

State legislature honors Hawaii Medal of Honor heroes

Story and photo by
MC2 Jon Dasbach

Navy Public Affairs Support
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Hawaii

HONOLULU - Nineteen fallen service members posthumously received the Hawaii State Medal of Honor (HMOH) from the Hawaii State Senate and House of Representatives during a ceremony March 27 at the Hawaii State Capitol.

The HMOH was awarded on behalf of the State of Hawaii to families and friends of service members who were killed in action while serving as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

"The Medal of Honor is Hawaii's expression of gratitude to those who gave their lives in the service of our nation," said Senate President Donna Mercado Kim.



Military service members salute as a Soldier from the Hawaii National Guard plays Taps during the Hawaii State Medal of Honor (HMOH) ceremony held at the Hawaii State Capitol. (Additional photos on page A-5)

"These citizens volunteered to carry the flag of the United States, to uphold the ideals and principles of our free and democratic nation, to put themselves in harms way, to fulfill their military missions, and to represent our people and country with pride, honor and distinction," she said.

While delivering a speech during the ceremony, Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie spoke directly to family members in attendance.

"Know that all those honored today are carried in our hearts and that we are brothers and sisters, for and with and to each other. And with that sure knowledge, we know that some small measure of comfort will be extended from us to you, not just this day, but in the days to come," Abercrombie said.

"And that you carry with you from this ceremony our commitment and our pledge, not just to

See MEDAL OF HONOR, A-2



Lt. Cmdr. (retired) Jim Hickerson talks to Sailors and Airmen about his experience as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War at a POW event held at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Memorial Chapel. (Additional photo on page A-5)

Vietnam POWs share stories of service and sacrifice

Story and photo by
MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs

The Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions, Junior Enlisted Association and Chiefs of the Waterfront hosted a POW [prisoner of war] event held March 26 at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

Sailors and Airmen assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) were on hand to hear stories about service, wisdom and courage from a former POW, Jim Hickerson, his wife Carole, and Tim Guard, Vietnam veteran.

The event started with the parade of colors followed by remarks by Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Surface Group Middle Pacific. Ponds introduced Guard who spoke about his time in U.S. Navy during the Vietnam era.

After being commissioned in 1966, Guard was assigned to an amphibious squadron and selected to command a swift boat which conducted river missions throughout the

Mekong Delta. Guard then received assignment to command the USS Esteem, a minesweeper.

In 1967, as a Navy lieutenant commander, Hickerson was on an air mission when his aircraft was hit by a surface-to-air missile. He was forced to eject. He spent nearly six years as a prisoner of war, tortured and deprived by his North Vietnamese captors. Upon returning home, he continued his naval career until retiring with 30 years of dedicated service.

"I don't see myself as a hero or anything like that. I just did my job," said Hickerson. "I was very lucky and that's the reason why I tell my story, so people can stop and think about what they have and how fortunate they are to be in this country."

Hickerson delivered an optimistic message to the Sailors and Airmen who may confront overwhelming obstacles in their personal lives.

"It was really inspiring. There's not a lot of people that talk about Vietnam, so it's really inspiring to hear these people who went through so much and talk about it and also kept their faith along the way," said

Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 3rd Class Lori Pearce of Excelsior Springs, Mo., assigned to Navy Information Operation Center (NIOC).

Carole Hickerson also spoke during the event. Carole's first husband, Marine Capt. Stephen Hanson, vanished in 1967 while piloting a secret helicopter mission in Laos.

During the Vietnam War

See POWs, A-3

COMPACAF thanks Airmen as Cope Tiger 13 concludes

2nd Lt. Jake Bailey

Cope Tiger 13 Public Affairs

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand - Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle, commander of Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, met with Airmen from the U.S., Thailand and Republic of Singapore as they joined forces one last time on the flight line during the closing ceremony for Cope Tiger 13 here March 21.

"I want to personally thank you for all that you've done. What you've accomplished during this exercise matters a great deal," Carlisle told Airmen as he met with them one on one before the closing ceremony began.

Carlisle presented certificates of accomplishment to Airmen who rose to the challenge and delivered superior performance during Cope Tiger 13. Afterwards, he talked candidly with the Airmen and answered their questions.

Carlisle noted that with less than one percent of the U.S. population serving in the military, Airmen should



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. Jake Bailey

U.S. Air Force Gen. Herbert "Hawk" J. Carlisle, commander of Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, thanks Airmen from the Republic of Singapore during the closing ceremony for Cope Tiger 13 held March 22 at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand.

be proud to count themselves as part of an elite few who provide peace and stability, especially in the Pacific region.

"You answer our nation's call every day," Carlisle said.

Cope Tiger 13's objectives included improving combat readiness and combined aerial planning and tactics in addition to enhancing multilateral relations.

During the combined field training exercise, 2,300

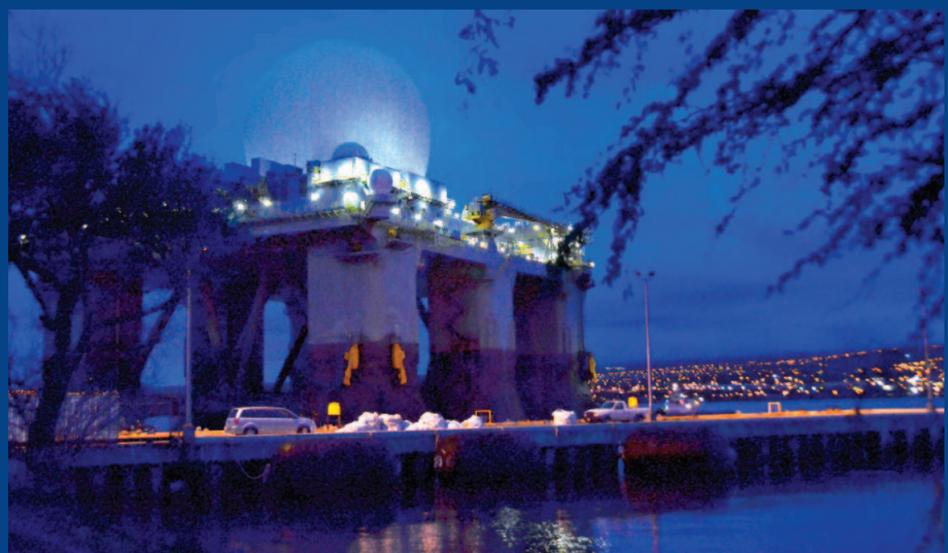
personnel and 80 aircraft from the three participating air forces executed 919 aerial sorties.

"It is my great pleasure to report that with leadership and teamwork contributed from all participants, the exercise accomplished its primary goal of executing safely," said Capt. Napadej Dhupatemiyaa, Royal Thai Air Force exercise director.

Beyond conducting large force employment missions,

See POSITIVE, A-3

SBX on the move



The Sea-Based X-Band Radar (SBX) leaves a pier on Ford Island as the SBX transits the waters of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

JBPHH changes in services

For an updated listing of changes to services at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), please visit www.cnic.navy.mil/pearlharbor-hickam.



Hickam breaks ground on new ramp control tower
See page A-2



Hagel announces fewer furlough days for civilians
See pages A-2



Personal Readiness Summit provides opportunity for 'courage to intervene'
See page A-2



Women's History Month leadership development seminar
See page B-5



Learn to 'Walk to Safety' at April 1 tsunami-awareness event at JBPHH
See page B-9



Volunteers needed for Pearl Harbor Bike Path cleanup
See page B-9

Hickam breaks ground on new ramp control tower

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt.
Jerome S. Tayborn

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Operations Group and 647th Air Base Group military leaders and contractors gathered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on March 15 for a groundbreaking ceremony which marked the beginning of construction for a new ramp control tower.

The ceremony included a special blessing from Kahu Kordell Kekoa, the pastor of Bishop Memorial Church, who performed a traditional Hawaiian blessing at the construction site.

The new ramp control tower, with a programmed cost of \$7.4 million, will replace an existing structure built in 1952 and enhance



Military and contractor partners shovel dirt to take the first step in a special groundbreaking ceremony and Hawaiian blessing performed by Kahu Kordell Kekoa (right) for a new ramp control tower near the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, March 14.

Hickam's air traffic controller abilities.

When complete, the 138.5-foot tower will provide Hickam's air traffic controllers with increased visibility, space for a control tower simulator to enhance training, increased security, office space for administrative functions, and enhanced environmental controls.

This new addition will benefit all visiting military and civilian aircraft to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"This new state-of-the-art facility will equip our Airmen and exceptional civilian workers in overseeing the Pacific's premier airpower projection platform and safely assisting more than 13,000 aircraft movements annually. As the Pacific becomes even more vital to national security, we will be ready," said Col.

(select) Kevin Eastland, 15th Operations Support Squadron commander.

The new tower, which is expected to last the next 50 years, will not only benefit the aviation community but will also provide significant financial impact.

"Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific is a great partnership and was crucial to the success of this project. We appreciate the efforts of our Navy, Air Force and civilian partners working together. Without their partnership, this project would have never materialized with this austere climate," said Lt. Col. Randy Whitecotton, 647th Civil Engineering Squadron commander.

Construction on the tower will begin immediately. The estimated completion date is March 2014.

Hagel announces fewer furlough days for civilians

Nick Simeone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Defense Department has revised from 22 to 14 the number of days hundreds of thousands of civilian employees could be furloughed this year because of the budget sequester, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced Thursday.

In addition, a senior Defense Department official speaking on background told reporters the start of the furloughs will be delayed until mid-to-late June, after more than 700,000 department employees receive furlough notices now set to go out in early May. Furloughs would happen over seven two-week pay periods until the end of September, when the current fiscal year ends, the senior official said, with employees likely to be told not to come to work for two days during each of those pay periods.

Department officials say they are still working to determine which employees might be exempted.

Hagel characterized the reduced furloughs as well as a revised estimate of sequestration's impact on

the defense budget as good news. The changes follow Congressional approval last week of a defense appropriations bill that prevented an additional six billion dollars in cuts, ordered under sequestration, from taking effect.

"It reduces a shortfall at least in the operations budget," the secretary told reporters at a Pentagon news conference. "We came out better than we went in under the sequester, where it looks like our number is \$41 billion [in cuts] now versus the \$46 billion."

But despite a Congressional reprieve, Hagel said the Pentagon is still going to be short at least \$22 billion for operations and maintenance, "and that means we are going to have to prioritize and make some cuts and do what we've got to do," including making sharp reductions in base operating support and training for nondeployed units.

More critical in the long run, he said, is how budget cuts will affect readiness and the department's overall mission. Because of that concern, he said he has directed Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint

Chiefs of Staff, to conduct an intensive department-wide review of U.S. strategic interests including how to protect the nation with fewer resources. "How do we prioritize the threats and then the capabilities required to deal with threats?" he said. "There will be some significant changes; there's no way around it."

Dempsey said the department has already exhausted 80 percent of its operating funds halfway through the fiscal year and characterized the current budget situation as "not the deepest, but the steepest decline in our budget ever," and warned it will affect military readiness into the future.

"We will have to trade at some level and to some degree our future readiness for current operations," the chairman said. He called on elected leaders to give the Pentagon the budget flexibility it needs to carry out institutional reforms.

"We can't afford excess equipment," Dempsey said. "We can't afford excess facilities. We have to reform how we buy weapons and services. We have to reduce redundancy. And we've got to change, at some level, our compensation structure."

First term Airman earns AF-level award

Tech. Sgt.
Jerome S. Tayborn

15th Wing Public Affairs

A Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam first-term Airman was recently recognized as the Air Force Information Dominance Outstanding Cyber Surety Airman of the Year.

The top-level Air Force award recognizes Air Force officers, enlisted members, civilian employees, teams and units for superior performance while providing information dominance and cyberspace operations to the Air Force and Department of Defense missions and operations.

"I feel extremely honored to be recognized for my work that I have done and to show people what I am able to accomplish," said Senior Airman Andrew New, an information assurance officer for the 692nd Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Group.

As the information assurance officer, New directed computer security programs (COMSEC) for three wings and 38 tenant organizations, where he overhauled their audit processes and implemented new training and inspection programs. He also led 12 COMSEC staff assistance visits (SAV) which resulted in



Senior Airman Andrew New

resolving 36 discrepancies.

Additionally, New established information assurance officers (IAOs) monthly and quarterly checks, which helped to diffuse security risks and instill safeguards for more than 13,000 users. He also trained and certified 95 IAOs where he provided stringent security guidance for 2,500 network systems and reduced their incidents by 25 percent.

"My advice for anyone who is trying to be awarded an AF-level award is to worry about doing a good job at work, not striving to win awards," New said.

"People notice good work when it is done. I love my job and the people I work with which makes me strive to give 100 percent one day at a time. And along with that comes awards and recognition," he explained.

New didn't receive top honors his first time up for the

award, yet he continued to let his superior duty performance speak for itself.

"I didn't win the first time I went up for this award and I let that serve as a motivator for next year's award to do my best, so I could receive the opportunity to compete again. The result of that was winning my command's Information Dominance Outstanding Cyber Surety Airman of the Year two years in a row and then winning at the AF level," said New.

According to Master Sgt. Nicholas Horton, 1st Special Operations Command Squadron, emission security (EMSEC) manager and New's former supervisor, New was always a reliable Airman. "We were very impressed with his consistent ability to overcome obstacles in a wing position. He exceeded all expectations every time we handed him a tough situation," said Horton.

"In fact, he constantly was reminding others of things that needed to be done when there was a slow day in the office, just to help keep us ahead of the game. His other supervisors and I really never had to come to him and ask him to find something to do. I could easily see him progressing as a future chief master sergeant. He is already off to a great start," Horton said.

Personal Readiness Summit encourages intervention

MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPAFLT) and Commander, Navy Region Hawaii held this year's Personal Readiness Summit from March 26 to 28 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

This year's summit, themed "courage to intervene," allowed senior leaders, officers, chiefs, and command program advisors the opportunity to not only discuss the Navy's programs but also give their opinions on how to make them better.

"The overall mission of the summit is to provide the information to the leadership and program coordinators to help better understand what is happening across the Pacific," said Lt. Cmdr. Kaarin Coe, regional suicide prevention coordinator.

"The different program on hand gives them some tools to take back to their commands to help improve those programs," he said.

Programs discussed during the summit included alcohol and drug abuse, suicide prevention, domestic violence, sexual harassment, hazing and equal opportunity, along with personal responsibility.

"The summits just keeps getting better. We are real-



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Diana Quinlan

Rear Adm. Patrick Driscoll, deputy commander and chief of staff for U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMPAFLT), addresses officers and senior enlisted personnel during the combined U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander Navy Region Hawaii, Personal Readiness Summit on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

ly narrowing down on the needs and what we can do to better support the commands, so they can fulfill their mission while supporting the Sailors and getting them the support they need through the significant programs," said Coe.

The event also included speakers from COMPAFLT, base legal, NCIS and Naval Health Clinic Hawaii and Terry L. Wise,

well known public speaker and author of the book, "What Can I Do for Myself?"

Personnel in attendance consisted of command urinalysis coordinators, command leading petty officers (LPO), command fitness leaders (CFL), Drug and Alcohol Program advisors, and command coordinators for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response,

Command Managed Equal Opportunity and family advocacy programs.

The summit concluded with a live performance titled "Shot of Reality" which was open to Sailors E-6 and below and their family members over the age of 18. The performance was created as a comedy and focused on the impact of drug and alcohol use and how to be responsible.

Medal of Honor heroes

Continued from A-1

remember, but to try to fulfill the promise that was made ultimately and with complete sacrifice by those whom you loved," he said.

Recipients of the HMOH included members of the U.S. Armed Forces and the Hawaii National Guard who were residents of the state of Hawaii, attended an educational institution in Hawaii, or who were stationed in Hawaii by order of the Department of Defense.

As of March 2013, 327 service members with Hawaii ties have sacrificed their lives while in the line of duty serving as part of OIF and OEF.

Friends and family members of the fallen service members were present during the ceremony and received a plaque and official certificate. The recipients were rendered with honors of two bells after their names were announced.

The ceremony included military support as members of the United States Pacific Command Joint Service Color Guard posted colors, the Hickam Base Honor Guard performed a three-volley salute and the Hawaii National Guard played Taps.

Maj. Gen. Darryll D. M. Wong, adjutant general for the state of Hawaii, com-

mented on the importance of the ceremony and the honor bestowed upon the fallen service members.

"We are honored and privileged to be in the presence of the families of our fallen heroes," said Wong. "There is no honor higher than that our state can bestow on a member of our armed forces than the Hawaii Medal of Honor, but the price of that honor is far too high."

"To receive that medal means that a member of our military with Hawaii ties has given up his or her life in the service to our nation. This is not an honor that we bestow with joy; rather, we do so with heavy hearts. Collectively as a state, we have made it our mission to express our deepest appreciation to these brave men and women," he said.

"Hawaii has lost 327 service members," Wong continued. "Our grateful state best honors and remembers the sacrifices of those who have served our nation by living our lives with deep appreciation for our freedom."

"Although the Hawaii Medal of Honor cannot take away the pain of losing a loved one, it symbolizes that Hawaii will never forget. We will never forget them, nor will we ever forget their families," Wong said.

Correction:

In the story "Pentagon puts furlough notices on hold for DoD civilians," which was published on page A-2 of the March 22, 2013 edition of Ho'okele, the article incor-

rectly stated, "Once furlough notices go out, there would be a seven-day period for people to reply to their letters, followed by a 30-day waiting period." This is inaccurate. The 30-day waiting period begins upon an employee's receipt of the written notice. The employee

has seven calendar days from the date of the written notice to respond. Also, the URL that was provided does not work on NMCI computers. Please use this one: <http://ow.ly/jleuf>. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Easter bunny comes to JBPHH



Sailors assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam receive Easter baskets for distribution to junior enlisted Sailors. The Easter baskets were donated by the local civilian community with assistance from the Girl Scouts and the USO. The donation was coordinated by Mildred Courtney, Outrigger Hotel's military liaison.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Diverse Views



"What is your favorite restaurant and why?"

2nd Lt. Janet Hudson
624th Regional Support Group



"Café Maharani. It's a small Indian restaurant downtown. The food is amazing and has a great atmosphere."



Gas Turbine Systems (Mechanical) Fireman Henderson Cunningham III
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"My favorite restaurant is Dixie Bar and Grill, because it makes you feel like you're back in the mainland. I'm from the South, and I like Southern cooking."



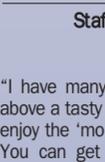
Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Erese
201st Combat Communications Group
Hawaii Air National Guard

"Home Bar and Grill on Kalakaua Ave. Excellent food and service, friendly atmosphere, and great for any occasion."



Culinary Specialist 2nd Class (AW) Zikiya Hobson
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"I have two favorite restaurants. The first is Kincaid's, because they have a really nice view of Waikiki Harbor. They also have a nice selection of food and the service is great. My second is California Pizza Kitchen. I'm trying to go vegetarian, and they make great vegetarian pizza."



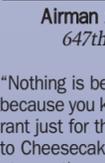
Staff Sgt. Terrance Greenwood
535th Airlift Squadron

"I have many favorite places to eat, but above a tasty meal at a chain restaurant, I enjoy the 'mom and pop' places the best. You can get chain restaurant food anywhere so why not experiment with a few dives? You always find surprises."



Lt. Megan White
Transient Personnel Unit

"My favorite restaurant is Side Street Inn, because they have good local food (home-style food), and they have the best pork chops and fried rice ever."



Airman 1st Class Raymart De Asis
647th Civil Engineers Squadron

"Nothing is better than having a light meal because you know you came to this restaurant just for the dessert. I have even gone to Cheesecake Factory after having dinner at another restaurant. The food at Cheesecake is phenomenal, and the cheesecakes are even better. The atmosphere is always upbeat and the service is great. My favorite dish at Cheesecake Factory is the red velvet cheesecake."



Gas Turbine Systems (Mechanical) 2nd Class (AW) Joshua Hamrick
USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

"It would be Dixie Bar and Grill. They have awesome smoked barbecue, crab legs and chicken wings."



Tech Sgt. Eric Martin
201st Combat Communications Group
Hawaii Air National Guard

"Baci Bistro in Kailua. Great food and atmosphere, awesome little hideaway where you and your date can get acquainted."

(Provided by David Underwood Jr. and MC2 Nardel Gervacio)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

POWs offer inspiration

Continued from A-1

years, Carole was one of the most outspoken POW/MIA wives, breaking the code of silence about POW/MIAs by publicizing their plight on a television program.

Hickerson eventually created the National League of Families for POW/MIAs. She became its second president and a member of its board of directors. Hickerson also created the emblem that was later recognized as the POW/MIA flag.

"The message that Jim, Carole and Tim presented to us today is something all of us can hold dear to our hearts and how we can move towards the future," said Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Abrel

Smith of Albany, Ga., assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security.

"It's a renewed dedication to look at our lives and careers and to take it seriously and honoring the code of conduct when you're behind enemy lines. They sacrificed a lot as well as their families and spouses," he said.

Smith said by making the right kind of choices, they made their lives better and turned the situation into a positive experience.

"What I'll take back from this event is that you may hit hard times but like (Hickerson) said, someone else out there has it worse than you. It's always greener on the other side," said Pearce.

Positive impact

Continued from A-1

Cope Tiger participants contributed their goodwill to local schools in the surrounding communities. During three cultural engagements, Airmen contributed educational materials, computer equipment, athletic gear and quality of life measures such as fans and sinks to the schools.

"The interactions that we have during Cope Tiger in Thailand are so beneficial," said Col. Peter Milohnic, U.S. exercise director. "We tend to focus on the military aspect, but what we learn from each other culturally, and the friendships that we build while we are here are important, too."

Master Sgt. Jeff Mikkelson, a fuels section chief assigned to Yokota Air Base, Japan, agreed.

"I'm honored to have had the opportunity to make a positive impact here at Cope Tiger, not only on the flight line, but in the community, too" Mikkelson said.

Women yeomen inspected by rear admiral



Photo courtesy of Naval History and Heritage Command Collection

Yeomen (Female) are shown here being inspected by Rear Adm. Victor Blue (left center), chief of the Bureau of Navigation, on the Washington Monument grounds, Washington, D.C., in 1918. The first really large-scale employment of women as naval personnel took place to meet the severe clerical shortages of the World War I era. The "Yeomanettes" as they were popularly known, served primarily in secretarial and clerical positions, though some were translators, draftsmen, fingerprint experts, ship camouflage designers and recruiting agents.

HO'OKELE

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New FFD firefighter recruits graduate

**Fire Inspector
Angela Sanders**

*Federal Fire Department
Hawaii*

The Federal Fire Department (FFD) Joint Firefighter Recruit Academy, Class of 2013 held their graduation ceremony March 22 in the Inter-Island Terminal Conference Center at Honolulu International Airport. This event was attended by Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie and Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

The recruit class included 39 firefighter recruits consisting of both male and female firefighters. Nineteen of the recruits are employed by the Federal Fire Department, Navy Region Hawaii and will be assigned to federal fire stations throughout various military bases on Oahu.

Sixteen firefighter recruits are employed by Hawaii State Department of Transportation (DOT), airports division, and will be assigned to the Honolulu International Airport (fire stations one and two) Kalaeloa Airport (station three), Lihue Airport (station four), Hilo International Airport (station 11) and Kona International Airport (station 12).

Four firefighter recruits



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Gervacio
Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, addresses the audience during the Federal Fire Department Firefighting Recruit Training Academy graduation ceremony held at the Honolulu International Airport Interisland Terminal Conference Center on March 22.

will be assigned to the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) Fire Department at Barking Sands, Kauai.

The FFD Joint Firefighter Recruit Academy was a 22-week long training program and was held at the Federal Fire Department Headquarters. Instructors were brought in from both federal and state departments to ensure compliance and offer an array of knowledge.

The recruits were required to complete various disciplines to meet the

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Standard for Firefighter Professional Qualifications.

The curriculum covered rigorous training with certifications in firefighter I and II which cover basic entry-level training in the fire service and national registry emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-B).

The course also included hazardous material awareness and operations levels, airport firefighter, firefighter survival and rapid intervention training.

"The recruit class began

as a mixture of diversified young men and women. The challenge was to bring all of them together to work as a unit and to trust each other when put through challenging situations," said Chris Rapoza, Federal Fire Department regional training chief.

"Their motto is: "One Team, One Fight." They were trained to have understanding, compassion and respect for themselves as well as others."

"Our lead instructors instill in each recruit dedication, commitment, honor,

pride and self discipline to represent themselves and their departments in a professional manner, 24 hours a day on and off duty," Rapoza said.

Regional Fire Chief Fletcher Dahman shared his thoughts about this recruit class.

"This joint training recruit class has been a true success story. The ability of the instructors to mold personnel from many different backgrounds into a cohesive team of future firefighters is evident from their day-to-day interactions and final

skills testing," Dahman said.

"Budget constraints and limited departmental openings in all three agencies was a big factor in creating this combined class. Cooperation and communication between the multiple training locations and training staffs enabled the recruits to participate in a maximum number of firefighting evolutions," he said.

On March 20, the recruits had a special opportunity to showcase their skills to the media. The Federal Fire Department collaborated with Hawaii DOT, airports division, to set up a media training day at the Federal Fire Department Live-Fire Training Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

This media day was the final test for the recruits. It gave them an opportunity to demonstrate their skills learned during the academy. It also gave the recruits a chance to work with the media and prepared them for future media opportunities and events.

For more information about the Federal Fire Department Joint Firefighter Recruit Academy, contact Regional Training Chief Chris Rapoza at 471-3303, ext. 400.

For more information about the Federal Fire Department, contact Fire Inspector Angela Sanders at 471-3303, ext. 617 or angela.sanders1@navy.mil.

Hawaii Sailors donate blood to support ASBP mission

**Story and photo by
MC2 Jon Dasbach**

*Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West, Det
Hawaii*

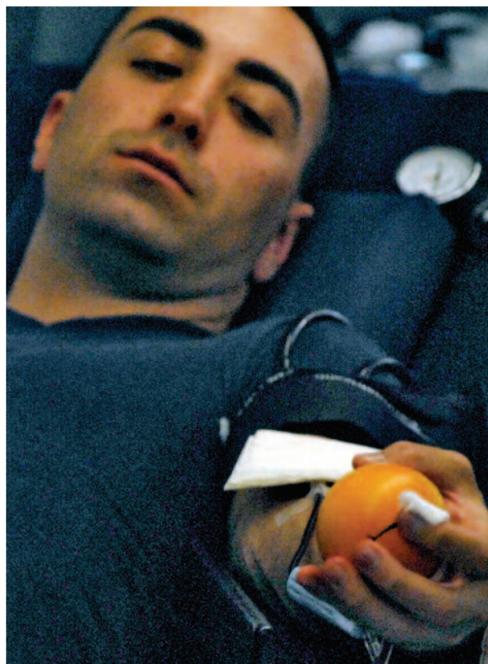
Sailors assigned to the Los Angeles-class submarine USS Buffalo (SSN 715) donated blood to the Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) during a blood drive held March 13 at the Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

"Today we gave a donation to the blood drive to help out the Sailors and Soldiers in Afghanistan and anyone else who would need it," said Culinary Specialist 1st Class Jason Henneey.

The blood drive was sponsored by Tripler Army Medical Center with the blood collected benefiting service members of all branches, those stationed within the United States and those overseas.

"Don't be afraid to donate blood," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Michol Ranada. "It's for a good cause. It goes to our brothers and sisters who are out there fighting the war on the front lines."

Donations made through ASBP serve as a vital link to not only military service



Yeoman 2nd Class Travis Trivett, assigned to Los Angeles-class submarine USS Buffalo (SSN 715), donates blood during an Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) blood drive.

members, but their families as well.

"A blood drive is important because you can't buy blood," said Henneey. "We need it to live. It's about helping each other out. It's about us being shipmates."

For more information about the Tripler Army Medical Center Blood Donor Center, donation dates, locations and ASBP, visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil/hawaii.

Adm. Haney speaks at roundtable



U.S. Navy photos by MC1 Michelle Lucht

Adm. Cecil Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks during a Chiefs of Navy Roundtable Talk during the 2013 Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA 13). LIMA 13 provides a forum to showcase U.S. and foreign assets while forming relationships that ultimately contribute to increased interoperability with navies of other countries.



Adm. Cecil Haney (left), commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, meets with Republic of Korea Navy Vice Adm. Koo Ok Hyeo, commander of Naval Education and Training command, during the 2013 Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA 13).

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Carole Hickerson, former POW Jim Hickerson and Vietnam veteran Tim Guard were speakers at a POW event held at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Memorial Chapel. The event featured the Hickersons and Guard as they shared their stories of service, wisdom and courage with Sailors and Airmen.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Gervacio



(Left) Military service members from the Hickam Honor Guard perform a three-volley salute during the Hawaii State Medal of Honor (HMOH) ceremony held March 27 at the Hawaii State Capitol.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Jon Dasbach

Military service members from United States Pacific Command Joint Service Color Guard rehearse posting the colors prior to the Hawaii State Medal of Honor (HMOH) ceremony held at the Hawaii State Capitol.

(Left) Steel Worker 2nd Class Holly Ramirez from Construction Dive Detachment Alpha, part of Underwater Construction Team Two (UCT-2) from Port Hueneme, Calif. prepares to pour concrete during a structural pile restoration at the Hotel Piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey



Sailors from Construction Dive Detachment Alpha, part of Underwater Construction Team Two (UCT-2) dive over the remains of USS Arizona at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey



NAVY • AIR FORCE ETHOS

CSADD is valuable resource for junior Sailors

MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Coalition of Sailors Against Destructive Decisions (CSADD) program encourages positive influence and behavior, while at the same time bringing together on-line social networking with peer interaction and in-person networking. This reinforces the message of "shipmates helping shipmates" and is reinforced with the "Don't be that Guy" campaign.

CSADD serves as a peer-to-peer Sailor mentoring group for Sailors 18 to 25 years old.

The importance of the CSADD is the mentoring programs itself where it gives Sailors the opportunity to do things on their off time," said Gas Turbine System (Mechanical) Seaman (SW) Dominic Lachapelle of New York, a CSADD committee member assigned to USS Lake Erie (CG-70).

"The program uses the buddy systems, Sailors giving each other ideas to help



Image courtesy of CSADD

each other in today's Navy, helping them make right decisions," Lachapelle said.

The program is run by a group of volunteer petty officers, and its mission is to provide junior Sailors with the best prevention and intervention tools possible to deal with issues such as alcohol misuse, reckless driving, recreational safety hazards and other activities that can lead to destructive decision-making in a manner to which they can relate.

"When a shipmate sees other shipmates going down the wrong path, you correct them. It's easy for someone in the same pay grade to talk with one another, rather than a chief to talk

with the Sailor because (for them) it becomes just another lecture," said Chief Engineman Saul Gomez, a CSADD regional team leader who is assigned to Navy Operation Support Center (NOSC) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"When we empower our junior Sailors, they mentor themselves and they listen to each other, work collectively with each other to be the most effective Sailors they possibly can," Gomez said.

The CSADD program also builds camaraderie among the junior Sailors involved. Many chapters plan alcohol-free liberty activities like movie nights, day-trips or

sporting events for their shipmates to enjoy on liberty in a responsible way.

"It brings the crew on ships or shore commands together. It also helps to know the person you work with on a day-to-day basis also. It builds teamwork," said Lachapelle. "And I've heard the word teamwork a lot after being involved with the program."

In addition to promoting healthy life choices, the program also develops members' leadership skills.

"The program is about initiative. It's something Sailors already do every day. It's an initiative that empowers them as leaders and future leaders," said Gomez.

Through programs like CSADD, Sailors are proving that helping their peers to achieve success individually is vital to achieving success as a team.

"This program is important because it empowers the Sailors to write their own destiny and go forth to do great things without their leadership telling them how and when to do it.

It's great Sailors doing even greater things for themselves and their shipmates," said Gomez.

"What I enjoy most about the program is the network it brings," said Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Troy Gollihar of Klamath Falls, Ore., CSADD region advocate who is assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security.

"Sailors who may not make the right decisions in the past (may have been prevented) had they had the guidance or that knowledge that CSADD offers," Gollihar said.

CSADD Sailors are taking on leadership challenges, both on and off-duty, reinforcing both the core principles of CSADD and

the Navy's 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative. The 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency, and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Currently there are 15 chapters at Navy Region Hawaii and 14 sub chapters.

CSADD began in 2008 when Rear Adm. Mark Boensel and Fleet Master Chief (AW/SW/SCW) Scott Benning, while assigned at Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, wanted to create an organization similar to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving).

The concept, along with "That Guy," evolved as it addressed the basic decision-making process in many areas affecting Sailors on and off duty. With strong support from the Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Mark Ferguson, CSADD became an official Navy peer mentoring program in June 2010.

Similar core values guide Sailors and Airmen in today's military

Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Military technology is always evolving and advancing. Here at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), two notable examples of this evolution are the F-22 Raptors and the recent visit by USS Freedom. Those planes and that ship represent the cutting edge of combat hardware.

Yet while the nation's military's weapons and technology may change, one thing that does not change is the need for the U.S. armed forces to be staffed with men and women of high ethical and professional standards. To achieve this end, all branches have their own ethos and core values, which are vital to mission success.

"Our Navy core values are the words that each and every Sailor should live by," said Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief Marcos Sibal. "Everything that we do in the Navy—whether in the command, out in the community and with our families—are guided by principles that make us Sailors professionals, respectful and dignified."

An Air Force leader discussed the service's values and their impact on Airmen.

"The time honored core values of our Airmen are ingrained in them from day one of signing on the dotted

line," said Chief Master Sergeant Karen Reed, Air Force senior enlisted advisor and superintendent, 647th Air Base Group.

"These core values help to instill a sense of pride and professionalism that form a lasting bond within our ranks. They are building blocks that help us to find common ground in such a diverse and constantly changing world ... and help us to build resiliency and perseverance second to none," Reed said.

Both the Air Force and the Navy have their own written codes to guide Airmen and Sailors. For the Air Force, the core values are integrity, service and excellence. The Navy ethos stresses the core values of honor, courage and commitment.

Yet there is a great deal of overlap between the philosophies of the two services.

"I believe they go hand in hand beautifully," said Reed. "From my vantage point as the joint base senior enlisted advisor, I have had the honor of watching our Navy counterparts as much as our Airmen, and I am impressed and humbled by their dedication to duty and to each other."

For example, part of the Navy ethos states, "Integrity is the foundation of our conduct; respect for others is fundamental to our character; decisive leadership is crucial to

our success."

These virtues are also part of the Air Force core values, which describe integrity as "willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking" and states that "genuine respect involves viewing another person as an individual of fundamental worth."

Over time, their respective ethos have served as guides for Sailors and Airmen.

"I think over the years both our Sailors and our civilian employees know and understand the Navy's mission and the character we need to project, not only to our country but to our allies around the world," said Sibal.

"The image of a professional Sailor and Navy civilian defines who we are as a Navy and what we stand for: defending our nation and protecting our Constitution," he said.

"We have persevered and will continue to persevere through whatever is thrown our way because we have a belief in something larger and more important than just ourselves," said Reed.

"We are the nation's defenders, and we protect the rights of our people and our resolve is such that no matter what the pulse of the nation is our resolve stays the same; that is to protect the rights and freedom of our people. Our core values

allow us to see past the feeling of the day and know that what we are doing and what we are charged with has a bigger meaning and cannot be swayed by opinion," she continued.

And while the values stressed by the Navy (honor, courage and commitment) and Air Force (integrity, ser-

vice and excellence) serve as important guideposts, they are not the only values Sailors and Airmen need to embrace.

"Almost one for one, our core values, no matter what service you're in, are not limited to three," said Sibal. "The rest we've learned from our parents, our friends and

our associates.

"Any value or trait that makes a person better or makes a person do the right thing, no matter what, is a value or trait that can be applied in life, no matter what the profession or way of life. These values make us who we are as a people and as a nation," Sibal said.

Navy search and rescue swimmers train with Polynesian Voyaging Society

Story and photo by
MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs

Students from the Polynesian Voyaging Society (PVS) received survival safety training March 21 from Navy Sailors who are search and rescue (SAR) swimmers assigned to Afloat Training Group Middle Pacific at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

In the two-hour demonstration at Scott Pool, Sailors demonstrated techniques for controlling a survivor, maintaining communications and proper techniques for towing a survivor back to the canoe safely.

"We got a call a few months ago that the Polynesian Voyaging Society is making that long trip that will recreate the voyage that the early Polynesians did on their way to find Hawaii, and we wanted to assist them on proper water survival technique," said search and rescue (SAR) Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class (SW) Cory A. French of Ohio, assigned to Afloat Training Group (ATG) Middle Pacific.

According to the PVS website, "The Polynesian Voyaging Society seeks to restore ancient tradition, so present and future generations will continue to gain knowledge through the lessons learned out on the sea, while preserving the ancient voyaging traditions.

"One of the roles on the canoes is having a rescue swimmer in case someone was to go overboard," said Lehua Kamaly of Pauoa,



Logistics Specialist 3rd Class Peter Davidson of Meridian, Miss., a search and rescue (SAR) swimmer assigned to USS Chafee (DDG 90), conducts an underwater rescue approach technique for simulated "drowning" victim Lehua Kamalu of Pauoa, Hawaii.

Hawaii, a Polynesian Voyaging Society student.

"The Navy swimmers are really good at what they do as far as water safety is concerned. They have the training and expertise we need to learn for this voyage."

Techniques that were learned included controlling a survivor, maintaining communications, and proper techniques for towing a survivor back to the canoe safely.

"The Navy has provided us with some valuable life saving training before we depart on our voyage," said Mike Taylor, Polynesian Voyaging Society volunteer.

"They've given some basics of approaches, release holds and transports techniques. We also looked at the technologies such as foldable rescue litters that can be lifted by a helicopter off the deck if that was needed."

Non-instrument navigation on the open ocean is considered by the society as a rare and treasured skill.

"I just happened to take a Hawaiian studies class, which was very informative," said French. "We learned about the voyages and the traditions of old navigation, how it's being lost, and how it's becoming replaced by newer technologies. The way the society is keeping the tradition, the roots and where you come from alive for many generations to come is just great," French said.

The ancient voyaging canoes carried the Polynesians thousands of miles across the ocean.

Today, the Polynesian Voyaging Society continues to sail on several replicas of these canoes just as the ancient Polynesians did.

"This morning was very informative. It was great to be introduced to new skills

on water safety and rescue," said Jason Patterson of Makiki, Polynesian Voyaging Society volunteer.

"Unfortunately, there will be someone going overboard, and in situations like that you really don't know how a person will react (when their life is on the line). So it's good to learn these skills," Patterson said.

"We conducted around eight evolutions, which is a lot to learn in one day, but these students did a great job of picking up what they needed to learn. We had a great group here today," said French.

According to the website, Polynesian Voyaging Society continues working toward the reality of the worldwide voyage (WWV) launching in June 2013. On her WWV, Hōkūle'a will sail with her new sister voyaging canoe Hikianalia.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Class Sean Furey

U.S. Navy search and rescue (SAR) swimmers train members of the Polynesian Voyaging Society on water survival techniques at Scott Pool at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

WWV to malama honua (care for the earth) will last approximately 36 months; travel more than 45,000 nautical miles; and visit at least 26 countries with 62 stops. During the WWV, crews will connect with classrooms and educators

and with community and indigenous groups who share malama honua values and vision.

For more information about the Polynesian Voyaging Society, visit <http://pvs.kcc.hawaii.edu> and <http://hokuleawwwv.org>.



PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

<http://www.hookelenews.com/> or visit
<https://www.cnmc.navy.mil/Hawaii/index.htm>



Students at Lehua Elementary School display leadership skills

Dave Tom

School Liaison Officer,
Navy Region Hawaii

One definition of "leadership" is "the quality of character and personality giving a person the ability to gain the confidence of and lead others." It is a trait that is developed, honed and valued in the military.

Students at Lehua Elementary School displayed leadership skills in action at the school's "The Light Within Me" Leadership Day held March 13.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, was the opening speaker at this event.

"All kids are unique and have good intentions. Their ability to think differently and act boldly behind their thought will ensure our future will continue to be bright, safe,



Photos by Darryl Arizo

Students at Lehua Elementary School demonstrated their leadership skills during the school's "The Light Within Me" Leadership Day held March 13 at the school.

and secure," Ponds said. His words were a foreshadowing of the students displaying the leadership skills they have learned and embraced at Lehua.

The school decided to adopt "The Leader in Me" program three years ago.

This program is a whole-school transformation model that acts like the operating system of a computer — it improves performance of all other programs and is based on "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen Covey. said,

"I have seen transformational results such as higher academic achievement, fewer discipline problems, and increased engagement among students, teachers and parents," said Fay Toyama, school principal.

"Better yet, it equips students with the self-confidence and skills they need to thrive in the 21st century economy," she said.

Following Ponds' opening address, children from each grade level performed "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids." (http://www.theleaderinme.org/the-7-habits-for-kids).

Then it was off to visit classrooms. As guests entered a kindergarten class, two students met them at the door, gave

them a firm handshake, looked them in the eyes, and welcomed them to their class. Other students proudly showed their leadership notebooks, what they have learned, and their progress in attaining their educational goals.

Near the end of the day, two military parents spoke about how their children and their families have benefited from "The Leader in Me" program at the school. The first parent said he has two special education kids who have blossomed in the school. He is retiring from the Army in the next few months, and he is confident his kids will take these leadership lessons learned with them when they leave Hawaii and enter the next phase of their lives.

The second parent praised the school's program and is hopeful that the next school her children attend when they leave Hawaii will also adopt "The Leader in Me" program.

Aliamanu Elementary School 'strives HI'



Aliamanu Elementary School received a Strive HI Award for ranking in the top five percent in the state for math growth and was awarded a check of \$12,500. The school is one of 21 public schools recognized by the State Department of Education as boosting student math and/or reading proficiency at the fastest pace among all Hawaii public schools. About two-thirds of the student population are military children. Although most branches of the military are represented, the majority of the students are Navy family members. Most of the remaining third of the students are residents of the surrounding Salt Lake-Aliamanu area.

Photo courtesy of Aliamanu Elementary School

GOT SPORTS

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