USS Hopper returns from deployment

Ensign Angelina A. Jones

USS Hopper (DDG 70) Public **Affairs**

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

The guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on May 6 from an independent deployment to the U.S. 5th and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of responsibility.

Since her early September departure, the crew conducted more than 115 approach and assist visits (AAVs), executed 17 underway replenishments, achieved 284 helicopter landing and launching evolutions, and participated in a number of bilateral training exercises with the French, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, British and Kuwaiti navies in support of ballistic missile defense and maritime security operations.

Commanded by Cmdr. Dave Snee, the ship and its crew of nearly 280 Sailors deployed from Hawaii on Sept. 6, 2013 to conduct theater security cooperation and maritime presence operations with partner nations.

"I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication of the Sailors aboard Hopper during this deployment. They have consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty executing our very demanding operational schedule." Snee said.

"I am also very proud of the families of 'Hopper Nation' back home who, through their hard work and constant devotion, have supported us and enabled us to concentrate on our mission."

Hopper conducted maritime security, interdiction operations and practiced humanitarian assistance and anti-piracy operations.

Hopper traveled more than 40,000 nautical miles in the last eight months. The crew had the opportunity to go sightseeing, learn about different cultures, and continue to strengthen United States bilateral relationships with other countries through community service projects with host nations.

"I am proud of the performance of Hopper and her crew on deployment and pleased that the hard Navy Live Blog in a post on "charproud," Parker said. work and preparation for deployment paid off as they executed a full spectrum of operations in [U.S.] 5th and [U.S.] 7th Fleets," stated Capt. Chris Bushnell, commodore of Destroyer Squadron 31.



the sacrifice and support of their loved ones," said Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

The families of USS Hopper have great strength and resiliency in supporting their Sailors," Williams said.

Adm. Grace Hopper in March on that would make her namesake master chief. acter, courage, commitment": http://go.usa.gov/kttF.

Hopper is named after the pio-"We are extremely thankful not tional Medal of Technology and In- as surface warfare officers.

only for their service, but also for novation), the highest honor of its type in the United States.

"It's been an honor and privilege to serve with the crew of the USS Hopper on a second [U.S.] 5th Fleet deployment," said Quartermaster 2nd Class Kathryn Parker, DESRON 31's Junior Sailor of the

"Hopper has completed her mis-Nation" and namesake Rear honor, courage and commitment

During the eight-month deployment, Sailors were able to accomplish many personal and neering computer scientist and re- professional goals. Hopper qualicipient of the National Medal of fied 138 Sailors as enlisted surface Technology (now known as the Na- warfare specialists and 10 officers

choice to re-enlist during deploy-Golden Anchor award for retention excellence. Additionally, during the fall 2013 Navy advancement cycle, more than 20 Sailors were advanced to the next pay grade, including four Sailors selected for commissioning programs and two Williams recognized "Hopper sion with grace and, above all, chiefs who were selected for command senior chief and command

> "What made our deployment successful and special was watching everyone grow and come together to accomplish our mission. Everyone also achieved personal multi-mission, anti-air warfare, goals-whether it was ESWS qual- anti-submarine warfare, and antiification, financial security, commitment to physical fitness or ants.

> Twenty-one Sailors made the cultural enrichment — we all took advantage of this deployment to ment, securing Hopper's 2013 improve ourselves in some way," said Cmdr. Jaja Marshall, Hopper's executive officer.

USS Hopper is homeported in Hawaii, assigned to Destroyer Squadron 31 and part of Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and U.S. 3rd Fleet.

U.S. 3rd Fleet leads naval forces in the eastern Pacific from the west coast of North America to the international dateline and provides the realistic, relevant training necessary for an effective global Navy.

Guided-missile destroyers are surface warfare surface combat-

Airmen participate in Navy combat medic training

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. **Alexander Martinez**

15th Wing Public Affairs

Two Hickam Airmen had their medic skills put to the test while attending Navy combat medic training April 30 through May 2.

Staff Sgt. Shannon, 15th Medical Group, and Senior Airman Jazzmine Rolon, 15th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, participated in tactical combat casualty care (TCCC) training hosted by the Navy.

The quarterly training is designed to teach medics basic combat tactics and medical practices while in combat and to prepare medics for deploying to a combat zone. The three main phases of training were medical care under fire, tactical field care

and tactical evacuation. There's nothing better than teaching a young Sailor or Airman how to effectively engage an enemy, treat their casualty, and get their casu-



While under pressure from instructors, Senior Airman Jazzmine Rolon, 15th Aeromedical Dental Squadron, provides medical care to a simulated injured patient during a tactical combat casualty care course May 2 at Schofield Barracks. Rolon was one of two Air Force personnel in the Navy course.

Navy Hospital Corpsman 2nd (HM2) Class David Shepardson, the lead instructor for the training.

Shepardson said this is the first known time Air side their normal training alty out of the kill zone," said Force medics have partici-

pated in this type of training

"Overall, this class did very well," he said. "For our Air Force students being out-

tastic. They actively participated in the class and were very knowledgeable."

Navy HM1 Trevor Wallace, Naval Health Clinic Hawaii and assistant lead environment, they did fan- instructor of TCCC, said the

training is important and ef- dummy with simulated inmedics adjust to difficult conditions encountered in a combat zone.

"There are a lot of limitations a medic might run into while taking care of someone in combat," Wallace said. "When you're in a [typical] hospital, you're not providing care while surrounded by people who want to kill you. It adds pressure and stress that you wouldn't experience anywhere else."

To try and mimic combat pressure and stress, the instructors "aggressively motivate" the students by talking loud, close and direct.

"It's a pretty intense course," Shannon said. "I didn't know what to expect because I hadn't heard about it. I think every medic should experience this type of training."

The final day culminated with a demanding exercise scenario where students had to navigate past aggressors with paintball guns, enter a dark and smoky "kill house," and treat and recover a port."

fective because it helps juries. Once recovered, the students had to explain to instructors the injuries and methods of treatment, all while under pressure from speakers blaring combat noise and yelling instructors.

> "You find out quickly what it's like to experience fear and pressure while trying to care for someone," Rolon said. "I feel like if you're going to deploy as a medic you should do training like this because it's effective."

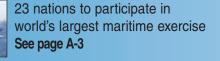
> TCCC instructors hope to have more participation from all military branch medics in future classes.

"We're definitely trying to open this up and make it more of a joint-service training," Wallace said. "Hopefully, having the Air Force train with us is the first step in making that happen."

Shannon shared some advice for medics who plan to attend TCCC in the future: "Be in shape because the class is non-stop and intense, and know your basic life sup-



Hopper Sailors, families welcome their return to islands See page A-2





Bicycle safety tips See page A-4



Sailors and Airmen give 'shout out' See page A-6



It's coming! See page B-1



Beach cleanup See page B-5

Submarine Squadron 7 holds change of command ceremony

Story and photos by MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Capt. Rick Stoner, the commanding officer of Submarine Squadron 7, relinguished command to Capt. Craig Blakely on May 2 during a time-honored change of command ceremony held at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Stoner said he is proud that he had the opportunity to be in command of Submarine Squadron 7 these last two years, working with a fantastic team of Sailors.

The absolute best part of the job was the opportunity to work with the tremendously talented commanding officers and their crews," said

"Skippers, thank you for what you do, thank you for your service, and thank you



Capt. Rick Stoner is piped ashore after being relieved by Capt. Craig Blakely as commanding officer of Submarine Squadron 7 at a change of command ceremony May 2.

The ceremony's guest Fleet, praised Stoner for a job staff at Submarine Force Pafor letting me be a part of speaker, Rear Adm. Phillip well done and said he looks cific Fleet (COMSUBPAC).

your lives and professional Sawyer, commander of Sub- forward to working with him marine Force, U.S. Pacific as he transitions onto the

humility and determination," said Sawyer.

You and your team here at Squadron 7 can be justifi- ing toward the same goals ably proud of all that has been accomplished during operations. This may be the your tenure. Congratulations on a successful tour. I look forward to continuing to work with you on COMSUB-PAC staff," he said.

During the ceremony, Stoner was awarded the Legion of Merit for his command of Squadron 7, serving from August 2012 to May

As Blakely assumed command of Squadron 7, he thanked Stoner for turning over a great command and stressed the importance of continued trust between the Richard H. O'Kane and the command and the submarines.

"For the staff, I am truly II. impressed by your professional excellence," said mander, Submarine Force, Blakely. "As we move for- U.S. Pacific Fleet, visit

"Rick, you have led with build an even stronger relationship of trust between us and the boats. "They must be able to trust we are workthey are, superior deployed first time you hear me preach about building a relationship of trust with the ships, but it will not be the last," Blakely said.

> Through the years, 59 submarines have been assigned to Submarine Squadron 7, with nine Los Angeles-class, nuclear-powered, fast attack submarines currently assigned. The squadron has been commanded by 41 different commodores, including Medal of Honor recipient Rear Adm. former Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Frank B. Kelso

For more news from Comward, I challenge you to www.navy.mil/local/subpac/.

Hopper Sailors, families welcome their return to islands

MC3 Johans Chavarro

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

Friends and family members of the crew from USS Hopper (DDG 70) gathered at the Bravo Piers on May 6 to welcome back the guidedmissile destroyer as it returned to its homeport of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after completing an eight-month independent deployment to the U.S. 5th and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of responsibility.

USS Hopper and its crew of nearly 280 Sailors deployed from Pearl Harbor on Sept. 6, 2013 to conduct theater security cooperation and maritime presence operations with partner nations.

For the Sailors aboard Hopper, returning to the homeport of Pearl Harbor was a long anticipated and welcome event.

"It's amazing," said Sonar Technician (Surface) 2nd Class Corey Hoffman. "There's this tingly feeling, you know? You get the ships blowing their horns, people giving us a 'hoo-rah,' saluting us on our way, and everyone cheering when we got here. It was something special. I've never felt that before."

According to Hoffman, the deployment served to show how his individual efforts came to be a part of a bigger effort—one that, along with the contributions of his ship-



(Left) Seaman Frank Cohen, assigned to the guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70), proposes to his girlfriend Brittany Nanas shortly after a traditional "first kiss" upon the ship's arrival at its homeport at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. (Right) Sailors assigned to USS Hopper disembark the ship upon arrival at its homeport. (See additional photos on page A-5).

mates, has a global impact.

"It's interesting to know impact, that the whole world sees and knows," said Hoffman. "And you're like, 'Oh, hey, I was there. I did that.' It's special and I'm glad I did it. It was definitely a worthwhile experience."

Another Sailor from USS Hopper echoed Hoffman's sentiments.

describe." said Damage Controlman 2nd Class Tiago Thomas. "It's one of those things where it's eight months long, then you come back and it just feels worth it. That feeling, I don't think I'll ever get doing anything else."

Despite the excitement by

the Sailors, their families and friends, those aboard you took part in a real world USS Hopper remained appreciative and proud of their work and their shipmates, who they worked alongside every day during their time at sea.

"It's a great crew, the best ever I've been a part of," said Thomas. "So it's definitely been a great experience that we've had, nobody I would "It's just an emotion I can't rather work with than this Hopper during this deploy-

crew. Technician 3rd Class Samuel call of duty executing our Chittenden, every Sailor on very demanding operational board Hopper is essential to its mission capability.

"Everyone has an important job on board, and we absolutely perfectly," said constant devotion, have sup-

Chittenden. "There was nothing that was overwhelming because everyone just came together when they needed to and never missed a mis-

Hopper's commanding officer, Cmdr. Dave Snee, said he was proud of the dedication of the crew.

"I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication of the Sailors aboard ment. They have consistently According to Electronics gone above and beyond the schedule," said Snee.

"I am also very proud of the families of 'Hopper Nation' back home who, had a lot of things just go through their hard work and

ported us and enabled us to Technology and Innovation), concentrate on our mission."

USS Hopper is named in the United States. after Rear Adm. Grace Hopper, the pioneering com- Hawaii, the National Medal of Fleet.

the highest honor of its type

The ship is homeported in assigned puter scientist and recipient Destroyer Squadron 31 and of the National Medal of part of Naval Surface Group Technology (now known as Middle Pacific and U.S. 3rd

Temporary closure of Whitmore Gate on May 14

The Whitmore Gate to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam's Wahiawa Annex will be closed temporarily from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 14 for scheduled maintenance and a systems test.

Drivers should use Saipan Gate to enter and exit the base during the temporary closure of Whitmore Gate.

President proclaims Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, 2014

By the President of the United States of America

A proclamation During Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, we celebrate the accomplishments of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders, and we reflect on the

our nation. Like America itself, the AAPI community draws strength from the diversity of its many distinct cultures — each with vibrant histories and unique perspectives to bring to our national life.

many ways they have enriched

Native Asian Americans, Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have helped build, defend and ricans, Native Hawaiians, and

as farm workers and railroad laborers, as entrepreneurs and scientists, as artists, activists, and leaders of government. They have gone beyond, embodying the soaring aspirations

American spirit.

This month marks 145 years since the final spike was hammered into the transcontinental railroad, an achievement made possible by Chinese laborers, who did the majority of this backbreaking and dangerous work. This May, they will receive long-overdue recognition as they are inducted into the Labor Hall of

Generations of Asian Ame-

strengthen our nation — Pacific Islanders have helped make this country what it is today. Yet they have also faced a long history of injustice — from the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii and its devastating impact on the history, language and culture of Native Hawaiians; to opportunity-limiting laws like the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and the Immigration Act of 1924; to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

> Even today, South Asian Americans, especially those who are Muslim, Hindu and Sikh, are targets of suspicion and violence.

With courage, grit and an abiding belief in American ideals, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have challenged our nation to be better and my administration remains committed to doing its part.

Nearly five years ago, I reestablished the White House Initiative on AAPIs. The initiative hard-fought progress, let us addresses disparities in health care, education and economic opportunity by ensuring Asian laws respect everyone, civil rights Americans and Pacific Islanders receive equal access to government programs and services.

We are also determined to pass comprehensive immigration reform that would modernize our legal immigration system, create a pathway to earned citizenship for undocumented immigrants, hold employers accountable, and strengthen our border security.

These commonsense measures would bring relief to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have experienced this broken system firsthand, and they would Islanders and to observe this allow our country to welcome month with appropriate programs more highly skilled workers eager and activities.

to contribute to America's success. This month, as we recall our resolve to continue moving forward. Together, let us ensure the apply to everyone, and everyone who works hard and plays by the rules has a chance to get ahead.

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 May 2014 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to visit www.WhiteHouse.gov/AAPI to learn more about the history of Asian Americans and Pacific



U.S. 3rd Fleet Public **Affairs**

aircraft and 25,000 personnel will participate in the bi-SAN DIEGO - Twenty- ennial Rim of the Pacific three nations, 47 ships, six (RIMPAC) exercise sched-

submarines, more than 200 uled June 26 to Aug. 1 in and mander of the CTF and RIMPAC for the first time in ercises as well as counteraround the Hawaiian Islands.

> The world's largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity that helps participants foster and sustain the cooperative relationships that are critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans. RIMPAC 2014 is the 24th exercise in the series that began in

> Hosted by U.S. Pacific Fleet, RIMPAC 2014 will be led by U.S. Vice Adm. Kenneth Floyd, commander of the U.S. 3rd Fleet (C3F), who will serve as the combined

> task force (CTF) commander. Royal Australian Navy Rear Adm. Simon Cullen will serve as deputy com-

Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Rear Adm. Yasuki Nakahata as the vice commander. Other key leaders of the multinational force will include Rear Adm. Gilles Couturier of the Royal Canadian Navy, who will command the maritime component; Air Commodore Chris Westwood of the Royal Australian Air Force, who will command the air component; and the land component will be led by Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Richard

RIMPAC 2014 will also include for the first time a special operations component to be led by U.S. Navy Capt. William Stevens.

Simcock

Two nations, Brunei and erations, gunnery,

2014.

Also for the first time at RIMPAC this year, two hospital ships, USNS Mercy and PLA (N) Peace Ark, will participate in the exercise.

The theme of RIMPAC 2014 is "Capable, Adaptive, Partners." The participating nations and forces will exercise a wide range of capabilities and demonstrate the inherent flexibility of maritime forces. These capabilities range from disaster relief and maritime security operations to sea control and complex warfighting.

The relevant, realistic training syllabus includes amphibious opthe People's Republic of missile, anti-subma-China, will participate in rine and air defense ex-

piracy, mine clearance operations, explosive ordnance disposal and diving and salvage operations.

This year's exercise includes forces from Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, People's Republic of China, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga,

the United Kingdom and the United States.

Who is your favorite movie

monster to fight Godzilla?



Lt. Jared Subik USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60)

"Mothra. That's the first one that came to mind.

Airman 1st Class Ryan Huffer 561st Network Operations Squadron,

"The monster from the movie Cloverfield."





IS1 Kelly Smith

The Incredible Hulk, because he's big, green and has big muscles. And he's pretty angry."

> 2nd Lt. Ariel Green PACAF Protocol

"I think Megatron vs Godzilla would be awesome! It would be like old school vs new school. I put my money on the new school monster!"



HM1 Joseph Lozano Naval Health Clinic Hawaii

"King Kong. Because it's a legend. It's like western vs. eastern.'

Master Sgt. Carl Vail PACAF/A7

"Mothra. There is nothing better than a giant moth beating up a giant radioactive





LS3 Chad Hux Naval Health Clinic Hawaii "Slimer from Ghostbusters."

CTR2 Taylor Mendenhall NIOC Hawaii

"Optimus Prime."



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

Battle of Coral Sea took place May 1942



USS Lexington (CV-2) is shown here during the action seen from the USS Yorktown (CV-5) on May 8, 1942 during the Battle of the Coral Sea. The battle took place 72 years ago this week. The large number of planes on deck and low sun indicate that the photo was taken early in the morning, prior to launching the strike against the Japanese carrier force. The diversion of Japanese resources represented by the Coral Sea battle would have immense consequences for Imperial Japan a month later at the Battle of Midway.

HO'OKELE

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Col. Jeffrey Sattler, Pacific Air forces chief of international and operational law, gives testimony while playing the role of Goldilocks during a mock trial May 1 at Mokulele Elementary School at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Joint base legal teams host mock trials for students

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

In recognition of Law Day 2014, Pacific Air Forces and 15th Wing judge advocate offices hosted educational mock trials on May 1 at Mokulele and Aliamanu Elementary Schools.

The mock trials were based on the story of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," providing a familiar story while teaching the students about the process of a trial court session.

Master Sgt. Michael Smart, PACAF/JA administrative law NCO in charge, said he thinks the students, kindergarten through third graders, learned a lot during the trials.

"Today was fun, and we had great participation from the crowd," Smart said. "The students were all very attentive. It's good for the students to see how the trial system works.

roles of the scenario, including Goldilocks, Goldilocks' mother, Papa Bear, Mama Bear and Baby Bear, legal representatives from both sides, and a judge who presided over the "court room." Several students were selected to be official members of the jury; however, the entire audience weighed in on the trial.

"The entire process was simplified for an elementary audience, but I think they received the basic knowledge of how a trial works," said Capt. Casey Hinson, PACAF/JA executive officer. "We were able to teach law through a well-known children's story, so it was neat to see how the students participated."

After rounds of witness questioning, the audience had time to deliberate their final decision as jury members, and the verdict was delivered with excitement: Goldilocks was guilty of misbehaving by entering the Bear family home and eating their porridge.

"I think all the participants did really well



travel to school, get exercise and spend time with family and friends, but keiki need to exercise safe riding techniques. Important safety checks need to be made by parents and children. Here are some

Helmet

Wear a brightly colored helmet. A helmet should have an approval sticker from the Consumer Product Safety Commission that says it meets their standards. Make sure the helmet fits the child correctly. It should fit level on a child's head without tipping backward or twisting sideways. Children must fasten the safety strap snugly, so the helmet remains in the proper position while riding.

Clothing

should be at

least one inch

between the

If a child rides a bike in the dark, bright clothes or retro-reflective materials are important to ensure visibility. Make sure clothing does not hang down near the bike's chain or tires where it could become entangled. A reflective vest or reflective tape applied to the helmet also aids in visibility. Closed-toed shoes are a must for riding and tie laces tightly. Bike size

not riding a bike that is too big for his frame. When a child is standing, there

type of riding the child plans to do. If the tires are low on air, examine the tire to make sure there are no obvious leaks or cracks in the material. Riding bikes Children must not be allowed to wear

must for the front and back of the bike. If

a child rides in heavy traffic areas, an

orange flag that extends several feet

above the bike helps motorists see the

kids should check all the bolts around the

handlebars, seat and wheels for tight-

ness. Inspect the chain for wear or dam-

age, and add oil as recommended by the

manufacturer so that it moves freely and smoothly. Test the brakes, and fill tires

with the appropriate amount of air for the

Before riding, parents along with their

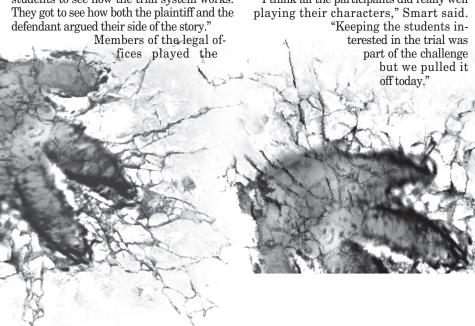
bike more easily. **Equipment check**

headphones while riding. They must keep both hands on the handlebars, except when signaling. They should use correct signals and before entering a roadway: Stop and look left and right. When riding in a group, children should ride single file with the flow of traffic.

Children should not be allowed to ride It is important to make sure a child is at twilight or in the dark, especially on narrow roads and roads with speed limits that exceed 25 mph. Sidewalks may be used by bicyclists when bicycle riders

> do not pose a hazard to pedestrians. Parents are reminded that all bicyclists under the age of 18 should dismount their bicycles at intersections and walk the bicycles across the street, whether or not a crosswalk is pre-

> > For more assistance or guidance, contact the JBPHH Safety Department at 473-1169.





order to evacuate injured casualties during a TCCC course held May 2 at Schofield Barracks. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

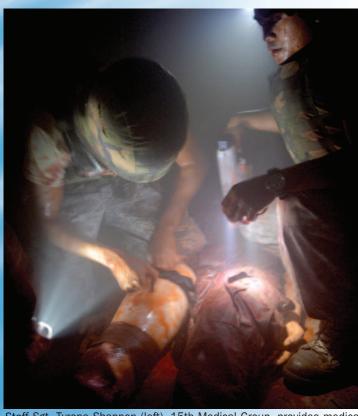
(Below) Air Force students and Navy Tactical Combat Casualty Care course instructors prepare to navigate through a simulated combat zone in



Sailors check in participants to the Safe Haven program during the annual hurricane readiness exercise (HURREX) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro





Staff Sgt. Tyrone Shannon (left), 15th Medical Group, provides medical care to a simulated injured patient during a tactical combat casualty care course at Schofield Barracks.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

Sailors and Airmen give 'shout out'

Story and photo by MCC John Hageman

Navy Region Hawaii Public

Sailors and Airmen from commands in Hawaii had an opportunity to visit Cox Media Studio of ESPN 1420 am radio in Honolulu on May 10 to record messages to family members, friends and colleagues in honor of the 15th annual National Military Appreciation Month. Coming from diverse backgrounds and from throughout the nation, service members were thankful to send the "shout outs" back home.

Airman 1st Class Milissa Ruppert from Mallard, Iowa is part of the 647th Security Forces squadron stationed at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. This is her first duty station after graduating from tech school.

During Ruppert's shout out, she sent a greeting to her friends and family back home. Along with saying hello, she wanted to make them aware of how her new home is treating her, adding "aloha from the sandy beaches of Hawaii."

Yeoman 1st Class Larveeh Raymundo from Ewa Beach, Hawaii is stationed on USS Pearl Harbor and wanted to thank all the personnel involved with recording his shout out to friends, family and shipmates.

"I wanted to thank all the people that organized this event," Raymundo said. "We always hear and see shout outs on the television and radio, and it is so nice to be able to finally partici-



Airman 1st Class Milissa Ruppert from Mallard, Iowa records a message to be aired during Military Appreciation Month on ESPN 1420am Radio.

pate in one."

Rut Montero, a senior Airman from Lima, Peru, is assigned to the 15th Medical Group. Having been on island for awhile, she took the opportunity to say hello to her family that she misses.

"This was a really nice chance to say hello to my family that I have not seen in about a year and a half," Montero said.

Although originally from Peru, her family now lives in Seattle, and she wanted to send a little love to the Seattle Seahawks, and ended her message with "Go Seahawks!"

Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month in 1999 to in the history and developensure the nation was ment of our country. given the opportunity to

publicly demonstrate their appreciation for the sacrifices and successes made by service members—past and present.

May was selected because it has the most days set aside for celebrating service members and their achievements. Those days include Victory in Europe (VE) day on May 8, Armed Forces Day May 17, Military Spouse Apprec-iation Day (which is on May 9 this year), and Memorial Day on May 26.

Each year the president makes a proclamation, reminding Americans of the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played



The SPAWAR NetOps Support Team held information technology security training at Joint

SPAWAR brings IT security training to joint base

Story and photo by **Brandon Bosworth**

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) NetOps Support Team (NST) Fly-Away Team (FAT) provided IT security training to personnel from Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and other units from April 21 to May 2.

The SPAWAR NST team is made up of Reservists who are attached to the SPAWAR Reserve Program at multiple sites across the country.

"The SPAWAR Reserve Program provides unique military and technical capabilities in support of team SPAWAR's mission, contingency response, and resolution of C4ISR [command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance] issues that impact current and future fleet readiness,' explained Cmdr. Eric Stoeckel, detachment officer in charge.

"The instructor team brings unique civilian experience to the fleet. For example, we

have one instructor who is an IT architect for Nordstrom and another who is an IT systems analyst for T-Mobile IT," he said.

By the end of the training sessions, the SPAWAR detachment had provided more than 1,700 student hours of classroom instruction to 40 students, generating well over 85 percent passing rate for the security examination.

For future training requests, contact Stoeckel at eric.a.stoeckel@navy.mil or Cmdr. Marty Riley at

