

Federal Fire Department Hawaii earns accreditation

Story and photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, presented Federal Fire Department (FFD) Hawaii with an accreditation plaque during a ceremony at the FFD headquarters building at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on April 16. The department was recognized as an accredited agency by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

"It is my pleasure to present this award to CNRH FFD for achieving this great accomplishment," said Smith. "This accreditation recognizes all of the time and effort that you put in on a day-to-day basis to become one of the elite fire departments throughout the country and the Department of Defense."

The accreditation was awarded to FFD for demonstrating that all 298 performance indicators, 84 core competencies and applicable criteria had been met and received a credible rating.

"It is truly an honor to be awarded this accreditation and



Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, speaks with personnel assigned to the CNRH Federal Fire Department (FFD) during a tour of the CNRH FFD headquarters building at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. During the tour, Smith presented the department with a plaque recognizing them as an accredited agency by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

it says a lot about our department's high standards that we strive to achieve," said Deputy Fire Chief Gayland Enriquez. "This award signifies the culmination of more than six

years of intense self-assessment of our department's goal to provide world-class fire and emergency services to the communities that we protect."

Enriquez also talked about

the effort of the performance that FFD personnel put in to help achieve the accreditation.

"We have more than 250 personnel that are assigned to FFD and they are the people

that made this happen," Enriquez said. "Without their precision and hard work, none of this would have been possible."

Station Capt. Leonard Sar-

sona served as the team leader for the Hawaii accreditation working group to help manage the assessment and maintain the upkeep of records.

"We put in numerous hours' work towards receiving this accreditation and in the end it really paid off," Sarsona said. "This was a department effort and I want to thank all of the personnel that were involved in this process."

FFD personnel described how they were pleased and proud to be a part of the Hawaii accreditation working group.

"We have achieved a great goal throughout the Department of Defense and throughout the world, and I'm very proud to be part of this program," said Fire Engineer Eric Pratt. "It was good to find our strengths and maintain them and then find our weaknesses to improve on them to become an elite fire department."

With more than 30,000 fire departments throughout the nation and internationally, only 135 have received accreditation and FFD Hawaii is one of only three Navy fire departments within Department of Defense (DoD) that have received accreditation. There are 16 fire departments in DoD.

Navy leadership says 'Not in My Navy' to sexual assault

MC2 Paul D. Honnick

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Det. Hawaii

"Not in my Navy," said Rear Adm. Dan Holloway, director of Naval Personnel's Plans and Policy Division, at the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Leadership Workshop held April 19 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The theme for the workshop, hosted by Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, is "Not in My Navy," which aims to spread awareness and reduce sexual assault against service members.

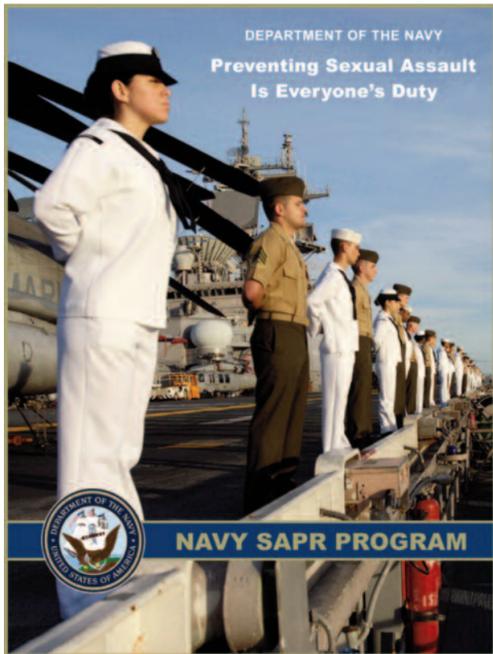
"It focuses on our trends, our data and it focuses on how we are going to synchronize the efforts in prevention, training, reporting, victim advocacy, prosecution, the disposition of the cases and self assessing to ensure we have our strategy action plan for reducing sexual assaults just right," explained Holloway. "The way it applies to the Navy right now is we know that sexual assault and the incidence of sexual assault is a readiness and leadership issue."

Currently, victims of sexual assault in the military have the option to file either a restricted or unrestricted report. Both options provide the victim with medical and victim advocacy care, but only an unrestricted report launches a formal investigation.

Holloway said one of the goals for the Navy is to encourage more unrestricted reports to ensure that justice is served to sexual predators.

"We want to hold the perpetrator accountable and we want to ensure that bystanders are held accountable, for not taking action when they see a circumstance occur that can lead up to sexual assault," he said.

Capt. Rod Blazewick, the Navy Region Hawaii judge ad-



A poster supporting the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) program.

vocate general, outlined the justice process for sexual assault cases in the Navy. He stressed the importance of the victim's cooperation in an investigation.

"If I lose the victim, I lose the case. If I lose the case, guess what you get back at your command - another predator," said Blazewick.

Leadership throughout the Navy frequently highlights the importance of taking care of its people as the right thing to do and highlights the potential impact on readiness.

Holloway explained how incidents of sexual assault affect readiness.

"First of all, the victim is traumatized," said Holloway. "At the same time, the unit cohesiveness is attacked. When you attack one, you attack many. It's a ripple effect like a pebble hitting the water. As it

ripples out from that attack, it really does cause a distraction and it really does impact unit readiness."

Holloway pointed out that support up and down the chain is critical to fostering a command climate that is focused on prevention.

Louella Cazimero-Bactad, the sexual assault response coordinator (SARC) for Navy Region Hawaii, outlined some common trends among victims.

"What I'm seeing has to do with alcohol-related incidents. Someone had talked about fraternization. I'm seeing a little bit more of that where the victim and the offender are in the same line of duty," she said.

Cazimero-Bactad explained one way regional commanders could help spread awareness.

"One of the things that we're

See SAPR, A-4



Members of USS O'Kane's (DDG 77) visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) team board the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The battleship was the stage for a large VBSS exercise involving Sailors from O'Kane, USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Crommelin (FFG 37). (Additional photos on page A-5)

Four Pearl Harbor ships storm Battleship Missouri

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

When Pearl Harbor-based U.S. Navy ships conducted a visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) exercise on April 14, they chose the largest ship in the harbor, the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

VBSS teams from USS Crommelin (FFG 37), USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS O'Kane (DDG 77) took turns boarding the historic site as they performed a non-compliant VBSS exercise where Sailors assigned to USS Port Royal (CG 70) role-played as the resistance aboard the battleship.

VBSS is the term for maritime boarding actions and tactics, designed to capture enemy vessels; to combat terrorism, piracy and smuggling; and to conduct customs, safety and other inspections.

"We typically do training on our own ships," said En-

sign Ray Miller IV, assigned to the missile-guided frigate Crommelin. "We were thinking where we could do a boarding operation in a place where Sailors aren't familiar with. The [Battleship] Missouri [Memorial] Association has been incredibly helpful in allowing us to come over and do a training exercise on what's basically a museum."

Miller, who facilitated the event between the ships, was the Middle Pacific Maritime Interception Operations training coordinator for the event. Miller said he intended to have the teams train in as real-world environment as they can get. He wanted Sailors to enter spaces they have never seen and encounter role players they have never met.

Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 2nd Class (SW) William Humble was the designated boat officer and training team leader on the rigid-hull inflatable boat (RHIB) that transported the three VBSS teams to the battleship.

With two years' experience in VBSS, Humble said that the Missouri is unique in that Missouri's freeboard, the distance between the water line to the upper deck level, is much higher than what is typically encountered by a VBSS team.

"You almost never need a ladder on a dhow," said Humble. "When we practice VBSS on our ships, we have to climb 20 feet on a ladder to reach the deck level. The Missouri's freeboard is more than 30 feet high."

Each team ran slightly different scenarios during the exercise. Paul Hamilton's team, for example, viewed Missouri as a merchant ship that was cruising through the Sea of Japan. The ship was suspected of having weapons of mass destruction. Each team boarded and searched for those weapons.

"The information came in that the vessel in question was either carrying cargo or

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Young relieves Dollaga as Charlotte commanding officer See page A-2



Navy steers hundreds in environmental bike path sweep See page A-6



Navy, Air Force leadership talk 'joint base' at Hickam town hall meeting See page A-3



Navy pumps up bodybuilding championships See page B-1

Young relieves Dollaga as Charlotte commanding officer

Story and photo by
MC2 Ronald Gutridge

Commander Submarine Force
U.S. Pacific Fleet
Public Affairs Office

Cmdr. Scott Young relieved Cmdr. Butch Dollaga as commanding officer of Los Angeles-class submarine USS Charlotte (SSN 766) during a change of command ceremony April 16 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The guest speaker was Capt. Lee Hankins, chief of staff, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. He praised Dollaga for his exceptional performance as commanding officer from April 2008 to April 2010.

"Cmdr. Dollaga, your tour on Charlotte has been outstanding,"



Cmdr. Butch Dollaga is piped ashore after being relieved as commanding officer of Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Charlotte (SSN 766) by Cmdr. Scott Young during a change of command ceremony held April 16 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

said Hankins. "You routinely demonstrate the enviable traits of superior leadership, tactical acumen, dedication, stamina and most importantly, humility. I have often marveled at your ability to focus on tactical issues while also keeping an eye towards the strategic picture."

Dollaga reflected on his time spent in command and the accomplishments of the crew.

"To the crew of the mighty Charlotte, I have always thought that a commanding officer's end of tour award is not based on his actions alone, but on the actions of the crew during his time onboard," said Dollaga. "I must honestly thank all of you for a job done extremely well and the gift you have given me today. You are the brotherhood of silent warriors and it has been an

honor to be your commanding officer."

As Cmdr. Young assumed command of Charlotte, he acknowledged the quality of the crew he was inheriting. "To the men of Charlotte, I commend you for the condition of this submarine and your assistance during the turnover," said Young. "I am honored to join the Charlotte team and feel privileged to be your commanding officer."

Dollaga, a native of Vallejo, Calif., graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1990 with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering and completed nuclear power training at Orlando, Fla. and Charleston, S.C. His sea tours include USS Los Angeles (SSN 688), USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) and USS Cheyenne (SSN 773).

Rates to increase at two MWR venues on May 1

Pearl Harbor Morale, Welfare and Recreation Marketing

Effective May 1, rates for two popular Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) activities will increase slightly, due to increased business costs and renovations. The programs still remain considerably less expensive than those offered at public venues.

Sharkey Theater, located on the submarine side of Pearl Harbor, will close for renovations April 22-30. These renovations include new carpeting, new seats and a revamped concession area. When the theater reopens, ticket prices will be as follows: \$4 for general admission (including active duty) and \$2 for children ages 6-11. Admission for children ages five and under

remains free.

At Navy-Marine Golf Course, an 18-hole round of golf will increase by \$2. (Rates at Barbers Point Golf Course remain the same.) For a nine-hole round, the cost will be raised by \$1.

MWR remains committed to providing military service members and their families with quality programs and services that are safe, fun and affordable.

Navy College plans education fair

Navy College Hawaii will host its annual education fair will be held at Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 30. Representatives from 19 colleges and universities and nine education-affiliated government agencies will be available to discuss educational programs and college degrees you can pursue. Service members, family members, Department of Defense civilians and anyone with base privileges are encouraged to attend the event. For more information, call Navy College at 473-5705, press 1, then any number between one to five or e-mail nco.hawaii@navy.mil.

Navy Region Hawaii hosts Emergency Ops Incident Management Course

Dr. Philip Breeze

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Since its inception, Commander, Navy Installations Command has been involved with anti-terrorism and emergency preparedness training in response to lessons learned from previous natural and man-made disasters. Those lessons are outlined in the Presidential Report on the Federal Response to Hurricane Katrina, which read, "An investment in the continued training and exercises of our command and control is a top priority."

Commander Navy Region Hawaii hosted a mobile training team-delivered CNIC Emergency Operations Center Incident Management Team (EOC IMT) Course at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) on April 13-16.

The idea for the "home delivery" model resulted as installation commanding officers and regional staffs requested mobile delivery of the popular CNIC Shore Force Training Cen-



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Chief Warrant Officer Carlos Choto (left), Master Chief Boatswain's Mate Michael Latimer and Chief Warrant Officer Thomas Muehlhauser participate in an incident-management training course in the Region Operations Center at building 150 on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Commander, Navy Region Hawaii hosted the mobile training team-delivered training course at JBPHH for Navy, Air Force and Federal Fire Department personnel from April 13-16.

ter (SFTC) San Diego course. Working closely with the CNIC N37 emergency management branch, the Shore Operations Training Group (SOTG) coordinated with CNRH N7 staff to plan and execute the mobile course.

Led by CNIC, SOTG, with support from SFTC and CNIC emergency management directorate instructors, taught the course over three and a half days to 19 students from JBPHH, including active duty Navy and Air

Force, sevice members and civilians. Participants represented fire, security, safety, emergency management and various other specialists who will be involved with emergency operations in the joint environment.

The EOC IMT course was initially offered monthly at the SFTC at Navy Base Coronado in San Diego. Since its launch in October 2008, the EOC IMT course continues to be the most popular SFTC course offering. Navy Installations Command EOC training policy requires that at least six key EOC members per installation have graduated from the OEC IMT course, with additional EOC members highly recommended.

EOC IMT course lessons cover EOC team member roles and responsibilities, information management, communications, and the use of the C4I Suite, the Navy's current common operating picture online application. The course also includes several practical application classroom exercises requiring student working groups to apply the knowledge gained during lectures.

For operations center exercises, students are divided into common EOC functional groupings (operations, lo-

gistics and plans) and given a practical scenario of an on-base emergency in which they are forced to realistically lead, brief, coordinate and plan. Each day, classroom instruction is followed by an EOC exercise that gets increasingly complex as the course progresses.

"Given my new position as anti-terrorism officer, this training provides valuable insight as to how the EOC should run and has given me the tools to help me be a more effective member of the EOC in the future," said Senior Chief Master-at-Arms McCormick Gozum. "The C4I training was particularly valuable to me as the ATO."

Master Sgt. Mike Myers appreciated inter-service experience. "It was very valuable to learn how we are going to integrate emergency operations with the Navy in the months ahead, and it was interesting to learn how the National Incident Management System has evolved," noted Myers.

Interested regions and installations can register for the SFTC EOC IMT course or learn more about other SFTC courses by visiting the CNIC portal (Home/N7/SFTC or SOTG).

Navy, Air Force leadership talk 'joint base' at Hickam town hall meeting

Karen S. Spangler

Managing Editor

Approximately 40 Air Force spouses received answers to their questions about joint basing for Hickam and Pearl Harbor at a town hall meeting hosted by Navy and Air Force leadership on April 14 at Hickam Community Housing recreation center.

Capt. Richard Kitchens, joint base commander (JBC) for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), presented the briefing. Col. Sam Barrett, vice commander, 15th Airlift Wing, and Col. Rusty Baumgardner, deputy JBC and 15th Mission Support Group commander, were also on hand to answer questions.

Questions that were covered included a wide range of topics, from family service programs, fitness programs, fitness facilities, youth sports, housing and maintenance to MILPERS inter-service cross training in the areas of Federal Fire Department and Security Forces. Almost every joint base department was represented by the department heads and subject matter experts to provide information.

The main theme for the evening offered a positive note. "Joint basing does not mean the "absorption" of one service branch by another, but rather this can be viewed as a merging of two corporations where levels of service will increase to accommodate the customer. What makes JBPHH unique and very special are the incredible histories of both Hickam and Pearl Harbor. It is one of our main priorities to respect the rich histories of both bases," explained Kitchens.

"The purpose of joint basing is not for one branch of service to take over another branch of service. The Air Force will remain Air Force and the Navy will remain Navy; our missions stay intact," he continued. "Military families will have access to additional Navy and Air Force facilities. The goals are to integrate successfully while ensuring that service delivery continues to our customers seamlessly," he said.

Kitchens emphasized the importance of taking the best from each service, resulting in learning from each other and becoming more efficient. "We are taking the best practices from both cultures, learning from each other, and will find efficiencies through combining our installation support functions," he noted.

Spouses had an opportunity to ask questions about various aspects of joint basing. Andrea Tembreull, whose husband is chief of Air Force Security Forces at Hickam, was enthusiastic about the opportunities for security forces and fire department personnel as part of joint basing.

"The most important thing, especially for the Security Forces and fire department personnel, is going to be the cross training and experience working side-by-side," said Tem-

breull. "They will be able to carry it forward in their military and civilian lives while still being able to maintain their own identity/training/schooling, etc. as either Navy or Air Force when they PCS to non-joint locations," she noted.

In response to a question posed by Melissa McGuire, spouse of an Air Force Federal Fire Department firefighter, about the reassignment of firefighters at Hickam to Pearl Harbor, Federal Fire Department Chief Glenn de Laura explained, "Federal Fire leadership has agreed that Air Force federal firefighters will not be permanently assigned to any other duty station other than Hickam's station number six."

"They may have to be temporarily relocated in times of need, but not without proper cross-training," said de Laura.

Housing between the two services was also a topic for discussion. "The hope is that there will be more permanent housing (public-private venture) available. Placement and priority policies that currently exist with housing partners, Hickam Housing [Air Force housing] and Forest City [Navy housing] will stay in effect," explained Kitchens. "The existing partnership agreements are long-term contracts and are constructed very differently. It would not be equitable at this point to try and undo them to consolidate," Kitchens continued.

Spouses also had questions about youth programs. Tom Moriarty, Pearl Harbor Morale, Welfare and Recreation director and JB9 department head, confirmed, "You will not see a difference in where you drop off and/or pick up your child for current programs. We want to make this transition as seamless as possible and with that in mind, where you currently go for programs and services, whether on Hickam or Pearl, is where you will continue to go after FOC (full operational capability) on Oct. 1."

"It is not our plan to consolidate the programs into one location," said Moriarty.

Kitchens offered the three guiding tenets for JBPHH implementation. "First, joint basing will maintain or enhance operational capabilities," said Kitchens.

"Second, we will ensure a successful and effective integration and once the first two tenets are secured, we will look for and harvest efficiencies," he continued.

The joint base commander also offered spouses some assurances. "Joint basing will not negatively impact operational mission functions and it will not mandate a reduction of jobs," he said.

As an Air Force wife, Tembreull can see the advantages of joint basing. "According to the presentation, joint basing will eventually save money for the military as a whole. I am hopeful that it will strengthen and expand possibilities for dependents, such as with MWR and outdoor recreation facili-

ties, housing opportunities and other programs aimed at improving the lives of dependents," she said.

"I am encouraging the Security Forces' spouses to view joint basing positively and to ask questions if they have any concerns," Tembreull explained.

"Joint basing will respect each of our service cultures, identities and histories," Kitchens emphasized during his presentation. "It is truly a "joint" team effort and our JBPHH leadership illustrates this with true service integration and participation," he said.

The JBC noted that the road ahead would not be easy, but would involve teamwork to get the job done. "We are focused on optimizing installation management, not an easy task. It is an enormous undertaking and I believe that we are doing it the right way - as a team. With everyone's continued hard work and dedication, we are on the right path," he noted.



Joint Base photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Capt Richard W. Kitchens, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, answers questions from military spouses at the Hickam Community Housing recreation center about the joint basing efforts and transition process during a town hall meeting on April 14.

B-25 bomber lifts off from USS Hornet during Doolittle Raid



Photo courtesy of Naval Historical and Heritage Command

An Army Air Force B-25B bomber takes off from USS Hornet (CV-8) at the start of the Doolittle Raid on April 18, 1942. Note men watching from the signal lamp platform at right.

Hawaii Navy News

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VBSS

Continued from A-1

did not roger up to our bridge-to-bridge calls," said Paul Hamilton's boarding officer, Ensign Mark Bohls. "So we treated it as a non-compliant ship. When we boarded, we took extreme caution as we made our way through the space searching for people."

After boarding the ship, Paul Hamilton's VBSS team split into smaller groups as

they searched different areas of the battleship, with safety in mind.

"If we go with the mindset that something bad is going to happen, we feel safer," said Bohls. "I know it's a bad way to think about it, but at the same time, it makes us feel safe. We have certain procedures we have to follow. We can de-escalate and, at the same time, we can ramp it back up."

The role players from Port Royal were immediately secured as soon as the team encountered them.

"The more experience the better," said Bohls. "Real life scenarios are so much better than talking about it. What can you see? What can you do? Actually doing it and going through the motions with your team is probably the greatest experience you get because you know how they act and

you know how to react to them."

By the end of the exercise, each team successfully boarded, searched and communicated with the non-compliant crew.

"From what I've seen today, it turned out to be an outstanding training event," said Miller. "Every team had different experience levels, but every team will walk away from it more knowledgeable

and more prepared for a real world situation than when they came in for the exercise."

VBSS training is managed by the Center for Security Forces (CENSECFOR) in Norfolk, Va. The operation was created following the Gulf War in 1990 as a way to standardize and continue the maritime interception operations introduced there as a result of UN resolutions.

Initial VBSS skills training

is delivered by CENSECFOR at four locations: Chesapeake, Va.; Mayport, Fla.; San Diego and Pearl Harbor. The initial training continuum includes three courses lasting a total of eight weeks, with some team members receiving additional follow-on training. Skills taught in the VBSS courses include tactical movement and shooting, defensive tactics, repelling, searching and other team skills.

SAPR

Continued from A-1

talking about now is the bystander intervention, for shipmates to help shipmates and to really take care. If you are the [leading petty officer] or the senior person and everybody goes out, take care of each other, don't take advantage of them," said Cazimero-Bactad.

More than 100 senior Navy and Marine Corps leaders in the Hawaii region attended the workshop.

Other speakers for the workshop included Rear Adm. Scott Van Buskirk, the deputy commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet; Gail Stern, co-founder and director of counseling, education and training at Catharsis Productions; Capt. Chuck Hollingsworth, deputy commander of the Center for Personal and Professional Development; and Lynsey Roever, a special agent at NCIS.

"I just want to thank all the first response providers today, our SARCs, our victim advocates who are out there on the front lines and providing that compassionate care for our victims. They're the ones who are making the difference, helping our Sailors once they become victimized, making sure that they're not traumatized and that they can go back and become productive Sailors, grow and develop - and that's our goal," said Holloway.



Diverse Views

How can we communicate better in the workplace at the shipyard?

(Views from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard)
U.S. Navy photos by Katie Vanes



Lt. Cmdr. William Hagan

"Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is an organization that can attribute its success to the workforce's collective capacity to create value. The key to unlocking that value and achieving continued success is effective, transparent and candid communication. As members of the shipyard team, we owe it to each other to communicate openly and directly to address day-to-day issues and find solutions. There is no substitute for face-to-face communication."



Machinist Brandi Companion

"Communication is a skill that rarely comes naturally to most people. It's an entity that needs to be taught and practiced. In order to be able to communicate, a person has to be open-minded and a good listener - able to think outside the box and try to understand all sides of a story. Communication is something that everyone needs to be personally responsible for, from the lowest man on the totem pole to the highest."



Engineer Daniel Works

"I think it starts with building relationships between co-workers, codes and departments and the ship's force. We're all here for the same common goal. Acknowledging and embracing this fact will naturally lead to increased communication around the yard."



Shipwright Debbie Aguiar

"Supervisors should keep their employees informed of upcoming jobs. When you have an idea of what's in store, you have the time to think about how you would do it. Never criticize anyone's idea. Also, talking out problems will lead to the group's overall objective of completing the job safely and efficiently."



Travel Assistant Danica Pearl

"I believe that if we urge all employees to use the 'open door' policy, it would eliminate many unnecessary conflicts between management and employees. We all know that we can talk to our bosses and employees, but when are the ends of communication really open? Communication is the key to any success and we should all practice this to be a successful shipyard."



ET1 Noah Green

"We can achieve better communication here at shipyard by taking a moment just to try to understand someone else's point of view. They will always have a different insight or angle and different experiences."

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Drop us a line at hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

Pearl Harbor Highlights



(Above) Naval Reservist Chief Jason Dovgan, a Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard engineering technician, returns from a year in Iraq to a warm welcome upon his arrival at Honolulu International Airport on April 13. Behind and to the right is Rear Adm. (Select) Greg Thomas, shipyard commander.

U.S. Navy photo by MMFN Dustan Longhini

(Below) Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Ritchie Fogata, assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, uproots overgrown weeds at the Kapakahi Stream. The U.S. Navy joined forces with the City and County of Honolulu and the Pearl City Lions International Hawaii as they participated in the 4th Annual Pearl Harbor Basin (bike path) Cleanup.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



(Right) Chief Hospital Corpsman (SW/AW) David Sarsozo, assigned to USS O'Kane (DDG 77), gathers dead plants along the Kapakahi Stream.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



(Left) Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Jay C. Pugh and Aviation Structural Mechanic Airman Miguel Barrera move lumber and work with local volunteers during a Habitat for Humanity home build in Hanapepe, Kauai on April 9. Nine Sailors from the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands volunteered their time and skills.

U.S. Navy photo by AM3 Ryan Snay



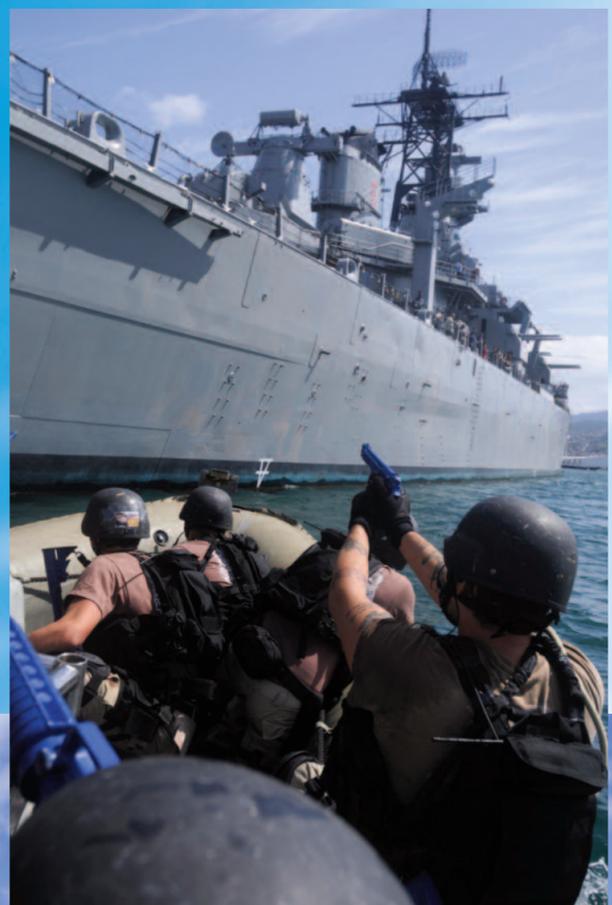
(Right) Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Michael Sanchez, Electronics Technician 2nd Class Randy Belnap and Aviation Structural Mechanic Airman John Adam Robinson measure siding and work with local volunteers during a Habitat for Humanity home build in Hanapepe, Kauai, April 9. Nine Sailors from the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands volunteered their time and skills.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jay C. Pugh



(Right and below) Members of USS O'Kane's (DDG 77) visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) approach the Battleship Missouri Memorial as they prepare to board the historic site. The battleship was the stage for a large VBSS exercise involving Sailors from O'Kane, USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Crommelin (FFG 37).

U.S. Navy photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico



Navy steers hundreds in environmental bike path sweep

Story and photos by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

More than 200 Pearl Harbor-based Sailors joined forces with 300 local volunteers in the community to remove more than five tons of burnable trash and bulky recyclables during the Fourth Annual Pearl Harbor Bike Path Cleanup on April 17.

Sponsored by the City and County of Honolulu's department of environment services, the effort targeted several key areas along the nearly 14-mile bike path, which runs through three communities along the Pearl Harbor basin: Aiea, Pearl City and Waipahu.

U.S. Navy volunteers from numerous commands at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam stretched out along the bike path as they gathered bulky debris and litter, including old tires, metals, car batteries and other debris. In addition, Sailors worked alongside students from Waipahu High School to plant native plants in place of invasive weeds along Kapakahi Stream in Waipahu. Navy personnel and students also stenciled about 150 storm drains to deter illicit dumping.

"We've been having positive feedback, as far as participation," said Jerry Nagatami, a member of the Pearl City Lions Club. "Hopefully, this will be something good for the fu-



Photo illustration

ture, especially here in Waipahu. This [Kapakahi Stream] used to be a waste land. Then we started a project to clean up the whole area. Right now, it's starting to look a little decent."

There were 11 locations along the bike path that were targeted for the cleanup: McGrew Point, Pearl Kai Shopping Center, Best Buy, Neal Blaisdell Park, Hawaiian Electric Company, Lehua Avenue, Leeward Community College,

Waipahu High School, Ted Makalena Golf Course, Kapakahi Stream and Pupuole Street Mini Park.

At the Kapakahi Stream location, Sailors like Information Systems Technician 2nd Class (SW) Bri Gamiao dredged up large bulky items such as plastic buckets, tires and televisions.

"Why would anybody put a TV in the river in the first place?" asked Gamiao, who is assigned to USS O'Kane (DDG

77). "But it's cool taking stuff out that doesn't belong there."

Chief Fire Controlman (SW) Rito Baca, also assigned to O'Kane, enjoyed giving back to the community, as he

brought his family to the community project three years in a row.

"I like it a lot," said Baca as he planted papyrus along Kapakahi Stream. "I think it is

good for all the military members to come and show support. It was pretty easy and it was actually pretty fun."

"The annual Pearl Harbor bike path cleanup is the largest cleanup effort of the year for the Navy and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam," said Grace Hew Len, environmental public affairs officer for Navy Region Hawaii.

"By partnering with the City & County [of Honolulu] and other members of the community, we instill a respect for the waters that flow into Pearl Harbor and the importance of an environmental ethic that promotes action and long-term environmental stewardship," said Hew Len.

The Navy has been active partners with the city of Honolulu since 2005 and participates in several adopt-a-block and adopt-a-stream projects throughout the year.

Since 1970, April has been traditionally observed as Earth Month and designated as a time for many to become more environmentally-conscious. The Navy has been involved in several environmental stewardship efforts, both ashore and at sea.

KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

- April 29 – Fitness readiness with Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific
- May 6 – Military Appreciation Month with Chamber of Commerce
- May 13 – Individual augmentees – family perspective
- May 20 – Military Appreciation Month Special – segment one
- May 27 – Military Appreciation Month Special – segment two

(The segments currently air between 6:15 and 6:45 a.m. each Thursday. Previous segments can be viewed at <http://www.bit.ly/KHONNavy>)

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