

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS
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New chiefs receive gold anchors

MC2 Diana Quinlan

Navy Public Affairs
Support Element West,
Detachment Hawaii

Following six weeks of training, 32 Sailors assigned to various commands at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) received their gold anchors and chief combination covers and joined the Chiefs Mess during a chief petty officer (CPO) pinning ceremony Sept. 16 at the Historic Hickam Officer's Club lanai.

The chief pinning ceremony is part of a long-standing tradition to honor and recognize the years of hard work, service and leadership of dedicated Sailors in the Navy.

"The rank of the chief petty officer has existed in our Navy for 121 years now, and during that time some very special men and women have earned the right to be recognized as 'the chief,'" said Command Master Chief Teresa Carroll-Gillis, assigned to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, who served as master



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Chief petty officers from throughout Hawaii stand in formation during a chief pinning ceremony held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

of ceremonies.

"Today, these 32 men and women will join those ranks as class 121, representing hundreds of years of combined experience. They have earned their anchors and will undoubtedly add value to the Chiefs Mess of the world's finest Navy," she said.

Rear Adm. Robert Girrier, deputy commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, was the guest

speaker. Chaplain Lt. Phillip Hogan offered an invocation, and U.S. Pacific Band provided musical accompaniment.

"First and foremost, you will find your new role in the Navy to be challenging but right along with that, absolutely rewarding," said Girrier in his address to chief selectees.

"As a chief, you will have a tremendous influence on

those who are junior to you, who look up to you, but also to the officers, to the wardroom, to the commanding officers who rely on your expertise—it works both ways. It is a key role you will be assuming here shortly," Girrier said.

He described the essence and the many roles of chief petty officers in today's Navy, stressing the importance of teambuilding quali-

ties that chiefs use to move and motivate their Sailors forward.

"Chiefs are an essential and integral part of our great Navy," he said. "Chiefs are leaders, they are subject matter experts, and they are teachers, team builders and communicators."

As part of their new responsibility, new chiefs are expected to guide their junior Sailors and uphold the lega-

cy of the chief petty officer.

"It is a very great experience. It is a transition to a broad and unique way of life in the Navy as I am a chief now," said newly pinned Chief Yeoman Talena Cooper, assigned to Defense Intelligence Agency, detachment U.S. Pacific Command.

"This experience has taught me a lot: teamwork,

See CPO PINNING, A-2

POW/MIA remembrance events to be held today

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Public Affairs

Ceremonies for national POW/MIA Recognition Day today include:

- POW/MIA remembrance ceremony will be held from 8:15 to 9 a.m. today at the 15th Wing building, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The guest speaker will be U.S. Air Force Col. Henry "Hank" Fowler (ret.).

For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Ricardo Russo at 449-0492.

- The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command will host a commemoration of National POW/MIA Recognition Day beginning at 10 a.m. at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl).

The ceremony is free and open to the public. Appropriate attire for the event is military class B or service equivalent, or civilian casual or aloha wear. The keynote speaker, former Navy Capt. (ret.) James Hickerson, was a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War.

Other ceremony highlights will include wreath presentations by veterans' groups and a solemn reading of former missing in action service mem-



Photo illustration

bers whose remains were identified in the last year. Organizations are welcome to participate in the floral presentations by laying a wreath or flowers.

For more information, call 448-1939.

- A special POW/MIA remembrance day meal will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today at the Silver Dolphin Bistro. The meal price is \$4.65. The meal is open to all active duty military,

Department of Defense employees, retirees and family members of active duty with valid ID cards. The menu will include grilled tenderloin steak, barbecue pork ribs, grilled salmon and other items. The meal will also include a fresh salad bar, crab salad and pasta salad, assorted desserts, ceremonial cake and an ice cream bar.

For more information, call 473-2948.



CFC kickoff at Ward Field today

A kickoff event for Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today at Ward Field and at the outdoor obstacle course behind Bloch Arena at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Activities at the event will include climbing the alpine tower, a 1.5-mile fun run/walk, a Navy ninja warrior competition, six-on-six dodgeball tournament and charity fair. No registration is necessary for the free kickoff event.

The goal of the event is to increase CFC awareness through fun and activities.

Music will be provided. Food will be available for purchase.

The CFC fund drive will run through Oct. 31. The mission of CFC is to encourage philanthropy and to provide all federal employees with the opportunity to improve the quality of life for others.

For more information about CFC, visit <http://www.cfc-hawaii.org> or email michael.barksdale@navy.mil or 221-1418.

Retired CMSAF shares knowledge with JBPHH Airmen

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt.
Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

Before attending the Pacific Air Forces 67th Birthday Ball as the special guest speaker on Sept. 13, Chief Master Sgt. (Air Force ret.) James C. Binnicker, the ninth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, spent several days touring PACAF and the 15th Wing to speak with Airmen about past and present Air Force topics.

Binnicker, now the president and chief executive officer of the Air Force Enlisted Village, spoke about a variety of issues including force shaping, service traditions, workplace equality and changes in the



Chief Master Sgt. (Air Force ret.) James C. Binnicker, the ninth chief master sergeant of the Air Force, speaks with Pacific Air Forces Airmen.

Air Force since his retirement in 1990.

While discussing force shaping

in the Air Force, Binnicker stressed the importance of working smarter with fewer people.

"You often hear people say, 'do more with less,' but we know that doesn't work," he said. "You should be working smarter with less, and we'll be able to do that with technology and smarter, more capable Airmen."

Binnicker said that while the Air Force has fluctuated in numbers many times in the past, this time is unprecedented due to fiscal constraints and the high number of global operations Airmen are supporting.

"I wish I can tell you things will be okay and you will have a job, but this time that's not the case," he said. "That's why it's important for you to do your absolute best every day and work hard."

The chief was able to interact with Airmen in their work areas,

including C-17 operations at the 535th Airlift Squadron, the 15th Maintenance Group, Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) headquarters, and the 735th Air Mobility Squadron, to name a few. Binnicker also hosted a junior enlisted call at Hollister Auditorium that was hosted by the Airman's Council and Hawaii 5/6 Council.

"I thought it was a great opportunity to hear Chief [Binnicker] talk during the enlisted call," said Staff Sgt. Nichole Rush, 15th Comptroller Squadron and enlisted call attendee. "He was funny, informative, and made the audience comfortable with asking important questions."

A highlight of Binnicker's tour

See Binnicker, A-2

DoD flu vaccination schedule announced
See page A-3

Meetings for Forest City residents start next week
See page A-3

HIANG unit conducts first Pacific Unity operation in Papua New Guinea
See page A-4

Wings over the Pacific
See page A-6

Ceremony honors Pearl Harbor survivor Chief Click
See page B-1

Motorcycle safety courses offered
See page B-7



Cmdr. Noel Gonzalez (right), turns over command of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) to Cmdr. John Stafford, witnessed by Capt. Craig Blakely, commander of Submarine Squadron Seven.

Stafford relieves Gonzalez as commanding officer of USS Cheyenne

Story and photo by MC1 Jason Swink

Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The command of USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) was passed on Sept. 12 as Cmdr. John Stafford relieved Cmdr. Noel Gonzalez as commanding officer. The change of command ceremony was held aboard the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

"I am so proud of you guys," Gonzalez said to his crew. "I don't have the words to tell you how much gratitude I feel for all we have done in the past 30 months."

"You have provided me with unbelievable support and dedication," said Gonzalez. "It has been a privilege and an absolute honor to be your eighth commanding officer."

In command since May 11, 2012, Gonzalez led his submarine to complete a successful western Pacific deployment and was awarded the 2013 Battle Efficiency Award.

Adm. Harry Harris, com-

mander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, was the guest speaker and praised Gonzalez and his crew.

"From the time he took command, he set out to sharpen this already high-performance crew into one with a reputation of achievement and success," said Harris.

Born in Cuba, Gonzalez emigrated with his family from Camaguey, Cuba to the United States to pursue a better life.

"Noel, you have certainly lived that dream, from a little boy of 10 that couldn't speak English, to the commanding officer of a nuclear-powered submarine," said Harris. "I hope you continue to tell your story and inspire others you meet to reach for the stars and reach their full potential."

During the ceremony, Gonzalez, who now hails from West Palm Beach, Fla., was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his successes in command of Cheyenne from May 2012 to August 2014.

As Stafford assumed command of Cheyenne, he thanked Gonzalez for the state in which Cheyenne and its crew are in.

"No officer could count

himself more blessed than to be a member of the Cheyenne family, let alone command this great warship and her fine crew," said Stafford, who calls Staten Island, N.Y. his home.

Homeported in Pearl Harbor, USS Cheyenne is named after the city of Cheyenne, Wyo. It is the 62nd Los Angeles-class submarine and the 23rd improved Los Angeles-class attack submarine. The ship's sponsor, Ann Simpson, wife of former U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson of Wyoming, christened Cheyenne on April 1, 1995. The ship has since lived by the city's motto, "Live the Legend."

In 2001, Cheyenne earned the distinction of "first to strike" when it was the first ship to launch Tomahawk missiles in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Since then, the submariners aboard have modified the motto to "Ride the Legend," representative of the warrior spirit of the crew and the pride they take in their mission and sponsor city.

For more information about Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, visit www.csp.navy.mil.

Binnicker discusses new changes

Continued from A-1

was a visit to a facility named in his honor: the James C. Binnicker Professional Military Education Center. He was able to interact with students as well as staff.

"First of all, thank you for all you do," Binnicker said to the PME Center staff. "You have such an important job in the Air Force, teaching our Airmen the skills and knowledge they need to know in order to succeed. That's a lot of responsibility, and I know you will do a great job preparing them for their careers."

Another hot topic during his tour was the upcoming changes to the enlisted evaluation system. Binnicker said the

new system will be better than the current one because it will put more emphasis on job performance and allow a more accurate, less "inflated" evaluation.

"It's important for supervisors to be honest with their subordinates during their evaluation and rate them fairly and accurately. That's how this new system will be successful," Binnicker said.

Also during his visit, Binnicker met with key base leaders including Gen. "Hawk" Carlisle, PACAF commander; Chief Master Sgt. Buddy Hutchison, PACAF command chief; Col. Randy Huiss, 15th Wing commander; and Chief Master Sgt. James Smith, 15th Wing command chief.

USS Texas holds change of command

Story and photo by MC1 Jason Swink

Submarine Force Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The command of USS Texas (SSN 775) was transferred on Sept. 9 as Cmdr. Todd Nethercott relieved Cmdr. Andrew Hertel as commanding officer at a time-honored change of command ceremony held aboard the Virginia-class, fast attack submarine at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Hertel expressed how proud he is that he had the opportunity to be in command of the submarine for the last 32 months.

"It was the privilege of a lifetime to be your commanding officer. Thank you for giving your best every day," said Hertel to his crew. "With Sailors like you manning such a vessel, it is no wonder everyone knows, you don't mess with Texas."

In command since Feb. 1, 2012, Hertel led his submarine through a 26-month maintenance availability pe-

riod at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard (PHNSY).

The ceremony's guest speaker, Capt. Brian Osgood, former commander of PHNSY, praised Hertel and his crew for a job well done.

"Andy spent much of his command tour in a mission that by no means was glamorous, but in many ways was vitally important to the future of the submarine fleet in the Pacific," said Osgood.

The first Virginia-class submarine to execute a major depot level maintenance availability and modernization in the Pacific provided extra challenges which Osgood said the crew exceeded expectations.

"Texas is now one of the most advanced submarines on the planet, and the crew can testify to its capabilities," said Osgood.

During the ceremony, Hertel was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his leadership during the first-of-a-kind dry-dock selected availability demonstrating exceptional leadership and superb judgment during his command of

Texas from December 2011 to September 2014.

As Nethercott assumed command of Texas, he thanked Hertel for the ready state of Texas and her crew.

"You should be justifiably proud of the outstanding job you have done bringing the ship, its crew and the families through a complex 26-month shipyard period," said Nethercott. "I want to thank the crew for all the hard work that went into getting out of the shipyard and back to sea."

Commissioned Sept. 9, 2006, Texas was the second Virginia-class, fast attack submarine constructed and the first submarine to be named after the Lone Star State.

The state-of-the-art submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, naval special warfare involving special operations forces, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.



Cmdr. Andrew Hertel is piped ashore after being relieved by Cmdr. Todd Nethercott as commanding officer of the Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775).

CPO pinning highlights achievements

Continued from A-1

meaning of being a chief and a leader, and what it takes to lead our junior officers and Sailors," Cooper said.

Cooper, for her first steps as a chief, plans to learn more about the Chief's Mess and her duties as a chief, plans to learn more about the Sailors she will lead, and wishes to become a subject matter expert on her field.

She also advised Sailors on their path to becoming a chief to never give up and believe in themselves, keep personal ethics and values close to heart, and to never change who they are. Cooper's sponsor, Chief Information Systems Technician Amberly Clemente assigned to Defense Intelligence Agency, detachment U.S. Pacific Command, stood by her Sailor and said she was proud to be the one who placed the combination cover on Cooper's head.

"This is an experience that I will never forget, as this is my first time that I have been a sponsor," said Clemente.

"It is definitely challenging and exciting. It is worth every minute and I wouldn't have it any other way. [Cooper] soon will be replacing me, so I wanted to make sure that she is up to par, that she is a deckplate leader, and prepared to be a chief," Clemente said.

The ceremony marks a major accomplishment in these Sailor's careers and their admittance to an important community in the Navy.

"It feels amazing to put on the anchors and [it's] a huge accomplishment but also a big responsibility that was given to me as well," said Chief Master-At-Arms Alexander Andino, assigned to JBPHH.

"It was rough for me personally to be where I am today, because I faced a lot of adversity in my career, a lot of setbacks, a lot of good things but also a lot of obstacles that I had to get over to be at this point. And the last six weeks was a huge hurdle for all of us [chief selectees], and we all had to come together and overcome together. You cannot do it alone; you have to do it as a team," Andino said.

He advised Sailors who aspire to someday become a chief and a leader.

"Don't let anything stop you: don't let adversities, setbacks, captain's masts, whatever it is in your career, whatever you go through—let it make you stronger, don't let it deter you," he said. "I see a lot of Sailors get some hard times in their career and instead of pushing forward they throw their hands up and just 'coast.' Do not do that. Keep pushing."

New app showcases Sailors, projects that can disrupt future of energy

Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division Public Affairs

WASHINGTON, DC (NNS)—The Navy has released a new digital application (app) called "Energy Warrior" that highlights the efforts of Sailors and other naval personnel who are taking innovative steps to conserve energy, lead behavioral change, and get the maximum warfighting punch out of every gallon. The current app can be downloaded and installed for free on Mac and Android tablets.

Related videos are posted on an Energy Warrior playlist on the U.S. Navy YouTube channel. Short summary videos are being provided to Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS) channels and can be viewed aboard ships via Direct-to-Sailor (DTS) beginning this month. Videos in this version of the app include profiles of Chief



Graphic courtesy of Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division Public Affairs

Fire Controlman Christopher Roberts, who started a competition aboard USS Benfold (DDG 65) that is optimizing shipboard

energy use. The app also provides facts about worldwide energy use, U.S. oil production, and the Navy's

ongoing energy projects that are supportive of the Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations energy goals.

"Energy isn't something most of us walk around thinking about every day. We just power up our equipment and get to work," said Rear Adm. Kevin Slates, director of the chief of naval operations energy and environmental readiness division.

"This app and related videos can help our Sailors and civilians understand how truly critical energy is, both to our daily jobs and to enable combat capability through greater distance, increased time on station and the ability to carry more and new payloads," Slates said.

Plans are underway for additional video profile interviews for a future version of the app. Commands with innovative energy projects, people and ideas are encouraged to contact the Navy's energy team at energywarrior@navy.mil.

For more information, visit the Energy Warrior page at <http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil/energy/energywarrior>.

DoD flu vaccination schedule announced

It is mandatory for all Department of Defense (DoD) unformed personnel who are not medically or administratively exempt to receive the seasonal influenza vaccine.

Vaccination against seasonal influenza is also mandatory for civilian personnel who provide direct patient care in DoD medical treatment facilities and for civilians where it is written in their position description as a condition of employment.

The Oahu Joint Services Vaccination Team will conduct multi-service mass influenza vaccination campaigns for shore-based DoD personnel assigned to a command or activity in Hawaii.

The schedule is:

- Sept. 23 to 25, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Bloch Arena and Makai Recreation Center at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corps Base Hawaii.
- Sept. 23 to 25, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Kaneohe Bay Branch

Health Clinic, Kunia Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Pacific.

- Sept. 25, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wahiawa Branch Health Clinic, building 22, Center Drive and Rochefort/Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) NCTAMS PAC.
- Sept. 23 and 24, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Rochefort Building, Camp H.M. Smith.
- Sept. 24 and 25, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Pollock Theater, U.S. Marines Forces Pacific building four.

Beginning Oct. 1, family members, other TRICARE beneficiaries and Department of the Navy and Department of the Air Force civilians can receive the flu vaccination at the following immunization clinics:

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii enrollees should go to the Makalapa and Kaneohe Bay Branch Health Clinics.

Department of the Navy civilians should go to the Makalapa, Kaneohe Bay and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Branch Health Clinics.

The 15th Medical Group enrollees and Department of the Air Force civilians should go to the Hickam Allergies/Immunizations Clinic.

TRICARE beneficiaries family members may also receive the flu vaccine at no cost from a participating retail pharmacy. A list of pharmacy chains offering the vaccine can be found at www.express-scripts.com/tricare/pharmacy.

The pharmacy should be called in advance to ensure availability of the vaccine and that they have no age restrictions.

Proof of vaccination at a retail pharmacy can be brought to any of the above clinics for documentation in the patient's electronic record.

Seasonal flu vaccinations will also be offered at the exchanges. DoD beneficiaries who present a valid common access card (CAC) or military identification card can receive the flu vaccination at the following locations from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Hickam BX on Oct. 4, Pearl Harbor NEX on Oct. 10 and 11, Kaneohe Bay MCX on Oct. 18, Schofield Barracks PX on Oct. 25 and Fort Shafter on Oct. 30.

For more flu vaccination information, call the Oahu Joint Services Flu Hotline at 433-1FLU (1358).

Meetings for Forest City residents start next week

Darryl Nii

Public-Private Venture Programs Director, Navy Region Hawaii

Three neighborhood meetings for Forest City residents will be held at the end of the month for residents who want to learn more about what is happening in their neighborhoods. The meetings will provide residents with an opportunity to visit various information booths and meet with Forest City representatives regarding all aspects of living in Forest City homes.

The meetings will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Forest City residents are welcome to attend any one of the following meetings regardless of the neighborhood they live in:

- Sept. 23 at Hukulani Community Center
- Sept. 25 at Catlin Park Community Center
- Sept. 29 at Ford Island Community Center

"This open house ensures all participants can have their individual questions and concerns addressed in a one-on-one forum," said Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"The representatives will also collect questions and feedback directly from residents that can be used to make necessary improvements," he added.

Information stations will be staffed by Forest City's resident services, maintenance, security and Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP) points of contact as well as representatives from the Honolulu Police Department and Navy Region Hawaii housing office.

Residents who have questions regarding any of the neighborhood meetings can contact their Forest City RSO (resident service office) or Todd Thom, Navy Region Hawaii housing liaison at 474-1804.

Diverse Views



Other than the United States, what country would you most like to live in and why?



PS2 Melissa Dennis
USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112)

"Germany. I took German for three years in high school, and I heard it's one of the best duty stations."

Senior Airman Andrew Kocsis
8th Intelligence Squadron



"I've always wanted to spend time living in the United Kingdom. I always thought I would look good in a powdered wig."



Lt. Stacy Carfly
DESRON 31

"I liked Japan when I lived there. I liked the cuisine. The people are outgoing and friendly. Even though there's crime there, it's a very safe place. Children can walk home from school without their parents."

Master Sgt. Jerome Tayborn
PACAF



"I would love to move to Mexico. It's a beautiful country, though at times dangerous. We love to visit."



FC3 Andrew Bugaj
USS Preble (DDG-88)

"I would have to choose between a few places. Australia, because I hear it's fun. I could revisit my roots in eastern Europe, like Russia or Ukraine ... My family comes from those areas."

MM2 James Millard
USS Buffalo (SSN 715)



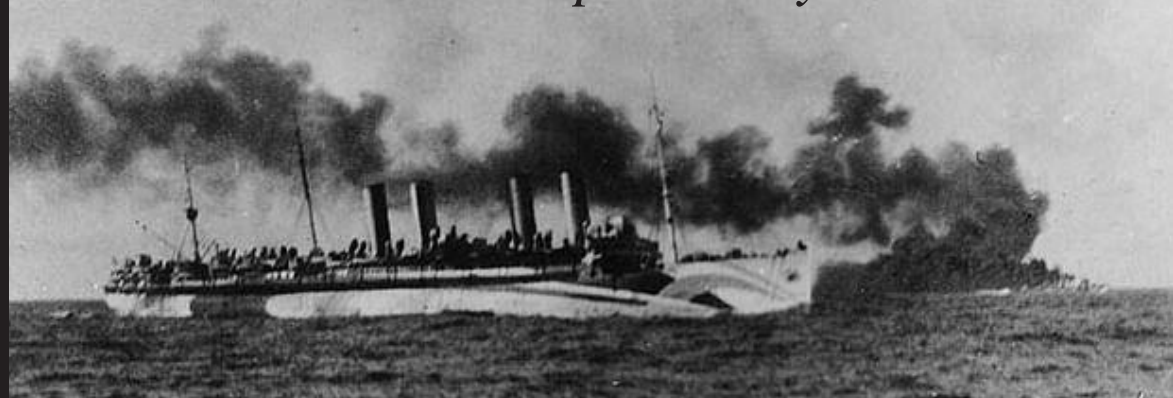
"I would have to say Canada because of the beautiful sites and health benefits if I wasn't in the military."

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

USS Mount Vernon torpedoed by German sub



U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command photograph

USS Mount Vernon steams toward Brest, France, after it had been torpedoed by German submarine U-82 in the eastern Atlantic on Sept. 5, 1918, 96 years ago this month. Thirty-six members of Mount Vernon's crew were killed and another 13 injured. Mount Vernon had been en route back to the United States after delivering troops to the European war zone during World War I when it was torpedoed. An escorting destroyer is laying a smokescreen in the background.

HO'OKELE

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Director, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs
Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Director, Public Affairs
Bill Doughty

Director, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs
Grace Hew Len

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HIANG unit conducts first Pacific Unity operation in Papua New Guinea

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

Pacific Unity Public Affairs

MOUNT HAGEN, Papua New Guinea—Pacific Unity has been ongoing in the Asia-Pacific region since 2010. However, the current iteration in Mount Hagen Papua New Guinea marks the first time the Air National Guard (ANG) has taken the lead on the humanitarian assistance-based operation.

Pacific Unity (PACUNITY) is a bilateral engineering civic action program conducted with host nation civil authorities and military personnel. The primary mission of Pacific Unity 14-8 is to construct two new dormitories for female students at Togoba Secondary School while promoting interoperability between the U.S. and Papua New Guinea, a task the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Wing readily agreed to take on.

"This is a big commitment by the National Guard Bureau," said Lt. Col. Brad Waters, 154th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

"This is a first for us, but I knew we were going to be successful from day one. We wanted to showcase that the Guard is a viable option for projects like this. We have the knowledge, capability and resources."

In addition to showcasing the ANG as an operational force,



Members of the Hawaii Air National Guard 154th Civil Engineer Squadron move bunk beds into place inside a newly built dormitory at Togoba Secondary School as Pacific Unity 14-8 in Mount Hagen, Papua New Guinea wraps up.

Waters said PACUNITY has provided his team with a vital opportunity to strengthen their core skills and grow as a team.

The PACUNITY 14-8 team from the 154th Wing is comprised of volunteers from within the unit. Though most hold Air Force specialty codes within the civil engineer skill set, few of the volunteers had construction backgrounds or experience.

"I was amazed at the level of

support from our team," Waters said. "We didn't shy away from volunteers with skill sets that weren't construction, and we've been amazed at what non-traditional construction Airmen have been able to do."

In approximately four weeks, the Pacific Unity 14-8 team, which includes not only HIANG Airmen, but active-duty Airmen, Papua New Guinea Defense Forces and day laborers from the

local community as well, has managed to complete the construction of two dormitories, upgrade the electrical system in the school's administrative building, re-paint the entire school, re-roof four boys' dormitories, renovate the dining hall, add gravel to the school's entry road, reconstruct the covered walkway, and build new basketball goals for the school's recreation area.

"Working on an installation is great because it's mostly maintenance," Waters said. "But when we go into our wartime task, we have to be able to construct. That's why small-scale construction projects and training opportunities like this that involve all of our skill sets are invaluable."

To offset the lack of experience, Waters said the operation has relied heavily on the knowledge of the senior NCOs on the team. Five SNCOs with extensive construction experience were chosen as team leads.

"This project was perfect for what we intended to do, which was get our Airmen familiar with the construction process," said Chief Master Sgt. Robert Davis, 154th Civil Engineer Squadron chief enlisted manager and structures subject matter expert.

"The first week was a learning experience but after the first week, we felt confident they were knowledgeable to do things on their own."

Davis said they knew they had the leadership and experience to

move the project through completion but wanted to take the opportunity to offer younger Airmen in the unit something they couldn't get at home—real construction experience.

"The unit will lose its current subject matter experts through attrition, so we are trying to grow our unit again and develop new leaders," he said. "Exposing them to construction is one way we can do that."

Waters said he has seen significant growth in the younger Airmen over the course of the operation.

"One of the challenges we face in the Guard is to teach people to perfect a skill they don't do every day, and you can't do that over one weekend a month," Waters said. "That's why we need to continue to seek out these opportunities and be ready for anything that comes our way."

"Our Airmen are educated, and they've been able to take instruction and run with it," Waters said. "It's about being able to take direction and understand it and execute it. I would take this team anywhere to complete any mission."

"Our capabilities make this a unit that is very flexible and able to meet any type of objective," he added.

Waters said the 154th Wing looks forward to taking the lead and participating in many future opportunities.

Ready Now, anytime, anywhere for an emergency situation

Ensign
Egdanis Torres-Dominicci

Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — President Barack Obama proclaimed September as National Preparedness Month.

This culminates in a day of action Sept. 30 to prepare for six specific hazards: earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, wildfires

and winter storms.

In support of this initiative, Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) has launched an emergency preparedness campaign called "Navy Ready."

"I want to see the National Day of Action, Sept. 30, become a Navy Day of Action where every member of the Navy is able to say 'yes' to the challenge, Are You Ready?" said Vice Adm. William French, commander, Navy Installations Command.

To be informed, Ready Navy is the "must go" link to emergency preparedness resources. Navy personnel and families are encouraged to visit www.ready.navy.mil to gain information, tools and resources that enhance the Navy family to prepare, react and recover when confronted with any emergency, with or without warning.

"Throughout the month of September, installation emergency managers will also be educating

the community about emergency preparedness, and each day during the second week of National Preparedness Month, Ready Navy will highlight resources to meet a variety of emergency preparedness needs through Facebook and Twitter," said Jeff Sanford, CNIC emergency management specialist.

Navy personnel can take advantage of presentations, information fairs and displays that may be present at installations taking place throughout the month.

"Preparedness is the key to survival in any type of disaster," said Capt. Anthony Calandra, director of operations for Navy Installations Command.

"Throughout the year personnel at our regions and installations participate in and/or conduct exercises like Citadel Gale, HURREX, Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield and Citadel Rumble to put into practice the necessary actions when an incident occurs aboard an installation," Calandra said.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham
 (Above) Chief (selectee) Legalman Erica Keels is pinned to the rank of chief petty officer by her 6-year-old son during a chief pinning ceremony held on Sept. 16 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham
 (Above) Chief petty officers salute a newly pinned chief.



(Left) Chief Hospital Corpsman Lesley Prasad, assigned to Naval Health Clinic Hawaii, receives his combination cover.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

Chief selectees perform in front of Navy chiefs during a pride drill competition at the CPO Pride Day Hawaii held on Sept. 12 at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan



Chief petty officer selectees stand in formation during a pride drill competition at the CPO Pride Day Hawaii.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan



(Left) Members from Navy Region Hawaii Honors and Ceremonies Detachment present Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell with an American flag during a Honolulu Chamber of Commerce 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Tamarind Park in Downtown Honolulu.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro
 (Above) Senior Airman Joy Cooper, entomologist at 647 Civil Engineering Squadron, shows Donald R. Schregardus, deputy assistant secretary of the Navy (Installations & Environment), a preserved coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) larva during his visit to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). The CRB is a high profile invasive species and is a pest of coconut palms and other palm species. During his visit, Schregardus toured multiple CRB mitigation sites on JBPHH, as well as environmentally significant areas at Pacific Missile Range Facility, including Nohili Dunes, Turtle Cove and the shearwater seabird nests and sanctuary.

(Right) Navy Region Hawaii Federal Fire Department members observe a moment of silence during a 9/11 memorial ceremony to remember the 343 fallen New York fire fighters, paramedics and those who lost their lives in the attacks.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Ernesto Bonilla



Wings Over the Pacific



Sept. 27-28

Event highlights

- 11 a.m.: Opening ceremony featuring U.S. Navy Parachute Team, Leap Frogs
- Noon: Air Combat Command F-22 Demonstration Team
- 1:30 p.m. C-17 Globemaster III Demonstration
- 4 p.m.: U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, Blue Angels

Static displays:

- USCG HH-65 Dolphin & Rescue C-130
- USMC RQ-7 Shadow
- A-4 Skyhawk
- 25 ASOS TACPs w/ MRAP & MATV
- 25 ID assets- Stryker mobile gun system, Stryker infantry fighting vehicle, Stryker mortar carrier vehicle, Howitzer variants, MRAP, HMMV, UH-60, OH-58, EOD team, Military police APC, Zodiac boat
- Local assets- (KC-135, C-17, F-22)
- Aloha 99s Oahu chapter w/ aircraft and Model T
- B-52 Stratofortress
- Vintage SNJ (T-6)
- P-3C Orion
- F-104 Starfighter (PAM)
- USAF Crash, Fire & Rescue Team
- Rescue rig and boat
- Big Island Air Caravan
- Hawaiian Air 1929 Bellanca
- UH-1 Huey
- Hawker Hunter F-58
- Kamaka Air DC-3
- MAG 24 MH-53
- Various civilian general aviation aircraft
- CH-47 Chinook

Base access

On Sept. 27-28 from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., the O'Malley Gate will be used solely for the Wings Over the Pacific airshow traffic. All base residents should use alternate gates for access. All personnel who utilize O'Malley Gate during the above-mentioned times will be directed to general parking on the flightline. For more information, call base security at 449-1002.

Increased noise advisory

Residents of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the surrounding community can expect increased noise during the following times:

- Sept. 25: 4-5:15 p.m.
- Sept. 26: 4-5:15 p.m.
- Sept. 27: noon to 5:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28: noon to 5:30 p.m.

Seating

Upgraded tickets

The air show is free and open to the public. No tickets are required for entry. Optional premium seating tickets are available for purchase at wingsoverthepacific.com/tickets.

Discounted tickets for military are available at all Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) ITT offices while supplies last.

* Note: Special parking is not included with ticket purchase. Tickets are non-refundable.

VIP flight line club

The VIP Flight Line Club is a chalet located directly on the flight line with the best views of the flying action. Individual tickets may be purchased for this prime viewing area.

Premium box seats

The premium box seats offer a dedicated numbered seat located directly on the flight line area.



Entry restrictions:

- All carry-in items and persons are subject to search.
- All unattended bags and items will be removed from the premises.
- Cameras may be used to monitor the facility.
- No RV parking allowed.
- Smoking is allowed outside the spectator gates and in the parking lots.

Approved items include:

- Small purses or fanny packs.
- Cameras and/or camcorders with "small" camera bags.
- Diaper bags.
- Baby strollers.
- Small hand-held umbrellas.
- Small lawn chairs or camp chairs (no lounge chairs).

The following restrictions apply:

- No large purses, backpacks or bags of any kind.
- No food or beverages.
- No coolers, loose ice, cans, glass, or alcohol.
- No pets.
- No weapons of any kind
- No tents or awnings.
- No cooking equipment.
- No bicycles, scooters or roller-blades.
- No ladders, large umbrellas or wagons.

To minimize imposition, it is recommended that airshow patrons bring only necessary items on their person and limit the size and contents of carry-in items to those that are essential.

Air show concession stands will offer a variety of food and beverage options for patrons' enjoyment and convenience.

Contact the "Wings over the Pacific" Airshow at 473-2920 or email at wingsoverthepacific@gmail.com. Visit www.wingsoverthepacific.com for more information.

Halsey Sailors honor naval and Marine Corps history near Iwo Jima

Lt. j.g. Rochelle Perry

USS Halsey (DDG 97)
Public Affairs

NORTHERN MARIANAS —Halsey Sailors recently witnessed the unforgettable sight of the four-mile long island of Iwo Jima, just miles off the bow of the ship.

As Halsey approached, the officer of the deck shared an excerpt from Halsey's namesake's biography and chief petty officer (selectees) took turns sharing the historical significance of Iwo Jima with the crew throughout the day.

Chief Fire Controlman (select) Eric J. Wemmer detailed the battle over the 1MC (ship's general announcing system). "Iwo Jima was strategically important as an air base for fighter escorts supporting long-range bombing missions against mainland Japan," Wemmer announced.

"The invasion began in



U.S. Navy photo by Ensign Erica Bauer

Boatswain's Mate Seaman Jonathan Valles stands a vigilant watch as he overlooks the waters off the island of Iwo Jima and reflects on the fierce battle that took place 70 years ago.

February of 1945, when U.S. Navy warships started three days of pre-landing preparations for the Marines as ships and aircraft methodi-

cally tried to destroy the island's defenses," he said.

The fighting that took place during the 36-day assault on Iwo Jima would

be immortalized in the words of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander, Pacific Fleet/commander in chief,

who said, "Among the

Americans who served on Iwo Island, uncommon valor was a common virtue."

For one crew member, seeing the island of Iwo Jima had special meaning and personal significance. Ensign Frances Klimczak recounted a childhood visit to Washington, D.C. where she and her father visited the Iwo Jima Memorial at night.

"The first visit to the Iwo Jima Memorial had a lasting impact on me. Throughout my college career, I always enjoyed reading different books about the battles that took place in the Pacific—particularly Iwo Jima's," she recalled.

"In my junior year, I finished the Marine Corps marathon at the base of the Iwo Jima Memorial, and now that I had the opportunity to see the island, it really brought those experiences to life," Klimczak said.

Others believed that learning about naval history through the Battle of Iwo

Jima proved a significant event. Gas Turbine System Technician (electrical) 1st Class Jose Meza explained the importance of understanding past events and battles as an active service member to his peers. "We need to continue to learn about our past, so that we can make a better future for ourselves," he said.

"By learning about our Navy's history, we understand what we are fighting for and what we represent."

"From the standpoint of seeing where our country has been and what it has gone through, it's easy to see why all branches have come together to defend and protect our way of life," Wemmer said.

"And that's what my service is all about: protecting and defending our way of life from those who want to change it," he said.

USS Halsey (DDG-97) is currently deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

Hawaii Airman teaches clinic students during Pacific Unity 14-8

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

Pacific Unity Public Affairs

MOUNT HAGEN, Papua New Guinea—Maj. Nathaniel Duff is deployed to Papua New Guinea in support of Pacific Unity 14-8 but recently took time out from his duties as the team medic to host a self-aid and buddy care clinic for students at Togoba Secondary School in Mount Hagen.

Pacific Unity is a bilateral engineering civic action program conducted in the Asia-Pacific region in collaboration with host nation civil authorities and military personnel. This year marks the fourth iteration of the operation with efforts focused on the construction of two new dormitories for female students at the school.

In addition to constructing the

dormitories, the Pacific Unity 14-8 team has embarked upon several endeavors to further improve the school and local community, including teaching basic life-saving medical skills to the clinic attendees.

Duff, who is deployed from the Hawaii Air National Guard's 154th Medical Group as the medical officer for Pacific Unity 14-8, taught the class of more than 40 biology, chemistry and physics students. He taught them how to check for a pulse, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, stabilize a neck injury, make a splint, wrap a pressure bandage, make a sling, and apply a tourniquet.

"We are working at a school, so teaching is a valuable way to interact with the students and provides a medium to share and learn," Duff said of his decision to teach the class. "It's a way for them to learn a little about us and for me to learn



Maj. Nathaniel Duff, Hawaii Air National Guard 154th Medical Group and Pacific Unity 14-8 medical officer, demonstrates the proper way to wrap an injury during a basic first-aid clinic at Togoba Secondary School in Mount Hagen, Papua New Guinea.

about their culture."

Duff said his goal was to teach the students basic first aid which could be used by anybody any-

where, but he also wanted to inspire them.

"I think his demonstration was really cool, and I think I could do

some of those things if I had to. I could help someone without the assistance of a doctor," said Belinda Tau, a senior at Togoba Secondary school who attended the class.

Tau, who aspires to be the first female neurosurgeon in Papua New Guinea, said she has been interested in medicine since she was a young child and was impressed and appreciative of the interactive demonstrations by Duff.

Though the focus of the clinic was basic first aid procedures, Duff said he also wanted to show the students yet another side of the U.S. Air Force from what they had seen on television or at the construction site.

"The point was interaction," he said. "This wasn't about medicine. It was about spending time with the kids, making them laugh, and answering questions. This [medicine] was the medium I used to do that."

96th ARS participates in aircrew CBRN training

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt.
Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 96th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) conducted emergency preparedness training Sept. 5, ensuring they are able to operate in a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear contaminated environment.

With assistance from the 15th Operations Support Squadron aircrew flight equipment section and the 15th Maintenance Group, 96th ARS members were able to practice using their protective equipment so that in the event of a real-world CBRN attack, they are prepared.

"Today is very important because we don't have many opportunities to train in this equipment," said Capt. Richard Brown, 96th ARS. "The important thing about this training is that we work out any issues and get it right the first time so we're ready."

Unlike common CBRN individual protective equipment, aircrew members use a special system, the aircrew eye and respiratory protection system (AERPS), which ensures they don't contaminate



Members of the 96th Air Refueling Squadron prepare to board a KC-135 Stratotanker during an emergency preparedness training event Sept. 5 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

the inside of the aircraft. The equipment includes a motorized breathing system that pumps air into their filtered gas mask, a plastic hood, two layers of gloves, plastic booties over their boots,

and a clear plastic body bag that ensures full-body coverage of their flight suit.

At the aircraft, maintenance technicians did their part in the training by assisting aircrew

members into the KC-135 Stratotanker where the aircrew practiced unhooking from the AERPS and hooking into the aircraft's oxygen system. After exiting the aircraft, the aircrew members made

their way to the aircrew contamination control area where AFE Airmen were ready for the decontamination process.

"We're out here helping the aircrew practice and become familiar with the decontamination process," said Tech. Sgt. Ryan Hunt, 15th OSS AFE. "This helps them stay prepared and helps us train our people as well."

AFE members set up the ACCA in a condensed area, but normally the ACCA stations would be spread out over the length of a football field and positioned in compliance with wind direction in order to ensure a successful decontamination. Each station included detailed instructions on how to decontaminate the aircrew member with the last station allowing them to remove their gas mask.

Brown said the main reason for the training is for preparation of an upcoming unit compliance inspection but added that this training is valuable to have.

"We might be able to practice once more before the inspection, but this training is extremely valuable to have, regardless," he said. "We also practice flying with this equipment in our simulator, so all of this training keeps us up to date and prepared."

Enlisted retention board out-brief informs Airmen on process

Staff Sgt.
Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

A 2014 Enlisted Retention Board member provided JBPHH Airmen with the opportunity to better understand the recent force-shaping process during an out-brief recently at the Hickam Memorial Theater.

Col. Michael Addison, Pacific Air Forces deputy director of logistics, instal-

lations and mission support, was a board member of the 2014 technical sergeant, staff sergeant and senior Airmen enlisted retention board, which convened June 16 to consider the retention of Airmen in over manned career fields.

Addison explained the legal and technical aspects of the board process, including the official guidance they needed to follow, information they could and could not discuss with each

other and others, training the board members attended, and score determination factors for the records reviewed.

The authority governing the process included guidance outlined in Title 10, U.S.C. 1169—Regular Enlisted Members: Limitations on Discharge, Air Force Policy Directive 36-32—Military Retirements and Separations, Air Force Instruction 36-3208—Administrative Separation of

Airmen, Air Force Personnel Center Instruction 36-103—Enlisted Retention Boards, and a formal charge from Air Force leadership directing the order to carry out the boards.

Addison explained how board members used the Electronic Board Operating Support System, a program that included Airmen records of performance such as Air Force Form 911—Enlisted Retention Recommendation Form, medal

citations and awards, a board brief that gave board members an overall snapshot of an Airman's career, and other important career documents Airmen had on file.

Questions from the audience garnered many key messages, including the need for Airmen to ensure their records are correct and up-to-date and ensuring reports are written in "plain English" and easy to read.

"There were a lot of holes in the records we reviewed," Addison said. "Front-line supervisors need to help their subordinates with ensuring their records are in line and up-to-date because you never know when another board may convene."

For information on maintaining career records, Airmen can contact the Total Force Service Center at 800-525-0102 or 210-565-0102.

HO'OKELE Online <http://www.hookenews.com/> or visit <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/index.htm>

