

American Indian & Alaskan Native Month

Hawai'i

Navy News

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MCPON visits Pearl Harbor Sailors

Story and photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON), Joe R. Campa Jr., visited the Hawai'i operating area this week to meet with Pearl Harbor-based Sailors and to get a better understanding of the island.

"I wanted to get to know the people and the region. What gives me a seat at the table with the Navy's leadership is knowing the fleet and knowing the Sailors," said Campa.

According to Campa, Pearl Harbor is one of the most strategically important locations of the Pacific Fleet and will continue to play a significant role in the future of the Navy.

"Our presence here is very important to the stability of the Pacific region and I only see that importance growing as time goes on," continued Campa.

With a late arrival on island Friday evening, Campa began his visit Saturday by joining approximately 900 Hawai'i-based Sailors for the Navy's 231st Navy

Enlisted Ball at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.

His visit continued Monday morning with a tour of the USS Arizona Memorial and a trip to the deck plates of Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) where he spoke to the crew at an all-hands-call.

"The Lake Erie is an outstanding looking ship. I was very impressed, the Sailors look good and the ship looks good. Most importantly, there was an essence of camaraderie on board so I walk away feeling very good about my trip to USS Lake Erie," said Campa.

Additionally, Campa commented on what he thought sets Pearl Harbor Sailors apart from others throughout the fleet.

"Sailors stationed here understand the importance of Pearl Harbor and why we're here. Pearl Harbor has a long history and I think Sailors here are connected with that history and take a lot of pride in being a part of it," concluded Campa.

Campa's eventful schedule of visiting and speaking with regional Sailors continued through Wednesday before the MCPON departed the island of Oahu.



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. speaks with Sailors assigned to the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor. MCPON is currently in the Hawaii region visiting local Navy commands and Sailors.

Navy says wreck found off Japan is legendary sub USS Wahoo

Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

For more than six decades her whereabouts have remained a mystery; her story one of submarine legend - her crew on "Eternal Patrol."

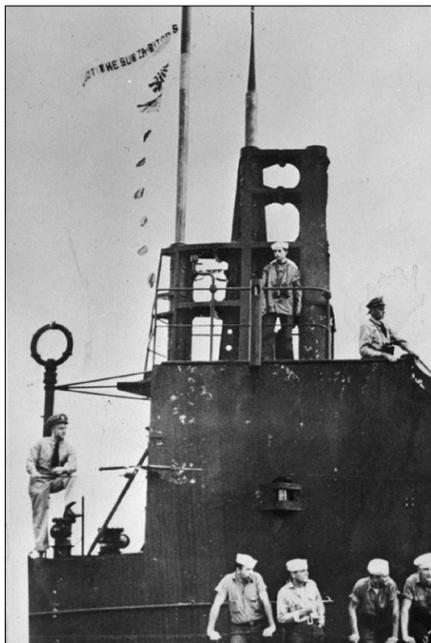
Yet, after an extensive review of evidence, the last chapters are being written as the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet announced that the sunken submarine recently discovered by divers in the Western Pacific is, indeed, the World War II submarine USS Wahoo (SS 238).

"After reviewing the records and information, we are certain USS Wahoo has been located," said Adm. Gary Roughead, the U.S. Pacific Fleet commander. "We are grateful for the support of the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park and appreciate greatly the underwater video footage of the submarine provided by our Russian navy colleagues, which allowed us to make this determination. This brings closure to the families of the men of Wahoo - one of the greatest fighting submarines in the history of the U.S. Navy."

In July, the Russian dive team "Iskra" photographed wreckage lying in about 213 feet (65 meters) of water in the La Perouse (Soya) Strait between the Japanese island of Hokkaido and the Russian island of Sakhalin. The divers were working with The Wahoo Project Group, an international team of experts coordinated by Bryan MacKinnon, a relative of Wahoo's famed skipper, Cmdr. Dudley W. "Mush" Morton.

"I am very pleased to be part of an effort where old adversaries have joined together as friends to find the Wahoo," said MacKinnon.

Wahoo was last heard from Sept. 13, 1943, as the Gato-class submarine departed the island of Midway en route to the "dangerous, yet important," Sea of Japan. Under strict radio silence, Morton and his crew proceeded as ordered. Radio contact was expected to be regained with Midway in late October upon Wahoo's departure from the Sea of Japan through the Kurile Island chain. No such contact was made. Following an aerial search of the area, Wahoo was officially reported



Official U.S. Navy photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives USS Wahoo (SS 238) returns to Pearl Harbor following the Gato-class submarine's third war patrol, circa Feb. 7, 1943.

missing Nov. 9, 1943.

At the time, the loss of Wahoo was believed due to mines or a faulty torpedo. But Japanese reports later stated that one of its planes had spotted an American submarine in the La Perouse Strait on Oct. 11, 1943. These reports indicate a multi-hour combined sea and air attack involving depth charges and aerial bombs finally sunk Wahoo.

Japan Maritime Self Defense Force retired

▼ See WAHOO, A-6

Naval Station Pearl Harbor gets new CMC

Story and photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

Managing Editor

On Nov. 1, CMDM (SW/SS/FMF) Steve Mitchell relieved CMDM (SW/AW) Perry Bonarrigo as the command master chief for Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Mitchell, a former Navy corpsman who has been stationed with the Marine Corps and also in the submarine force, most recently served as the command master chief onboard USS O'Kane (DDG 70). The Laconia, N.H. native said he is ready for his new assignment.

"This is the best job in the Navy. I have the opportunity to interact with Sailors on a daily basis, to support them and their ohana, and to be a part of team Pearl Harbor. There's no better job at sea or on shore," said Mitchell.

According to Mitchell, Pearl Harbor Sailors and their families are his first priority. "I think the biggest focus for us here at Naval Station Pearl Harbor should be providing services to the fleet and their families. We are the Navy's finest homeport and we need to continue to build upon our past successes as we look forward to new and innovative ways to constantly improve the quality of life for our Sailors and their families. I am impressed by the caliber of CPOs [chief petty officers] and Sailors assigned to the



CMDM (SW/SS/FMF) Steve Mitchell, the new command master chief for Naval Station Pearl Harbor, talks to Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Richard Yanagihara as he assumes his new duties.

naval station and I am confident that, with their continued support, we will provide top quality services to all our Sailors and their families," he explained.

Mitchell added that he wants his Sailors to seek help when the road gets bumpy. "It's important for them to identify goals and to ensure they are attainable. It's essential that leadership gets to know their Sailors and any family issues or concerns they may or may not have," said Mitchell.

"The key is getting our Sailors to understand we are here for them - we are not going to judge them. If discipline needs to happen, it will happen, but if Sailors get in a bind, all they have to do is talk to their chain of command. Let us know what the problem is and we

will bring all of our experience to bear on it," he added.

Mitchell said he is the prime example of how a young Sailor can be mentored into a productive leader. "My career has not been perfect, especially when I was a young Sailor. Had it not been for my chain of command, I might not be where I am today," said Mitchell.

"It's hard for them to know when it's ok to talk to their chain of command. If you get a traffic ticket out in town or bills that are starting to pile up, that's ok, shipmate; let us know so that we can get involved and help to resolve it before it becomes insurmountable. We need to be proactive, not reactive," he advised.

▼ See CMC, A-2



Russell Sailors brighten CDC
See page A-4



Helo 'flies' on freeway
See page A-7



MCPON at Navy Enlisted Ball
See page A-2



Perils of paradise
See page B-1

MCPON speaks to Sailors at Navy Enlisted Birthday Ball

MC3 Ben A. Gonzales

*Fleet Public Affairs Center,
Pacific, Detachment Hawai'i*

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr. participated in his first Navy Enlisted Birthday Ball as the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) when he attended the Navy Enlisted Birthday Ball in Hawai'i on Oct. 28 at Hilton Hawaiian Village.

Campa expressed his feelings about Pearl Harbor and the opportunity to meet the local Sailors. "It feels great to be in a place that is so rich in naval history. It's an honor and a privilege to get out and meet everyone and get to know the Sailors that I represent," he said.

His first visit to Hawai'i as a Sailor was almost 20 years ago. "This was my first port visit as a Sailor and I have probably been here about 10 times. Each time is always a great experience," offered Campa. "Hawai'i is one of my favorite places to visit by far and I love coming here."

Campa stated that speaking at his first Navy ball as MCPON while in Hawai'i was a good choice. "I think that doing it here in Hawai'i is a perfect place," said Campa. "The Navy ball is really a time to focus on our people. We celebrate a lot of things throughout the year, but the Navy ball is a time to celebrate the Sailors."

For several Pearl Harbor Sailors, the Navy ball is one of the best tickets in town. Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 3rd Class Kayla Carter, Naval Maritime Forecast Center

(METOC), said, "This is my second time here at the Navy ball and I like it. It's cool that military members can get together and celebrate the Navy's birthday."

Carter expressed her joy to have the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy speak at the event. "It is really cool. I like to hear the stories from the older Sailors. Master Chief Campa joined the Navy in the 1980s; I wasn't even born yet," said Carter.

Operations Specialist Third Class Joseph A. Williams of the USS O'Kane (DDG 77) said, "(After) being at sea for so long, I wanted to treat my girlfriend to a good time. I wanted to do something fancy. The Navy ball is a great place for that."

Williams expressed his opinion about having the MCPON at the Navy ball. "It's quite an honor to be here to listen to his many words of wisdom. I am very pleased to be here with all of these great people from around the world," he said.

As the night came to a close, Sailors left with the words of wisdom that Campa echoed and with pride, knowing they had just celebrated the birthday of the United States Navy.

"I think that his timing is exemplary. This is a special night and a special occasion. Being able to have the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy here in Hawai'i to help us celebrate the 231st birthday of the Navy is a very special thing. We are lucky to have him here," noted Capt. William Metts, commanding officer of the Navy Information Operation Command, Hawai'i.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Dennis C. Cantrell

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. speaks with a Sailor assigned to a local Navy command during the 231st Navy Enlisted Birthday ball. MCPON visited local Navy commands and Sailors in the Hawai'i region.

JPPSO/PPD moving to Navy Aloha Center at Moanalua

James Murray

*Fleet and Industrial
Support Center*

If you're planning to ship your household goods, your car, or other personal effects, please take note of the new location for the Joint Personal Property Shipping Office (JPPSO) and the Personal Property Department (PPD). The two offices, both which are currently located in building 487 at Fleet and Industrial

Support Center (FISC) Pearl Harbor, will be moving to the Navy Aloha Center (NAC), located at Moanalua Shopping Center.

JPPSO/PPD will share the Aloha Center with the Navy Housing Office, which will enable new and departing personnel to conveniently conduct much of the business associated with their transfers.

Although JPPSO/PPD will attempt to conduct their move seamlessly, there may be some disruptions to serv-

ice. Here are some dates to keep in mind:

- From Nov. 6-15, PPD will make no appointments. Only walk-ins with emergent, short-fused requirements will be serviced; JPPSO's services will also be limited.
- The move will take place from Nov. 9-17.
- The last official day of business at building 487 for both JPPSO/PPD will be Nov. 9.
- The first official business day at the Navy Aloha

Center will be Nov. 13.

The address of the Navy Aloha Center is 4825 Bougainville Drive, Honolulu, HI 96818. Phone numbers will remain the same.

JPPSO/PPD will be the last tenants to move from building 487, which - until a few months ago - also housed the FISC Branch of the Pearl Harbor Federal Credit Union. The 62-year-old building is scheduled to be demolished in fiscal year 2009.

CMC: Mitchell is new CMC of Naval Station Pearl Harbor

Continued from A-1

As a leader of leaders, Mitchell strongly encourages his fellow chiefs and the chain of command to get involved and mentor their Sailors. "Whether they are in Iraq or on a ship homeported in Pearl Harbor, or on a submarine headed out to sea, they need the same things from us. It's

important that as leaders, we bring the tools to help them succeed - and to ensure that they know that we will take care of their families they leave behind and that we are here to take care of them," Mitchell concluded.

Bonarrigo, who is retiring from the Navy after 30 years of service, said he has enjoyed his tour as the command master chief. "I consider the CMC job

of Naval Station Pearl Harbor the best CMC job in the Navy. It truly felt like the heartbeat of our Pacific Navy," said Bonarrigo.

"I look forward to being reunited with my family and trying to have a positive influence with my children and in my local community - and a little golf for me to keep my morale up," Bonarrigo concluded.

Reporting unsafe, unhealthful conditions

Navy Region Hawai'i
Safety

Employees are encouraged to immediately report any potentially hazardous practices/conditions and correcting them when they have the ability and knowledge to do so.

Employee reports of unsafe or unhealthful practices and conditions are an important means of identifying potential hazards before accidents occur and are encouraged

at all levels.

Reports should be handled at the operating level to expedite corrective action; however, reports or complaints may be made directly to the servicing safety department staff for follow-up action.

Employees serviced by the regional safety department should submit the unsafe/unhealthful condition report via the region Enterprise Safety Application Management System data management system.

STORY IDEAS?

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

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Hawaii Navy News

Hawaii Navy News Editorial

Take your risk assessment training with you

Atlantic Fleet Master Chief
Jackie DiRosa



Atlantic FLTCM
Jackie DiRosa

Loss of life through wartime combat operations is a tragic reality. Loss of life on the highways and roads through ignorance, poor planning and bad judgment is senseless and preventable.

In just the past fiscal year, more than half of total Navy and Marine Corps mishaps were traffic related. The Navy's three youngest age groups, ranging from 17 to 29 years old, had triple the fatality rate of the 30 to 34 year group. In the first quarter, the Navy saw an average of 10 traffic-related deaths per month and an average of six deaths per month in the last quarter.

Alcohol, fatigue, speed and the relative youth of Sailors and Marines were key factors in these accidents. There is little doubt that these shipmates failed to properly assess their risks.

Safety management and risk assessment have been critical elements of our Navy culture for many years, utilizing the operational risk

management (ORM) model. There isn't a command training exercise or deployment operation in which ORM is not taken into consideration as a tool to identify the risks and weigh them against the possible outcomes. It has been proven that the application of the ORM model saves lives when applied on the job and ORM can be just as effective in our personal lives and off duty activities, especially when operating a private motor vehicle.

As a refresher, the four principles of ORM are:

•**Accept risk when benefits outweigh the cost.**

Driving at high speeds to prevent being UA from the ship, or driving while exhausted or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, does not outweigh the potential loss of your life or that of others. There is never

a benefit from taking these risks. Slow down, think about your actions, and arrive alive.

•**Accept no unnecessary risks.**

Alcohol, exhaustion, severe weather and poor road conditions present unnecessary risks when traveling. We've all seen the numbers and read the stories of our shipmates who failed to acknowledge their limits and created unnecessary risks to their lives and our community.

•**Anticipate and manage risk by planning.**

Planning is the most effective way to manage risk. Know the driving conditions before setting out and know who to call if you have to change plans. Ensure someone, ideally in your chain of command, knows your plans, especially when traveling alone and for long distances. Recognize that getting back on the road after being deployed is an increased risk, especially when there have been changes in the highway system and traffic patterns.

•**Make risk decisions at the right level.**

Risk decisions start with you. However, if you are unsure how to properly evaluate the risks, you should discuss your situation with your chief or supervisor and develop a safe plan of action. Additionally, if your ability to make a safe decision is impaired, it is always best not to act at all until you can do so safely.

To assist you in planning your trip and evaluating the driving risks, the Naval Safety Center offers a web-based, PMV risk-assessment tool called the Traffic Risk Planning System (TRiPS). This helpful tool is available via Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) to anyone with an NKO account. You can also visit the Naval Safety Center Web page at www.safetycenter.navy.mil for additional safety tips, training materials, and detailed information on how to apply ORM on or off duty.

Your mentors and leaders are responsible for providing the proper tools and training to assist you

in making the right risk management decisions. It is then your responsibility to use the tools and training to ensure that the benefit of your decisions outweighs the risks involved. It is critically important that you employ the practices of ORM in your personal life and maintain an awareness of the impact your decisions can have on you and others. Just as safety management and risk assessment are key enablers to mission readiness, they are also key enablers to your personal readiness.

As we prepare for the upcoming Veterans' Day weekend and holiday season, I ask each of you to give serious thought and consideration to your travel plans and off duty activities and make safety and risk assessment key elements of your plan. Supervisors are strongly encouraged to review PMV safety practices and ORM principles with their Sailors routinely. We cannot afford to lose even one Sailor due to carelessness. ORM works if you work it. Think before you act and arrive alive.

National American Indian Heritage Month [and Alaskan Native Heritage Month], 2006

A proclamation by the
President of the United
States of America

During National American Indian Heritage Month [and Alaskan Native Heritage Month], we honor the generations of American Indians and Alaska natives who have added to the character of our nation. This month is an opportunity to celebrate their many accomplishments and their rich ancestry and traditions.



President
George W. Bush

America is blessed by the character and strength of American Indians and Alaska Natives, and our citizens are grateful for the countless ways Native Americans have enriched our country and lifted the spirit of our nation. We are especially grateful for the Native Americans who have served and continue to serve in our nation's military. These brave individuals have risked their lives to protect our citizens, defend our democracy and spread the blessings of liberty to people around the world.

My administration is working to ensure that American Indians and Alaska Natives have access to all the opportunities of this great land. My fiscal year 2007 budget proposes more than \$12.7 billion for government programs for Native Americans.

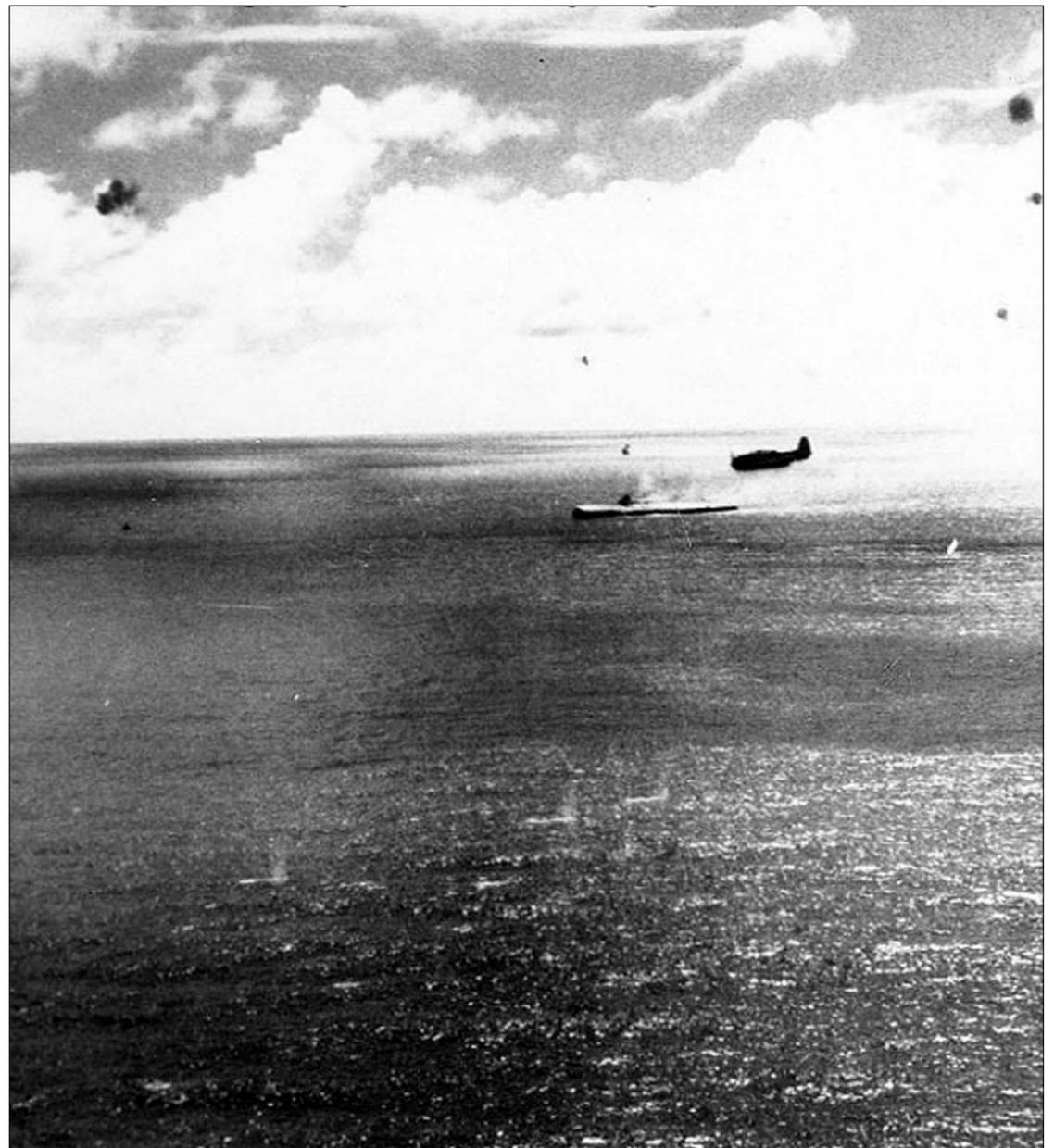
Education is vital to ensuring all citizens reach their full potential, and my budget includes funding to help Native-American schools succeed and meet the requirements of the No

Child Left Behind Act. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is providing education for approximately 46,000 American-Indian and Alaska-Native children.

To help keep Native Americans safe, I have also proposed to increase law enforcement personnel and improve law enforcement facilities in American-Indian communities. My administration will continue to work on a government-to-government basis with tribal governments, honor the principles of tribal sovereignty and the right to self-determination, and help ensure America remains a land of promise for American Indians, Alaska Natives and all our citizens.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, president of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2006 as National American Indian Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities.

Battle off Cape Engano



Official U.S. Navy photograph, now in the collections of the National Archives

Japanese aircraft carrier Zuikaku listing, following several hits by attacking U.S. Navy carrier aircraft on Oct. 25, 1944. A U.S. Navy "Avenger" torpedo plane is between the ship and the camera.

Get out and vote

Secretary of Defense
Donald Rumsfeld

(Editor's note: A message released by the Secretary of Defense emphasizes the importance of voting to all service members and Department of Defense civilians.)

On Nov. 7, Americans will elect 33 U.S. senators, the entire U.S. House of Representatives, 37 state governors and thousands of state and local officials. All eligible citizens can participate.

You don't have to be home to vote – every voting jurisdiction has provisions to distribute, receive and count absentee ballots. But in order for your ballot to be counted, you must act now.

If you have received your state's absentee ballot, you will need to vote and return it to your local election official as soon as possible so that it arrives by the state deadline. If you are registered to vote and have not

yet received your state's absentee ballot, you may use the federal write-in absentee ballot (FWAB). You can obtain a special ballot from your unit's voting assistance officer or from the following Web site: www.fvap.gov.

If you are not registered to vote, your state may allow late registration. See your voting assistance officer now.

Many states allow voters to use electronic media to register, receive blank ballots, and even return voted ballots. Check the integrated voting alternative site (IVAS), available through www.fvap.gov to see what options might be available to you.

Your unit commander, your voting assistance officer and the federal voting assistance program office are doing everything they can to make it possible for you to have your vote counted in this election.

The rest is up to you.

Hawaii Navy News

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USS Russell Sailors brighten Rainbow Hale Child Development Center

Ensign Teresa Donnelly

USS Russell (DDG 59)
Public Affairs

Sailors and family members from USS Russell (DDG 59) spent their last weekend before the ship's next underway period doing some much needed painting of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Rainbow Hale Child Development Center (CDC) on Oct. 21. The center is located in the Halsey Terrace family housing neighborhood.

Founded in 1983 by the Pearl Harbor Naval Officers' Club, Rainbow Hale CDC provides schooling for pre-toddlers, toddlers and pre-school age children. Additionally, the staff of more than 20 people emphasizes the healthy development and educational needs tailored to each specific age group. In fact, many Russell families have children who attend school there.

Electronics Technician 1st Class Robert Start, whose daughter attends classes at the facility, said, "Rainbow Hale CDC is a wonderful environment for all children. I feel Rainbow Hale offers wonderful childcare and is a great benefit to her educational growth. Rainbow Hale is staffed with some of the most caring and loving people. Volunteering was a great opportunity to give back to the CDC, who have taken such great care of my children," said Start.

Russell crew members started early in the morning, painting outside each of the two classroom buildings. Sailors used stools, ladders and chairs to paint hard-to-reach places and even put a second coat on areas that needed a bit



U.S. Navy photo

Culinary Specialist 1st Class Fredrick Tenebro, a Sailor assigned to USS Russell (DDG 59), paints the walls outside the Rainbow Hale Child Development Center as part of a community service project.

more care and attention.

"Painting was a great experience. It reminded me of what I did when I volunteered on Russell's last deployment in Thailand," said Culinary Specialist 1st Class Fredrick Tenebro. Ann Harlan-Fortucci, the CDC director, expressed her enthusiasm for the Sailors' efforts. After prepping the walls outside the classroom, she said "Wow! The Sailors' work makes a 100 percent difference."

She added that the center relies on volunteers to aid in basic projects around the center. By Russell providing over half a dozen crew members and families willing to donate their time, it made a big difference in the upkeep of the CDC. "The volunteers from Russell did an awesome job. It makes the environment so much nicer and it just looks so

beautiful," noted Harlan-Fortucci.

After the work was done, the CDC provided refreshments and pizza to the volunteers to show their appreciation. Russell plans to do more services for the CDC, including power washing the patio outside the classrooms and prepping and painting other areas of the educational facility.

Electronics Technician 3rd Class John Fuller said, "Helping the community reminds us what we are here to protect - which is the lifestyle we enjoy. We do that each time we help anyone, from when we are overseas in a foreign port to a school in our local community. It sends a message of strength in the present and hope for the future."

USS Crommelin hosts visit for family namesake



U.S. Navy photo

Cmdr. Mark S. Manfredi, commanding officer of USS Crommelin (FFG 37), hosted a tour for John Crommelin Jr. and family members who visited Oahu in late September. Crommelin is the son of Rear Adm. John Crommelin. USS Crommelin was named for five brothers - Vice Adm. Henry Crommelin (1904-1971), Rear Adm. John Crommelin (died 1997), Capt. Quentin Crommelin (died 1997), Cmdr. Charles Crommelin (died 1945) and Lt. Cmdr. Richard Crommelin (1917-1945). USS Crommelin is the first ship of that name in the United States Navy and is the 28th ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry-class of guided-missile frigates.

PSD moving to Navy Services Center

Personnel Support Detachment

Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Pearl Harbor will relocate from its current location (650 Center Drive, Pearl Harbor) to the new Navy Services Center at Moanalua Center (4827 Bougainville Drive, Honolulu). This new location is adjacent to the Navy Exchange and directly behind the Moanalua Center shopping complex.

The relocation will occur from Nov. 2-9. PSD Pearl Harbor will receive customers at the new location beginning Nov. 13. During the move, (Nov. 2-9), PSD will have limited-to-no service at its current location (see below for specific information on services).

Commercial Travel Office (CTO) / Navy Passenger Transportation Office (NAVPTO):

- Today - non-operational.
- Nov. 6 - Operational at the new Moanalua Service Center.

- Contact information between Nov. 4-12: CTO, 422-0571; NAVPTO, 474-1919, ext. 5406 (fax 474-1911).

- Contact information beginning Nov. 13: CTO, 422-0571; NAVPTO, 471-2405, (fax 474-1911).

CAC/ID cards:

- Nov. 6-12 - non-operational. If a new CAC or ID card is needed during this transition, please plan accordingly. Other CAC issuing facilities in the Hawai'i region will be available.

- Beginning Nov. 13 - operational at the new Navy Services Center.

All other PSD services:

- Nov. 2-12 - limited service at its current location.
- Beginning Nov. 13 - operational at the new Navy Services Center. During this transition, PSD Pearl Harbor's duty section will continue to be at the ready to support emergencies. Please contact 306-8992 for assistance.

Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. views a photo roster board of Sailors assigned to the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor. MCPON visited local Navy commands and Sailors in the Hawai'i region.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Justin P. Nesbitt
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. speaks with Sailors at the Surface Navy Association luncheon during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. speaks with Sailors assigned to the Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Ben A. Gonzales
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. receives a tour of Pearl Harbor, including a visit to the Arizona Memorial.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Dennis C. Cantrell
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. speaks with Philippine Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Seagan about challenges facing each other's navy and sailors during a visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Helicopter 'flies' on freeway

Story and photo by
Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities Engineering
Command, Hawai'i Public
Affairs

How does a helicopter "fly" without an engine or rotary blades? It does so by moving at 55 mph on the freeway, while being transported on the back of a 75-ton tractor-trailer driven by transportation professionals of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawai'i (NAVFAC Hawai'i).

On the morning of Sept. 28, transportation personnel from NAVFAC Hawai'i arrived at hangar 103 on Marine Corps Base Hawai'i (MCBH) - Kaneohe to load onto their trailer the shell of a SH-60B "Seahawk" helicopter belonging to the Navy's Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light Three Seven (HSL-37) command. The effort required a crane operator, two riggers and two truck drivers.

"Moving this aircraft requires special attention to detail," said Joseph Aubrey, NAVFAC Hawai'i transportation equipment operations



The Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i tractor-trailer begins its 46-mile trip with an SH-60B Seahawk helicopter from Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe to Wheeler AFB on Sept. 28. The helo was transported back to Kaneohe on Oct. 12 after it underwent maintenance work at Wheeler.

supervisor. "And my employees like taking on challenging jobs."

The riggers used a special bridle, specifically for the SH-60B and owned by HSL-37, to hoist the helicopter into the air. Then the aircraft was carefully lowered into correct position on the trailer, making sure its wheels were placed into a wheel box that helped keep it steady during transport. The helicopter was fur-

ther locked into place with chains and binders to prevent any additional movement.

"To secure the helicopter during transportation, we attached a specially fabricated steel wheel box onto the back of our trailer," explained Aubrey.

Once loaded and locked down, the crane, tractor-trailer and escort vehicles moved out, exiting the base at about 9:30 a.m. and driving onto

Highway 3. With proper permits from the state of Hawai'i in hand, the 15-foot, 5-inch high load easily made its way to Wheeler Air Force Base in a little over an hour.

Over the past few years, NAVFAC Hawai'i has transported a number of helicopters to and from MCBH Kaneohe and Wheeler AFB. Usually the request for transfer occurs once or twice a year. "As part of regular mainte-

nance, the helicopter's major components are disassembled and the aircraft is prepared for paint removal," said Jose Magana, Naval Aviation Depot North Island's aircraft services site manager. "The masking and plastic media stripping is done at Wheeler because the paint facility here at Kaneohe does not have a plastic media bead (PMB) booth to facilitate this task."

Over a five-day period, two personnel and the site manager from Naval Aviation Depot North Island, along with contractor personnel from LSI, disassembled the helicopter and prepared it for truck transport. The aircraft remained at Wheeler for approximately two weeks before it was returned to MCBH - Kaneohe. In this case, the aircraft returned to hangar 103 on Oct. 12.

Once the aircraft returned to hangar 103, any corrosion that was found will be repaired and the helicopter will be treated with an alodine solution to help prevent future aluminum corrosion. Examiners will inspect the aircraft for any structural damage. Then it will be towed to a paint building on MCBH Kaneohe and receive primer

and paint. Finally, the helicopter will be returned to hangar 103, where it will be reassembled for duty.

"This may be one of the last times we will need to transport a SH-60B by truck to Wheeler AFB," said Magana. "Sometime in December, a PMB booth will be available at Kaneohe so helicopters will no longer be seen on the H1, H2 or H3 freeway."

For the birds

The SH-60B "Seahawk" is a single main rotor, twin-engine helicopter. It has a canted tail rotor, a controllable stabilator, conventional fixed landing gear, an external cargo hook, a rescue hoist, and bomb racks for carrying and launching external stores. In addition, it is equipped with a flight-rated auxiliary power unit, a sonobuoy launch system, an anti-ice system, a fire-extinguishing system, an environmental control system, an automatic flight control system, a single-point pressure refueling system, a helicopter in-flight refueling system, and the necessary avionics and instrumentation for instrument flight and mission accomplishment.

PMRF hosts seabird habitat conservation training

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW/AW) Johnny
Michael

Pacific Missile Range
Facility, Kauai

Seabirds who call Kaua'i home may not realize it, but they have an impressive team of defenders drawing from many different backgrounds to collaborate and ensure that these feathered friends flourish on the Garden Island. This was demonstrated recently when a team of conservationists from various island agencies converged upon a wedge-tailed shearwater (*Puffinus pacificus*) colony located at the Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF).

Sharon Reilly, coordinator for the Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative's (KIUC) Save Our Shearwaters (SOS) program, brought a team of SOS field technicians to the PMRF shearwater colony to meet and train with Dr. Nick Holmes and Brett Hartl of the Kaua'i Endangered Bird Recovery Group and Andrea Erichsen, the Kaua'i Seabird Habitat conservation plan coordinator with the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife.

The team went over techniques for bird handling and banding, as well as methods used for the collection of important population data.

Although each agency has different primary goals, they all share the same basic commitment to the monitoring and protection of the island's various seabird populations.

"We conduct research on the ecology of the bird to understand how it can best be protected," Holmes explained.



Dr. Nick Holmes of the Kaua'i Endangered Bird Recovery Group releases a rehabilitated white-tailed tropicbird on the beach fronting the beach cottages at Pacific Missile Range Facility.

The research Holmes conducts includes all seabirds, but focuses more on the Newell's shearwaters (*Puffinus newelli*). While the wedge-tailed shearwaters like those found at PMRF tend to colonize close to the waters of the Pacific, Newell's reside much farther inland and, as a result, are prone to higher fallout numbers, a fallout being an unintended impact before reaching the ocean - resulting in

injury or death.

SOS maintains a number of aid stations around the island where people can bring fallen seabirds for evaluation, treatment and release. Birds that arrive at these aid stations are rehabilitated and subsequently released back into the wild.

A Newell's shearwater and a white-tailed tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus*) were two birds rescued in such a manner and brought to the PMRF outing to

demonstrate how to properly release rehabilitated birds. The tropicbird was not ready for prime-time and opted instead to remain in the care of the SOS staff, but the Newell's quickly took flight after release.

The colony was briefly surveyed and several nests flagged. Wedgies, as wedge-tailed shearwaters are known, were extracted, measured and banded under the direction of the accomplished ornithologists.

The team of SOS field technicians, Angela Iwai, Monique Imberski and Jason Vercelli, were all given the opportunity to put these techniques to work as they went through the various steps themselves, using the tools and instruments specific to this field of work.

After each tech practiced on several birds, the team wrapped up and made commitments with each other for future partnerships.

Heather Young, marketing and communications coordinator for SOS at KIUC, was pleased with the progress made during the trip and remarked on her own hopes for the future of the shearwaters, petrels, tropicbirds and others.

"I love what we're all doing for the seabirds in this island," said Young.

John Burger, PMRF environmental coordinator, expressed his optimism in terms of how the various federal, state and local agencies interact and ensure the seabirds are properly monitored and cared for. "This is another fine example of the pooling of on-island resources and talents that benefits the native residents of PMRF - furred, feathered, shelled or otherwise," he said.

AFCEA TechNet Asia-Pacific 2006 Conference to focus on joint and coalition collaboration

Armed Forces
Communications and
Electronics Association

AFCEA Hawai'i and AFCEA International will present the 21st Annual Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) TechNet Asia-Pacific Conference from Nov. 6-9 at the Sheraton Waikiki and Royal Hawaiian hotels in Waikiki.

All military and civilian armed forces personnel are invited to attend free of charge for a series of informative panel sessions and a wide range of displays and exhibits from the world's leading defense and IT organizations. This year's theme, "Innovating and Accelerating Joint and Coalition Collaboration," will focus on meeting the challenges of interoperability and information exchange between the U.S. and its allies.

The event will feature speakers from each of the armed forces Pacific commands, as well as several noted panelists. More than 130 exhibitors will participate in the conference, which is the largest and oldest information technology conference in the Pacific.

"The lineup of featured speakers is very impressive this year and we've added special events, including a government contracting seminar for small businesses and a panel session on post-9/11 intelligence reform," said Andy Chun, AFCEA Hawai'i executive vice president. "With so many high-level speakers and panelists, and cutting-edge technologies on display from large mainland defense contractors and local high tech firms, we expect this to be one of the biggest and most informative conferences in the history of the program."

Featured speakers will include the commanders of the armed forces in the Pacific: Adm. William J. Fallon, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; Gen. Paul V. Hester, USAF, Commander, Pacific Air Forces; Lt. Gen. John F. Goodman, USMC (invited), Commander, Marine Forces Pacific; Maj. Gen. William H. Brandenburg, USA, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Pacific; Rear Adm. Sally Brice-O'Hara, Commander, 14th Coast Guard District; and Rear Adm. Dirk J. Debbink, USNR, Reserve deputy and chief of staff, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Leading experts in coalition information sharing will serve as panel moderators, including Rear Adm. Andrew M. Singer, USN, J2, U.S. Pacific Command; Maj. Gen. Gene Renzi (ret.), president, Defense Systems Group, ManTech; Col. William S. Febuary, USMC, G6, U.S. Marine Forces Pacific; Col. Debra Dexter, USAF, Commander, Joint Interoperability Test Command; and Col. (P) Jennifer Napper, USA, J-6, U.S. Pacific Command.

Registration for the exhibition and technical program is free for military and civilian armed forces personnel. Breakfast and lunch events with featured speakers require tickets which can be purchased in the lobby of the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel during the conference, while supplies last.

For more information and to register for TechNet Asia-Pacific 2006, visit www.afcea.org/events/asiapacific or contact Terry Rogers at trogers@afcea.org or call (800) 336-4583, ext 6238. In Hawai'i, contact Cathy Pong at cathy.pong@verizonbusiness.com for details on TechNet registration.

Tripler gives a special gifts to wounded Soldiers

Staff Sgt. Michael Westerfield

Tripler Army Medical Center
Public Affairs Office

Service members wounded during Operations Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) who are being treated at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) are now receiving hand-made pillows and quilts during their treatment.

Pillows were donated by United Airlines and the Chicago Association of Retarded Citizens. Pillow cases are made by individual citizens and civilian organizations interested in supporting the healing heroes. Donors download the basic design from the patriotic pillow program Web site and personalize them by their choice of fabrics and other details. So far more than 6,000 pillow cases have been donated and more than 4,500 delivered to service members being treated in various military medical centers across the country.

"The pillows are symbols that the civilian community stands behind them," said Sgt. Maj. Frank J. Simonetti, nursing support services sergeant major at TAMC. "They care and appreciate the Soldiers' sacrifice in the war on terrorism."

The Quilt of Valor program was started in 2003 at the chaplains' office of Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington D.C. The mother of a service member brought them the idea and it quickly spread. The program is now in 24 military hospitals and several veterans' organizations. Quilters get the pattern and other details of the program from the quilts for Soldiers Web site. So far more than 6,700 quilts have been presented to wounded service members.

"There is a huge outpouring of support for us from the staff, civilian organizations



Photo by Mindy Anderson

Chaplain (Capt.) Bradley Godding, TAMC staff chaplain, presents 2nd Lt. Tin Trung Nguyn, platoon leader, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine, with a Quilt of Valor on Oct. 20 at Tripler Army Medical Center. Nguyn is holding the Patriot Pillow presented to him earlier the same day.

and everyday 'Joe Shmoe' Americans," said 2nd Lt. Tin Trung Nguyn, platoon leader, 2nd Bn., 3rd Marine, after receiving a quilt of valor and the first patriotic pillow presented at TAMC. "The quilt and pillow are another sign of the support we, the individual Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines are receiving from the American public."

Simonetti, who heads up the patriotic pillow program at TAMC, agreed. "The pillow is a symbol, a reminder that the civilian community stands behind our wounded. They care and appreciate the sacrifices made for this war on terrorism. It's important that they (wounded service members) know how much the civilian population stands behind them."

"Every day Americans love their fighting forces and want them to know it," said Chaplain (Capt.) Bradley Godding, TAMC staff chap-

lain. "I've seen the warriors and their families moved to tears that somebody who doesn't even know them cares that much."

Godding has seen several different reactions from the recipients. "Some say they were just doing their duty and don't deserve it, some immediately give it to their spouse for the sacrifice they made and some sleep with it every night because it means so much."

Nguyn, who was wounded by a sniper in Haglaniyah, Iraq, keeps his pillow and quilt at his bedside during his stay at TAMC. He is expected to make a full recovery and return to duty.

"People help us in any way they can and that means a lot to know they support us so much," said Nguyn. "I just want to get healed up so I can get back with my guys and come back home with them."

2007 Pro Bowl lineup



U.S. Navy photo by MCI(AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Military and family members wait in line at Bloch Arena Information, Tickets and Tours (ITT) to get National Football League, Pro Bowl 2007 tickets. Service members showed up as early as 2:30 a.m. to be the first in line for tickets. more than 100 people were waiting for ITT to open as Morale, Welfare and Recreation employees showed up for work Wednesday morning.

Navy offers flexibility for exams as part of new IA initiatives

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs

Sailors assigned to designated combat areas around the world will now have the flexibility to take advancement exams at alternate times authorized in NAVADMIN 290/06 released Oct. 19.

The change is part of a new set of initiatives aimed at rewarding individual augmentees serving in combat zones and is designed to allow Sailors to have the proper amount of time to study for advancement exams.

"We have to show Sailors that we value the job they are doing," said Vice Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., chief of

naval personnel. "While they are overseas concentrating on the mission at hand, we want them to know that we are taking care of their careers and will set them up for success upon their return."

The initiative will allow commands with Sailors who are unable to participate in regularly scheduled exams to take the exams on a more flexible schedule. Sailors may take an exam up to two months prior to a scheduled departure to one of the designated combat zones - currently Iraq, Afghanistan, or the Horn of Africa.

"The bottom line is that no Sailor will be required to take an exam while in a

combat zone," said Harvey. "We want these Sailors concentrating on their mission and not worrying about exams until they return."

Sailors who miss two exam cycles due to deployments in the combat zones will have the opportunity to take two make-up exams. If selected for advancement, their date of advancement will be backdated to the effective date of advancement for the previous cycle which they missed.

For more information on this initiative, refer to NAVADMIN 290/06 located on the NPC Web site at www.npc.navy.mil/Referen ceLibrary/Messages/.