

# Hawai'i Navy News

Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

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## Mission of Mercy

### Commander, Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The naval hospital ship, USNS Mercy (T-AH 19), arrived at Pearl Harbor on Tuesday making its first stop during a humanitarian assistance mission to the Western Pacific and Southeast Asia.

Meeting the ship at the pier, Adm. Gary Roughead, command-

er, U.S. Pacific Fleet, told members of the media and Mercy crew members that accomplishing the mission will be all about teamwork.

"This is about a partnership," said Roughead. "The capability that Mercy brings as a hospital ship is really unequal. She has tremendous medical capabilities and it is our pleasure to be able to couple that medical capability

and our military medical professionals with the non-governmental organizations and the host nations' medical capability to bring medical service, preventive medical service and just the good work people bring to one another."

Dr. Ramon K. Sy and Dr. Carl H. Lum of the Aloha Medical Mission based in Hawai'i echoed Roughead's comments.

"We are most honored to be invited by the U.S. Navy to join in this humanitarian work," said Sy. "It's very exciting for us. I will personally be going to Banda Aceh in July. We will help rebuild the hospital in the area that was devastated by the tsunami," Sy added.

"Over a year ago, Aloha Medical Mission sent two teams

to Banda Aceh after the tsunami, and I was standing in knee-deep mud, ... when I looked out, there was Mercy," said Lum. "I said I wish I could be doing surgery on the Mercy instead of in a tent with a mud floor. I didn't know that a year later, I [would] have that opportunity to serve on the Mercy."

Mercy's overall mission commander is Capt. Bradley Martin. Capt. Joseph L. Moore heads the ship's medical treatment facility and medical staff. In charge of ship and crew is civil service mariner Capt. Robert T. Wiley,

ship's master.

The crew of doctors, dentists, veterinarians, nurses, and corpsmen plan to offer a number of medical, dental, veterinary services, and other humani-

tarian assistance to men, women and children in villages normally lacking access to such treatment.

"Many Americans are from the Asia-Pacific region, and we have strong ties to family members, friends and co-workers with roots in the region," said Roughead. "It is natural we should want to be good neighbors."

▼ See MERCY, A-8



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Dennis Cantrell

Adm. Gary Roughead, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks with members involved in the Aloha Medical Mission who will take part in humanitarian assistance in the Western-Pacific and Southeast Asia with USNS Mercy.

*"Mercy ... has tremendous medical capabilities and it is our pleasure to be able to couple that medical capability and our military medical professionals with the non-governmental organizations and the host nations' medical capability to bring medical service, preventive medical service and just the good work people bring to one another."* -Adm. Gary Roughead



### Hawai'i Navy News Briefs

#### Plan for smooth move

Sailors can plan now for summer moves by using the on-line counseling tool, Smart Web Move (SWM) – the Navy's Web-based program that services most routine moves. Service members not eligible to use SWM should contact the personal property division at (808) 473-5587 to schedule an appointment with a move counselor. Those with questions about household goods transportation and move entitlements can contact the Navy Household Goods Helpline at 1-800-444-7789 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) Monday through Friday.

#### Transition assistance

Whether you are retiring or separating from the Navy, the staff at the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) at Naval Station Pearl Harbor can assist you with your transition from a military life to a civilian world. Call the FFSC at 473-4222 for more information.

### A cleaner place to play



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Corwin Colbert

Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander Task Force Twelve staff participate in the Neil Blaisdell Park clean-up April 28. More than two dozen Sailors spent the morning cleaning the popular children's park of trash and debris.

### Rainbow Bay Marina waters pass test for bacteria

Terri Kojima

Commander Navy Region Hawai'i Environmental Public Affairs

After the recent torrential rains, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) environmental managers wanted assurance that the unusual amount of runoff didn't cause unhealthy conditions for boating enthusiasts at the Rainbow Bay Marina at Pearl Harbor. Navy Region Hawai'i took a proactive approach and called for a bacterial analysis of the marina waters as a precaution.

After taking water samples from various sites in the marina, CNRH's

environmental department announced April 24 that test results show bacteria counts that are well within acceptable levels based on the state Department of Health [DOH] standards.

"Rain and sewage spills can create conditions for bacteria blooms where water has been contaminated with sewage or animal waste," said Julie Muraoka, who manages the region's wastewater program. "Although there were no spills reported in the Pearl Harbor area during the heavy rains, the sampling results remove any guesswork."

The team of scientists at the

▼ See RAINBOW BAY, A-9

### USS Salvor (ARS 52) bound for CARAT 2006

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Family and friends said goodbye to more than 100 Sailors as USS Salvor (ARS 52), a Safeguard-class rescue and salvage ship, deployed April 29.



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright

A Navy family member waves goodbye to Sailors aboard USS Salvor as they depart on a scheduled deployment.

The ship will travel to various locations in the Western Pacific to take part in the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, (CARAT) 2006 exercise. CARAT is a regularly scheduled series of military training exercises with Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines, designed to enhance interoperability of the respective sea services.

"This is the Salvor's last deployment as a United States ship," said Lt. Cmdr. John C. Howard, commanding officer, USS Salvor. "It will be transferred to the maritime sea lift command in January. So we hope to make this her best deployment ever. We are excited to share our rescue and salvage knowledge with countries in Southeast Asia and help them to build the same capabilities," he said.

Salvor is 255 feet long, 51 feet wide and displaces nearly 3,282 tons. The ship is capable of many missions, including: salvage of stranded vessels, rescue and assistance, recovery of submerged objects, as well as serving as a manned diving platform. Salvor is able to tow a 1,092-foot-long, 97,000-ton Nimitz-class aircraft carrier.

## Pearl Harbor Sailor donates kidney, runs 5K for National Kidney Foundation

Laura Lee McKinney

*National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i*

Sonar Technician 2nd Class Frank Newsome knows firsthand the seriousness of kidney disease and the need for organ donation. In 1997, only six months after joining the Navy, he came home to Norfolk, Va. to learn that his mother's kidneys had failed; she was undergoing dialysis treatments and was in need of a kidney transplant to stay alive. He decided he wanted to help and through blood tests found out that he was a nearly perfect match to donate his life-saving kidney. The transplant was a success and his mother is doing fine. Today Newsome has no regrets and is having a successful career in the Navy. When asked about his experience, Newsome replied, "I did not give it a second thought; I wanted to help her. It was hard for me to see her in pain and suffering."

Tomorrow the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i (NKFH) will hold its "Gift of Life" 5K Run and one Mile Fun Run at Ala Moana Beach Park. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness about the need for organ donation and educate Hawai'i's residents about kidney disease. Proceeds will help fund NKFH programs and services for kidney patients, family, friends and caregivers throughout the



ST2 Frank Newsome donates kidney to help mother.

state. One in seven of Hawai'i's population already has or may have kidney disease and not even know it. That's 30 percent higher than the national rate. Ironically, kidney disease/failure is often preventable.

You can join Newsome in the 5K race/one Mile Walk or make a pledge to his efforts. The event includes game booths, entertainment, prizes, health fair and keiki tents and more. Registration will be open event day beginning at 7 a.m. with the race start at 8 a.m.

Established in 1992, the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i is a not-for-profit volunteer organization dedicated to the detection, prevention and treatment of kidney disease. The mission of the National Kidney Foundation of Hawai'i is to increase awareness of chronic kidney disease, improve the health and well being of individuals and families affected by kidney and urinary tract diseases, and increase the availability of all organs for transplantation in Hawai'i.

## USS Louisville (SSN 724) surges to Western Pacific

Story and photos by JO2 Corwin Colbert

*Commander Submarine Force, US Pacific Fleet Public Affairs*

The nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724) departed on a Western Pacific surge deployment from its homeport of Pearl Harbor on May 2.

According to Cmdr. David Kirk, Louisville's commanding officer, the crew remained focused and enthusiastic despite leaving after returning from a six-month deployment five months prior.

"The ability for the crew to pull together to get the ship ready takes true dedication," said Kirk. "This is a testament of selflessness and good work ethics. The crew completed one year's worth of work in five months."

Kirk said that work the crew successfully completed included intensive pre-overseas movement (POM) certifications.

POM is an intense training and maintenance period dedicated to elevating readiness to support deployment to the Western Pacific. During this period, Louisville's crew demonstrated excellence in tactics, weapons handling, communications, navigation, propulsion plant operations, and logistics.



Machinist Mate 2nd Class Arnoldo Sanz spends time with his 11-day-old son and wife before leaving on a surge deployment onboard the Pearl Harbor-based nuclear-powered attack submarine USS Louisville (SSN 724). The submarine departed on a Western Pacific deployment on May 2.

Kirk added that communications between crew members and families is improved for this deployment. "We will have an upgraded submarine force Internet protocol network. We didn't have it last deployment," said Kirk. "This service continues to improve, making it easier for our submarines to keep in contact with their families."

One such family member, wife of Lt. Charles Patterson, feels no matter how long her husband is away, it is not enough time at home. "I wish he was with me more," she said. "But I know he is going away to make a contribu-

tion to our country."

She added that despite the hardship of deployments, the family support group is an excellent tool for spouses and other family members for dealing with separation. "The monthly family support group meetings are great. We share information and arrange activities to stay occupied while our guys are away."

Sonar Technician 2nd Class Lawrence Armour, a native of Klawok, Alaska, said he is upbeat about this deployment. "I am excited. As a crew, we have been together for awhile, so we are pretty close," he said. "That makes the deployment much easier and very

familiar."

With the submarine preparing to depart, Armour said he does not feel this deployment is any different. "Even though it is a surge deployment, it will be business as usual and nothing different from what we were trained to do - our best."

USS Louisville returned to its homeport of Pearl Harbor on Nov. 16, 2005, following a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific.

The submarine displaces more than 6,900 tons, is 360 feet long, and can reach speeds in excess of 25 knots and attain depths of more than 800 feet. Commissioned in 1986, USS Louisville is the 35th Los Angeles-class submarine.

It made history in 1991 during Operation Desert Storm when it became the first submarine to launch a Tomahawk cruise missile in war.

This "surge" deployment is a part of the Fleet Response Plan (FRP), a program developed to change the way ships deploy and to provide the United States with a greater range of naval options, adding the element of flexibility to naval efficiency.

The idea behind FRP is to keep the Navy ready to surge and to vary the lengths of deployments, meaning the Navy will be ready to deploy whenever, wherever.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Motorcycle safety - don't be a knucklehead

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



FLTCM(SS/SW) Rick West

Hoo-yah, Warriors! Spring is certainly in the air, (the rainy season is coming to a close) and for many of our shipmates, this also means the joy of opening up the garage or shed and knocking the dust off the motorcycles and other recreational vehicles. You can already visualize zooming down the road on last year's purchase... the wind blowing through your tank top and hair. There's nothing greater than that on a warm, sunny day, right?

Wrong! Sounds pretty much like a one-way ticket to the hospital or worse. Sadly, we've see it too many times when Sailors and civilian employees start their bikes for the first time in months and think they're at the same ability level as they were at the end of summer.

I've seen many accident reports where personnel didn't have the proper training, safety gear and, for that matter, good common sense.

Just for the record, I support and promote motorcycle and all terrain vehicle (ATV) use as much as the next guy, but I support safety first and I temper that support by insisting that the requirements in OPNAVINST 5100.12G are lived up to in

letter and spirit. That's the Navy instruction outlining all the requirements military and civilian personnel must meet in order to ride their vehicles on and off base. If you need a copy, go to [www.nps.navy.mil/safety/PDFs/5100\\_12g.pdf](http://www.nps.navy.mil/safety/PDFs/5100_12g.pdf) and read up because I bet a lot of you didn't know you risk the possibility of losing medical benefits if you don't meet the instruction's requirements.

When I listen to our Sailors talk about riding the bikes and I remember when I owned one, it was fun. But you have to ensure you are safe... it has to be a priority.

When we lose one Sailor to this sort of thing, it's one too many and it's a waste.

So what are the rules? They're pretty simple, shipmate.

First and foremost - get training. Most motorcycles are fairly high-performance vehicles and many people tell me you need the reflexes of a fighter pilot to keep some of them under control.

The Navy offers the motorcycle safety course virtually everywhere so take the course. It's a

requirement. The course will show you the proper way to control all that power and performance so you won't wind up a statistic in one of the safety center's reports.

Second, remember the personal protective equipment (PPE). You need to wear it, folks. I know some states don't have helmet laws. I see people riding around - no helmets, shorts, no shoes - it's dumb.

We recently had a Sailor killed riding in housing with no helmet after hitting a parked car. No-helmet laws are no excuse or exemption. You must wear PPE, if not for yourself or a passenger, then because it's a lawful order.

Right out of the instruction, the following PPE is mandatory while operating or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle:

- A properly fastened (under the chin) protective helmet certified to meet U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) standards. If the host nation does not have an equivalent helmet standard, the helmet will meet the U.S. DOT standard. Fake or novelty helmets are prohibited.

- Properly worn eye protective devices (impact or shatter-resistant goggles or full-face shield properly attached to the helmet). A windshield, fairing or eyeglasses alone are not proper eye protection.

- Properly worn long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long-legged trousers and full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle.

- Sturdy footwear is mandatory. Leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes are strongly encouraged - no flip-flops.

- A brightly-colored outer upper garment during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night. The outer upper garment shall be clearly visible and not covered. Your uniforms don't meet these criteria.

To get more information about training, what not to do and what kind of PPE you should have, check out the safety center's motorcycle safety Web site at <http://safetycenter.navy.mil/ashore/motorvehicle/motorcycle/default.htm>. Additionally, the safety center has lots of good information on summer safety... now is the time to be well into that.

The last thing we need to talk about is speed. Motorcycles and cars speeding down the road have only one difference: you're less likely to be killed in the car.

Just because your bike can hit 160 mph doesn't mean you should drive it that fast. Motorcycles may be more maneuverable, but can you really anticipate what the driver ahead of you is going to do? Especially if you're going 40, 50, 60 feet per second? If you

said, "yes," then you need to go back to the safety course, 'cause it didn't sink in the first time around.

I have an example not involving motorcycles, but I believe it to be applicable for all types of vehicles and speed.

A while back, in Hawai'i, a couple of speeding Eclipses blew through traffic on the freeway and rear-ended a flatbed truck.

The impact and fireball killed four people and injured two others. When the police got there, two people were burned so far beyond recognition the police couldn't determine their gender. The passenger in the flatbed was killed and the driver was seriously injured.

The racers were Soldiers at Schofield Barracks. The men in the flatbed were just doing their jobs. It was a terrible tragedy and a huge waste.

Shipmates, I don't want to sound preachy, but the cold, hard facts are we lose too many good people to motorcycle and vehicle accidents due to improper or no training, a lack of PPE, or driving too fast.

Be smart and enjoy the upcoming nice weather - whether it's on a bike, an ATV, or just riding around with the top down. As long as you're thinking safety, the experience will remain a fun and memorable one. Hoo-yah!

Commentary

## Fireside Chat

Navy Region Federal Fire Dept.

### Electrical appliances that "bite"

**Inspector Victor Flint**

Federal Fire Department

The Federal Fire Department of Hawai'i has an advisory to its friends and neighbors. Many of the fires and injuries we are responding to were caused by the misuse and abuse of electrical appliances.

Most of us would agree that life would be hard and laborious if it wasn't for the help of our various types of electrical appliances and devices. When used correctly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, our electrical appliances and devices can help us with our busy days. But when these same appliances are misused, and/or abused, they could turn around and "bite" with an electrical spark that could go through cloth, metal and flesh like a hot knife through butter.

To avoid these types of accidents and injuries, the Federal Fire Department recommends the following safety tips:

- If your electrical appliance or device shows signs of

malfunction, that's a sign to have it fixed, repaired or replaced. Stop using it - or you'll run into some serious and dangerous problems.

- Unplug your electrical appliance or device when not in use. When an appliance is plugged in, there's power to the on/off switch. If the on/off switch malfunctions, there could be a fire, electric shock or worse. The appliance should be unplugged when not in use.

- Use only UL (Underwriters Laboratory) or FM (Factory Mutual) appliances or devices. When you see the UL or FM label on the appliance, you'll know that your appliance has been tested for your safety.

- Read and follow the manufacturer's instructions that come with your appliance.

- Do not overload the electrical outlet by plugging in too many appliances or devices into it.

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



U.S. Navy photo by JO1 Daniel Calderon

An employee at Navy Region Hawai'i demonstrates what can happen when a defective appliance catches fire.

## Distant perspective, heartfelt blow



U.S. Navy historical photo

Photographed from Ford Island Dec. 7, 1941, USS Nevada (BB-36) is afire off the Ford Island seaplane base, with her bow pointed up-channel. USS Shaw (DD-373) is burning in the floating dry dock YFD-2 in the left background.

## Hawai'i Navy News

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Seaman Roberto Bonilla and other Paul Hamilton Sailors ask a motorist for donations for Hawai'i Food Bank on Kamehameha Highway.

## Paul Hamilton Sailors raise money for Hawai'i Foodbank

Story and photo by  
Ensign Kathleen Kunkemoeller

*U.S. Navy Reserve Auxiliaries Public Affairs*

Most Pearl Harbor Sailors spend their weekends hiking, swimming, camping and doing other outdoor activities or enjoying the nightlife in Waikiki. Last weekend, however, Sailors from USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) did something different during their liberty; they spent their Saturday collecting donations for the Hawai'i Foodbank. This community outreach project to support people in need in the Oahu community was organized by Chief Boatswain's Mate(AW/SW) Mauro Guevara of Los Angeles.

More than 30 Paul Hamilton Sailors participated in the event, held at the Pearl City Shopping Center. Many brought their

friends and families to assist with the project. They asked customers for monetary donations and non-perishable food items and estimate that they collected more than \$1,000 in donations in addition to numerous canned goods.

"The Hawai'i Foodbank has made donations to our Sailors in the past," said Guevara. "This was our chance to help our shipmates and give back to the community."

Sailors also said they enjoyed being able to make a positive impact on the community. "It's great to be a part of the military, helping the community and people in need," said Seaman Roberto Bonilla of New York City.

The Hawai'i Foodbank collects, warehouses and distributes perishable and non-perishable food to 250 agencies on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island.

## Pearl Harbor Shipyard wins two CHINFO awards

Karen S. Spangler

*Assistant Editor*

The public affairs office for the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY) has been named as the first place CHINFO award winner for its Web-based publication and second place winner in the magazine format category for the shipyard's publication, the Shipyard Log.

According to Sean Hughes, deputy public affairs officer for PHNSY, the award is a first. "It's the first time in our command's history that we have received recognition for our public affairs program for both our Web-based publication

and our magazine," explained Hughes.

One of the unique features of the award-winning Web site, which has been up and running since 2004, is a scrolling timeline which presents a history of the shipyard from the days of King Kamehameha to the current time.

The Shipyard Log has been published since 1941 and offers highlights of historical events through the decades.

Hughes emphasized that the goal is to feature the people in the command. "The thing we really try to do is put faces to our command – pictures of our Sailors, our old timer shipyard workers and our new time shipyard work-

ers," he said. "It's a good cross-sectional representation of our command. We try to tell the people story," he continued.

He noted that the shipyard's public affairs office has worked very hard to be the best among the Navy's shipyards. "Because of our unique mission, it's not always easy to tell our story," he said.

There are more than 4,000 civilians who work at the shipyard and telling their story is an important focus of the PHNSY Public Affairs Office.

"They are the roots of the Navy in Hawai'i and in our communities, making a difference, working for decades and generations," he said. "It's about the people."

## Residents advised on resolving telephone issues

Karen S. Spangler

*Assistant Editor*

When recent heavy rains and inclement weather caused telephone outages, Navy housing residents were in a dilemma as to what to do. Some opted to call the island's local telephone service provider to resolve the problem, only to find that the problem was not with the equipment, and incurred a charge for the service.

Residents who found themselves in that situation may be able to recoup the money for those charges. According to Jared St. John, family housing program manager for Navy Region Hawai'i, if it was determined that it was not the occupants' personal equipment, they are advised to contact the Navy Aloha Center (family housing office). By providing the required paperwork, a claim for reimbursement can be processed. To determine whether the charges incurred are eligible for reimbursement and/or to submit a claim, contact Gail Hamada at 474-1920.

There are specific procedures that Navy housing residents should follow when they experience telephone problems. These procedures are also outlined in the occupant hand-out packet which families receive when they

move into their Navy homes.

St. John advised, "The first thing that residents should do if they are faced with telephone problems or outages is to call Hui O Hawai'i Hale (HOHH), the maintenance contractor. If the telephone is caused by faulty interior wiring, HOHH will repair it.

"If HOHH determines that the problem is caused by the underground trunk lines – the situation with the recent telephone outage problems – they will refer the problem back to housing. Housing will then contact personnel at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific and report the problem," explained St. John.

However, if HOHH determines that the problem is with the residents' personal telephone equipment, the residents should check with the island's local telephone service provider. The resultant charge would be the responsibility of the resident.

Housing officials emphasized that the first step to take for any problems or outages with telephone service in Navy neighborhoods is to contact HOHH. This ensures that the problem is evaluated and referred to the appropriate office before housing residents incur any unnecessary charges.

To reach HOHH, call 486-4200.

**Hawai'i Navy News Online** [www.hawaii.navy.mil](http://www.hawaii.navy.mil)

# FLEET ACTION



U.S. Navy photo by 102 Zack Boddart

Flight deck personnel run toward a CH-53 Super Stallion helicopter assigned to the "Sea Elks" of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron One Six Six (HMM-166) to remove the choks and chains aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5). Peleliu and Expeditionary Strike Group Three (ESG-3) are deployed to the Western Pacific in support of the global war on terrorism.

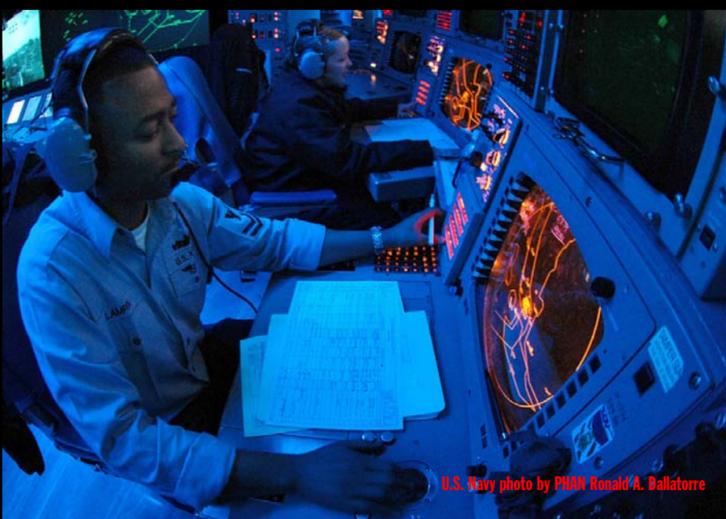


Left: Quartermaster 2nd Class Michael Leer uses flashlights to guide a 155 millimeter Howitzer on the platform of a landing craft utility aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu (LHA 5). Peleliu is the flagship of ESG 3 and is halfway through a six-month deployment.

Bottom left: Operations Specialist 2nd Class Anthony S. Lampkin tracks contacts in Combat Direction Center (CDC) aboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72). Lincoln and Carrier Air Wing Two (CVW-2) are currently underway in the Western Pacific operating area.

Below: The Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyers USS Russell (DDG 59), left, and USS Shoup (DDG 86), sail past the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) for display during an air-power demonstration held for visiting Indonesian officials and the U.S. ambassador to Indonesia. Russell and Shoup are part of the Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike group that is currently underway in the Western Pacific operating area.

U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Kerryl Cacho



U.S. Navy photo by PHAN Ronald A. Dallatorre



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Kerryl Cacho

# Memorial service set to honor lost USS Lagarto crew

JOC(SW/AW) David Rush

Commander Submarine Force, US Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Families of crew members serving on the ill-fated USS Lagarto (SS-371) will gather on May 6 in Manitowoc, Wisc. to honor the men whose submarine went missing six decades ago and was only recently located by divers.

Rear Adm. Jeffrey B. Cassias, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet's submarine force, will serve as the keynote speaker at the ceremony held at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, where Lagarto was built. Jamie MacLeod, a British wreck diver who reported locating the Lagarto wreck in the Gulf of Thailand last year, will also be on hand.

For 60 years, crew members' families did not know the exact circumstances surrounding the 86 submariners who perished. Lagarto was last heard from on May 3, 1945 as it was preparing to attack a

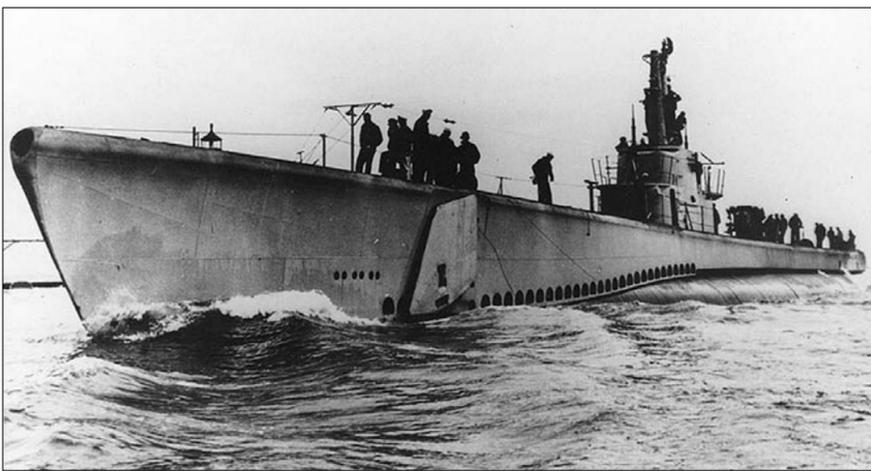


U.S. Navy Photo by JOC (SW/AW) David Rush  
Sailors from Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet prepare the flags to present to family members of the crew of USS Lagarto during a memorial service on May 6 at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wisc.

Japanese convoy under heavy escort. Japanese war records later revealed that the minelayer Hatsutaka reported sinking a U.S. submarine at roughly the same time and location.

In May 2005, MacLeod and a group of commercial divers reported finding Lagarto in the Gulf of Thailand sitting upright in 225 feet of water. The Navy plans to send divers to the site in June to confirm the discovery.

MacLeod's team reported seeing a large rupture in the



U.S. Navy historical photo

USS Lagarto (SS-371) submarine went missing 60 years ago and was only recently located by wreck divers. Lagarto was last heard from on May 3, 1945 as it was preparing to attack a Japanese convoy under heavy escort.

port side bow area indicating that Lagarto had apparently been struck by a depth charge.

But there was something else that MacLeod's team noticed that caught their attention: an open torpedo tube door with an empty torpedo tube inside. It seemed to suggest that Lagarto had

gone down fighting.

Sixty-two-year old Arthur H. Keeney III of Engelhard, N.C. said the discovery of Lagarto has given him a new connection to a father he never knew.

"It has made my father's high school and academy yearbooks, and other family memorabilia, more alive and

personal," said Keeney. "Moreover, I'm pleased my mother, who is now 84, can reflect on the earlier stages of her life when Bud was part of it."

Keeney said he's looking forward to meeting with other Lagarto family members at the upcoming ceremony. "I will truly enjoy

meeting other people, particularly the children, who are kin to other Sailors who knew my father and who also gave their lives in service to our country."

Sailors from the staff of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, raised U.S. flags over the World War II Submarine Memorial at Pearl Harbor earlier this week. Cassias will present the flags to family members at the May 6 ceremony.

"We owe a great debt to these men and to all of the World War II submariners," said Cassias. "In the world's darkest hour, they faced the greatest risks and demonstrated the most noble courage to preserve the freedom of our nation."

Last May, Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle signed a proclamation making May 3, the day the craft was presumed sunk, as USS Lagarto Remembrance Day in perpetuity. Museum personnel are making plans to record oral histories of veterans and the surviving family members.

Lagarto was one of 52 submarines lost on patrol during World War II.

# Submarine Multi-Mission Team Trainer 3 is top of the line

Story and photo by  
FTI Christopher J Carlson

Naval Submarine Training  
Center, Pacific Public Affairs

On April 27, Naval Submarine Training Center, Pacific (NSTCP) officially opened the Submarine Force's newest Attack Center, Submarine Multi-Mission Team Trainer 3 (SMMTT3). For the first time in Hawai'i, "the big blue building" is home to an attack center more advanced than any submarine control room on the waterfront.

SMMTT3, a shore-based training device for submarine combat control and sonar systems, is the latest version in a long history of attack centers that allows submarine crews to rehearse and execute tactical, at-sea missions in a training environment. "What makes SMMTT3 so great is the capability to incorporate radar, electronic surveillance measures and periscope imagery into the Combat Control System. This trainer has it all," said Fire Control Technician 1st Class (SS) Ryan Gordon, an instructor at NSTCP.

Capt. Charles Merkel, commanding officer of NSTCP, presided over the ceremony with honored guest, Richard Loeffler, of Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Carderock. Capt. Taylor Skardon, chief of staff, Navy Region Hawai'i and commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, and Capt. Donald Gerry, director for training, tactical development, doctrine and knowledge management for Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet, were also in attendance. Merkel and Loeffler ceremoniously cut a Hawaiian lei officially marking the grand opening

of SMMTT3 to the waterfront.

"Phase 3 of the Submarine Multi-Mission Team Trainer has been three years in the making and has leveraged from a number of years of previous system development and technology improvements across Navy programs," remarked Loeffler. "It has included the efforts of OPNAV, NAVSEA and three different Navy labs, NSWC Carderock, Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) and Naval Air Training Systems (NAVAIR)." Loeffler thanked Stan Meyers (OPNAV 879) and Carl Haines (NAVSEA) noting, "SMMTT3 has been a significant challenge for every team that partnered on this collaborative effort."

The new trainer also incorporates enhanced replay capability for a ship's crew as they debrief missions. SMMTT3 is the first trainer to allow an off-going watch section the ability to replay their mission from a three-dimensional point of view while the on-duty section simultaneously continues the mission without interruption.

Delivery of the new training attack center to NSTCP is concurrent with the first TI-04 ship installation aboard the USS Pasadena. This marks another first for NSTCP, as advanced tactical training will be provided to the crew of the USS Pasadena prior to the actual installation of equipment aboard their boat. Cmdr. Anthony Gamboa, NSTCP executive officer, said, "You always hear about technology upgrades on our boats where contractors install new gear that not every crew member immediately understands. In those cases, the crew's real training can't start until the system is certified for operation, which is

when you're often up against challenging underway schedules. The timeliness of this SMMTT3 installation is one example of where the Submarine Force program managers have established system upgrades to the shore facility first to ensure submarine crews, such as the USS Pasadena, can actually qualify on their new systems before it's installed onboard their submarine."

USS Pasadena wasted no time testing, firsthand, the capabilities of the Navy's newest attack center. Lt. Cmdr. Eugene Nemeth, executive officer of the Pasadena, and his wardroom "took to the stacks" immediately following the ribbon cutting and began training. "This will minimize the time needed to get them back to sea, fully operational, and best of all they'll be fully proficient with the new equipment on their first underway," stated Gamboa.

"We have long felt that improving the fidelity of our simulation capability in the training systems provides a direct improvement in the fleet's ability to not only 'exercise' the use of their tactical sensor and combat systems, but to provide for quality mission training and the effective tactical employment of these systems. We truly believe that the utilization of this third phase of the Submarine Multi-Mission Team Trainer, particularly here with Pacific Fleet, will directly result in a tactical advantage to the fleet," said Loeffler.

Over the next two years, six new additional systems will be delivered to submarine training sites located at Pearl Harbor, Bangor, Maine; New London, Conn.; Kings Bay, Ga; and San Diego.



U.S. Navy photo

Capt. Charles Merkel and Rich Loeffler (NSWC Carderock) cut the ribbon lei to mark the grand opening of the Submarine Multi-Mission Team Trainer Phase 3 at Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific.

## Mercy: Providing medical services in West Pacific, Southeast Asia

Continued from A-1

The deployment also offers the Navy the opportunity to train the ship's crew, medical staff and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners for future operations.

"By deploying Mercy, we're not only providing support to the host nations, we are training our medical crew in order to better prepare them to respond in times of disaster relief," said Roughead.

"We can provide a wide range of medical care from dental, optometry, surgery, general surgery and pediatric care, just to name a few," said Capt. Joseph L. Moore, military treatment facility commander.

Working in cooperation with host nations, Mercy medical staff will provide these medical and dental assistance programs ashore and afloat. The ship is also serving as an enabling platform for numerous embarked NGOs, such as the Hawai'i-based Aloha Medical Mission.

The relationships with non-governmental agencies developed in the relief efforts following the tsunami in December 2004. Mercy followed up by performing Operation Unified Assistance, where Mercy's medical team treated 107,000 patients, performed 466 surgeries, distributed 11,555 pairs of eyeglasses and performed more than 6,900 dental procedures.

Mercy's deployment is expected to last about five months. For additional information, go to the U.S. Pacific Fleet Web site at [www.cpf.navy.mil](http://www.cpf.navy.mil), or contact Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs at 808-471-3769.

# Rainbow Bay: Safe and sound

Continued from A-1

Naval Facilities Engineering Command [NAVFAC] laboratory in Pearl Harbor responded to CNRH's request for the bacterial analysis and on April 19 conducted water sampling in the marina area. Five days later, lab reports yielded reassuring news.

While there is a "no recreational swimming" policy in place for Pearl Harbor in the interest of safety and security, the news about the test

results was, nevertheless, welcomed by Gerald Hamilton, the outdoor recreation program director for the region's Morale, Welfare and Recreation [MWR] department.

"From time to time, some of our boaters or paddlers may take a spill into the harbor so we're [MWR] glad that the waters were tested," said Hamilton.

According to Norman Kawamoto, who directs operations at the Navy lab, water samples were also taken in

other areas of Pearl Harbor in April.

"Samples [water] taken from areas adjacent to piers where divers and workers operate showed bacteria levels that are acceptable by DOH standards," said Kawamoto, who is also the lead chemist at the NAVFAC lab.

Both Kawamoto and Muraoka said bacteria are always present in the oceans, ponds, streams and catchments so it makes good sense for people to take simple pre-

cautions to prevent potential health problems.

The DOH offers practical guidelines, including not swimming or wading in freshwater streams or ponds, especially when you have open cuts or sores. And for your health and safety, it's a good idea to always heed the warning signs posted at beaches, streams and other water recreational areas.

For information on advisories for Hawai'i's waters, visit the DOH Web site at [www.hawaii.gov/health](http://www.hawaii.gov/health).

# FISC, Pearl Harbor changes command

**Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Pearl Harbor Public Affairs**

In a change of command held April 28, Capt. Robert Carter relieved Capt. Robert Bronson as commanding officer of Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC), Pearl Harbor.

Carter reported from FISC Norfolk where he had served since May 2003. He began his FISC Norfolk tour as the customer operations director and served since February 2004 as the executive officer.

Originally from Bloomington, Ind., Carter earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Indiana University and an MBA from the University of Rhode Island. In addition, he holds a master's degree in acquisitions and procurement from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Carter has had four afloat tours, serving initially aboard USS Belknap



Capt. Robert Carter is the new commanding officer of FISC.

(CG 26) and later aboard USS Willamette (AO 180), USS Abraham Lincoln (CV 72), and as the military officer-in-charge aboard USS Saturn (TAFS 10).

Bronson, who has served as FISC Pearl's commanding officer since July 2004, will remain in Hawai'i. On May 1, he relieved Capt. Gary Westfall, who retired as deputy J4 at U.S. Pacific Command.

In October, FISC Pearl will celebrate its 64th year of providing logistics support to the Pacific Fleet.

## *Sailors participate in community clean up*

MACS SW/AW Timothy Brown of Naval Station Pearl Harbor tugs at a discarded stuffed toy wedged in the grass and mud on the bank of Kapakahi Stream in Waipahu during an Adopt-a-Stream community cleanup effort on April 29. More than 150 volunteers from the Navy, local government, churches, schools, scouts and other community organizations donned leather gloves and rubber boots for the wet, muddy workout. By late morning, the volunteers had filled giant bins full of green waste, truckloads full of trash, and left heaps of garbage, one which included a soggy, stuffed animal, for roadside pickup by the city. Kapakahi Stream feeds into the 70-acre Pouhala Marsh, the largest of the remaining wetlands in Pearl Harbor and vitally important to the Hawaiian stilt that is currently listed on the endangered species list. For Brown, participating in the community cleanup was a rewarding experience. "We live here, and we are part of the community so we need to maintain it," said Brown, who encouraged others to take advantage of future volunteer opportunities.



U.S. Navy photo

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# Hawai'i Navy News Sports

## Golden Eagles close out baseball season with second place finish

**Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) Public Affairs**

The Golden Eagles of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) closed out an excellent season Wednesday, with a loss to Marine Headquarters, 9-5. The Eagles had to dig deep into their exhausted pitching staff to try and pull off a win in game two of the championship series. The end result was a valiant effort that earned them second place for the season.

VP-9 was coming off a big win Monday night against Marine Combat Service Support Group, 14-0. That win was directly attributed to the outstanding pitching of AT1 Kruger and Lt. Harrington. Tuesday

night's game swung the opposite way for the eagles with a 14-3 loss to Marine HQ in the first game of the championship.

The VP-9 team finished the season with a second place finish and a 10 and 5 record. Team coach Yeoman 2nd Class Matthew Lawyer said this about the season, "The guys have worked real hard all season. We made a good run for first place, but three games in a row just took its toll on our pitchers. Congrats to these guys on a terrific season."

**U.S. Navy photo**

The Golden Eagles of Patrol Squadron Nine (VP-9) celebrate a successful season. The VP-9 team finished the season with a second place finish and a 10 and 5 record.

