

## NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, Hickam Air Force Base become Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Story and photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base held a ceremony to unveil Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) on Jan. 31.

The ceremony was held to mark the beginning of the transition period, called initial operational capability.

"It is truly an honor as we stand here and bring these two historic bases together today," said Capt. Richard Kitchens, commander, JBPHH. "The Navy and Air Force share the same goals with passion and pride, and with the joining of forces today we will be able to further our partnership between the two services."

Col. Giovanni Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing commander, expressed the significance of joining the two bases together.

"With the combining of forces, we will bring unity along with excellence into the future. I look forward to seeing a strong partnership pro-



Col. Giovanni Tuck (right), 15th Airlift Wing commander, Pastor Ed Sproat, and Capt. Richard Kitchens, commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, symbolically join together a traditional Hawaiian lei at a ceremony marking the official Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam transition period, called initial operational capability (IOC), on Jan. 31. During the ceremony, the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam seal was unveiled, and Sailors and Airmen opened up and removed the Aloha Aina Park pedestrian gate, which separated the two bases.

per when we merge bases together today," said Tuck. "Just because we are creating something new here today, the history of Hickam Air Force Base

and Naval Station Pearl Harbor will never be forgotten."

During the ceremony, the JBPHH seal was unveiled and Sailors and Airmen

opened up and removed the Aloha Aina Park pedestrian gate which separated the two bases.

Kitchens and Tuck then

symbolically joined a traditional Hawaiian lei together, marking the beginning of the JBPHH IOC.

Kitchens said he looked for-

ward to the future of JBPHH's tradition continuing to grow.

"There is plenty of history and tradition that is already involved with Pearl Harbor and Hickam," said Kitchens. "I know and I anticipate that there will only be plenty of good things involved with JBPHH that will continue to add to that history and tradition."

The IOC will last until Oct. 1 when full operational capability will take effect. 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 law to be the lead agency for the new installation.

Kitchens is the joint base commander and Col. Charles Baumgardner, commander, 15th Mission Support Group, 15th Airlift Wing, is the deputy joint base commander. Mission commanders and other tenants will remain in charge of their units. The joint base commander will report to Rear Adm. Dixon Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

## Naval Station Pearl Harbor is one of recipients of 2009 Zumwalt Award

Office of the Secretary of the Navy

Naval Station Pearl Harbor was announced Feb. 1 as one of 15 recipients of the 2009 Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Award for excellence in lodging management. The announcement was made by Robert Work, acting Secretary of the Navy.

Winners are graded on lodging operations, including facilities, service, finance and management and are accredited and evaluated periodically based on established performance standards.

Navy gateway inns and suites activities are awarded three, four or five-star ratings similar to commercial



hotel industry quality standard ratings. Achieving a five-star rating is a significant accomplishment.

Other installations who achieved a five-star rating include: Naval Base Point Loma, Calif.; Naval Base San Diego, Calif.; Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif.; Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif.; Naval Air Station

Brunswick, Maine; Naval Station Newport, R.I.; Naval Shipyard Portsmouth, Maine; Naval Air Station Oceana, Va.; Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Va.; Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Va.; Joint Forces Staff College; Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash.; Naval Base Kitsap, Wash. and U.S. Naval Station Rota, Spain.



## NAVSTA Pearl Harbor sets standard: 400 days without alcohol-related incident

MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

While most installations would be content with going six months without an alcohol-related incident (ARI), that did not satisfy Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor as they have raised the bar, recently going over 400 days without an ARI.

NAVSTA Pearl Harbor broke through the mark on Jan. 30 and is still continuing forward in the right direction.

"This shows buy-in and commitment by our command to take care of each other, to be good neighbors and good stewards, and to ensure we continue to have the best possible place to live, work and play," said Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer of NAVSTA Pearl Harbor.

Kitchens credited NAVSTA Pearl Harbor's success of being ARI-free to leadership at all levels and commitment by ac-

tive duty service members, civilians and family members.

"You achieve a milestone like this by encouraging good leadership at all levels, especially mid-level leadership. Credit goes to each individual who continues to show personal responsibility," said Kitchens. "Credit also goes to each leader who makes sure everyone has opportunities for personal and professional growth, on and off duty. Those opportunities are definitely available here in Hawaii."

Capt. Lawrence Scruggs, executive officer of NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, said that camaraderie throughout the command has been instrumental in remaining ARI-free.

"Teamwork and camaraderie helps Sailors in the command, from the most senior to the most junior, take care of one another and it is one of the biggest reasons we have been able to have no ARIs," said Scruggs.

Scruggs also pointed out the importance of having strong

leadership to help influence Sailors to make right decisions.

"Leadership by example is what is most important," said Scruggs. "The importance of meeting any goal, whether it's remaining ARI-free or completing a mission, stems from good leadership that places an importance on professionalism."

NAVSTA Pearl Harbor Command Master Chief Earl Gray noted that NAVSTA Pearl Harbor Sailors represent more than just their command when it comes to having zero ARIs.

"When Sailors go out in town, they not only represent NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, they represent the entire U.S. Navy," said Gray. "It is important for our personnel to maintain good order and discipline while on liberty. If NAVSTA Pearl Harbor looks good, it has a positive effect and makes the entire Navy look good."

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## Commander U.S. 10th Fleet visits Naval Information Operations Command Hawaii

Story and photo by CT11 (AW/NAC) Jennifer Schooley

Naval Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii

Vice Adm. (VADM) Bernard J. "Barry" McCullough, III, commander of U.S. 10th Fleet, recently visited Naval Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii. This was his first visit to Hawaii since his confirmation in November 2009.

Present day U.S. 10th Fleet was re-activated and achieved initial operational capability on Jan. 29. During World War II, U.S. 10th Fleet was created as an anti-submarine warfare coordinating organization during the Battle of the Atlantic. The fleet was active from May 1943

to June 1945.

While the U.S. 10th Fleet of the past was short lived, the present day U.S. 10th Fleet is ever moving forward. Today the mission is to provide operational support to Navy commanders worldwide in the area of cyber, information and computer network operations, electronic warfare and space.

NIOC Hawaii, along with all other NIOCs throughout the Naval Network Warfare Command (NETWARCOM) enterprise, will be subordinate to U.S. 10th Fleet. This change of subordination further pushes NIOC Hawaii into the battlefield of the 21st century, the cyber battlefield.

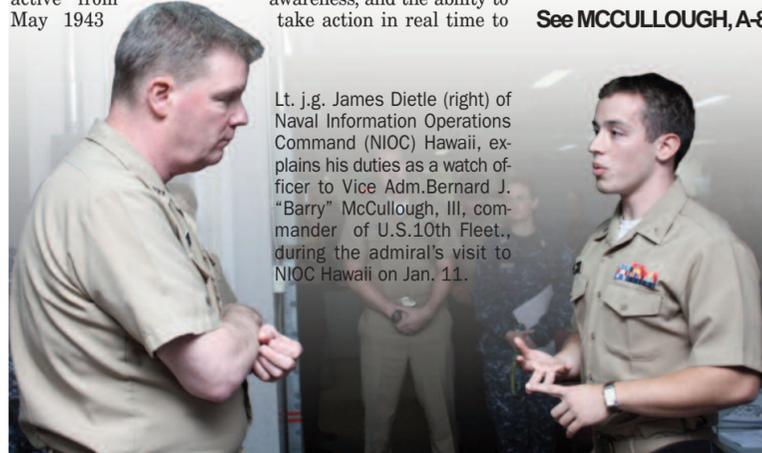
McCullough stated that his biggest challenge with the establishment of U.S. 10th Fleet has been "defining the battlespace, devising situational awareness, and the ability to take action in real time to

prevent intrusions." He also explained how he hopes to achieve a global responsibility.

"Each of the NIOCs is well focused on its own areas of responsibility, but today we need universal practices. The Fleet Information Operations Centers (FIOC) have great universal practices and what we need is to implement them worldwide," said McCullough.

Capt. James Hagy, commanding officer of NIOC Hawaii, explained, "FIOC Hawaii has been in place for over two years and I believe could be the example for other FIOCs." NIOC Hawaii further progressed toward full operational capability of the FIOC concept by introducing a computer network defense element capable of providing near-real time defense of fleet networks while partnered with

See MCCULLOUGH, A-8



Lt. j.g. James Dietle (right) of Naval Information Operations Command (NIOC) Hawaii, explains his duties as a watch officer to Vice Adm. Bernard J. "Barry" McCullough, III, commander of U.S. 10th Fleet, during the admiral's visit to NIOC Hawaii on Jan. 11.

**Editor's Note**  
With implementation of initial operational capability (IOC) on Jan. 31, Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base began transitioning to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Events that have taken place prior to IOC will still reference the separate installations as Naval Station Pearl Harbor and Hickam Air Force Base. In the near future, Hawai'i Navy News and Hickam Kukini will launch a combined joint base newspaper.



Navy Legal Services Pearl Harbor opens tax center See page A-2



CNRH and NADAP hold Personal Readiness Summit See page A-3



Pearl Harbor Shipyard undocks USS Bremerton See page A-7



USS Port Royal celebrates African-American Heritage Month See page B-1

# Navy Legal Services Pearl Harbor opens tax center

MC2 (SW) Mark Logico

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Navy Legal Services Office Pacific (NLSO PAC), Pearl Harbor Detachment, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the tax center at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Feb. 1.

For the third year in a row, NLSO PAC will run a free self-service/full-service hybrid tax center located at the Navy College building. The program will provide Sailors, families, retirees and reservists the opportunity to choose between filing their own tax returns and filing their taxes with Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) personnel.

The tax center features eight computer stations, four of which are manned by VITA personnel, while the rest are self-service computers. Sailors, families, retirees and reservists have a choice to do their own tax returns or use the services of VITA personnel. The tax center also provides free tax advice to Sailors and families. More than 20 volunteers are trained to address both general and military specific issues, such as combat zone tax benefits and



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Robert Stirrup

Capt. Richard Kitchens, commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), and Sailors assigned to Navy Legal Services Office Pacific (NLSO PAC), Pearl Harbor Detachment participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony at the tax center on JBPHH. For the third year in a row, NLSO PAC will run a free self-service/full-service hybrid tax center located at the Navy College building.

provisions of the earned income tax credit.

Lt. j.g. Philip W. Rohlfling, a Judge Advocate General Corps officer assigned to NLSO Pearl Harbor, said that the tax center adopts the philosophy of not merely preparing Sailors' taxes, but also providing them the option to file their own under the guidance of VITA personnel.

"Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he'll eat for a lifetime," said Rohlfling.

"The self-service computers are an option for Sailors who want to file their own taxes."

When the hybrid tax center first started in 2007 tax year, the Pearl Harbor tax center filed 921 tax returns, 73 percent of which used the self-service computers. In 2008, the Pearl Harbor tax center filed 1,057 tax returns, 53 per-

cent of which used the self-service computers. "Last year, self service customers required varying degrees of assistance from the staff, but nearly all were successful at preparing their own returns," said Rohlfling.

According to an after-action report prepared by Lt. Dominic Antenucci from NLSO PAC, the hybrid program provided an effective, efficient and balanced tax center which was able to keep up with demand for services despite limited manning.

A VITA volunteer, Electronics Technician 1st Class Joseph Melchor said that customers who intend to improve their personal finances appreciate the education provided by the hybrid tax center.

"There are obvious long-term benefits to educating the clients," said Melchor, who has been a VITA volunteer since 1998. "I like volunteering, personally. It is self-gratifying to give back to the Navy."

Rohlfling reminded Sailors that worrying about filing a tax return can affect mission readiness.

"It can become a huge issue," said Rohlfling. "The volunteers here at the tax center want to make it as easy as possible for Sailors to file

their returns so it does not affect mission readiness. Service members have enough on their plate without having to worry how to file a tax return."

For Sailors who want to avail themselves of the services, bring the following items:

- Military ID.
- Social Security cards for taxpayer, spouse and dependents.
- Birth dates for taxpayer, spouse and dependents.
- Applicable tax documents taxpayer has received (i.e., W-2, 1099-R, 1099-INT, 1098-T).
- Copy of last year's federal and state return, if available.
- Bank routing numbers and checking/saving account numbers if direct deposit is desired.
- Total paid for daycare provider and the daycare provider's tax identifying number.

If married filing jointly, both the taxpayer and spouse must be present to sign the return.

For anyone interested in volunteering at the tax center, contact Rohlfling at 473-4698 or Lt.j.g. Andrea Gordon at 473-1411.

## Construction to begin for Child Development Center at Marine Corps Base Kaneohe, Hawaii

Story and photo by Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii

Navy, Marine Corps and contractor personnel held a Hawaiian ground blessing ceremony on the morning of Jan. 28 to celebrate the construction of a new child development center (CDC) to be built at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

The \$9.6 million design-build contract was awarded on July 31, 2009 to AMEC-Nan Joint Venture, LLC, Honolulu, Hawaii and funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

"We are very excited about the building of a brand-new, stand-alone CDC which will provide additional spaces for the care of approximately 122 children from the ages of six weeks to five years and located near the existing CDC, adjacent to family housing, said Jeff Chaney, Marine Corps Community Services director.

The 17,986-square-foot CDC will be constructed of reinforced concrete masonry. Designed for the best use in caring for the development of children, it will include 10 classrooms/activity rooms, administrative spaces, staff lounge, staff and public toilets, a full kitchen, laundry, miscellaneous support and storage spaces, as well as appropriate en-



Kahu Kauila M. Clark of the Native Hawaiian Healing Center, Waianae leads the main ceremonial players in the building of the new child development center through a Hawaiian blessing of the construction site. Col. Robert D. Rice, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Hawaii; Samuel S. Ho, vice president of Nan Inc.; Paul T. Pettit Jr., executive vice president of AMEC Pacific Region; and Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii; all place their right hand into a bowl of fresh water mixed with sea salt as Kahu Clark blesses the mixture.

closed outdoor play areas with playground equipment.

The project supports Marine Corps Headquarters' stated program goals for child care and development and basic facilities requirements. The facility will incorporate sustainable design features, such as energy saving electronic monitoring and control systems, laminated glaz-

ing for exterior doors and windows, solar panels, occupancy sensors, local/regional materials, water efficient/reduction design, natural views, insulated walls and roof.

"The existing CDC is at capacity and all actions to maximize its space have been exhausted," said Chaney. "There are few commercial alternatives for child care within a reason-

able commuting distance to the base and those available charge high fees."

Special ground blessing attendees included Col. Robert D. Rice, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Hawaii; Frank H. Okimoto, vice president of Nan Inc.; Samuel S. Ho, vice president of Nan Inc.; Paul T. Pettit Jr., executive vice president of AMEC, Pacific region; William A. Kucharski, vice president of AMEC Pacific operations; Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii; Jeff Chaney, Marine Corps Community Services director; Esta L. Staples, Marine and Family Services director; and Janet M. Hooten, children, youth & teen programs administrator.

The Hawaiian blessing, which included traditional chanting and the distribution of sanctified fresh water and sea salt on the future construction site, was performed by Kahu Kauila M. Clark, Native Hawaiian Healing Center in Waianae.

"The new CDC will help meet stated Headquarters Marine Corps goals and the needs of families stationed in Hawaii," said Rice. "It will positively impact the morale and welfare of our military families and Marine retention by providing reliable and safe child care. In addition, the facility will expand existing capabilities."

Construction of the CDC is set to

begin soon in February 2010 with an anticipated completion date of February 2011.

The project, financed by federal stimulus money, was the first task order issued under NAVFAC Pacific's new Global Multiple Award Construction Contract (GMACC) awarded on July 31, 2009.

AMEC-Nan Joint Venture, LLC, Honolulu was one of four firms selected to bid on future packages of military construction contracts worth up to \$900 million through 2014.

"The GMACC is an extremely valuable contracting vehicle, which will help various government departments across the globe execute their major projects in an efficient and expedited manner and to properly facilitate and carry out the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act," said Fooney Freestone, president of Nan, Inc.

Potential projects under the GMACC will include new construction, repair, demolition, and renovation work, including utilities and waterfront jobs, construction of medical facilities (hospitals, medical clinics and/or dental clinics), and energy and water conservation projects at various Department of Defense installations worldwide.

The three other companies that are part of the GMACC are dck/TteEC, LLC, Environmental Chemical Corporation and URS Group, Inc.

### Pearl Harbor Commissary announces Presidents Day schedule

In observance of Presidents Day on Feb.15, the Pearl Harbor Commissary hours of operation will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Navy Region Hawaii



Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH) is now on Facebook (Navy Region Hawaii) and Twitter (twitter.com/NavRegHawaii). Feel free to follow CNRH on these Web sites and check out the latest updates and news about the Navy in Hawaii.

# Hawaii Navy News Editorial

## CNRH and NADAP hold Personal Readiness Summit

Story and photo by  
MC2 Robert Stirrup

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii partnered with the Navy's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention (NADAP) program to hold a personal readiness summit at the Navy Lodge on historic Ford Island on Jan. 26-29.

The summit provided updates of policies and instructions and offered answers, first hand, from NADAP. A session was made available for commanding officers, executive officers, command master chiefs, chiefs of the boat and other senior leadership to address any concerns or questions they had concerning alcohol and drugs.

Other personnel that attended the training were urinalysis program coordinators and drug and alcohol program advisors, along with command coordinators for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program (SAPR), Command Managed Equal Opportunity program (CMEOP) and the Family Advocacy program.

"This summit is great, especially if you are assuming a new position at your command, to see and hear from local representatives who are resident experts in your field," said Chief Culinary Specialist (SW) Lane Jones, alcohol and



Chief Sonar Technician (Surface) Carl Smith, alcohol and drug control officer for Naval Surface Forces Pacific, talks to Sailors assigned to various commands in the Pearl Harbor area about the Navy's drug and alcohol program during the 'myths and truths' session of the personal readiness summit. The summit was held Jan. 26-29 to inform senior leadership of updates and policies to the Navy's drug and alcohol program. The 'myths and truths' session was held to clear up any rumors or wrong information that junior Sailors may have heard about the Navy's drug and alcohol program.

drug control officer for CNRH. Jones also said that the involvement of leadership and the various training that Sailors receive during the year help keep alcohol-related incident (ARI) numbers down.

"With great leadership throughout [Navy] Region Hawaii, we have reduced the number of ARIs from calendar 2008 to 2009," said Jones. "Commands in Hawaii continue conducting training and stand-downs throughout the year to ensure personnel know programs are in place to support service members.

On the last day of the summit, there were three 'myths and truths' sessions designed to clear up any rumors or any wrong information that junior Sailors may have heard about the Navy's alcohol and drug program.

"The principal of the 'myths and truths' session is to dispel some of the myths that Sailors have heard about the Navy's drug and alcohol program. The program lets Sailors know what happens if they make a specific type of choice and how it will affect their careers," said Chief Sonar Technician (Surface) Carl Smith, alcohol and drug control officer for Naval Surface Forces Pacific and instructor of the summit.

NADAP's mission is to support fleet readiness by fighting alcohol abuse and drug use.

*This week in*  
**NAVAL HISTORY**

*February 1*

- 1941 - U.S. Fleet is re-organized, reviving Atlantic and Pacific fleets.
- 1942 - USS Enterprise and Yorktown make first WWII air strike, Japanese Marshall Islands.
- 1955 - Operation Deep Freeze, a research task force, is established in Antarctic.

*February 2*

- 1800 - USS Constellation (Capt. Thomas Truxtun) defeats la Vengeance.
- 1862 - USS Hartford, Capt David G. Farragut, departs Hampton Roads for Mississippi River campaign.

*February 3*

- 1801 - Senate approves peace treaty with France, ending undeclared naval war that began in 1798.
- 1917 - U.S. severs diplomatic relations with Germany.

*February 4*

- 1779 - John Paul Jones takes command of Bonhomme Richard.
- 1959 - Keel laying takes place for USS Enterprise, the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, at Newport News, Va.

*February 5*

- 1854 - Dedication of first chapel is built on Navy property, Annapolis, Md.
- 1971 - Moonwalk by Navy Capt. Alan B. Shepard Jr., commander of Apollo 14 and Cmdr. Edgar D. Mitchell, lunar module pilot. During the nine-day mission, 94 pounds of lunar material was collected and Shepard became the first person to hit a golf ball on the moon. Recovery was by helicopter from USS New Orleans (LPH-11).

*February 6*

- 1922 - World powers sign the Washington Naval Treaty providing for limitation of naval armament.
- 1973 - In accordance with the agreement at the Paris Peace Talks, Navy Task Force 78 begins Operation End Sweep, the mine clearance of North Vietnamese waters of mines laid in 1972.

*February 6*

- 1800 - USS Essex becomes first U.S. Navy vessel to cross the equator.
- 1955 - Seventh Fleet ships begin evacuation of Chinese nationalists from Tachen Islands.
- 1965 - In response to a Viet Cong attack on barracks area at Pleiku, South Vietnam, aircraft from carriers, USS Coral Sea, USS Hancock and USS Ranger attack North Vietnamese area near Donghoi.

*Navy Cross winner Doris "Dorie" Miller speaks with Sailors*

U.S. Naval Historical Center

Navy Cross winner Doris "Dorie" Miller (seated front left) talks with three other Sailors and a civilian during his visit to the Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill., on Jan. 7, 1943. He is wearing the Navy Cross medal, awarded for heroism during the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

*Hawaii*  
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Hawaii Navy News is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawaii.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 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/.

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# Diverse Views



**“Why is it important for our country to celebrate and recognize African-American Heritage Month?”**

*(From Sailors aboard USS Port Royal)*



OS1 (SW)  
**Dakeish Oribello**  
USS Port Royal  
(CG 73)

I think [African-American Heritage Month] is important because we should know who came before us. For me, it can also be very motivational. By hearing some of the inspirational stories from females who have served my country before me, it only makes me want to push harder.



SH1 (SW/AW)  
**Tanya Seui**  
USS Port Royal  
(CG 73)

I think it is important to celebrate African-American Heritage Month so that we all can recognize how far we have come and where we want to go in the future. It is important that we continue to keep the fight going for more equal rights for all of our Americans. All national heritage months, including Asian and Hispanic, should be observed and recognized because it is important to observe all Americans whose contributions have built this country.



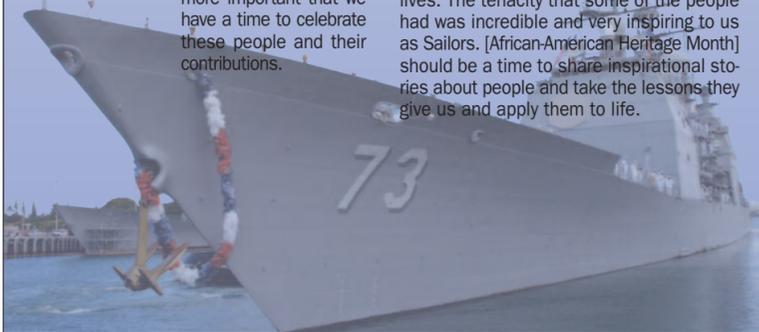
LS3  
**Namon Richardson**  
USS Port Royal  
(CG 73)

In boot camp was when I first heard about the ‘Golden Thirteen,’ the 13 African-American enlisted men who became the first African-American commissioned and warrant officers in the U.S. Navy. Their story was very motivational for me and made me very thankful to have the opportunities I have today as a Navy Sailor. African-Americans, as well as other races, have really played an important part in our nation’s history. This makes it even more important that we have a time to celebrate these people and their contributions.



GMC (SW)  
**Jaye Bell**  
USS Port Royal  
(CG 73)

Frederick Douglass established an African-American Heritage Month because he thought our country needed to focus on the contributions made by our people so society could benefit from those lessons. As [Port Royal’s] coordinator for African-American Heritage Month, I use it as a time to include all of our Sailors, not only African-Americans. We try to take these lessons and use them in our lives. The tenacity that some of the people had was incredible and very inspiring to us as Sailors. [African-American Heritage Month] should be a time to share inspirational stories about people and take the lessons they give us and apply them to life.



(From left to right) Ensign Christopher Wilkins, Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Byron Langston and Navy Counselor 1st Class (AW) Timothy Nugent enroute to Nauru via a rigid-hull inflatable boat on Jan. 24 to deliver supplies to the Republic of Nauru Hospital and Nauru Women’s Shelter.

## Reuben James Sailors deliver Project Handclasp supplies to Republic of Nauru

**Story and photo by Ensign Kim Mai Pham**

USS Reuben James (FFG 57) Public Affairs

While deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility, USS Reuben James (FFG 57) visited the Republic of Nauru on Jan. 24. Nauru is the world’s smallest sovereign nation and is located on an island with an area of about 21 square miles.

Fifty Reuben James Sailors were transported via the ship’s rigid hull inflatable boat (RHIB) to a small harbor on the east side of Nauru, a small island nation with a population of about 10,000 people. Escorted by the chief of the Nauru Police Force and a few of his officers, Reuben James Sailors delivered and presented medical and hygienic supplies to the Republic of Nauru (RON) Hospital and to the Nauru Women’s Shelter.

Dr. Wuna Polay and Dr. Meme Htway, doctors working at RON Hospital, were taken by surprise as a shuttle full of Navy Sailors arrived at their doorstep. They expressed gratitude for the kind gesture of the Sailors bringing them highly-desired supplies. Victoria Scotty, a volunteer who received

the Project Handclasp supplies on behalf of the Nauru Women’s Shelter, had a similar reaction.

Reuben James Sailors originally intended to participate in a community relations (COMREL) project that involved painting buildings, but there was a last-minute change in plans that gave the Sailors a chance to distribute Project Handclasp supplies instead. The usually hard-to-get painting supplies were turned over to the chief of police for a community project scheduled for the near future.

“It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be able to visit Nauru, a rare place to go for the average person. I found the language the people of Nauru spoke to be very unique and it was fun to experience such a different culture from my own,” said Boatswain’s Mate Seaman Apprentice Thaddeus Hodge.

“Most of the people of Nauru do not leave the island and have a limited perspective of the outside world so the time spent with the Sailors of Reuben James will leave a lasting impression and assist in the people of Nauru’s perception of the world at large,” said Paul Finch, a New Zealand citizen and 11-year resident of Nauru.

“Everyone was friendly. It was a beautiful place and I’d love to go back someday,” said Gas Turbine System Technician (Mechanical) 3rd Class Patrick Schneider.

Project Handclasp is the Navy’s worldwide American outreach program. It gives the Navy’s Sailors opportunities to personally distribute privately donated materials to those in need overseas. The materials are donated by private American citizens, companies and charitable organizations.

After successfully distributing the Project Handclasp supplies, Reuben James Sailors were given a shuttle tour of the island and an opportunity for a swim call in the small protected harbor where they first arrived.

In a brief but successful event, the people of Nauru showed appreciation and friendship for the goodwill brought to them by Reuben James Sailors and Project Handclasp by showing up in large numbers to join in the swim call.

Reuben James looks forward to distributing more Project Handclasp supplies throughout the remainder of her U.S. 7th Fleet deployment.

# Pearl Harbor Highlights



Lt. Gene Lattus, a priority material officer from Naval Station Pearl Harbor, plays with children during a visit to the Mercy Center orphanage on Jan. 30 as part of exercise Cobra Gold 2010 in Pattaya City, Thailand. Cobra Gold is an annual bilateral training exercise conducted between the Royal Thai armed forces and the U.S. military to enhance interoperability and improve communities through humanitarian assistance and civil action projects.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Uriel De Luna-Felix

Gary Sinise, bass guitarist for the Lt. Dan Band, performs for more than 6,000 Hickam and Pearl Harbor service members at Freedom Tower at Hickam Air Force Base on Jan. 30. The Lt. Dan Band covers everything from Springsteen to Linkin Park, from Aretha Franklin to Jimi Hendrix. The concert is sponsored by USO and Triwest. The band is known for a character Sinise portrayed in the 1994 Academy Award winning film, "Forrest Gump." Sinise received an Oscar nomination for best supporting actor.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares



Naval Station Pearl Harbor (NAVSTA) quarterback Personnel Specialist 3rd Class Aaron Jackson gets past Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Robert Stirrup during the Afloat Intramural Flag Football League championship game between NAVSTA and the Seabees at Ward Field, Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Jan. 28. NAVSTA beat the Seabees, 28-0.

U.S. Navy photo by Randy Dela Cruz

Tammy Yee reads to children in the Pearl Harbor Navy Exchange (NEX) island reading room on Jan. 29. Yee is a local storyteller and writer. Her books include "Island-Style Alphabet," "Hawaiian Goodbye Book" and many more, available at the NEX.

U.S. Navy photo by Anita Orta



Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Michael Sanchez, left; Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), Kauai Commanding Officer Capt. Aaron Cudnohufsky and Naval Aircrewman 2nd Class Mehgan Rodriguez prepare a maile leaf lei for the grand re-opening of PMRF's softball field. The quality of life project was completed at low cost due to volunteer work from PMRF and Navy Region Hawaii personnel.

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

# NCTAMSPAC holds off NIOC Hawaii 'B'

Story and photo by  
Randy Dela Cruz

Contributing Writer

Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMSPAC) withstood a furious third-period comeback to outdistance Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii (NIOC) "B" by a score of 40-27 in an Ashore Intramural Basketball League game at Naval Station Pearl Gym, Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Feb. 1.

The win improved NCTAMSPAC's record to 2-0 and kept it in a three-way tie for first place with Naval Station Pearl Harbor (NAVSTA) and Joint Intelligence Operation Center (JIOC).

Against NIOC "B," NCTAMSPAC jumped out to a 21-10 advantage, but saw its lead dwindle down to five points after Cryptologic Technician (Networks) Seaman Reauthtie Yun of NIOC nailed a three-point bomb, before closing out the first half with a basket and one.

Yun, who scored all of his team high nine points in the

second period, said he felt compelled to make something happen after NIOC got out to a slow start.



"Our intensity just wasn't there," stated Yun. "I just tried to pick up the pace and came up with a couple of baskets."

NIOC continued to press the action in the third period and scored six quick points to take its first lead of the game, 22-21, at the 4:22 mark.

"We had a big breakdown on defense," said NCTAMSPAC post-player, Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Travynce Caple, about falling behind. "Our guards were playing too high and leaving their big man open at the bottom."

However, with the period coming to a close, Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Deonte Stewart snapped his team's cold streak and sank a bucket to give NCTAMSPAC back its lead.



Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Deonte Stewart of Naval Computer Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific (NCTAMSPAC) splits the defense for two of his game-leading 19 points during an Ashore Intramural Basketball League matchup against the "B" squad of Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii (NIOC).

"We got a little tired (in the third period) so we called timeout and got our subs in," noted Stewart. "Thankfully, we got a wonderful bench and everybody came in and did their part."

Ahead by only four points going into the final period, a well-rested Stewart and Caple took over the action to help NCTAMSPAC outscore NIOC, 14-5, in the last eight minutes to complete the rout.

Caple's three-point play at 4:52 remaining in the game gave NCTAMSPAC some needed breathing room at 30-25, while two free throws by Stewart at the 2:25 mark opened up the team's first 10-point advantage.

Caple scored seven of his 13 points in the fourth and Stewart, who led all scorers with a total of 19 points, pumped in six points to close out the contest.

Stewart, who opened up the first quarter on fire by scoring nine points on a three-pointer from downtown and completing two three-pointers, said that when it came crunch time, he was looking for the ball. "I wanted the ball," said

Stewart. "I told the guys before the game that I wanted to be the go-to guy, so that's what I did."

In addition to the strong effort from Caple and Stewart, NCTAMSPAC displayed a solid open-court attack and accurate shooting from the charity stripe.

For the game, the team was outstanding at the free-throw line, making 11 out of 14 attempts, including six-for-six in the final period.

With the team showing a well-rounded attack on offense and defense, both Stewart and Caple believe that NCTAMSPAC has what it takes to have a great year.

"I love these guys," said Stewart. "Everybody gives a 110 percent. I think that we can go all the way."

Caple added, "I think that Naval Station just might be the best team, but I think we're at least No. 2 right now."

On Feb. 10, NCTAMSPAC will get a chance to gain sole possession of first place, when it squares off against NAVSTA at Naval Station Gym starting at 6:30 p.m.

## CPRW-2 hosts senior leadership from across the maritime patrol and reconnaissance force

Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two

Senior leaders from the maritime patrol and reconnaissance force around the globe gathered at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe for the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Force (MPRF) Commanders Conference during the week of Jan. 11.

The conference was hosted by Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two and provided a forum for senior leadership in the MPRF force to discuss challenges and make decisions regarding the future of the force.

"The conference brought together maritime patrol and reconnaissance leaders from across the country and the world in order to focus on current operations as well as future aircraft, maintenance and personnel requirements," said Lt. Cmdr. Chris Threlkeld, Wing Two assistant operations officer, who was the overall coordinator of the event. "Conference attendees also received current operations updates from task force commanders currently forward-deployed," he added.

The conference occurred at a pivotal time in the history of maritime patrol and

reconnaissance aviation as the community begins preparations to phase out the venerable P-3 Orion aircraft over the next decade and replace it with the new P-8A Poseidon. Additionally, the MPRF force has started employing unmanned aerial surveillance systems for the first time ever under the broad area maritime surveillance-demonstrator program. These transformative issues and other related topics were at the forefront of the commanders' conference.

Much of what was discussed concerned the training and manpower issues

that the MPR force faces today, as well as the way ahead as it relates to aircraft transition. Also discussed were topics related to tactical support, logistics and sensor operation.

The conference officially concluded on Jan. 14 fol-

lowed by the group-wide Sailor of the Year banquet that evening.

"This was one of the most productive and successful commanders' conferences our community has ever held," said Rear Adm. William Moran, com-

mander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Group. "Everything went very well and all attendees were extremely impressed by all the hard work CPRW-2 and MCBH MCCS put into hosting this conference," he said.

## Hawaii governor, shipyard commander salute Missouri volunteers, supporters at re-opening

USS Missouri Memorial Association

Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle and Capt. Gregory R. Thomas, commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, joined the Battleship Missouri Memorial on Jan. 30 in saluting its volunteers and supporters as the historic ship fully reopened to visitation following a multi-million-dollar drydocking project.

A ukulele band from the Big Island of Hawaii's Waiakea Intermediate School performed at a ceremony in honor of the memorial's volunteers and supporters. The school group stayed aboard the 66-year-old iconic battleship all weekend as part of the memorial's overnight encampment program focusing on science, technology, engineering and math — or STEM.

"The outpouring of support to preserve this important part of our nation's history is a tribute to the American men and women who fought with courage and pride during World War II, as well as to those who continue to follow in their footsteps," Lingle said. "Hawaii is proud to be homeport for the Battleship Missouri, which serves as a source of great inspiration and education to fu-



Photo by Randi Jeung

The Waiakea Intermediate Ukulele Band, with bass accompaniment, performed Jan. 30 at the grand re-opening of the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

ture generations. The 'Mighty Mo' will always be a part of the rich history of our nation and the principles of freedom and democracy that will continue to guide us into the future."

Thomas said: "For three months, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard workers had the honor of safeguarding this national treasure. We take great pride in our support for the historic docking, preservation and undocking of this revered symbol of victory in the great World War II."

"The Battleship Missouri is now in better shape than any other historic ship in the world. We are grateful to have the ex-

perience and resources in Hawaii to drydock the Missouri, thanks to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and BAE Systems and its subcontractors," added Michael Carr, president of USS Missouri Memorial Association.

"Just as essential were the many local residents and Hawaii-based military volunteers who selflessly stepped forward to donate their time so that the Missouri returned home on schedule. The Missouri's return from drydocking comes just in time to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the end of World War II this summer," said Carr.

## Paul Hamilton enters dry dock at shipyard

Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) entered dry dock four at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard on Jan. 20 - on schedule despite a constrained work timeline due to the recently completed work on the Battleship Missouri.

The guided missile destroyer is in the shipyard for a docking selected restricted availability (DSRA) that encompasses \$20 million of maintenance, repairs and modernization work.

"The on-time docking puts us in a good position to meet our milestones," said Halfred Chang, project manager, referring to the 17-week availability.

Putting the ship up on

the blocks was more challenging than usual because it came right after the undocking of Missouri on Jan. 7. The 887-foot historic battleship took up all the space within the dry dock so pre-staging of docking blocks and other material for Paul Hamilton could not be accomplished until after Missouri undocked.

After Missouri undocked, the larger-than-normal block buildup that supported the ship had to be removed and a new one constructed for Paul Hamilton.

Missouri required 309 docking blocks upon which to lay during her three-month preservation period, versus 71 docking blocks for Paul Hamilton. (Docking blocks are made up of one or more separate concrete blocks and are numbered according to where

they contact the hull.)

The modern destroyer has a bulbous sonar dome so her block buildup had to be at least 13 feet above the floor of the dry dock, noted Sonny Del Toro, dockmaster.

Shipyard workers essentially had to put up a "double build," installing large 20- to 22-ton base blocks, called "clunkers," and then stacking two- to seven-ton pier blocks on top of them to attain the necessary clearance.

Shipwrights and their assist trades started on Paul Hamilton's buildup the evening of Jan. 8 and continued for 10 days straight to meet the docking schedule.

Major jobs planned for Paul Hamilton include hull preservation and shafting and valve work. An alteration to strengthen the bow is also scheduled.

## Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard undocks USS Bremerton

Katie Vanes

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard workers undocked USS Bremerton (SSN 698) as scheduled Jan. 21.

The undocking took place on the date as planned after two months of intensive work in dry dock and a 10-day, shipyard-wide closure for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

"It was a challenge to have the holiday break right in the middle of the project and then get back into full speed, but the shipyard did it," said Miles Kotoshirodo, project superintendent and head of the team executing the Bremerton dry-docking selected re-

stricted availability (DSRA).

Much work and testing was completed to support undocking on the original, scheduled date of Jan. 21, an aggressive goal set at the start of the project.

"The Bremerton project team, which includes personnel assigned full-time to the project, supporting shops and codes in the shipyard, and the crew of USS Bremerton under the leadership of commanding officer, Howard Warner, helped maintain the shipyard's good track record of completing key events for DSRA's on or ahead of schedule," Kotoshirodo said.

He attributed the achievement to integrated teamwork and perseverance by project team members. "They had a

lot of determination to recover from any setbacks," he said. "No single individual was responsible for this success - it was an outstanding job by everyone all across the board."

Kotoshirodo acknowledged the noteworthy efforts of the crew of the submarine. "Bremerton's Sailors definitely took care of their end of the work as well," he said.

The shipyard is a full-service naval shipyard and regional maintenance center for the Navy's surface ships and submarines. It is a field activity of the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). The largest of the Navy's five system commands, NAVSEA engineers, builds, buys and maintains naval ships, submarines and their combat systems.

## Navy aircraft locates missing Chinese fishing ship near Guam

U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs

U.S. Navy airmen on board a P-3 "Orion" aircraft detected a People's Republic of China fishing vessel in distress off the coast of Guam shortly before midnight Jan. 20.

The aircraft, from the "Golden Swordsmen" of Patrol Squadron 47 from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe and

currently assigned to Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. 7th Fleet (CTF-72), was one of six flights dispatched to locate the missing vessel.

The Navy aircrew located the vessel about 575 miles off the coast of Guam. The ship had 11 crew members visible on deck, using flares and a small fire to signal for help.

The P-3 made bridge-to-bridge contact with two nearby merchant ships to vector them to the vessel in distress, and reported the location to the U.S. Coast Guard in Guam so that they could dispatch a C-130 aircraft at first light.

The crew of the fishing vessel was rescued by one of the merchant ships. The cause of the vessel's distress is not known.

### KHON (FOX) TV 2 \ Hawaii Navy News upcoming segments

Feb. 11 – Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Volunteer of the Year  
Feb. 18 – National Engineers' Week: "Women in Engineering"  
Feb. 25 – African-American/Black History Month

(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>)

#### Got a story for KHON Hawaii Navy News?

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



## Navy confirms sunken sub in Balabac Strait is USS Flier

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

Rear Adm. Douglas McAneny, commander, Submarine Forces Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC), announced Feb. 1 that a sunken vessel located in the Balabac Strait area of the Philippines is in fact the World War II submarine USS Flier (SS 250).

"I am honored to announce that, with video evidence and information provided by a team from YAP Films and assistance from the Naval History and Heritage Command, USS Flier has been located," said McAneny. "We hope this announcement will provide some closure to the families of the 78 crewmen lost when Flier struck a mine in 1944."

USS Flier, a 1525-ton Gato-class submarine built at Groton, Conn., was commissioned in mid-October 1943. She departed from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for her first war patrol in January 1944. While entering the harbor at Midway Island during a storm, she went aground and was seriously damaged.

The damaged submarine was towed back to Pearl Harbor and finally reached the Mare Island Navy Yard, Calif. where she was repaired. Flier made another start on her first war patrol in May 1944, heading from Pearl Harbor to the waters off Luzon. While enroute on June 4, she attacked and sank the transport Hakusan Maru. On June 13, she attacked a Japanese convoy off Subic Bay, receiving a depth charging in return and on June 22-23, hit another convoy off Mindoro, apparently damaging one or more ships.

In early August 1944, Flier

left Fremantle, Australia for her second war patrol. On Aug. 13, while transiting shallow water to enter the South China Sea, she struck a mine and quickly sank. Fourteen of 86 crewmen escaped, but only eight survived the subsequent long swim to reach shore. After making their way by raft to Palawan and being protected by local people and a group of guerrillas, at the end of the month they were evacuated by the submarine USS Redfin (SS-272).

The last surviving crew member of Flier, Ensign Al Jacobson, never gave up the search for his lost shipmates. Sadly, Jacobson passed away in 2008, but his family was determined to continue the search. The family provided notes and research to the production company YAP Films, which investigates nautical mysteries, and Jacobson's son Steve and grandson Nelson participated in the search.

"After my father retired in 1990, he became very active in the quest to understand more of what happened," said Steve Jacobson. "He put together as much information as he could from naval records of the investigation and put together charts of where he believed Flier was. We provided YAP Films with everything my father had collected."

In the spring of 2009, with the aid of the Jacobson family, the team from YAP Films located wreckage of a submarine in the area where USS Flier was lost. Father and son divers, Mike and Warren Fletcher, of the television show "Dive Detectives" captured the first views of the sunken submarine in more than 64 years. YAP Films provided the Naval History and Heritage

Command with footage taken in the Balabac Strait to aid in the identification.

"The Flier discovery presented the "Dive Detectives" with one of our most challenging dives," said Warren Fletcher. "At a depth of 330 feet, there is little margin for error. As my father and I descended into the dark blue water, the unmistakable shape of a Gato-class submarine came into view. That moment made all of the hard work and danger pale in comparison with the feeling of pride it gave me to know that the Flier and her crew will not be forgotten."

With the information provided by YAP Films, COMSUBPAC and the Naval History and Heritage Command examined the evidence and historical records and determined that the submarine found at the reported position could only be USS Flier. No Japanese or U.S. submarine other than Flier was ever reported lost in the area and the gun mount and radar antenna clearly identifiable in the video matched historical photographs of USS Flier. Additional identifiable characteristics of the hull indicated that the wreck is indeed a Gato-class submarine. These factors taken together led COMSUBPAC and the Naval History and Heritage Center to conclude that the wreck found by YAP Films could only be that of USS Flier.

"The Flier was found because all the right people came together for all the right reasons," said Mike Fletcher. "But mostly

the Flier was found because of the love a family has for their dad."

"It was a pretty emotional experience," said Jacobson. "Although I was really confident of the position, you still don't know. Literally, it was exactly at the coordinates he said it would be. It is tremendous closure and I wish that my dad could have experienced this."

Former Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz once said, "When I assumed command of the Pacific Fleet on 31 December 1941, our submarines were already operating against the enemy, the only units of the fleet that could come to grips with the Japanese for months to come. It was to the submarine force that I looked to carry the load until our great industrial activity could produce the weapons we so sorely needed to carry the war to the enemy. It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril."

By the end of World War II, submarines had made more than 1,600 war patrols. Pacific Fleet submarines like Flier accounted for more than half of all enemy shipping sunk during the war. The cost of this success was heavy: 52 U.S. Pacific Fleet submarines were lost and more than 3,500 submariners remain on "eternal patrol."

For more information, contact Commander, Submarine Forces Pacific Public Affairs at 473-0911.

## Summit helps dispel myths

Continued from A-1

Chief Mineman Bradley Caven, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor's drug and alcohol program advisor (DAPA), said the training that Sailors receive during the command indoctrination course about the DAPA program has had a big impact.

"During the indoctrination course, I go over the command's drug and alcohol program with each Sailor and answer any questions that they may have about the DAPA program," said Caven. "Another thing we give Sailors as a backup plan is dash cards, which allow them to take a cab for free back to the base or their home in case their original plans fall through or they don't have enough money to pay for a cab."

Programs such as the personnel readiness summit, held on Jan. 26-29 for personnel assigned to commands in Hawaii, help Sailors focus on alcohol and drug abuse prevention issues along with the myths and truths of alcohol and drugs.

"The principal of the summit is to dispel some of the myths that the Navy has

with drugs and alcohol. The program lets Sailors know what happens if they make a specific type of choice and how it will affect their careers," said Chief Sonar Technician (Surface) Carl Smith, alcohol and drug control officer for Naval Surface Forces Pacific and instructor of the summit.

"During the summit, we also let commanding officers, executive officers, command master chiefs and other personnel in leadership positions know about new policies and updates in the Navy's drug and alcohol program," Smith explained.

NAVSTA Pearl Harbor is the U.S. Navy's busiest port, completing about 65,000 boat runs and transporting more than 2.4 million visitors and 200,000 vehicles each year. Personnel assigned to NAVSTA Pearl Harbor help transport more than two million visitors to the USS Arizona Memorial, manage bachelor's quarters of about 3,000 permanent party and transient personnel, and provide support and service to more than 55,000 people at the Pearl Harbor Fleet and Family Support Center every year.

## McCullough

Continued from A-1

the national intelligence infrastructure.

During his visit, McCullough received numerous briefs about the day-to-day operations on site, as well as the history of the continuously evolving building which presently hosts NIOC Hawaii. He discussed his

hopes for the future of NIOC Hawaii. "NIOC Hawaii is a critical node for operations in the Pacific," he noted.

He talked about his trip to NIOC Hawaii. "I enjoyed my time here and the information presented. As always, the Sailors of Hawaii have been most gracious," McCullough said.