

Trick or Treat!

Have a Safe Halloween

Hawai'i News

Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

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USS Russell returns from western Pacific deployment

Story and photo by Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

More than 300 Sailors aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) arrived to a crowded pier of friends and families at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Oct. 26, after three months of work in the western Pacific.

Russell deployed July 27 as an independent deployer to [U.S.] 7th Fleet's area of responsibility (AOR).

While in [U.S.] 7th Fleet's AOR, Russell participated in South East Asian Cooperation for Anti-Terrorism and the Indonesian portion of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT).

Cmdr. Rodney Patton, commanding officer of Russell, described the effort and



Sailors man the rails aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) as she pulls into Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Oct. 26 following a three-month deployment in the western Pacific. Russell deployed on July 27 as an independent deployer to the Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

teamwork that Russell Sailors displayed.

"I could not have asked of anything more from the crew during the deployment," said Patton. "They

performed very well and carried out all tasks that Russell was assigned to do."

Friends and families of Russell Sailors lined the pier with excitement as

they waited for the ship to arrive.

"The deployment wasn't as long as they usually are, but three months is still a long time and I'm just re-

ally excited to see him," said the wife of a Russell Sailor.

Sailors were overjoyed to be home as they walked off the ship and into the arms of their loved ones.

"It is just really great to come home and see my family waiting here on the pier for me," said Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Shaun Daugherty. "I've been anxiously awaiting this day for a while and I'm happy it has finally come."

CARAT is an annual series of bilateral military exercises between the United States and various South-east Asia nations. Participants historically include the navies of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Guided-missile destroyers like Russell provide multi-mission offensive and defensive capabilities and can operate independently or as part of carrier battle groups, surface action groups, amphibious ready groups and underway replenishment groups.

Japan/U.S. missile defense flight test successful

Missile Defense Agency

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the United States Missile Defense Agency (MDA) announced the successful completion of an Aegis ballistic missile defense (BMD) intercept flight test, in cooperation with the U.S. Navy, off the coast of Kauai in Hawai'i. The event, designated Japan Flight Test Mission 3 (JFTM-3), marked the third time that a JMSDF ship has successfully engaged a ballistic missile target, including two successful intercepts, with the sea-based midcourse engagement capability provided by Aegis BMD.

The JFTM-3 test event verified the newest engagement capability of the Japan Aegis BMD configuration of the recently upgraded Japanese destroyer, JS Myoko (DDG-175). At approximately 6 p.m. (HST) on Oct. 27, 1 p.m. Tokyo time on Oct. 28, a separating, medium-range ballistic missile target was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawai'i.



A Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) is launched from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyer JS Myoko (DDG 175) in a joint missile defense intercept test with the Missile Defense Agency in the Pacific Ocean. The SM-3 successfully intercepted a medium-range target that had been launched minutes earlier from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawai'i. Myoko's crew detected and tracked the target, developed a fire control solution, and then launched the SM-3.

JS Myoko crew members detected and tracked the target. The Aegis weapon system then developed a fire control solution and, at approximately 6:04 p.m. (HST), 1:04 p.m. Tokyo time, a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block IA interceptor missile was launched. Approximately three minutes later, the SM-3 successfully intercepted the target approximately 100 miles above the Pacific Ocean. JFTM-3 is a significant milestone in the growing cooperation between Japan and the U.S. in the area of missile defense.

Also participating in the test were the Pearl Harbor-based USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), which detected and tracked the target and conducted a simulated engagement.

Before returning to Japan, JS Myoko will be loaded with additional SM-3 Block IA missiles. The ship will arrive in Japan ready to provide additional ballistic missile defense capability against the increasing ballistic missile threat present in that region.



U.S. Navy photo by ETC(SW) Robert A. Start
Capt. Patricia Cole (left) relieves Capt. Janet Stewart (right) as commanding officer of Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) during a change of command ceremony held Oct. 23 at NCTAMS PAC.

Cole takes command at NCTAMS PAC

Lt. Miguel Macias

Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific Public Affairs

Capt. Patricia Cole relieved Capt. Janet Stewart as commanding officer, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific (NCTAMS PAC) during a change of command ceremony held Oct. 23 at NCTAMS PAC.

Vice Adm. H. Denby Starling II, commander, Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM), presided over the ceremony. The ceremony took place in the scenic antenna fields of NCTAMS PAC with the Waianae mountain range as a backdrop.

During the ceremony, Starling presented Stewart with the Legion of Merit award for her "exceptional vision, leadership, dedication and resourcefulness" in guiding NCTAMS PAC to "excellence in communications support to Pacific naval, joint and allied forces."

In her departing speech, Stewart highlighted the many accomplishments the NCTAMS PAC team achieved during her tenure. NCTAMS PAC won the 2009 Defense Information Systems Agency Excellence Award and the Hawai'i

Federal Board's "Employer of Choice Award." NCTAMS PAC also executed communications support for countless exercises, operations and humanitarian and disaster recovery operations, and saw the largest expansion in history of the Wahia Annex with more than \$1 billion in construction and command and control equipment installation.

"The privilege to lead the largest naval telecommunications station in the world has been the highlight of my Navy career. I could not be more proud of every Sailor, civilian and contractor as they have faced every challenge head on and been successful," said Stewart.

"Every Sailor and civilian should be proud of their accomplishments, proud of the impact they've had, and most important, proud of each other, for the quality of service you bring to the warfighter. It has been a tremendous honor and privilege to serve with all of you and to be your commanding officer," she said.

Stewart, who assumed command of NCTAMS PAC in August 2007, is a native of Mastic, Ill. and graduated from McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill. in 1981. She was commis-

See NCTAMS PAC, A-10

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Open House

MC2 (SW) N. Brett Morton
Navy Public Affairs Support Element
Detachment Hawai'i

Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base hosted an informational open house for guests to learn more about Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. More than 300 people attended the event held at the Hickam AFB Officers Club on Oct. 27.

See OPEN HOUSE, A-2

Capt. Richard W. Kitchens (right), commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor; Col. Giovanni Tuck (middle), Commander, 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base, and Capt. Lawrence Scruggs (back to camera), Naval Station executive officer, talks with guests at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam open house.

U.S. Navy photo by James Johnson



Lake Erie Sailor creates award-winning poster page A-4



Cultural Resources Management Conference See page A-6



New damage control 'wet' trainer floods students See page A-7



Have a safe but spooky Halloween See page B-1

Military families and Hawaiian community celebrate makahiki

Story and photo by
MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Members of the native Hawaiian community joined military families to celebrate the 8th annual Moku Umeume (Ford Island) Makahiki (festival) on Oct 24 near the historic WWII control tower on Ford Island.

Organized by the Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Moku Umeume Makahiki featured native Hawaiian songs, exhibition games and other cultural celebrations dedicated to Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace.

"The annual makahiki at Moku Umeume is an important celebration of the past that will help redefine our relationship as contemporary people of Hawai'i for the future," said Shad Kane, the representative for the Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

"It parallels the western tradition of Thanksgiving. With respect to the Moku Umeume Makahiki, it will not only help to improve relationships between the military and Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian community, but also establish an awareness of the rich pre-western Hawaiian traditions and history of the lands surrounding Moku Umeume," Kane explained.

The celebration started with canoes making safe passage from Iroquois Point at Ewa Beach toward the seaplane ramp on Ford Island. The canoes carried the 13-foot-tall standard symbolizing the arrival of Lono. Following a Hawaiian chant and blessing, conch shell blowers heralded the arrival of Lono to begin the procession to the makahiki location near the control tower.

After the arrival of Lono near the control tower, Kane welcomed the participants and guests and spoke to them about the history of the Oahu Makahiki and the Hawaiian's Tahitian ancestors. Also as part of the celebration, the participants demonstrated some makahiki games popular in Hawai'i's past.

"Since Lono was the embodiment of all the characteristics of peace and welfare, all warfare was strictly forbidden during the time of the makahiki," said Kane. "This focus on health and welfare made games of skill that tested a healthy body and mind a focal point of the makahiki games."

One of the canoe paddlers, Bob Lauder, took part in the festivities for the first time. "It's really awesome because I've been in Hawai'i for four years, and it has given me an opportunity to learn about the culture and get more assimilated into the Hawaiian ways," Lauder said. "It's wonderful."



Lono, symbolized by the 13-foot standard, arrives at the shores of Moku Umeume (Ford Island) to celebrate the Moku Umeume Makahiki festival. Organized by the Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Moku Umeume Makahiki festival featured native Hawaiian songs, exhibition games and other cultural activities which celebrate Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace.

Joint Base open house

Continued from A-1

Starting Jan. 31, 2010, Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base will begin transitioning toward becoming a single installation called Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The end of the transition period is scheduled to be achieved by Oct. 1, 2010. At that time, all resources, property 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.

"This is our first opportunity for the different functions that will be making up the key core elements of the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. It gives those functions a chance to engage with the public as well as our future employees," said Col. Andy Hockman, director of joint basing, 15th Airlift Wing, Hickam Air Force Base.

The new installation will have a joint base commander (JBC) from Pearl Harbor

with the deputy joint base commander coming from Hickam Air Force Base. The prospective JBC is Capt. Richard W. Kitchens, commanding officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

Kitchens attended the event and spoke with contractors, residents, military and civilian employees, and tenant commands and activities about the transition process.

"I want to make sure it is well understood that there is no intention whatsoever to tell anybody they don't have a job. There is no RIF of personnel associated with this process. As people retire, as they seek other professional opportunities, as billets become vacant, we will make decisions whether or not we will fill those billets," said Kitchens. In the federal government, layoffs are called reduction in force, or "RIF" actions.

For more information about Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, visit www.cnic.navy.mil/pearlharbor and click on Pearl Harbor-Hickam Joint Basing Info.

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THIS IS A DRILL

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard will hold a training exercise on Tuesday morning, Nov. 3 at Ford Island. Pedestrian and vehicular access will be secured in the vicinity of the drill, north and south of Wasp Boulevard. This is a routine training exercise, and there is no actual emergency. Any requests for additional information can be referred to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard public affairs office at 474-0272.

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Local construction company holds blessing ceremony for NOAA facility

Sandra Kim

Nan, Inc.

Representatives from Nan, Inc. and Navy officials conducted a ceremonial blessing of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Science and Storage Facility on Oct. 23 at the grounds of the facility on Ford Island.

The local construction firm was awarded a \$21 million contract from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific to build the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Pacific Regional Center on historic Ford Island at Pearl Harbor.

As part of the blessing, internationally-acclaimed artist Patrick Ching, also known as Hawai'i's nature artist, presented his paintings of the Hawaiian monk seal and Hawaiian sea turtles to William Broglie, NOAA chief administrative officer, as a token of gratitude for making NOAA in Hawai'i possible and expanding NOAA programs in the islands.

"We are honored to host such an event with the support of NAVFAC Pacific, NOAA, and other dedicated individuals committed to having this facility built on historic Ford Island," said Renee McClung-Lee, safety administrator for Nan, Inc.



NOAA photo

Fooney Freestone, president of Nan, Inc.; Cmdr. Lori Aguayo, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i; Darren Iida, Nan, Inc. project manager; Samuel Ho, vice-president of Nan, Inc.; Cmdr. Paul Vandenberg, NAVFAC Pacific deputy ops officer; and Lt. Cmdr. Jorge Cuadros, NAVFAC Hawai'i FEAD director.

NOAA's Marine & Mammal Science Research Division has brought national attention to the Pacific Islands Regional Fisheries Office and Science Center, Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary and Papahānaumokuākea Marine Monument, Pacific Service Center, the Marine Debris Program, and the

Loa Observatory.

Cmdr. Paul Vandenberg from NAVFAC Pacific was in attendance at the blessing ceremony, along with other Navy officials who will be administering the contract and working closely with Nan, Inc. on this nationally-acclaimed project. Also in attendance were Broglie and John Shewsbury, Hawai'i NOAA project

manager PRC.

"We, at Nan, Inc., are excited to take on the challenge of constructing such a unique and invaluable facility," said Darren Iida, Nan, Inc. project manager. "The blessing of the job site was not only to celebrate the start of safe construction of a highly-anticipated facility, but to ensure that once built, NOAA

experiences much success in its operations," Iida added.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is America's premiere federal science agency. NOAA's dedicated scientists use cutting-edge research and high-tech instrumentation to provide citizens, planners, emergency managers and other decision makers with reliable and timely information.

NOAA also keeps citizens informed through daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, and climate monitoring. This new center will be home to a number of NOAA operations currently dispersed throughout the island of Oahu.

Existing NOAA facilities in Hawai'i include the National Weather Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Ocean Service, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Office of Marine and Aviation Operations, and National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service.

This project was awarded to Nan, Inc. on April 20. The contract completion date is Nov. 11, 2010.

"This is a blessed opportunity to have everyone involved come together so that we can continue to work effectively together to get the job done safely and on time," McClung-Lee added.

This week in NAVAL HISTORY

October 26

- 1921 - In first successful test, a compressed air, turntable catapult, launches an N-9 seaplane.
- 1944 - Battle of Leyte Gulf ends with Navy carrier and USAAF aircraft attacks on the retreating Japanese ships. U.S. forces sink many Japanese ships including four carriers, three battleships, 10 cruisers and nine destroyers, for a total of 26 capital ships. Afterward, the Japanese fleet ceases to exist as an organized fighting fleet.
- 1944 - Special Task Air Group One makes last attack in month-long demonstration of TDR drone missile against Japanese shipping and islands in the Pacific. Of 46 missiles fired, 29 reached their target areas.
- 1950 - U.S. Amphibious Force Seventh Fleet lands 1st Marine Division at Wonsan, Korea
- 1963 - USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN-619) launches first Polaris A-3 missile from a submerged submarine off Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 27

- 1864 - Lt. William Cushing, USN, sinks Confederate ram Albemarle with a spar torpedo attached to the bow of his launch.
- 1943 - First women Marines report for duty on west coast at Camp Pendleton.
- 1944 - Fast carrier task forces attack Japanese shipping and installations in Visayas and northern Luzon.
- 1967 - Operation Coronado VIII begins in Rung Sat Zone.

October 28

- 1864 - Steamer General Thomas and gunboat Stone River destroy Confederate batteries on Tennessee River near Decatur, Ala.

October 29

- 1840 - Launching of Fulton I, first American steam-powered warship, at New York City. The ship was designed by Robert Fulton.
- 1980 - USS Parsons (DDG-33) rescues 110 Vietnamese refugees 330 miles south of Saigon.

October 29

- 1941 - German submarine U-552 sinks USS Reuben James (DD-245), which was escorting Convoy HX 156, with loss of 115 lives. First U.S. ship was lost to enemy action in World War II.
- 1943 - Lt. Hugh D. O'Neill of VF (N)-75 destroys a Japanese aircraft during night attack off Vella Lavella in first kill by a radar-equipped night fighter of the Pacific Fleet.
- 1956 - Navy men land in R4D Skytrain on the ice at the South Pole. Rear Adm. George Dufek, Capt. Douglas Cordiner, Capt. William Hawkes, Lt. Cmdr. Conrad Shinn, Lt. John Swadener, Aviation Machinist's Mate 2nd Class (AD2) J. P. Strider and AD2 William Cumbie are the first men to stand on the South Pole since Capt. Robert F. Scott in 1912.
- 1956 - USS Burdo (APD-133) and USS Harlan R. Dickson (DD-708) evacuate 166 persons from Haifa, Israel due to the fighting between Egypt and Israel.

WAVE trainees parade behind color guard



Photograph from the Army Signal Corps Collection in the U.S. National Archives

"Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service," also known as WAVES, parade behind their color guard during WWII. The WAVES began in 1942 with the first women accepted into the Army. Later in WWII, more women would be accepted into other branches of military service. On Oct. 27, 1943, the first women Marines reported for duty at the west coast, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Hawai'i Navy News

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Lake Erie Sailor creates award-winning poster

Story and photo by
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class Eric Diego Ocampo of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) recently won high praises after his entry into the Suicide Prevention Poster Contest garnered first-place honors for Navy Region Hawai'i and third place in a Navy-wide online voting poll.

However, Ocampo, an accomplished photographer, noted that helping troubled Sailors and their shipmates become more aware of the telltale signs of suicide far outweighed the accolades he received from his award-winning submission.

"I wanted to dispel the stigmas associated with suicide," said Ocampo. "I really wanted to take it away from someone that is perceived as a negative person and instead, have other people look at it and say, 'Hey, this is our buddy. How could we have let this happen?'"

According to the Navy suicide Web site, www.suicide.navy.mil, the behavioral health program office received 36 poster submissions during the six-week entry timeline. The Web site also includes information about suicide prevention and a list of the top-three finishers in the poster contest.

A panel of expert judges narrowed the field down to six finalists. Sailors then voted for their favorite entry via Navy Personnel Command (NPC) poll technology during the week of Aug. 7.

Although Ocampo had only two weeks to storyboard, produce and submit his poster to the region, he said that, with a message that is so important, he refused to com-

promise on the content and quality of his entry.

In addition to the requirements of the contest, Ocampo set out, with the help of his fellow shipmates, with some specific idea about how to produce a final product that was both eye catching and effective.

Among the elements that Ocampo said needed to be included in the composition was to have an outstanding photograph, dispel the myths associated with suicide, empower action by the viewer, and showcase diversity of personnel.

"I've seen previous posters and I wanted to bring it up one more level," said Ocampo. "I've already done photography and graphic design and since I figured that this was going to be a Navy-wide poster, we needed to have the quality that I thought should be out there."

While Ocampo entered two



Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class Eric Diego Ocampo of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) holds the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal certificate that was presented to him by Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, in ceremonies aboard the Lake Erie on Oct. 20. Smith recognized Ocampo after his entry into the Suicide Prevention Poster Contest placed first in Navy Region Hawai'i and third place in a Navy-wide online voting poll.

posters into the contest, his submission featuring a group shot depicting a military mock-funeral ceremony caught the attention of judges and the Navy-wide audience.

Staged and photographed at Schofield Barracks Memorial Cemetery, Ocampo said that the objective of the photo was to have fellow Sailors look at it from the point of view that the scene could happen to someone close to them.

"These are images that, I felt, needed to be out there," claimed Ocampo. "The overall product is very close to what I envisioned. So I'm very happy with that."

Lt. John Carter, who is the chaplain on the Lake

Erie, was the one who initially approached Ocampo about entering the contest.

Knowing about Ocampo's handy work with the camera, Carter said he had full confidence that the sonar technician's final product would be a winner - especially in getting the word out about a very sensitive issue.

"It (suicide) is something that is never going away," stated Carter. "We are constantly pushing suicide prevention awareness stuff out there and because of that, our rate for suicide in the military is a little bit lower than the civilian world."

"His (Ocampo) final product looked amazing to me. Frankly, I would like to see the first-and second-place entries because after he told me that he came in third, I said, 'You got to be kidding me.'"

Still, Carter acknowledged that he envisions Ocampo's poster could ultimately help fellow Sailors.

By making creative use of the Navy's acronym ACT, which stands for, "Ask, Care and Treatment," Carter said the poster, showing a Sailor holding dog tags that are stamped with the three-letter message, should make Navy personnel stop and take notice.

"The acronym ACT is really helpful," said Carter. "The fact that his (Ocampo) entry got recognized at that level means that it's going to be mass produced and sent to Navy installations worldwide."

Ocampo admitted that while he enjoyed developing the final product, he was unprepared for the attention he is getting from the success of his entry.

In addition to receiving awards from the regional and Navy-wide contest, he was also honored with a visit by Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, who presented Ocampo with the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal in ceremonies aboard Lake Erie on Oct. 20.

"He (Smith) also gave me one of his Navy Region Hawai'i MIDPAC coins," recalled Ocampo. "I am very honored, but I could not have done it without assistance. I want to thank my chain of command, Carter, Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class Daniel Miller, Ensign Aimee Lindner, Senior Chief Storekeeper (SW) Rey Katigbak, Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Charles Dumadag, Chief Personnel Specialist (SW/AW) Joseph Portic, Fire Controlman 2nd Class (SW) Harless Blankenship, Storekeeper 2nd Class (SW) Alex Rafael, and all the personnel in the photo."

Pearl Harbor Highlights



(Left) A Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) is launched from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyer JS Myoko (DDG 175) on Oct. 27 in a joint missile defense intercept test with the Missile Defense Agency in the Pacific Ocean. The SM-3 successfully intercepted a medium-range target that had been launched minutes earlier from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawai'i. Myoko's crew detected and tracked the target, developed a fire control solution, then launched the SM-3.

U.S. Navy photo courtesy of the Missile Defense Agency

(Below) A procession headed by Lono, symbolized by the 13-foot standard make their way toward the foot of the historic WWII control tower on Ford Island, the location of the Moku Umeume Makahiki festival on Oct. 24. Organized by the Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the Moku Umeume Makahiki festival featured Native Hawaiian songs, exhibition games and other cultural activities which celebrate Lono, the deified guardian of agriculture, rain, health and peace.



(Left) Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility divers assist in the removal of a propeller on USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93). The diving team received a bravo zulu from Cmdr. Michael McCartney, Chung-Hoon's commanding officer, for its diligent efforts in repairing the ship after working extensive hours, including weekends, holidays and up to 16 hours a day to restore Chung-Hoon's propeller blades.

U.S. Navy photo by Katie Vanes



U.S. Navy photo by Katie Vanes

Twenty-one Sailors from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility supported the Campbell High School JROTC Triathlon on Oct. 3 at Richardson Pool complex. Navy Diver 2nd Class Justin Saylor lends a congratulatory hand to a cadet at the end of his swimming event. The remaining events in the challenging triathlon included a 1.75-mile run and a hybrid basketball shot put activity.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Luciano Marano

Cmdr. Edward L. Herrington, commanding officer of the Virginia-class, fast attack submarine USS Hawai'i (SSN 776), describes to the visiting students from the Pearl Harbor Christian Academy how submarine Sailors pilot the vessel. The students visited the submarine as well as Naval Submarine Training Command Pacific (NSTCP) during their visit to Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Oct. 23.

CNRH holds 2009 Cultural Resources Management Annual Review Conference

MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) hosted the 2009 Cultural Resources Management Annual Review Conference at the Ford Island Conference Center on historic Ford Island on Oct. 27-29.

During the conference, Navy leadership assigned to various commands in the Pearl Harbor area and members from the State Historic Preservation Office, National Park Service, Hawai'i Historic Foundation, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and National Trust for Historic Preservation talked about the past, present and future plans of historic Pearl Harbor.

Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, made the opening remarks.

"One of our major goals is to not only preserve these historic sites at Pearl Harbor, but also revamp them," said Smith. "It is our mission to get the resources we need to accomplish these goals."

Smith also noted the importance of the community to know the history of Pearl Harbor.

"When a new service member and their family moves onto Ford Island,



Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Commander Capt. Gregory Thomas, center in uniform, lead the Historic Partners group on a tour of the Shipyard. In the background is the historic Battleship Missouri, which is currently undergoing maintenance in Dry Dock 4. The group was here in Hawaii for their annual culture resources management conference.

we should provide them with information and facts of what occurred in their back yard many years ago," said Smith. "There is so much history that has happened here that people do not know about and it is our job to inform them of it."

Capt. Bret Muilenburg, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawai'i, talked about the plan to repair the old run-down buildings on Pearl Harbor.

"It is important that we get a plan and have our partners join us in helping refurbish these old buildings in a timely manner," said Muilenburg. "It is our duty to provide good stewardship and upkeep to the Navy's his-

toric sites."

Paul DePrey, superintendent of the National Park Service, discussed the National Park Service's future plans.

"The World War II Valor in the Pacific will no longer just be about the build-up to the war, but now it will involve everything in the aftermath as well," said DePrey. "We will also update our collections and enlighten our visitors with the new information about historic Pearl Harbor."

The Cultural Resources Management Review Conference is held annually for CNRH's top military and civilian leadership to go over updates, budgets and plans for the Navy in the Hawai'i region.

NCTAMS PAC

Continued from A-1

sioned in 1982 following Officer Candidate School.

She previously served as executive officer of the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Pensacola, Fla. and commanded the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station, Bahrain. Additional assignments include: Commander Carrier Strike Group Six in Mayport, Fla., as the N6 for the USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67); and C4 Systems support division chief for the J6 Directorate, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Stewart has earned masters degrees from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. and the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. She is authorized to wear the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), and other service and campaign awards.

Her next assignment takes her to Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) at Little Creek, Va.

Cole succeeds Stewart as the 52nd naval officer to hold the post at NCTAMS PAC and arrived here after a successful tour as the operations director at NETWARCOM at Little Creek, Va.

"The greatest warfighting Navy the world has ever seen depends on the vital capabilities you render, and we shall continue to be equal to the

task. It is together, shipmates, that we will meet our responsibilities unflinchingly and in a manner that engenders the Navy Core Values of honor, courage and commitment." Cole said as she addressed her new command.

A native of Little Rock, Ark., she graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1982.

A veteran information professional since 1985, she has served in numerous information technology assignments abroad, ashore and afloat.

Her previous assignments include: officer in charge of Naval Space Surveillance Center Detachment Echo, Joint Defense Facility Nurrungar in Woomera, Australia; chief of Space-Based Tactical Operations Branch, U.S. Space Command, Colorado Springs, Colo.; and fleet information systems officer for Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet, embarked on USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19).

Cole also commanded the Fleet Surveillance Support Command in Chesapeake, Va.; served as first battalion officer at the U.S. Naval Academy; and was selected as the special assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations for Diversity.

She earned a master of science degree in space system operations from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif. Her awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

New damage control 'wet' trainer floods students

How history's lessons are teaching Sailors of today

Story and photo by MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

The ship exploded. Many of the crew were in shock.

"None of us could believe what we were seeing," said Electronic Warfare Technician 2nd Class Fernando Cruz who was topside on board USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) on April 14, 1988. "There was flaming lagging, and debris raining down on the deck and smoke everywhere. I thought the helo might have blown up."

The Oliver Hazard Perry-class frigate had in fact found itself in the middle of an Iranian minefield in the Persian Gulf. Cmdr. Paul X. Rinn, commanding officer, announced over the 1MC that the ship had entered mine-infested waters after lookouts spotted three mines during escort operations.

In an attempt to avoid the mines, the ship backed up in its own wake. The ship eventually struck a mine and the resulting explosion violently lifted Samuel B. Roberts' stern 10 feet into the air.

"We took cover immediately under the antenna," said Cruz. "As soon as the debris had all come down, I shouted, 'Let's go!' then hit the deck and started hauling hoses down to the stack area where the flames were."

The mine blew a gaping 22-foot hole in the hull beneath the main engine room, disabling both gas turbine engines, knocking the reduction gear off its mount and rupturing two 10,000-gallon fuel oil tanks.

"It all happened too quickly," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW) Dick Fridley, repair two scene leader. "There was no time to think. Everyone just reacted from their training. Over the last two years, we spent a lot of time training on damage control and I think it just became automatic."

Roberts' crew took effective action, shoring, plugging, fire-



Damage Controlman 1st Class (SW) Delbert Corbin takes part in damage control training at the Center of Naval Engineering Learning Site, Pearl Harbor. The \$2.5 million surface damage control trainer purposely emulates the plight of USS Samuel B. Roberts when the ship struck a mine in the Persian Gulf in April 1988.

fighting and dewatering teams were all working simultaneously to keep the ship afloat. The crew rigged eductors to keep the water level down. As a result, the water level never got any higher than the lower level deck plates.

Five hours after the mine hit, the situation was finally under control.

"It is a story of a ship that refused to die," said Rinn as the ship was being towed to port. "The crew was well-trained, well-disciplined, demonstrated tremendous pride, spirit and courage throughout the entire ordeal. It is a tribute to good training and good damage control."

Before the incident, the crew underwent training prepared by the Fleet Training Group at Guantanamo Bay Cuba. The crew went through a series of scenarios which were very similar to what they faced in the Persian Gulf. The crew completed the training and prophetically received one of the highest scores.

"My role enabled me to get involved in all the action from firefighting to shoring, plugging, dewatering, starting diesels, and switching generators," said Fridley. "Every guy I saw, from the newest to the older guys, never even

stopped to think. They just reacted, and they reacted right. A good crew with a lot of training—that's what saved the ship."

More than 20 years later, the actions of the crew still inspire many generations of Sailors during damage control training.

At the Center of Naval Engineering Learning Site, Pearl Harbor (CNE LS PH), officer in charge, Chief Warrant Officer 3 John Walls and Senior Chief Damage Controlman (SW/AW) Michael Ashton have been leading the charge, building a new surface damage control trainer that would simulate the conditions aboard Samuel B. Roberts.

The CNE LS PH opened the new \$2.5 million surface damage control trainer (SDCT) Oct. 23, more than 20 years after the mine incident in the Persian Gulf.

"It really is a state-of-the-art facility," said Capt. Michael Ryan, Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific commanding officer. "You'll find that we are going to make a giant step forward in making sure our Sailors are prepared to combat casualties at sea."

Walls said the new wet trainer is the culmination of more than 10 years worth of

making the scenarios even more intense.

"The trainer has eight separate damages," said Walls. "We could inflict one through eight. Most of our scenarios, we are going to implement all eight because that's going to truly test the students."

But despite the battle damages, the look and feel of the facility is similar to any modern U.S. Navy ship, complete with battle lanterns, a repair locker room and non-skid flooring. Sound effects through the 1MC and general alarm were also added for more realism. "When students come in, they should get the sense that they're actually on a frigate operating in the Persian Gulf at any time day or night," said Walls. "That realism adds to the training environment."

During the final design phase and construction of the trainer, Ashton made several modifications that would make the trainer look and feel like a real ship.

"Like for instance, the bulkhead wasn't painted the correct color," said Walls. "The ladder wasn't quite the right degree of incline. For realism, Senior Chief Ashton had a major part that he was able to catch [the inconsistencies] before it went to final print. It just enhanced the trainer even more."

James Webb, the project engineer from TJ Inc. which won the bid to build the trainer, worked with Ashton during the construction of the trainer. Ashton was very specific in what he wanted in the trainer, said Webb. Ashton said this trainer would some day save lives.

The SDCT was also built to reduce operational costs and environmental impact. The trainer recycles its own water, which means the water used in each scenario is not dumped into the public

sewage. The water is fed back into the tank and is treated for the next exercise.

"At some point the \$2.5 million will actually come back to us in cost savings," said Walls. "The trainer was approved for environmental purposes, cost savings and lower maintenance, so there are less manning requirements."

CNE LS PH plans to train an average of 300 students per week, for 42 weeks a year. The new wet trainer will be used to train not only Sailors stationed in Pearl Harbor, but also the U.S. Coast Guard and junior Navy ROTC. The trainer will also be used during the chief induction season as a team-building exercise.

"As scenarios or casualties go, there's nothing more frightening to a Sailor at sea than a fire or flooding casualty," said Ryan. "To be able to go into one of these trainers and practice combating that here on land in the safe confines of the trainer and be able to develop the skills necessary to save the ship, I can't tell you how important that is."

Walls and his staff look forward to training more Sailors in the fleet using the collective experiences from the crew aboard Samuel B. Roberts.

"[USS Samuel B. Roberts] is a great story of a crew that took in the training that they have learned," said Walls. "[The Roberts crew was] known as a very battle-efficient crew, and that training paid off later when the actual mine hit."

(Quotes from Electronic Warfare Technician 2nd Class Fernando Cruz, Cmdr. Paul X. Rinn and Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW) Dick Fridley were taken from "This is No Drill!" Saving the Sammy B.," by Lt.j.g. Kenneth A. Heine, Surface Warfare Magazine, July/Aug. 1988.)

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

Nov. 5 - Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Preparedness featuring COMPACFLT director of ops

Nov. 12 - TBD

Nov. 19 - Defense Commissary Agency on Hawai'i products featuring Ben Wainwright

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