

# USS Hopper scores intercept

**Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs**

In conjunction with the Missile Defense Agency (MDA), U.S. Pacific Fleet ships and crews successfully conducted the latest Aegis ballistic missile defense (BMD) at-sea firing event on July 30.

During this event, entitled Stellar Avenger, the Aegis BMD-equipped ship, USS Hopper (DDG 70), detected, tracked, fired and guided a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block (Blk) IA to intercept a sub-scale short range ballistic missile. The target was launched from the Kauai Test Facility, co-located on the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Barking Sands, Kauai. It was the 19th successful intercept in 23 at-sea firings for the Aegis BMD program, including the February 2008 destruction of the malfunctioning satellite above the earth's atmosphere.

Stellar Avenger was part of the continual evaluation of the certified and fielded Aegis BMD system at-sea on Thursday.

At approximately 5:40 p.m. (HST), 11:40 p.m. (EDT), a target was launched from PMRF. Three U.S. Navy Aegis BMD-equipped ships, the cruiser, USS Lake Erie (CG 70), and destroyers, Hopper and USS O'Kane (DDG 77), detected and tracked the target with their SPY radars.

Each developed fire control solutions. At 5:42 p.m. (HST), 11:42 p.m. (EDT) the crew of Hopper fired one SM-3 Blk IA missile. The Hopper's Aegis BMD weapon system successfully guided the SM-3 to a direct body to body hit, approximately two minutes after leaving the ship. The intercept occurred about 100 miles above the Pacific Ocean.

O'Kane conducted a simulated engagement of the target. Lake Erie, with its recently installed upgraded Aegis BMD 4.0.1 weapons system, detected and tracked the same target.

After Stellar Avenger, the same three ships participated in the first live engineering evaluation of Aegis BMD's next system upgrade. Engineers and ships crews recently completed installation and evaluation of an advanced version of the Aegis BMD weapon system.

For the first time, Lake Erie used this advanced system during a live firing to evaluate all fire control functions, including launch of a simulated SM-3 Blk IB. This is a typical step in the evaluation of any



U.S. Navy photos

During exercise Stellar Avenger, the Aegis-class destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) launches a standard missile (SM) 3 Blk IA, successfully intercepting a sub-scale short range ballistic missile, launched from the Kauai Test Facility, Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Barking Sands, Kauai. (Background photo) The Aegis-class destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) launches a standard missile (SM) 3 Blk IA during exercise Stellar Avenger, successfully intercepting a sub-scale short-range ballistic missile launched from the Kauai Test Facility at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii. This was the 19th successful intercept for the Aegis BMD program in 23 at-sea firings, including the February 2008 destruction of a malfunctioning satellite above the earth's atmosphere.

advancement in the Aegis weapon system. Lake Erie will fire the new SM-3 Blk IB using this advanced weapon system in late 2010. This advanced Aegis BMD system will improve the probability of kill against advanced threats.

MDA and the U.S. Navy cooperatively manage the Aegis BMD program. Lockheed Martin Maritime Systems and Sensors of Moorestown, N.J. is the combat system engineering agent (CSEA) and prime contractor for the Aegis BMD weapon system and vertical launch system installed in Aegis-equipped cruisers and

destroyers. Raytheon Missile Systems of Tucson, Ariz. is the prime contractor for the SM-3 missile and all previous variants of standard missile.



Hurricane Felicia headed for islands – check your hurricane supplies See page A-2



CAP Training, Liberty Champion Exercise invigorate CNRH response teams See page A-2



Robertson relieves Hankins as commander, Submarine Squadron One See page A-6



COMSUBPAC wins softball title by 'Force' See page B-1

# Hurricane Felicia headed for islands – check your hurricane supplies

**Karen S. Spangler**

*Managing Editor*

In case you haven't heard yet, Hurricane Felicia is headed for the Hawaiian Islands. There's no need to panic – just be prepared.

Felicia currently has sustained winds of about 115 mph, making her a category three storm. Projected tracking for the storm puts the center of the big lady about 250 miles northeast of the Big Island by early Sunday morning.

Of course, a lot of things could happen in the meantime. The National Hurricane Center says that Felicia could be weakened by her trek across the Pacific and may no longer be a hurricane, but may be downgraded to a tropical storm by the time she reaches Hawai'i. Although less intense, the storm could still have maximum sustained winds of about 60 mph by the time she arrives. Hurricane force winds extend 35 miles from the center of the storm and tropical force winds extend as many as 120 miles. That means that Hawai'i could be on the receiving end of heavy rains, flooding, damaging winds and high surf.

If you haven't already taken care of your hurricane preparations, this might be a good time to stock up on your batteries, bottled water, non-perishable foods, medicines and other essentials. Fill your car with gas, pack your disaster kit in case you have to evacuate, and get ready to batten down the hatches. Keep in mind that we live on an island and supplies of essential goods go quickly.

So be prepared. Make sure that you have gas in your car and that it's in oper-

ating condition. Keep some cash on hand. If the power is out, automated teller machines and gas station pumps won't work.

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

Restock your emergency supplies of candles, matches, fuel for camping stoves and lanterns, first aid supplies, pet foods and supplies.

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

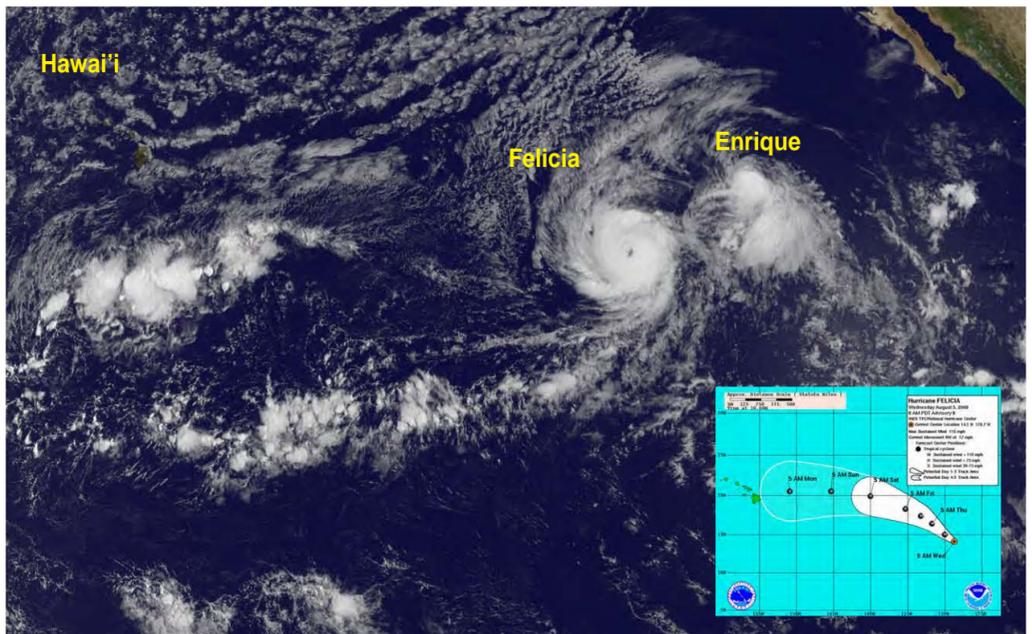
Refill prescription drugs and purchase other necessary medication. Obtain at least 10 days to two weeks supply of prescription and necessary medicines.

Be sure that you have commercially bottled water on hand or stored tap water on hand. Sterilize containers, such as your bathtub and washing machine, to store drinking water. The bathtub and large containers can also be used to store water for flushing toilets, washing, etc.

For a quick reference, check out the hurricane preparedness pullout section of the May 29 edition of Hawai'i Navy News, pages A-4 and A-5, which is online at [https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/@pub/@hawaii/documents/document/cnicp\\_a132372.pdf](https://www.cnic.navy.mil/navycni/groups/public/@pub/@hawaii/documents/document/cnicp_a132372.pdf).

More information about preparing for natural disasters can be found on Navy Channel 2, in the white pages of your telephone book, and in Hawaiian Electric Company's information-filled "Handbook for Emergency Preparedness" which is available at the Navy Aloha Center and Fleet and Family Service Center.

Previous articles about



Images courtesy of National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration - National Aeronautics and Space Administration GOES Project

hurricane (disaster) preparation that have appeared in Hawai'i Navy News can be found in the archives on the Navy Region Hawai'i Web site at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii>.

You can also call the Hawai'i Department of Emergency Management (DEM) at 723-8960, Hawai'i State Civil Defense at 733-4300, National Weather Service (weather advisories) at 973-4381, and the American Red Cross at 734-2101.

Be aware, be alert and be ready – but don't be complacent and assume that Hawai'i will be spared the ravages of a hurricane, a tsunami, an earthquake or other natural disaster. Don't shortchange your family or yourself by failing to be prepared.

## Hurricane preparedness information 2009

### Hawaii Navy News archives

<http://www.cnic.navy.mil/hawaii/index.html> (under 'news room') Ongoing articles will be included.

### Navy TV Hawaii (Channel 2)

Hurricane information on Navy TV Hawai'i is aired about five minutes before the hour seven days a week.

### Department of Emergency Management (DEM)

Information is available on the DEM Web site at [www.oahudem.org](http://www.oahudem.org) or by calling 723-8960. Residents can also call the DEM office and request a free packet of hurricane readiness information.

### Hawaiian Humane Society

For information on how to prepare for your pets in a disaster, contact the Hawaiian Humane Society at 946-2187.

### Telephone directory

Disaster preparedness information is available at the beginning of the white pages section in your local telephone directory.

# CAP Training, Liberty Champion Exercise invigorate CNRH response teams

**Grace Hew Len**

*Navy Region Hawai'i  
Environmental Public  
Affairs Officer*

Two Pearl Harbor-based ships return to port with multiple crew members affected with the H1N1 influenza virus. While on-base quarantine measures and other social distancing efforts are in effect, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake strikes suddenly off the coast of Oahu, resulting in widespread damage to military and civilian infrastructure across the island chain. The Navy must now deal with a devastating earthquake impacting social distancing measures for pandemic influenza.

The scenario energized members of Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i's (CNRH) crisis response teams, who participated in the CNRH Crisis Action Planning (CAP) training and Liberty Champion command post exercise July 14-16 at Pearl Harbor.

Both events called for Navy Region Hawai'i's response teams to seize the initiative during a crisis situation and demonstrate command, control and communications tasks to evaluators from Commander Navy Installations Command. And the teams did so with much success.

CNRH response teams include a battle watch team (BWT), threat working group



U.S. Navy photo by Paul Mauro

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i's (CNRH) crisis response teams, who participated in the CNRH Crisis Action Planning (CAP) training and Liberty Champion command post exercise July 14-16 at Pearl Harbor.

(TWG) and crisis action team (CAT). The BWT is made up of individuals trained to recognize a problem developing and initiate action. They maintain around-the-clock situational awareness and brief staffs with the latest updates.

The threat working group asks the question, "What is the problem?" and further assesses the situation, then decides on an appropriate course of action. The TWG can activate the CAT, who will be tasked to develop solutions to "beat this thing."

CAT members consist of key program directors from CNRH, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i and Fleet and Industrial Supply Center Pearl Harbor working in conjunction with special assistants such as the public affairs officer, chaplain, judge advocate, and public health

emergency officer.

The two-day training covered the detailed planning process to develop crisis action plans, including courses of actions and concept of operations, arming the regional operations center (ROC) with workable solutions to respond to crisis situations.

Following the CAP training, response team members transitioned to a live command post exercise to test

their response to a simulated earthquake off the coast of Oahu. As part of the simulation, role players reported installation damage and recovery efforts to the BWT over an eight-hour period.

Coincidentally, escalating numbers of H1N1 cases in Hawai'i and heightened awareness of influenza symptoms added training value to the event. "This was a different type of exercise in that the H1N1 virus already impacted my own office. It made developing the courses of action very practical. This felt more like the real thing than an exercise," said Nadine Bayne, program director of CNRH Total Force Manpower.

CAT members explored social distancing measures such as isolation of personnel exhibiting symptoms of an influenza-like illness (ILI), quarantine of personnel who are in contact with those people showing ILI symptoms, and sequestering unexposed category one and five personnel. The earthquake scenario added a layer of difficulty as

CAT members considered how to maintain support to the fleet, fighter and family with consideration for social distancing measures.

"This exercise highlighted once again the importance of utilizing the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) to ensure accurate accountability and assessment of the needs of our extended Navy family," said Margaret Scurfield, director of the Fleet and Family Support Center.

The influenza scenario hit close to home as real-life H1N1 events attracted media attention in Hawai'i and San Diego. Within a few days of the exercise, the media reported at least 69 Sailors and Marines aboard USS Boxer tested positive for H1N1 influenza. The USS Boxer Amphibious Ready Group was transiting back to San Diego after a seven-month deployment and stopped in Hawai'i for a few days of liberty time. Those leaving the ship for liberty were thoroughly screened by

medical personnel to minimize further spread of the illness. Affected crew members were isolated onboard and treated with prophylaxes to relieve symptoms.

The real-life incident put Navy Public Affairs staffs into action, preparing statements and talking points in response to media inquiries.

"The manner in which a command responds to media outlets in an emergency situation greatly determines the level of public trust and credibility in our Navy," said Agnes Tauyan, director of public affairs for Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"Providing timely and accurate information without compromising operations can be a challenge and is necessary to allay unwarranted fears and to get information out that will help ensure the health and safety of everyone," Tauyan noted.

"Exercising these skills helps ensure successful rapid responses," she added.

# Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

## Pacific Partnership civilian mariners, military 'walk the walk' to help protect environment

Story and photo by  
MC2 (SW/AW)  
Joshua Valcarcel

*Pacific Partnership 2009*

Since Pacific Partnership 2009's start in Samoa in early July, mission personnel have been steadfast in making sure that all garbage brought ashore finds its way back aboard USNS Richard E. Byrd (T-AKE 4) for proper disposal.

"We really believe we want to leave the site better than what we found it in," said Lt. Leah Geislinger, administrative officer and medical civic action project (MEDCAP) site supervisor.

"Part of the mission is about teaching sustainability to the host nation and one of the things that we believe in is that we need to bring back the trash and garbage we bring with us, so we retrograde everything back to the ship nightly from our day's mission," she explained.

Garbage is sorted while on site at the MEDCAPs and engineering civic action projects (ENCAPs) before being brought back to the ship. Separating the plastics, sharp objects and biological waste ahead of time makes the process faster and smoother once it's back on board.



USNS Richard E. Byrd (T-AKE 4) sits pier side during Pacific Partnership 2009. The U.S. Navy's Pacific Partnership is the dedicated humanitarian and civil assistance mission conducted by, with and through partner nations, non-governmental organizations and other U.S. and international government agencies to execute a variety of humanitarian civic action missions in the Pacific Fleet area of responsibility.

"We don't want to burden the host nation with our trash," added Canadian Army Cpl. Katarina Vasic, dental tech. "We're here to help people, not be part of the problem."

Becoming the enabling

vessel for Pacific Partnership 2009 required many adjustments, and Richard E. Byrd has found new ways to manage trash without threatening the health and comfort of the crew or the environment. Once the trash

is back on board, it is up to civil service mariners like Able Bodied Seaman (Maintenance) Bronson Wright to work around-the-clock separating it.

"The captain takes the environment very seriously,"

said Wright. "He walks the walk and talks the talk. The Richard E. Byrd's doing her part to set the example for how things should be done when it comes to not polluting the environment."

The separation process

ensures that items that aren't biodegradable, such as plastic, never find their way into the ocean. While most other materials can be safely disposed of while at sea, plastic materials don't break down and are shredded and melted into disks until they can be taken to a place where they can be recycled.

In addition, because the mission requires the Richard E. Byrd be anchored out for days at a time, such as the 13 days the ship spent off the coast of Tonga, the trash is kept in large capacity industrial supply freezers - separate and apart from any food storage - that help prevent foul smell and decomposition.

"This is the first time we've ever used the freezer to hold our garbage," said Wright. "Most ports have garbage services, but these places we're visiting are very small and using the freezer was our way of solving the problem ourselves."

Pacific Partnership 2009 will continue to manage its trash, minimizing its impact on the host nation and the environment throughout the deployment. The Richard E. Byrd is currently in Oceania and will continue to Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Solomon Islands.

*This week in*  
**NAVAL HISTORY**

*August 3*

- 1861 - Construction of USS Monitor is authorized.
- 1861 - First manned ascent in a balloon from a ship, gunboat USS Fanny, to observe Confederate artillery position at Hampton Roads, Va.
- 1970 - USS James Madison (SSBN-627) conducts first submerged launching of a Poseidon nuclear missile off the coast of Cape Kennedy.

*August 6*

- 1862 - CSS Arkansas is destroyed by her commanding officer to prevent capture by USS Essex.
- 1990 - President George H.W. Bush orders Operation Desert Shield, largest overseas deployment since Vietnam, to protect Saudi Arabia after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

## Leading the way

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

Steward's Mate 2nd Class Miles Davis King carries a loaded magazine for a 20mm machine gun aboard USS Tulagi in August 1944. The escort carrier was on its way through the Mediterranean Sea enroute to the invasion of southern France.

## Hawai'i Navy News

<p><b>Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i</b> Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith</p> <p><b>Acting Chief of Staff</b> Cmdr. Jeanene Torrance</p> <p><b>Director, Public Affairs</b> Agnes Tauyan</p> <p><b>Deputy Director, Public Affairs</b> Terri Kojima</p> <p><b>Managing Editor</b> Karen Spangler</p> <p><b>Leading Petty Officer</b> MC2 Robert Stirrup</p> <p><b>Contributing Writer</b> Blair Martin</p> <p><b>Contributing Writer</b> Randy Dela Cruz</p> <p><b>Technical Adviser</b> Joe Novotny</p> <p><b>Layout/Design</b> Antonio Verceluz</p>	<p>Hawai'i Navy News is a free newspaper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.</p> <p>All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com World Wide Web address: https://www.cnrc.navy.mil/Hawaii/</p> <p>This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication primarily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawai'i. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.</p> <p>The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111.</p> <p>The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy Region</p>	<p>Hawai'i or the Honolulu Advertiser.</p> <p>Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.</p> <p>A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.</p> <p>Hawai'i Navy News is delivered weekly to Navy housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 538-NEWS (538-6397) if they wish to discontinue home delivery.</p>
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U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Nicole Lobecker

Sailors aboard USS Russell (DDG 59) enjoy a Pacific Ocean sunset as she transits west after deploying from Pearl Harbor on July 27.

## Russell deploys to support CARAT 2009

Lt. j.g. Douglas Marks

USS Russell (DDG 59)

Families and friends said goodbye to more than 250 officers and crew members of the Pearl Harbor-based, guided-missile destroyer, USS Russell (DDG 59) on July 27 at pier bravo 24.

Russell, commanded by Cmdr. Rodney M. Patton, is scheduled for a three-month deployment to Southeast Asia in support of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2009. While deployed, the crew will train with numerous Southeast Asian navies to foster relations in support of the global war on terrorism.

Ensign Sean McDonnell, assigned to Russell as the combat information center officer, is making his sixth deployment. He believes this one will prove to be even more meaningful than his first five.

"This deployment should be both educational and

fun," said McDonnell, "not only because we are going to make a lot of port visits, but because we are going to train with other navies who have different skill sets than us. Hopefully, we will be able to have Sailors go to other navies' ships and see their daily operations while some of their sailors visit our ship," he said.

For some family members, the deployment is not something they are looking forward to.

"This is the hardest part of being a Navy wife," said the wife of McDonnell. "While I am proud to see him serving his country, I am already looking forward to his return," she said.

Russell, along with Destroyer Squadron 31 and multi-national forces, will conduct seamanship events, helicopter operations and visit, boarding, search and seizure operations, and various maritime exercises. The ship is scheduled to return in late-October.

### Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam FAQ Corner

**The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) corner is intended to address readers' questions related to the stand up of JBPHH. JBPHH will combine two historic bases into a single joint installation to support both Air Force and Navy missions, along with our tenant commands, and all our service members and their families.**

By capitalizing on best practices of both services, JBPHH will continue to enhance our warfighting readiness, maximize delivery of installation support services throughout the joint base, and capture identified efficiencies.

Please submit your joint base questions to [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com) or call Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs at 473-2888.

**Q. When will the new Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam com-**

**mand stand up?**

**A.** Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base will begin the transition period, called initial operation capability (IOC), on Jan. 31, 2010. The end of the transition period is called full operation capability (FOC) and will be achieved on Oct. 1, 2010. At that time, all resources, property, personnel and authority for installation management functions will transfer to the Navy, which was designated by Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) law to be the lead agency for the new installation.

**Q. Who will be in charge of the new joint base?**

**A.** The new installation will have a joint base commander (JBC) from Pearl Harbor, with the deputy base commander coming from Hickam AFB. The prospective JBC is Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The prospective deputy JBC is Col. Charles Baumgardner, commander, 15th Mission Support, 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam AFB. The mission commanders and other tenants will remain in charge of their units. The JBC will report to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.

**Q. Will the fence that divides Hickam and Pearl Harbor come down after the new Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is stood up?**

**A.** There are no immediate plans for tearing down fencing or adding new access points between Hickam and Pearl Harbor. Most of the property along the fence on the Hickam side is housing and tearing down the fence may pose concerns for those in housing areas.

## NCTAMS PAC Federal Facilities Agreement becomes official

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i

Donald R. Schregardus, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for the environment, received a letter on July 17 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), completing the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) agreement for Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific (NCTAMS PAC), Wahiawa, Hawai'i.

"The Navy is spending hundreds of millions of dollars every year to restore the environment, protect human health, and make up for past practices at thousands of sites around the country," said Schregardus. "FFAs like this one ensure orderly coordination between government agencies as they endeavor to protect the public interest and follow the law."

The FFA is required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability

Act (CERCLA) for sites on the National Priorities List (NPL). It establishes a framework for the administrative handling and scheduling of investigations and clean-ups at contaminated Navy communications sites in Wahiawa and Lualualei, Hawai'i.

The agreement was officially signed by the Department of the Navy, the EPA and the state of Hawai'i earlier this year. Once signed, it entered a 45-day public comment period, initiated by the EPA, with announcements placed into local newspapers on April 2. Receiving no comments, the EPA published the FFA in the Federal Register and sent letters to the Navy and the state of Hawai'i, making the document official.

Despite the lack of a signed FFA, the Navy has been remediating contaminated sites at NCTAMS PAC for the past several years.

"This agreement formalizes the interagency coordination that had already been taking place," said

Aaron Poentis, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawai'i environmental business line director. "We appreciate the collaborative efforts of our regulatory partners to complete the FFA."

The Navy initiated clean-up efforts at NCTAMS PAC in 1991 after soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) was discovered at a Navy housing area. PCBs, which were commonly used in electrical equipment before the chemicals were banned in the 1970s, had been traced to legacy transformer sites in the vicinity. The station was placed on the NPL in 1994.

The Navy identified 24 sites at NCTAMS PAC, including 13 sites in Wahiawa and 11 sites in Lualualei. To date, clean-up of six transformer site locations at buildings 68, 236, 261, 262, 343, and a site near building 293 are complete and require no further action.

"The Navy is committed to being out front on envi-

ronmental issues here in Hawai'i," said Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg, commanding officer, NAVFAC Hawai'i. "We will continue to make Hawai'i a great place to live and work through active stewardship of our natural, cultural and historic resources."

NCTAMS PAC is the largest telecommunications station in the world. It provides operational direction and management to all Pacific Naval Telecommunication System users. The station manages, operates, and maintains Defense Communication System and Naval Telecommunication System assets and offers a full range of automated data processing and information resource services, maintenance and repair, and communication/electronic and Defense Message System coordination to the Navy and other Department of Defense activities in the Pacific. It comprises more than 2,400 acres of land at more than 130 different sites.

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz  
SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1) defender, Intelligence Specialist 2nd Class Brook Tracy (left), battles for the ball against Cryptologic Technician (Maintenance) 2nd Class Toby Spingate of the Kunia Gallos during the teams' showdown at Ward Field at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Aug. 1. The Gallos, made up of players from Navy Information Operations Command Hawai'i (NIOC), defeated the SEALS, 1-0, to end up in a tie for first place.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 John W. Ciccarelli Jr.  
Sailors assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor First Lieutenant Division and people from the local community, remove trash and debris from a natural spring on the shores of Pearl Harbor during a Make-A-Difference Day/Adopt-A-Stream wetlands community project on Aug. 1. The Navy partnered with the city of Honolulu and Aiea Intermediate School on the Pearl Harbor wetland project at Neal S. Blaisdell Park. The project will span three years and involves trash removal, weed control and the reintroduction of native plants to help minimize sediment pollution and beautify the area.



Traci Riley of Traci Trainer Fitness talks to Sailors and civilians assigned to Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor during a Learn from the Leaders seminar focusing on fitness and nutrition held at Lockwood Hall onboard NAVSTA Pearl Harbor on July 29. During the two-day seminar, Riley gave guidance to 130 personnel about how to create a healthy lifestyle, nutrition and exercise tips, among other topics.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Sailors assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Boxer (LHD 4) and Marines from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (13th MEU) stands at parade rest while manning the rails as the ship departs Pearl Harbor on July 24. Boxer made a seven-day port visit as its final stop while returning to homeport in San Diego. The Boxer Amphibious Ready Group and the 13th MEU are returning from a seven-month deployment supporting global maritime security.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 John J. Siller



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 (SW) Mike Leporati  
Retired Navy Lt. John Finn (sitting bottom right) celebrated his 100th birthday on July 24 at Naval Air Station North Island with family and friends. Finn is the oldest living Medal of Honor (MOH) recipient and earned his MOH for heroism and distinguished service during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

# Robertson relieves Hankins as commander, Submarine Squadron One

MCC Josh Thompson

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

Capt. Stanley Robertson relieved Capt. Lindsay "Lee" Hankins as commander, Submarine Squadron One, in a ceremony at Pearl Harbor Naval Station submarine piers on July 30.

Rear Adm. Douglas McAneny, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, guest speaker at the event, spoke about Hankins' exceptional performance with his responsibilities as commodore of the submarine squadron.

"Lee, you have demonstrated superb leadership throughout this tour and I am grateful for your resourceful initiative and devotion to duty," said McAneny.

"I thank you and I con-



U.S. Navy photo by MCI Michael Hight

Capt. Stanley Robertson is piped ashore after relieving Capt. Lee Hankins as commander, Submarine Squadron One in a change of command ceremony held at Naval Station Pearl Harbor submarine piers on July 30.

gratulate you for keeping your staff and your sub crews 'all in, all the time.'"

Following his remarks,

McAneny presented Hankins with his third Legion of Merit for deploying four successful sub-

marines to the western Pacific where Squadron One submarines conducted missions "vital to national

security." Additionally, Hankins oversaw the inter-fleet transfers of two submarines including successful arctic and Panama Canal transits.

In his closing remarks, Hankins expressed his satisfaction and appreciation for the crew on his squadron staff as well as the crews of the five submarines that fell under his leadership and their performance during evolutions with surface forces, maritime control aircraft and allied nations.

"I have never served with a more professional, dedicated and motivated team," said Hankins.

"They are all passionate about submarining and are totally committed to the premise that it's not about us, it's about the boats. Thank you for all your hard work," he said.

As Robertson assumed command of Submarine Squadron One, he thanked

Hankins for the squadron's outstanding reputation on the waterfront.

"The Submarine Squadron One staff and boats assigned to this squadron are impressive for their record of accomplishment, professionalism and commitment," Robertson said.

"Lee, this strong and effective team is an outstanding testament to your leadership and I truly appreciate the legacy you leave me here," he continued.

Hankins' next tour is at Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, as chief of staff. His sea tours include commanding officer of USS Greenville (SSN 772), executive officer of USS Asheville (SSN 758) and engineer officer on USS Birmingham (SSN 695). Hankins is a 1985 graduate of the University of Southern California.

## Newly renovated NCTAMS homes now available for move-in

Ryan Wilson

Communications Coordinator, Navy Housing Forest City Residential Management, Inc.

Forest City has finished work on 58 out of 83 brand new homes at the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station (NCTAMS) and the rest of the homes are scheduled to be completed at the end of August.

NCTAMS will be the latest addition to Forest City's portfolio of new-construction neighborhoods. Many Navy families have already moved in and are enjoying their new homes.

In fact, there are nine new homes available to Sailors now. The relocation office reports that if a prospective resident qualifies, he could get a lease on



Photos courtesy of Forest City Residential Management

This is one of the newly-renovated NCTAMS homes that was recently finished.

a brand new home today.

Forest City is very proud of this wonderful new neighborhood that has been under construction since June 2008. The homes are brand new, energy-efficient

and top-of-the-line. Plus, residents have the security of living on base with the convenience of a central location.

Historic NCTAMS homes are also available. Forest

City is offering a \$1,750 move-in incentive for residents who move into the historic homes. Rent for a historic two-bedroom home is \$1,600 a month.

Kainoa Aitaro, central Oahu resident services manager for Forest City, said that NCTAMS has a great family atmosphere because there are so many amenities available to residents, including a Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) fitness center, pool and bowling alley.

If Sailors are interested in moving into a new or historic NCTAMS home, call the relocation office at 839-8690.

Forest City is providing exceptional homes at NCTAMS and we are looking forward to providing exceptional service to our residents as they move in to their new homes.

## KHON (FOX) TV 2 Hawai'i Navy News upcoming segments:

- Aug. 13 – MWR Super Garage Sale and Craft Fair
- Aug. 20 – Doing business with Defense Commissary Agency
- Aug. 27 – Small Business Industry Forum – Naval Facilities Engineering Facility Pacific

(The segments air at about 6:15 a.m. each Thursday.)

### Got a story for KHON Hawai'i Navy News?

Email [hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com](mailto:hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com) or call Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs at 473-2875. Stories must have a Navy tie and be of interest to the general public.

# Pearl Harbor, oldest Medal of Honor recipient, celebrates 100th birthday

MC3 (SW) Mike Leporati

Navy Public Affairs  
Support Element West

Retired Navy Lt. John Finn, the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient, celebrated his 100th birthday at Naval Air Station North Island on July 25.

Finn received his medal from Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz for heroism and distinguished service during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Finn is now the sole survivor of 15 Sailors who received the Medal of Honor for their actions Dec. 7, 1941.

During Finn's 100th birthday barbecue, astronauts from the space shuttle Endeavour and the international space station (ISS) called Finn to wish him a happy birthday. The multinational crew from the ISS includes people from the United States, Europe,



U.S. Navy photo by Antonio D. Ramos

Retired Navy Lt. John William Finn arrives at La Posta Inn during his 100th birthday celebration. Finn was presented the Medal of Honor by Adm. Chester Nimitz in September 1942 for heroism during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Finn manned a .50-caliber machine gun during the first attacks by Japanese aircraft as they flew over Kaneohe Bay. Finn continued to attack enemy plains despite being hit five times by strafing fire. He is the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient.

Russia, Canada and Japan.

Each crew member of the ISS individually wished Finn a happy birthday and praised him for his accomplishment. Birthday party attendees gathered around Finn during the phone call. They whispered, cheered and laughed, but the guests all remained silent during the conversation with Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata. He noted the United States and Japan's progress since World War II and pointed out their "strong friendship up at the international space station."

Nearly 300 family members and friends came to pay homage to Finn on his birthday, from close relatives to distinguished guest, Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

"There are very few people like him. Obviously, there are few Medal of Honor recipients, especially living, but people like that [Finn]

really make you appreciate what we have and it's worth celebrating," said Elijah Finn, great nephew of John Finn.

Finn received recognition from many government officials including senators, Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter, and letters from the governors of all 50 states. In addition, the city of Chula Vista proclaimed July 25 as John Finn Day. Many other gifts, cards and plaques were given to Finn, a former aviation ordnanceman, but the final gift was provided by the ordnance community. A shadow box, containing an ensign which was flown aboard every aircraft carrier in the fleet, was presented to Finn.

Finn currently resides in San Diego where he still remains active in the World War II and veteran community.

## Construction projects around Pearl Harbor



Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i

### Moanalua Shopping Area

Through Aug. 24, Bougainville Drive north of the Hennley Street intersection to Valkenburgh Street will be closed for road widening and pavement repair. Traffic within this area will be diverted to Warden Avenue via Valkenburgh Street and De Haven Street. Hennley Street will be closed at the intersection with Bougainville Drive. Local traffic may access Hennley Street via Valkenburgh Street or Warden Avenue. NEX Distribution Center patrons will be allowed access to the Center via a temporary access road at Bougainville Drive north of Hennley Street. All personnel should seek alternate routes during this time and plan accordingly.

## Makalapa Gym to be completed in October

Employees of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i, engineering and acquisitions division, are currently working to expand the Makalapa Gym located on Makalapa Compound. A contract was awarded to Standard Construction Group on Sept. 17 for \$792,000. Gym construction began in April 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in October 2009. This project will double existing interior space as well as renovate the locker rooms and bathrooms.

U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Nathan Chenarak



# Master chief's legacy continues with son

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

In his 26 years of service in the U.S. Navy, Master Chief Aviation Warfare Systems Operator (AWCM) Robert Donnellon of Executive Transport Detachment (ETD) at Hickam Air Force Base has always held tradition in the highest esteem.

Now he gets to share the heritage of the Navy with his son, Ensign Joseph Donnellon, who on the same day got his commission and then re-enlisted his dad in Boston Harbor, Mass., aboard USS Constitution on July 10.

For the senior Donnellon, the ceremonies on "Old Ironsides" marked the end of a whirlwind day that started off with his son's pinning ceremony as a freshly commissioned officer only six hours earlier in Newport, R.I., where the younger Donnellon entered Officer Candidate School last September.

The father and son tandem then traveled down to the Constitution, where in their dress whites, Joseph, joined by his wife Jordyn and older brother Paul, re-enlisted his dad.

"To have my son do that on



Ensign Joseph Donnellon re-enlisted his father Master Chief Aviation Warfare Systems Operator (AWCM) Robert Donnellon during ceremonies at Boston Harbor, Mass. aboard USS Constitution on July 10. The senior Donnellon is senior enlisted adviser at Executive Transport Detachment (ETD) at Hickam Air Force Base while his son was recently commissioned as an officer in Newport, R.I. where he was also given the Leadership Award for his class.

the USS Constitution was probably the pinnacle of naval heritage and tradition," said the master chief. "I've always supported my son in everything that he has done.

To have him come into the military, go the route of aviation and re-enlist me was just phenomenal. I'll admit, I had a tear in my eye."

While dad was elated over the events on July 10, Joseph acknowledged that he was

also feeling a bit overwhelmed by his commission and the re-enlistment of his father.

The middle child of three siblings, Joseph, who is 27 years old, is the only one to follow in dad's footsteps. He said that even though his father never pushed him to sign up with the Navy, his dream of becoming a pilot was ultimately influenced by his dad's career.

"It was definitely an emotional time," said Joseph about re-enlisting his father. "A lot of things were happening at the same time, but it was an honor. I've always looked up to my dad. He always supported me and is my mentor."

Although there has already been some kidding around about Joseph holding rank over his father, the younger Donnellon said that

he knows who really is the top dog in the family.

"There been some joking around, but I still feel that I should call him sir," stated Joseph. "There is still a lot of respect for him."

Robert noted that his re-enlistment would take him out to 2012, which will mark the end of a career that will span parts of five decades.

The senior Donnellon enlisted right out of high school in Michigan back in 1970. He got out in 1974, but rejoined as a selected reservist in 1987 and soon after, returned to active duty after submitting a package to Training and Administration of Reserves (TAR).

Over the last three years, the master chief has served as the senior enlisted adviser to ETD, which takes care of the transportation needs for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Robert F. Willard.

Later this month, Donnellon and Cathie, his wife of 31 years, will transfer to Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville, where he will serve as command master chief for the next three years before retiring from service.

"When it's all over, I'll be 62 years old and have spent 29 years in the Navy," said Donnellon. "I've always

enjoyed the Navy. It's been neat to see all the changes – much of it for the better in many ways."

While the senior Donnellon admits that he will miss Hawai'i, he is excited about moving on to the Naval Operation Support Center (NOSC) at NAS Jacksonville.

And as for retirement, Donnellon said that he is looking forward to spending more time with his hobbies, such as golf and woodworking, and his family.

When he arrives in Florida, Donnellon and Cathie won't be alone as Joseph and daughter-in-law Jordyn are already in Pensacola.

Joseph said that he would be in flight school for about two years at Naval Air Station Pensacola before he is sent out to his next command.

In fact, Donnellon revealed that he and Cathie can't wait to be grandparents for the first time. Jordyn is due to deliver a baby on Oct. 31.

"We're excited for that," exclaimed the master chief. "It will be on Halloween Day so even if the baby looks like Frankenstein, I don't care. It's going to be a baby."