

Naval Station Pearl Harbor helps homeless

MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Sailors assigned to Combined Bachelor Housing at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor joined hands with movers from the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority during a three-day move Jan. 22-24 to transfer more than \$160,000 worth of furniture and mattresses from Gabrunas Hall, bachelor enlisted quarters on board NAVSTA Pearl Harbor.

The furniture, donated by NAVSTA Pearl Harbor to the state of Hawai'i, will be used to help supply furniture for homeless shelters on the island of Oahu and provide families who reside in the shelters with a better quality of life.

"The ability to help the homeless is something everyone should take a part in," said Storekeeper 2nd Class (SS) Danny Hines, assigned to Combined Bachelor Housing at NAVSTA Pearl Harbor. "Anytime the military can help out the homeless rather than shipping the items off to the Defense Reutilization Management Office (DRMO), we will give them a hand."

More than 870 furniture and appliance items, including dressers, mattresses, night stands, desk chairs, lamps, refrigerators and microwaves, worth approximately \$160,000, were



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter

Movers from Hawai'i Public Housing Authority move mattresses out of Bachelor Enlisted Quarters, Gabrunas Hall, on board Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor on Jan. 22. Naval Station donated more than 800 furniture items to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, which will provide bedding to local homeless shelters throughout the island of Oahu.

donated to the state of Hawai'i during the three-day project.

"This is a great program because it can help out the

state," said Chief Culinary Specialist (SCW) Joseph Macias, wardroom leading chief petty officer, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor. "The program

doesn't have a large budget and for us to help provide them with furniture and mattresses is enormously helpful to their operation."

The move is part of an ongoing program between NAVSTA Pearl Harbor and the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, with three dona-

tions of furniture taking place in 2007 and this, the first of 2008.

"We change out the furniture in the barracks every seven years," said Macias. "Once we get close to the seven-year mark, we give a call to the state to see if they can take any furniture prior to us shipping it to DRMO."

Helping Hawai'i's homeless is a priority for Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle and the Navy has generously donated supplies for area homeless shelters.

"We're just fortunate that the Navy is helping us out," said Adam Burson, homeless program specialist, Hawai'i Public Housing Authority. "They are the ones who have the excess furniture and we are at the mercy of the Navy's generosity."

The state of Hawai'i has had four emergency and transitional shelters open in the last two years and the donated furniture has improved the quality of life for those who live in the shelters.

"Days like this are beneficial for the people in the shelters," said Burson. "This furniture gives them a comfortable place to live, not just a roof over their head."

The next furniture move is scheduled to take place in early February, at an agreed upon time between NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority and the state of Hawai'i Department of Transportation.

Awards honor Hawai'i commands

Story and photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

The office of the Chief of Naval Operations recently announced the winners of the Campaign Drug Free (CDF) Flagship Awards and the Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Awards for calendar year 2007.

Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit (MDSU) 1 was recognized as the small sea winner for the Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Award and CDF Flagship Award for inspiring 274 youths at Waipahu Elementary School. Through various projects involving school beautification, reading programs, anti-drug campaign and sports-related "keiki fitness" activities, Sailors of MDSU-1 encouraged the children to achieve personal excellence and growth.

"The entire command feels that it is important to inspire and motivate the youth in the community and it gives us great pride to do so with the children at Waipahu Elementary School," said Cmdr. Daniel Colman, commanding officer, MDSU-1.

Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Pearl Harbor was recognized as the medium shore winner for CDF Flagship Award, which utilized the Drug Abuse Resistance Education and Mothers Against Drunk Driving programs to inspire 400 students from Momilani Elementary School to be drug free.

FISC was also acknowledged as the medium shore honorable mention for the Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Award for the



Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW/AW) Richard Stewart, assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor, speaks to students from Radford High School during the school's 10th annual Career Fair on Nov. 27, 2007. NAVSTA Pearl Harbor was recently acknowledged with the Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Award, taking large shore honorable mention, for their partnership with Radford High School and volunteer work throughout the Pearl Harbor community.

work done by Sailors through tutoring, conducting physical training, donated textbooks, and beautification projects at Momilani Elementary School.

"We always try to give the children a 360-degree look for their education and the problems they should avoid," said Capt. Robert Carter, commanding officer, FISC Pearl Harbor. "The volunteerism here has always been at a high level and for the Sailors to take as much time out to help support the community is worthwhile beyond belief."

Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor was also acknowledged for the Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Award, taking large shore honorable mention, for its partnership with Radford High School and volunteer work throughout the Pearl Harbor community.

"We are incredibly proud for the recognition. It really goes to show that our relationship with the community comes easy," said CMDCM (SW/SS/FMF) Stephen Mitchell, command master chief, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor. "The volunteer work of the Sailors and families of NAVSTA Pearl Harbor really is second to none."

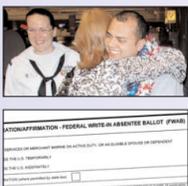
The Community Service Health, Safety and Fitness Flagship Award recognizes community service projects in five flagship sponsor categories: personal excellence partnership; health, safety and fitness; project good neighbor; campaign drug free; and environmental stewardship. The CDF Flagship Award recognizes commands that have coordinated the most effective and exemplary community outreach projects.

Farewell to a shipmate...



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 James E. Foehl

Sailors assigned to Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor raise the U.S. flag to half-mast during morning colors Jan. 22 on board NAVSTA Pearl Harbor in honor of Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Victor W. Jeffries. Jeffries, a Honolulu resident, died on Dec. 30, 2007 as a result of injuries suffered Dec. 24 in a vehicular accident while serving in Kuwait with Navy Customs Battalion Tango, Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group. In a proclamation by the governor of the state of Hawai'i, Linda Lingle ordered all U.S. and Hawai'i state flags to be flown at half-mast at all federal, state and county buildings in Hawai'i from sunrise to sunset on Jan. 22. Jeffries was also honored in an interment ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on Jan. 22.



GSA detailing process improves IA assignments See page A-2

Military absentee voting 'primary' concern for FVAP See pages A-3



Navy volunteers run PE at local school See page A-4



Kualoa Ranch... A world of rustic enchantment See page B-1

GSA detailing process improves IA assignments

MCC Rhonda Burke

Commander Navy Region Midwest

The Global War on Terror Support Assignment (GSA) detailing system is offering a better balance between personnel requirements and the global war on terrorism (GWOT) and improving stability for Sailors and their families.

"Just this last week, we finally realized the outlines of the GSA detailing and GWOT support assignments process. It is how we have brought the IA process into the mainstreaming of the detailing process," said Vice Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., commander, Naval Personnel Command. "We have put predictability and stability into the process for our Sailors and their families."

NAVADMIN 002/08, IA Individual Augmentation Manpower Management Business Rules and NAVADMIN 003/08, GSA Detailing Business Rules, released this week, capture the feedback Navy leaders received when asking Sailors and commands how to create a better system for IA assignments.

Harvey said more than 700 Sailors have negotiated IA assignments under the GSA detailing process since it was



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter

Yeoman 3rd Class Marlon J. Villatoro, assigned to Pearl Harbor-based guided missile cruiser USS Port Royal (CG 73), is greeted by Port Royal ombudsman, Sheila Ludweig, Sailors, friends and their families as he returns home to Honolulu, Hawai'i on Jan. 21 following a six-month individual augmentee (IA) assignment to Djibouti, Africa. During his IA assignment, Villatoro served as the administration chief for the joint operations center while assigned to Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa.

introduced in June 2007 and that number will grow over the next two years to encompass the entire IA process.

The GSA detailing concept allows Sailors to negotiate for an IA when it fits their

needs. Eventually it will replace the need to pull Sailors from other assignments mid-tour in order to fill an IA.

GSA Sailors receive administrative permanent

change of station (PCS) orders to San Diego or Norfolk and temporary duty (TDY) orders for all training and movement, including to the Navy Mobilization Processing Site. PCS allows

for moving family members to fleet concentration areas with large support services and infrastructure. If family members choose to remain in their current location, they retain military housing and basic allowance for housing entitlements for that location.

In addition to improving the detailing process, the Navy has also implemented several other provisions for those who complete an IA tour.

"We have put incredible flexibility into the exam process. If it is the right circumstances where the Sailor can prepare and take the exam, then we will give it to them. If that Sailor is engaged in operations on the ground, that do not permit us to give him the exam, it won't adversely affect that Sailor," Harvey said.

Additionally, advancement points are now awarded for successful IA duty accomplished. Selection boards will be given precepts, which will guide them and provide weight to the IA experience for both officers and enlisted on active and reserve selection boards.

"Recognizing that this IA mission is extremely important and it will be with us for a while, we are taking the steps to bring it into the

mainstream of how we do business and that will be better for the Sailor; it will be better for their command and it will be a lot better for their family," Harvey said.

In addition to billets in Iraq and Afghanistan, GSA detailing will also cover assignments to the Horn of Africa, Kuwait, Bahrain, Germany, South America, Cuba, Kosovo and the Philippines, and even state-side duty in Tampa, Fla. and Arlington, Va.

GSA billets are currently available on Career Management System-Interactive Detailing, the program enlisted Sailors use to apply for orders. The Web address is <https://www.cmsid.navy.mil>. Billets are listed under the category code 90GS. Officers can contact their detailer directly for information on GSA billets.

"I think we have a good package in these two NAVADMINS and our focus now is on execution," Harvey said. "What we want to do now is to hear from the Sailors, hear from their commands, work with the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy and the master chief community and seek feedback and determine what else we need to do to improve."

COMNAVSEA visits Pearl Harbor Shipyard

Kerry Gershaneck

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

The commander of Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), Vice Adm. Paul E. Sullivan, led a team of senior NAVSEA officials to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY&IMF) on Jan. 14-15. His mission was to personally review the shipyard's business plan and ensure associated NAVSEA actions are aligned to assist the shipyard in completing its plan.

The team met with senior shipyard leadership, middle managers, first-line supervisors, union leadership, mechanics and apprentices during the course of their two-day visit. The purpose of the meetings was to gain an in-depth understanding of the individual shipyard business plan elements and obtain first-hand input and feedback on the progress of actions to date.

"I am very enthusiastic about the business plan and I know that PHNSY&IMF is committed to forward progress," said Sullivan. "As they say,



U.S. Navy photo by Marshall Fukuki

Vice Adm. Paul E. Sullivan, commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), presents Lt. Cmdr. Jonathon VanSlyke with a certificate of achievement during a recognition ceremony Jan. 14 at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard commander's office. The award recognized Van Slyke for professional achievement as a member of the NAVSEA team responding to the collision and repairs of USS Newport News (SSN 750) in Bahrain last year.

Rome was not built in a day. This transformation will not occur overnight, but will be a relentless week-by-week, month-by-month change in mental model to continuous improvement as a learning organization. I pledge headquarters support of the business plan and we also will be transforming

along with you into a head-

quarters that is part of the solution."

The shipyard's business plan addresses specific action items, deliverables and projected end-states within the five major goal areas of learning: organization, people, plant, process and Virginia-class submarine planning.

Major objectives include the shipyard's continuing

efforts for transforming into a learning organization, strengthening supervisor competencies, revitalizing the waterfront and infrastructure, improving processes, preparations and routines to better support project work, and preparations to support future Virginia-class submarine maintenance.

During discussions with the shipyard team, Sullivan and his team lauded the shipyard's commitment to its transformation initiatives. The NAVSEA team also reviewed resource staffing challenges and helped identify ways headquarters could help alleviate project team development and staffing issues.

Sullivan personally recognized individual team members from the shipyard who helped lead and participate in the emergent repairs on USS Newport News (SSN 750), as well as shipyard workers who made extraordinary sacrifices over the holidays to accomplish emergent repairs on USS Frank Cable (AS 40), USS Kentucky (SSBN 737), and USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705) to keep these vessels "fit to fight."

USS Abraham Lincoln to participate in Joint Task Force Exercise

Commander, U.S. Third Fleet Public Affairs

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Carrier Strike Group (CSG), led by Rear Adm. Scott Van Buskirk, is participating in a Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) off the coast of southern California from Jan. 23-Feb. 1.

The exercise is the final step in preparing the strike group for deployment and is designed to test its ability to operate in a complex, hostile environment with other U.S. and coalition forces. During this graduate-level exercise, more than 7,000 Sailors are working together to hone their operational skills in preparation for their upcoming deployment.

With the successful completion of the exercise, Commander, U.S. Third Fleet, Vice Adm. Samuel J. Locklear will certify the Lincoln CSG as "ready for deployment."

After completion of the exercise and certification for deployment, the strike group will prepare to deploy, leaving its homeport of Everett, Wash. They will pick up personnel and aircraft in San Diego before deploying overseas in support of the global war on terrorism.

The Lincoln CSG is comprised of Commander, Carrier Strike Group 9, Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 9, the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), the guided-missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay (CG 53), the guided-missile frigate USS Curtis (FFG 38), guided-missile destroyers USS Momsen (DDG 92), USS Russell (DDG 59) homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, and USS Shoup (DDG 86) and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 11.

The squadrons of CVW-2 include the "Bounty Hunters" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 2, the "Vigilantes" of VFA-151, the "Kestrels" of VFA-137, the "Sun Kings" of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 116, the "Lancers" of Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (VAQ) 131, the "Providers" of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 30, the "Golden Falcons" of Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron (HS) 2 and the "Saberhawks" of Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 47.

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Hawaii Navy News

Hawaii Navy News Editorial

Perform to Serve: Vital to helping our Sailors stay Navy



FORCM (AW) Frederick O. Pharr

Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

Our Sailors today need to be aware of the advancement opportunities available to them both in and outside their current ratings, and undesignated Sailors need to know what opportunities the Navy has to offer them across all communities.

The Navy's Perform to Serve (PTS) program is designed to monitor the number of Sailors in each rating, especially first-term Sailors. It serves as a solution to overman-

ning and undermanning within certain ratings, which in the past has led to the separation of good Sailors before their time. It is a management tool designed to help overmanned rates get the people they need and to keep the overmanned rates trimmed down so the Sailors who want to 'Stay Navy' are able to 'Stay Navy.'

The first phase of the PTS program began in 2003 and was initially only concerned with career/re-enlistment objectives (CREO) group three Sailors. This was followed by a program expansion in February 2004 to include first term Sailors in CREO group two and a conversion

only option. In February 2006, the program expanded to all first-term Sailors recommended for retention regardless of their re-enlistment intentions. It provides authorization for in-rate re-enlistments or conversion

options for those approved.

There are very specific guidelines and steps which must be adhered to by Navy chains of command to ensure our first-term Sailors are able to reap every advantage of the PTS program. The optimum time to submit PTS request is 15 months prior to the Sailor's end of active obligated service/projected rotation date (EAOS/PRD). This timeframe affords the Sailors the maximum number of looks (six) within their peer group. Additionally, any application submitted with less than 12 months from EAOS or PRD will be reviewed monthly until six months prior to EAOS/PRD.

Early engagement begins with the first career

development board (CDB), conducted by the command master chief (CMC) or department leading chief petty office. Chains of command are responsible for ensuring each first-term Sailor is given this opportunity to evaluate where their rating community is headed in regard to manning in the future.

If the community expects to become overmanned in the next five years, the Sailor may wish to convert to a rating with more available advancement opportunities. This process will assist the Sailor with the decision for conversion choices. When a Sailor requests a rate conversion, eligibility must be verified. If the Sailor does not qualify for the conversion rate, they may retake the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) exam to enhance their opportunity to qualify for desired rating.

Sailors also need to be aware that once selected for a conversion to a rate through PTS the decision is final. Too often requests are submitted from commands for Sailors who have received permission to convert to a rating and then the Sailor changes his/her mind. That's why the CDBs are critical and must be completed. Unfortunately, that quota could have gone to a

Sailor that may have been told to separate. Quotas are limited and this could cause other Sailors to miss out on an opportunity to convert, resulting in their separation.

The PTS application submission deadline is the last Friday of each month. Correct information is imperative to timely approvals; there are simply too many Sailors' PTS packages that are not reviewed because of missed or incorrect information. The final retention decision is based first on that Sailor's performance and secondly, on the manning within that Sailor's rating.

Often, commands are under the impression that the commanding officer has blanket authority to approve a 12-month extension for first term Sailors; this is not the case. Regardless of a Sailor's intent to separate at EAOS, all first-term Sailors are required to submit a PTS application. All too often, Sailors who have made the decision to separate will change their minds at the last instance and discover they are now behind in the PTS process. This can be a devastating mistake and can ultimately result in the Navy losing a Sailor who wishes to "Stay Navy," but simply waited too long to submit the paperwork to do so.

Let's help the Sailors who want to 'Stay Navy' by providing them with every opportunity to do so. Conduct the CDBs and let them know what their options are. Submit those PTS requests at the first opportunity and follow up. Keep these Sailors on a path full of advancement opportunities for their future careers.



VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION - FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)									
1. a. I AM (Mark only one):									
<input type="checkbox"/> A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT									
<input type="checkbox"/> A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY									
<input type="checkbox"/> A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY									
1. b. I ALSO REQUEST VOTER REGISTRATION (where permitted by state law) <input type="checkbox"/>									
2. MY INFORMATION (Required)									
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)		b. PREFIX (Lt., Sr., etc.)		c. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)					
d. SEX	e. RACE	f. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	g. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	h. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR ID NUMBER					
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John J. Kruzal

American Forces Press Service

For the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), getting deployed troops and their families engaged in the current election season is a primary goal.

Ahead of the November general election, FVAP, which fosters voting participation by uniformed and U.S. citizens abroad, is assisting eligible absentee voters who wish to cast ballots in their states' primary election.

"It's important that voters participate in the upcoming primary elections," said Polli Brunelli, the program's chief. "We have over 20 primaries occurring in February so now is the time, if you've received your ballot, to vote and get it back by the state deadlines."

During a recent interview, Brunelli said registering to vote is a simple process.

"Absentee voters fill out a federal postcard application form to request a ballot, send it into their local election official where the voter is legally authorized to vote," she said.

She continued that the ballot will be sent to the voter, who then votes on the ballot and sends it back to the local election office.

Paper copies of the application form are available at military installations, embassies and consulates and from organizations of overseas citizens. Electronic forms are posted online at the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site, www.fvap.gov/pubs/online-fwab.html.

Citizens using this form should vote and submit it immediately using regular mail or, where allowed by state law, by fax or e-mail, to their local election officials.

The FVAP's Integrated Voting Alternative Site at www.fvap.gov/ivas/fvap_state_menu.html shows citizens if fax or e-mail alternatives are permitted in their home state.

Voting assistance officers are stationed at military installations abroad to help FVAP implement its program initiatives. Equipped with state-by-state voting assistance guides, the officers are available to assist service members in navigating the registration process and election procedures and inform voters of relevant deadlines, Brunelli noted.

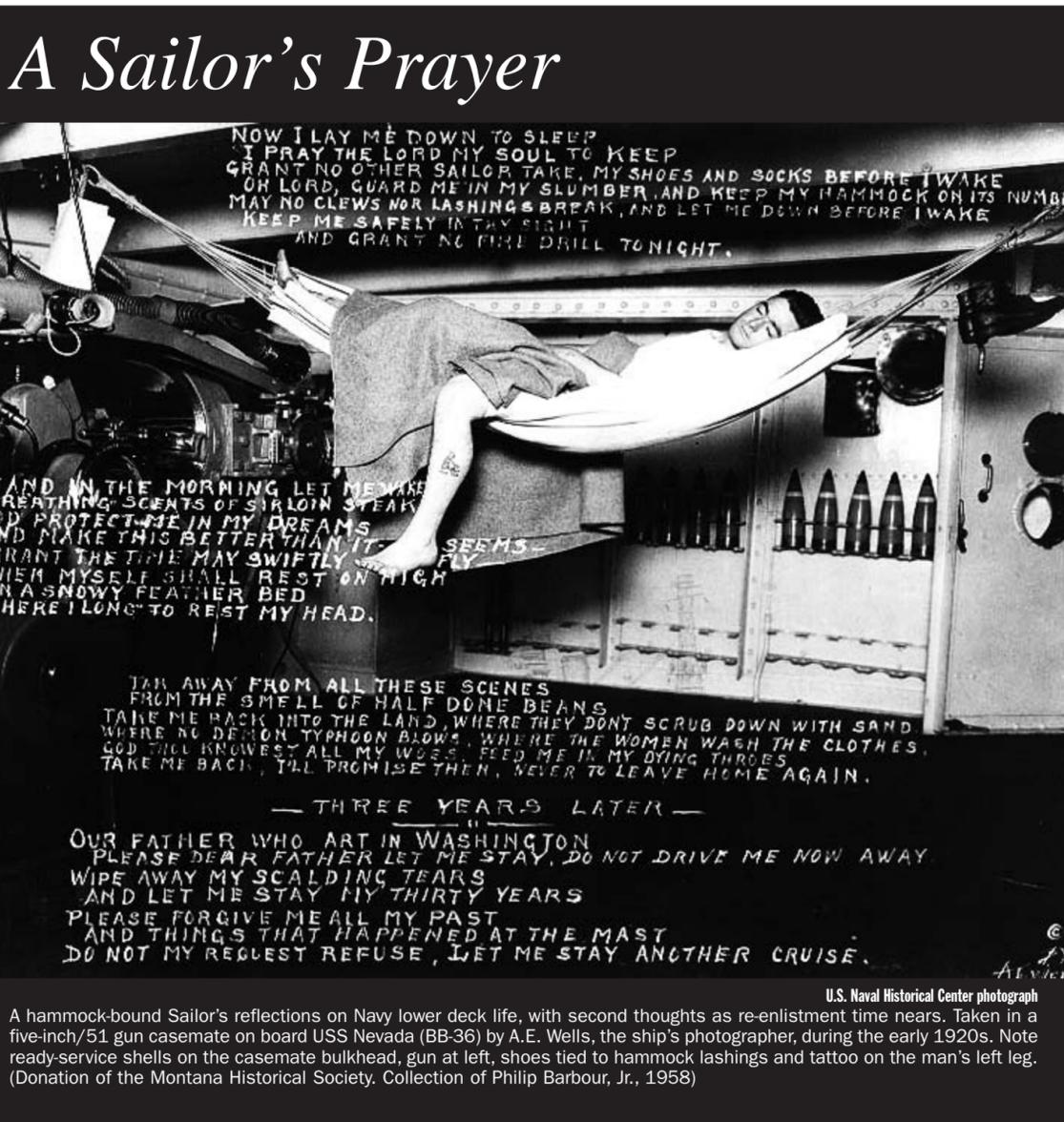
FVAP carries out the responsibilities of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, which protects the voting rights of active-duty military members, Merchant Marines, eligible family members and citizens residing outside the United States.

Members of the U.S. armed forces traditionally represent an active component of overall voting-age Americans. The total voting participation rate among service members was 79 percent in 2004, compared to the 64 percent rate of the general public, according to figures published by FVAP.

In a memorandum to military secretaries and top commanders sent Nov. 26, 2007, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates underscored the importance of extending voting rights to service members at home and abroad.

"With the calendar of primary elections beginning early and stretching through September 2008," Gates said, "it is important that the department and the services be prepared to carry out the voting assistance mission to inform and educate U.S. citizens of the right to vote, foster voting participation, and protect the integrity of the electoral process."

"Voting is both a right and a responsibility of citizens in our country," Gates continued. "[Leaders of the armed services must] do everything we can to encourage participation and ensure that our service members and families are able to exercise their right to vote and have that vote counted."



U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph

A hammock-bound Sailor's reflections on Navy lower deck life, with second thoughts as re-enlistment time nears. Taken in a five-inch/51 gun casemate on board USS Nevada (BB-36) by A.E. Wells, the ship's photographer, during the early 1920s. Note ready-service shells on the casemate bulkhead, gun at left, shoes tied to hammock lashings and tattoo on the man's left leg. (Donation of the Montana Historical Society. Collection of Philip Barbour, Jr., 1958)

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Director, Public Affairs - Agnes Tauyan
Deputy Public Affairs officer - Terri Kojima
Managing Editor - MCC (SW/AW) David Rush
Leading Petty Officer -
MC1 (AW/SW) James Foehl
Editor - Karen Spangler

Staff Writer - MC2 Michael A. Lantron
Contributing Writer - Blair Martin
Technical Adviser - Joe Novotny
Layout/Design - Tony Verceluz

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Navy volunteers run PE at local school

Story and photo by MCSA
Luciano Marano

Commander Submarine Force
Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Community service has always been an important issue to Navy personnel. Wherever they happen to be, Sailors are known for going above and beyond the call of duty to really connect with and help those in the surrounding areas. Hawai'i is no exception. Talented and driven Navy personnel are hard at work serving the local communities any way they can.

Yeoman 1st Class (AW) Phillip Harper is the coordinator of a group of several volunteers from Submarine Force Pacific (SUBPAC) and supporting commands who have been running a physical education (PE) program at Lehua Elementary School in Pearl City ever since the regular PE class was taken out of the curriculum due to lack of funding.

For a while, the teachers and faculty took up the duties of gym teacher and organized physical activities for the kids. It wasn't until an unrelated school event that he was volunteering at last year that Harper first heard about the situation and began planning almost immediately to do something about it.

With the school's permission, Harper and a group of selected volunteers began to devise a list of activities which would not only get the kids exercising, but also give them a fun break from routine school work.

There was never a time when the kids had no PE class, said Stacie Zellers, the Lehua Parent-



Yeoman 1st Phillip Harper leads Lehua Elementary School fifth and sixth graders in a physical education (PE) session. Harper is the coordinator behind a team of several Navy volunteers who have been lending their time to the Pearl City school, teaching PE sessions designed to get the students outside and exercising. Navy volunteers took responsibility for the students' PE class when the course was removed from the school's regular curriculum and have been working with the faculty since last year. See additional photo on page A-5.

Community Network Coordinator (PCNC). According to Zellers, after the actual class was disbanded, the teachers all worked very hard to ensure some kind of activity was always planned for the students and then Harper took over.

"They love it," said Harper. It's clear from the children's reactions both on and off the field that they do indeed.

"They've been asking about this since first thing this morning," said Nicole Ryan, a fifth grade teacher at Lehua. "They were really excited."

It hasn't all been easy though. According to Harper, there were all kinds of problems at first, from finding volunteers to schedule conflicts to getting used to working with the kids

from different age groups.

"First and second grade is tough," admitted Harper. "It's hard to get those little kids to focus and pay attention." Although he's quick to say that no matter how tough the beginning may have been, he loves every second of the time he has spent on the PE program and with the Lehua students.

"We really just got on track this August," said Harper. The program got off to an erratic start, mostly because of scheduling difficulties due to inclement weather conditions.

The weather is often a deciding factor behind scheduling PE sessions with the kids. There is no gymnasium at Lehua and the auditorium doubles as a cafeteria, so the soccer field

outside the school is really the only choice for locations. Harper, however, believes that getting the kids playing outside is half the point. "We got to get them outside and let them run around," he said.

"It's been great," said Toyama Fay, the principal at Lehua. "Military volunteers have been helping here for a while." Fay was all smiles as she recounted stories about Navy volunteers cleaning the cafeteria so it could be repainted and even helping to install the school's new sprinkler system. "Sometimes they just volunteer with no real event going on; they just want to come out and help with whatever they can," fay said.

The PE program started slowly at first, with Harper holding an assembly with each grade level explaining what they would be doing and how the activities would benefit the kids. Specific exercises were demonstrated and they talked about what kinds of sports the kids wanted to play. This ensured that the kids were not nervous going into PE and they knew what to expect. They were also getting used to the volunteers.

Sometimes everybody joins in a game, other times things get more serious with Navy volunteers showing kids how to do proper push-ups, sit-ups and stretches.

Now, the program is a welcome addition to the Lehua community. "Exercise is like playing," said one particularly excited student. "Jumping jacks are my favorite," added another. "I guess it's better than math," one unenthused young man finally conceded.

"It's all been really fun for me," said Yeoman 2nd Class Chante' M.

Rodriguez, one of Harper's COMSUBPAC volunteers. Rodriguez works in the manpower office for N1R as the personnel planning operational support administrative assistant "I have a kid side to me and kids today act so grown up all the time. I think they need a chance to just relax and be kids."

Harper started working with young children at the age of 14. "My mother used to volunteer at my school when I was a kid," said Harper. Now he carries on the family tradition with his PE program, maintenance projects and other organized community service endeavors. He is also planning a tutoring program which he hopes to start gathering volunteers for and get started soon.

Lehua has been recognized with the 2007 Norbert Award, an award given each year by the Joint Venture Education Form (JVEF) to a school with an outstanding community/faculty volunteer network, safe environment, updated Web site and well-placed transition services for students and families.

"The JVEF is a military/community/school venture to fund things we wouldn't normally get," said Zellers. "Most of our computer funding and even book grants come through the program."

"Everybody involved seems to have a real good time," said Harper. As the kids leave the field to go back to class, several students reaffirm this statement when they stop to give the volunteers hugs and high-fives. "See you guys next time," said Rodriguez. The kids seem pretty excited about that idea. (See additional photo on page A-5.)

Rollout date of new Navy uniform adjusted to ensure best quality

Chief of Naval Personnel
Public Affairs

The Navy announced a revised rollout plan for the new uniforms in NAVADMIN 004/08, pushing back the release of the all ranks Navy working uniform.

Also referred to as the blue digital camouflage uniform, it will be released to

the fleet in winter 2008 and to Recruit Training Command in spring 2009. The service uniform for E-1 through E-6 will begin late this summer.

Contracting and manufacturing issues caused the delay, according to Robert Carroll, head of uniform matters for the Chief of Naval Personnel. "Our goal

is quality uniforms for all Sailors. We've amended our rollout plan to make sure our contractors deliver the best possible products to the fleet," he explained.

The new uniforms will be made available through Navy Exchange uniform centers and temporary off-site locations until all regions have been fully out-

fitted, according to Carroll. Outfitting of accession commands will occur separately and independent of regional rollouts.

Each uniform rollout will take 24 months from the start of the uniforms' availability to completion. The sequence and timeline for the rollouts will be announced later this year by

NAVADMIN. During the phase-in period, both old and new uniforms are authorized for wear.

Carroll reminded Sailors that the increase in the clothing replacement allowance they are beginning to see in their pay now will be needed later to pay for the new uniforms.

"Sailors need to carefully

manage this money to ensure they have the funds to buy new items to meet uniform requirements," he said.

Rollout of the Navy physical fitness uniform is on track for spring 2008, according to Carroll.

NAVADMIN 004/08 is on the Web at www.npc.navy.mil.

Pearl Harbor Highlights



(Above) The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band marches through the streets of Waikiki, on Jan. 21, during the 20th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade. The parade honoring Dr. King is one of several local events during which Pacific Fleet band participates each year.

U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Michael Hight



(Below) Members of the Denver Bronco Cheerleaders participate in a routine with young cheerleaders and parents during a youth clinic at Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Quick Field on Jan. 19. The clinic included nearly 100 local military family members ranging in ages from three to 15 years old.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight

(Above) Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander of U.S. Pacific Command, salutes while walking through an honor cordon during the arrival of Tonganese Prime Minister Dr. Feleti Sevele to the U.S. Pacific Command headquarters on Jan 22.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Elisia V. Gonzales



(Left) Lehua Elementary School fifth and sixth graders participate in a physical education (PE) session led by Navy volunteers, who took responsibility for the students' PE class when the course was removed from the school's regular curriculum. A group of local volunteers, led by Yeoman 1st Class Phillip Harper, has been working with the faculty since last year. See story and additional photo on page A-4.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Luciano Marano



Sailors aboard the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Bremerton (SSN 698) render passing honors to the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) while underway off the coast of Hawaii on Jan 14. Russell is underway participating in a joint task force exercise as part of preparation for an upcoming scheduled deployment.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight



Malaysian tall ship makes first visit to Pearl Harbor

Lt. j.g. Brian Smith

Host Ship Liaison Officer

The Malaysian Tall Ship, K.L.D. Tunas Samudera, conducted a first-time port visit to Pearl Harbor from Jan. 11-16 as part of a six-month midshipmen training cruise. Originally scheduled to moor in Honolulu, the U.S. Navy invited the tall ship to berth at Naval Station Pearl Harbor for the opportunity to broaden relations between the Malaysian navy and U.S. Navy and their governments. The 44-meter sailing vessel has visits scheduled in 24 ports and most recently conducted a port visit in Long Beach, Calif.

USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) was assigned duties as host ship. The festivities of the visit began with a soccer match between the crews of the two ships which concluded with a diplomatic score of 2-2.

Cmdr. Jim Aiken, the commanding officer of Chung-Hoon, said he was amazed at the athletic ability of the Malaysians considering the amount of time they spent at sea

and was proud of the performance of his own Sailors.

The K.L.D. Tunas Samudera hosted a reception onboard its own ship featuring traditional music, dances, food and cocktails. The VIPs included Rear Adm. T.G. Alexander, commander, Navy Region Hawai'i and commander, Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific, as well as several waterfront commanding officers.

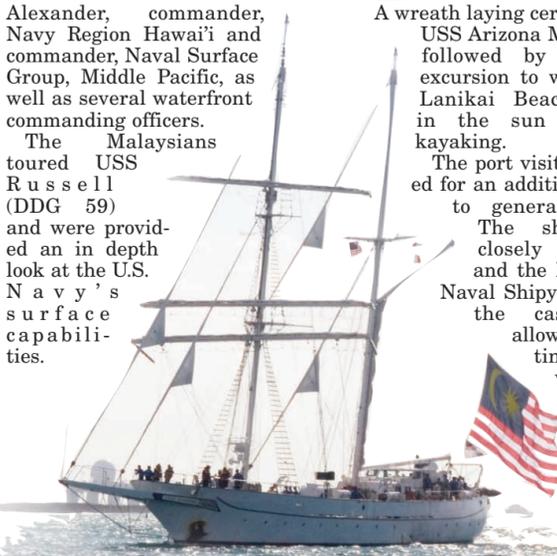
The Malaysians toured USS Russell (DDG 59) and were provided an in depth look at the U.S. Navy's surface capabilities.

Following the ship tour, they spent some time on the beaches and in the shops of Waikiki. Trips to the world's largest Navy Exchange were a popular daily routine for both supplies and souvenirs.

A wreath laying ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial was followed by an all-day excursion to world famous Lanikai Beach for time in the sun and ocean kayaking.

The port visit was extended for an additional day due to generator repairs.

The ship worked closely with B.A.E. and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard to repair the casualty and allow them to continue on their voyage. Their next port visit is Christmas Island.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Sailors assigned to the Pearl Harbor-based guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) perform line handling duties for Royal Malaysian Navy training vessel KLD Tunas Samudera as she moors pierside Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Tunas Samudera departed Port Klang, Malaysia on March 12, 2007, for a tall-ship race around the world and is scheduled to return to Malaysia in April 2008 after visiting more than 25 countries and traveling for more than 400 days. Tunas Samudera's overseas sailing mission provides an avenue for sea training of Malaysian naval cadets and promotes goodwill in tourism, culture and international relationships.

Future leaders of Navy submarine force graduate

Members of Submarine Command Course 15 (SCC 15) graduated Jan. 16 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The two-month tactical course focuses on submarine command skills and submarine technology. Many of the graduates go on to become commanding officers and executive officers of submarines, while others head for executive positions in commands around the world. The class prepares them for future assignments with an intense curriculum incorporating both in and out of classroom exercises such as torpedo firing drills and real-time war scenarios.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Luciano Marano

