i equal opportunity advisor, at 257-7720.

Navy gets ready for phases two and three of PPV

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

With phase one of its housing privatization in Hawai'i well underway, the Navy is gearing up for phase two of public-private venture (PPV) for family housing neighborhoods.

At a town hall meeting held Feb. 15 at Catlin-Halsey-Radford-Miller Community Center, housing residents from the Catlin Park, Doris Miller Park and Maloelap neighborhoods learned more about what's in store under the public-private venture and the Navy's partnership with Hawai'i Military Communities (HMC), LLC. Residents from the Pearl City Peninsula and Manana neighborhoods had the opportunity to meet with housing officials on Wednesday.

A town hall meeting for residents of the Hale Moku, Halawa, Little Makalapa and Red Hill communities will be held at 6:30 p.m. March 1 at

the Moanalua Terrace Community Center. Town hall meetings for other Navy neighborhoods that will be included in phase two of PPV will be held over the next several weeks. The latest phase of PPV is expected to begin late in 2006.

Referring to the large number of older homes in the Navy's inventory that need replacement, Jared St. John, family housing program manager for Navy Region Hawai'i, explained, "It would take us 15-20 years under MILCON [military construction] to replace these houses. PPV gets us there a lot faster and it's a lot less expensive for the Navy."

The Navy is entering into exclusive negotiations with Hawai'i Military Communities, (HMC) LLC, its partner for the second phase of Navy privatization which will include all remaining Navy family housing.

New homes constructed under PPV, arranged in sin-

▼ See PPV, A-4

Military in Hawai'i participate in the Great Aloha Run



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Dennis Cantrell

Service members stationed in Hawai'i take part in the 22nd annual Great Aloha Run Sunday. The 8.5 mile run starts in downtown Honolulu and finishes at Aloha Stadium. Christy Prichard of the Navy came in first place in the military female category with a time of 53:53 and Jeffrey Tomaszewski of the Navy came in third in the military male category with a time of 47:34.

Navy Region Hawai'i honors senior Sailors of the year

JO2 Devin Wright

Editor

Navy Region Hawai'i held an awards ceremony sponsored by the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 46 yesterday for the 2005 senior Sailors of the year from various commands throughout Hawai'i.

Nineteen senior Sailors were recognized for their extraordinary achievements and excellent service in 2005.

Rear Adm. Michael C. Vitale was the keynote speaker for the event. He noted the importance of earning the award in a region rich with Naval history.

"The responsibility is now with you to maintain that level of superior performance and self-improvement," Vitale said. "That responsibility is just a bit heavier here in Hawai'i. In Pearl Harbor, the ghosts of Sailors past are all around us. We continually tread in the footsteps of those Sailors, who in the shadow of the events of Dec. 7, 1941, faced the



U.S. Navy Photo by JO2 Devin Wright

A senior Sailor of the Year and his master chief listen as Rear Adm. Michael Vitale commander, Navy Region Hawai'i speaks at the 2005 Senior Sailor Awards held yesterday at the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 46.

greatest of obstacles and still prevailed because their nation needed them to prevail. Today, you are the Sailors our nation needs to prevail, in

a time when our country is asking much of our Sailors."

Many of the awardees attributed their superiors and subordinates

with their success.

"When I first got the Chafee I was in our department by myself," said Personnel Specialist (SW) 1st Class Rachele Familia assigned to USS Chafee (DDG 90). "In this past year we have gotten some really hard working Sailors in the office. They are all stellar performers and they are those ones who have put me in the position of Senior Sailor of the Year," she said.

Other recognized the help of their subordinates but admit the recognition didn't come without sweat from their own brow.

"My command does a great job of letting us know what is expected of us," said Operations Specialist (SW/FMF) 1st Class Dennis Aumack assigned to Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility. "They expect us to work hard and I feel that I have. To be rewarded for that feels great and it makes me want to do even better for them and the Navy," he said.

The Sailor of the Year program was established by the Chief of Naval Operations to recognize those Sailors who best represent the large number of dedicated professionals in a particular command.

COMMAND IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Patrol Squadron 9 Home of the Golden Eagles

VP9-

"We are warriors. We shall be ready to fight our great nation's wars. This is why we exist. Combat readiness and mission accomplishment is job number one. We must strive for excellence in all we do and conduct our business safely."

Commander Perry Yaw
U.S. Navy, commanding officer of Patrol Squadron Nine

History-

Patrol Squadron Nine was commissioned on March 15, 1951 at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash. under the command of Cndr. M.B. Bailey. The maiden flight of the new squadron was flown in a P4Y-2 "Privateer." Within a few months, the "Golden Eagles" embarked upon their first deployment to NAVSTA Kodiak, Alaska. Since that time, the squadron has participated in a variety of missions throughout the world.

VP-9 made history with the launch of a Standoff Land Attack Missile (SLAM) during Fleet Battle Experiment ECHO at Point Mugu, Calif. on April 14, 1999, the first such launch after in-flight target reprogramming. In addition to the normal inter-deployment training cycle requirements, the "Golden Eagles" made a fifth homeport change

P-3C Orion-

to Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe Bay in May 1999. VP-9 was the first patrol squadron to operate from Kaneohe Bay, hosting the multi-national exercises.



illustration by PHAN John T. Jackson, FLEET IMAGING CENTER PACIFIC, HAWAII

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Hawai'i Navy News

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Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Drugs and alcohol ... do impact readiness

Pacific Fleet Master Chief (SS/SW) Rick West



FLTCM(SS/SW)
Rick West

Hoo-yah, Warriors! I recently wrote an article on drinking and driving, trying to get the message out. But unfortunately, the topic of drug and alcohol related offenses comes up enough that I wanted to try a different tactic by explaining their impact on readiness.

What is the impact of drug and alcohol related incidents on readiness? It is much more than it may appear. Let us first talk man-hours - I hate to talk so clinically about this topic, but one thing leads to another and lost man-hours really is the first step in the bigger picture.

When we have a Sailor who has an incident with drugs or alcohol, the obvious loss of man-hours comes to mind, but there's more - the time he or she is in custody, the time he or she spends being interviewed by everyone required to talk to the Sailor, the time he or she spends at non-judicial punishment or courts martial, and possibly the time he or she spends awaiting separation from service. And oh, did I mention the impact for life it will have on you if you're separated under other than honorable means. This adds up to many lost man-hours from that Sailor, potentially including the loss of time (which can be years) he or she contractually agreed to

give the Navy if the Sailor is discharged as a result of his or her situation.

But looking at it deeper, it is not just a loss of hours from the Sailor who caused the incident. Every individual who has to fulfill a duty in every aspect of that Sailor's situation loses hours they would have spent working on something else.

So, we've already gone up exponentially from one individual's lost time to several dozen individuals' lost work time - people at the mast who include the commanding officer, the duty master-at-arms, witnesses, the individual's leading petty officer, leading chief petty officer, division and department head and command master chief.

But just those individuals who need to be at the mast are not the only ones whose time is lost. There are also the yeomen and personnel specialists who have to fill out the paperwork. There are the many hours of extra duty that have to be supervised and the required musters the duty master-at-arms must attend, plus every hour the Sailor had to spend at medical or with the JAG.

And because a Sailor has a drug or alcohol related incident, they are also required to meet with the drug and alcohol program advisor, go through classes and receive counseling. And all of that takes more time away from people who could have been doing something else.

So, just from one incident, that Sailor has caused the Navy possible years of lost man-hours from many Sailors in many different jobs, hours that could have been spent performing tasks vital to the Navy. But lost man-hours are not the only effect the incident has.

Now you reading this article, who pride yourselves on being the best you can be, have to work harder to take up the slack.

There is a loss of money - both from the cost to run all the programs and the money it takes to pay people to do a job that doesn't have to be necessary - like filling out paperwork related to these incidents.

There are the inevitable manning shortages that follow. It can be that the Sailor is getting discharged, or it can be from a loss of a security clearance - one of the possible outcomes.

If a Sailor in a job needing a clearance loses it, that Sailor can no longer work in the office and that office usually cannot receive a replacement until the Sailor transfers. So, that Sailor's old co-

workers now have to pick up extra work because one Sailor made a stupid decision.

And if a Sailor has a drug or alcohol-related incident, he or she can be denied a top secret SCI clearance for having that incident in his or her history.

Having a drug or alcohol related incident also affects the people surrounding that Sailor. He or she will have to face his or her family after what he or she did and will have to live with that for life. And the community the Sailor is based in will have a degraded opinion of the Navy as a whole because of the action of that one Sailor.

And I'm not even touching on how this incident affects the individual Sailor - if I wanted to go into that instead of readiness, I'd talk about how negatively everyone who knew that Sailor now thinks of him or her. There is a loss of reliability and trust, along with the obvious dislike for having put his or her friends and coworkers in the position that inevitably follows.

So, having one Sailor get a drug or alcohol related incident will cause: lost man-hours, which reduces the efficiency of our Navy; manning shortages, which can cause stress to coworkers and affect the efficiency of a shop, which can affect the efficiency of their command, which can affect the efficiency of the Navy; and embarrassment to the Sailor and

Navy, which can affect how the community and, in some cases, foreign countries and the world, view our Navy and country.

It's a lot of wide-reaching effects that one decision has - a decision that if the right outcome is picked (and we all know that is to say, "no") can keep the Navy's combat readiness at a top level.

That right decision is exactly what we mean when we talk about our high standards of performance, military discipline and readiness. It is pride, professionalism and personal excellence.

And to all the Sailors out there who have made that right choice, I thank you for not putting those burdens on your family, co-workers, command, community, Navy and country.

And to those of you who haven't made the right decision, but haven't been caught, I want to assure you that our urinalysis programs are good and you will eventually be caught, so please reconsider the consequences your actions have and don't be that person who causes so much strain and pain. To recap: we have zero tolerance for drugs, you will get caught and ensure if you decide to drink, you drink responsibly - no tomfoolery!

Make sure you're never the person who causes so much harm to our community and our Navy, make the right choice! See you on the deckplates, Warriors.

A tribute to black fraternal, social and civic institutions

Commentary by Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs

This month, we remember the stories of black Americans who have helped to build our nation and advance the cause of freedom and civil rights. We remember the bravery of the Soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment and the Sailors of the USS Manson in service to our country.

When we examine our nation's history, we discover these and many other stories that inspire us. They are stories of the triumph of the human spirit of everyday people rising above their circumstances and the prejudice of others to build lives of dignity.

This month, and throughout the year, let us celebrate and remember these stories, which reflect the history of black Americans and all Americans. We can all enjoy the works of writer Paul Laurence Dunbar, James Weldon Johnson, Maya Angelou, Zora Neale Hurston

and Langston Hughes. In our nation's schools, our children can learn to admire George Washington Carver, Booker T. Washington, the Tuskegee Airmen, Sojourner Truth, Mary McLeod Bethune, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Frederick Douglas, Colin Powell and countless others. Americans from all backgrounds can be ennobled by the examples of Thurgood Marshall, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, Mary Church Terrell and other civil rights leaders.

As we celebrate Black History Month, let us commit ourselves to raising awareness and appreciation of black history. Let us teach our children, and all Americans, to be champions of liberty, human dignity and equality. And let us rededicate ourselves to affirming the promise of our Constitution.

I encourage regions/activities to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that highlight and honor the contributions black Americans have made to our military and nation.

USS Hornet sinks HMS Peacock



U.S. Navy historical photo

On this day in 1813, still operating off northern South America, Hornet encountered Britain's HMS Peacock, a somewhat smaller and less powerful brig-rigged sloop of war. The two warships closed from opposite directions and, shortly before half-past five in the afternoon, opened fire on each other. Hornet's gunnery was so much more effective that Peacock surrendered within 15 minutes, having lost her commanding officer and seven men killed or mortally wounded. The Royal Navy brig-sloop was so badly shot up that she sank in shallow water shortly after the end of the action. Hornet, which had suffered one fatality among her crew, took aboard Peacock's survivors (except for a few who escaped to shore) and quickly repaired her own damage. Badly overcrowded, she then sailed for the United States, arriving at Martha's Vineyard on March 19.

Hawai'i Navy News

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PPV: New homes constructed under PPV offer more space for Navy families

Continued from A-1

gle and duplex configurations, offer considerably more space for today's Navy family, ranging in size from three to five bedrooms with square footage of living space from 1,700 to 2,400 square feet. The homes will feature central air conditioning, state-of-the-art energy-efficient appliances, security systems, abundant storage and larger bedrooms.

The neighborhoods in PPV communities will provide centralized community centers with such features as swimming pools, exercise facilities and meeting rooms, tot lots and play areas, and an abundance of common areas and grassy, lighted pathways connecting homes to larger, shared spaces.

A complete property management service will be provided by Forest City Residential Management (FCRM). Tom Carter, vice-president of Forest City Enterprises, Inc., explained the procedures for maintenance calls. He promised quick response times for emergencies and urgent requests as well as for routine service.

Residents of PPV communities are provided with refuse, recycling, fire and security services by the city and county of Honolulu. Forest City also provides 24-hour security patrols by a private security agency.

The management company will provide grounds care for all areas except for back yards within enclosed fences and will offer a modified self-help program.

Under PPV, residents will sign a lease with the management company. Service members will need to make an allotment equivalent to their monthly basic allowance for housing (BAH) to cover the cost of rent and utilities. Navy officials and HMC representatives emphasized that there will be no out-of-pocket

expenses for residents as long as utilities are used wisely. This will be determined at a later time. After all construction is completed and individual meters are installed on the homes, data will be studied for a year to determine average energy costs. Comparisons will be done of homes of equitable sizes and neighborhoods.

As exclusive negotiations continue, housing residents will be kept informed of new developments and timelines through a second round of town hall meetings planned for May/June. A third town hall meeting is planned for about July as the PPV project moves toward lease signings.

At the conclusion of exclusive negotiations, the contract will be signed in approximately the September timeframe with the turnover of homes and construction beginning about Oct. 1.

Navy housing officials emphasized the Navy's partnership with HMC and FCRM. "We work very closely with the partners, from the time you walk in the door and while you're in the home until you move out," St. John told those gathered for the meeting.

"This is going to be the way it is for the next 50 years. Navy family housing continues to be responsible. This is a partnership between the Navy and Forest City. We sit with them on all key decisions," explained Rogers Patrick, regional director, community support program Navy Region Hawai'i.

Phase one of PPV included 1,948 homes in five Navy housing neighborhoods, Halsey Terrace, Hokolani, McGrew Point, Moanalua Terrace and Radford Terrace.

Navy representatives emphasized that PPV would enable the Navy to quickly replace its deteriorating inventory, assuring a quality Navy home for every Navy family.



U.S. Navy photo by IC2 Dodi L. Favors

A Sailor assigned to USS Hopper (DDG 70) displays his honorable discharge certificate before re-enlisting Feb. 19 aboard Hopper off the coast of California.

A Sunday to remember for eight Hopper Sailors

Ensign
Jamie Lynn De Coster

USS Hopper (DDG 70)
Public Affairs

Feb. 19 was a day to celebrate service and what better place to do it than on a destroyer at sea, plowing through 30-knot winds and eight to 12 foot waves, en route to a ballistic missile defense (BMD) area. As USS Hopper (DDG 70) proceeded toward the southern California operating areas for the Sky Hunter BMD tracking exercise, eight of the Navy's finest Sailors raised their right hands and reaffirmed their oath.

The ceremonies began at 8:30 a.m. with Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Carl Richard and continued hourly throughout the day as Sonar Technician 1st Class Maria Tan, Operations Specialist 2nd Class Terrish Bilbrey, OS2 Dylan Greer, ST3 Morgan Matthai, Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class David Kuefler, STSN Lisette Bell and Damage Controlman 3rd Class Aaron Solomona re-enlisted across the ship, it hap-

pened in locations ranging from the forecandle to engineering central control to the bridge, including one ceremony conducted entirely in fire-fighter ensembles in repair locker five.

In conjunction with a special meal prepared by the weapons department, a reception for the crew was held on the mess decks and the re-enlistment cake was cut and shared with the entire crew.

"My tour here on Hopper has been the most rewarding choice of duty thus far in my career and I am proud to re-enlist here while we are out to sea conducting our mission," said Bilbrey.

On Sunday, a total of more than \$122,000 was paid in selected re-enlistment bonuses (SRB) as Sailors committed for 33 additional years of service. Hopper's command career counselor, Navy Counselor 1st Class Cynthia Ybarra, worked tirelessly to prepare for the event. "It has been a very rewarding experience for me. This is one of the greatest jobs in the Navy because I get to help people make their dreams come true," said

Ybarra. Sunday marked the high point of what has been a highly successful retention period onboard Hopper and there are several more re-enlistments to come in the month of March. Thus far this fiscal year, 26 Sailors have re-enlisted, committing to 112 years of active service and earning \$404,000 in incentive bonuses. Hopper Sailors have taken advantage of the Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program to gain cash bonuses or leave for extending their tour through Hopper's upcoming Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2006 deployment.

"It was an exciting day for me and for these great young Sailors," said Cmdr. Pete Driscoll, Hopper's commanding officer. "But it was also a great opportunity to thank the entire crew for their service, those who are staying in the Navy and those who have chosen to pursue other goals and opportunities, for this combat team relies upon them all. I am proud of them all and honored to serve with them."

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USS Hopper (DDG 70) supports ballistic missile defense in "Sky Hunter"

Ensign Jamie Lynn De Coster

USS Hopper (DDG 70)
Public Affairs

USS Hopper (DDG 70), an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, participated in the successful "Sky Hunter" Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) test event off the coast of southern California on Feb. 15.

Using a recent upgrade to its Aegis weapons system, Hopper was tasked with detecting and tracking a Minuteman III Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. during the boost and initial ballistic portions of flight and providing cueing data to SPAWAR Space Systems Center (SSC) in San Diego and the Joint National Test Center in Colorado Springs for analysis.

In a role known as long range surveillance and track (LRS&T), Hopper has the capability to detect and track ICBMs and report track data to shore-based components of the missile defense system.

It can further provide fire control data to the ground-based ICBM interceptors located at Fort Greely,

Alaska and Vandenberg Air Force Base.

At-sea tracking events, such as "Sky Hunter," have verified the capability of surface ships to track ICBMs and demonstrated the reliability of transmitting track data necessary to support missile defense situational awareness, target cueing and engagements.

Hopper has participated in three successful BMD missions. "Sky Hunter" and "Glory Trip-189" tracked ICBMs launched from Vandenberg.

During "Stellar Valkyrie" in November, Hopper provided cueing and track data on a medium range ballistic missile, which USS Lake Erie (CG 70) acquired and engaged with the newest variant of Standard Missile (SM-3).

Hopper's technicians are excited by the new mission area and the opportunity to flex their system.

"We get invaluable training and technical support from civilian Aegis experts during these missions," said Fire Controlman 2nd class James Wickham.

"I have learned a lot about our system - its capabilities and the future of BMD," said Wickham.

Thirteen Aegis destroyers are currently equipped with the LRS&T capability.



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Ryan C. McGinley

File photo of USS Hopper (DDG 70) returning to Pearl Harbor, after her most recent deployment. Hopper is currently off the coast of California conducting missile defense exercises.

Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet discusses rising role in Pacific

Cpl. Esther Greene

Navy News Service

Adm. Gary Roughead, commander, Pacific Fleet (PACFLT), addressed the Navy's evolving role in the Pacific region and how Sailors and Marines assigned to that area of operation play an important role during an interview in Washington on Feb. 14.

Roughead took time out from addressing the Asia Society during a luncheon in Washington, where he was guest speaker, to talk about where he sees PACFLT going in the future.

"The future of the Pacific is one that is dynamic, it's

changing, there's a lot of activity that's going on out there," said Roughead. "The role that they (Sailors and Marines) play in warfighting readiness and posturing ourselves for future challenges is going to be key to the future of our Navy."

"They are the ambassadors that visit and interact with so many of the countries in the Asia Pacific region," he continued. "They're the young men and women of our country that those nations form an opinion about. Whether they're operating at sea, or whether they're in port on liberty or in port doing humanitarian assistance or disaster relief, they are the face of America. They're the

face of our Navy. And every day, every minute, the role they play is terribly important."

Highlighting his office's and the Chief of Naval Operations' top priorities, Roughead addressed what he considers to be the warfighting challenges that Pacific Fleet has faced in the past and will continue to face as the Navy's fleet continues to change.

"The challenges that I see at the high end are anti-submarine warfare. There are about 140 diesel submarines that operate in the Pacific. We, as a Navy, are good at anti-submarine warfare. We can always get better, and that's what we're doing because we have to be able to dominate

that growing submarine capability," Roughead said.

"Ballistic missile defense is another area. It's emerging, and the Navy is in the forefront of ballistic missile defense, not only in the ships that we operate, but some of the testing that we've done... So I think that's another growing area."

Roughead talked about how the Navy needs to work with Asia to ensure maritime security and the ability to facilitate international relationships by keeping the waters clear and safe for trade.

"The ability to also work in what I call the maritime domain, to know what's moving on the maritime domain, to be able to

exchange information with our partners and be able to act on that information as you have is what I refer to as the trans-national criminal elements," he said. "Whether it's piracy, human trafficking, drug trafficking, or terrorism... those are areas that we can continue to work on, that we can work on with our friends and partners and become much much better in," said Roughead.

According to Roughead, other top priorities include: force posture - what assets the Navy should have and where; regional engagement - interaction with allied forces to safely secure the large Pacific area; and the "futures" - along with anti-submarine warfare,

and ballistic missile defense. These issues include unconventional warfare, high-speed vessels and joint-basing.

Roughead said that, above all, his mission was to take care of the Sailors and Marines.

"The advice that I would give to the Sailors and Marines that are deployed in the Asia Pacific region is, one: To know your job, to do it well, to appreciate the opportunities that are out there for you to grow personally and professionally. To remember that everything we do, whether it's on the water or ashore, professionally; personally, on-duty, off-duty, everything we do is important," Roughead said.

Individual Augmentation Community of Practice launched on Navy Knowledge Online

JO1 (SW/AW) John Osborne

Naval Personnel Development Command
Public Affairs

The Individual Augmentation Community of Practice (CoP) launched Feb. 10 on Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) to provide Sailors with links to information supporting the Navy's individual augmentee (IA) effort.

A CoP workspace provides a Web-based collaborative environment where members of a group use shared information and administrative and communications tools to conduct business, manage a project, keep abreast of important group issues and solve group problems.

The individual augmentation "home page" features links to multiple resources, including those available from many different communities.

"The Individual Augmentation CoP is designed to provide Sailors with a cohesive knowledge structure that will provide them with the tools they need to become a

successful member of the IA program," said Jon Harris, knowledge manager at Naval Personnel Development Command who oversaw the construction of the CoP.

The Individual Augmentation CoP is equipped with several informational links that can be helpful to Sailors attending IA training at Fort Jackson, S.C. For example, one link provides information on what is required to get orders to Fort Jackson.

Another section offers a pre-deployment checklist and still another gives cultural information about the countries where IAs are deployed.

"We have worked to provide Sailors reporting to Fort Jackson with as much information as possible, including information on Fort Jackson itself and points of contact," Harris said. "We are also setting up discussion forums where Sailors can ask questions and address concerns with subject matter experts, some of whom have been through the IA program and are currently stationed in theater."

The IA program is a joint-service operation between the Army and the Navy at

Fort Jackson, where the Army is training Sailors to augment their troops on the ground in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Harris said the creation of the Individual Augmentation CoP was necessary to provide a knowledge management strategy that brings focus to the IA process. Up to this point, Sailors who receive orders to report for IA training or who want to report to take part in IA did not have a "one-stop shop" for IA information. The result has been Sailors arriving at Fort Jackson without the necessary medical and administrative paperwork, lacking the prerequisite courses, and not knowing anything about Fort Jackson itself. Harris hopes this CoP will reverse that trend.

"We want the IA participants and their parent commands to know there is an NKO knowledge site that pertains to every Sailor who will fill an IA billet, whether they are officer or enlisted," he said. "Commands should treat this just like a deployment on the ship. Before a ship deploys for six months, there is a checklist that must be completed on each Sailor in terms of train-

ing, family issues and medical screening. The IA program has similar requirements, and this CoP spells it all out for the Sailors, their commands and their families."

Since its launch, the IA CoP has received more than 2,000 hits. Harris said the CoP will be continually updated and revised to meet the Sailors' needs, and he wants to hear from them about what can be done to improve its service. "I look forward to hearing from people, especially the Sailors who have been in theater or are currently serving on the ground, because they can tell us exactly what this CoP needs to be doing to assist their shipmates in becoming more prepared than those that went before them," he said. "This CoP exists for the sole reason of helping our Sailors arrive at Fort Jackson ready to train, and if there is something more we can be doing, I want to know about it."

For more information on the Individual Augmentation CoP, visit www.nko.navy.mil.

Surface Navy Association, Pearl Harbor chapter earns Excellence Membership Award

JO2 Devin Wright

Editor

The Surface Navy Association (SNA), Pearl Harbor Chapter, received the Chapter Excellence Membership Award in January for the third year in a row.

SNA chapters are evaluated on their membership and the degree to which each chapter contributes to the SNA mission, recognizing surface excellence through awards and holding activities that promote esprit de corps.

"The purpose of the Surface Navy Association is to promote greater coordination and communication among those in the military, business and academic communities who share a common interest in naval surface warfare, and to support the activities of surface naval forces," said Capt. Dell Epperson, commander Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific and chapter president SNA Pearl Harbor. "Although we are a relatively small homeport, our activities reflect the spirit and camaraderie of the surface warriors in

Pearl Harbor. Our goal in 2006 is to provide even more opportunities for all Sailors, whether officer or bluejackets, to come together and share information, expertise and just plain fun. I especially extend an invitation to all first class petty officers and below to come forward with ideas on how we can make the Pearl Harbor chapter more relevant to them. We're open to any and all suggestions," said Epperson.

Lt. Cmdr. Christopher Adams, Commander Navy Region Hawai'i's executive assistant and vice president of the Pearl Harbor

chapter for membership, said earning the award gives the association "a vote of confidence."

"It's nice for the local chapter to be recognized and good to know the national SNA believes we are doing things right here at Pearl Harbor. Obviously, we are doing something right," he said.

In three years, the Pearl Harbor chapter has increased from 88 to 288 members. They conduct monthly events and activities aimed at all surface warriors throughout Hawai'i. Each year the association holds an awards lunch-

eon recognizing outstanding surface Sailors and holds several activities to promote esprit de corps, including tailgate parties, boxing smokers and community service events.

The Surface Navy Association was incorporated in 1985 to promote greater coordination and communication among those in the military, business and academic communities, who share a common interest in naval surface warfare and to support the activities of the surface naval forces.

Around the Fleet

Forward-deployed ARG delivers humanitarian assistance



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Brian P. Biller

Townpeople from the small village of Himbangan greet U.S. Navy and Marine Corps personnel from the shoreline, as seen from an 11-meter rigid hull inflatable boat deployed from the amphibious dock landing ship USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49).

Task Force 76 Public Affairs

Sailors and Marines from the forward deployed amphibious ready group (ARG) with elements of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), Joint Task Force (JTF) Balikatan and USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54) joined with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and a consortium of multinational relief organizations to begin delivery of supplies to the devastated area of Southern Leyte on Feb. 19.

The Philippine island fell victim to a wide-sweeping mudslide Feb. 17. ARG and AFP forces have combined forces to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to the victims.

The initial delivery contained five generators, 10 light sets on tripods, 100 shovels, 2,100 five-gallon water cans, 900 1.5-gallon water cans, 400 four-quart kettles, 2,000 blankets, Meals, ready to eat (MRE) and bottled water, according to relief officials.

Additional relief supplies will be taken to Tacloban for further distribution into the dis-

aster area, including a pallet of water, a pallet of MREs, a pallet of shovels and miscellaneous supplies, five generators and a reverse-osmosis water purification system capable of purifying 800 gallons per hour, officials said.

"In a short time, the Sailors and Marines of the forward deployed ARG and 31st MEU have been able to make a tremendous impact," said Capt. Mark E. Donahue, commodore, Amphibious Squadron 11, the task group commander of the forward deployed ARG. "We will continue to bring supplies ashore and do what we can to help the victims of this tragedy."

Survivors of the mudslide have been directed to the nearby town of Saint Bernard, which has become the staging center for U.S. aid deliveries. Numerous sorties by CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters from Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 262, "Flying Tigers" have been launched into Saint Bernard from USS Essex (LHD 2) and USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49).

U.S. Marines immediately plunged into the relief effort, taking up shovels and working shoulder to shoulder with Filipino Marines

and rescuers from Malaysia and Taiwan. About 200 workers are involved in the effort and it is estimated that another 300 will be deployed to the area in the next few days.

Essex, USS Juneau (LPD 10), Harpers Ferry, Curtis Wilbur and 31st MEU arrived in Subic Bay on Feb. 17 for the bilateral exercise Balikatan 06, but were immediately called to assist in the relief efforts in Leyte. The exercise comes from a Filipino word meaning "shoulder to shoulder," a theme that has become a visible reality as Filipino soldiers and U.S. forces work together in the search for and the immediate care of survivors.

"The work here will be an ongoing process, and we will use all of our assets to do all that we humanly can," said Donahue. "We are 'shoulder to shoulder' in this and our hearts and minds are united in this effort."

The forward deployed ARG is part of Task Force 76, the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious force, which is headquartered at White Beach Naval Facility, Okinawa, Japan, with an operating detachment in Sasebo, Japan.

Adm. McLain welcomes USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93)

Lt. j.g. Valerie Van Ho

USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93)
Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Doug McLain, commander, Task Force Seventy-Five, flew from Yokosuka, Japan to personally welcome USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) to his team Feb. 13. Hawai'i's newest guided missile

destroyer joined Task Force Seventy-Five in late January, with embarked crews from Expeditionary Sea Combat Unit One (ESCU-1), Marine 1st Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team (FAST), and an augmented medical team, to conduct extended maritime interdiction operations.

This is the first time a combination of such a wide range of capabilities has been deployed on the compact

combatant ship.

"One hundred percent of our focus is on this ship," commented McLain, regarding the young destroyer and her crew.

McLain was offered a full view of the advanced capabilities of Chung-Hoon and her embarked crews through an integrated training scenario developed around the mission for which the destroyer was chosen.

McLain commended the crew afterward at an all hands admiral's call.

"I am very proud you have brought together the many elements," said McLain, "... we're listening. We have tremendous capabilities and we are sending them back through the tremendous networks we have."

McLain offered a vision of purpose for the crew of Chung-Hoon, tem-

pered with a caution.

"The neat thing about Chung-Hoon and her sister ships is she can do anything," McLain said.

"You are doing your nation's work now... let there be no doubt you can end up in harms way very quickly... your country is proud of you, your folks are proud of you and I'm proud of you."

Hawai'i Navy News Sports

Navy NASCAR 2006 roars into California

Jeffrey Nichols

*Commander Navy Recruiting Command
Public Affairs*

The Navy's 2006 NASCAR Busch Series team will continue its quest for the 2006 championship Feb. 25 at the California Speedway in Fontana, Calif.

In the new season's second race, driver Mark McFarland will be at the wheel of Dale

Earnhardt, Jr.'s JR Motorsports-owned No. 88 Navy "Accelerate Your Life" Monte Carlo.

USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) will be fleet honoree at Fontana at the Busch Series race on Saturday.

McFarland gained some valuable experience in the Hershey Kissables 300 at the Daytona International Speedway on Feb. 18. On lap 93, McFarland was running in the third position and remained in the top-five for 10 laps until he began to get shuffled back and took the

checked flag in the 22nd position.

"I learned so much today, I need some time to sit and store it all before we get to Talladega. But we didn't tear up our good car so we should be in better shape than most when we get to Talladega."

The Fontana race will be televised live at 2:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST) time to a national audience on the FX Network and broadcast on Motor Racing Network (MRN) radio.



U.S. Navy Photo by PHC Chris Desmond

Mark McFarland drives the No. 88 Navy "Accelerate Your Life" Monte Carlo during a practice session at the Daytona International Speedway. The Navy-sponsored NASCAR Busch Series car is owned by Dale Earnhardt, Jr. and made its debut at the Hershey's Kissable 300 on Feb. 18.

Photovoltaic projects harness sun's energy

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

Here in Hawai'i's sunny, tropical climate, it makes a lot of sense to harness the sun's energy to help supply electrical power that can be used by the military, businesses and residences.

And that's just what a photovoltaic (PV) cell, or solar cell, does. It's a semiconductor device which uses sunlight to generate usable electrical energy. This conversion is called the photovoltaic effect.

The Navy in Hawai'i is at the forefront of using solar energy for Navy assets. From photovoltaic street lights and traffic signs on base, to the solar water heating used in Navy family housing areas, to the Ford Island Photovoltaic Project, the Navy has been – and continues to be – proactive in using

solar energy.

From Ford Island to Moanalua Terrace and all around the base, there are examples of solar energy at work – and play.

If you have driven down a street, parked your car in a parking lot or stopped at a traffic light or pedestrian cross walk on base, you may have witnessed photovoltaic technology at work. Have you enjoyed a strenuous game of flag football or soccer at Millican Field? Photovoltaic controls are also utilized there.

The use of solar energy is also evident in some of the Navy's family housing areas. Through the years, the Navy has installed thousands of solar water heating systems on housing units. This contribution to the "Million Solar Roof Program" has earned the Navy awards from the Department of Energy and has saved thousands of kilo-

watts of energy each year.

As a result of these solar water heating projects, Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) has paid the Navy hundreds of thousands of dollars in rebates. The Navy was able to use the rebates to make housing units more efficient and provide a higher quality of life for Sailors and their families.

On a larger scale, the Navy began work on the Ford Island Photovoltaic Project in the mid-1990s. As it was first proposed, HECO planned to build a 100-kilowatt photovoltaic system on leased Navy land, connecting the "green power" to the nearby grid.

The project, now located in historic building 54 on Ford Island, was a direct result of the partnership between the Navy and HECO.

To maintain the original appearance of the historic building, PV panels were

mounted on the roof and hidden from street view by the building's parapet wall at roof level. The project involves over 1,500 PV panels and represents the single largest PV array on Oahu.

Construction on this project, which is Congressionally-funded, began and was completed in August 2005. The power from this system is currently pumped into the Naval Facilities Command (NAVFAC) electric grid on Ford Island. Expected to generate about \$70K of savings per year, it will eliminate 4,600 tons of carbon dioxide, 16,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide, and 22,000 pounds of sulfur dioxide in emissions over the expected 30-year life of the system.

In correlation with the solar roofs initiative used in housing areas, a solar water heating project was implemented at the Fort Kamehameha Waste Water

Treatment Facility.

Instead of using electric resistance water heaters to provide hot water to wash down industrial and restaurant sludge, plant operators now use the abundant power of the sun to keep the facility clean and sanitized. At the same time, workers at the plant have abundant hot water for their showers and to clean harmful bacteria from their work clothes. The project will save hundreds of dollars in energy costs each year.

According to Kevin Saito, energy manager for Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Facilities Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i, "The energy program strives to be good stewards of the environment and the natural resources needed to accomplish the Navy's mission in Hawai'i.

"We especially focus on water and energy efficiency and make recommendations

to the command on how to reduce waste without negatively impacting worker productivity," he said.

The Navy in Hawai'i is involved in ongoing investigations and studies for future energy projects. One of these is a solar air conditioning system that would produce very hot water in specially designed hot water collection panels and an absorption chiller. It would be able to produce chilled water with minimal energy usage.

"These are projects already in progress, but we continue to look toward the future," noted Rear Adm. Michael C. Vitale, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"The Navy's energy team is busy every day, exploring methods that will reduce energy consumption and save the Navy – and the taxpayers – money," he said.

STORY IDEAS?

Contact the HNN editor for guidelines and story/photo submission requirements.

Hawai'i Navy News

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