



**We will never forget**  
The 9/11 attack is remembered.  
See story on page A-9.

## Conference brings Asia Pacific submariners together

**Story and photo by**  
**JOC(SW/AW) David Rush**  
*Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs*

Representatives from 15 nations attended the fifth annual Asia Pacific Submarine Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii, Sept. 12-15.

The conference, hosted by Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (SUBPAC), is designed to foster regional cooperation and develop and maintain relationships among Asia Pacific submarine operators in submarine escape and rescue.

"This really is all about being able to support each other from a humanitarian perspective for those of us that serve beneath the sea," said Rear Adm. James Beebe, SUBPAC deputy commander. "It's to make sure we have venues available to hopefully save our Sailors should an

unfortunate event happen." Though the conference had been planned for several months, it came just six weeks after international rescuers sped to the Russian Far East to help free a trapped Priz submarine with seven Russian seamen inside.

"International cooperation in submarine rescue is very useful," said Russian Navy Capt. Anatoliy Suvalov, a participant in the conference. "We need to strengthen our relations in that area."

"When a rescue operation is done and there are people saved, maybe we can find a way to do it even better, but the main idea is to rescue people," he said.

In addition to the successful Priz rescue, participants discussed the rescue efforts following an October 2004, fire aboard the Canadian submarine HMCS Chicoutimi.

They also discussed plans for the next Pacific Reach submarine rescue

exercise, as well as highlights from the recent submarine rescue exercise Sorbet Royal in the Mediterranean.

Conference participants included submariners from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, Chile, Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Pakistan, India, Russia and China.

Chinese representative Cmdr. Zhang Xu said he was glad to be a part of the conference. "The conference is important because submarine rescue is important," said Xu. "We can work together to develop and improve our capabilities."

Rear Adm. John J. Donnelly, U.S. Pacific Fleet deputy commander, said the conference is essential to submariners in the Pacific, and throughout the world.

"Only through proper readiness and cooperation can we expect to complete a submarine rescue suc-



U.S. Navy photo by JOC(SW/AW) David Rush  
Cmdr. Zhang Xu, People's Liberation Army [Navy] representative, speaks with Chet Young, plans and policies Director for Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Representatives from 15 countries attended the fifth annual Asia Pacific Submarine Conference in Oahu, Hawai'i, from Sept. 12-15. "Although we train and practice extensively for submarine casualties, we pray that these events will never occur."



**Zound of music**  
Sailors and family members rock.  
See story on page B-1.

## Home at last



U.S. Navy photo by J03 Ryan McGinley

Master-at-Arms 1st Class (AW/AC) Joshua Johnson, assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor Security, says hello to his son and wife after returning from an eight month deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. More than 25 Sailors from security deployed in February in support of the war on terrorism.

## Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

### Volunteers needed for Navy JROTC triathlon

James Campbell High School's Navy Junior Recruit Officers Training Corps needs volunteers to assist with its annual Campbell Triathlon at Richardson Pool complex Sept. 24 starting at 7:30 a.m. About 10 teams comprised of 40 cadets will compete in an 800-meter swim, 1.5 mile run, basketball throw, two-minutes of sit-up and two-minutes of push-ups. Interested volunteers should e-mail Linda Naki at C A M P B E L L - H I @smail04.cnet.navy.mil or 689-1215, ext. 2295, with names, position volunteering for, phone numbers and T-shirt size.

### Golf tournament

Naval Station Pearl Harbor is hosting a golf tournament at 12:15 p.m. Sept. 22 at the Kaneohe Bay Golf Course. The \$15 Entry Fee includes entry into a raffle.

Raffle prizes include rounds of golf, dinner and a variety of gift certificates. Register by Sept. 20 by calling 473-4161.

### Sea Cadets

Battleship Missouri Sea Cadet Division is looking for a new commanding officer for the Hawai'i unit. If interested, call 356-6030.

## USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) returns

**Ensign Kathleen Kunkemoeller**  
*USS Paul Hamilton Public Affairs*

The crew and officers of USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) returned to Pearl Harbor Sept. 8 after completing a Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) deployment. While away from homeport, the Sailors trained with numerous Southeast Asian navies to foster relations in support of the war on terror.

This summer, Paul Hamilton along with the USS Harpers Ferry, USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43), USS Safeguard and USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG 60), visited Singapore, Thailand, Brunei and the Philippine Islands. In each country, the multi-national forces sailed together conducting seamanship events, helicopter operations, and various maritime exercises in the South China Sea. It was a unique deployment because the ships spent a signif-

icant amount of time in foreign ports while finalizing operational details, being ambassadors of the United States and the United States Navy.

The CARAT deployment also gave Sailors the opportunity to participate in community service projects and athletic events, as well as experience the local culture. In addition to the countries visited Paul Hamilton Sailors enjoyed liberty in Guam and Okinawa, Japan. Over the course of the deployment, eight babies were born to members of the crew, 26 enlisted surface warfare specialist (ESWS) qualifications were earned, and thousands of miles were traveled. Paul Hamilton Sailors participated in 27 sea and anchor details and four multi-national exercises.

Following the conclusion of post-deployment leave and upkeep, Paul Hamilton expects to begin the unit level training phase in mid-October.



U.S. Navy photo by J02 Devin Wright

A USS O'Kane (DDG 77) Sailor places a mooring line on pier 13 at Pearl Harbor as a family and friends welcome more than 300 Sailors of the Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) home Sept. 8 from a four-and-a-half-month deployment.



Commander  
Navy Region  
Hawai'i  
congratulates  
Hawai'i's  
newest  
Chief Petty  
Officers

# COMPACFLT starts command PT sessions

**JOSA Byung K. Cho**  
U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The U.S. Pacific Fleet staff held its first command physical training (PT) session Sept. 12 to start putting a higher focus on physical fitness.

The command PT is held Mondays with a directorate-level session on Wednesday and an individual PT on Friday.

"It presents an opportunity for everyone to get in the best possible shape," said Operations Specialist 1st Class (SW) Demetrius Clark, assistant PT coordinator.

"You can't help but get into shape because it forces you to stay in shape," said Draftsman 2nd Class (SW) Ashoka Jangdhari, a Pacific Fleet Sailor participating in the PT.

Clark said the workout was beneficial because everyone had something to gain from the PT sessions, since it would only help them get in better shape and prepare them more for the physical fitness assessment.

The PT session included exer-

cises such as stretching, pushups, sit-ups and a 1.2-mile run. Chief Master-at-Arms (AW) Brett Kittelson, the command PT coordinator, said the exercises for PT would change up for variety, and he would make changes to the program in order to meet the needs of the Sailors participating.

"The coordinator has to maintain a high level of intensity in order for everybody to maintain that motivation," said Jangdhari. "If the coordinator is hyped up, everyone will be hyped up."

"I had a lot of Sailors saying they were glad we got this program off and running," said Clark. "I think it ran smoothly, and I'm positive it will get even better."

"Once we got rolling," said Jangdhari, "everyone got involved singing cadences and things like that."

Clark said the command is flexible with the Sailors' busy schedules and would work with them to encourage participation.

"We want 100 percent of the command in top physical shape," said Clark.



Sailors from Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet run a 1.2-mile run on the Makalapa compound Sept. 12 as part of a command PT program. The program was started with a focus on health and physical fitness as part of a Navy-wide initiative.

## USS Chafee (DDG 90) supports Operation Iraqi Freedom in the Northern Arabian Gulf

**Ensign Sonia E. Honda**  
USS Chafee Public Affairs

It's another 100-plus degree day in the Northern Arabian Gulf (NAG) and Sailors on the guided missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) are hard at work getting ready for another busy day. The galley is bustling with personnel preparing and packaging meals, the visit board search and seizure (VBSS) team is getting dressed out, the air department is preparing the SH-60B helicopters for patrol, and line handlers begin to lower Chafee's rigid hull inflatable boats in the water yet again. This is a typical day for the Sailors of Chafee and HSL-37 - Detachment One, who are currently deployed to the NAG as a member of the USS Nimitz Carrier Strike Group supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Chafee operates in the NAG as part of Task Group (TG) 58.1, a multi-national force conducting maritime security operations under the command of Commodore Hank Miranda, Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Squadron 50 (DESRON 50). Chafee also serves as flagship for Miranda



Members of Chafee's VBSS team look at Chafee from an RHIB.

and his staff. The mission is to set the conditions for security and stability to help provide the Iraqi people the opportunity for self-determination. A key part of this mission is to thwart any attempt to damage the Al Basra Oil Terminal (ABOT) and Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminal (KAAOT). These terminals are a vital component of Iraqi sea-based infrastructure and must be protected to ensure

that oil continues to flow from Iraq. The vast majority of Iraq's oil production is exported by ABOT alone and the economy of Iraq depends heavily on this income.

The job of protecting ABOT and KAAOT does not rest with Chafee alone; there are other U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, coalition and Iraqi vessels that support the mission. Point defense on the terminals is provided by

Detachment 25 from the Naval Mobile Security Unit who live on the platforms and stands watch around the clock. All units work together as TG 58.1 to keep vessels and aircraft outside of security zones around the terminal. TG 58.1 units are prepared to respond with increasing levels of force against any craft that does not heed the security warnings. TG 58.1 units work closely with the Iraqi military. There are Iraqi marines on the terminals and Iraqi patrol boats operate alongside Chafee and the other coalition vessels.

Chafee provides security by maintaining a clear picture of all vessels and aircraft in the area with the help of an array of sensors, lookouts and embarked HSL-37 helicopters. When a vessel approaches the security zones, Chafee takes rapid steps to direct it to alter course away from the area. Chafee is also always ready to bring major weapons to bear and the ship keeps a small caliber action team (SCAT) manned with four topside watches 24 hours. SCAT is ready to respond at a second's notice to any incoming surface threats to Chafee

or to the terminals.

"We have many roles here in the NAG," explained Lt.j.g. Stephen Bower, one of Chafee's boarding officers. "We provide meals to the Sailors on the terminals three times a day, board and search all vessels that approach the platform, and move personnel from platform to platform. Every time we approach a vessel for a boarding operation, all of the VBSS team members know that there is the possibility of danger. However, the knowledge that we are helping to ensure security of these terminals and to help the rebuilding of Iraq is what makes our job worthwhile."

Among the many duties in the NAG, Chafee also provides logistic support to the U.S. Navy security forces on the terminals and to smaller vessels involved in the operation. A key duty involves delivery of three meals a day to the Sailors. Delivery of the meals is an operation that has come to be known as "meals on keels." "I feel that supporting the needs of the Sailors on the oil platforms is a very important part of our mission here," said Chief

Warrant Officer Richard Langley, Chafee's systems test officer. "The Sailors are assigned to the platforms for six months with a very small amount of living and work space. This is not the most obvious part of our mission here, but by Chafee providing the support like this greatly increases the standard of living for the Sailors on the terminal and helps keep them focused on their mission," added Langley. Chafee also is called on to serve as a refueling platform for U.S. Navy coastal patrol ships, U.S. Coast Guard patrol boats and even for Iraqi patrol boats.

"Chafee is proud to be a part of the mine sweeper, ocean mission in the NAG. This is a team sport and we work closely with the coalition and Iraqi forces to perform the mission. Even though the pace of operations is very high, each time another supertanker safely leaves ABOT full of Iraqi oil it is easy for all of us on Chafee to see the difference that we are making. Chafee Sailors really do make this look easy," said Cmdr. John Clausen, Chafee's commanding officer.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Navy responds to Gulf Coast needs - Humanitarian assistance at its finest

FLTCM(AW/SW)  
Jon R. Thompson

Impressive is the only word I can think of to describe the Navy's actions following hurricane Katrina! Every time I turn on the television or open a newspaper I see our Sailors doing incredible things for people they have never met. It's humanitarian assistance at its finest and I've never been more proud of what we, individually and collectively, bring to the table when people are in need. Most Americans are used to hearing about how the Navy helped out people in a foreign land. Today Americans are seeing our capability and generosity up close and personal. To every Sailor in the mix, my hat's off to you all. You are true champions and when you look in the mirror, you should feel very good about what you are doing to help other Americans.

Every day I read about the Navy's contribution to the relief effort. Currently (this may change by the time you read this), we have 19 ships operating either in the Gulf of Mexico or moored pier-side. We are also flying more than 60 helicopters, almost around the clock, delivering anything and everything. Our Seabees are spread throughout our Gulf Coast bases and are working side-by-side with local people to help clear access, restore



FLTCM(AW/SW)  
Jon R. Thompson

power and erect camps and facilities to provide the basics. Our medical teams are saving lives by the minute. I could go on and on about the units involved and I'd still end up missing someone. The bottom line is this team effort, accomplished by active duty and reserve Sailors, is making an immediate and tangible difference and our actions will have a lasting effect on the lives of people who have been thrust into an extremely difficult series of events.

The situation in the Gulf Coast is particularly difficult for our Navy because so many of our bases were also affected. When the evacuation orders were issued, many of our own fled the area. We continue to track missing Sailors and the Navy's Helpline (877-414-5358) is staffed 24 hours per day. The number is for all Navy active duty, Reserve personnel, DON civilians and family members. If you are in contact with someone from the region who has yet to check in and muster, please give him or her the number and have him or her call at once.

Navy Personnel Command has

set up this helpline for Navy members and their families to call for information regarding their loved ones. This line is staffed by active-duty Navy volunteers and has connectivity with Navy, FEMA and other government agencies. They will try their very best to answer questions regarding the status of Navy members, but please be aware that communication in the region is still inconsistent.

To date, Americans are watching their military rise to the occasion here at home. From what I see, we have more than 19,000 military personnel supporting this effort; more than 10,000 alone are Sailors. Another 45,500 Army and Air National Guard members are serving in the affected areas. Many people have already categorized the disaster as the biggest in our country's history. Although the majority of the people have been evacuated from the hardest-hit regions, there are still scores more who need our daily help for food, water, clothing, shelter, etc. Anyway you look at it, the recovery is going to take a long time and we (the Navy) will continue to respond as tasked. This is our charter - always has been, always will be.

As much as I like to boast about our Navy's efforts, I constantly remind myself we are a support organization. The overall lead on military support is U.S. Northern

Command (NORTHCOM) that just happens to be commanded by Adm. Keating. NORTHCOM is also a supporting organization as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the overall lead and they are tasked with the daily assessment of needs and when the Navy provides a ship or unit to help, it's because FEMA has directed the military to perform certain tasks.

Our Navy was perhaps uniquely qualified to provide immediate support. When the hurricane hit, USS Bataan was operating in the Gulf of Mexico. She rode the storm out and as soon as the storm passed, she was on station and ready to respond. Although scheduled to return to Norfolk, the ship's orders were changed and she remained on station. I was delighted to learn that morale was characterized as "extremely high" because each and every crewmember understood the need for their help and the reason they couldn't be released to go home. That's the type of spirit that some forget to mention. That's the type of spirit that bonds us as a Navy and that's the type of spirit that ensures we embody the term, "esprit de corps!"

All our ships and Sailors are providing incredible services, whether that is distributing food and water by LCAC or by staffing afloat hospitals to provide life-saving treatment to patients that

might not otherwise get care.

When the recovery is complete, and the historians write about the military's response and ability to immediately make life better for the people of the Gulf Coast, I'm certain the Navy will be remembered as invaluable. Our Sailors have been responsive, aggressive, inventive and, above all, compassionate. To me, that was always a forgone conclusion, but to many Americans who have never found themselves on the receiving end of our support, they are gaining a firsthand impression that should last a lifetime.

Again shipmates, I couldn't be more proud of your efforts. To each and every man and woman in our Navy who is either directly or indirectly supporting recovery efforts, I thank you from the bottom of my heart and encourage you to keep up the tremendous effort. All eyes are on you and you are showing our Navy in the most favorable light.

For those of you who may not be involved with the relief effort, I would remind you that our country remains at war in Iraq, Afghanistan and the horn of Africa and what you do is critical to that effort as well. None of us are on the sidelines. None of us are expendable. Today is a day to celebrate our unity and revel in the fact that when called, we answer - at home and abroad!



Photo courtesy of White House

President George W. Bush speaks during the Security Council Summit at the United Nations in New York on Sept. 14.

## President addresses United Nations Security Council

United Nations  
Headquarters

President Bush: Thank you, Madam President. I appreciate all the members of the Security Council for participating in this Summit. Our presence here reaffirms the seriousness of the challenges we face, and our determination -- determination to confront them.

We meet just over two months after the terror attacks in London, one year after the terrorist massacre of schoolchildren in Beslan, and four years after the terrorist attack in this city. Acts of terrorism like these emerge from a radical ideology that tolerates no dissent, and justifies the murder of innocent people as the best way to achieve its goals.

Today we support a resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom that condemns the incitement of terrorist acts, and calls on all states to take appropriate steps to end such incitement. I want to thank the prime minister and his government for their hard work on this issue. The United States of America strongly supports the implementation of this resolution.

We have a solemn obligation -- we have a solemn obligation to stop terrorism at its early stages. We have a solemn obligation to defend our citizens against terrorism, to attack terrorist networks and deprive them of any safe haven, to promote an ideology of freedom and tolerance that will refute the dark vision of the terrorists.

We must do all we can to disrupt each stage of planning and support for terrorist

acts. Each of us must act, consistent with past Security Council resolutions, to freeze terrorists' assets; to deny terrorists freedom of movement by using effective border controls and secure travel documents; to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons, including weapons of mass destruction. Each of us must act to share information to prevent a terrorist attack before they happen. The United States will continue to work with and through the Security Council to help all nations meet these commitments.

The United States also reaffirms its commitment to support the prevention of unjust armed conflict, particularly in Africa -- which is why we have joined Algeria, Benin, and Tanzania in co-sponsoring today's second important resolution. We support the need to improve the ability of the African Union and sub-regional organizations to deploy both civilian and military assets to prevent such conflicts. Over the next five years, the United States will provide training for more than 40,000 African peacekeepers as part of a broader initiative by the G-8 countries. We will help train African forces to preserve justice and order in Africa.

Terrorism and armed conflict are not only threats to our security, they're the enemies of development and freedom for millions. To help ensure the 21st century is one of freedom, security, and prosperity -- I want to thank the members of the Security Council for supporting today's resolutions.

A recruiting poster depicts the image of an enlisted female petty officer. Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service WAVES was established in 1942 and paved the way for the future of females in today's Navy. Before 1942 service was limited to men.



Courtesy of U.S. Navy Historical Center

## Hawai'i Navy News

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# Hurricane awareness: After a hurricane - going home

(part 8)

**Karen S. Spangler**

*Assistant Editor*

Although it is now September and Hawai'i has so far been spared a visit from a hurricane this season, don't let your guard down yet. Hurricane season runs until November and there is still plenty of time for one of the storms to head in our direction.

Oahu Civil Defense officials caution island residents against being complacent and urge them to make the necessary preparations. By this time, you should be fully hurricane prepared. You have an emergency plan, everyone in the family knows what to do and your disaster kit is complete and organized. If you have pets, you have made provisions for them in the event that you have to evacuate your home. You're ready.

But after one of the big storms pays a visit, there are also guidelines to follow. Oahu Civil Defense offers helpful information for island residents in the event that a hurricane should pay a visit.

They remind islanders to stay tuned to local radio stations for information before, during and after the hurricane. Radio broadcasts will let you know when the all-clear is given and you may safely return home.

After a storm, telephone traffic will be extremely heavy. Use the telephone only for emergency calls.

Drive only if it is absolutely necessary and be sure to avoid flooded roads and washed-out bridges. Don't sightsee.

Provide assistance to injured or trapped persons. Do not move seriously injured persons unless they are in immediate danger of further injury. Call for help.

When you have been notified by authorities that it is safe to return to your home, you still need to take some basic precautions. Here is a checklist of things that you should do, offered by Oahu Civil Defense:

- Avoid loose or dangling power lines. Report them immediately to the power company, police or fire department.
- Enter your home with caution in the event of damaged utilities or structural damage.
- Beware of insects and animals driven to higher ground by flood water.

- Open windows and doors to ventilate and dry your home.
- Check refrigerated foods for spoilage.
- Take pictures of the damage, both to the house and its contents, for insurance claims.

• Inspect utilities in a damaged home. Malfunctioning utility systems can be dangerous and place you at risk.

• Check for gas leaks. If you hear a blowing or hissing noise or smell gas fumes, open a window and quickly leave the building. Turn off the gas at the outside main valve if you can and call the gas company from a neighbor's home. If you do turn the gas off, it must be turned back on by a professional.

• Check your electrical system for damage. If you see sparks or broken or frayed wires, or if you smell hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician first for advice.

• Check your sewage and water lines for damage. If you suspect that the sewage lines have been damaged, avoid using the commodes and call a plumber. If there is damage to water pipes, contact the water company. Avoid the water from the tap. You can obtain safe water by melting ice cubes.

• After a hurricane, be sure to be extra careful when letting your pet loose outdoors. Make sure that your pet wears an identification tag. As the result of the storm, familiar scents and landmarks may have been altered and your pet could easily become confused and lost. If you should lose your pet, call and visit the Hawaiian Humane Society as soon as possible.

Refer to previous Hawai'i Navy News articles by visiting [www.hawaii.navy.mil](http://www.hawaii.navy.mil) for more hurricane information. Some of the topics that have already been covered include stages of hurricanes, when to evacuate and where to go, your household survival kit, where to get timely information when a hurricane is approaching, and how to make provisions for family pets. The information is intended to provide interesting and helpful information about hurricanes that will help to prepare you in the event that a hurricane



Photo courtesy of Oahu Civil Defense

One of the hundreds of homes ruined in Kauai after Iniki's passing Sept. 11, 1992.

moves toward the Hawaiian Islands.

Additional information about hurricanes and guidelines on hurricane preparedness may be found on Navy Channel 2 and on the Hawai'i Web site: [www.hawaii.navy.mil](http://www.hawaii.navy.mil), in the front pages of your telephone directory and in your Navy Family Housing Resident Handbook.

A hurricane is one of Mother Nature's most formidable foes. That leaves us with only one sensible option - to get ready, just in case. Armed with accurate and helpful information, you will be able to provide for your family's safety and well-being - before, during and after a hurricane.

*(Some information provided by Oahu Civil Defense Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.)*

## Important Telephone Numbers

Emergency police, fire, ambulance 911	HECO Service Center (to report power outages, downed power lines, trees on power lines) 548-7961
Oahu Civil Defense (recorded information) 527-5372	Board of Water Supply trouble-line normal hours 527-5207 after hours 527-5200
Oahu Civil Defense 523-4121	Hawaiian Telcom telephone repair service 611
State Civil Defense 733-4300	The Gas Company emergency service 526-0066
National Weather Service (weather advisories) 973-4381	
American Red Cross 734-2101	

# Navy recruits stand up to storm

Story and photo by

**Jeffrey Nichols**

*Navy Recruiting Command  
Public Affairs*

Navy recruits are not letting anything keep them from their trip to boot camp at Millington, Tenn. As a matter of fact, many are asking to be sent early. On Sept. 9, eight delayed entry program (DEP) members from Louisiana, who were affected by Hurricane Katrina, left for Great Lakes III to begin a new chapter in their lives.

Many DEPpers forced to evacuate their homes because of Hurricane Katrina have called the Navy trying to find out when they can leave to

begin boot camp.

PN1(AW) Robert Castle, Navy Recruiting Command Policy Shop, has been receiving calls from DEPpers wanting information on what they should do. Castle begins the conversation by asking DEPpers if they need anything, have enough food, water and when they would like to leave for boot camp.

"DEPpers are calling us, wanting to leave for boot camp as soon as possible," Castle said. "I am trying to reassure them that we are doing what we can to help them, whether that would be helping with rescheduling of their ship (to boot camp) date, either earlier or later, or just get them transportation out of

the hurricane area."

Mary Roser, a DEPper from Kenner, La. was originally supposed to leave for boot camp on Sept. 19, but found herself evacuating to a church shelter in Jackson, La.

"My mom called me on Sunday morning and told me that we were evacuating. We went to Jackson, La. and it got hit, too," recalled Roser. "After that I got in touch with a Navy Recruiting office. I knew my family was safe and knew my house was ok, so I just wanted to leave."

Cody Conerly, from Abita Springs, La., just north of New Orleans, celebrated his 18th birthday while preparing to leave for boot camp from the Military Entrance

Processing Station (MEPS) Memphis, Tenn. Conerly has two brothers also in the Navy and credits them for his choice of what branch to serve in.

"I was supposed to leave for boot camp on Sept. 20, but when the hurricane hit, we had no phones and I did not know where any recruiters were," Conerly said. "Three trees hit my house and two penetrated my house."

"An hour after the hurricane was over, people had bulldozers on the streets, clearing debris and checking on their neighbors," Conerly continued. "My dad searched and called several hotlines looking for how to get in touch with the closest recruiting office,



PN1(AW) Robert Castle, Navy Recruiting Command Policy Shop, talks with delayed entry program members from Louisiana who were affected by Hurricane Katrina.

and finally got in touch with a recruiting office in Memphis."

After finally contacting the Navy, Conerly's father drove for six hours to get him to the Memphis Military Entrance

Processing Station (MEPS).

Roser is joining the Navy to be a Storekeeper (SK) and Conerly is going to be an Information systems technician (IT).

## Nimitz Sailors spend, sight-see, slam dunk in Dubai

**J03 Felix E. Crosser**  
*USS Nimitz Public Affairs*

Sailors and Marines from the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN 68) visited the United Arab Emirates city of Dubai Sept. 1-6 and spent their free time shopping, sightseeing, and experiencing the local culture.

"The malls were so humongous, and the people there were really nice," said Operations Specialist Seaman Martina Crymes, of Chesapeake, Va. "I had a lot of fun. I wouldn't mind going there again."

Seaman Justin Dodds also visited some of the malls and a movie theater. During the bus ride to the city he said he was impressed with the urban landscape. "There was a lot to look at," said Dodds, a Pittsburgh, Pa., native. "It took me by surprise how modernized everything was."

He said it was fascinating to observe the blending of cultures. "It was weird to see how there were elements of their

culture and elements of ours and how it came together," he added.

Crew members also had the chance to hoop it up in a community relations basketball game with the local police department. Team Nimitz lost, 80-71; however, the local team had the advantage of a professional coach who had worked for the Phoenix Suns, the Thailand national team and the Kuala Lumpur Olympic team, said Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Dufour, Nimitz' coach.

Chief petty officer selectees also helped out their Arab hosts. Sept. 3 they loaded four pallets of medicinal and hygiene supplies on a truck destined for a medical clinic in Ajman, UAE. The supplies were provided by Operation Handclasp, an official program operated by the Navy that delivers donations of humanitarian, educational and other goodwill items donated by American citizens to needy communities around the world.

## Boxer participates in wind envelope training

**LISN Jessica R. Vargas**  
*USS Boxer Public Affairs*

Two CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopters, along with eight personnel from Naval Rotary Wing Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (HX) 21, completed first phase of wind envelope testing aboard USS Boxer (LHD 4) (the "Golden Gator"), off the coast of Hawaii Sept. 5.

Wind envelope testing is designed to obtain and record various wind parameters and directions during flight operations. The information recorded is used to ensure safe take-offs, landings and controllability of the Sea Stallion during future operations aboard amphibious assault ships like Boxer.

This is the first time Sea Stallions have performed wind envelope tests on an LHD-class ship. While the CH-53E Super Stallion was designed to operate aboard amphibious assault ships, CH-53D Sea Stallions are also currently being deployed to Iraq, necessitating tests on those aircraft as well.

"The information we gather during the wind envelope tests will increase the operation capabilities of LHD-class ships," said Boxer's Air Operations Officer, Maj. Timothy R. Gabriel. "This test ensures Boxer crew and pilots are prepared for and can still perform flight operations at the safest level when there is an unexpected change in wind speed and direction."

Wind tests require very close involvement and communication from many different crew members

aboard the "Golden Gator," from the helmsman on the bridge to air traffic controllers in the ship's Helicopter Direction Center.

"Our crew and the squadron members fused together well for this evolution," said Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Richard Ferguson, of Miami, Fla. "The communication for this test was flawless. This level of professionalism made this whole test run go smoothly for all involved."

With safety being one of the most important aspects of naval and air operations, evolutions such as air envelope testing help ensure that all aspects of naval missions are done safely and proficiently.

"This evolution required close focus in all areas of the test," said Air Traffic Controller 2nd Class Derrick Hopson, of Los Angeles, Calif. "Mistakes noticed now save lives later."

HX-21 is based out of Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md., and performs developmental flight testing, including aircraft flying qualities, aircraft performance and aircraft systems testing.

"Boxer's crew merged with us to form a perfect team for this testing," said Maj. Henry Vanderborght, HX-21 Marine test pilot, Patuxent River, Md. "Whenever something unprecedented is being done, it helps to have professionals at the helm."

Boxer, the fourth of seven ships in the Wasp class of large-deck amphibious assault ships, will return to its homeport of San Diego in September. lity is slated for 2019.



U.S. Navy Photo by PH2 class Richard J. Brunson

File photo of CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter.



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Michael D. Kennedy.

The guided missile frigate USS McClusky (FFG 41) discovered one of three 50-foot vessels, which carried 71 Ecuadorians, on board with no master and crew. Deployed as part of a joint inter-agency task force conducting operations in the Eastern Pacific, McClusky and her crew, along with the embarked helicopter detachment and Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment, have saved 299 Ecuadorians within two weeks.

## USS McClusky (FFG 41) rescues 299 Ecuadorians in Eastern Pacific

**Ensign Josh Duggan**  
*USS McClusky Public Affairs*

During two weeks in August, Sailors from USS McClusky (FFG 41) rescued 299 Ecuadorians from three overloaded vessels off the west coast of Central America.

Deployed as part of a joint inter-agency task force conducting operations in the Eastern Pacific, the ship and her crew, along with the embarked helicopter detachment and Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET), are saving lives.

"Saving lives is about the most important mission we can engage in," said Cmdr. Herman T.K. Awai, the ship's commanding officer. "The crew takes enormous pride in saving so many people. Their training and readiness makes these rescues possible."

While on patrol on an evening in early August, McClusky and her embarked helicopter located a nameless, non-flagged 50-foot vessel operating without navigation lights approximately 100 miles off the coast of Guatemala. Several attempts to contact the vessel in both English and Spanish were unsuccessful. Unsure of the vessel's intentions, Awai dis-

patched the embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) to investigate.

Discovered on board were 71 Ecuadorians who reported that the vessel had been deserted a few days earlier by the master and crew. In addition to being dangerously overloaded, the vessel was not suitable for the type of voyage it was undertaking.

After coordination with the government of Guatemala, the Ecuadorians were transferred to Guatemalan authorities for repatriation.

Eleven days later, McClusky spotted the 55-foot Ecuadorian-flagged fishing vessel Lakshmi I 300 miles south of Guatemala. This vessel was also found to be dangerously overloaded, with 166 persons on board.

When McClusky dispatched the LEDET to investigate, those on the vessel, who had started their journey from Ecuador, requested to be taken aboard because of concerns for their own safety. During worsening sea state and weather, McClusky's crew undertook the six-hour operation of transferring each Ecuadorian.

"I was excited to be a part of this valuable mission," said Seaman Alfred Meza of Los Angeles, Calif. who assisted in shuttling the migrants to

McClusky in the ship's rigid hull inflatable boat (RHIB).

Once safely aboard McClusky, the Ecuadorians were provided food, water and a thorough health screening by the ship's medical staff. At the end of their journey, many of the Ecuadorians made it a point to stop and shake the hands of the Sailors who had rescued and looked after them.

Within hours of the departure of the second group of Ecuadorians, McClusky encountered another nameless, non-flagged 55-foot vessel 65 miles off Guatemala. On board the vessel were 62 migrants, who all claimed Ecuadorian nationality and requested to be brought aboard McClusky. After an assessment was made that the vessel was unsafe to continue its voyage, McClusky embarked the Ecuadorians, and arrangements were made for their safe return ashore.

McClusky is an Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate homeported in San Diego and currently has an embarked detachment from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) (HSL) 45, and a U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment.

## SGLI increases for all service members

**JOC Teresa J. Frith**

*Navy Personnel Command  
Communications*

As of Sept. 1, both active-duty and Reserve service members eligible for full-time Service Member's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) automatically became insured for \$400,000, regardless of any previous requests to reduce or decline SGLI.

"Service Members Group Life Insurance has been assisting our country's military personnel and their families for 40 years. The increase in coverage to \$400,000 will make the benefit even more valuable to today's service members," said Charles Strang, director,

Office of Service Members Group Life Insurance, Prudential Financial.

The amount of coverage that can be selected has also changed from increments of \$10,000 to increments of \$50,000. The monthly premium remains \$3.25 per \$50,000 of coverage. Based on this formula, \$26 will be the monthly premium for full coverage.

After Sept. 1, service members may elect to reduce or decline SGLI by filling out form SGLV-8286, which can be downloaded at <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/forms/forms.htm>. Original signatures must appear on all copies, and must be witnessed by an authorized military representative and forwarded to

local personnel support staff. Properly completed forms will be submitted to a payroll office to stop or adjust the deductions for SGLI. Reductions are effective the first day of the month after the form is properly submitted.

These changes will not affect coverage under Family SGLI (FSGLI). To be eligible for spouse and/or family members coverage under FSGLI, service members must keep SGLI in force. The maximum amount of FSGLI remains at \$100,000 and will continue to be available in increments of \$10,000.

Existing beneficiary designations remain effective in the same proportion to \$400,000 and remain effective until a new SGLV-8286

is properly completed.

In another change to the current policy, the member's spouse will be informed if a married member designates a primary beneficiary for his SGLI coverage other than his current lawful spouse. Such an advisory will be made as quickly as possible (within 30 days of the date such selection is submitted by the member), but the notice will not include the name(s) of the actual designated beneficiary(ies). Notices will be sent by first class postal service to the spouse's current address of official record (DEERS).

For more information, visit the Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) Web site at <http://www.insurance.va.gov>



U.S. Navy photo by PH3 Teresa R. Martinez

Tugboats help guide the amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4) away from the pier in Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. Boxer, which recently completed a series of exercises in the Western Pacific and Southeast Asian region, is on her way back to her homeport of San Diego.

## USS Boxer departs Hawai'i with "tigers"

**PH3 Christopher Elmini**

*USS Boxer Public Affairs*

After stopping in Hawai'i for a one-day port visit, USS Boxer (LHD 4), commanded by Capt. Thomas J. Culora, departed Pearl Harbor Sept. 7 and began the final leg of her journey home.

While in Pearl Harbor, Boxer's crew picked up family and friends who will accompany them en route to the ship's homeport in San Diego during a seven-day "tiger cruise."

A "tiger cruise" is an opportunity for Sailors' family and friends to experience a week of Navy life underway. Tigers learn about all aspects of the ship by completing tailored qualifications

and going on tours.

"My mother flew in for the tiger cruise, and I was able to share a lot of the naval history I am proud of with her," said Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Michael Dugan, of Sacramento, Calif.

Boxer is completing her third deployment in three years. During the course of the deployment, the ship participated in a number of events, including underway replenishments with foreign ships, hovercraft troop landings with Australian and Malaysian forces using numerous landing craft, air cushion, and AV-8B Harrier operations. Boxer closed her deployment with air envelope testing with CH-53D helicopters.

## Silver Dolphin open for service



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

Capt. Taylor Skardon, chief of staff, Navy Region Hawai'i and commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, unties a lei signaling the reopening of the Silver Dolphin Bistro. The galley was closed for approximately \$270,000 worth of renovations, which included new flooring, carpeting, seating, landscaping and painting. The Silver Dolphin Bistro is scheduled to become the sole galley for service members Sept. 30 when the Diosodo Rome Galley closes.

# Safeguard begins salvage exercise with Indian Navy

**JOSN Adam R. Cole**  
Task Force 76/USS  
Safeguard Public Affairs

USS Safeguard (ARS 50) began conducting the first-ever salvage exercise (SALVEX) with the Indian navy Sept. 12 in India's western coast city of Cochin and its surrounding waters.

Approximately 200 U.S. Navy and Indian navy personnel are participating in a variety of in-port and at-sea training and events over a nearly two-week period.

"This is an exciting opportunity for all of our Sailors. It's an honor to be able to conduct the first U.S./Indian navy salvage exercise," said Lt. Cmdr. Doyle Hodges, Safeguard's commanding

officer. "The exercises we've performed with partners all over Southeast Asia for the past several months as part of CARAT (exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training) have prepared us well for this. Our Sailors are looking forward to the opportunity to visit India, as well as to work closely with the Indian navy."

The in-port portion of SALVEX will focus on education, with lectures, demonstrations and a tour of an Indian navy diving facility as well as the salvage of a training pontoon in the harbor. This initial learning environment will set the stage for a series of complex at-sea events that will place both navies in several

cooperative scenarios.

Cooperation will be a vital element as both navies work together to salvage a sunken aircraft recently discovered by the Indian navy along the Malabar coast.

Safeguard Sailors will be given some time to enjoy the social and recreational activities of Cochin, India.

During the exercise, Safeguard Sailors will participate in a variety of friendship activities and community service projects.

Safeguard is a forward-deployed rescue-and-salvage ship operating out of Sasebo Japan, and is part of Task Force 76, the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious force.



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force

The only forward-deployed rescue and salvage ship, USS Safeguard (ARS 50), steams off the coast of Kyushu Island. Safeguard, along with USS La Jolla (SSN 701) and the Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicle Mystic are the U.S. Navy participants in Exercise Pacific Reach 2005.

# Bush lauds American Spirit

## on eve of Sept. 11 Anniversary

John D. Banusiewicz  
American Forces Press Service

Sept. 10 on the day before the nation observed the fourth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and as recovery efforts continue along the storm-ravaged Gulf Coast, President Bush praised the American spirit in his weekly radio address.

The president said that as night fell on Sept. 11, 2001, the nation felt grief and sorrow. "Yet we also saw that, while the terrorists could kill the innocent, they could not defeat the spirit of our nation," Bush said.

"The despair and tragedy of that day were overcome by displays of selflessness, courage and compassion. And in the days and weeks that followed, America answered history's call to bring justice to our enemies and to ensure the survival and success of liberty. And that mission continues today."

On the anniversary of the attacks, the nation remembered the fears and uncertainty of Sept. 11, Bush noted. "But above all," he added, "we remember the resolve of our nation to defend our freedom, rebuild a wounded city, and care for our neighbors in need."

The president also spoke of the destruction and misery caused in Gulf Coast states by Hurricane Katrina. "Once more our hearts ache for our fellow citizens, and many are left with questions about the future," he said. "Yet we are again being reminded that adversity brings out the best in the American spirit."

He said citizens have witnessed "the courage and determination of rescue personnel who willingly risk their lives to save the lives of others."

"We have seen the spirit of America's armies of compassion who have rallied in response to this tragedy," Bush noted.

He urged Americans to visit the USA Freedom Corps Web site at [usafreedomcorps.gov](http://usafreedomcorps.gov) to find out how they can help in the recovery effort. "The citizens of the Gulf Coast can count on their fellow Americans in this time of trial, and their government is standing with them, as well," he said.

The nation's collective spirit is good cause for hope, the president said. "Our greatest resource in such times is the compassionate character of the American people, because even the most destructive storm cannot weaken the heart and soul of our nation," he said. "America will overcome this ordeal, and we will be stronger for it."



# Hawai'i Navy News Sports

## Curran orchestrates Navy soccer win over Mount St. Mary's

### Naval Academy Varsity Athletics

All-Patriot League forward Meggie Curran (Silver Spring, Md.) scored a pair of goals and assisted on a third, leading the Navy women's soccer team to a 3-0 victory over Mount St. Mary's on Sept. 6 at the Mount St. Mary's soccer field. The five-point effort by Curran moved her into seventh place on Navy's all-time points scored list with 61, hurdling Nadia Sheikh (1999-02, 57 points) and Michelle Nance (1996-99, 59 points).

Navy dominated the game with its high-powered offensive arsenal and a defense which held Mount St. Mary's to just five shots. The Mids pelted the Mount's keeper Anna Lebo with 24 shots,

including 11 on goal. Meanwhile, the win marked the Mount's first home loss in five games.

"We played with high intensity and pressured them for the entire 90 minutes," said Carin Gabarra, Navy head coach. "Our fitness really made a difference in the game, as well as our depth, and by the end of the game Mount St. Mary's looked tired."

Curran scored the opening goal of the game in the 11th minute where she was on the receiving end of what could be considered her own serve. The third-year starter took the corner kick for the Mids which was cleared out in a scrum. The ball sailed in her direction where she powered in the game-winning goal from 25 yards out.

Navy tacked on a second

goal four minutes later when Curran found teammate Molly Burd (Englewood, Colo.) streaking up the middle and Burd sent the ball past Lebo. Curran salted the game away with her second goal of the contest with Burd returning the favor on the previous goal. Freshman forward Iris Boivin (Pittsburgh, Pa.) and Burd worked together to string a ball to Curran who again shot the ball from up the middle.

Keepers Haley Crain (Friendswood, Texas) and Austin Jones (Nashville, Tenn.) split time in the net with Jones stopping all four of the Mount's shots on goal.

Navy heads into this weekend with a 4-1-2 record and with its televised contest against Stanford just a week away.

"We are where we want to

be with two games remaining before the Stanford contest," Gabarra pointed out. "We've placed our focus on the five games prior to Stanford and working to improve for that contest. Our effort is there and we are starting to become more comfortable playing together."

The Mids travel to New York this weekend Sept. 16 to take part in the Governor's Cup at the University of Albany. The Mids opened the tournament against the host Sept. 13 at 4 p.m. and close out action Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. against Siena. Navy owns a 1-0-0 record against the Great Danes, defeating Albany, 7-2, in Oct. 2002. Meanwhile, Sunday's contest against Siena is the inaugural meeting between the two soccer teams.



Photo courtesy of Naval Academy varsity athletics

All-Patriot League forward Meggie Curran scored a pair of goals and assisted on a third, leading the Navy women's soccer team to a 3-0 victory over Mount St. Mary's on Sept. 6 at the Mount St. Mary's soccer field. The five-point effort by Curran moved her into seventh place on Navy's all-time points scored list with 61, hurdling Nadia Sheikh (1999-02, 57 points) and Michelle Nance (1996-99, 59 points).