



### The boxer

USS Reuben James ensign takes it to the ring. See story on page A-10.



### Books for everyone

Hawai'i State Library a boon for Sailors, families. See story on page B-1.

## Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

### Navy Earth Day Fair

Commander Navy Region Hawai'i will host its second annual Earth Day Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. at The Mall at Pearl Harbor.

Organizations will have interactive displays with activities focusing on educating children about Hawai'i's environment.

Prizes will be awarded to winners of the Earth Day coloring contest and there will be activities for those attending.

For more information, call Terri Kojima at the Navy Region Hawai'i PAO at 473-2926 or 473-2888.

### STA-21 seeks applications

The Seaman to Admiral (STA-21) commissioning program is seeking Sailors to receive college educations and Navy commissions.

Selected participants remain on active duty while attending college. Sailors will become members of and drill with a local NROTC unit. Upon graduation, Sailors will be commissioned as ensigns and return to the fleet.

Deadline for applications is July 1. Age requirements have been changed from last year. For a complete list of requirements and more information, see OPNAVINST 1420.1A, NAVADMIN 063/05 or at www.sta-21.navy.mil

### Calling NEXt Idols

The Navy Exchange will host a karaoke competition in the rotunda area at the Mall at Pearl Harbor April 30. The contest begins at 9 a.m.

Entry fee for the contest is \$20 and is open to the first 50 authorized NEX patrons 18 and over and associates who sign up.

Contestants must provide their own instrumental music on CD. Proceeds will benefit the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society.

For more information, visit the customer service booth at the NEX

# COMSUBPAC changes hands



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Corwin Colbert

Rear Adm. Jeffrey B. Cassias accepts command of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet from Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan during Wednesday's ceremony.

### JOC(SW/AW) David Rush

COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Jeffrey B. Cassias relieved Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan as Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet in a change of command ceremony onboard USS Pasadena (SSN 752) Wednesday.

Guest speaker, Adm. Walter F. Doran, Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, said that Cassias is ready to take the helm of COMSUBPAC. "I look forward to working with you. I know that you are the right man to guide this command and this community. There will be challenges, perhaps great challenges, but I have the utmost confidence in your ability to lead this force," said Doran.

Sullivan is retiring after 35 years of naval service. According to Sullivan, the Sailors in the submarine force have had a very special place in his life.

"It isn't long before we find ourselves teaching others -- passing on to our shipmates what we have been taught, and improving it a little along the way. We continue learning, improving, and passing it on until the day we stand where I stand today... the day we're piped ashore," said Sullivan.

"In that sense we are part of a legacy. A legacy means that you learn from those who came before you, carry on their traditions of excellence, and then pass them to the next generation. As I leave the Navy today, I leave knowing that this force is in excellent hands, and I leave deeply honored to have been a part of this legacy," Sullivan added.

Shortly before 'going ashore,' Sullivan contrasted his angst as a junior officer more than three decades ago to the proud and confident fleet commander he became.

▼ See COMSUBPAC, A-7



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Victoria A. Tullock

DN Felecia Austin and DTCM(SW/FMF) Abner Y. Tayag, cut the cake at the 57th Annual Dental Technician Ball.

## Dentalmen enjoy final Ball before rating merger

PH3 Victoria A. Tullock  
Staff Writer

Dental Technicians (DT) celebrated their 57th anniversary April 16 at Hawaiian Hilton Village, marking more than five decades of dental health care assistance.

Due to a facility merge of Pearl Harbor Dental facility and Makalapa Medical Clinic in December leaders believe that a ball celebrating both DT and Hospital Corpsman will continue to build camaraderie between the rates.

"Due to the climate of the clinic, we work very closely with one another doing similar jobs and for common goals," said Capt Steven M. Wolff, department head of Comprehensive Dentistry. "Next year the Hospital Corpsmen Ball and

Dentalman Ball will be combined. Next year's ball will be very interesting to see. It will be different because there will be so many people that do so many different things coming together in a social environment."

The ball provided DT's with an opportunity to discuss the benefits of a rate merger.

"I think it's a very positive outlook for the future," said Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i Command Master Chief Kevin P. Brannigan. "The dental technicians are moving back into the corpsman rating where it originated. They're moving back into the Navy's largest rating, and with that comes opportunity for different duty stations, schooling, and advancement. So I think it'll be a very positive future for the dental technicians as performers," he added.



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Victoria A. Tullock

DN Curtis L. Burleson and DN Lateia D. Sintrail of Naval Health Clinic Hawai'i, Kaneohe dance the night away at this year's Dentalman's Ball held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

## Tax Center closes out successful season

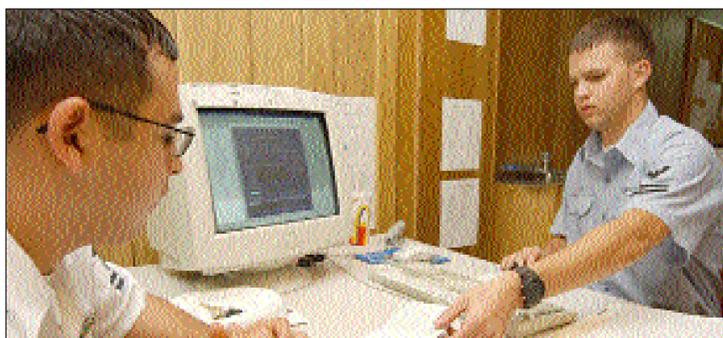
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón  
Editor

April 15 was the last day for Americans to complete their taxes without having to file an extension. For the Tax Center on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, this was another busy year helping Sailors and their families.

"This year, we completed about 5,000 tax returns for a total around \$5.5 million in refunds for Sailors," said Lt. Amy Sanders, officer in charge of the tax center.

Sanders said the value of the services provided was nearly \$500,000. The center opened in building 669 Jan. 31 with a ribbon cutting ceremony and remained open through the end of the tax season. Sanders said the main advantage of the center was the savings it provided to Sailors.

"A lot of our Sailors, especially the younger ones, might have gone to a paid preparer that charges high fees," Sanders said. "For example, let's say a Sailor was getting \$400 back in his return. For a same-day cash back return, he would have to pay \$200, but all he would see is that



U.S. Navy photo

The Naval Station Pearl Harbor Tax Center saved Sailors and their families more than \$500,000 in fees when filing taxes between Jan. 31 and April 15.

he has \$200 in his pocket when he walked out the door. If he would have come here and waited two or three days, he would have the full \$400 in his account."

Sanders said the volunteer staff, both part time and full time, was key to the successful season of the tax center, and its customers, enjoyed this year.

"They were all so great," she said. "We had eight full time people and

about 30 part time volunteers. They would all come in early and stay late when needed. Some of our full time workers would even come in on their off days if they knew we needed help.

"Our assistant tax officer went on leave early in the season and they took up his duties flawlessly," Sanders continued. "No matter how complicated the tax return became, our people would work with the customer until they got it."

Sanders explained the tax return itself may have only taken one to two hours, but explaining it to an individual or family may have taken an additional four or five hours because of the relative complexity.

The volunteers will be receiving various awards for their efforts in making the tax center a success.

"As of today, we have zero rejections," Sanders said Monday. "Most tax centers run about five [rejections] a day."

Although she will not be the officer in charge of next year's Tax Center, Sanders is confident Sailors here will be in good hands.

"A few of the volunteers will be back next year," she said. "We rely on those volunteers to train the new volunteers. It's mainly for continuity and on the computer software."

Sanders feels the Navy Tax Center understands Sailors better than any civilian center ever can.

"The things that affect military families can get really expensive tax-wise," she said. "If we can provide these services free of charge, then that's one less burden for a Sailor."



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Ryan C. McGinley

Boatswain's mates learn damage control techniques at the Center for Naval Engineering Fire Fighting School on Pearl Harbor. BMs are among the rates eligible for a re-enlistment bonus.

## Navy releases latest Selective Re-enlistment Bonus award levels

**Lt. Kyle Raines**  
Chief of Naval Personnel  
Public Affairs

The Navy had good news for Sailors as it released the latest Selective Re-enlistment Bonus (SRB) award levels in a naval message, effective April 15, for eligible Sailors re-enlisting in zones A, B or C.

This means more money in the pockets of Sailors with vital skills that the Navy needs to retain.

"Using current market analysis allows us to be more responsive to fleet requirements and trends in near real time," said Lt. Cmdr. Rich Obregon, head of enlisted bonus programs for the Chief of Naval Personnel in Arlington, Va. "As a result, we can update the SRB award levels more quickly and provide valuable incentives for our critical Sailors to stay Navy."

The multiples for 21 ratings in one or more zones increased over the previously published levels. Only conventional submarine elec-

tronics technicians with specialties in communication and navigation dropped from the previous SRB message. Affected Sailors have a 30-day grace period to re-enlist at the old, higher rate. The decreases go into effect May 16.

There are seven ratings that now have an SRB in certain zones where previously none existed: aerographer's mate (AG), zone A; boatswain's mate, (BM) zones A and B; disbursing clerk (DK), zones A, B and C; dental technicians (DT) holding naval enlisted classification (NEC) code 8752; dental laboratory technician, zones B and C; electrician's mate (EM) zone A; interior communications electrician (IC), zone A; and torpedoman's mate (TM), zones A, B and C.

Also announced in this message is the elevation of the ceiling limit on zone A nuclear ratings as well as cryptologic technician's interpretive (CTI) holding the 9211, basic Mandarin Chinese linguist, or 9216, basic Arabic linguist, NEC from \$45,000 to \$60,000.

## Applicants must reapply to CHART for DoN jobs

**Lacy Lynn**  
Contributing Writer

Applicants in the Civilian Hiring and Recruitment Tool (CHART) must resubmit their electronic resumés as part of the consolidation of the Department of the Navy's (DoN) seven regionalized recruitment databases and resumé intake centers.

All current open continuous announcements (OCAs) will close at 6 p.m. (HST) April 25. Before the system closes, applicants should save, print or copy their information to make resubmitting their resumés as effortless as possible.

While the system is down, old resumés will be purged. After old resumés have been removed, CHART will reopen OCAs on April 28. Applicants must resubmit their resumés online to the CHART when the system reopens.

According to Nadine Bayne, regional human resources director, the initiative is expected to streamline the recruiting process by making it more standardized. Currently, general vacancy announcements in a particular location, such as Hawaii, are restricted to a specific human resources service center (HRSC).

After the transition, each



HRSC will be able to select job applicants from one pool of candidates.

Resumé intake will be centralized at HRSC Southwest in San Diego, Calif., where all hardcopy resumés must be mailed. After the conversion, HRSC Pacific will no longer accept resumés of any kind.

Once the new announcements are posted, applicants will have a 30-day window of opportunity to apply to the new OCAs before selections are made from the new system.

New resumés will be active in CHART for six months, rather than the existing retention time of one year.

After the transition, job-seekers will be able to submit one resumé to apply for frequently filled positions within

the United States instead of maintaining one resumé for each regional HRSC.

Separate job vacancy announcements will continue to be posted for overseas positions as well as for specialized and unique vacancies throughout DoN.

"The whole consolidated inventory is also more helpful to applicants because they can check their application status online for all jobs they're interested in," said Bayne.

In addition, the new structure will give HRSCs more efficient access to automated recruitment resources, which means human resources specialists can focus on selecting the best job candidates.

More information is available on the CHART website, under the heading "What's

### CHART training schedule

- May 12 - Shipyard auditorium  
9-10 a.m.
- May 13 - Shipyard auditorium  
1-2 p.m.
- May 18 - Sharkey Theater  
9-10 a.m.
- May 19 - Sharkey Theater  
12:30-1:30 p.m.
- May 20 - The Banyan's  
9:30-10:30 a.m.

New," at <https://chart.donhr.navy.mil>.

OCHR will update the site regularly to keep employees and applicants informed.

The CHART website also provides quick tips and FAQs about how to search the database and apply for announcements.

Current employees can also contact their servicing HRO advisor with questions and concerns or attend one of the human resources office's CHART training sessions in May.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Responsibility key to parenthood

Editorial Commentary  
JO1 Daniel J. Calderón  
Editor

We're now almost through the Month of the Military Child. For a lot of people, parenthood is an experience fraught with joy, with pain, with frustration and with a delight that is inexpressible and incomprehensible to anyone who has not experienced it.

There's something about your child coming up to you in the middle of the night after a scary dream because only you can make it better.

To that child, you are bigger and badder than the monster in the closet or under the bed. To that child, you are the most powerful individual in the universe and you are the most important person in his or her world. You are a mom or a dad and that's all they need to know.

There is a responsibility inherent in having that kind of power. If you wear the mantle of parent, of mom or dad, you have to wear it responsibly.

I'm not talking about sainthood. I'm talking about making sure your child has enough to eat, a safe and clean place to sleep, the basic necessities. I'm talking about curbing the impulse you had before you had children to blow a paycheck on beer, pizza and movies over a weekend.

I'm also talking to — an almost exclusively male population on this last one — you individuals who choose to make babies, then bolt when the deed is done.

Before I go further, under-

stand that I am not talking about people who give their children up for adoption. That is a valid and difficult choice to make and I respect the thought that goes into the decision.

I'm talking about the men who merrily enjoy the benefits of biology, then run when the results of reproduction are revealed. In another way, I'm talking about men who enjoy sleeping with women then disappear when the women they sleep with become pregnant from their trysts.

To me, these men are the worst kind of cowards.

They take what they want then leave the women and the children out to dry. Granted, it does take two to make the process work. However, the woman is left to bear the child while the man escapes.

I don't think men should immediately marry the mother of their children. That's a completely different soap box. I do believe men should own up to their responsibility, especially those of us who are in the Navy.

We are pledged to be honorable, be committed and be courageous. How can we honestly say we uphold these ideals as men or as Sailors if we abandon our own children?

Honestly, I don't think I would want that kind of man next to me in my Navy. If I can't trust a Sailor to take care of his family — his own blood — then I can't trust him to take care of me and my shipmates.

Be a man. Be a Sailor. Be responsible.

## Future chiefs - How to prepare for the selection board

Commentary  
FLTCM(AW/SW)  
Jon Thompson  
U.S. Fleet Forces  
Command  
Command Master  
Chief



If you are a first class petty officer who is selection board eligible for the FY-06 Chief Petty Officer Selection Board, I have some questions and guidance for you.

First and foremost, congratulations on becoming board eligible. Your evaluations and test score have propelled you to the top of the pack. As you know, becoming board eligible is only the first step. The most important thing you can do between learning you are board eligible and the deadline for correspondence submission to the selection board is to screen your records and ensure you submit any missing material to the board for their consideration. The deadline for you to submit material to this year's board is May 13.

Throughout my career, I have heard various hypotheses about what material should be submitted to the board. The easy answer, seriously, is only send what the board doesn't already have on file for you. There are no minimum or maximum number of documents you can or should submit. How do you know what the board has or doesn't have?

Since the advent of some very useful web sites, learning what the board has in front of them is pretty simple. Plus, if you truly know your own record and know how to order and screen your record on CD, as well as review all the on-line resources that will show you what the board will see, this shouldn't be that difficult. Here is what I recommend to every person preparing for a selection board:

- Order your CD version of your service record early enough to allow time for you to review every page. You can order your CD from the BUPERS online website: <http://www.bol.navy.mil>.
- Also at the BUPERS online website, you should review your performance summary record (PSR) and your enlisted summary record (ESR). The PSR is a three-part report that summarizes your professional and performance history as well as shows your personal decorations information. Part I is the ESR, part II shows your record pre-1996 and part III shows your record from 1996 to present.

Once you have your CD and access these tools on the website, here's what you should be looking at:

- Review each evaluation in chronological order. Ensure every eval is in your file and legible. Make sure no one else's evals are in your file.
- Review your history of assignments. Are the dates right? Does the information on the website match your career?
- Review each personal award. All awards (Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal and above) should be shown, along with the citation (if not printed on the award itself). Ensure the awards shown are all your awards, not someone else's.
- Verify your page four information, including all schools and personal qualifications standards (PQS). This information is only updated upon reenlistment, so what you see on your CD or on the website may not be as current as your field service record.

One more critical piece of advice: Take your time and review your entire record. Look at it like this - the two or three people who will screen your record at the selection board will look at every page, scrutinize every detail and examine every entry. If they are going to take that kind of time and be that meticulous, shouldn't you, too? Selection board members view mistakes and/or errors in your record as your fault, even if you didn't cause the mistake.

Why? Because it's your obligation to know your record and fix errors that may adversely affect your advancement potential.

So what do you do if you identify an error? When you view the CD version of your record, look at the frequently asked questions (FAQs). The answers to your questions are presented in an easy-to-understand manner.

Shipmates, your record is extremely important. Managing your record is a personal and professional responsibility. I'm willing to guess there have been Sailors who could have and would have advanced on time had they spent the necessary time managing their record. Unfortunately, if your record is incomplete or has errors, your chances of being advanced are severely reduced. This should never happen. You have the tools you need to review everything the selection board will see. To not do so is simply neglect.

A final word to our junior Sailors - your permanent record starts when you attain the rank of second class petty officer. At least annually, you should order your CD and review your online information. If you do this each year and pay close attention, you will know early if a problem presents itself in your record. Learning about errors at the last moment might not allow you enough time to correct them before a board convenes.

## Planet Earth needs care

Terri Kojima  
CNRH Environmental  
Public Affairs

Today is Earth Day - a time when people all around the globe celebrate gains we have made for a cleaner environment and unite to share visions to restore, preserve and protect future generations.

Through the leadership of one American, we began to clean up our planet.

Environmental awareness unprecedented level a Nelson too the message to multitudes across the country.

On April 1970, America celebrated Earth Day for the first time when 20 million people across the nation united to make it clear that filthy air, contaminated and polluted would not be our environment and status not always the way that ducted bus to the U.S.

Protection Agency, the 1970s were a time when cities were buried under their own smog and polluted rivers caught fire.

Known today as the father of Earth Day, Nelson, then a U.S. senator from Wisconsin, observed evidence of environmental degradation appearing everywhere, but

the nation's political agenda. The people were concerned, but the politicians were not.

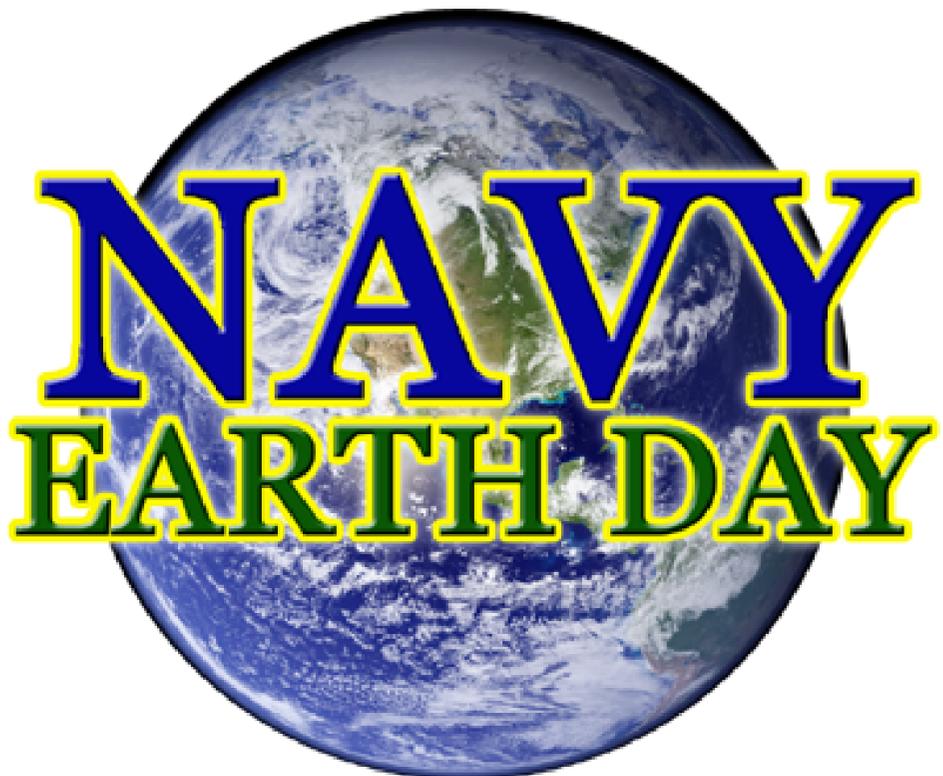
The energy that forced the environmental issue onto the political agenda was unleashed when Nelson announced at a conference that in the spring of 1970, there would be a nationwide grassroots demonstration on

participate. The American people finally had a forum to express their concern about what was happening to the land, rivers, lakes and air — and they did so with spectacular exuberance, said Nelson.

What began as a national day of recognition has evolved into a world-wide

ect our globe in Hawai'i raise environmental awareness. In Earth Day, the day of an Earth Day Fair from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. tomorrow at Navy Hangar 5. Interactive displays, and activities provided by local, state, city and educational organizations will offer fun learning opportunities, which will focus on our children's environments and how

information, contact Terri Kojima at the Hawai'i Public Affairs Office at 473-2926 or



## Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

### Extension cords - the shocking truth

Most people use extension cords as a convenience without knowing how dangerous they can be.

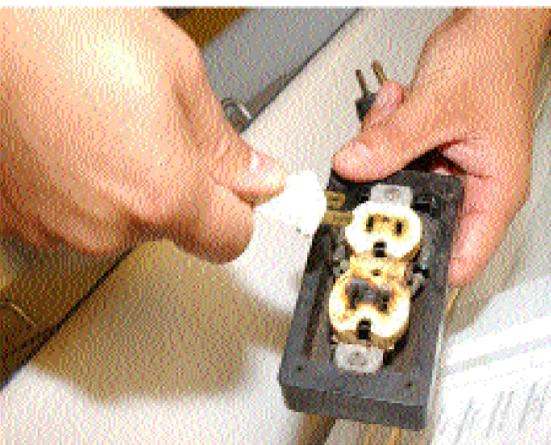
Misuse and/or abusing extension cords causes numerous fires in government housing every year. The Federal Fire Department recommends the following precautions:

- Use the right extension cord for the right job: light duty, heavy duty, inside, outside. Check to see which one is right for you.
- Use only an approved type of extension cord. UL (Underwriters Laboratories) or FM (Factory Mutual) are the good ones.
- Avoid coiling cords to prevent heating and cracking.
- Use only three-prong plugged type of extension cords. This is a grounded type of cord and is much safer. Never remove the third prong; you could get shocked.

- Inspect your extension cord frequently. If your cord is cracked, pitted, crushed or frayed, then get rid of it.
- Do not nail or staple extension cords to the wall or ceiling.
- Do not run extension cords under carpets, over driveways, through windows or doors. That's how the cords get smashed and shorted out.
- Do not run extension cords through a puddle of water or under water or attach to a metal fence.

But one thing is for sure. Extension cords are to be used as temporary wiring only. Use extension cords as a convenience; we all do. But when you are finished, unplug the extension cord at the power end (plug to outlet).

For more information, call the Federal Fire Department's prevention division at 474-7785.



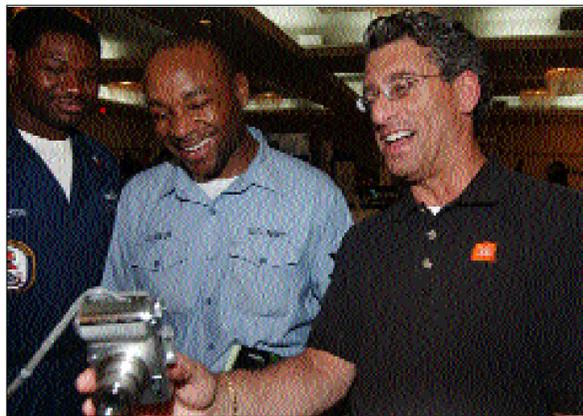
## Hawai'i Navy News

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U.S. Navy photo J02 Devin Wright

CTR 2 Corey Johnson, assigned to USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), talks with a vendor at the Technology Exposition held April 14 at The Banyan's Club.

## Pearl Harbor holds Technology Expo

J02 Devin Wright  
Staff Journalist

A technology exposition held April 14 at The Banyans at Naval Station Pearl Harbor featured companies specializing in different information technologies, office supplies, high securities and software.

The annual event offers opportunities for contractors, buyers, Department of Defense employees and service members to see what is new in the world of technology and fosters relationships between sellers and buyers.

"The goal behind these technology expos is to provide military facilities an opportunity to meet with a variety of different companies in a short amount of time," said Melissa Bard, event and conference manager for the Federal Business Council. "We understand that working for and being in the military doesn't always offer a lot of time to visit all of these different companies. So we try and bring both ends together and make it an easy time for service members to find out about new products and, if they like, facil-

itate business after the expo," she added.

For many service members, visiting the expo was an opportunity to get a head start in learning about systems they may be working with in the future.

"I'm trying to find out what new technology is coming out in the near and distant future," said Cryptologic Technician Collection 2nd Class Corey Johnson, assigned to USS Chung Hoon (DDG 93). "If I know what is going on in the world of technology, it is going to help me do a better job for the Navy. If we get new equipment in, I'll know what that equipment is capable of. I like to come to these expos because there is new knowledge out there. Sometimes you have to out source and get that information yourself. That's why we are here," he said.

The Federal Business Council, which specializes in management of technology conferences, workshops and expositions at government agencies, coordinates the annual event. For more information, visit their Web site at <http://www.fbcinc.com>.

## Commissary donates to local chief petty officers



Susan Sturgeon-Campbell, store manager at the Pearl Harbor commissary presents a check for \$540 to members of the Pearl Harbor Chief Petty Officer's Association who served food during Frozen Food Month March 22 at the commissary. The funds raised will go to worthy causes supported by the CPOA. According to Sturgeon-Campbell having the chiefs involved provides a valuable link between commissary patrons and the military community. The following chiefs were in attendance for the Frozen Food Demonstration: (left to right) BMCS Fred Brady, CSCS Joy Jose, CSC Nick Gordillo, QMC Steve Devaux, CSC Ed Espinosa, QMC Joe Lennon, MAC Jim Walker, CSC Arnel Siroma and MAC Mick Gozum.

U.S. Navy photo by J0C(SW) Joe Kane

## Sailors and firefighters team up for training

J03 Ryan C. McGinley  
Staff Writer

Federal Fire Department (FFD) and Naval Health Clinic, Makalapa teamed up for a mass casualty decontamination exercise April 15 on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, to train as primary and secondary responders in the event of an emergency.

"We're training in case we ever have a real casualty on the island," said Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Sarah Jackson, assigned to Naval Health Clinic, Makalapa. "We would be first responders with Fed Fire."

FFD supplied four engine companies, a ladder truck, a special operations unit truck and a hazardous material team to help Naval Health Clinic Sailors learn about hazardous material decontamination scenarios.

"We want to give the Sailors

an opportunity to understand what they should be training for, how to set up the equipment, how to properly do primary and secondary decontamination as well as how we would integrate them should we meet them in the field," said Jack Lee, FFD assistant chief. "When the first responders are trained and prepared, it makes for a smoother transition should we have a real event."

The exercise consisted of classroom training on four different stations. The first was a mass decontamination station in which patients were washed down with water by two fire trucks. The second station was a decontamination trailer, where a more extensive cleaning process could take place. The third station was a technical decontamination station, which gives personnel an area to focus on specific contamination issues. Sailors also

learned about decontamination monitoring equipment and triage processes.

"What we are hoping to accomplish is [to help] Sailors understand what their fire department is capable of doing, integrate with them so the first time we see some of these people is not at an emergency, and help the Sailors gain proficiency and a level of training that they need to be at," said Lee.

Cmdr. James Beasley, disaster preparedness officer for Makalapa clinic, added that since the merging of dental and medical clinics, some Sailors have not had the opportunity to learn this type of procedure.

"The goal is to put everybody on the same level," he said. "We have just merged dental and medical departments together and many of our dental personnel have never had this type of training before."

After classroom training, firefighters and Sailors went through a simulated scenario, incorporating the knowledge they had just learned to properly treat six casualties from the decontamination process through triage stations.

"We learned what the route would be and how we would go about getting a patient from a contaminated area to where they could get medical treatment in a safe way without contaminating others," said HM3 Codi Hicke. "You always need to be prepared for something that could happen."

Beasley said he wanted to coordinate with Fed Fire so they could organize as a team when they respond to disasters in the future.

"We hope that the Sailors get a generalized understanding of decontamination techniques, how to set up the equipment, how to respond and how to work as a team," said Beasley.

## Pearl Harbor receives automated gate system

PH2(AW) John F. Looney  
Staff Writer

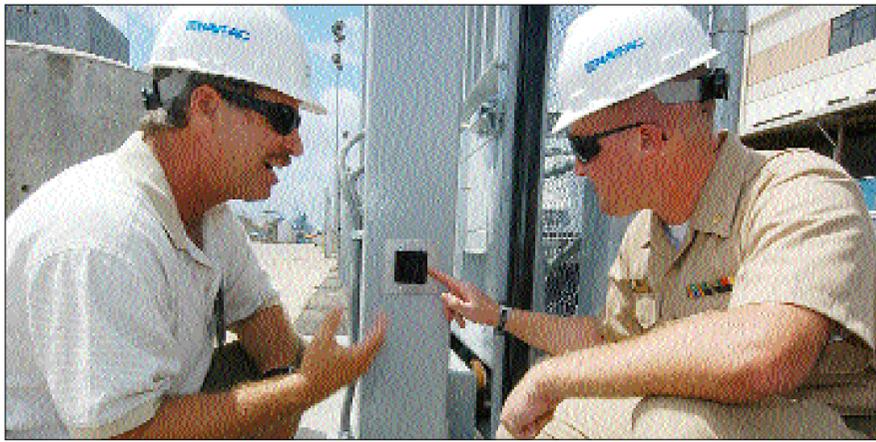
Piers Mike and Yankee at Naval Station Pearl Harbor were equipped with new security gates April 13 in an effort to protect roadways and piers.

The new gates are courtesy of the Navy Public Works Department at Pearl Harbor. The contractor, Delta Inc. Personnel, installed a vehicular and pedestrian-automated security gate.

Due to an increase in force protection across the nation, Naval Station Pearl Harbor's piers are the first of any military installation in Hawai'i to be equipped with an automated security gate system.

The new automated gates will both protect and lighten the workload for Sailors and ships stationed at Pearl Harbor.

"Planning for the gates started in 2002 and funding was approved in 2003," said Andrew Iuvale, Navy Region Hawaii anti-terrorism officer. "These new measures provide another layer in the Region [and Naval Station's] defense in depth



U.S. Navy photo PH2 (AW) John F. Looney  
Ray Akiona, Naval Facilities engineer, and Lt. Jeremy Gates, Naval Facilities construction team leader discuss the functions of the infrared sensor installed on the new automated gate security system.

strategy and increases protection for ships, services for fleet, and quality of life for Sailors - both shore and sea based," he added.

An automated gate at Navy piers creates a protective barrier between terrorists and in-port assets.

"Pearl Harbor's piers will be less vulnerable to acts of terrorism," said Lt. Jeremy Gates, Naval Facilities con-

struction team leader. "The automated gates will provide an anti-terrorism force protection barrier between roadways and the piers which provide service to ships and submarines

"Physical security upgrades such as this, combined with anti-terrorism awareness training, will help make Navy personnel less vulnerable from attacks and

acts of terrorism," he said.

"This is one of many steps Naval Station Pearl Harbor is taking to achieve a safer, more secure installation.

The job will be completed by August with new gates installed at Bravo, Sierra, Foxtrot, Hotel and Victor piers. For more information on force protection, visit [www.cni.navy.mil/public\\_safe/ty.html](http://www.cni.navy.mil/public_safe/ty.html)



U.S. Coast Guard photo

Two Coast Guard members cruise through a mud hole discovered halfway down a new trail to the Pohakuloa Point Light on the island of Lanai.

## Coast Guardsmen make their own roads

PA2 Brooksann  
Anderson

Coast Guard District 14  
Public Affairs

Four-wheel drive, dark blue and loaded with equipment, the Silverado 3500 truck backed into a Coast Guard C-130 Hercules on March 29 to start its annual trip to the Hawaiian island of Lanai.

Every year, the aids to navigation team (ANT) in Honolulu services 98 fixed shore aids scattered throughout the Hawaiian Islands. The aids serve as visual navigational assists to vessels at sea. The team members may not have as many aids to service as other ANTs, but they have a more complex problem - transportation.

"Every aid is different, even though they may have the same equipment. Their location makes for some interesting accessibility problems among the different islands," said Senior Chief Petty Officer Thomas Dutton, Officer in Charge of ANT Honolulu.

Lanai, located southeast of Maui, is a small rural island with one grocery store and not a stop light in sight. Its population of about 3,000 lives mainly in Lanai City, located in the center of the island atop the mountain. The aids, however, are located at the base of the island on very remote stretches of beach and, in one case, a steep cliff.

"Lanai is the only trip in which we camp. We get to see things that most locals don't even get to see," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Shawn Fountain.

Kaumalapau Light is traditionally the first light they fix because it is the hardest to reach. Carrying a new lantern, bulbs, tools and determination, they have to walk on the rocky shore around the harbor, a feat that can only be done at low tide. Then they climb an almost vertical cliff in combat boots, where progress is slow and there is no trail; there are no handholds, just sweat and dirt.

"Carrying a 60-pound battery back down that cliff felt more like one long slide down. Then walking across the shoreline, which is nothing but loose rocks made it hard to keep my balance," said Machinery Technician 2nd Class Steven Parks. "It took teamwork between Petty Officer Duffy and I to get it back in one piece. We were covered in dirt and sweat, but proud to have done it."

As they rested and drank water in the tropical heat, they discussed the next leg of their journey; navigating the roads to the other two lights. Road was a polite word for the volcanic rocks, dirt, ditches and kiawe blocking their way to the other lights.

"The more times we travel the roads it becomes easier and flattens the road, but if it rains a lot we are back to square one," said Fountain. "I know the locals appreciate us clearing the trails since they don't have some of the resources, equipment or vehicles that we bring with us."

Having to navigate the roads at a snail's pace and anticipating getting stuck in ditches or mud holes is why they stayed on island for four days and three nights. "It is just easier to camp at the lights than to make the hours-long trek back the next day if we have more work to

do," said Fountain.

Their other major problem on Lanai is kiawe. Kiawe is a type of mesquite tree that was imported to Hawai'i in the 1800s and prospers in its tropical climate. It is a bushy tree with one- to two-inch long thorns, which have been known to pierce truck tires.

The kiawe grows extremely fast, covering the trails and forcing the ANT members to bring along several chainsaws and safety gear. "Sometimes it is really overgrown and completely impassable without cutting it," said Fountain.

Once they finally arrived at Palalao Point Light, it was work, work and work up until dusk; then it was time to set up camp, grill, rest and enjoy the beach view. One of the crew was lucky enough to find a little piece of history - a small, ancient, Japanese glass fishing net buoy, rolling in the surf.

"I found one of the balls [at Palalao Point Light] while walking the beach with a flashlight and I found another one the next day at Pohakuloa Light," said Electrician's Mate 1st Class Frank Duffy. "I am so fortunate to have found even one. Most people don't find any their entire lives."

On the third leg of the journey to Pohakuloa Light, they had a stroke of bad luck. They took a trail recommended by some local residents with good intentions as an easier way to the light. Instead, it only lead to problems.

Halfway down the trail, there was a mud hole so deep a truck stuck up to its doors was already mired. The two passengers were relieved to see the wenches attached on both ANT trucks. After wrenching out the truck, it was the crew's turn to make a run for it. Both trucks made it through, only to discover the trail dead-ended a couple of miles away from the light. This meant a lot of back tracking and the loss of valuable day light hours.

"We were disappointed, but now we know there aren't any short cuts. At least neither of the trucks got stuck in the huge mud hole at the start of the trail," said Fountain.

Up early the next morning and on the trails, they managed to reach the light sooner than they expected and begin its repairs. Pohakuloa Point Light needed the most extensive work so far because they had to replace the heavy wooden dayboard as well as work on the lantern.

"It was really hard to get the old dayboard off and then the new one up in what felt like hurricane force winds. It took four of us a couple of hours to get it positioned and secured in the right place," said Parks.

They went to work cutting kiawe for the return trip out in the morning.

"Normally, we would have widened and cleared the trail for an entire day, but since we lost a day we didn't have time," said Fountain.

Finally at dusk, they set up camp for the last time. The next day they had to be up early in order to pack up and drive back to the airport.

"To me, aids to navigation teams give you a great sense of accomplishment," said Dutton, a veteran of six such teams. "At the end of the day, you can look back and see the fruits of your labor. Overcome and adapt is what all ANTs do."

## Vincennes visits Pearl Harbor



Official U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Dennis C. Cantrell  
USS Vincennes (CG 49) pulls into Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i April 15 for a scheduled port visit. This is the Vincennes last port visit before its decommissioning in San Diego, Calif. Vincennes was commissioned July 1985.

## Pacific Fleet commander visits Sailors aboard Port Royal

Ensign Joseph Powell  
USS Port Royal Public Affairs

Admiral Walter Doran, Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, visited Sailors aboard USS Port Royal (CG 73) March 24.

While on board, he visited numerous spaces, including the recently-installed SQQ-89A(V)15 sonar suite, had lunch with the wardroom and talked to crewmembers about issues in today's Navy.

"Adm. Doran has stressed the tactical importance and critical need for an effective and viable ASW asset in today's ever changing and more complex warfare arena, now more than ever," commented Ensign Peter Flynn, Port Royal's anti-submarine warfare officer. Flynn continued, "With the addition of the SQQ-A(V)15 sonar suite to our capabilities, the best technology is available to the best Sailors. We will be able to support ASW efforts in any operational environment. We are looking forward to finishing testing of the sonar system and eventual deployment."

The SQQ-89A(V)15 suite takes the most modern "off the shelf" processing power and merges it with the best hardware available. The installation included removal of almost all of Port Royal's previous sonar system components, except the sonar dome.

During his visit, Doran also took questions from the wardroom during lunch and discussed a wide range of issues from Sea Swap and the Task



U.S. Navy photo by RP2 Andrea Eastwood  
Adm. Walter F. Doran, Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, is briefed on the new CADRT system aboard USS Port Royal (CG 73) during his March 24 visit.

Force Uniform to the possibility of a carrier being homeported in Hawai'i and the future challenges facing Sailors.

Many of those in attendance were first-tour and second-tour division officers who appreciated Doran's candor about these issues and personal attention.

"I thought that the visit was a very good opportunity to see what the admiral thinks about the effectiveness of the [Expeditionary Strike

Group] concept," said Lt. j.g. Daniel Follett, damage control assistant. Follett added, "His question and answer session with the junior officers was one of the few times I have had the opportunity to speak with a flag officer and get his honest feedback on a lot of questions I had. His thoughts on the new changes in the uniform policy, reduced manning and surge readiness clarified a lot of misconceptions I had about the forthcoming changes."

## Hawai'i celebrates its military members

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i and the Military Affairs Council recognizes the many important contributions made by local communities and businesses in supporting our troops in winning the war on terrorism.

The theme for this year's Hawai'i Military Appreciation Month is, "To honor our fallen heroes, welcome home our returning veterans and pray for the safe return of those who remain in harms way."

Events are as follows:

**April 30-May 7:** Paradise Cove will celebrate "Military Appreciation Week" with special offerings for its standard buffet, Royal Alii Service and deluxe dinners, which include mai tai greeting, arts and crafts, games, shower of flowers, beach hukilau, royal court procession, imu ceremony and a show extravaganza. Tickets are available at all military ITT/ITR offices.

**May 1:** The Bishop Museum will host a "Salute to the Military Day" in paying tribute to the military and their families from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. It will include games, contests, entertainment, exhibits, food booths and more. This will be an opportunity for military families to visit the many treasures in Hawaiian history. Special admission is \$3 for the public with free admission for all military with a valid ID card.

**May 7:** The commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division (L) will host the 9th Annual Twilight Tattoo at Fort DeRussy starting at 4 p.m. The tattoo will feature performances by military marching bands representing the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Hawai'i Army National Guard. The public is invited.

**May 14:** AT&T will sponsor the annual Combined Military Band Concert at the Hawai'i Theatre from 7-8:30 p.m. Top musicians from the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Hawai'i Army National Guard will combine their talents to provide an evening of music ranging from patriotic themes to Broadway tunes. The concert is open to the public. Free tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis starting April 25 at the Hawai'i Theatre and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai'i.

**May 18:** First Hawaiian Bank and Alexander and Baldwin, Inc. will sponsor the annual military recognition luncheon at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel from noon to 1:30 p.m. State government and business leaders, veterans and other residents are invited to join with the chamber in welcoming home troops from Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Airfield, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe, Hickam AFB, Pearl Harbor and other military units. The keynote speaker will be Maj. Gen. Eric Olson, commanding general of the 25th Infantry

Division which is redeploying back to Iraq and Afghanistan. Outstanding community service awards and the chamber's Aloha Spirit Award will be presented. Chamber members and the public are invited to purchase their tickets now for this occasion honoring the men and women returning from the war on terrorism. Call Brenda at 545-4300, ext. 317 or email at [bwatson@cochawaii.org](mailto:bwatson@cochawaii.org) for ticket and table information.

**May 21:** The Hawai'i Army Museum will host its annual "Living History Day" at Fort DeRussy from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will feature hands-on exhibits of military weapons, equipment and insignia used in different periods in history from the U.S. Civil War to the present. See displays of restored vintage military vehicles and field artillery pieces. Visit the Hawai'i Army Museum and see the Gallery of Heroes and the special exhibit on the life of Hawai'i's own, Gen. Eric Shinseki, first American of Asian ancestry to be appointed as the chief of staff of the U.S. Army.

**May 21-22:** The Wahiawa Lions Club will team with the Hawai'i Army Garrison and government, business and civic leaders to host a "Sunset In the Park" to welcome home the Soldiers, Marines and other servicemen and women who recently returned after completing combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. The two-day event will be held on Wheeler Army Airfield and will include games, entertainment and food.

**May 30:** Memorial Day services will be presided over by Mayor Mufi Hannemann at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Punchbowl at 9 a.m. and by Gov. Linda Lingle at the Memorial Plaza of the Hawai'i State Veteran's Cemetery in Kaneohe starting at 1 p.m. The grave sites will be adorned with lei gathered by the school children of Hawai'i.

**June 4:** USO Hawai'i and the City and County of Honolulu plan to welcome home Hawai'i's troops with a military day at the Honolulu Zoo. Military personnel and their families will be admitted free for a fun day at the zoo, including special entertainment and picnic lunch on the grounds.

**Also during the month of May:**

The **Battleship Missouri Memorial Association** will offer 50 percent discounts for active duty, reserve, and retired military and their family members with military ID during the month of May. The Missouri Association is also commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in 2005. From Pearl Harbor to Normandy to the deck of the USS Missouri where the peace treaty was signed in

Tokyo Bay, Japan on Sept. 2, 1945, Americans demonstrated unsurpassed honor, resolve and sacrifice in the face of tyranny, a tradition that is continued today by our men and women of our armed services. The association will host the nation's closing commemorative event on Sept. 2 in honor of all WWII veterans. To honor today's military, the association will offer free admission to all military members during their service's birthday month as follow: Army in June, Coast Guard in August, Air Force in September, Navy in October and Marine Corps in November.

The **Polynesian Cultural Center** will feature its Military Days program on May 13 and 14. Military families will be treated to a fun-filled day at Hawai'i's premier cultural center featuring its island shows, IMAX theatre, buffet dinner and evening show. Discounted tickets are available only at military ITT/ITR offices.

**Atlantis Adventures** will offer special rates for its ever popular submarine cruises on O'ahu, Maui and the Big Island and its Sunset Buffet Dinner Cruise, Royal Sunset Dinner Cruise and Sea Life Park to the military during the month of May. Military members should check with their base MWR ITT/ITR offices for these rates.

The **Honolulu Academy of Arts** will provide several opportunities for the military. The military will enjoy free admission on May 1. On May 27, the military will be extended a low \$5 rate for the Art After Dark event. This month's event is themed "Turkish Delights" and will feature live entertainment, zip-tours of selected galleries, and food and beverages for purchase from 6-9 p.m. The military is also welcome to visit the academy on free admission days, May 4 and 15.

The **50th State Fair** will pay tribute to the military on Memorial Day, May 30 with its annual Military Appreciation Day. All active and retired military members and their dependents will receive free admission by showing their ID cards.

The **Hale Koa Hotel** will present a special showing of Tama and his "Night in Polynesia" show for the military on May 4 at the Banyan Tree Showroom at 6 p.m. The annual Salute to the Military Luau with discounted ticket price will follow on May 19 at the Luau Garden at 5 p.m. Both events will feature special door prizes and giveaways for the military.

**Pearlridge Center** will recognize returning troops and their families, as well as those that remained in Hawai'i. Military families are asked to check announcements by Pearlridge tenants for special offers and discounts throughout the month of May.



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Victoria A. Tullock  
Seventh graders from Island Pacific Academy take notes about the history of Ford Island on part of their tour of various Navy sites.

## Island Pacific Academy students visit Navy sites

JO1 Daniel J. Calderón

Editor

The entire seventh grade class from Island Pacific Academy (IPA) visited Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Ford Island on April 14.

The school opened its doors Sept. 14 and is almost through its first school year. Jennifer Kocek, IPA's seventh grade language arts and math teacher, said the visit and tour to the USS Arizona Memorial and Ford Island were great assets for the students.

She said oral traditions are just as important as written documents when it comes to understanding the history and culture of a group of people.

"We're working on storytelling as historical documentation," Kocek explained. "If you really want to know about a culture, read the stories. Listen to people who were there. Historians don't [always] give you the feel for what was happening."

Instead of focusing exclusively on facts, the students listened to oral histories from Pearl Harbor survivors at the Arizona Memorial Visitors Center and to the account on the video before they went to the Memorial itself.

"When we were out on the memorial, one of the boys asked me, 'How can people come out here and smile? How can they smile and laugh?'" Kocek said. "I think that was important. It shows an incredible depth of understanding and empathy for a 12-year-old."

Other students said they appreciated the opportunity to see and learn from the survivors and historic information at the Memorial and on the Ford Island tour.

"It was good to be able to put history in a personal perspective," said Muriah, an IPA student. "This will help me build my characters and help me craft my story."

The kids were working on an extended story based on what they learned about the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and other military sites on the island of Oahu while on the tours.

"The goal of today is for them to learn to research from personal testimony, from film,



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Victoria A. Tullock  
Jennifer Kocek, a teacher at Island Pacific Academy of Language Arts and Math, enjoys lunch at the Rainbow Bay Marina pavilion.

from museum artifacts and from personal experience," Kocek explained. "They have to learn that research isn't just relying on what someone else wrote. For this exercise, they have to take the information they receive and craft it into a story."

Kocek wants the students to learn of the importance and the power of language and perspective.

"They can take the information and look at it from the position of a Japanese pilot who was attacking or from the eyes of a Japanese or American child who witnessed the attack or even from the view of one single Sailor," she said. "You have to put yourself in someone else's shoes."

Kocek is trying to teach the students they will be the voice of the future.

"They are going to be the creators of the mythology for the next generation," Kocek said. "If they are going to be the spokespersons of what it's like to be 12 years old, then they have to find their voice and they have to learn to use it."

## COMSUBPAC: Sullivan retires after 35 years

Continued from A-1

Recalling that Pier Sierra 9 was the first place he came ashore in Hawaii on his first submarine, USS Caiman, he said, "The emotions swirling through my head today are very similar to what I felt over three decades ago. This time I have no thoughts of apprehension, but of only joy. I'm overwhelmed at the responsibility I've had, and I'm deeply proud to be a part of such a great team. I am very honored that I was given such a wonderful opportunity to serve our Nation."

According to Cassias, he is looking forward to taking charge of the Pacific Fleet submarine force. "I have been impressed by your professionalism and devotion to duty, and I look forward to working with you. The submarine force today is as rele-

vant as it ever has been, particularly here in the Pacific. I have great faith in each and everyone of you and I am confident that you will rise to all of the exciting challenges that you will face during my tour," said Cassias.

As the COMSUBPAC commander, Sullivan was responsible for more than 9,300 Navy and civilian personnel, 25 nuclear-powered attack submarines, seven ballistic missile submarines, two guided missile (SSGN) submarines, one support ship, and one deep salvage rescue vessel. The homeports include Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Bangor, Wash., San Diego, Calif., and Guam.

While serving as the Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet from August 2003, Sullivan was instrumental in implement-

ing the SSGN program. The converted ballistic missile submarines can accommodate up to 60 Special Forces personnel and a weapons payload of more than 150 Tomahawk missiles.

In October 2004, the 'Silent Hammer' experiment off the coast of San Diego demonstrated how a network of ground forces sea-based on an SSGN can fill joint gaps in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and time-sensitive strike by conducting a large scale clandestine operation using unmanned organic systems (unmanned aerial vehicles and unmanned underwater vehicles) to increase capabilities and reduce risk.

Sullivan was also the guest speaker when Sailors paid tribute to USS Parche (SSN 683) and its 30-plus years of

service to the U.S. Navy during a decommissioning and change of command ceremony at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) Oct. 19, 2004. Throughout its 30-year career, Parche earned numerous accolades, including nine Presidential Unit Citations and 10 Navy Unit Commendations.

Cassias' previous assignment was as Commander Submarine Group Ten, Commander Submarine Group Two and Commander Navy Region Northeast. His sea tours have included USS Haddock (SSN 621), USS Parche (SSN 683), USS Hawkbill (SSN 666), and USS Puffer (SSN 652), and he served as commanding officer, USS Birmingham (SSN 695) from April 1992 to November 1994.



U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Li Cohen

U.S. Navy Reserve Cmdr. Gail Myers, (front), along with other members of Task Force New Horizons, delivers humanitarian relief supplies from the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp to schools and orphanages damaged during the hurricane season 2004, in Haiti.

## Task Force New Horizons delivers Project Handclasp donations to Haitians

**Commander  
U.S. Naval Forces  
Southern Command  
Public Affairs**

U.S. military members of Task Force New Horizons (NH) delivered more than 9,000 pounds of humanitarian supplies from the U.S. Navy's Project Handclasp to eight schools, one hospital and two orphanages in Haiti on April 15.

The volunteers delivering donations included members from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1, Gulfport, Miss.; the U.S. Army's 699th Engineering Company, Ft. Buchanan, P.R.; 400th Military Police from Ft. Meade, Md.; and the 176th Medical Group from Garden Grove, Calif. The U.S. Marine Corps' 4th Civil Affairs Group, Washington, D.C., coordinated the activity and provided Creole-speaking interpreters.

The donations, which included hygiene and medical products, books, clothes and toys were transported from the Project Handclasp warehouses in San Diego across the United States on a C-130 from Fleet Logistic Support Squadron (VR) 55, Point Mugu, Calif. In Mayport, Fla., Commander, Task Force (CTF) 43 arranged for further transfer to Port-au-Prince and then to Gonaives.

"We heard of the need to transport these humanitarian relief supplies and quickly identified a space 'A' [available] flight capable of taking all the cargo," said Lt. Cmdr. Pete Frankenfield, the aircraft commander of the C-130 that transported the donations to Mayport.

Once the material arrived at

its intended destination, Marine Gunnery Sgt. Carlton Gray from the 4th Civil Affairs Support Group, Washington, D.C., organized the sorting and delivery of the donations.

"The staff worked hard to unload two 40-foot containers and sort through the materials," said Capt. Doug Taylor, commander, U.S. Task Force New Horizons. "This will help people here a bunch."

Since he arrived in Haiti, Gray has spent his energy learning about the needs of the community and identifying the best ways to help.

"We knew the needs of several organizations that meet our requirements to receive donations," said Gray. "These schools were devastated during last year's hurricane; the parents cannot afford to pay tuition and the teachers have not received a salary for months, but they are still there trying to make it through with the children."

In the makeshift classrooms, the students and teachers overcame language barriers to show their gratitude with handshakes, smiles and hugs.

New Horizons Haiti is one of the four humanitarian and civic assistance exercises sponsored this year by U.S. Southern Command in Central America and the Caribbean. As part of New Horizons Haiti, a combined task force is deployed to Haiti to build three schools, drill three potable water wells and provide free medical attention through three medical readiness training exercises.

The NH Haiti provides an excellent opportunity for the U.S. forces to refine engineering and medical skills while assisting the people of Gonaives.

## Navy electricians provide training for Army personnel

Denise Emsley

NAVFAC Hawai'i

Public Affairs

Do people have one or two shadows? The usual answer is one; however, the high voltage electricians of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawai'i (NAVFAC Hawai'i) have had two shadows, off and on, since the end of November.

This was when military personnel from the Army's 249th Engineering Battalion (Prime Power) began shadowing some of the Navy's civilian utilities experts to gain more "hands on" experience working with electrical distribution systems.

Last fall, the Battalion's 1st Detachment, A Company, located at Schofield Barracks and scheduled to deploy to Iraq in early spring of 2005, requested assistance from NAVFAC Hawai'i. They were looking for additional knowledge and practical experience for their personnel prior to departure. As a result, a number of Army personnel qualified for high voltage work with at least five to 10 years of experience have successfully trained with NAVFAC Hawai'i civilians with more than 20 years of experience.

"We have been working with Soldiers of the 249th Engineering Battalion for some time now," said Richard Abel, electrician high voltage leader. "What we are offering is an opportunity to exercise their knowledge and do some hands on work under safe conditions."

The areas of high voltage work in which Army personnel are interested in obtaining practical experience include: overhead high voltage distribution, underground high voltage distribution, preventive maintenance of high voltage transformers and switchgear, relays and meters.

"The military personnel get free training and NAVFAC Hawai'i benefits from their labor hours," said Abel. "We have them working with us setting utility poles, surveying for portable generator use for scheduled outages, installing security lighting, troubleshooting faulted circuits, and up in basket trucks doing de-energized work."

The Army personnel from the 249th Engineering Battalion (Prime Power) rotate in and out of NAVFAC Hawai'i about every two weeks according to their training schedules.

"Working with the high voltage guys at NAVFAC Hawai'i has been instrumental in allowing us to train on overhead HV distribution," said Staff Sgt. Randy Egner. "This is a skill which we don't have too many opportunities to practice and there is a

### Wooden utility poles and termites

The lifespan of a wooden utility pole is dependent on a number of factors.

1. The type of soil - Wooden utility poles tend to last longer in coral, as opposed to top soil.

2. How much ground water is present - If the area around a pole is watered frequently, termites are more likely to be present since they like moist soil better than dry.

3. Luck - In some cases, it is just plain luck. Termites may not chew into one pole, but will choose one a short distance away and do a lot of damage. In one case, a wooden utility pole, only a single span away from another, was eaten up in five years whereas the other stood for 40 years and was never attacked by termites.

To help combat termite damage, NAVFAC Hawai'i has been installing utility poles with Termimesh. This is a stainless steel sock placed over the base of the new pole.

Termimesh has been used at Pearl Harbor for about 10 years. It prevents termites from getting through the mesh to the underground portion of the pole. It appears to be working well and NAVFAC Hawai'i has yet to replace any pole with the barrier.

Information provided by NAVFAC Hawai'i.

chance we might have to do this type of work in Iraq."

These same Army members preparing for Iraq have also spent time in Afghanistan where they installed overhead electrical distribution for Bagram and Kandahar Air Bases. They expect that upon arrival in Iraq, they will assess and design power for future base camps and troubleshoot power problems in existing base camps as well as troubleshoot Iraqi power problems. Other work the unit has recently been involved in includes hurricane disaster relief in Florida last August/September, tsunami disaster relief in Thailand, Sri Lanka, power plant installation/operation in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and Iraq, and electrical systems inspection/repair at veterans' hospitals.

Although the Army personnel that shadowed Navy civilian high voltage workers have deployed to Iraq, the program remains in place to assist others from the 249th Engineering Battalion (Prime Power) with additional hands on experience. NAVFAC Hawai'i takes pride in serving the country and supporting the war on terrorism by helping prepare military personnel that will be placed in harm's way.

## World War II survivor recalls Pearl Harbor



Photo courtesy of the Fellmann family

On April 15, John Fellmann Sr. of Pleasant Hill, Calif. received a flag that was flown in his honor on Feb. 3 at the Ford Island boat house. Fellmann's son, John Fellmann Jr., put in a request through the Navy Region Public Affairs Office to fly a flag on Ford Island in remembrance of his father's service there during World War II as a torpedoman's mate.

# Hawai'i Navy News Sports

## Let's get ready to rumble

**JO2 Devin Wright**  
Staff Writer

After a long day of working on a 445-foot long, steel-hulled Navy frigate weighing more than 4,000 tons one officer likes to unwind in a 24 square-foot boxing ring.

Ensign Anne Gibbon assigned to USS Reuben James (FFG57), is ranked second in the nation as a female amateur boxer in the 183-pound weight class.

Gibbon began boxing while a senior at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

"I was looking for a new challenge," she said. "I found it in boxing. I'm always scared when I box, but I do it anyway. Although the object is to beat your opponent, as long as you step in the ring and fight you've won. You face and beat your fears. That's a rewarding feeling for me."

Gibbon has taken her confidence from boxing and applied it to her work as a Navy officer.

"Boxing has made me a more confident person," said Gibbon. "I think some of the crew who has seen tapes of my previous fights on video have a bit more respect for me, because they understand the skill and courage it takes to step in the ring. That's what I look for in a leader."

Gibbon recognizes the violent nature of boxing, but says that is part of her attraction to the sport.

"Boxing is a violent sport," said Gibbon. "But once you get hit a few times you begin to respond to the pain and use it to make you a better boxer."

Gibbon also takes time to teach Sailors aboard the ship some boxing skills.

"I was a wrestler in high school," said Operations Specialist Seaman Richard Jackson assigned to USS Reuben James. "I wanted to take the skills I've learn as a wrestler and incorporate them with boxing. Ensign Gibbon is helping me do that. Apparently she is one of the best female boxers so I have a great opportunity to be trained by her. I respect all the officers onboard the Reuben James but there is an elevated respect for her because she can knock me out," he joked.

In July the International Olympic Committee will vote on whether Women's boxing will be included in the Olympics. If they recognize female boxing Gibbon will try out for the 2008 Olympics. If not, she will begin training for professional bouts in 2007.

### BOXING SMOKER

Friday, 6 May 2005 at Noon  
Held at: Bloch Arena

The Pearl Harbor Surface Navy Association is sponsoring a Boxing Smoker on Friday, May 6 at noon at Bloch Arena.

Boxing USA, Hawai'i will support the event by providing referees, judges, headgear, gloves, etc. and also provide a 'Boxing 101' clinic for participants.

Potential competitors must be fit and undergo a high-risk screening with their command prior to the event.

The fight card includes 15 bouts with boxers - male and female - from at least seven local commands competing in six weight classes.

Trophies will be presented to each winner and a grand prize awarded to the "most outstanding" fighter of the day.

Concessions - to benefit the Navy Ball fund - will be provided.

For more info please contact Capt. David Armitage at david.armitage@navy.mil.



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright  
Ensign Anne Gibbon, assigned to USS Reuben James (FFG 57), practices boxing on the flight deck of the ship with crewmembers. Gibbon is ranked second in the nation in the 183 pound weight class female boxing.

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