

Let Freedom Ring

JULY 4, 1776

Hawai'i

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RIMPAC hosts scientists studying marine mammals

Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2008

Commander, Combined Task Force, Combined Information Bureau

In addition to providing invaluable military training, the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2008 exercise will provide unique new opportunities for some of the world's top scientists to gather information about marine mammals.

One project involves the Navy teaming up with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on an unprecedented effort to survey, tag and track marine mammals in conjunction with RIMPAC 2008. Scientists from NOAA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Duke University, Cascadia Research and other organizations will be working aboard the NOAA research vessel, Oscar Elton Sette, and smaller vessels.

The researchers will record visual observations as well as collect data on the vertical and horizontal movements of beaked and other deep-diving whales during RIMPAC 2008. Researchers hope to learn more about how the animals move and the sounds they create and hear.

The Navy will adhere to NOAA-directed mitigation measures to

minimize potential injury to marine mammals when it uses mid-frequency sonar during RIMPAC. Those measures include posting lookouts and reducing or halting sonar transmissions when marine mammals are nearby.

"This research provides an opportunity

to explore the feasibility of using tags to investigate behavioral responses of marine mammals," said Julie Rivers, U.S. Pacific Fleet marine biologist.

This is the first time such a survey is being conducted with a naval exercise of RIMPAC's magnitude. The research will be conducted primarily off the Big Island's Kona Coast.

In addition, the Navy will conduct two marine mammal monitoring surveys off Kauai for one week during RIMPAC. A small-vessel survey will involve gathering visual data on distribution, relative densities and behavior of marine mammals. This will be the first such survey during a RIMPAC. Similar surveys have been recently conducted with other small exercises.

The U.S. Navy will team up with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to survey, tag and track marine mammals in conjunction with RIMPAC 2008. Scientists from NOAA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Duke University, Cascadia Research and other organizations will be working aboard the NOAA research vessel, Oscar Elton Sette, and smaller vessels.

An aerial survey of marine mam-

mals, similar to one that was conducted during

We appreciate NOAA's partnership in furthering that understanding.

"This is the kind of activity that makes the Navy proud of its environmental stewardship," said Locklear.

The Navy is a world leader in marine mammal research, funding \$26 million this year.

It is spending \$130,000 on the shipboard and aerial monitoring surveys and is providing \$200,000 for the NOAA research project.

RIMPAC 08 is taking place through July 31. This is the 21st RIMPAC, a biennial, multi-national exercise that began in 1971.

This year's RIMPAC involves military units from 10 participating countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States.

RIMPAC forces include 20 U.S. Navy ships, 13 foreign ships, two Coast Guard vessels, three U.S. submarines, three foreign submarines, more than 150 U.S. and foreign aircraft, 18 other U.S. Navy and Marine Corps units and 11 foreign units supporting this year's exercise.

Visit www.c3f.navy.mil/rimpac_2008.html for additional information on the exercise or participating units.



Photo illustration

Firefighters prepare for wildland fire season

Story and photo by Grace Hew Len

Navy Region Hawai'i, Environmental Public Affairs Officer

With shiny Federal Fire Department (FFD) and Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) trucks in the background, federal, state and city emergency first responders gathered together at a press conference June 27 to kick off the July 4th holiday and wildland fire season.

"As we approach the July 4th holiday weekend, rising temperatures, lower humidity and careless use of fireworks could lead to unnecessary wildfires," said HFD Fire Chief Kenneth Silva. "We're working with our partners to prepare for wildfires and asking for the public's help in preventing fires from starting."

FFD Hawai'i Region Fire Chief Glenn de Laura urged military and civilian communities to take responsibility in protecting their families and friends, their homes, property and properties that surround them from unnecessary injuries and wildfires. He advised everyone to be extra cautious when dealing with open flames.

"As all first responders on the island partner up to create a wildland task force to respond to the modern day challenges of extinguishing urban wildland fires, we ask the military and civilian communities to be extra vigilant in identifying these fires, attended and unattended," said de Laura.

Officials from the Honolulu Emergency Services Department, American Red Cross and the Oahu Army Natural Resources Program offered remarks. Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Department of Land and Natural Resources, National Weather Service, and Honolulu Police Department were also on hand to answer questions, emphasizing that summer fire and public safety should be of utmost concern to all citizens.

With last year's Waialua brush fire along Kaukonahua Road still fresh in her mind, Michelle Mansker, chief of the Army's natural resource program at Army Garrison



Federal Fire Department Hawai'i Chief Glenn de Laura speaks at a press conference to kick off the July 4th holiday and wildland fire season.

Hawai'i, said when fires burn in natural areas, losses are irreplaceable. The Army manages more than 100 endangered species on and off Army land throughout the state. "Endangered species are found along the fringes of the dry grass," said Mansker. "When you flick a cigarette out the car window, it can have serious consequences."

As an island that benefits from one of the best mutual aid response partnerships in the nation, wildland fires during the brush fire season that typically runs through September can drain valuable resources from federal, state and city agencies.

The longer that it takes to report a fire, the larger the fire will grow and can result in the need for additional resources. "Calling 911 immediately could be the difference between one fire apparatus with four firefighters, or 20 fire apparatuses, two helicopters and over 100 personnel," added de Laura. (Please see *Federal Fire Department's wildland fire safety tips on page A-7*.)

Tomcat arrives at Ford Island



U.S. Navy photos by MCG (SW/AW) David Rush

An F-14D Tomcat, previously belonging to the "Tomcatters" of Fighter Squadron 31 (VF-31), is transferred from a crane barge enroute to the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. The venerable F-14 Tomcat was the Navy's premier fighter for 36 years, and was retired in September 2006. The Tomcat was replaced by the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet. The aircraft was transported from the San Diego-based amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) scheduled to participate in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2008.



The only easy day was yesterday
See page A-2



Military Sport Bike Course races into Pearl Harbor
See page A-4



Federal Fire Department offers wildland fire safety tips
See page A-7



Military families enjoy Military Appreciation Day at the Honolulu Zoo
See page B-1

The only easy day was yesterday

Story and photos by
MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Navy Region Hawai'i Public
Affairs

As Sailors throughout the fleet continue to answer our nation's call during the global war on terrorism, a small group of 15 "common men with an uncommon desire to succeed" have emerged from Pearl Harbor.

These Sailors are training to become a special breed of maritime warrior that's ready to serve their country, the American people, and protect our way of life - to become U.S. Navy SEALs (sea, air, land).

The men, comprised of prospective SEAL candidates, work together as a support system while transitioning their lifestyles to meet the rigorous mental and physical demands required to successfully complete the basic underwater demolition / SEAL (BUD/S) training pipeline.

Pioneered from the leadership of reserve Capt. Dennis Hansen (SEAL), the group was launched in July 2007 during his one-year reserve mobilization as a battle watch captain for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Detachment 120.

Hansen said he initiated the group as "payback" or to repay those who helped him get involved with the Naval Special Warfare program during active duty service in 1984.

"It was a tremendous calling so I made it a point to visit a number of schools and get the word out on the active duty side," said Hansen. "I've got an [interested] Army guy



Reserve Capt. Dennis Hansen (SEAL) (front), assigned to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Detachment 120, leads a group physical training (PT) session for prospective SEAL candidates at Quick Field on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

nary physical screening test (PST) and ultimately BUD/S.

Activities for the PT sessions vary depending on inputs from the group, but can consist of any combination of jogging, calisthenics, beach and trail running, or pool and open water swimming.

"We do a lot of different exercises - working the abs and shoulders, doing different types of push-ups and crunches," he said. "Sometimes we'll do run and calisthenics, sometimes we'll do run and swim, sometimes we'll do a long swim. I listen to what the guys want to do."

The exercises and physical training sessions provide a foundation for the prospective SEAL candidates to continue to build on while training for their PST and BUD/S.

as a mentor and motivator for the men who are now walking through the same paces he did more than 23 years ago.

"My position is to motivate the guys interested, keep them motivated and address questions. We do informal questions and answers. If things come up and I can help problem solve, I like to be able to do that."

For the members of the group, Hansen's personal commitment to helping them achieve their dream of becoming a Navy SEAL is immeasurable.

"If you were to look in the dictionary for the words motivation, dedication and determination, you would find his picture under each word. Capt. Hansen has made a huge impact on my life professionally as well as personally," said Operations Specialist 2nd Class Tyrus Peterson, a member of the group assigned to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. "I'm truly blessed to be training under him and feel really confident that the group will do well in BUD/S because of his guidance and leadership."

According to Hansen, transitioning the prospective candidate's lifestyles to meet the rigorous mental and physical demands is not the biggest challenge they face.

"It's beyond the physical. The biggest obstacle is more than likely psychological or mental and just finding out whether that training and the eventual lifestyle is what you're about."

"BUD/S doesn't really make you something - it draws out of you what you really are. If it's not within the individual, BUD/S is going to expose it. If it is in the individual, they're going to be tested and they'll find [out for themselves] they are what it takes to be a SEAL."

For more information on BUD/S training or U.S. Navy SEALs, visit <http://www.sealchallenge.navy.mil>.

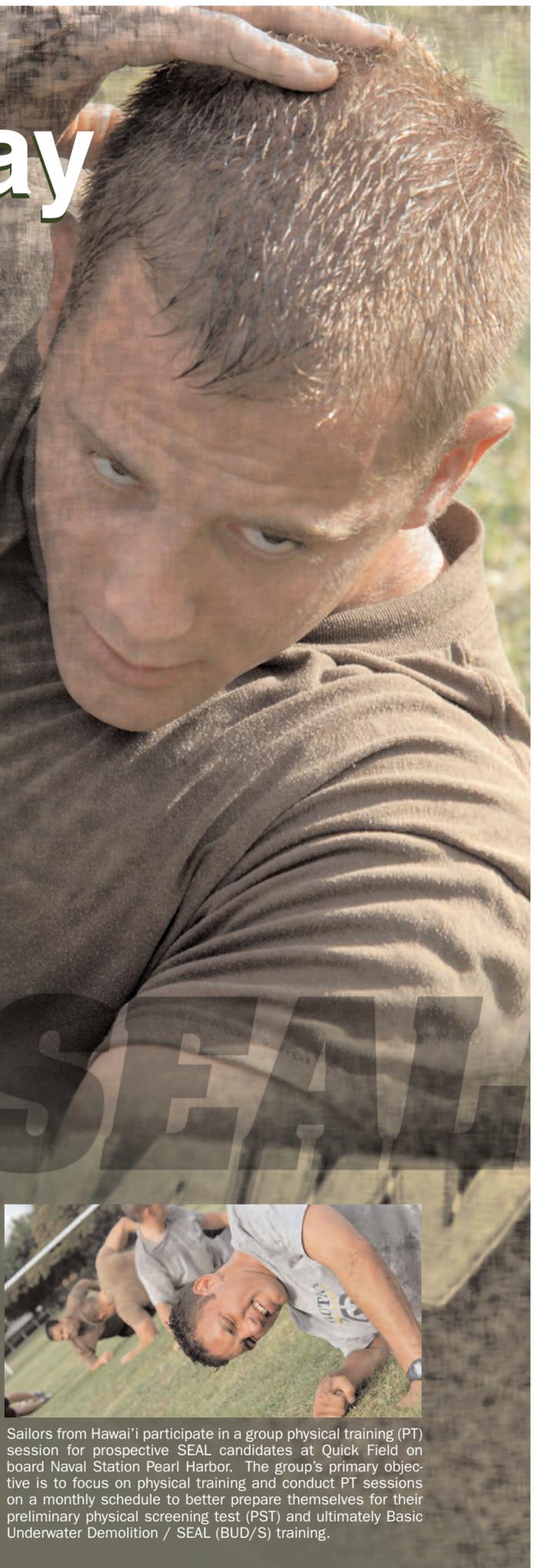


Operations Specialist 2nd Class Tyrus Peterson, assigned to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, performs push-ups during a group physical training (PT) session for prospective SEAL candidates at Quick Field on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

in Iraq, a Marine in Okinawa - we've gone from three guys to the 15 and it keeps on expanding."

The group's primary objective is to focus on physical training and conduct group PT [physical training] sessions on a monthly schedule, to better prepare the prospective candidates for their prelimi-

Serving on active duty as a member of the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) community from 1985 to 1990, Hansen is a 25-year Navy veteran and is no stranger to the rigors required of a special warfare operator. Not only does he serve as a leader for the group's physical training at age 49, but also serves



Sailors from Hawai'i participate in a group physical training (PT) session for prospective SEAL candidates at Quick Field on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The group's primary objective is to focus on physical training and conduct PT sessions on a monthly schedule to better prepare themselves for their preliminary physical screening test (PST) and ultimately Basic Underwater Demolition / SEAL (BUD/S) training.

Correction photo credit for NEX on the Go A2

The photo credit for the story, "NEX Hawai'i unveils 'NEX on the Go!' shuttle," which was published on page A-7 of the June 27 edition of Hawai'i Navy News, should have been U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sarah Murphy. We apologize for the error and any inconvenience that this may have caused.

Hawaii Navy News Editorial

On July 4, remember contributions of forefathers

Blair Martin

Contributing Writer

For many Americans, the July 4th weekend is a time filled with firework displays, summer barbecues and a three-day holiday. But for our forefathers, Independence Day marks the day America declared her independence from Great Britain with the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

By the mid-1700s, the 13 colonies that comprised England's empire on American soil were growing tired of being ruled by a king from 3,000 miles away, across the Atlantic Ocean. By drawing up a list of grievances against the crown, the colonists began the first draft of a document that would formally separate the colonies from England. The document's assertion that "all Men are created equal," would eventually become a beloved mantra for Americans nationwide.

The final draft of the Declaration of Independence was unanimously adopted on July 4, 1776 in Philadelphia, Pa. and signed by 56 members of the Second Continental



Congress, including famed patriots Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and Benjamin Franklin.

Celebrations began in 1777, when 13 guns were fired on July 4 in Bristol, R.I. The Continental Congress also held an official dinner as ships were decked with red, white and blue bunting. In 1781, the Massachusetts General Court became the first state legislature to recognize Independence Day as a state celebration. In 1941, Congress officially declared July 4 a paid federal holiday and the traditional ceremonies have continued.

In a letter to his wife, John Adams, a lawyer who would later become the second

president of the United States of America, seemed to predict future traditions commemorating the historic date in American history. "I believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival," he wrote. "It ought to be celebrated by pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other..."

As Americans celebrate their nation's freedom, hopefully the pre-planned parades, firework extravaganzas and other patriotic activities will not overshadow the historic contributions made by our country's forefathers.



Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Dr. Donald C. Winter addresses guests during the EA-18G Growler acceptance ceremony at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island on June 3.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Kevin S. O'Brien

SECNAV releases Independence Day message

From the Secretary of the Navy

Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter released the following Independence Day message to the fleet:

"Two hundred thirty-two years ago in Philadelphia, 56 patriots signed a Declaration of Independence - a document spelling out their grievances against King George III and explaining why they felt impelled to separate from Great Britain.

This remarkable document is a civics lesson all its own - even declaring why governments are instituted among men, deriving their powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government,

laying its foundations on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.

Governments exist to secure our rights; the people reserve the right to choose their own leaders; the people are sovereign; consent of the governed is a fundamental principle - these are the founding ideas that set our nation on a course that has led to the greatest success story the world has ever known.

Our founding fathers believed that some things were worth fighting for. Two hundred thirty-two years later, we still believe that our rights and our liberties must be defended. Over the course of those 232 years, this nation has found, time and time again, that her cit-

izens were willing to step forward and answer the call of duty to defend the blessings of liberty as set forth in our founding document.

This Fourth of July, let us take a moment to reflect on the meaning of our independence, and on what is required to preserve it. I salute each and every one of you for your sacrifice and service and extend my sincere thanks to your families as well, whose strong support is critical to our success. Your dedication to duty makes our freedom possible and the American people are grateful for your noble efforts to keep our country safe, particularly now during this time of peril. You are worthy heirs to the patriots who fought for our independence in 1776, and I am honored to serve you as your secretary."

MCPON Independence Day message to fleet



(MCPON)(SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr. released the following Independence Day message:

"The Fourth of July holiday is traditionally a time best spent with family and friends as we celebrate our nation's birthday and democracy itself. During your well earned time off this week, please take a few moments to consider the privilege of living in a free society and the kind of sacrifice required to ensure that freedom.

Many of you will be driving our nation's freeways, anxious to return home or travel to see friends and loved ones. No matter the length of the trip, travel during the holidays carries with it a great deal of risk that must be managed.

If you are a motorcyclist, take special precautions. The numbers of deaths and injuries are rising this year, especially on sport bikes. Understand the dangers involved with your machine. Until you do,

you are an accident waiting to happen.

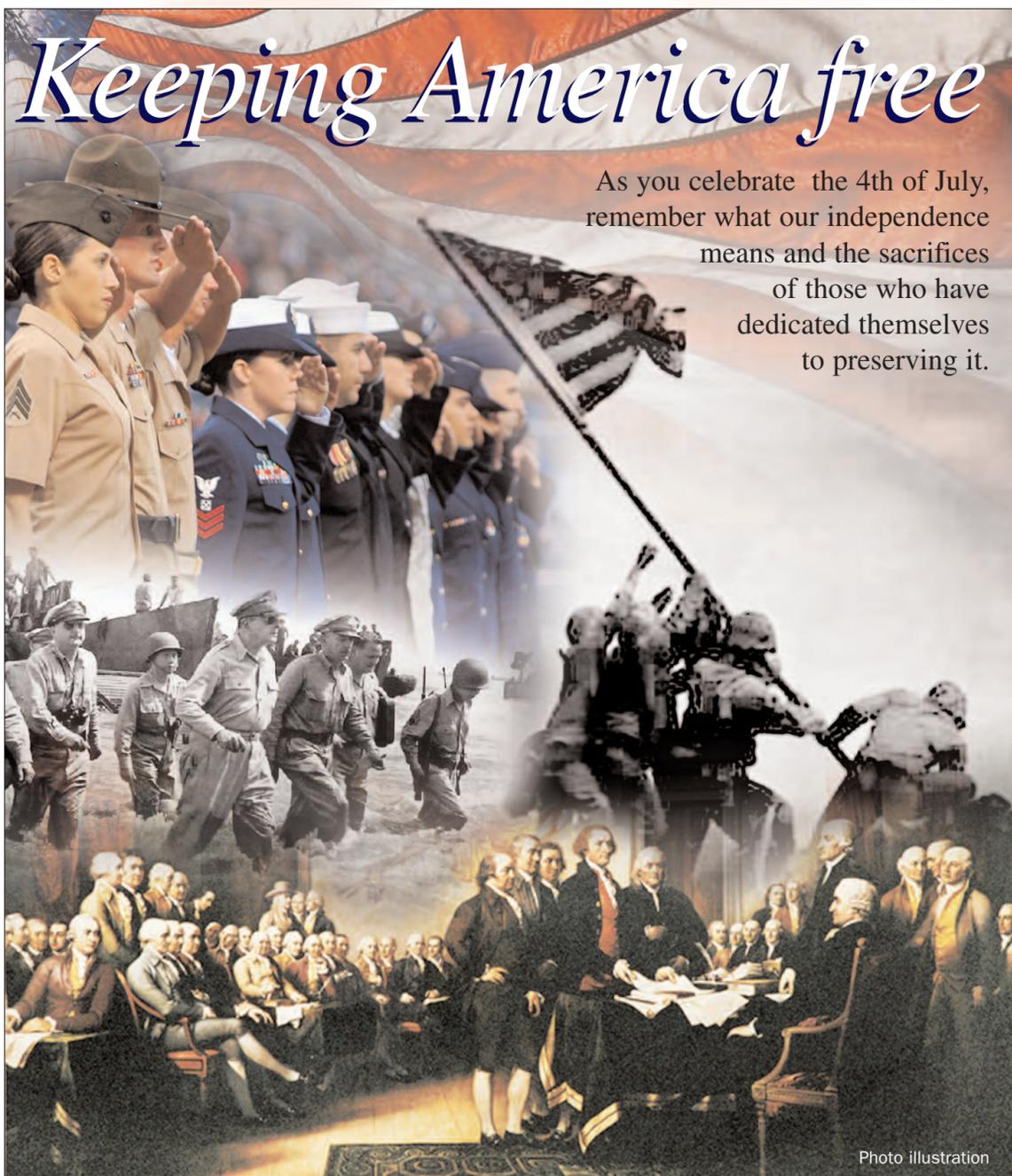
Shipmates, few places in the world will be more dangerous than the highways during this holiday. I ask that you use common sense and take the same kind of precautions while driving that you would before any of the hazardous work you do at your commands.

Since 2000, the Navy lost an average of one Sailor in a motor vehicle accident and one Sailor in a recreational incident each 4th of July holiday. That may seem low, or even acceptable. Let me assure you it is not. A single loss of life is one too many. The family of that Sailor will never consider their loved one an acceptable statistic and I feel the same.

I believe the safety of our Sailors and their families, even while on liberty, is a leadership responsibility. I expect our chiefs and first class petty officers to be involved with every aspect of a Sailor's trip planning. Ensuring the well being of our men and women in uniform is not micro management. It's good leadership. Exercise it.

Shipmates, I'm proud to serve with each of you. Enjoy your holiday. Celebrate with the rest of our great nation, but do so intelligently.

Your families will appreciate you arriving a few hours later than planned if it means you and your loved ones get there safely."



As you celebrate the 4th of July, remember what our independence means and the sacrifices of those who have dedicated themselves to preserving it.

Photo illustration



Hawaii Navy News

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Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 1st Class (SW) Alton Williams Jr., assigned to Center for Information Dominance, leads a group of riders while participating in a range exercise during a Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC) for Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) Safety at Ford Island.



Military Sport Bike Course races into Pearl Harbor

Story and photos by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Navy Region Hawai'i

Twelve sport bike riders from the Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force completed the first ever Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC) hosted by Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) Safety on June 27 at Ford Island.

The one-day MSRC provides specialized training dedicated to military sport bike riders and focuses on

critical skill sets and decision making incumbent with riding high-powered sport motorcycles.

"This course really takes it to the next level for riders who have high performance motorcycles," said Mario Diprete, a MSRC instructor and safety specialist for Marine Corps Base Hawai'i. "It gives riders an understanding what they have, how to ride it, and to use a lot of self-assessment and [skill] reserve when they're out there on

the streets."

According to Bill Maxwell, Hawai'i MSRC trainer and safety specialist for U.S. Army Garrison Hawai'i, the course is for riders who have already completed the Basic and Experienced Rider Course (BRC/ERC), have some time in the saddle, and are comfortable with their motorcycles.

"We're asking them to work a little harder on the range as far as the skills they have to demonstrate. Generally, the speeds are going to be five to 10 mph higher on the range and the

lean angles are going to be a little bit higher," said Maxwell.

The students who attended the inaugural MSRC spent approximately three hours conducting classroom training and interactive exercises that covered topics such as body positioning, cornering, braking and swerving, and reinforcing issues such as risk assessment, offsetting risks and executing good judgment.

Following the classroom portion of the course, students completed four hours of range riding to hone their skills and assess

their abilities.

"The biggest thing the course teaches is to be critical about the way you ride and continually self-assess your skills," said Maxwell.

The students were challenged on the range with a variety of exercises such as performing quick-stops and evading, learning curve control and adjustments, braking while leaned over, cornering and swerving, and negotiating multiple and decreasing radius curves.

"Some of the scenarios out there are different from what riders have seen before. Instead of just teaching them how to brake, we have an exercise where we brake and evade. Instead of just a curve, we do a decreasing radius curve, which is beyond the scope of a BRC/ERC and is the next step up."

Additionally, the course provides learning activities that directly address the unique operational characteristics of sport bikes and improves the safety awareness of riders.

"If you want knowledge on something, go read a book. But if you want understanding, then go out and have the experience. That's what this [course] is - having the experience under the guide-

lines of folks who have the background and share the same interest. Gaining the experience is understanding," said Diprete.

According to the Naval Safety Center, the MSRC became available in June at priority fleet concentration areas and will continue to expand throughout the fleet as rapidly as possible as instructor certifications continue.

"I like the course because it pertains to sport bike riding," said Air Force Master Sgt. Dishon Gregory, a MSRC student assigned to Hickam Air Force Base Hawai'i. "Mentoring is definitely what we need as far as sport bike riding because the geometry of a [sport] bike is different and a lot of the people crashing and wrecking are sport bike riders."

The MSRC is mandatory for all Sailors and Marines who ride sport bikes and is currently being offered through joint service efforts to all branches of the military in Hawai'i from the CNRH safety department.

For more information on the MSRC or how to enroll, contact your command safety representative or the CNRH safety office at 474-3447.



A group of sport bike riders debrief following a range exercise during a Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC) for Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) Safety at Ford Island. The one-day MSRC provides specialized training tailored to military sport bike riders and focuses on the critical skill sets and decision making incumbent with riding high-powered sport motorcycles.



John Schultz, a Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider coach and traffic safety specialist for Commander Navy Region Hawai'i (CNRH) Safety, signals students down range during a Military Sport Bike Rider Course (MSRC) for CNRH Safety at Ford Island.

Pearl Harbor Highlights



The amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) moors pier side at Naval Station Pearl Harbor for this year's Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC).
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Paul D. Honnick



A Sailor aboard the Australian amphibious ship HMAS Tolbrook (LSH 50) stands watch as it moors pier side at Naval Station Pearl Harbor for this year's Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC). RIMPAC is the world's largest multi-national exercise and is scheduled biennially by the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Participants include Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, the Netherlands, Peru, Republic of Korea, Singapore, United Kingdom and the U.S.
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Paul D. Honnick

The Australian Navy amphibious ship HMAS Tolbrook (LSH 50) moors pier-side at Naval Station Pearl Harbor for this year's Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC). RIMPAC is the world's largest multi-national exercise and is scheduled biennially by the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Paul D. Honnick



Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force submarine JS Narushio (SS 595) arrives at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force arrived at Naval Station Pearl Harbor to work bilaterally with U.S. naval forces in conducting fleet exercises.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Paul D. Honnick

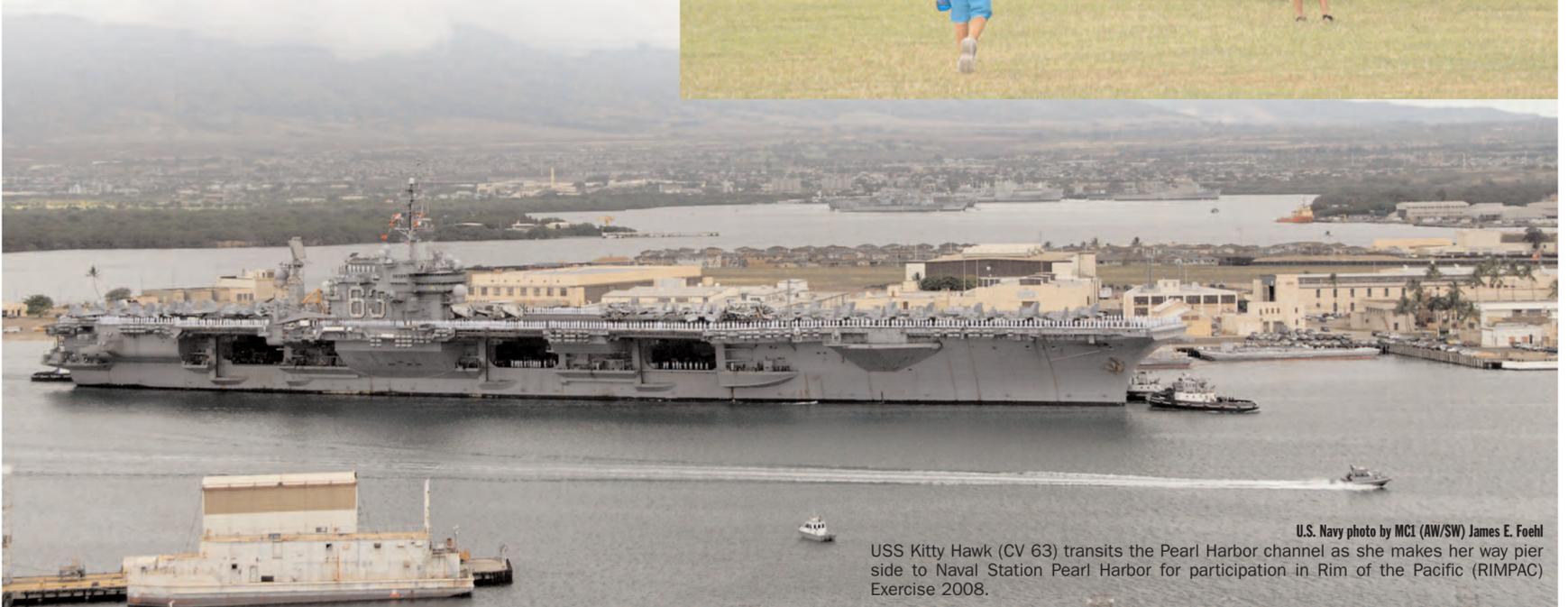


Children from Camp Adventure catch a glimpse of an F-14D Tomcat, previously belonging to the "Tomcatters" of Fighter Squadron Three One (VF-31), as it is towed enroute to the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. The venerable F-14 Tomcat was the Navy's premier fighter for 36 years, and was retired in September 2006. The Tomcat was replaced by the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet. The aircraft was transported from the San Diego-based amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), scheduled to participate in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2008.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush



Sailors stand by pier-side at Naval Station Pearl Harbor to moor in the Australian Navy amphibious ship HMAS Tolbrook (LSH 50) for this year's Rim of the Pacific exercise (RIMPAC).
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Paul D. Honnick



USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) transits the Pearl Harbor channel as she makes her way pier side to Naval Station Pearl Harbor for participation in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Exercise 2008.
U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

New CPO evaluation takes effect this September

MCCS (SW/AW) Bill Houlihan

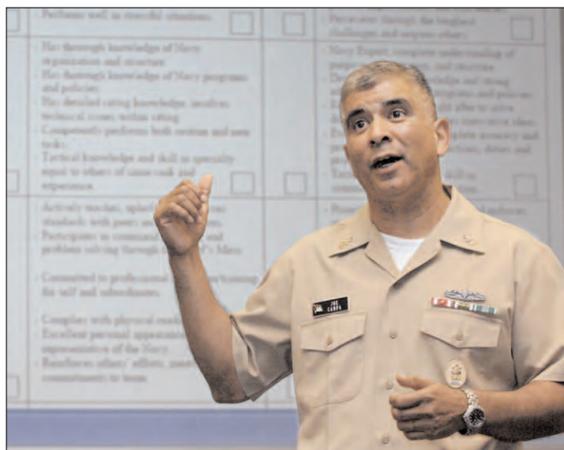
Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Public Affairs

The chief of naval personnel announced the Chief Petty Officer Mission, Vision and Guiding Principles will form the basis upon which chief, senior chief and master chief petty officers will be evaluated.

Vice Adm. Mark E. Ferguson directed via NAVADMIN (176/08) June 27 that commanding officers employ a new E7-E9 evaluation and counseling record (CHIEFEVAL), starting with the Sept. 15 chief petty officer (CPO) and senior chief petty officer evaluation cycles.

For the past decade chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs had been evaluated on a fitness report (FITREP) form identical to that used by the officer community. The new CHIEFEVAL clearly separates the two, incorporating the guiding principles as the performance traits.

"The CHIEFEVAL ensures our chiefs are evaluated based on the expectations we've traditionally had of them. The guiding principles reaffirmed those expectations. Incorporating them as performance traits was the next logical step in a process we started almost two years ago," said Master



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Jennifer A. Villalovos

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Joe R. Campa Jr. introduces the E7-E9 Evaluation and Counseling Record (CHIEFEVAL) to nearly 100 of the Navy's most senior master chiefs during a leadership mess meeting in Newport, R.I. on May 7. The CHIEFEVAL will replace the fitness report starting Sept. 15 as the form used to evaluate all chiefs, senior chiefs and master chiefs.

Chief of the Navy (MCPON) (SW/FMF) Joe R. Campa Jr.

Since their introduction to the fleet in September 2006, the guiding principles have been included in chief's mess training, chief selectee training, selection board precepts for E7-E9, the command master chief instruction and the Senior Enlisted Academy curriculum.

The guiding principles - deckplate leadership, institutional and technical expertise, professionalism,

loyalty, character, active communication and a sense of heritage - replace the previous performance traits. Earlier traits included professional expertise, command or organizational climate/equal opportunity, military bearing/character, teamwork, mission accomplishment and initiative, leadership and tactical performance.

"This bold initiative led by MCPON Campa proves again the adage, chiefs run our Navy," said Rear Adm. Sonny Masso, commander,

Navy Personnel Command (NPC).

"As a member of the wardroom, who has personally benefited from the leadership of the chief's mess, I look forward to making the most of this opportunity to align our chiefs' evals with the guiding principles."

Masso played an integral role in the transition from the FITREP to the CHIEFEVAL, as personnel at NPC have engineered the new form, which will use Adobe as a platform rather than the previous NAVFIT 98A program. Masso said shifting from one software application to another was not difficult due to the fact that much of the language transferred over verbatim.

"The form itself changed little," said Masso. "In fact, 75 percent of the language from the FITREP was transferred over to the CHIEFEVAL, only now it complements the new performance traits."

Campa said that language used for the first time in the CHIEFEVAL may technically be new, but the responsibilities and expectations have been around for 115 years.

"The 25 percent of the

form that's different is critical," said Campa. "It's there that we formally introduce phrases like 'engaged on the deckplate,' 'total loyalty to mission,' 'driving mission accomplishment through the chiefs' mess' and 'actively uses the CPO mess as an open forum to act on command issues.'"

"That language may be new to an evaluation, but not to our chiefs. Those are responsibilities CPOs have had for more than a century."

Campa delivered the CHIEFEVAL to NPC in March. Since then, testing has been ongoing and changes to the form were the norm as personnel in Millington worked with Adobe representatives to ensure the new platform was even more user-friendly than the FITREP form.

Once the CHIEFEVAL was deemed ready for fleet testing, it was sent to command master chiefs aboard every type of Navy vessel and to commands in every theater. Their feedback was forwarded to NPC to work out user-discovered issues.

"Any problems identified through fleet testing are looked at and we're determining whether they need to be addressed now or

down the line," said Jim Price, branch head PERS 311 and functional owner of the FITREP and evaluation processes. "It's a work in progress, but that doesn't mean it's not a good product now. It most definitely is and the feedback reflects that."

The CHIEFEVAL will be ready for download from the NPC Web site, www.npc.navy.mil, and for use fleet-wide early this month. Training within the CPO community has been ongoing for several months and Campa stressed that it must continue up to and after Sept. 15.

"Nothing is more important than ensuring every chief and every commanding officer across our Navy is fully up to speed on the CHIEFEVAL. We can't leave anyone behind in terms of how to use the form and what's expected of our mess," said Campa.

Personnel downloading the form will also have access to a user reference guide, which will give step-by-step instructions. If questions persist, COMNAVPERSCOM (PERS-311) customer service is available to provide clarification at (901) 874-3313/4881/DSN 882.



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Aaron Holt

Sailors load cases of water bound for the Philippines onto an HH-60H helicopter assigned to the "Black Knights" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 4 on the flight deck of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) on June 25. Ronald Reagan sent 12,000 bottles of water and 7,500 pounds of rice to the Philippines supporting disaster relief efforts.

US Navy, Armed Forces of the Philippines give aid to typhoon-ravaged areas

Lt. Ron Flanders

*Carrier Strike Group 7
Public Affairs*

Sailors from the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) and other supporting ships teamed with their counterparts from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to deliver much-needed relief supplies to the victims of Typhoon Fengshen on the island of Panay on June 26.

HH-60H Seahawk and SH-60F Seahawk helicopters from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 4, embarked aboard Ronald Reagan; SH-60B Seahawk helicopters from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) 43, embarked aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Howard (DDG 83); and Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) 37, embarked aboard the guided-missile frigate USS Thach (FFG 43) made 19 relief sorties to deliver food and bottled

water to areas most affected by the storm.

"We're assisting the Armed Forces of the Philippines in helping deliver these critical supplies to the people of Panay," said Rear Adm. Phil Wisecup, commander of the Navy ships.

Inside the helicopters, Navy air crews paired with AFP officers and civilian government officials to make the deliveries. AFP officers embarked Reagan to help direct the effort.

"We're all connected," said Lt. Cmdr Rolo Garces, a pilot from HSL-43 who flew one of the relief missions off Howard. "I have kids, so even in a part of the world I've never seen before, I'm really touched."

"I'm proud to work with the [AFP] on this mission," added Garces.

For the second consecutive day, a Philippine Air Force (PAF) C-130 cargo plane loaded with food and other supplies arrived at Iloilo's

Santa Barbara airport. In addition, two C-2A Greyhound cargo planes from Ronald Reagan arrived, loaded with water and rice.

During the course of two days, the carrier has provided 28,128 20-ounce bottles of water and 9,060 pounds of rice for the effort. U.S. and AFP personnel loaded the supplies onto the helicopters for rapid delivery to storm victims.

"The helicopters are moving," said Brig. Gen. Jorge Segovia, deputy assistant chief of staff [operations] for the AFP. "They are flying and we're good to go."

According to Wisecup, the relief flights will continue as supplies arrive from Ronald Reagan, the Philippine government and relief organizations.

"We're here as long as the government of the Philippines continues to request this support," said Wisecup. "The Filipino people are our friends and we're trying to reduce their suffering."



Federal Fire Department offers wildland fire safety tips

Federal Fire Department, Hawai'i

Recent dry conditions on Oahu led the Federal Fire Department (FFD) to prepare for a hot dry summer. When temperatures rise and brush turns dry, the FFD knows it needs to prepare for wildland fires.

The following are things you need to know as well.

FFD's preparations include ensuring that its personnel are adequately trained and equipped, that apparatus is in working order, that needed supplies are available, and most importantly, that the public is actively working to prevent fires.

Prevention of wildland fires is a continuous effort as fire is an ever present danger. During this dry season, FFD asks that the public be especially careful to reduce the danger of fire starting and urges all residents to consider implementing these safety tips now – before a brush fire comes their way.

Report hazardous conditions

- Unauthorized dumping of rubbish and vegetation.
- Vegetation that is overgrown, tall and dry.
- Branches close to overhead utility wires.
- Campfires left smoldering.

Protect your home

Ensure that fire apparatuses can get to your home. The driveway entrance should be clearly marked and the address displayed for easy identification.

- Clean the roof and gutters regularly.
- Prevent dry plants and combustible materials from accumulating under buildings (beneath porches, decks

and floor areas) and roofs (in attics via windows and ventilation holes) by enclosing openings with one-half-inch mesh screen.

- Install a smoke detector on each level of your home and in every sleeping area. Test detectors monthly and change the batteries once a year.
- Keep a ladder that will reach the roof and have household items available that can be used as fire tools, such as buckets and shovels.

Create a safety zone around your home

- Mow the grass regularly.
- Rake and clear combustible vegetation, such as leaves, dead limbs and twigs.
- Remove leaves and rubbish from under structures.
- Remove dead branches that extend over the roof.
- Remove vines from the walls of buildings.
- Clear an area around propane tanks and the barbecue.
- Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish.
- Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans in a safe location away from the base of buildings.
- Have a garden hose that is long enough to reach all structures on the property.

When wildland fire threatens

If you are warned that a wildland fire is threatening your area, listen to television or radio reports and evacuation information. Follow the Oahu Department of Emergency Management (DEM) instructions. If you are advised to evacuate, do so immediately.

Preparing your family for a wildland fire emergency

Wildland fires and other

types of disasters, i.e., hurricanes, floods and earthquakes, can strike quickly and without warning. Therefore, it is important that you and your family have an emergency plan already prepared.

• Discuss the types of disasters that could occur and how to prepare and respond to each type of disaster, including instructions by the DEM and emergency responders.

• Ensure that everyone knows how to call 9-1-1.

• Show responsible family members how and when to shut off the water, gas and electricity at main switches.

• Plan several escape routes away from your home - by car and foot.

• Pick two meeting places in the event family members are separated:

(1) a place that is a safe distance from your home in the event a wildland fire should strike your neighborhood.

(2) a place outside of your neighborhood in the event you are not able to return home.

• Make plans to take care of your children or children in the neighborhood who may be left on their own.

• Make a list of items to bring if advised to evacuate.

• Practice what you have discussed.

• Talk to your neighbors about wildland fire safety. Be aware of neighbors who have special needs, such as the elderly, disabled and non-English speaking persons.

If there are questions or concerns, contact the Federal Fire Department, Battalion Chief Victor M. Flint for information regarding home fire hazards at 471-3303, ext. 633.



Money Isn't All You're Saving

Navy Region encourages use of EnergyStar equipment

Krista Stehn

*Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Hawai'i Energy
Program.*

The growing demands and cost for electricity have made conserving energy a critical issue for Navy Region Hawai'i.

The command has established energy conservation policy for all region facilities in an effort to improve energy efficiency. One simple way to reduce energy use is with the purchase of energy efficient appliances and office equipment.

Signed in August 2007, COMNAVREGHIIINST 4101.1B encourages all region commands to purchase EnergyStar or energy efficient equipment to the maximum extent possible.

EnergyStar appliances and equipment meet strict energy efficiency criteria established by the U.S. Department of Energy and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For example, EnergyStar qualified refrigerators are at least 15 percent more efficient than federal efficiency standards.

EnergyStar qualified office equipment (e.g., computers, monitors, printers and copiers) automatically enter a low-power mode when inactive, using less energy. Overall, it is estimated that EnergyStar qualified equipment uses 10 to 50 percent less energy than standard models.

When shopping for office equipment and appliances, consider purchasing energy efficient items. This simple act will save money and assist Navy Region Hawai'i achieve its energy conservation goals.