



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

USS Lake Erie to depart for new homeport of San Diego

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

The guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) will depart Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam today for a new homeport in San Diego.

USS Lake Erie was commissioned in Pearl Harbor July 24, 1993. It is the first Navy ship in modern times to be commissioned in Hawaii since the commissioning of the USS Willamette (AO 51) in 1982.

In 2006, Lake Erie conducted the first successful intercept of a ballistic mis-

sile during its terminal phase using a Standard Missile-2.

In 2008, Lake Erie made international headlines when it used a tactical missile to intercept an orbiting satellite. The inoperative satellite was considered a potential threat and was eliminated at an estimated closing velocity of 22,000 miles per hour before it could re-enter the Earth's atmosphere.

In 2013, Lake Erie utilized its fire control radar to provide tracking data to a ground-based missile interceptor, expanding U.S. missile defense capability. The

ship also conducted the first live-fire intercept of a medium-range ballistic missile using space-based sensors.

Aboard the ship last year on the eve of the Battle of Lake Erie, Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, spoke about USS Lake Erie's namesake to visiting Chinese sailors.

"This fine Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser, USS Lake Erie, is named for a famous battle in the War of 1812—a turning point that proved a strong navy, working to-

gether, can protect a nation and make commerce and trade safe..."

Williams added, "When you see the patch, 'Don't Give Up the Ship,' it signifies the grit and determination of Master Commandant (Commander) Oliver Hazard Perry, who showed bravery under that pennant. Thanks to his victory, we have enjoyed generations of peace with our friends and partners."

As a testament to readiness during the ship's tour in Hawaii, Lake Erie earned seven Battle "E" awards in recognition of sustained superior performance in an op-

The guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam from a four-month deployment to the western Pacific June 16.

erational environment.

Capt. John S. Banigan, Lake Erie commanding officer, expressed thanks to the community for supporting the men and women of USS Lake Erie and their families.

"The community embraced CG 70 and pulled together to enable her every achievement," Banigan said. "The Sailors and families of Lake Erie extend a heartfelt Aloha. We will miss the

beauty of the Hawaiian island chain and, more importantly, the warm friendships we leave behind. Crew Lake Erie offers one last aloha and mahalo!"

Lake Erie is replacing USS John Paul Jones as a rotational Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) deployer out of San Diego.

For more information about USS Lake Erie, visit <http://www.lake-erie.navy.mil/>

Hickam C-17 dedicated in honor of late Sen. Daniel Inouye

15th Wing Public Affairs

A 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III was dedicated "Spirit of Daniel Inouye" Aug. 20 in memory of local and national hero Sen. Daniel Inouye during a ceremony at hangar 19 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

In keeping with Air Force naming tradition, aircraft tail-number 5147 received the "Spirit of" name to honor the late senator's contributions to the state of Hawaii and the United States of America. It also recognized his extraordinary efforts in support of the military and pivotal role in bringing the C-17 program to Hawaii.

"The United States Air Force owns and maintains 223 C-17 aircraft, and only five have been named after a specific individual," said Col. Randall Huius, 15th Wing commander. "Senator Inouye is now part of this highly esteemed group, which now includes four Medal of Honor recipients, a USO hero, and a 48-year member of Congress."

The formal naming process began in March and the 15th Wing just recently received final approval from the vice chief of staff of the Air Force, after receiving lower-level approvals from Pacific Air Forces and Air Mobility Command headquarters.

"They [the honorees] all have different background and stories, but they all have this in common: they are true American heroes and patriots," said Huius.

Guest speaker Maj. Gen. Paul McGillicuddy, Pacific Air Forces vice commander, said the long list of Inouye's



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

Tech. Sgt. Dustin Ching, 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, left, and Staff Sgt. Steven Devenecia, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, right, unveil the artwork for the newly dedicated "Spirit of Daniel Inouye" C-17 Globemaster III.

accomplishments showcase the fortitude and resilience he possessed.

"We are a nation bound by principles and ideas and Sen. Inouye dedicated his life to those principles," he said.

This particular C-17 is also very characteristic of the spirit of service that

Sen. Inouye represented, having been used to evacuate displaced persons and transport food, water and relief supplies to the Philippines during Operation Damayan last year.

Inouye's military service began in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team dur-

ing World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his service with this unit in the Rome-Arno Campaign of 1944, where he was nearly fatally wounded by a gunshot wound to the chest. In 1945, Inouye lost his right arm while leading an assault near Terenzo, Italy. He was



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

Rev. Kahu Kordell Kekoa gives a traditional Hawaiian blessing to a 535th Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III on the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam flightline on Aug. 20, as Col. Randall Huius, 15th Wing commander, Irene Hirano Inouye, widow of Sen. Daniel Inouye, and Maj. Gen. Paul McGillicuddy, Pacific Air Forces vice commander, look on.

later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his bravery and heroism for additional actions in 1945, though it was later upgraded to a Medal of Honor in 2000.

Inouye swapped his military career for a career in politics in 1954 when he was elected to serve in the Hawaii territorial legislature. He later went on to serve as Hawaii's first U.S. representative, followed by nine terms in the U.S. Senate. From 2010 to his death

in 2012, Inouye served as president pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, making him the highest ranking Asian-American politician in U.S. history.

The ceremony was hosted by Huius and presided over by McGillicuddy. Other special guests include Irene Hirano Inouye, Sen. Inouye's widow, and members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, with whom Sen. Inouye served during his time in the military.



JBPHH partners with local community for disaster preparedness exercise **See page A-2**



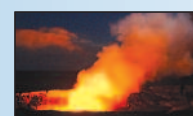
USS Columbus returns to Pearl Harbor **See page A-4**



Battleship Missouri Memorial to commemorate end of World War II **See page A-2**



Martin relieves Goldman at Submarine Training Center **See page A-6**



Fiery Vacation **See page B-1**



JBPHH to test warning system on Sept. 2 **See page B-7**

JBPHH partners with local community for disaster preparedness exercise

Story and photos by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 15th Wing recently partnered with the 154th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and first responders from the local community to conduct a major accident response exercise (MARE) in preparation for the upcoming "Wings Over the Pacific" airshow.

The "Wings Over the Pacific" Airshow is scheduled for Sept. 27-28 at JBPHH and will feature the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels and the Air Force's F-22 and C-17 demonstration teams and the U.S. Navy parachute team.

The MARE was a fully functional exercise event, which brought the total force together to provide a consolidated response to a simulated catastrophic aircraft mishap which resulted in mass casualties.

John Tauber, 15th Wing Inspections chief, said the day's objective was to practice the group's response to a worst case scenario where multiple civilians and military personnel were hurt or

killed while attending an on-base airshow.

"You don't know what you don't know until you practice," said Tauber about the exercise. "We tried to plan for the worst-of-the-worst case scenario that has the potential to happen when many thousands of spectators are crowded into a small area to watch an aerobic display."

Tauber said to prepare for the MARE, the Emergency Management Office partnered with subject matter experts to develop a comprehensive emergency action plan that would prepare the base for a multitude of potential emergency events that could develop during the airshow.

More than 1,000 hours went into ramping up to be prepared for the airshow.

"We took this opportunity before the airshow to test the plan, and work through any glitches found, so that we go into the event prepared to respond to multiple types of emergencies," he said.

Though the MARE was to practice a specific staged event, Tauber said the emergency action plan is written to be flexible de-

pendent upon the nature of the emergency.

In addition to 15th Wing, 154th Wing, and joint base representatives from Honolulu's Federal Fire Department, Honolulu Police Department and FEMA Disaster Medical Assistance Team were on hand to participate in the exercise, but it wasn't just for show.

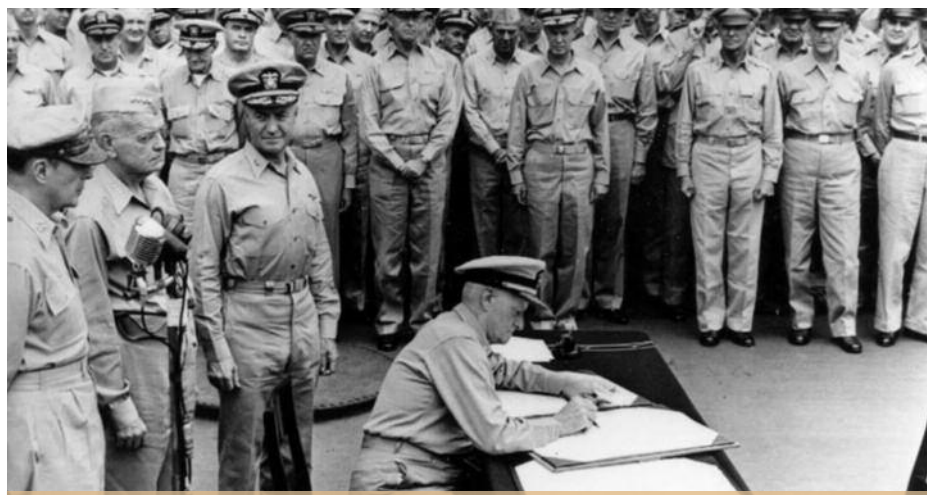
Tauber said all of the MARE's participants will be in place and ready to respond prior to each day when airshow aircraft are flying.

"This is a scenario we plan for, but pray we never have to execute," he said. "The safety of every Airman, Sailor, Soldier, Marine and civilian in attendance is of paramount importance to the combined leadership of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam."

First responders from the 15th Wing, 154th Wing, joint base and local community respond to a simulated downed helicopter crash site.



Battleship Missouri Memorial to commemorate end of World War II



U.S. Navy Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, signs the Instrument of Surrender as United States representative, on board USS Missouri (BB-63) on Sept. 2, 1945. Official U.S. Navy photograph

USS Missouri Memorial Association

On Sept. 2, 1945, the battles of World War II officially ended in Tokyo Bay on the decks of the USS Missouri and peace was restored.

Next Tuesday, Sept. 2, 69 years after the war concluded, the Battleship Missouri Memorial will commemorate the anniversary with a special ceremony on the Mighty Mo's fantail, starting at 8 a.m.

Rear Adm. Robert P. Girrier, deputy commander and chief of staff for the

U.S. Pacific Fleet, will present the keynote address.

Also providing remarks will be Nicole Forrester, director of the Young Leaders Program at the Pacific Forum Center for Strategic & International Studies, and Tim Guard, chairman of the board for the USS Missouri Memorial Association.

The ceremony will feature music by the Marine Forces Pacific Band, a Joint Service Color Guard, and a rifle salute.

The ceremony is free and open to the public. Complimentary round-trip shuttle service for the ceremony

will be offered from the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center beginning at 7 a.m.

Following the ceremony, guests are invited to view the unveiling of the newly renovated wardroom, which is being restored to its 1991 operational condition, when the USS Missouri was last in service. They will see firsthand where officers dined when leading America's last battleship and gain further insight into daily life aboard the Mighty Mo.

For more information, call 1-877-644-4896 or visit USSMissouri.org.

Commentary

Women's Equality Day recognizes civil rights victory

Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

(Editor's note: This week, Rear Adm. Williams gave remarks at a Women's Equality Day event at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. An excerpt is offered here.)

Women's Equality Day recognizes the victory by civil rights activists to earn women the right to vote in 1920.

My hometown is Pittsford, N.Y., minutes from Rochester, home of Susan B. Anthony, who—along with other suffragists—were champions of equal rights for all Americans.

They fought for women's equality—most fundamentally, for the right to vote.



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

Sadly, Susan B. Anthony died 14 years before the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920.

Here are some names of

people who were born just before or in 1920:

- Admiral "Amazing" Grace Hopper
- Amelia Earhart
- Nelson Mandela
- John F. Kennedy
- Adm. Elmo "Bud" Zumwalt

In 1961, President Kennedy, a former naval officer, called for the entire nation to embrace women's equality of opportunity.

Eleven years later, Adm. Zumwalt, Chief of Naval Operations, changed the face of the Navy by issuing Z-Gram 116, greatly expanding opportunities for women in our Navy.

In 1972, he promoted Capt. Arlene Duerk as the first female admiral.

As CNO, Zumwalt initiated a pilot program for the first women to serve aboard surface ships and autho-

rized the first women naval aviators. Today, women serve aboard submarines.

Today's theme is "Inspiring Change."

I believe our Navy has inspired change—and today our Navy is a model for change that is inspiring.

• Women in our Navy receive the same pay as men for the same rank and assignments.

• Women have the opportunity to achieve the highest ranks in our military.

• Last month, the Navy promoted our first four-star woman flag officer, Adm. Michelle Howard.

Women lead in and out of uniform.

Susan B. Anthony and her contemporaries inspired change and paved the way for women through their leadership, compassion and dedication.



Susan B. Anthony

Commentary

Commitment to security/safety starts with you

Capt. Douglas Holderman

Chief Staff Officer, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Security on a military base is still among the most important missions on that base. It includes awareness against real threats of terrorism, espionage and personal security and safety.

Too often a loss of focus or being distracted from our mission can allow real, large-scale events to occur.

Real security is born from deterrence and vigilance; who looks hard and who is always looking out to see who is watching?

Vigilance is part of our everyday culture, from the checking of ID cards to observing those who might be trying to observe us.

Individual, personal security is built on the same principles. The handicap comes from the belief that someone else will report it and in not wanting to get involved. When it comes to your base, everyone is a spotter. When it comes to yourself—well, the reality is you have the most to gain from your continued vigilance.

Making the right decisions ensures personal security. Being aware of your surroundings and what is happening in your

sphere of influence is just the beginning of this security posture.

Knowing a little bit about the area you are operating in is also a big help. For instance, thieves consider a mall parking lot a target rich environment. It takes one second to walk up to a back seat window, break it out and two more seconds to grab everything in the back seat and leave. They check "the haul" somewhere else, dump what they don't want in a dumpster and go back for another round. They can hit ten to twelve cars in an hour and leave, never getting caught or seen.

Home security comes in the forms of not leaving your car unlocked or items (wallets, cell phones, purses etc.) sitting in them. It also means things like ensuring bikes and other items are put away or secured when not in use, securing the garage door and locking house doors.

In much the same way, personal safety depends on individual vigilance, prevention and making the right choices. That's a good thing to keep in mind this Labor Day weekend.

A commitment to safety and security is everyone's job and it starts with awareness and preventive action.

Diverse Views



How do you plan to spend the Labor Day holiday weekend?



EM1 Chris Hawthorne
NSWG-3

"I should be travelling to Panama City for TDY."

Capt. Adam Breshock
65th Airlift Squadron



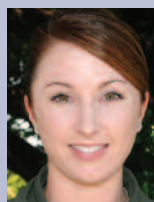
"I plan to travel to Chicago with my wife and kids to spend time with both of our families."



CTT2 Sheena Simpson
NIOC Hawaii

"Well, my husband's deploying, so saying goodbye to him, I guess."

Capt. Jenny Miller
15th Operations Group



"Thinking of our men and women serving at deployed locations who are not enjoying a day off, to include my husband. I'm proud of them all and what they are doing for our country."



Lt. j.g. Joel Zarbo
Navy Region Hawaii

"Kauai, Barking Sands. I might take a quick little vacation over there."

Staff Sgt. Aaron Weathers
647th Civil Engineer Squadron



"I plan to spend time with my wife, son, and civil engineer family at White Plains Beach."



Alison Young
Pacific Air Forces

"I'm spending time with my friend visiting from out of town."

Staff Sgt. Niall Campos
647th Civil Engineer Squadron



"One day will be spent with my co-workers at the beach. This is a great way to get familiar with them and their families. The rest of the time will be spent with my wife and son. I'll try my best to impress them with my barbecue skills."

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

Ritchie becomes first USAF ace in Vietnam War



U.S. Air Force photo

Capt. Richard S. Ritchie, in South Vietnam in 1972, with 555th Tactical Fighter Squadron, is pictured beside his aircraft following the mission in which he became the first Air Force ace of the Vietnam War. On Aug. 28, 1972, (42 years ago this week), Ritchie, with his "backseater" Capt. Charles D. DeBellevue, shot down his fifth MiG-21 near Hanoi, making Ritchie the first Vietnam USAF ace. Ritchie shared the 1972 Mackay Trophy with the other USAF aces in the Vietnam War, DeBellevue and Capt. Jeffrey S. Feinstein.

HO'OKELE

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USS Columbus returns to Pearl Harbor

Story and photos by
MC1 Steven Khor

*Submarine Force Pacific
Fleet Public Affairs*

Family and friends gathered at the submarine piers, Aug. 21, on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to welcome back the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762), following a deployment to the western Pacific region.

Signs, banners and lei welcomed the crew home as family and friends lined up at the pier.

The submarine's commanding officer, Cmdr. David Youtt, said he is proud of his Sailors and their hard work on deployment.

"Our deployment was extremely successful," said Youtt. "The crew and ship performed exceptionally, conducting exercises with key allies in the western Pacific and executing national tasking."

The submarine was forward deployed for six months and was at sea for 85 percent of the time as it steamed more than 30,000 miles.

In addition to gaining the experience of operating in the western Pacific, the deployment afforded Sailors the opportunity to work on qualifications.

Twenty-five Sailors became submarine-qualified and are now able to wear their respective submarine warfare insignia.

"The training and exposure to other cultures was outstanding for our young Sailors," said Youtt. "Overall, the deployment offered the Columbus crew the opportunity to contribute to our nation's overall presence in an extremely important region of the world and strengthen important relationships with key allies."



(Above) Electronics Technician 1st Class Sean Anderson from the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Columbus (SSN 762) kisses daughter Airi at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



(Above right) Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Daniel Teitel proposes to his girlfriend Sabrina Gunn.

While on deployment, Columbus' crew helped strengthen ties with foreign allies in Sasebo, Japan; Yokosuka, Japan; Busan, South Korea and Guam.

Columbus came home to a cheering crowd at the pier with warm aloha.

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Daniel Teitel had more up his sleeve than the normal returning hug and kiss, as he knelt down in front of the crowd and proposed to girlfriend Sabrina Gunn.

"I didn't expect it at all, not at all!" said Gunn, referring to the proposal. "Apparently everyone knew except for me! I'm

just so surprised but incredibly excited for our future together!"

USS Columbus is the 51st Los Angeles-class submarine and the 12th improved version of this class, which includes a vertical launch system for Tomahawk cruise missiles and an improved hull design for under-ice operations. In June 1994, it completed a post-shipyard maintenance availability in Groton, Conn., after initial construction and shakedown operations. In September 1994, the ship conducted an inter-fleet transfer to Pearl Harbor and joined the U.S. Pacific Fleet Submarine Force.



Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Joshua Nimis hugs his girlfriend, Amy Butterfield, following the return of the submarine from a six-month deployment to the western Pacific.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



(Left) Chief petty officer (CPO) selectees of Legacy Academy Class 010 stand in formation during their graduation ceremony aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

(Below) Chief Yeomen select Tam Chau, assigned to the guided-missile destroyer USS Preble (DDG 88), participates in a graduation ceremony held for chief petty officer (CPO) selectees Legacy Academy Class 010 aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan



(Left) Chief petty officer (CPO) selectees from Legacy Academy Class 010 prepare for a formation run at Ford Island, JBPHH.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro

(Right) Command Master Chief Teresa Carroll-Gillis, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, mentors chief petty officer (CPO) selectees during a steel beach picnic held for CPO Legacy Academy Class 010 aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan



(Left) Military security forces, assigned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) respond to simulated "shots fired" Aug. 27 at the Makalapa Clinic. The JBPHH security and police personnel responded to a simulated incident securing the location, attending to wounds and injuries and capturing the suspect in custody.

U.S. Navy photo by SrA Christopher Stoltz

(Right) Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Carl Camus (at left), Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam security patrolman, engages with a simulated suspect on pier Bravo 24 during the Citadel Pacific exercise held Aug. 27 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Citadel Pacific 2014 is not in response to any specific threat, but is part of annual scheduled exercises conducted at Navy bases in Hawaii, Guam and Japan.

U.S. Navy photo by SrA Christopher Stoltz



Shipyard awards Hawaii students

Jensin Sommer

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY&IMF) recognized 10 high school students for their dedication to Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) activities and academic excellence during an Aug. 15 ceremony at the facility.

Each student will receive a \$2,000 cash award, which was funded by the National Defense Education Program (NDEP).

Capt. Brian Osgood, shipyard commander, congratulated the young men and women for their achievements.

"You represent the best our state has to offer and this award is a deserving tribute to your hard work and dedication to STEM," said Osgood. "I am proud of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's support to STEM in Hawaii — we are the largest employer of engineers in the state, so it's imperative we play a role in growing our future workforce."

Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie was also present at the ceremony, which preceded the shipyard's apprentice program graduation program. He shook hands with each awardee and commended them for their achievement.

One of the students is

Racielie Andrade, a recent graduate of Maui High School, who flew to Oahu just for the ceremony. The Kahului, Maui, native begins freshman year at Cal Poly Pomona in two weeks and said she is proud to receive the recognition.

"Throughout my high school career, I dedicated a lot of time to robotics, so I'm glad others such as the shipyard appreciate the importance of robotics and STEM in our community," Andrade said.

To be eligible for the STEM awards, applicants at the time of application had to be a resident of the State of Hawaii, a current high school (public, private or home-schooled) student in good academic standing, and able to provide proof of active participation in Hawaii's annual FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) for at least one full academic year.

The STEM award winners are Racielie Andrade, Maui High; William Blaser, Waialua High; Matthew Choy, Maryknoll High; Dominique Dold, Sacred Hearts Academy; Paul Hutchinson, Waialua High; Cody Miyataki, Waialua High; Christopher Nguyen, Farrington High; Kristen Kate Tumacder; Sacred Hearts Academy; Angela Wong, Sacred Hearts Academy; Lansen Eto, Island Academy (Kauai).

For more information, visit www.phnsy.navy.mil and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Pearl-HarborNavalShipyard.



Capt. Howard Goldman is piped ashore after being relieved by Capt. Michael Martin as commanding officer of Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific at a change of command ceremony, Aug. 15.

Martin relieves Goldman at Submarine Training Center

Story and photo by MC1 Jason Swink

Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Capt. Michael Martin relieved Capt. Howard Goldman as commanding officer of Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) and Training Support Department (TSD) Hawaii in a change of command ceremony Aug. 15 atop the historic Battleship Missouri Memorial, the "Mighty Mo."

NSTCP is comprised of 90 permanently assigned officers and enlisted instructors and 30 civilians and government contractors who oversee more than 800,000-square-feet of training spaces and simulators where they train more than 25,000 Sailors each year.

Guest speaker Capt. David Roberts, the commanding officer of Submarine Learning Center, said he is one of Goldman's biggest fans as he spoke of NSTCP's accomplishments

during the last three years.

"I want to thank you for your passion in training, your passion for submariners, your incredible talent and strong leadership during your tenure here," said Roberts.

Under Goldman's leadership, NSTCP received numerous awards and accolades including retention excellence awards in 2011 and 2012, and was a driving force in the rapid build-up of a new schoolhouse in Guam.

"On his watch, Howard brought new capability to his school to support newly reporting Virginia-class submarines including trainers and curricula," said Roberts. "With the assistance of the Naval Undersea Warfare Center, he built a new state-of-the-art submarine bridge trainer with its IMAX theater-like immersive training capability to better simulate surfaced submarine operations."

Goldman during his parting remarks thanked sev-

eral dozen individuals and organizations by name for their support.

"To those I have served for, thank you for your mentorship and your teaching. To those who I have served with, thank you very much for your friendship," said Goldman. "Most importantly, to those who have served me, my crew, thank you for everything. Without you, none of this would have been possible."

Goldman was presented the Legion of Merit for his leadership, vision and boundless energy during his tenure.

As Martin assumed command, he thanked Goldman for setting him up for success.

"You have established programs, processes, and most importantly, a culture of knowledge and desire to support the waterfront in the NSTCP team," said Martin.

Martin went on to address the officers, Sailors and civilian staff of NSTCP,

challenging them to do three things.

"Be the expert in your profession. Learn something new about your craft every day. Impart that knowledge on the fleet," said Martin. "If you execute those three things each and every day, you will allow our command to continue to excel and most importantly, grow."

NSTCP provides training to all U.S. submarine crews in Pearl Harbor and to visiting submariners from allied nations in the Pacific, including Singapore, Japan, South Korea and Australia.

In addition, NSTCP maintains a detachment of instructors in Guam who provide training to U.S. submariners based in Guam and submariners visiting Guam while deployed to the western Pacific.

The Submarine Learning Center (SLC) in Groton, Conn., has overall responsibility for six regional learning centers including NSTCP.

15th Wing seeing positive effects from DUI Task Force

Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Alcohol related incidents (ARIs) are on the decline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, but they're not low enough, according to the DUI Task Force.

When ARIs and drunk driving charges began to rise at an alarming rate earlier this year, the 15th Wing leadership partnered with the 15th Medical Operations Support Squadron Mental Health Flight to resolve the problem.

The Hickam DUI Task Force stood up May 9 and immediately put a new community action plan into place.

Additionally, "DUI conditions" (DUICONS) were instated requiring mandatory actions from commanders, first sergeants and supervisors in the event the number of DUIs elevate.

Capt. Jeffrey Smith, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment element leader, said the DUICONS were implemented to raise awareness of the problem and get the leadership more involved. Actions taken under the DUICONS include, but are not limited to, commander's calls, E-5 and below roll call and unit members having to personally change the DUICON sign daily.

Chief Master Sgt. James Smith, 15th Wing command chief, said there are two main goals of the DUI Task Force: awareness and education.

"The sign at the O'Malley

Gate is one vital tool that helps us reach these goals, however, commander and supervisor face-to-face engagement is still our number one weapon," he said.

Prior to implementing the community action plan, Hickam had the most DUIs in PACAF for the fiscal year. There have been 20 DUIs since January of this year, though the amount of DUIs have declined significantly since May, following the implementation of the task force.

Capt. Smith said it has been more than 102 days since there has been a DUI in the 15th Wing and alcohol related incidents within the wing are down 70 percent since May.

He attributes the DUI Task Force's success to the increased awareness and change in culture.

Chief Smith said he also attributes the success to an increase in leadership involvement.

"Commanders and supervisors are discussing alcohol openly and freely with Airmen across the wing," he said. "Not only do they discuss DUIs, but they are discussing binge drinking, alcohol abuse and the behaviors associated."

However, according to Capt. Smith the DUI Task Force is not here to send the message to Airmen that they can't drink at all, as long as they do so responsibly and with a plan.

"We want to send the message that drinking is okay, but drinking irresponsibly is not," he said.

"There have not been a lot

of events on base involving alcohol because we're trying to change the culture, and there has been a shift since then."

Staff Sgt. Amanda Villa, 15th MDG Mental Health Resiliency and Outreach NCO in charge, said the aggressive campaign has helped drive home the point that the Air Force will not tolerate drinking and driving.

"We can do better than this," she said. "Preventing DUIs is everyone's responsibility because our ultimate goal is to not even have one. There's no reason to have a twelve pack and get behind the wheel."

Villa said people often underestimate how much they have had to drink or how those drinks will affect them, so it's best to steer clear of driving after any drinks at all.

"It's not worth the risk," she said. "People feel like they are fine to drive, but buzzed driving is still drunk driving so it's not okay to drive after even one drink."

Chief Smith offers advice to Airmen who might find themselves in a compromising situation.

"Adhere to the core values at all time. Behavior that doesn't align with our core values will not be tolerated," he said. "All of the leadership in the 15th Wing want our Airmen to enjoy this assignment. Take advantage of what this beautiful island has to offer and cultivate relationships, just do so responsibly and take care of each other."

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