

## Torrential rains serve as reminder for emergency preparedness

Karen S. Spangler

Assistant Editor

It wasn't a hurricane or tsunami that struck the islands in the past few weeks, but torrential downpours flooded streets and properties, caused power outages, and created massive mudslides – all creating havoc for the residents of the 50th state.

It served as a reminder that emergency preparedness is vital in our island community, and many residents simply were not ready.

With any type of emergency, the most important thing is to be prepared and be aware. Listen to weather advisories on local radio and television stations.

Take the time to purchase supplies and secure your home. The following checklist will help you to organize a plan:

- Stay tuned to local radio and television stations for official weather and civil defense instructions. Information will also be announced on Navy Channel 2 for housing residents. You may also obtain up-to-date information by calling: Oahu Civil Defense recorded information at 527-5372 and National Weather Service recorded advisories at 973-4381.

- Specify an emergency meeting place where all family members should meet if they should become separated because of severe weather conditions. Make sure that everyone is familiar with the plan of action.

- Fill your car with gas. Check the battery, water and oil and ensure that your vehicle is in dependable working condition.

- Put a survival kit together. Be sure to have flashlights and a portable radio and be certain they are in working condition. Also purchase extra batteries.

- Refill prescription drugs and purchase other necessary medication. Obtain at least 10 days to two weeks' supply of prescription and necessary medicines. Restock your emergency supplies of candles, matches, fuel for camping stoves and lanterns, first aid supplies, pet foods and supplies.

- Make sure that you have at least a five-day supply of non-perishable foods on hand.

- Not only should you have a first aid kit, but be sure to check and replenish first aid supplies at least once a year. Hopefully, you and members of your family have already learned first aid and emergency medical care. Adults and teenagers

are encouraged to take first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation courses. You can also purchase first aid reference guides from the Red Cross.

- Also, if there is someone in your family who has special medical needs, be sure to have a plan and know what to do. If there are medications that require refrigeration, contact your physician and obtain advice on what to do in the event of emergencies or power outages.

Although few medications require refrigeration, those that do (such as pediatric antibiotics and some types of insulin) can be kept in the refrigerator for up to six hours if the door is kept shut. After that period, they should be stored in an ice chest with ice packs or ice.

- Also be sure that you have commercially bottled water on hand or stored tap water on hand. This should be replaced each year. Tap water can be stored in clean, non-corrosive, non-breakable, tightly-covered containers such as gallon-size beverage syrup bottles or soft drink bottles.

- Sterilize containers, such as your bathtub

washing machine, to store drinking water. The bathtub and large containers can also be used to store water for flushing toilets, washing, etc.

- Be sure to have an extra supply of cash on hand. When the power is out, automatic teller machines won't operate.

More information about emergency preparedness can be found on the Navy Region Hawaii's Web site at [www.hawaii.navy.mil](http://www.hawaii.navy.mil) and on Navy Channel 2, in the white pages of your telephone book, and in Hawaiian Electric Company's information-filled

"Handbook for Emergency Preparedness", which is available at the Navy Aloha Center and Fleet and Family Support Center.

(Some information provided by Oahu Civil Defense.)



U.S. Navy photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane  
Due to torrential rain, rock slides on Kolekole Pass were responsible for blocking the road before workers were able to remove the rubble. Similar rock and mud slides occurred throughout the islands.

## Hawaii Navy News Briefs

### Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is teaming up with Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel for a building project in Waimanalo, April 29. Participants will meet at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel parking lot at 7 a.m., April 29 and carpool to the construction site in Waimanalo. Some transportation will be provided. The chapel is limited to 20 participants for the project. If you are interested, contact Lt. Fred Holcombe, CHC at 473-3971 or 3972 before April 22.

### Road construction

Between April 1-May 31, there will be delays in vehicle and pedestrian traffic near the NEX due to road improvements on Bougainville Drive and the Bougainville/Valkenburg h intersection. The construction will affect the following NEX areas: Home Gallery, Outdoor Living Center, Pet Stop, customer pick-up and nearby areas.

### Earthday coloring contest

Military family members who are 10 years old or younger are invited to enter the Navy Earth Day Coloring Contest, co-sponsored by Navy Region Hawaii and the Navy Exchange. Entries may be picked up and turned in at the NEX Mall customer service counter. All entries will be posted and prizes will be awarded to all winners at the 2006 Navy Earth Day Fair at 1130, April 22, at The Mall at Pearl Harbor.

## SBX back at Pearl Harbor



U.S. Navy photo by JOC (SW) Joe Kane  
The Sea-Based X Band Radar (SBX) returned to Pearl Harbor on Tuesday after experiencing some mechanical difficulties. According to the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) since SBX was still in close proximity to Oahu, it was decided to do the repair work in Pearl Harbor rather than out at sea. The SBX is an asset of MDA and was assembled in Corpus Christi, Texas. It arrived in Pearl Harbor in January to conduct planned repairs and refurbishment and it left last Friday for its homeport of Adak, Alaska.

## Unit's dentists link clues to mystery of military's fallen

SSG Erika Ruthman

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command

Lt. Col. Walter Henry never dreamed his Army career as a dentist would lead him to a job where he would get to help identify Americans missing-in-action from the nation's past conflict.

Henry is one of only three odontologists working as forensic dentists at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC). JPAC is charged with a full accounting of the estimated 88,000 Americans who never returned home from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War and the Gulf War.

JPAC teams deploy worldwide to sites where clues for unaccounted-for Americans may be located to recover evidence including coat buttons, bone fragments and dog tags. All evidence that is found at each site is scientifically examined and paired with historical documents in an effort to identify missing Americans so they can be returned to their families and buried with full military honors.

In about 25 percent of all cases,

JPAC teams return with dental remains. That's when JPAC odontologists come into play. Dental remains often offer the best means available to positively identify an individual because teeth are durable and unique from person to person.

"Enamel found in teeth is the hardest natural tissue found in the body and some of the restorative

[dental] materials such as gold, porcelain, amalgam are harder than enamel. Usually, teeth will endure a disaster, which can help in the identification," Army Lt. Col. Gregory Silver, JPAC odontologist said.

The process of matching teeth to a particular person begins by compiling a list of MIAs who might be linked to remains of teeth found at a

site. Forensic dentists then re-create dental records based on the teeth 'found in the field' and compare that with historical dental charts. The goal is to find a match with a MIA or exclude MIAs who teeth do not match.

"The average person has 32 teeth and each tooth has five surfaces to be restored in various combinations. This will give a huge number of possibilities [in an identification]," Silver said. "Dental remains will quickly tell you who someone is or is not."

While teeth are often critical to the identification process, Torske emphasized that dental work is only a portion of the overall picture.

Dental remains analyzed by JPAC forensic dentists offer another line of evidence to strengthen the case to help identify a missing person, but the final identification is a team effort that involves combining all available evidence.

"Along with anthropology," Torske said, "material evidence, mitochondrial DNA and historical information, dental [evidence] simply offers another piece of the puzzle in the complex act of identifying historic human remains."



U.S. Navy photo by J02 Elizabeth A. Edwards  
Odontologist Lt. Col. Gregory Silver of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command's Central Identification Laboratory examines a partially edentulous mandible.

# Damage control training - take one

Story and photo by  
PH1(AW/SW)  
James E. Foehl

Photojournalist

Sailors from Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) hosted a video crew this week from Film House, Inc, a Nashville-based Department of Defense contractor for the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS).

The six-person video production crew spent two days filming at the NSTCP wet trainer and fire fighting trainer facilities on Ford Island to document damage control training for a video which will be used to spotlight the damage controlman rating.

Through quality radio and television broadcasting, AFRTS communicates Department of Defense policies, priorities, programs, goals and initiatives.

"We are here because of the importance of the damage controlman's mission," said Brian Kumia, AFRTS military advisor, "to show that they perform a mission that's important to the survivability of ships [and] submarines."

NSTCP provides damage control training for all submarines stationed at Pearl Harbor and offers six different damage control related courses which are taught by running various scenarios through the wet trainer and fire fighting trainers.

"Our job is to teach the fleet how to save their ship and give [Sailors] the best training they can possibly get," said Boiler Technician 1st Class Troy Potter, damage control instructor for NTSCP.

According to Kumia, the video production is expected to be completed by fall this year and will be aired intermittently worldwide over the next five years on the Armed Forces Network.



Joe Gutt and Tom Page, cameramen from Film House, Inc. (a Nashville-based Department of Defense contractor for the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service), document Sailors performing damage control training at the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific. The video documentation will be used to produce a segment spotlighting the damage controlman rating, which will be aired worldwide on the American Forces Network.



Tom Page, cameraman from Film House, Inc. (a Nashville-based Department of Defense contractor for the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service), document Sailors gearing up to perform damage control training at the Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific. The cameras continue to roll as Sailors don fire equipment and prepare for action.



Staying close to the action, Joe Gutt, director and cameraman, videotapes close ups of pipe patching in the NSTCP wet trainer

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Control debt, don't let it control you

**Pacific Fleet Master Chief (SS/SW) Rick West**



FLTCM(SS/SW) Rick West

Hoo-yah, Warriors! I just got my tax refund and have it headed toward the retirement fund. But since I'm not quite ready for a walk-er yet, maybe a little chunk of it will go for something special.

My refund also got me thinking about my younger (and maybe a few not-so-younger) Sailors out there and what they plan to do with their tax refunds. I'm sad to say many will be applying it toward overwhelming debt.

Too many of our warriors continue to overextend themselves into deep debt - some because of a series of tough breaks and some because of a series of bad choices or mismanagement. Hopefully, you read my column a couple of weeks ago about payday pirates.

How do you know if you are or could be in trouble? Some good clues are:

- 20 percent or more of your take-home pay goes to installment debt payments like credit cards.
- You are habitually late paying bills.
- You have completely lost track of what you owe and how much it is actually costing you.
- You are living from paycheck to paycheck.
- So you are hopelessly in debt (at least you think you are) or quickly

headed that way. Creditors are calling, there's a tow truck suspiciously following your car, and you are completely stressed out.

What to do? OK, here's what.

First and foremost, go see your command financial counselor (CFC). These folks are trained to help you out of these problems. Another option is to go to the local Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) and talk to their financial counselors. This is the fastest, easiest way I know to get your situation under control. They are there to assist you.

Now make a list of what you currently owe, to who and what the monthly payment is.

Granted, for some the resulting list might throw them into shock, but it gives you the reality of your situation and helps you figure out how much work you have to do.

Next you have to prioritize the debts. Loans that might result in repossessions or foreclosures need your immediate attention. Debts with the highest interest rates will probably come in second. And then you work your way down from there. Just remember that the CFS

or FFSC counselor can help you figure all this out.

Now we come to the part everyone seems to have trouble with - budgeting. You need a plan. At first you need an emergency plan to get your debt under control. This puts more income toward debt reduction and less toward things you thought were more important - fewer runs to the mini-mart, more payment on the credit card.

As you develop your budget, you'll start to see where the money is going and nine times out of 10, you will realize you've been wasting a lot of your money. This will help, trust me.

OK, we've listed debt, prioritized it and now have a budgeted spending plan. A great start, but there's more.

Now you need to contact your creditors and tell them what the deal is and how you want to fix it.

Most of them will work with you to help pay off your debts. It's cheaper for them in the long run to work with you.

Listen to their proposals and negotiate a workable solution. Never blow off the payments though. Talk to them about partial or smaller payments. Again, they will work with you to get something over nothing.

Now comes the really hard part - breaking out the scissors and getting rid of the plastic. Using the

cards only increases your debt, so live on cash or checks for now. If you don't have the funds to cover a check, don't bounce it. Live without whatever you were going to buy.

The best idea is to give yourself a small allowance instead of using credit cards. Once that runs out, you're done spending. If you have leftover allowance, it should go to debt reduction or savings, not into the next week's allowance.

You have a plan now, and it's working. You're on the way out of debt. Great! You're done.

Not exactly.

You're doing great to work yourself out of the problem, but now you need to train yourself not to get back into debt.

You need to learn how to spend smarter. That budget you worked up? It needs to change into your everyday spending plan so you can now manage your money more effectively. There are some other things you can do to help yourself:

- Control spending. Stop the impulse buying; it really adds up. And don't use the credit cards just because you don't have cash.
- Get the most for your money. Get something that has a real purpose and will last. Use coupons and wait on the sales. If there's a rebate, take it.
- Create a cash reserve and then leave it alone. This is for emergencies, illnesses, unforeseen

bills, etc.

- Start saving. You need to remember to pay yourself and that means saving - IRAs, savings accounts, TSP, investments. Plan for the future by saving consistently in small amounts. As your income increases, increase your savings. I know it's not cool or fun to hear about dull things like savings or IRA accounts, but trust me, they'll become really cool in a few years.

- Live within your means. Do you really need that 72-inch big screen that costs \$5,000?

I'll get off the soap box now by just saying that we can't always afford what we want. But if we focus on the needs now, the wants will probably come along a little bit later.

But for the here and now, if you are in over your head, your Navy is standing by to help you out. Go see that CFS or financial counselor at the FFSC and get back on track.

And while you are at FFSC, try out some of the investing, home buying and retirement planning classes they offer. I know your bank account will be better off for it. Hoo-yah!

Fleet tip: If you have never been to FFSC to see what they offer, I recommend you do. They are there to help. Keep charging and keep up the great work. Stay healthy. Stay fit. Stay Navy.

Commentary

## Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

### Extension cords the shocking truth

**Victor Flint**

Federal Fire Department

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 the three-prong plugged type of extension cord. 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 short out.
  - Do not run extension cords through a puddle of water or under water or attached 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're finished, unplug the extension cord at the power end (plug to outlet).

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

## The fight to save USS Oklahoma



U.S. Navy historical photo

The ship Oklahoma was righted to about 30 degrees, on 29 March 1943, while she was under salvage at Pearl Harbor. She had capsized and sunk after receiving massive torpedo damage during the December 7, 1941 Japanese air raid. Ford Island is at right and the Pearl Harbor Navy Yard is in the left distance.

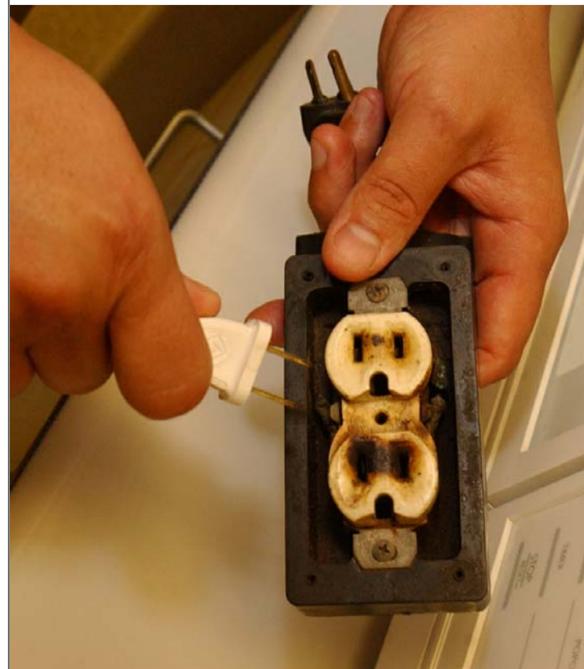


Photo courtesy of Federal Fire Department

Misuse and/or abusing extension cords causes numerous fires in government housing every year. Extension cords are to be used as temporary wiring only.

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Comman in The Spotlight

# JPAC

## THE JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND



### History:

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) was created from the merger of the 30-year-old U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawai'i, and the 11-year-old Joint Task Force - Full Accounting. This 425-person organization is committed and dedicated to bringing home the nation's service members and civilians who made the ultimate sacrifice.

### Mission:

JPAC, located on the island of Oahu in Hawai'i, was activated on Oct. 1, 2003. JPAC's mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans missing as a result of our nation's previous conflicts.

"Of my 13-year career, working at JPAC is the best duty assignment I have ever had because I get to work with the families of POWs and MIAs and bring home fallen service members. It is truly an honor."

- Cmdr. Kevin Torske, senior forensic dentist, JPAC





# FLEET ACTION



*“Our presence during the exercise is a visible, tangible expression of our nation’s commitment to their [ROK’s] defense.”*

- Cmdr. Glen Leverette

## Carrier Strike Group Nine participates in Foal Eagle 2006

J01 Joaquin Juatai

USS Abraham Lincoln  
Public Affairs

Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 9, led by Rear Adm. J. W. Goodwin embarked on USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), is currently participating in reception staging onward movement and integration and Foal Eagle 2006 (RSOI/FE 06), which began March 26 and ran through March.

The exercise was designed to demonstrate U.S. resolve to support the Republic of Korea (ROK) while improv-

ing overall readiness.

“The exercise will also helped teach, coach and mentor junior military personnel while exercising senior leaders’ decision-making capabilities,” said Goodwin.

CSG 9 includes Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 9, Abraham Lincoln, the guided-missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay (CG 53), and the guide-missile destroyers USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS Shoup (DDG 86).

“Foal Eagle provides the Abraham Lincoln Strike Group the opportunity to

continue developing its partnerships with nations in the region to enhance security,” said Capt. C. A. McCawley, Abraham Lincoln’s commanding officer.

Cmdr. Glen Leverette of Commander, Task Force 70 (CTF 70) based in Yokosuka, Japan, described Lincoln’s role in RSOI/FE 06 as a vital one.

“Lincoln is here to support theater security, cooperation and engagement with the ROK and to reinforce the alliance we have,” Leverette said. “Our presence during the exercise is a visible, tangible expression of our

nation’s commitment to their [ROK’s] defense.”

According to Leverette, the war-fighting skill sets Lincoln and CVW-2 rehearsed included close-air support for ground units, air-to-air defense exercises, maritime inter-operability training and expeditionary operations.

“An exercise like this crystallizes Lincoln’s role as a command-and-control node,” said Leverette. “Without Lincoln’s communications suite and connectivity, this exercise would be nearly impossible to conduct.”

Leverette stated that Foal Eagle is the largest concentration of surface and air forces that participate in field training exercises on the Korean Peninsula.

“It involves more than 70 ships, 70 to 80 aircraft and all four services of both the U.S. and ROK armed forces. Everyone is involved,” Leverette added.

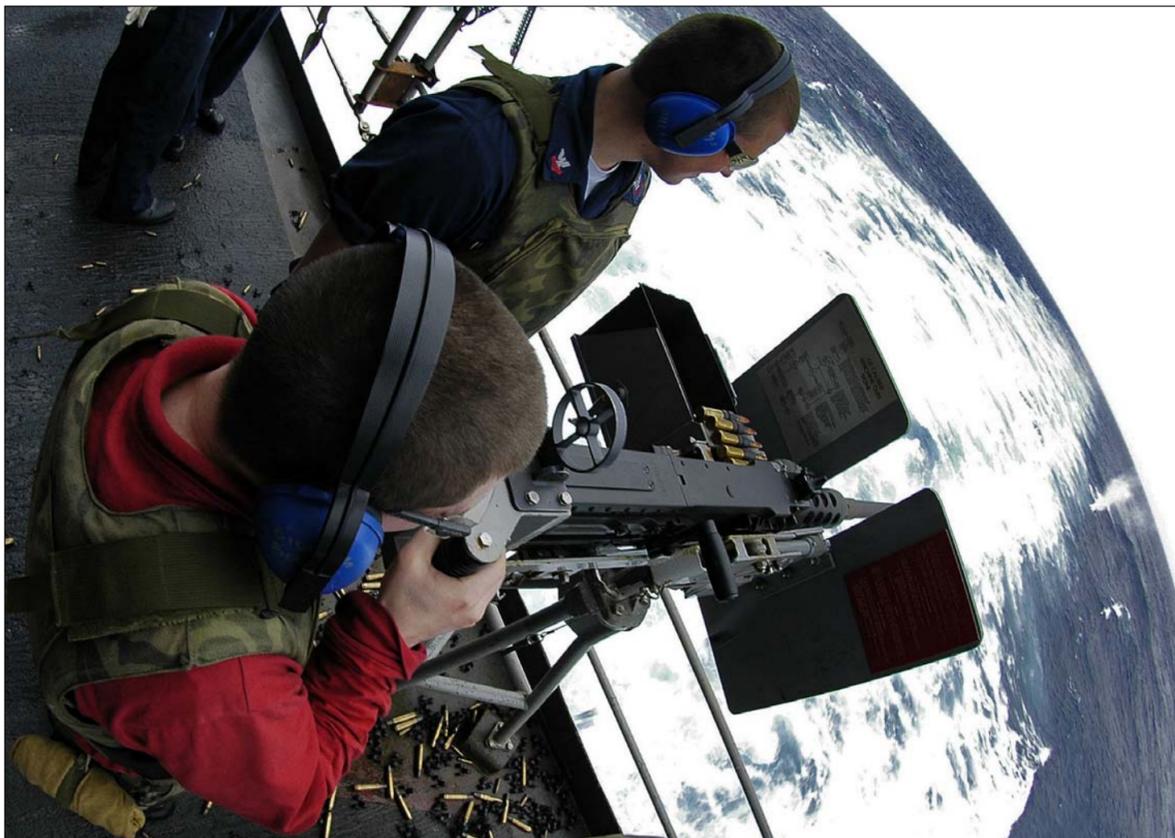
The ROK and U.S. navies conducted an officer exchange program during the exercise. Five ROK naval officers embarked Abraham Lincoln to train with the ship’s crew.

Gen. B. B. Bell, command-

er, U.S. Forces Korea, said Foal Eagle presented a great training opportunity, and urged leaders to be familiar with the risks involved.

“The success of this exercise will be measured, among other things, by how safely we conduct the operation,” said Bell.

CSG 9 is on a routine deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR) to conduct maritime security operations and to train with its coalition partners to improve the ability to operate with naval forces from many nations.





Eight HMAS Arunta sailors (in gray) swapped places with eight USS Reuben James Sailors for four hours as part of the PASSEX exercise. Such exchanges strengthen ties between the two countries and afford Sailors a unique opportunity to observe life at sea on a foreign ship.

## USS Reuben James participates in PASSEX with Royal Australian Navy

Story and photo by  
Ensign Jon Derges

USS Reuben James (FFG 57)  
Public Affairs

The Pearl Harbor-based, guided-missile frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) participated in a passing exercise (PASSEX) with the Royal Australian Navy on March 29 following a port visit to Sydney, Australia. Reuben James met up with HMAS Arunta (FFH 151) to participate in the PASSEX. During the exercise, the two ships conducted electronic warfare, communications, tactical maneuvering and helicopter inter-operability exercises.

In conjunction with the PASSEX, the two ships exchanged eight crew members for four hours. Such exchanges strengthen ties between the two countries and afford Sailors a unique opportunity to observe life at sea on a foreign ship.

"It was a great opportunity to meet someone from a different navy," said Gas Turbine Systems Technician

(Electrical) (SW) 3rd Class Israel Gonzalez-Montoya. "The Australian seaman [I hosted], who also worked in engineering on diesel engines, said he had been working extremely hard and was glad to get an opportunity to come meet some other engineers to compare our working conditions. He was relieved that he wasn't the only one working hard."

Gunner's Mate 3rd Class Tom Quinlan said, "The Australian Sailor I hosted, who was a gunner's mate and a boatswain's mate, had many sea stories to tell that I could relate to."

U.S. and Australian ships routinely take advantage of opportunities to exercise together. These exercises highlight U.S. and Australian interoperability and further bilateral relations.

Reuben James departed Pearl Harbor on a Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf deployment on Feb. 27. The ship is deployed with Expeditionary Strike Group 3 (ESG 3) in support of the global war on terrorism.

## Navy transfers Halawa Landing to National Park Service

### Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

On May 1, 2007, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i will transfer the management responsibility for the 6.4 acres known as Halawa Landing to the National Park Service (NPS) so it could be used as part of a planned comprehensive visitor area for the millions who travel to Pearl Harbor annually to enjoy the historical significance of the area.

A new Visitor Center to replace the existing structure used by the NPS is being planned by the National Park Service and the Arizona Memorial Museum Association. A consolidated entry gateway and orientation center for all the historic museums, including the USS Bowfin

Submarine Museum and Park, the Battleship Missouri Memorial and the Pacific Aviation Museum will be part of the comprehensive design concept. It is envisioned to become a premiere historic attraction by incorporating all the Pearl Harbor based non-profit memorials, parks and museums to the benefit of all the current organizations and the public.

The transfer of management responsibility was made possible by the full cooperation of the Navy, NPS and Ford Island Ventures. This transfer was accomplished as the Navy resumed control of the land at Halawa Landing that had previously been leased to Fluor Hawai'i LLC, (now Ford Island Ventures LLC) as part of the Ford Island Master Development agreement.

## MCPON visits Pearl Harbor



U.S. Navy Photo by PH1 (SW/AW) James Foehl

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Terry Scott speaks to the enlisted Sailors stationed on board Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i during an all-hands call.

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# Pacific Missile Range Facility holds change of command ceremony

JO2(SW/AW)  
Johnny Michael

*Pacific Missile Range Facility*

Capt. Mark Darrah relieved Capt. Jeff Connelly as commanding officer of Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai at a change of command ceremony held Monday at the PMRF base operations hangar. Connelly will retire shortly after being relieved, completing a distinguished 30-year naval career.

A 1976 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Connelly began his career as a naval aviator, flying P-3 Orions. He spent the first part of his career flying, but then moved on to several staff positions and eventually into command.

After three consecutive executive officer tours at sea, Connelly assumed command



U.S. Navy photo by JO2(SW/AW) Johnny Michael  
Capt. Jeff Connelly is saluted during a change of command ceremony held April 3 at the PMRF base operations hangar.

of USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) in 2000. From there he gained command of Amphibious Squadron Three and the Bonhomme Richard Ready Group in 2001 while deployed in support of

Operation Enduring Freedom.

Upon taking the mantle of commanding officer at PMRF in 2003, Connelly immediately faced several highly important issues affecting the small, remote installation.

His first step was to implement a system for public beach access to PMRF's recreation area at Major's Bay. The move was roundly heralded in the community as a positive measure, ensuring Kauai residents beach access in light of the military-wide increased security posture resulting from the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Another major accomplishment was the Agricultural Preservation Initiative, or API. After months of public meetings and interviews with local media, the API was unanimously adopted by the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources board.

This positive measure now ensures that PMRF will remain a vibrant and important economic contributor to Kauai and Hawai'i as a source for low to high tech jobs.

Meanwhile, the Missile

Defense Agency had been testing a wide array of advanced systems with PMRF as the test bed. These include the highly successful Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense System, as well as short, medium and long range air-launched targets.

During Connelly's tenure at PMRF, Aegis successfully intercepted three target missiles in space. Within the last three years, PMRF has seen a four-fold increase in the number of tests conducted annually. Each target intercept has become more and more complex, reflecting the required realism and the challenges of developing a viable defense system for the nation.

Unit and force level training for aircraft, ships and submarines from neighboring commands, as well as carrier and expeditionary strike groups transiting through the operational area, remained a

critical component of PMRF's overall mission. The 2004 Rim of the Pacific, or RIMPAC exercise, showcased the vast capabilities PMRF brings to the training of U.S. and joint assets of all military branches.

Darrah succeeds Connelly to become the 22nd naval officer to hold the post and arrived after a successful tour as the deputy program manager for the Navy's new electronic jamming aircraft, the EA-18G. Prior to that, he completed several operational tours culminating in a successful tour as commanding officer of the EA-6B Prowler squadron, VAQ-142 "Gray Wolves." A combat veteran naval flight officer, Darrah has completed multiple deployments to Southwest Asia supporting Operations Northern and Southern Watch.

## Navy boosts enlistment bonus ratings: NSW/NSO candidates can receive up to \$40,000

Jeffrey Nichols

*Commander Navy Recruiting Command Public Affairs*

The Navy has implemented a new naval special warfare/naval special operations (NSW/NSO) enlistment bonus program. The new program offers a \$40,000 enlistment bonus for those who sign up and qualify for a sea, air and land specialists (SEAL) contract. This became effective in February.

After enlisting in the Navy, there are two ways that a recruit can enter one of the NSW/NSO programs. One is while the candidate is in the delayed entry program (DEP) and successfully passes the physical standard test (PST), he can be guaranteed a SEAL contract before boot camp. The second is by volunteering to take the SEAL Challenge during recruit training. Once basic training is completed,

they begin the NSW/NSO training pipeline.

During different training milestones, candidates will begin receiving partial payments of their respective bonuses.

If a candidate passes the PST for their particular program, they will receive \$1,000 of their bonus when they complete boot camp. If they pass the PST with a higher score (already established level), they will be given \$2,000 at the completion of boot camp.

The maximum bonus is slightly different for each program:

- SEAL: up to \$40,000
- Explosive ordnance disposal (EOD): up to \$30,000
- Diver: up to \$25,000
- Special warfare combatant-craft crewman (SWCC): \$18,000

For more information on becoming a SEAL, visit [www.navy.com/about/navylife/onduty/seals/](http://www.navy.com/about/navylife/onduty/seals/).

# Navy names new littoral combat ship

## U.S. Department of Defense

Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter has named the Navy's newest littoral combat ship (LCS) - Independence.

"Independence, along with USS Freedom, are going to be great 21st century ships. Their speed and agility are widely recognized. I believe that their modular approach yields tremendous flexibility for employing these ships and for taking the fight right to the enemy's shoreline," said Winter.

The name Independence

recognizes the cornerstone of our nation's foundation that so many Americans have fought and died to ensure. Five previous ships have also had that name. The first Independence was a 10-gun sloop that served during the War of Independence. The second Independence, the first ship of the line in the Navy, was launched in 1814 as a 74-gun ship, but later refitted to a 54-gun frigate. The third Independence served with the Naval Overseas Transportation Service (NOTS) following the end of World War I. The fourth Independence (CVL

22), a small aircraft carrier commissioned in 1943, earned eight battle stars during World War II. The fifth Independence (CV 62) was an aircraft carrier commissioned in 1959 and decommissioned in 1998.

In developing capability to overcome access denial threats from surface and subsurface threats in the littoral, the Navy sought improved mine warfare capability, an effective counter to small, fast, highly-armed boats, and a ship better suited against quiet diesel submarines. These capabilities highlighted the need for a

high-speed, shallow-draft vessel with endurance. The littoral combat ships are designed to meet that need.

The littoral combat ships are the first Navy vessels to separate capability from hull form and provide a robust, affordable, mission-focused warship designed to provide assured access for our joint forces. Independence will have the size, speed, endurance and connectivity to deploy as a member of carrier strike groups, expeditionary strike groups or surface strike groups.

Independence will carry some core capabilities, such

as self-defense and command and control, but its true war-fighting capability will come from its innovative and tailored mission modules. Like its sister ship, LCS 2 will be configured for one mission package at a time, consisting of modules, manned aircraft, unmanned vehicles, off-board sensors and mission-manning detachments, all in an open-systems architecture.

In May 2004, the Department of Defense awarded both Lockheed Martin and General Dynamics separate contract options for final-system design with options for detail

design and construction of up to two LCS ships. The future USS Independence (LCS 2) is the General Dynamics' lead hull in that ship design.

In October 2005, the Department of Navy awarded General Dynamics - Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine, a contract for detail design and construction of their first LCS. General Dynamics - Bath Iron Works teammates include Austal USA of Mobile, Ala. and General Dynamics - AIS of Pittsfield, Mass. A keel laying ceremony was held Jan. 19 at Austal USA Shipyard in Mobile, Ala.

## Child development organization aids military children, families

Steven Donald Smith

American Forces Press Service

Recognizing that children of service members often face challenges that other children do not, the non-profit child development organization "Zero to Three" launched a special project geared specifically toward military families.

"Supporting military children is an essential element of supporting military families in general," Dorinda Williams, a Zero to Three training and consultation specialist, said in an interview. "Zero to Three recognizes that military parents often face extreme and emotionally draining circumstances and we try to provide support through information and resources that translate into increased capacity to meet the emotional needs of babies and toddlers."

April is officially the "Month of the Military Child," which celebrates military young ones and raises awareness about their unique situation. Zero to Three works toward these ends all year long by supporting the healthy development and well-being of military children by educating their parents on child-rearing techniques.

"We are a national, multi-disciplinary organization that advances our mission by informing, educating and supporting adults who influence the lives of infants and toddlers," Williams said.

Zero to Three concentrates on critical issues affecting young children and their families, including early language and literacy development and the impact of culture on early childhood development. The organization is adept at translating what is known from the science of early childhood development into practical tools and resources for professionals, programs, parents and policymakers, Williams said.

Over the past several years, Zero to Three

has become increasingly involved with issues affecting military children. For instance, the group established a military projects division specifically aimed at the needs of babies and toddlers of military families.

One of the division's projects is "Operation Parenting Edge," a partnership of the Marine Corps and the federal Early Head Start program. This venture is a two-year training and consultation pilot project that supports Early Head Start staff by increasing sensitivity to how babies and toddlers may be impacted by military-specific stresses, Williams said.

The organization provides training through on-site visits, special meetings and teleconferences.

"This project stems from the recognition that, with current world events ... military families and resources available to them may be increasingly strained," she said. "It is our hope that this project will serve as a model of how the military can collaborate with civilian resources to further expand support to families."

In addition, Zero to Three hosted a Defense Department summit in Washington, D.C. in November. The summit brought together professionals supporting military families from around the world. The overall intent of the summit was to promote the interests and needs of babies and toddlers through specialized trainings and workshops, Williams said.

Zero to Three is also currently developing a media campaign in response to the needs of military installations particularly affected by repeated and extended deployments. The campaign "will assist caregivers in recognizing how babies and toddlers may be affected by military separations and relocations and offer ways to support their young children, as well as themselves, during times of military stress," she said.

The organization's Web site offers extensive information for military families. It features articles by military professionals and parents on topics unique to the military community.

## USS Tucson visits Yokosuka



U.S. Navy photo by PH1 Crystal Brooks

The Los Angeles-class nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) makes its approach to the pier of Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan on a regularly scheduled port visit. Tucson departed on a Western Pacific deployment from its homeport of Pearl Harbor March 21. Tucson is one of the more advanced 688 Improved-class submarines. It is equipped with the most advanced fire control systems, sonar systems and commercial-off-the-shelf technology (COTS) on board, helping the crew work more efficiently and make routine repairs easier.

# Hawai'i Navy News Sports

## Navy women's team racing at top of the competition

Molly O'Bryan

Naval Academy Sailing Program

This was a good season for Navy women's sailing on the intercollegiate sailing team. The team saw continual improvement and inner-team growth throughout the three months of sailing. The women were continually changing positions within the team, in comparison to most sailing teams, in hopes of finding the right fit for all of them.

The fit is good now, but fine-tuning will continue. The five main players for the team are Katie Whitman, Andrea White, Catherine Long, Charlotte Hill and Maggie Reynolds.

After two weeks of practice, the first women's event was the Mrs. Hurst Trophy at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. The team finished ninth overall, Whitman and Long finishing ninth in A Division and Hill and White, eighth in B Division. The finish was a good base for the women to work from. A few weeks later, Navy hosted the Navy Fall Women's Intersectional.

During this three division regatta, the women showed their depth as a team. They finished fourth overall. Whitman and Long finished fourth in A Division. Trisha Kutkiewicz skippered her first collegiate regatta with Slava Haywas and Kira Devers-Jones. They finished seventh in B Division. Hill finished fourth in C Division, doing some cross-training for her laser sailing later



U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Naval Academy Varsity Athletics

The Navy's women intercollegiate team takes top ranking positions in three divisions.

in the season.

At that point, the semester was beginning to ramp up for the women and they were gaining confidence. The next weekend at Yale, the integral players on the team finished strong with their first divisional win of the season. The women finished fourth overall, with Whitman and Long

and Hill, with Reynolds and White, winning B Division.

At the Stu Nelson Regatta a week later, Whitman - sailing with White this time - won A Division. Kutkiewicz, sailing in her second women's varsity event of her college career, finished 15th. That same weekend, the remainder of the women's team was battling for berths

to the Singlehanded Nationals held in Hawai'i.

Four Sailors represented USNA. Navy's usual B Division skipper, Hill finished fourth and guaranteed herself a berth. Long (A Division crew) finished 10th, Reynolds (B Division crew) finished 14th and Kristen Ullman finished 25th.

Now that the women had two divisional wins and a berth at Singlehanded Nationals, they were ready to turn it on against the competition. The women traveled to Harvard for the Victorian Urn Regatta.

The Charles River is better known for rowing and for good reason. Sailing on the Charles is extremely challenging because of shifty winds, but the women stepped up to the challenge. They finished fifth overall; Whitman and White finished seventh in A Division while Hill and Reynolds finished fifth in B Division.

The next weekend was Navy's district championship, the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association Women's Fall Dinghy Championship at the State University of New York Maritime Academy.

To win this regatta would give the team the number one schedule for the district as well as bragging rights as the top team. Those bragging rights were attained and well deserved. Whitman and White had their second divisional win of the season and Hill, with both Reynolds and White, finished third, giving the team top honors and a berth to the Women's Atlantic Coast

Championship the following weekend.

ACCs are seen as a precursor to nationals at the end of the spring season. It is the last doublehanded regatta of the season and only the top sailors qualify. Typically, this regatta forecasts who will be the big sailors in the following season.

Whitman, White, Long, Hill and Reynolds traveled to the Coast Guard Academy to sail in both Flying Juniors and 420s. The conditions were tough, but the sailors worked well together, coaching each other between races and keeping each other in the races.

While other teams fell off the scoreboard, Navy stayed steady. After 16 challenging races, Navy finished the weekend in third place out of 18. It was a true team effort with crews sailing in both divisions.

Whitman sailed with White and Long, finishing fifth. Hill sailed with Reynolds and White, finishing second. The women finished third overall and secured themselves as true contenders for next semester in the doublehanded events.

When it was just starting to get chilly in Annapolis, the B Division skipper was preparing to compete in Singlehanded Nationals. Hill traveled with coaches Gavin O'Hare and Molly O'Bryan to Hawai'i in November. After 20 hours of travel from Baltimore to Honolulu, Hill was greeted with 5-18 knots from the northwest and a balmy 78 degrees. The forecast called

for no breeze all weekend, so the race committee voted to do 10 of the 16 races while the breeze lasted.

After day one of the scheduled three-day event, Hill was in fifth place, with sixth through eighth place close behind and fourth place almost out of reach.

On Saturday, Sailors were delayed for an hour while the breeze settled in at five to eight knots from the northwest. Hill sailed consistently all day, never finishing out of the top seven in all six races. She whittled away her competition, finishing in fourth place, just three points out of third. This marked Navy's best finish at Women's Singlehanded Nationals. Out of the 16 teams present at nationals, Hill topped the Middle Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association (MAISA) district. Other MAISA representatives finished eighth, 10th and 15th.

With three divisional wins, top five finishes at seven out of nine regattas, and Hill's finish at Singlehanded, Sailing World has ranked Navy second in the nation, the highest that the team has been ranked in the past 10 years.

The women's team has learned a lot over the past semester. Each member of the traveling team realizes they need the other members of the entire team to push each other to achieve their goals. Because their names are at the top of the scoreboard, all of the competitors will be targeting them next semester.