

Navy ships participate in IDCERTEX

Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

Five U.S. Navy ships commenced an independent deployer certification exercise (IDCERTEX) in the southern California and Hawaii operating areas. The exercise runs Feb. 9-20.

IDCERTEX provides a multi-ship environment to train and certify independent deployers in surface warfare, air defense, maritime interception operations, command and control/information warfare, command, control, computers and combat systems intelligence and mine warfare.

The exercise, led by Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet (C3F) and executed by Commander, Carrier Strike Group 15 (CSG 15), includes the guided-missile cruisers USS Lake Champlain (CG 57), USS Chosin (CG 65), guided-missile destroyers USS Preble (DDG 88), USS Chafee (DDG 90) and Littoral Combat Ship USS Freedom (LCS 1).

Chosin, Preble and Chafee are conducting their training in the Hawaii operating area, while Lake Cham-



A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter from the Army's 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (25 CAB) lands aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) during an independent deployer certification (IDCERT) exercise. (Additional photos on page A-5.)

plain and Freedom are participating off the coast of southern California.

IDCERTEX serves as

CSG 15's final opportunity to evaluate and certify Preble, Chafee and Sailors from USS Fort Worth

(LCS 3) Crew 102, embarked aboard Freedom, across multiple warfare areas prior to regularly

scheduled deployments.

IDCERTEX begins with unit-level training specific to the ship that requires

training in shipboard fire-fighting, man-overboard drills, visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS), and other ship specific training. The integrated phase involves training between multiple ships and aircraft and consists of flight operations, submarine tracking, strait transit formations, replenishment-at-sea and other required mission evolutions.

"Our primary responsibility is to ensure these ships are certified and ready to execute a wide variety of missions while deployed," said Rear Adm. Joseph Kuzmick, commander of CSG 15. "We look forward to watching Preble, Chafee and Fort Worth Crew 102 operate in a multi-ship environment with advanced warfare scenarios."

Several supporting staffs are involved in IDCERTEX including Commander, Naval Surface Forces Pacific, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31, Marine Aircraft Group 24, Hawaii Air National Guard and the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Peter D. Lawlor

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert speaks with Sailors at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam.

CNO holds 'gateway' all-hands call

CNO re-enlists Hawaii-based Sailors

MC3 Amber Porter

VP-9 Public Affairs

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert held an all-hands call Feb. 6 at historic Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for service members, civilians and their families stationed on Oahu.

The CNO stated that the rebalance is real with the USS Fort Worth (LCS 3) in Singapore and two more destroyers moving to the western Pacific and talked about the rotational am-

phibious ships deploying to Australia.

"We are on our way to Australia, then to New Zealand," said Greenert. "We wanted to stop here [Hawaii] at the gateway to the Pacific to listen and learn. We're going to Darwin, where at some point by the end of this decade, we will be sending amphibious ships on deployment for exercises in the southeast area."

The CNO also spoke with service members about current Navy initiatives including the Fleet Response Training Plan, new guidelines for uniform changes, TAD assignments, alternative health-care plans and restructured retirement.

Greenert assured the Sailors the retirement plan option would be offered, but those in uniform can still keep their current retirement plan under a "grandfather" clause.

The CNO also highlighted the strategy for shorter deployments, outlining the transition of deployments to a seven-month cycle.

"We're going to seven-month deployments," said Greenert. "It will take us through fiscal year 17 to get most destroyers down to seven-month deployments. The work that wasn't getting done before is happening now."

When asked his opinion about women's role in submarines, Greenert said,

"We've had women in the Navy for over 30 years. We've worked through concerns like this before. We're on a track working through this deliberately and we will get through this just fine."

During the all-hands call, which was also streamed live online, Greenert re-enlisted 17 Sailors and presented each Sailor and family member with a coin.

He closed the event thanking Sailors for their service and highlighting the importance of taking care of one another, treating each other with dignity and respect, and talking to leadership about what they can do to help Sailors.

USS Paul Hamilton to deploy tomorrow

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

The guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) is scheduled to depart Saturday on an independent deployment to the Arabian Gulf and western Pacific Ocean.

While deployed, Paul Hamilton and its crew of more than 300 Sailors will conduct theater security cooperation and maritime presence operations with partner nations.

"We are proud, confident and ready for all tasking Paul Hamilton will be assigned," said Cmdr. John Barsano, commanding officer.

"For many of our young Sailors, it's the first time they will live aboard for eight months

and travel overseas. I could not have asked of anything more from the crew for this upcoming deployment."

Commissioned May 27, 1995, Paul Hamilton is the third U.S. Navy ship named after the third secretary of the Navy. His term in office included the first months of the War of 1812, during which time the small United States Navy achieved several remarkable victories over British warships.

Paul Hamilton is a multi-mission ship designed to operate independently or with an associated strike group. The ship is assigned to Destroyer Squadron 21 and is homeported in Hawaii within the U.S. 3rd Fleet area of operations.

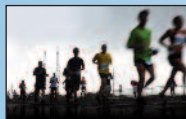


U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

The guided-missile destroyer USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) passes by Battleship Missouri Memorial June 24, 2013.



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CNIC, former region commander, makes Hawaii visit

Story and photo by Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam welcomed a former Navy Region Hawaii commander home Feb. 6-9 as Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander, Navy Installations Command, visited Hawaii.

The visit could be considered a homecoming for Smith as he was the former Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific commander from 2008 to November 2011.

Navy Installations Command, also known as the CNIC Enterprise, includes 11 regions, 69 installations and 123 naval operations support centers (NOSC).

It is also responsible for 31 business lines and 122 critical shore capabilities across three major categories: operations, quality

of life and facilities management. The command oversees a \$10 billion budget with more than 52,000 military and civilian personnel.

This visit marks the first time Smith has been to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam since his assumption of command of CNIC on Oct. 24, 2014.

During his three days in Hawaii, he visited several areas of Oahu, including the Hickam side of joint base, Ford Island, Camp Smith, Wahiawa Annex and various stops at Pearl Harbor, such as Sailor's Attic.

Quartermaster 1st Class Aaron Martinez, one of the Sailors working at the Sailor's Attic, was able to explain to him why the attic is so self-sufficient.

"We spend a decent amount of time here," he explained to the vice admiral. "We usually come in a little early and stay late to ensure everything is sorted,



Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander, Navy Installations Command, asks Quartermaster 1st Class Aaron Martinez if there is anything he can do to assist the Sailor's Attic, located at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

so when the next person comes in, everything is ready to go," Martinez said.

He explained how the civilian volunteers help them achieve a high level of efficiency and that they

could not do it without their assistance. Lastly, he explained the Sailor's Attic is able to operate thanks to the donations it receives and the efforts of volunteers.

Smith left the Sailor's Attic and headed to the Fort Kamehameha housing area later that morning, where he learned more about the homes which are considered historic but are in

need of refurbishment.

The area is under consideration as a site for a new Navy Inns & Suites recreation center.

Greeting Smith at the Fort Kamehameha housing area was Navy Cmdr. Marcus Williamson, JBPHH JB4 facilities management division director, NAVFAC Hawaii. Williamson was able to provide Smith with a brief tour of the area. He explained that although the area may require effort to restore, the benefits will outweigh the costs.

"Having Vice Adm. Smith here was great," said Williamson.

"Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam has a unique opportunity to restore historically-significant housing for both the state of Hawaii and the military, while fulfilling a shortfall in temporary housing. I look forward to developing a path forward that will help us meet these objectives."

USS Arizona Sailor dies, 8 known survivors remain

Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

Joseph Langdell, the last surviving officer from USS Arizona, died Feb. 5 in Yuba City, Calif. He was 100 years old.

Joseph Kopcho Langdell was born Oct. 12, 1914 in Wilton, N.H. Earlier that same year, the keel of USS Arizona had been laid at the Brooklyn Navy Yard with Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin Delano Roosevelt in attendance.

Fresh out of college and officer candidate school, Langdell received his first duty assignment in early 1941. He would be serving as an ensign aboard the Arizona. Fortunately, on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, he was not actually on the battleship.

"Although assigned to the USS Arizona, on the morning of the attack, then Ensign Langdell was on the main base of Pearl Harbor," said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison.

From the vantage point of his temporary assignment on Ford Island, Langdell saw the bombs fall and the Arizona sink, taking with



U.S. Navy photo of U.S. Navy USS Arizona survivor, retired Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Langdell, pauses to collect his thoughts during an interview as he visits the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, Dec. 5, 2006.

it nearly 1,200 of his shipmates. He quickly joined in rescue and recovery efforts.

"Langdell spent the next three or four days pulling bodies, both dead and alive, from the burning waters of the harbor," said Taylor. "His temporary assignment saved his life, because if he been on board the ship, he would have been killed since his battle station was at the gun turret where the bomb struck and blew up the ship."

Langdell later served aboard



U.S. Navy photo of USS Arizona survivor, retired Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Langdell returns a salute as he makes his way through an honor cordon for USS Arizona survivors, Dec. 5, 2006. (Langdell died Feb. 5.)

the USS Frazier, a destroyer. He ultimately rose to the rank of lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve and ran his own furniture store.

According to his son Ted, Joseph Langdell was a longtime classical music fan and was listening to Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, the 'Eroica,' when

he passed away.

Per his wishes, Joseph Langdell's ashes will be interred aboard the USS Arizona Memorial.

CNO re-enlists Hawaii-based Sailors at Bloch Arena

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert reenlists 17 Sailors before an all-hands call Feb. 6 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Greenert spoke about the rebalance to the Pacific, shorter deployments, and potential upcoming changes to military compensation and retirement benefits.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Brennan D. Knaresboro





Presidential proclamation issued for African American History Month

Barack Obama

President of the United States of America

For generations, the story of American progress has been shaped by the inextinguishable beliefs that change is always possible and a brighter future lies ahead. With tremendous strength and abiding resolve, our ancestors — some of whom were brought to this land in chains — have woven their resilient dignity into the fabric of our nation and taught us that we are not trapped by the mistakes of history. It was these truths that found expression as foot

soldiers and freedom riders sat in and stood up, marched and agitated for justice and equality.

This audacious movement gave birth to a new era of civil and voting rights and, slowly, we renewed our commitment to an ideal at the heart of our founding: no matter who you are, what you look like, how modest your beginnings, or the circumstances of your birth, you deserve every opportunity to achieve your God-given potential.

As we mark National African American History Month, we celebrate giants of the civil rights movement and countless other men and women whose names are etched

in the hearts of their loved ones and the cornerstones of the country they helped to change. We pause to reflect on our progress and our history — not only to remember, but also to acknowledge our unfinished work. We reject the false notion that our challenges lie only in the past, and we recommit to advancing what has been left undone.

Brave Americans did not struggle and sacrifice to secure fundamental rights for themselves and others only to see those rights denied to their children and grandchildren. Our nation is still racked with division and poverty.

Too many children live

in crumbling neighborhoods, cycling through substandard schools and being affected by daily violence in their communities. And Americans of all races have seen their wages and incomes stagnate while inequality continues to hold back hardworking families and entire communities.

But the trajectory of our history gives us hope. Today, we stand on the shoulders of courageous individuals who endured the thumps of billy clubs, the blasts of fire hoses, and the pain of watching dreams be deferred and denied.

We honor them by investing in those around us and doing all we can to

ensure every American can reach their full potential. Our country is at its best when everyone is treated fairly and has the chance to build the future they seek for themselves and their family. This means providing the opportunity for every person in America to access a world-class education, safe and affordable housing, and the job training that will prepare them for the careers of tomorrow.

Like the countless, quiet heroes who worked and bled far from the public eye, we know that with enough effort, empathy and perseverance, people who love their country can change it. Together, we can help our

nation live up to its immense promise. This month, let us continue that unending journey toward a more just, more equal and more perfect union.

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2015 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Diverse Views



What's the fondest Valentine's Day memory you have experienced?



MC2 Laurie Dexter
NPASE detachment Hawaii

"I filled my high school sweetheart's room with balloons with candy in them."

Senior Airman Autumn Foster
690th Cyberspace Operations Squadron



"Being able to take my 7-year-old brother on his first Valentine's Day and show him how he should treat a lady on a date."



ET2 Kyle Lightell
USS Columbus (SSN 762)

"My first Valentine's Day with my wife."

Senior Airman Adrian Dizon
19th Fighter Squadron



"Driving up to Round Top Drive to a scenic view that overlooks Honolulu and spending hours talking to my future wife."



IT2 Alicia Figueroa
USS Hopper (DDG 70)

"My husband actually proposed to me on Valentine's Day. He proposed with a ring pop in exactly the spot where we met."

Staff Sgt. Joseph Willing
15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



"Surprised my now-wife with the normal Valentine's Day gifts and seeing her face light up after having a bad week, and being able to be home for it."



GSMC Michael Budomo
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

"Dinner at home with family. I've had plenty of them away, so being at home."

Airman 1st Class Demetrius Harvey
Hickam Honor Guard



"When my wife and I had a home cooked meal of our favorite seafood to escape the rush at restaurants. We exchanged presents and spent quality time alone without interruptions or distractions. I cherish the moments we can share with just the two of us."

Provided by Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi and David D. Underwood Jr.

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

African American History Month events planned

The following events are planned for African American History Month:

- Feb. 26, 7:30 a.m. Pearl Harbor Colors Honors and Heritage ceremony will be held at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. The monthly Navy history and heritage event will fea-

ture music by Pacific Fleet Band and guest speaker Capt. Stan Keeve, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander.

- Feb. 26, 9:30 a.m. A special observance will be held at Sharkey Theater. Guest speaker will be Alphonso

Braggs, president of NAACP.

- Feb. 26, 11 a.m. A special luncheon will be offered at Silver Dolphin Bistro.

- Feb. 28, 3 p.m. A Gospel Fest & Taste of Soul will be held at Nellis Chapel.

Noted naval aviator flies fighter plane



U.S. Navy file photo

Ensign Jesse L. Brown, shown seated in the cockpit of an F4U-4 Corsair Fighter plane, was the U.S. Navy's first African American naval aviator. Brown flew with the "Swordsmen" of Fighter Squadron 32 (VF-32) aboard the aircraft carrier USS Leyte (CV-32) during the Korean War. While in Korea, he was killed in action and posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

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Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Director, Public Affairs
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Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy and Air Force installations throughout Oahu.



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert participates in an open discussion with more than 30 flag officers Feb. 6 during the Naval War College's Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC) Flag Officer Course.

PACFLT hosts senior leaders' course

Strengthens international bonds

Story and photo by MC2 Brian M. Wilbur

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Senior military leaders from 14 nations gathered Feb. 5-11 at U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) headquarters in Hawaii for the Naval War College Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC) Flag Officer Course.

The 27 CFMCC participants came from Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Peru, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the United States.

"This course is one of the most important international venues the U.S. Navy hosts and directly supports our strategic rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific," said Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"It provides big and realizable dividends for all participating nations by strengthening regional partnerships and improving operational effectiveness to address our common maritime challenges. The juice is well worth the squeeze," he said.

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert told CFMCC participants, "This is a unique situation. They didn't have such a thing when I was coming up."

"Grasp this opportunity," said Greenert, who stopped in Hawaii on his way to visit Australia and New Zealand. "The fellowship that you will start developing here enables us and other countries to get aligned. Personal relations make it happen. You will never have enough resources like this again."

The Naval War College facilitated the week-long course. This was the ninth annual CFMCC hosted by PACFLT since 2007.

"With the U.S. Navy presence in the Asian maritime theater, it is important to have CFMCC at PACFLT," said retired Vice Adm. Yoji Koda, a facilitator from the Naval War College and former commander in chief of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Fleet. "It is essential to give the countries aligned with the U.S. a better understanding of how PACFLT conducts business."

The participants heard lectures on maritime security and took part in open-forum panel discussions facilitated by subject-matter experts to foster a better understanding of the various perspectives involved in a combined force.

"It's an honor to be here at CFMCC. This is a good opportunity to make friends with all the countries here," said Rear Adm. Young-suk Kim, Republic of Korea navy, deputy commander Republic of Korea 1st Fleet. "This is also a great opportunity to better understand PACFLT and the U.S. Navy, its history at Pearl Harbor and how huge it is."

Rear Adm. Lisa Franchetti, commander U.S. Naval Forces Korea, echoed Kim's sentiments. "CFMCC gives us the opportunity to build personal relationships with our partners, improve cooperation across the theater, and learn from the experience of the senior facilitators," Franchetti said.

"The course provides great exposure to senior leader views, such as the CNO, PACFLT commander and Marine Forces Pacific commander. We also get to hear the partners and facilitator's perspectives on the Indo-Asia-Pacific and their thoughts on how to effectively organize for a combined operation," she said.

The value of these cooperative relationships has been proven in recent months when the U.S. Navy operates with partners and allies during disasters such as responding to Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines or in the search for missing airliners.

JBPHH security department launches online newsletter

Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security Department recently launched an online newsletter.

The first issue was released on Jan. 25 and covered such topics as common access cards (CACs), domestic violence, community policing, and active shooter situations. It also featured contact information for various security departments, including the regional dispatch center and Joint Defense Operations Center.

"We started our monthly articles as an initiative to socialize to the base populace any trends or threats that we want them aware of," said Capt. Louis-Philippe Noel, JBPHH security operations officer.

"Furthermore, we want the community aware of what we are doing and that we are here for their protection and security."

Security and law enforcement operations for JBPHH are provided by the Joint Base Security Department (JB2), which is comprised of Navy and Air Force service members, civilians and contractors.

"Our department has taken many strides towards improving our processes and we hope that this initiative, along with our others, will continue to make this installation one of the safest places to live," said Noel.

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security Department newsletter can be viewed via the JBPHH website at www.cnic.navy.mil/pearlharbor-hickam under "base security."

Feeding feral dogs and cats on Navy property is illegal

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii

The Chief of Naval Operations has a policy letter in place "Preventing Feral Cat and Dog Populations on Navy Property." This is a very important issue throughout the Navy, but especially at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The objective of this policy is to prevent injury or disease to Navy personnel and eliminate adverse impacts on native wildlife. It requires Navy commands to institute proactive pet management procedures in order to prevent establishment of free roaming cat and dog populations.

Free roaming cats and dogs pose a potential public health

threat to personnel on Navy installations, and they pose a threat to wildlife including endangered species and migratory birds.

Employees on Navy installations in Hawaii are urged to not feed or protect feral dogs and cats found around work areas on Navy property. All trap/neuter/release programs were disestablished on Navy property Jan. 1, 2003.

Instead, employees should report feral animals to their building/facility manager for proper relocation methods. Managers will submit a TF1 for NAVFAC Hawaii Pest Management to properly trap and relocate. For lost or stray dogs, please report them to the Hawaiian Humane Society at 356-2228.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert speaks with Sailors at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during an all-hands call Feb. 6. Greenert also spoke with a group of senior U.S. and International maritime officers at a Combined Force Maritime Component Commander Course held at the U.S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, and met with Adm. Samuel J. Locklear III, commander of U.S. Pacific Command.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC Peter D. Lawlor

(Right) Quartermaster Seaman Ashley Martindale shoots bearings as the guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) passes the Battleship Missouri Memorial during an independent deployer certification (IDCERT) exercise held Feb. 9.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC John M. Hageman



(Left) An UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter from the Army's 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (25 CAB) over-flies the guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88) and the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) during an independent deployer certification (IDCERT) exercise.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC John M. Hageman



(Left) Members of the 15th Wing staff agencies perform a buddy check after donning mission oriented protection posture four during a chemical, biological, radiation, nuclear and explosive exercise Feb. 6 at base X at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

(Below) Senior Airman Tavarus Thomas, 647th Security Forces Squadron patrolman, left, and Senior Airman Justin Rager, a 647th SFS entry controller, right, perform buddy care on an injured Airman after a simulated attack during a chemical, biological, radiation, nuclear and explosive exercise.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden



(Left) Senior Airman Amber Acosta, 15th Comptroller Squadron financial services technician, checks M-8 paper to check for simulated contamination during a chemical, biological, radiation, nuclear and explosive exercise.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

USS Hawaii visits Yokosuka during western Pacific deployment

Lt. j.g. G.P. Hahn

USS Hawaii (SSN 776) Public Affairs

FLEET ACTIVITIES YOKOSUKA, Japan (NNS) — The Virginia-class, fast-attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776), homeported at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, returned Feb. 5 to Fleet Activities Yokosuka for a visit as part of its deployment to the western Pacific.

Hawaii's crew of 134 has been underway in the Pacific on a successful deployment for several months.

"The Hawaii crew has been excited to meet the challenges and experiences we have tackled so far in this western Pacific deployment," said Cmdr. William Patterson,



The Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776) returns to Fleet Activities Yokosuka for a port visit. U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Declan Barnes

commanding officer of Hawaii.

Many of the crew members were excited to have the opportunity to visit Japan again.

"I really love the Japanese culture," said Machinist's Mate Fireman Oszaldo Guiterrez.

"It's very different than what I've experienced before. I never thought I would visit [Japan] but am even more excited to go back. I want to visit some historic temples and sites that I wasn't able to see last time."

Measuring more than 377 feet long and weighing more than 8,600 tons when submerged, Hawaii is one of the most advanced submarines in the world. Hawaii is the third Virginia-class submarine and is one of the United States' newest fast-attack submarines.

Borchers Gate to be closed during Great Aloha Run Feb. 16

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

In support of the 31st annual Great Aloha Run on Presidents Day, Feb. 16, Borchers Gate will be closed. Luapele Gate will be the alternate gate between the hours of 7 to 11 a.m.

In addition, Center Drive and Radford Drive will not be accessible by Kamehameha Highway.

Makalapa Gate will be open inbound and modified outbound to allow east-bound traffic between the hours of 7 and 11 a.m. Kuntz Gate access by Elliot Street will be modified outbound to allow east-bound traffic on Nimitz Highway only. Catlin Drive, Camp Catlin

Drive, Peltier Avenue and Puuloa Road will not be accessible from Nimitz Highway.

The 8.15-mile run will start at sunrise from the Aloha Tower Marketplace, proceed down Nimitz and Kamehameha Highways and end at Aloha Stadium.

Several water aid stations will be available along the route, including a water aid station on Kamehameha Highway near Borchers Gate.

More than 22,000 participants are expected and a portion of the proceeds will benefit local military assistance programs.

For more information, visit www.greataloharun.com.

Wounded Warrior Pacific Trials event needs volunteers

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Navy Region Hawaii (NRH) will host the Wounded Warrior Pacific Trials from March 9 to 13.

NRH is seeking volunteers to support this event.

Athletes from the trials will be selected to represent the Navy and Coast Guard at the annual warrior games in fall 2015. Events will include wheelchair basketball, seated volleyball, swimming, track and field, archery, shooting and cycling.

Approximately 150 to 200 volunteers will be required to ensure that this wounded warrior pacific trials is successful. Volunteers will provide a supportive presence during events, including providing assistance to the athletes and coaches during the various events.

NRH is also soliciting sponsors for athletes to support them during the events. Responsibilities will be to meet athletes at the Honolulu airport upon arrival, attend meet and greet meetings, and attend athletes' competitions during the weeklong trials.

Volunteering to become an athlete sponsor is a demanding responsibility, as volunteers will be the athlete's primary point of contact while he or she is on island competing during the trials.

Sponsorship is open up to commands as well as individuals.

Events and locations are as follows:

- Swimming at Scott Pool, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Iolani High School.
- Track and field at Earhart Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Iolani High School.
- Cycling at a location to be determined.
- Wheelchair basketball at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.
- Seated volleyball at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.
- Meet and greet at Hickam Beach.

Service members and commands desiring to volunteer should contact the following personnel Christopher.Creek@navy.mil or 472-8881, ext. 332 no later than Feb. 28.

Service members and commands wanting to sponsor an athlete should contact Kimberly.Hanscom@navy.mil or 471-5522 no later than Feb. 28.

There will be a mandatory brief for all athlete sponsors and event coordinators from 9 to 10:30 a.m. March 2 at Hickam Theater.

Commissaries announce Presidents Day holiday hours

In observance of Presidents Day on Feb. 16 the Pearl Harbor Commissary will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Hickam Commissary will be open from 10

a.m. to 6 p.m. on the holiday.

For more information, call the Pearl Harbor Commissary at 471-8402, ext. 101 or the Hickam Commissary at 449-1363.

Logistics officers tour 735th Air Mobility Squadron

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

The Kanaloa Chapter of the Logistics Officer Association (LOA) received a tour Jan. 29 of the 735th Air Mobility Squadron at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The behind-the-scenes tour of the squadron brought together logistics and maintenance officers from the 15th Wing, Pacific Air Forces and the 154th Wing for an inside look at the squadron's day-to-day operations.

During the tour, members of LOA were educated on the inner workings of an air mobility squadron including passenger services, air freight, air terminal operations center and Air Mobility Command Control Center.

"This was a great opportunity to expose maintenance and logistics readiness officers to the different tribes across the logistics enterprise," said Capt. Blake Johnson, aerial port operations officer. "This LOA-sponsored tour bridged some of our interconnected processes and allowed our maintenance brothers and sisters to get a first person perspective on aerial port operations."

Maj. Jerry Copeland, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Air Force Tech. Sgt. George Welliver, left, 72nd Aerial Port Squadron cargo journeyman, shows Capt. Kelly Womble, 15th Maintenance Squadron Maintenance Flight commander, how to tighten procedures for belly bands during a demonstration of palette buildup at the 735th Air Mobility Squadron aerial port.

commander and president of the LOA Kanaloa Chapter, said the purpose of the event was to build relationships, increase cross-organizational job awareness and reduce mission delays through education.

According to Copeland, the tour was especially important considering the unique relationship the officers share. Though most LOA members work at different duty centers, all of the officers belong to the logistics career field which includes not only supply, transportation and readiness officers but also maintenance officers.

"We all want to know the impact we have on one another and how we can work together to accomplish the mission," said Capt. Kelly Womble, 15th Maintenance Flight commander and vice president of the LOA Kanaloa Chapter. "Events like these help us see the big picture and things that go on that we don't normally see. It's good to know the 'why' behind the 'what' when it comes to how things are done."

1st Lt. Clint Johnson, KC-135 aircraft maintenance unit officer in charge, said he had never been to the aerial port or seen a palette buildup prior to the LOA tour.

"Being able to get out here and get hands-on experience and eyes on the process is definitely beneficial and a better way to learn

about the operation," he said.

Copeland said most of the officers in attendance work in positions that directly contribute to or impact the 735th AMS mission, so it is important for them to understand their part in the process.

"I know for maintenance officers it's very easy to get focused on the task at hand and get tunnel vision, but it's so important to take time to understand the other moving parts," he said.

Though the tour was the first event of its kind for the officers, Copeland said he looks forward to setting up more opportunities to professionally develop the members in the future.

"The LOA is a professional organization for logistics and maintenance officers, and this gives us a chance to network within our career field," Copeland said.

In addition to networking, Copeland said LOA events also aid young officers in becoming better leaders.

"The more we know about each other and how things operate, the better we're able to lead our Airmen and help them understand what is needed to accomplish the mission," he said.

Copeland said ultimately the tour and the LOA is about coming together to support other logistics and maintenance officers and work together as a team.

Military Saves Week events offer financial tips

Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

The Military and Family Support Center will offer extra financial help to service members during Military Saves Week which runs Feb. 23-27.

Military Saves Week is a Department of Defense (DoD)-sponsored event that gives service members and their families an opportunity to receive free financial support to help them save money, reduce debt and



build wealth.

"It will give people a chance to take a look at their finances and see what they are actually doing right and what they can do better," said Debbie Blunt, an accredited financial counselor at the JBPHH Military and Family Support Center.

In observance of Military Saves Week, there will be a

financial fair Feb. 24 at the Hickam Exchange. Financial counselors, banks and other financial organizations from the local community will be on hand to help service members achieve their financial goals by providing savings advice, financial tools, resources and motivation.

In addition, there will be classes held by the JBPHH MFSC throughout the month of February. The focus of this year's military saves week is "Set a Goal, Make a Plan, Save Automatically."

According to Blunt, it is easy to set a goal, but much more difficult to meet that goal. Military Saves can help service members keep their financial goal with the Military Saves Pledge.

"This year we want to make this a pledge campaign, whether it is saving money to take a trip or whatever they want to save money for," Blunt said. "Getting people to take that pledge is important. I think once you make that pledge, it is a little easier to stick [to a plan]."

After making a pledge, service members will be contacted by someone from the Consumer Federation of America, the DoD's official financial readiness nonprofit partner, to follow up on their progress and answer any questions they may have.

Service members and their families can find more information and resources through Military Saves on line at www.militarysaves.org and through JBPHH MFSC at www.greatlifeohawaii.com. Classes are as follows:

Feb. 17-18, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Million Dollar Sailor/Airman (NCTAMS, Wahiawa)

Feb. 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Couponing Class.

Feb. 24, 5-7 p.m., 'Til Debt Do Us Part (Financial Class for Couples).

Feb. 24, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Financial Fair: Hickam Exchange.

Feb. 25, 1-3 p.m., Financial Planning for Retirement.

Feb. 25, 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m., Financially Savvy Retirees.