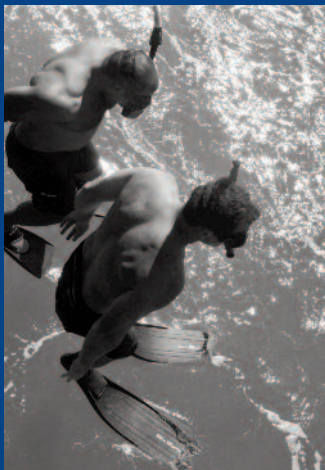


MDSU 1 Sailors recover NASA's LDSD

(Far right) Sailors assigned to Mobile Diving Salvage Unit (MDSU) 1 Explosive Ordnance Detachment recover the test vehicle for NASA's low-density supersonic decelerator (LDSD) off the coast of the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai. NASA's LDSD project is designed to investigate and test breakthrough technologies for landing future robotic and human Mars missions, and safely returning large payloads to Earth.

(Right) Sailors assigned to Mobile Diving Salvage Unit (MDSU) 1 Explosive Ordnance Detachment prepare to recover the test vehicle for NASA's low-density supersonic decelerator (LDSD) off the coast of the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai.

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



Hawaii Raptors surge to new sorties record

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

A record breaking number of F-22 Raptor sorties were successfully launched June 6 from the runway at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Pilots of the F-22 from the Hawaii Air National Guard's 199th Fighter Squadron and the 19th Fighter Squadron (FS) teamed up with maintenance Airmen from the 154th Wing and 15th Maintenance Group to launch and recover 62 Raptors in a day.

A sortie surge, or an increase in flying operations, simulates wartime operations, which is higher than the standard training tempo. The increase in sorties tested the flying capability of the total force integration squadron known as the Hawaii Raptors.

Operators, maintainers and supporting personnel all played their parts to set the new record.

"Morale seemed to be at an all-time high, with pilots literally grinning from ear to ear," said Lt. Col Justin Spears, 19th FS commander.

"Spirits seemed equally high on the maintenance side. When I went out to the ramp, I was continually asked by every main-



Two F-22 Raptors take off during a sortie surge from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on June 6.

tainer I saw, 'What's the sortie count?' and 'How many are we going to get?' Those men and women

did an absolutely phenomenal job quick turning jets, fixing broken aircraft, replacing tires when

plugs blew, and running the hot pits," Spears said.

According to Spears, in a nor-

mal week about 50 sorties are scheduled. By flying 62 sorties, the Hawaii Raptors flew more than they would ever fly or schedule in the normal five-day flying week.

The previous record was 46 sorties in one day with 14 aircraft. This record was broken using only 12 of the 18 aircraft in the smallest F-22 squadron in the Air Force.

"This proves that we are a much more confident unit," said Staff Sgt. Alan Michael Warner, 154th Maintenance Squadron. "We have gained a lot of experience and knowledge on this aircraft. We know how to attack issues and succeed with the mission."

In order to fly as many sorties as possible, pilots and maintainers conducted hot pit refueling, a procedure performed to rapidly refuel the aircraft and allow it to complete a second sortie in a short amount of time.

During a hot pit refuel, the pilot will stay in the cockpit with the jet running while the maintenance crews perform safety checks and refuel the aircraft, allowing it to return to flight in minimum time.

"Our maintainers got 12 aircraft out on the line and got them flying and not only started with 12 but then launched another 12 and another 12 and kept it going until we got 62 sorties," said Spears. "This would not have happened if not for the Airmen working the jets."

Teams work together to repair USS Arizona Memorial

CE2 (SCW)

Lisa A Spherhake
CBMU 303 Detachment
Pearl Harbor

Brandon Bosworth
Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

Service members and civilians from the Navy and National Park Service completed dock repairs June 4 to the USS Arizona Memorial.

On May 27, the dock of the USS Arizona Memorial was damaged as USNS Mercy left the harbor. A team immediately began assessing and repairing the dock, which had been mangled and moved 10 feet from its original location.

The repairs included demolishing and removal of damaged railing, metal decking and seats for the brow, as well as repairing damaged electrical, welding a new rail system, and installing new metal decking. With a goal of getting the job done as quickly as possible, the crew worked late into the evenings to accomplish the task in time.

Capt. Stanley Keeve,



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter
Navy and National Park Service officials and guests participate in a traditional Hawaiian blessing at the floating dock of the USS Arizona Memorial at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The ceremony marks the completion of repairs to the floating dock and a reopening to the public. (Additional photo on page A-5.)

commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, praised the team's work.

"The repair effort to get the Arizona Memorial back in operation was an incredible act of dedication and hard work among several commands including our Joint Base Operations (JB3), Mobile Diving Salvage Unit One (MDSU-1), Navy Seabees from CBMU 303, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Walt Leonard

from Naval Inactive Ships Maintenance facility, Seal Delivery Vehicle Team One (SDVT-1)," he said.

"There were several units and individuals who really stood out during the entire evolution, and they were MDSU-1. MDSU-1 provided diving support for six consecutive days, to include weekends to re-set the anchoring points to the memorial's mooring platform. This underwater work was

demanding and was critical to restoring safe harbor operations.

"They were led by Chief Warrant Officer Michael Miller and Master Chief (MDV) Costin and CBMU 303. Last but not least, the dedication of Cmdr. Mojica, the JBPHH chief staff officer, who took charge of organizing and recruiting the appropriate talent, too, obtained the results we did," Keeve said.

Master Chief Navy Diver James Costin from MDSU-1 said he and the rest of the crew were working on the memorial "from dawn to dusk" every day. Costin was especially honored to be involved with the repair project because of his family's history.

"My great-uncle was stationed at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, serving aboard the USS West Virginia," he said. "The memorial has a huge meaning for me and my family."

Steelworker 1st Class (SCW) William Stimson was in charge of leading the crew from Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 303 Detachment Pearl Harbor.

"I felt honored to work on a historical site. We were willing to work all hours of the day, so that family members of the fallen would be able to pay their respects. It was great to work inside our rate and do the needed fabrication work," he said.

"The crew worked very hard and answered every need. I feel privileged to work alongside fellow

Seabees and continue to distribute the 'can do' spirit for others to follow," he said.

For Builder 2nd Class (SCW) Roland Palacios, it was an exciting change of work environment.

"The opportunity to do work on the USS Arizona Memorial was a good way to have our work seen by civilians and not just by other military members. It's great to work on something so world renowned and one of the biggest tourist destinations on Pearl Harbor," Palacios said.

"The attack on Pearl Harbor was the reason for the formation of the Seabees, and it was an honor to be a part of the crew that did the repairs."

The USS Arizona was sunk during the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Many of the remains of the 1,117 U.S. military personnel that perished during the attack are still inside the sunken ship. It is considered an active U.S. military cemetery with more than one million visitors to the memorial annually.



Joint Base, 15th Wing commanders sign defense anti-terrorism plan See page A-2



Author Craig Symonds offers insight on Battle of Midway See page A-2



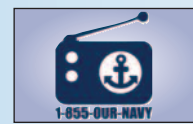
Col. Bull Kirkendall offers reflections on command See page A-3



Eye of the storm - JBPHH tests 'alternate port' during HURREX See page A-7



Keiki have 'reel' fun at fishing tournament See page B-1



Father's Day shout out for all Sailors See page B-6

Joint Base, 15th Wing commanders sign defense anti-terrorism plan

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

The Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Integrated Defense Antiterrorism Plan (IDAP) was signed June 4 by Navy Capt. Stanley Keeve Jr, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), and Col. Randall Huiss, 15th Wing commander, at JBPHH.

According to Lt. Col Juan Silva, 647th Security Forces Squadron (SFS) commander, the integrated defense and antiterrorism plan covers all areas of responsibility that falls under the joint base commander (JBC) and the 15 Wing/CC. The JBC is responsible for base operation support to the entire installation and the 15



Col. Randall Huiss, left, 15th Wing commander, and Navy Capt. Stanley Keeve Jr., Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam commander, sign the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Integrated Defense Antiterrorism Plan, June 4, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Wing/CC commander has the sole responsibility as the senior airfield authority,

that the mission sets of protecting air and sea power must be synchronized.

“This plan allows stakeholders and my security forces team at the authority

of the JBC and in coordination with the 15 Wing/CC to execute their security intent,” said Silva. “It leaves nothing to be guessed by stakeholders or my forces. My forces are trained and now have good doctrine to operate under.”

Master Sgt. Russel Raymundo, noncommissioned officer in charge of integrated defense for the 647th SFS, said the JBPHH IDAP provides requirement guidelines and procedures for implementing integrated defense and antiterrorism strategies. It establishes a standard blueprint to defeat a myriad of threats, safeguarding personnel, critical resources, and weapon system platforms.

He added that the plan provides clear, concise and executable strategies to sup-

port warfighter needs while maintaining security on the installation.

“The plan, that has been three years in the making, it is the first ever joint integrated defense anti-terrorism plan to be completed and signed between the JBC and the 15 Wing/CC,” said Raymundo.

“It is a significant milestone for JBPHH and reflects the ongoing security synchronization across the Joint Base, ensuring the people and critical wartime assets are protected,” he said.

After signing the JBPHH IDAP, Huiss said, “I appreciate all the work that went into the IDAP. It is great to see joint signature documents like this that are moving the joint base structure forward.”

Author Craig Symonds offers insight on Battle of Midway

(Part 2)

Jim Neuman

Navy Region Hawaii
historian

(This is part 2 of an interview with Craig Symonds, professor of history emeritus at the United States Naval Academy, who was in Hawaii last week to speak on the subject of the Battle of Midway as part of the commemoration of the battle's 73rd anniversary.)

Last week marked the 73rd anniversary of the Battle of Midway, the outcome of which proved to be a significant turning point in the Pacific theater of World War II.

“Many valuable lessons have been gleaned from the battle as outlined by award-winning author Craig Symonds in his book ‘The Battle of Midway.’ In the end, he concludes that though good fortune



Craig Symonds

certain extent from Congress and others to focus more effort and energy in the Pacific.

“The overall Anglo-American strategy was to defeat Germany first because they were by far the most dangerous foe that we faced, and only after Germany was defeated would we begin an offensive against Japan.

“Because of the way that the attack on Pearl Harbor had unfolded, the American people were furious about this and wanted to strike at the Japanese. So there was political pressure to not abandon the ‘Germany First’ strategy but to modify it enough so that Japan got a lot of attention.

“Had we lost the Battle of Midway, or had it been anything less than a stunning American victory, then that political pressure would have remained. Because it was an American success, it made it politi-

cally possible for Roosevelt and the Anglo-American alliance to maintain the military concentration on the European theater.”

Q: You mention several times in your book that the Japanese suffered from ‘victory disease.’ What is victory disease?

A: “Victory disease is a cautionary tale for all of us at all times. The stock market will always keep going up, real estate property values will always be going up, and we will always win victories.

“The Japanese had won a series of rather astonishing victories from the very day of Pearl Harbor.

“The fact is that they got their fleet across the Pacific to strike Pearl Harbor undetected and got away scot-free and captured every one of their goals for the first year of the war within a few months with very few losses and made it look easy.

“And it can happen in anything, even as benign as a sports team that expects to win.

“Now on the one hand you expect to win, but if you expect to win without working at it, bad things will happen.

“So victory disease is simply the phrase that suggests over-confidence. And in the case of the Japanese, it also suggested a cultural superiority. They had a kind of dismissive attitude about American ‘stick-to-it-tiveness,’ that we would give up, and that assumption was part of this as well.”

Q: How does that contrast with your contention in the book that Adm. Nimitz ‘expected to win?’

A: “The Japanese expected to win because of an innate superiority. Nimitz expected to win because he was confronting the narrative of Japanese superiority.

“From Adm. Nimitz’s standpoint, you start with code breaking—the fact that he had just enough information from his intelligence sources to know the target was Midway, the timetable and the instrument, which was the carrier force.

“This gave him enough of an edge that he believed that this was worth following through. ‘I can put my carriers in quite literally the last place they are going to look.’

“Both sides knew that whoever got off the first strike was going to have a tremendous advantage. ‘And if I know they are coming and they don’t know I know, then I can get that first strike.’

“When I say he expected to win, I don’t mean that he took it for granted. I mean that he believed it was possible.”

For the full interview with Dr. Symonds go to <http://ow.ly/O9inc>.

Commentary

Col. Bull Kirkendall offers reflections on command

Col. David "Bull" Kirkendall

Deputy Commander, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Commander, 647th Air Base Group



Col. David "Bull" Kirkendall

As my June 19 change of command approaches, I wanted to take some time to share some thoughts on my time here at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

First off, I'd like to say, thank you. Installation support activities, and certainly harbor operations, were not things I was familiar with prior to assuming command of the 647th Air Base Group and assuming my role as the Joint Base deputy commander.

I want to thank all of the men and women—both Air Force and Navy, active duty and civilian—who took the time to teach me what I needed to know and who were very patient with me as I asked a LOT of questions.

The men and women who support the mission of the

Joint Base are simply amazing. They do literally thousands of things every day that go largely unnoticed, from ensuring the lights are on and water is flowing, to providing security and personnel support, to executing logistics operations and communications support. Each and every day, we operate a small city: billeting, entertainment, transportation of visiting personnel. United States and foreign dignitaries and heads of

state happen here with incredible frequency.

The things that just seem to "happen" and we take for granted are what these amazing Airmen, Sailors and civilians do each and every day, 24 hours a day. It was my distinct honor and privilege to serve alongside of these amazing people. Our mission at the installation wouldn't be complete without mentioning numerous supporting activities that ensure mission accomplishment and quality of life.

The Joint Base Chapel, Navy Exchange, Federal Fire Department Hawaii, Defense Commissary Agency and Military Family Support Center, to name a few, are critical to our mission and support of our families. It is through incredible

teamwork and unity of effort that we manage the scope and complexity of the missions of this base.

Many times people asked me if I felt like I was losing my Air Force identity as a result of the command structure here at the base. It seems that those who have not had the opportunity to see things through the lens that we do at the installation feel that there must be a choice. Many people feel that it is either Air Force or Navy and they never seem to consider that there is another way.

We strive to tackle the issues of the installation the best way we can—and service parochialism doesn't hamper us. Each and every day, we remain committed to the mission of the entire

Joint Base and work through tough problems to ensure that all of our activities and commands receive the support they need to accomplish their missions.

What I will remember the most are the amazing people who dedicated themselves each and every day to making their part of the base just a little bit better—those who refused to accept the status quo, those who challenged conventional service means and methods to find a better way.

I will cherish the times I had sharing in the immense historical significance of this base, and I will forever carry a greater understanding of the word sacrifice. I know there are some things we improved, and I know there are some things I wanted to

get done, and ran out of time.

The great thing is, the mission of the base will keep moving forward as new personnel arrive to pick up where we left off. As always, the base is in great hands, and it won't skip a beat. That's because of all of you.

Thanks for everything, and I look forward to seeing you in the future.

(Col. Bull Kirkendall will be relieved by Col. Richard ("Renzy") Smith during a change of command ceremony at 8:30 a.m. June 19 at the Missing Man Formation Memorial at JBPHH. Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, will be the guest speaker.)

Joint Base commemorates Station Hypo



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter

Daniel A. Martinez, National Park Service chief historian, speaks during a commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of the Battle of Midway at Station Hypo at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The Battle of Midway, which took place June 4-7, 1942, was a decisive victory for the U.S. Navy and is regarded as the turning point of the war in the Pacific. Station Hypo was the communications intelligence unit that was instrumental in anticipating Imperial Japan's attempted invasion of Midway.

Diverse Views



What was your first car, and what do you remember about it?



ITC Chester Presa
DISA PAC

"A 1993 Acura Integra. It was a used car but very reliable. It was so reliable, I passed it to my brother and it became his first car."

Tech. Sgt. Lashonna Wooten
HQ PACAF



"My first car was a 1979 Ford Mustang. I remember how much I hated it but everyone else would ask to buy it. It cost me \$400. I drove it for three years. I never understood why people wanted it until years later. Now I wish I had it."



Retired YNCM Jim Taylor
Navy Region Hawaii

"An old Plymouth Club Coupe. I remember wrecking it the first time I ever drove it because of snow on the road."

Master Sgt. Paul Kimmins
17th Operational Weather Squadron



"My first car was a 1987 Honda Civic. It had an exhaust manifold leak that I thought was an engine fire the first time I noticed it. It also had a cracked head, but still got me from place to place."



MA1 Jorge Galindo
JBPHH

"1990 Ford Thunderbird. Someone stole the radio out of the car and I never got it replaced. From where the radio used to be, hung two loose wires that every time the wires touched metal, it would cause a spark. It made for excitement driving over huge bumps!"

Senior Airman Joshua Wyant
766th Specialized Contracting Squadron



"My first car was a 2004 Chevy Blazer. I'll always remember how it always wanted something to be wrong with it. I would fix one thing, only to have something else break."



Lt. James Hogan
CREDO Hawaii

"A 1990 Ford Ranger. It had nice rims!"

Col. Mary Carlisle
15th Medical Group



"My first car was a yellow VW Bug. It was rusted out and you could actually see the ground beneath the floor mats. I had to wrap the seatbelt through the door handle to keep it closed."

Provided by Lt. Damall Martin 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

Thunderbolts readied to be ferried



Photo courtesy of the Hawaii Department of Transportation, Airports Division

Republic P-45 Thunderbolts are pushed into place on the deck of the aircraft carrier USS Natoma Bay, which will ferry the planes from Pearl Harbor to Saipan on June 1, 1944.

HO'OKELE

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USS Mississippi holds change of command ceremony

Story and photo by
MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific
Fleet Public Affairs

Cmdr. Eric Rozek relieved Cmdr. Michael Lockett as commanding officer of the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Mississippi (SSN 782) at a change of command ceremony held June 5 at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

As Rozek assumed command of Mississippi, he expressed how honored and humbled he is to be selected to take charge of such a professional and accomplished group of submariners.

"It is an honor and privilege to serve as your commanding officer," said Rozek.

"To the crew and the families of the Mississippi, it has been a pleasure getting to know each of you and thank you for your professionalism and openness throughout turnover. Here in Pearl Harbor, we are surrounded by many



Cmdr. Michael Lockett is piped ashore after being relieved by Cmdr. Eric Rozek as commanding officer of the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Mississippi (SSN 782) during a change of command ceremony June 5 at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

reminders of what it could mean to serve our great nation," he said.

"In the state of Mississippi, Mississippi State University athletic victories were eloquently expressed by the late Jack Cristil. He defined tradition, history, spirit, dedica-

tion, loyalty, courage and honor through one voice, one maxim, 'wrap it in maroon and white.' We know Mississippi may be called upon to be the country's sentinel and vanguard; we will be ready. We will continue the tradition as expressed by Mr. Cristil. We

will 'wrap it in maroon and white.'"

The ceremony's guest speaker, Capt. Chris Kaiser, director of maintenance and material readiness for submarine force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, welcomed Rozek and his family with a warm aloha.

"Eric, I know you are excited and ready for the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead," said Kaiser. "Stand fast in your commitment to ensuring that Mississippi remains agile, adaptive and always ready to fight and win."

Kaiser praised Lockett and the entire Mississippi crew. "I could not be more proud of you personally and of your accomplishments. You've been a fantastic leader and advocate for this Mississippi team. The Navy and our nation owe you a debt of gratitude. To the crew of Mississippi, congratulations for the outstanding work all of you do on a daily basis," he said.

"Operating technical marvels like this ship takes collective wisdom, strength and dedication of a focused and disciplined team. Stay sharp and keep that focus as you train and prepare Mississippi for future operations," he said.

Lockett expressed appreciation to his crew for their hard work and dedication while he was in command of the submarine.

"To the warriors of Mississippi, this day is truly about you," said Lockett. "I am honored and humbled to have been a part of this great crew. The resiliency and commitment you have shown to accomplish this is a worthy testament to generations of American Sailors who have come to the Pacific to defend our nation."

"The Navy, our nation and our allies will continue to deliver undersea superiority. I am certain you will rise to each new challenge and you will continue to make me proud, for this is not just what you do, it's who you are—submarine warriors," he said.

USS Mississippi is the fourth and newest Virginia-class fast attack submarine to be homeported in Pearl Harbor. The submarine is 377-feet long, displaces 7,800 tons, and is equipped to carry torpedoes and Tomahawk missiles. It possesses the capacity to insert special operations forces into a multitude of environments and battlefield scenarios.

Now is time to start preparing for hurricanes

Tech. Sgt.
Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

Now is the time to think about the safety of your family and remember the importance of natural disaster preparedness.

Hawaii's hurricane season began June 1 and will continue through Nov. 30.

Being prepared means understanding the potential threats to you and your family's safety and making plans in advance. It is important that your family knows what to do in the event of a natural disaster.

According to the website ready.gov, making and reviewing your family emergency plan can be key to keeping everyone together. Your family should set at least two meeting locations in the event your family is separated.

Develop your family communications plan to include someone out-of-state to be your "family contact," since after a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance. Other family members should call this person and report in. This will allow you to stay in touch even when you can't talk directly.

The website also recommends having a fully stocked

disaster supply kit, and it is a simple way to ensure you will be prepared.

According to Staff Sgt. Travis McManus from the 15th Wing Ground Safety Office, you should have food and water to last each family member for seven days.

"We live in a geographically isolated location that receives 95 percent of its food supply from the mainland," said McManus. "The island of Oahu typically only has about three days of food supply on island to restock food in grocery stores, so it is important that each family has a fully stocked disaster kit."

Ready.gov recommends

that a disaster supply kit have, at a minimum, one gallon of water per person per day, for drinking and sanitation. Additionally, you should have non-perishable foods that don't require reheating, refrigeration or water to prepare.

It is also recommended that you have cash, battery-operated radio, flashlights, candles, and don't forget the can opener.

Knowing the dangers of a hurricane is critical to preparation.

McManus explained that a hurricane is a type of tropical cyclone or severe tropical storm that forms in the

ocean. A typical cyclone is accompanied by high winds, heavy rains, flash flooding, high waves and storm surge. The Saffir-Simpson Wind Scale measures a hurricane's strength, severity and classifies hurricanes into five categories based on their sustained wind speed at the indicated time. The categories are:

Category 1 hurricane, winds from 74 to 95 mph with a four to five-foot storm surge.

Category 2 hurricane, winds from 96 to 110 mph with a six to eight-foot storm surge.

Category 3 hurricane,

winds from 111 to 130 mph with a nine to 12-foot storm surge.

Category 4 hurricane, winds from 131 to 155 mph with a 13 to 18-foot storm surge.

Category 5 hurricane, winds greater than 155 mph with a storm surge greater than 18 feet.

A hurricane's storm surge can be just as dangerous as the high winds.

According to ready.gov, a storm surge is water that is pushed toward the shore by the force of the winds swirling around the storm. This advancing surge combines with the normal tides

to create the hurricane storm tide, which can increase the normal water level, affecting roads, homes and other critical infrastructure.

If a hurricane threatens the island of Oahu, it is important to stay informed by watching local news and listening to local radio stations. You can also get updates about the storm preparations through the 15th Wing Facebook.

(For more information on preparing your home and your family for a hurricane, visit www.15wing.af.mil, www.ready.gov or www.redcross.org/hi/honolulu.)

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Cmdr. Michael Lockett, right, passes command of the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Mississippi (SSN 782) to Cmdr. Eric Rozek during a ceremony June 5, which was overseen by Capt. Timothy Rexrode, commander of Submarine Squadron 1. (Story and additional photo on page A-4.)

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Steven Khor



(Above) Sailors assigned to the guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65), homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, lead the sea services section of the Grand Floral Parade, a highlight of the 106th annual Rose Festival, on June 5 during Portland Fleet Week in Portland, Ore. The festival and Portland Fleet Week are a celebration of the sea services, with Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen from the U.S. and Canada making the city a port of call.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Cory Asato



(Left) Seabees weld the dock to the USS Arizona Memorial as they complete repairs. The structure was damaged as the USNS Mercy departed JBPHH on May 27.

U.S. Navy photo by BUC (SCW) Nicholas Hoffman

(Right) Kahu Kauila Clark, right, leads a prayer during a blessing ceremony at the floating dock of the USS Arizona Memorial at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The ceremony marks the completion of repairs to the floating dock and a reopening to the public.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter



Eye of the storm – JBPHH tests ‘alternate port’ during HURREX

Senior Airman Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

What if a hurricane or other natural disaster destroyed the port of Honolulu? How would we respond? How would we feed the state of Hawaii? These questions were the basis of the alternate port exercise, held June 5 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

Hosted by the Hawaii National Guard, Vigilant Guard/Makani Pahili 2015, (VG/MP15) provided an opportunity for the state of Hawaii to improve collaboration efforts in emergency preparation, coordination, response and recovery management with federal, regional, local, civilian and military partners during domestic emergencies and catastrophic events.

The purpose of the alternate port concept exercise is to prepare the state of Hawaii, Navy, Coast Guard and industry response partners for their roles during a major catastrophic event that requires activation of the alternate port at JBPHH.

According to Coast Guard Capt. Shannon Gilreath, USCG Sector Honolulu commander, approximately 80 percent of the food that enters Hawaii is received through the port of Honolulu. Nearly 2,000 containers are delivered weekly, so in the event of any natural disaster either repairing the port or finding an alternative is critical.

“Hurricane season began on 1 June,” he said. “This exercise could not have come at a better time. This event is the perfect opportunity to test our capabilities and see how we would perform. It also gives us all the chance to make any necessary improvements before any type of real-world event takes place.”

Gilreath also explained that the alternate port addresses the vulnerability of having limited major ports and creates an alternate site for cargo operations to provide essential emergency



U.S. Coast Guard photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Tara Mollen

(In the photos above) Coast Guard crew members observe crane operations June 5 during the Hawaii Alternate Port Concept Full Scale Exercise at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

supplies to the state. One action that addresses this vulnerability was the acquisition of a \$3 million mobile crane, which is currently stationed at the alternate port.

Received through a federal grant from the Department of Homeland Security, the crane allows local shipping companies

easy access during emergency unloading. The crane was specifically created in order to unload seafaring vessels and has the capability of lifting approximately 350 tons at a time using its 260-foot extended telescopic boom.

According to Navy Capt. Rob Espinoza, Navy emergency pre-

paredness liaison officer, JBPHH is merely a host during contingency operations and will turn over the work and the port to the state of Hawaii.

“Our job is to open this part of the base to the (crane) operators,” he said. “The mobile crane adds a new dynamic to our ports and supplies JBPHH with a new

capability we can provide to the state of Hawaii. Having this capability in the event of a real world crisis will not only assist residents, it will save lives.”

The eight-day Vigilant Guard/Makani Pahili 15 exercise began June 1 at multiple locations, on four islands, with more than 2,200 participants.