

SECAF begins Pacific visit at JBPHH

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James toured the 15th Wing flightline and met with wing leadership and Airmen during a brief visit Nov. 17 to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH).

JBPHH was James' first stop on an 11-day trip through the Pacific region. During her trip, James will have the opportunity to better familiarize herself with command missions and communicate her priorities to Airmen as part of continuing to rebalance the Air Force's presence to the Pacific, a mission she describes as being "very much alive."

"The Pacific is increasingly important to us," James said during a Headquarters Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) press conference. "We have been a



U.S. Air National Guard Col. Duke Pirak (right), 154th Operations Group commander, speaks with Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James about the F-22 Raptor during her visit to the 19th and 199th Fighter Squadrons at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Pacific power for many years, and we are going to remain a Pacific power for

many years to come."

After an office call and joint press conference with

Gen. Lori J. Robinson, PACAF commander, James received a windshield tour

of the JBPHH flightline en route to the 19th and 199th Fighter Squadrons to learn

about the active duty and Air National Guard F-22 Raptor mission at joint base and discuss current and future Raptor operations.

From there, James headed to the Binnicker Professional Military Education Center where she visited with the staff of the center, followed by a one-on-one meeting with the base's sexual assault response coordinator.

"Thank you, everyone, for all that you do," James said. "It's a lot of responsibility to shape the Air Force's future leaders, and I know you are all doing a great job in doing so."

After a lunch with Airmen and wing leadership, James thanked everyone for their help during her visit before heading to Pacific Command (PACOM) to meet with PACOM leadership.

James' Pacific visit will take her to bases in Guam, Japan, Korea and Alaska before heading back to Washington, D.C.

USS Chosin CO calls change of command 'bittersweet'

Story and photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West, Detachment Hawaii

Sailors, families and friends gathered aboard the guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) to bid farewell to USS Chosin's commanding officer, Capt. Patrick M. Kelly, during a change of command ceremony Nov. 14 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

After approximately three years as commanding officer of Chosin, Kelly was relieved of command by Capt. Kevin M. Brand.

Presiding over the ceremony was Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle

Pacific, who commented on the integral role Kelly has played in the U.S. Navy's rebalance of the Asia-Pacific theatre during his command of Chosin.

"This is a very important change of command because this is one of the best ships in the Pacific fleet," said Williams.

"Chosin is the Battle 'E' ship and they are the epitome of the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific. As Adm. Harris [commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet] leads the Pacific fleet and the nation through this rebalance, I can tell you we've counted on USS Chosin to play a key role in that effort," Williams said.

Williams commended Kelly on his long-standing commitment to excellence and congratulated him on the success he experienced



Capt. Patrick M. Kelly, commanding officer of the guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65), renders honors.

while in command of Chosin. "I see great things in [Capt. Kelly's] future," said Williams. "He will have key influence in the largest and fastest growing combat command in the world [U.S. Pacific Command]."

And there's no doubt he will be successful in moving the strategic rebalance forward in new ways based on the experiences and wisdom he gained aboard Chosin. [Capt. Kelly] and the great Chosin crew, congratulations on being the poster ship, the Battle 'E' ship, on the waterfront. Congratulations on a job well done," Williams said.

Williams presented Kelly with the Legion of Merit Award for, "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding

See CHOSIN, A-2



U.S. Navy photo by MCC John Hageman

USS Michael Murphy enhances maritime security patrols with Coast Guard

CT2 Ryan Harris

USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) Public Affairs

WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN — The Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) completed the first mission of its maiden deployment by aiding the U.S. Coast Guard in patrolling Pacific waters for illegal fishing and other crimes.

The Oceania Maritime Security Initiative (OMSI) was conducted during the first two weeks of the Michael Murphy's deployment. The ship departed Oct. 20 from its homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for its first deployment to the western Pacific Ocean.

"The OMSI mission was a great way to start our maiden deployment and provided an excellent opportunity for the crew to immediately begin working on a mission that has a direct, profound impact in the critical Pacific region," said Cmdr. Todd Hutchison, Michael Murphy's commanding officer.

"It was an honor sailing with the embarked United States Coast Guard personnel for the OMSI mission. Their professionalism and dedication to protecting and serving the Oceania island nations is impressive and is a tremendous benefit to this



U.S. Navy photo

A small boat team of Sailors and Coast Guardsmen embarked aboard the Arleigh Burke-class, guided-missile destroyer USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112) prepare to board a fishing vessel to conduct an inspection.

region of the Pacific."

By embarking foreign law enforcement officers from the Pacific Island nations of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, and conducting boardings under their authority, Michael Murphy, Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 37 Detachments 4 and the embarked USCG detachment assisted these nations in maintaining the rule of law and projecting their national sovereignty.

During the patrol, Michael Murphy

conducted 11 boardings, and the embarked aviation detachment flew 24 flights, making 27 sightings which provided important information for boardings.

"OMSI is a unique joint mission that leverages surface naval assets with embarked aircraft in conjunction with USCG maritime law enforcement expertise and foreign law enforcement officers to project power and establish a hard, visible presence of maritime

See MICHAEL MURPHY, A-2

JS Teruzuki to offer ship tours to DoD card holders Nov. 22

The JS Teruzuki will offer ship tours to Department of Defense card holders from 8 a.m. to noon Nov. 22.

The tours will be held at the ship at pier B-26. Only the main deck will be open to visitors.


Infants and children should be supervised by their parents or guardians. Children should not be allowed to run around the deck.

Visitors should refrain from wearing sandals, skirts and high-heeled shoes due to the ladders on deck.


Unfortunately, people in wheelchairs cannot be accommodated.

Visitors in uniform with the rank of O-5 and above should notify the ship in advance.


For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. Michael Barksdale, foreign ship liaison officer, at 473-2568 or Michael.barksdale@navy.mil or Lt. Cmdr. Naoki Shirasaka at 474-8465 or Naoki.shirasaka.ja@navy.mil.




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City of Corpus Christi topples another top-four team
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Native American Heritage Month celebration today
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Pearl Harbor Vehicle Registration office offers online appointments
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Sea Service Awards honor service members for their achievement

Story and photos by
MC2 Diana Quinlan

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West, Detachment
Hawaii

HONOLULU — Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen stationed in Hawaii received excellence awards at the 54th Sea Service Awards recognition luncheon hosted Nov. 14 by the Honolulu Navy League at the Ala Moana Hotel.

The ceremony was held to recognize 62 military officer and enlisted men and women who have provided exemplary service and performance of duty.

The Navy League Honolulu council board of directors, community leaders, and Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, presided over the event.

The ceremony opened with the parade of colors provided by a joint service color guard and opening remarks from Mike Buck, master of ceremonies for the event, followed by a luncheon.

Williams spoke to the service members about the success, commitment and investment they have made to the U.S. military and their nation and the importance of working together for a common goal.

"It is a distinct pleasure to recognize the hard work, contributions and achievements of some of 'the best of the best' of our Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Navy team," said Williams.

"Every day, here in the Hawaii-operating area, our squadrons, Coast Guard cutters, flight lines, harbors, piers, logistics and other assets are often



(Above) Yeomen 1st Class La Toya Calvin, assigned to U.S. Pacific Fleet, receives a recognition award during the 54th annual Navy League Sea Service Awards Luncheon at the Ala Moana Hotel. At right is Carl Devoe, president of Navy League.

(Right) A Sailor holds his award during the 54th annual Navy League Sea Service Awards luncheon at the Ala Moana Hotel.



shared between Coast Guard, Marines and Navy. We rely on the speed of trust to meet the mission, and leveraging that trust helps us make a difference," he said.

Williams elaborated on the speed of technological growth over the years and new generations that think outside the box, making new advances possible.

"These young leaders that we are recognizing today are the drivers of change, innovating new ways, faster ways, and more efficient ways of doing business," added Williams.

"This makes you [millennial leaders] stronger, more secure and better adaptive planners and communicators. This can lead to less miscalculation, en-

hanced cooperation, and advanced sources of educated talent to draw from."

After the keynote speech, Carl Devoe, president of the Honolulu Navy League; Joseph Zettlemoyer, 2014 Sea Service Awards chair; and Williams presented the certificates to the recipients of the sea service awards.

Coast Guard Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Charles Palmer, assigned to the cutter USCGC Ahi (WPB 87364), was awarded the top junior enlisted leadership award, chosen out of all the service branches represented.

"It is amazing to be nominated in the first place and to have support of my command here. It is quite an honor," said Palmer. "It feels very special, and I am very thankful to the crew of Cutter Ahi and all of the Coast Guard family out on Sand Island."

Navy Yeomen 1st Class La Toya Calvin, assigned to commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, was among the 2014 Sea Service Recognition Award recipients.

"I am very overwhelmed, humbled and very excited. I appreciate everyone who helped me be here today and receive these honors, and I hope it will help me be a better leader," said Calvin.

"Never give up, always lead by example, always encourage your Sailors and yourself," advised Calvin as she spoke of her command's support.

"I have very strong leaders at Pacific Fleet and all the chiefs, my peers and my Sailors have got me where I am today."

The Navy League of the United States (NLUS) is a national organization of more than 50,000 members and more than 270 councils throughout the United States and overseas. Each year, NLUS presents awards in recognition of outstanding individual achievements in leadership, maritime affairs, scientific progress, engineering excellence, logistics competence, excellence in intelligence and service to community and country.

USS Chafee Sailors remember the fallen at USS Arizona Memorial

Story and photo by
Ensign James Duncan

USS Chafee (DDG 90) Public
Affairs

Members of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines "Dog Company," along with their families and Sailors from the USS Chafee (DDG 90), recently visited the USS Arizona Memorial to hold a ceremony of remembrance for their comrades who died fighting in the Korean War. Service members from "Dog Company" fought under the leadership of the ship's namesake, Capt. John Chafee, from September to December 1951.

The ceremony was attended

by three surviving members of "Dog Company": Gonzalo Garza, Arthur Contreras and Charles Curley along with Jane Curtin, the widow of Richard Curtin.

The ceremony was a part of a weekend of events coordinated by Cmdr. Anthony Littmann, Chafee's commanding officer.

"I wanted this visit to also be a special event for the Marines who claim to have their own 'Dog Company' Navy," said Littmann.

"It is the only Marine Company to have two USN ships named after their brothers in arms. In 1951, Hospitalman De Wert served with 'Dog Company' and, in fact, was last seen alive by Mr. Garza, one of our



Cmdr. Anthony Littmann, left, the commanding officer of the USS Chafee (DDG-90), presents a flag flown onboard to Korean War veterans, Dr. Gonzalo Garza, Charles Curley and Arthur Contreras of Sen. John Chafee's "Dog Company" at the USS Arizona Memorial.

visitors this week. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for administering aid to injured Marines of 'Dog Company' during a firefight."

"The other ship was named for their company commander, John Chafee, who also served as governor, congressman and senator of Rhode Island and was the Secretary of the Navy," he said.

Littmann presented the Marines with an ensign flown on the Chafee and a lei was placed over the Arizona's resting site. Words of celebration of the lives and sacrifices made by their fellow Marines were shared.

Chosin commended for receiving Battle 'E' award

Continued from A-1

services as the commanding officer of USS Chosin."

Before being relieved of command, Kelly thanked those in attendance and addressed the crew aboard USS Chosin for the final time.

"As I transition from sea duty to shore duty, many people, including many in the crowd today, expect that I'll be looking forward to leaving the ship but, in truth, this is a very bittersweet event for me," said Kelly.

"As much as I look forward to greater normalcy in my daily routine in order to tackle the 'honey do' list that has been growing these three years and to spend more time with my family, I'm going to miss working with the great people of Chosin."

"When I depart Chosin for the last time today, I'll do so with no regrets," said Kelly. "I'm overwhelmed with the gratitude and pride for what we've achieved for these nearly three years together. If I'm able to leave a lega-

cy behind, I wish my legacy to be you, the officers, chiefs and crew of Chosin. You are the future.

"You have proven repeatedly that you are the absolute best of the best. Continue to be the waterfront example and make me proud. Continue to be the model by which every inspection team that comes to Chosin holds up as the platform to emulate. Continue to exhibit the strength and character by which you are best known," Kelly told the crew.

Under Kelly's command, Chosin completed a successful deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operation, was awarded the Battle "E" Efficiency Award, and also led the recovery efforts of Her Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) Protecteur after an engine fire left her dead in the water approximately 200 miles off the coast of Hawaii.

Kelly also guided Chosin through various naval exercises including Koa Kai 2014, Rim of the Pacific 2014 and Commander, Carrier Strike Group 11 Task Group Exercise.

After official orders were read, Brand assumed all duties and responsibilities as commanding officer and addressed the crew of Chosin for the first time.

"It truly is an honor to be here today and to have an opportunity to once again command a ship at sea and to lead some of the best men and women in the world today, our Sailors," said Brand. "It's an awesome responsibility that I take very seriously."

"To the crew [of USS Chosin], my fellow commanding officers and the professional men and women throughout Pearl Harbor that make up the Hawaii waterfront, I look forward to working with each and every one of you," said Brand. "It is my sincere pleasure to rejoin all of you on the waterfront and to join the Hawaii ohana."

Brand previously served as director of the commander's action group for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Kelly's next assignment will be at United States Pacific Command.

Michael Murphy

Continued from A-1

governance in the extremely remote expanses of the Oceania region," said Lt. Craig Dente, command duty officer at the USCG 14th District Command Center, who served as the embarked USCG liaison officer for Michael Murphy's OMSI mission.

"By establishing and maintaining a robust presence in the vast expanses of the central Pacific through the OMSI mission, the United States Navy and United States Coast Guard stand together in the deterrence of the global threat posed by illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as other transnational crimes," Dente said.

USS Michael Murphy is on deployment to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility supporting security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

Ford Island Bridge closures announced

All lanes of the Ford Island Bridge will be closed from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Dec. 5 and from 7 to 10 a.m. Dec. 7 for operations in support of ceremonies commemorating the Dec. 7, 1941 attack.

All motorists and pedestrians are asked to plan accordingly.

The small craft gate must be closed during the bridge opening to minimize collision hazards when the roadway pontoon is in motion.

Boat traffic under the causeway will be prohibited during that time.

New commercial vehicle inspection station hours of operation take effect Dec. 1

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Security

Effective Dec. 1, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) commercial vehicle inspection stations' (CVIS) hours of operation will change to the following:

- Halawa CVIS: 5 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday-Friday (excluding holidays).
- Kuntz CVIS: 5 to 9 a.m. and 12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.
- Saipan Gate CVIS (Wahiawa Annex): 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday-Friday (excluding holidays).
- West Loch back gate: 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday-Friday (excluding holidays).

Mission-essential, after-hours deliveries will be handled on a case-by-case basis per current policy and will be allowed only after verification with the receiving command's POC. Tenant commands are requested to notify delivery companies of this change.

To prevent backing up of traffic on Kamehameha Highway, commercial vehicles will not be allowed to pre-stage outside the installation before 5 a.m. while waiting for the Halawa CVIS to open.

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Commentary

Defining leadership: making a difference

Rear Adm.
Rick Williams

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific



Rear Adm. Rick Williams

What is the definition of leadership?

That was on my mind last week while attending the annual sea service awards ceremony sponsored by the Honolulu Council of the Navy League to honor young leaders of the Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Navy.

Former Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh Burke, who was considered the father of the modern surface Navy, said, "Leading Sailors is an art, not a science."

In previous generations, military leadership was defined as influencing others to be obedient, respectful and loyal in order to accomplish the mission.

Today, leadership is more nuanced. Smart leaders use responsiveness, identification, understanding and inspiration to influence and motivate. They help young people find their inspiration from within.

Good leaders encourage people to do things they

would not otherwise do on their own. They listen, encourage, create successful conditions, and reward passion and commitment.

Finally, good leaders also support education and lifelong learning because they know knowledge is a force multiplier; wisdom creates confidence and credibility.

The focus at last week's ceremony was on our sea services, but these principles apply throughout the military, and I believe they are universal throughout society.

Helping someone discover his or her passion, motivation and desire to make a difference is extremely rewarding, and when people find their sense of purpose, they become better leaders themselves.

Most of the sea service awardees were millennials. Born between the early '80s and through the '90s, they have spent most of their lives

experiencing the uncertainties of conflict following 9/11 and many economic challenges.

The youngest generation has been part of a more globalized world, which results in greater competition and an associated sense of urgency. So the millennials are accustomed to coordinating, communicating and cooperating in ways many Gen Xers and baby boomers may not. They possess a competitive spirit to get innovative things done, and they embrace technologies and adapt ahead of change better than other generations—they are setting the new pace.

In fact, this younger generation is ushering in the new "Cooperation Age."

Entrepreneur experts like Aaron Hurst believe that the millennials, with their built-in sense of purpose, are essential in advancing change and

progress in these challenging times. Our Navy certainly appreciates this view and leads society in employing young people. The average age of our Sailors is 22. Most of them joined after Sept. 11, 2001, and many joined because of 9/11.

During RIMPAC, our Task Force Energy and Environment [TFEE] demonstrated for the first time the ability to generate solar power in the field for sustained humanitarian assistance operations. This humanitarian assist exercise proved new expeditionary energy initiatives while training for civilian disaster support.

The success of the TFEE initiative was due to the creativity of young people who led the effort. We provided the end goal and means to achieve the goal, but they found the way—the how—to make it work.

This same generation is going to apply this innovative spirit in other domains as well. As technologies mature, new capabilities like rail-gun and directed energy weapons will be mastered by this young generation, and this will be a new revolution in military affairs similar to other technology breakthroughs realized during previous transformation eras like steam to diesel and gas turbines or nuclear power.

We need to continue to look for ways to challenge, resource and reward our team of young innovators. A prepared mind is ready for creating opportunity.

The leadership awards help us say thanks to the young men and women who are working together and encourage them to continue leading efforts in the defense of freedom.

Diverse Views



Besides turkey, what is your favorite food to eat on Thanksgiving?



FT3 Joshua Berry
USS Cheyenne (SSN 773)

"My family always makes the best homemade food ever. Soul food is definitely something that reminds me of home."

Maj. Chandra Pasillas
613th Air and Space Operations Center



"I think it's pecan pies and apple pies. It's the only time of year I make them, and my husband always wonders why, since he likes them so much. Either pie or homemade mashed potatoes. Those are great, too."



Lt. j.g. Christina Villareal
PACOM JIOC

"Stuffing. It's just the best part."

Senior Airman Emily Gray
15th Aerospace Medicine Squadron



"My favorite food would have to be my 'me-me's' homemade mac and cheese and black olives. My aunt Mik and I use to put the olives on our fingers and eat them. My 'pop-pop' would always yell at us. Those memories make the perfect holiday."



LS1 Maria Garcia
VP-47

"The dressing. I actually like it better than the turkey."

1st Lt. Joseph Correia
647th Civil Engineer Squadron



"My favorite food is wheat, barley and hops all mixed together with water. It seems to just go well with everything on any holiday."



IS1 Brian Foster
PACOM JIOC

"Green bean casserole."

Tech. Sgt. Leticia Demory
HQ PACAF



"Pecan pie. It's the only time I can eat it and feel guilt-free. After all, it's Thanksgiving!"

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

Presidential proclamation on Military Family Month

President Barack Obama

For more than two centuries, members of our Armed Forces have defended our country with unyielding courage. In our nation's times of need, these brave patriots step forward to answer America's call, leaving behind everything they know and love.

And as they help secure our freedom and democracy, their families sacrifice alongside them. During Military Family Month, we recognize every spouse, parent, sibling, child and loved one who stands with our service members, and we reaffirm our solemn vow to serve these families as well as they serve us.

The selflessness of our military families tells a story of unflinching duty and devotion. Through long deployments, difficult separations, and moves across the country and overseas, spouses and partners put their careers on hold and children take on extra responsibilities.

With grace and resilience, families

endure the absence of loved ones and shoulder the burdens of war. And when battle ends and our service members return home, their families support their transition and recovery.

To fulfill our sacred promise to our service members and their loved ones, my administration continues to make supporting our military families a top priority. This year, we launched the Veterans Employment Center, an interagency resource to connect transitioning service members, veterans and their spouses to meaningful career opportunities.

We are also committed to fostering partnerships with organizations that help military caregivers and making consistent and effective family services available, including mental health care and counseling, deployment and relocation assistance, and child care and youth programs.

Through their Joining Forces initiative, First Lady Michelle Obama and Dr. Jill Biden are working to ensure members of our armed forces, veterans

and their families have all the opportunities and benefits they deserve. And since 2011, their efforts have encouraged businesses to hire more than 500,000 veterans and military spouses.

Every day, our military families at home and abroad inspire us and remind us of our obligation to take care of those who do so much for our country. As a grateful nation, we pay tribute to the women and men who have made our military the finest fighting force the world has ever known, and we honor the enduring strength and dedication of their families.

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 November 2014 as Military Family Month.

I call on all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in support of our service members and our nation.

Hickam construction takes shape



Photo courtesy of the Hawaii Department of Transportation Aviation Division

The water tower, paved roads, underground power, family housing, Bishop Point dock, hangars, base operations, apron and taxiway are in place in this photo of Hickam Field taken Nov. 17, 1938 (76 years ago this week). A railroad has been moved to Hangar Avenue and men continued to live in tents while construction of the base continued.

HO'OKELE

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Ho'okele is delivered weekly to Navy & Air Force housing units and Navy and Air Force installations throughout Oahu.

A story that was published on page A-4 of the Nov. 7, 2014 edition of Ho'okele erroneously stated that Dallas Harvey was a retired Navy chief warrant officer. Harvey retired as a Navy commander. We apologize for the error.

PMRF supports milestone MDA integrated test

Stefan Alford

Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs

(Editor's note: Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs contributed to this release.)

PMRF—Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands, Kauai launched one short-range ballistic missile target and two low-flying cruise missile targets Nov. 6 as part of the Missile Defense Agency's first test of its integrated air and missile defense (IAMD) of the Aegis ballistic missile defense (BMD) system.

Navy Sailors aboard the USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53), homeported at Pearl Harbor, detected and tracked the missiles with its onboard AN/SPY-1 radar, developed a fire control solution using the Aegis BMD weapon system, and successfully intercepted the targets near-simultaneously.

"FTM-25 was unique because this was the first test of a recent upgrade to the Aegis weapon system that combined ballistic missile defense technology with the ship's self-defense/anti-air warfare capability," said Ave Soto, PMRF director of the test and evaluation division.

"The IAMD radar priority mode enables much more efficient multi-mission radar use to increase the simultaneous raid capability of anti-air warfare and ballistic missile defense," Soto said.

The short-range ballistic missile target was intercepted by a standard missile-3 (SM-3) block IB guided missile, while two low-flying cruise missile targets were engaged by standard missile-2 (SM-2) block IIIA guided missiles.

This test, designated Flight Test Standard Missile-25 (FTM-25), was the first live-fire event of the Aegis weapon system in IAMD radar priority mode, engaging a ballistic missile target and a raid of cruise missile targets.



A Standard Missile-2 (SM-2) Block IIIA guided missile is launched from the USS John Paul Jones (DDG-53) during a Missile Defense Agency and U.S. Navy test over the Pacific Ocean by the Aegis baseline (BL) 9.C1 (BMD 5.0 capability upgrade) weapon system configured ship.

The complexity of the mission required a significant amount of preparation by PMRF's range personnel, said Soto, "to ensure we conducted the mission in a safe manner while still ensuring the scenario was tactically realistic to the warfighters. We needed to maintain situational awareness of the targets and interceptor missiles in flight at all times and have the ability to terminate flight if the situation warranted. We met all our re-

quirements," Soto said.

Meeting those requirements successfully signifies "a huge advancement," Soto added. "The data collected on this mission will help validate that ship upgrades meet the specifications of the Aegis baseline (BL) 9.C1 (BMD 5.0 capability upgrade) weapon system and, in the future, other Aegis ships can be configured with the latest capability to defeat ballistic missiles while protecting themselves from

cruise missile threats."

FTM-25 marks the 29th successful intercept in 35 flight test attempts for the Aegis BMD program since flight testing began at PMRF in 2002. The Kauai range offers the premier capability for testing based on its location and data collection instrumentation suite, said Soto.

"The hazard patterns for BMD missions are large," he explained. "In some cases, up to a million square miles of

ocean must be surveyed. PMRF has been able to work with other agencies to facilitate range clearance which would be nearly impossible at other ranges."

"Additionally, we have sophisticated radars, telemetry, optics and communications systems that enable us to collect the data necessary for evaluation of the system under test. Analysts spend months evaluating system performance based on the data we provide them post mission," he said.

"This was a milestone event," emphasized Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, underscoring its importance to DOD's [Department of Defense] missile defense system array by witnessing the test execution first-hand at PMRF.

"You won't find comparable integrated range systems capabilities like this anywhere else in the world," said Williams.

The success of FTM-25, however, isn't just about multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art, high-tech electronics and equipment—it's the people who make it happen, Williams added.

"Our Sailors, as well as our civilian team members, continue to demonstrate why America has the best trained Navy in the world," he said. "The crew of the USS John Paul Jones, in particular, responded to a multi-layered scenario with extreme precision and immaculate timing to neutralize the threat and validate the advancements of our MDA partners."

Capt. Bruce Hay, PMRF commanding officer, also praised those involved on the range side.

"I continue to be amazed by the PMRF team," he wrote in a congratulatory message to all base employees while he was on a trip to the mainland.

"It wasn't easy and we fully stressed every part of the organization to support the most complex MDA cam-

paign [at PMRF] to date. This herculean effort had three- and four-star admiral attention and, as usual, we fully exceeded expectations," Hay said.

Soto echoed those sentiments. "I would like to recognize the entire PMRF *ohana* for their incredible dedication and professionalism. It's amazing to see how our men and women step up to prepare the range for these high visibility events but also for the work we do every day supporting the fleet and other range customers."

The November test comes on the heels of an Oct. 17 launch from PMRF, designated flight test Other (FTX)-20 that saw the Aegis BMD system aboard the USS John Paul Jones successfully detect and track a medium-range ballistic missile target using the same upgraded weapon system. Several fire control, discrimination and engagement functions were exercised during that event in preparation for FTM-25, but no SM-3 guided missiles were launched.

Other test participants for both events included discriminating sensors flown on two MQ-9 Reaper unmanned aerial vehicles and sensor systems ashore; the Sea-Based X-band Radar space tracking and surveillance system demonstrators; Command and Control, Battle Management, and Communications (C2BMC) enterprise sensors lab, C2BMC experimentation lab; and the Aegis ashore missile defense test complex at PMRF.

The MDA will use test results to improve and enhance the BMDS and support the advancement of phase 2 of the phased adaptive approach for missile defense in Europe to provide protection of U.S. deployed forces and our European allies and partners.

Aegis BMD is the naval component of the BMDS. The MDA and the U.S. Navy cooperatively manage the Aegis BMD program.

Hickam Honor Guard: A rewarding, challenging mission

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Alexander Martinez

15th Wing Public Affairs

The image of a sharply-dressed Airman, kneeling down in front of a fallen veteran's next of kin and gently handing them a folded U.S. flag, will forever be a representation of what it means to be an honor guard member. For them, being an honor guard member is a challenge and responsibility that few get to experience in the Air Force, but they understand the mission's importance to the service and the public.

At Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, the honor guard team is the busiest in the Pacific and one of the busiest in the Air Force, providing the majority of their ceremonial support for the Hawaiian Islands. Their operations tempo remains high year round with not only funerals but also changes of command, retirements and other high visibility events.

Tech. Sgt. Weldys Baez, honor guard NCO in charge (NCOIC), fully understands the responsibility bestowed upon his team.

"It's a great honor to be here and to represent Air Force members past and present and honor those who aren't here anymore," Baez said. "The mission is crucial. It's a huge responsibility to represent the Air Force when you put on that honor guard uniform."

Baez is currently serving a year-long special duty as the honor guard NCOIC and oversees four teams of honor guard members comprised of volunteers from many different career fields. Each team serves one week out of a month for 12 months, according to a contract they sign when they join.

"The Airmen I've had join us have come here with a very positive attitude and are always ready to execute the mission no matter what," Baez said. "Even if we have short notice events, they are ready to go, and it's truly rewarding to have these individuals part of the team."



Photo illustration | Background photo by MCI Cynthia Clark

Upon joining the program, new members attend an introduction training class that teaches them the basics of honor guard rules, drill and customs.

Senior Airman Kimberly Kaneda-Soileau is currently filling the program's year-long special duty trainer position and conducts introduction training classes and teaches the more advanced honor guard rules and regulations.

"Everyone is from different backgrounds, so that is something that I enjoy," Kaneda-Soileau said. "They all come here with different personalities and abilities, so it's my job to help them learn how to work as a team and be an honor guard member."

The members' contracts are for one year and after that, they have the option to sign another contract or serve in the program occasionally as a volunteer.

"I look forward to my weekly rotation every month," said Senior Airman Ladarrion Holloway, an honor guard member. "It's challenging at times, but it's overall a good experience."

Holloway has been a member for almost a year and plans on continuing his service after his contract is up. He said the reason he decided to join was because his supervisor mentioned it would be a good experience for him. He decided to give it a try.

"It's a big responsibility but also a great honor to go out there

and represent the Air Force," Holloway said. "The last thing I want to do is go to a ceremony and not be up to par, so I work hard to do my best."

The honor guard supports many events that can be emotional for all involved, so keeping their military bearing during ceremonies is an important part of the job.

"Sometimes it's extremely hard to hold your bearing while giving the flag to the next-of-kin," Kaneda-Soileau said. "You can hear the family get emotional, but you have to be focused on the mission to hold your bearing. The playing of 'Taps' also makes everyone emotional. It still makes me emotional, and I can't tell you

how many times I've heard it."

Airmen seeking an opportunity to be part of the team must route the request through their leadership.

Holloway stressed the importance of prospective members joining for the right reasons.

"It's something you have to have a passion for," he said. "You have to want to do it. It's a great opportunity, and I feel like you can go far in it if you work hard."

According to Kaneda-Soileau, the honor guard is in some cases the last impression a family has of the military after a loved one passes away, and that's one reason why it's important for them to stay sharp and professional every day.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*



Sailors stationed aboard the guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG 65) stand at attention during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. During the ceremony, Capt. Patrick M. Kelly relinquished command of USS Chosin to Capt. Kevin M. Brand. Kelly commanded USS Chosin from April 2012 to November 2014. **U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Johans Chavarro**

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James receives a historical tour from Maj. Gen. Jon Norman, Pacific Air Forces chief of staff, upon her arrival at the PACAF headquarters building Nov. 17 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. *Related story on page A-1.*

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Nathan Allen



Sailors from various Hawaii-wide CPO 365 programs run in formation during the 2014 CPO 365 Kukini 5K Run at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Amanda Dunford

Air Force pilots from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (right), talk to Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 175 cadets about aircrew flight equipment during a career day Nov. 13 at the University of Hawaii. About 80 UH students attended the Leadership Laboratory, which provided the prospective new officers insight into the various Air Force Specialty Codes available.

U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Andrea Dykes



Airmen show how to survive, operate in CBRNE environment

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

Members of Team Hickam participated in an inspector general's exercise held Nov. 6-8 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to demonstrate mission capabilities and ensure Airmen are ready to defend the base at a moment's notice.

It was a total force effort as Airmen from both the 15th and 154th Maintenance Groups, operations groups and logistics readiness squadrons participated in the three-day event. It tested the groups' ability to survive and operate in a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or high-yield explosive contaminated environment.

However, the CBRNE exercise served an additional purpose. It gave the groups a chance to clear outstanding write-ups from the 2013 consolidated unit inspection (CUI).

"Last November during the CUI, there were deficiencies identified, so this exercise is set up to aid the units in clearing up those deficiencies and close the loop on them once and for all," said Master Sgt. Raymond Campbell, 15th Wing Inspector General superintendent.



Tech. Sgt. Ty Tanaka, left, and Tech. Sgt. Jim Willard, both 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron C-17 Globemaster III specialists, practice drinking water from a canteen while in mission-oriented protective posture 4 during a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive exercise held Nov. 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Though the exercise was comprehensive, Campbell said the goal was to continue with the existing flying schedule and day-to-day operations and insert task evaluations throughout the day.

Campbell said the exercise lined up with the intent of the new commander's inspection program by keeping the participants focused on the mission and continuous improvement rather than preparing for an inspection.

Staff Sgt. Everett Bettencourt, a 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief and exercise participant, acknowledged the importance of participating in proficiency exercises while also recognizing the unique challenges of completing his

job in a simulated contaminated environment. "It's pretty hard to work in MOPP [mission oriented protective posture] gear, very hard actually," he said. "There's obviously less mobility and the heat plays a factor, but you follow the work/rest cycles and hydrate and you get the job done."

Bettencourt said participating in the exercise while maintaining daily operations underscored the notion that the mission always comes first.

"If anything happened like this in the real world, we'd need to know what to do, so it's important we do things like this to keep up to speed," he said. "Repetition is the key and working with a sense of urgency is really important. It's also really important that the mission of getting the aircraft ready to go comes first."

Though the days were long and hot, Master Sgt. Matt Smith, 15th Maintenance Group chief inspector, said the group stepped up to the challenge. "They worked hard in this environment with the challenging scenarios they had, and they really stayed up to the task," he said. "They stayed on point, charged through, and did what needed to be done."

NEPMU-6 offers Medical Stability Operations Course

Lt. Patrick W. McGuire

NEPMU-6

Navy Environmental Preventive Medicine Unit Six (NEPMU-6) hosted a three-day Medical Stability Operations Course (MSOC) in coordination with Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute (DMRTI). The joint course was attended by Army, Navy and Air Force medical personnel on Nov. 3-5 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Three instructors from DMRTI, including Rear Adm. Colin G. Chinn, command surgeon, U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), facilitated the course designed to familiarize senior Department of Defense (DoD) healthcare personnel with the complexity of military medical diplomacy and health engagements within the context of U.S. national strategy.

Chinn delivered a presentation on PACOM health priorities that include health engagements with partner nations, malaria elimination in the Mekong region, health response to disasters, emerging infectious disease and bio-surveillance, operational plan development and strategic health communication.

MSOC combined engaging lectures, student activities and expert panel discussions that intellectually challenged students on the tactical and diplomatic power of medical stability operations.



Photo by Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Michael K. Williams

Rear Adm. Colin Chinn, command surgeon, U.S. Pacific Command, gives the class an update on global health in the Pacific theater.

The highlights of the course included topics on global health engagement and health diplomacy, introduction to embassies and country teams, "health needs" assessments, measures of effectiveness, and evaluation and planning for military health support.

"As the DoD continues to utilize the soft power of medicine to promote and enhance multinational relationships, this course provided great insight on how to plan and execute future global health engagements," said Capt. Ray Stiff, NEPMU-6 officer-in-charge.

Over three days, partici-

pants from NEPMU-6, PACOM and Air Forces Pacific (PACAF) learned via classroom lessons and practical exercises.

The first day focused on the national security challenges and strategies, health diplomacy, non-government organizations, military health's role within the greater context of stability operations, and defining "health needs" assessments.

Most importantly, students in the class learned from those with direct experience from medical operations in theater. An interactive second day specifically targeted the

foreign host nation perspectives, community-based planning, a Pacific Partnership 2014 case study, funding of medical stability operations, and effective planning for medical stability operations.

Cmdr. Michael Termini, Lt. Cmdr. Tammy Servies and Lt. Patrick McGuire gave briefs to the group on the way-forward and lessons learned from engagements within the Pacific within the last year. The third day consisted of scenario-based role playing that elicited student participation using communication skills as part of negotiations and working with host na-

tion personnel.

Participants in the course included senior enlisted and officers whose broad experience greatly enhanced the learning experience. Students discussed the best course of action for various scenarios based on their personal experiences.

Feedback from the participants indicated that they felt better prepared to address the various important factors that enhance the effectiveness of future medical stability operations as it applies across all military services and global regions. In particular, there was a benefit from the joint learning environment that

fostered a greater understanding of different military service cultures and planning processes.

MSOC offered a tool for medical personnel who plan or execute medical engagements around the globe.

The instructors provided knowledge regarding how U.S. national policy and diplomacy are supported through stability operations and global health engagements. Specifically, the course focused on how medical engagements are tied into the national security strategy and, by extension, how it relates to the respective combatant commanders theater campaign plan.

USS Asheville earns Meritorious Unit Commendation

USS Asheville (SSN 758)
Public Affairs

The Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Asheville (SSN 758) was presented the Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) by Rear Adm. Phil Sawyer, commander of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, in a ceremony held recently at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

The award was given to Asheville for "displaying superb operational planning and tenacity" during the successful completion of a western Pacific deployment.

According to the award citation from Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Asheville was recognized for meritorious service from April



U.S. Navy photo by David Tomiyama

Rear Adm. Phil Sawyer, commander of Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, congratulates the crew of USS Asheville (SSN 758) for earning the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

2013 to September 2013, during which time the ship completed two operations of great importance to national security and three theater anti-submarine warfare operations in support of fleet objectives.

Asheville was additionally lauded for its tactical acumen in the completion of two major combined exercises with the Royal Malaysian Navy and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force.

While completing its six-month western Pacific deployment, Asheville visited Japan, the Philippine Islands and Guam. During each port call, Asheville Sailors positively contributed to the community through active volunteerism. Their efforts were noted for

strengthening key regional alliances and contributing to theater security cooperation objectives.

One of the many highlights for Asheville was hosting the Yokosuka Middle School girls science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) program.

"This recognizes the hard work of the crew of Asheville and is well deserved," said Cmdr. Paul Pampuro, Asheville's commanding officer. "The memories of deployment and getting Asheville back to sea are what drive this amazing crew every day."

Pampuro said the crew knows that the studying, training and hard work put in now will contribute to Asheville's continued at-sea success in the future. "Congratulations go out to the

families of Asheville as well," added Pampuro. "Their support, both in port and while at sea, allow the men to excel at very complex and demanding jobs."

The MUC was established by Former Secretary of the Navy John T. McNaughton in 1967 to be given to units for valorous or meritorious achievement.

USS Asheville conducted a change of homeport from Naval Submarine Base, Point Loma, Calif. to historic Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in December 2013.

They are currently conducting an extended engineering maintenance period at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and expect to return to southern California after completion of sea trials.





U.S. Navy photo

Charles Curley, who was a rifleman with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines "Dog Company," shares stories with Sailors on the USS Chafee.

USS Chafee (DDG 90) hosts 'Dog Company'

Story and photo by
Ensign James Duncan

USS Chafee (DDG 90)
Public Affairs

USS Chafee (DDG 90) recently hosted three surviving members of the Korean War—Arthur Contreras, Gonzalo Garza and Charles Curley of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines "Dog Company"—who served under the command of former U. S. senator and ship's namesake, John Chafee.

Their visit began with a tour and luncheon onboard the ship, followed by a weekend of events to honor the men of "Dog Company" and build stronger ties to the legacy of Chafee, who served as "Dog Company" commander from September to December 1951. Chafee later became governor of Rhode Island, Secretary of the Navy and a United States senator.

The group also included Jane Curtin who represented her late husband, Richard Curtin.

The visit was coordinated by Cmdr. Anthony Littmann, Chafee commanding officer, who worked to develop ties with the ship's heritage by reaching out to 'Dog Company' and the Chafee family.

"Linking a ship to her namesake directly contributes to a ship's character and sense of heritage. In our case, John Chafee was a combat Marine in World War II and in Korea, and it was those experiences that made him the man he was," Littmann said.

"The valiant Marines of 'Dog Company' fought on the

ridges of Korea in subzero temperatures under the command of then Capt. Chafee. Hearing their stories gave me and the crew of Chafee some perspective and a glimpse into the life of our namesake. I will look towards this visit as a highlight of my command tour," he said.

"Dog Company" was renowned for their toughness in the frigid mountains of Soyang, where they fought the Chinese People's Liberation Army and North Korean forces.

"When I got there, I was part of a replacement unit for 'Dog Company,'" said Curley. "On my first day, I saw 18 men walking back from the [fighting at the] Yalu. They were the only ones who were still upright."

Garza of Austin, Texas was a sergeant in "Dog Company" and was also a veteran of World War II, where he served as a Japanese interpreter interrogating prisoners of war at the front lines. He is known as the last person to see Navy corpsman and Congressional Medal of Honor winner Richard De Wert before he was killed by Chinese forces while administering first aid to fallen Marines in 1951.

Their visit included a town hall-style discussion on the mess decks in which they shared some of their experiences, the importance of personal determination, and even how to find humor in the toughest of circumstances.

"We didn't complain back then. We'd end a long march through the snow with a 60-pound pack and look at each

other and say, 'Gee, I'd wish I'd taken the wrapping paper off of that razor blade this morning,'" said Curley.

The men of "Dog Company" still hold Sen. Chafee in high regard.

"Chafee was a very good commander," said Curley. "He was a stickler for cleanliness, but he was always where his men needed him. He cared for every last one of them."

Following the town hall, the "Dog Company" members took part in a cake-cutting ceremony celebrating Sen. Chafee's birthday.

Members of "Dog Company" have been holding reunions since 1988 and even attended the Chafee's commissioning and christening in 2003.

"These meetings are therapeutic," said Curtin. "They can say things to each other that they could never say to anyone else. They didn't talk about this stuff when they got home."

Chief Culinary Specialist Sarmaine Johnson acted as a sponsor to the Garza family. "I didn't know what to expect prior to their arrival. This was nothing short of a remarkable experience," said Johnson.

"I loved listening to them speak of the Korean War as if they went back encountering their experience. They were all lively, full of spunk with an awesome sense of humor. I laughed the entire time. It was quite an honor," Johnson said.

The visit concluded with a remembrance ceremony on the USS Arizona and tour of the USS Missouri memorials later in the week.

PACAF hosts Civic Leader Program

Headquarters Pacific Air Forces
Public Affairs

Members of the Air Force Civic Leader Program recently traveled to Hawaii to participate in a military tour highlighting the Pacific rebalance.

"The goal of the Air Force Civic Leader Program is to educate and inspire influential civic leaders who act as third party advocates for the Air Force," said Wendy Varhegyi, Headquarters Air Force Engagement Division chief. "Bringing them here to the Pacific provided an incredible opportunity to show first-hand the Pacific rebalance."

The first day of the tour established the strategic importance of the military in the Pacific with mission briefings from U.S. Pacific Command and Pacific Air Forces, providing the group with an overall understanding of what Airmen are doing across the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

The focus shifted to the tactical level as the day progressed, featuring one-on-one exchanges with young Airmen, a laboratory tour provided by forensic anthropologists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, and a visit to the Hawaii Air National Guard's new, state-of-the-art Senator Daniel K. Inouye F-22 Fighter Squadron Operations and Aircraft Maintenance Facility.

On days two and three, the group traveled across Oahu visiting multiple military installations on the island and gaining an invaluable perspective on the contributions of each military branch to the PACOM mission. The civics learned about joint dynamics through hands-on activities and open

discussions with service members, delivering an in-depth look into the mission of each component while also providing a glimpse of the overall multi-service partnership throughout the Pacific.

"There are not many places where we have the opportunity to highlight how we are operating across all the services and the joint environment," Varhegyi said. "The Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen we met this trip have been fantastic and inspirational. We enjoyed the experience immensely."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III annually hosts the Air Force Civic Leaders with the goal of education. The program and its civic leader visits to military installations serve to better inform communicators in the civilian community and advocates for Air Force issues.

"Our relationship with the military community is critical, and it's not just for financial or moral support," said David Nesbitt, Air Force civic leader.

"We want our military to know we are there for them in the same way we trust the military is there for us."

The Air Force Chief of Staff Civic Leader Program is an Air Staff-level program comprised of civic leaders selected by officials from Air Force major commands, the National Guard Bureau and Headquarters Air Force.

"What helps with community involvement is developing an understanding of the two different cultures and bridging the gap," Nesbitt said. "When we can work together and we can understand each other, we can accomplish truly great things."



U.S. Navy photo

Members of the Air Force Civic Leader Program learn about the tactical air control mission during a tour of the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron at Wheeler Army Airfield.

PACFLT commander awarded Korean Tong-il National Defense Medal

Arlo Abrahamson

Commander, U.S. Naval Forces
Korea Public Affairs

SEOUL, Republic of Korea (NNS) — Adm. Harry Harris Jr., the commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, was awarded the prestigious Korean Tong-il national defense medal during a ceremony Nov. 3 at the Republic of Korea Ministry of National Defense in Seoul.

Adm. Hwang Ki-chul, Republic of Korea Chief of Naval Operations, presented Harris with the medal on behalf of South Korean

President Park Geun-hye. The Tong-il is the highest in the order of Korean national security merit citations and is awarded to individuals who render distinguished service and meritorious contributions to the security of the Republic of Korea.

"Through six decades of armistice, our two nations have remained together, the closest of friends and the closest of allies," said Harris. "I am honored to accept this award today on behalf of all of our service members who have forged this great alliance over the years and continue to make it strong today."

The Tong-il award ceremony was part of a two-day visit to Korea where Harris met with senior military and government leaders to reaffirm the U.S. Navy's commitment to the alliance with the Republic of Korea and the ongoing U.S. rebalance to the Pacific.

Harris met with Mark Lippert, U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Korea; Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, commander of U.S. Forces Korea; Adm. Choi Yoon-hee, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Gen. Park Seon-woo, deputy commander, Combined Forces Command; and Adm. Hwang Ki-chul, the chief of naval operations,

where he received operational updates and discussed future initiatives to enhance the alliance.

"Maintaining stability, peace and prosperity is what the U.S. rebalance to the Pacific is all about," Harris said. "A key component to that policy is strengthening our regional alliances and partnerships. I am committed to deepening the maritime element of our defense relationships with all of our regional allies and partners."

Harris also thanked the people of the Republic of Korea for their support of U.S. Navy forces who are forward deployed on the

Korean peninsula.

"Thanks to the wonderful support we get from the Korean people, the U.S. Pacific Fleet can remain forward deployed," said Harris. "This allows the U.S. Navy to be where it matters, when it matters."

Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea is the regional commander for the U.S. Navy in the Republic of Korea and provides expertise on naval matters to area military commanders, including the commander for the United Nations Command, the Combined Forces Command and commander, U.S. Forces Korea.

Sailors learn about new thinking for tomorrow's battlefields

Story and photo by
MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific
Fleet Public Affairs

Sailors, junior officers and developers from around the nation attended the Tactical Advancements for the Next Generation (TANG) Expo held recently at the historic submarine base at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The focus of the week-long workshop was new ideas and concepts for the fleet.

This TANG was co-sponsored by Commander, Undersea Surveillance (CUS); Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (SUBPAC); Naval Sea Systems Command Maritime Surveillance Systems Program Office (NAVSEA PMS 485); and the Undersea Systems Program Office (PEO IWS 5).

It is the fifth in a series of TANG events designed to improve watch team efficiency, build smoother communication, create a stronger military community, and boost skills in order to improve the capabilities of submarines and ships and their crews in the fleet. The current event focused on process improvements for the integrated undersea surveillance systems community.

"Your job is to use your experience and tell us how to make the processes and, more importantly, the systems better, so we can get better data to the decision makers," said Rear Adm. Phil Sawyer, SUBPAC commander, addressing those gathered to kick-off the week's events.



Kim Smith, principal software engineer for In Depth Engineering, shows a new type of sonar equipment called a multi-layer geo to attendees at the Tactical Advancements for the Next Generation (TANG) Expo.

"It is imperative that you dig deep and recognize that the feedback that you provide will make it to the fleet. They enable us to get the right data to the guy that is making the decision quicker and allows him to make a better decision, and that's fundamentally what this is about," the admiral said.

TANG events such as this one started in 2011 in an effort to harness views

on technology to improve sonar and fire control systems.

Sawyer said that because of TANG events, there are improvements in those systems that can be seen in the fleet today.

Capt. Steve Harrison, major program manager for PEO IWS 5, believes the event will help the TANG attendees to come up with ways to rapidly implement new ideas into the fleet.

During the week, participants utilized foam core, cardboard, markers and sticky-notes to brainstorm clever ideas quickly throughout the room. The event included presentations, exercises and reviews.

"The developers are here to watch these ideas and over the next year or so rapidly turn those ideas into another round of more advanced prototypes that Sailors and junior officers

will try out," said Harrison. "Those ideas that work best are then introduced into our systems as quickly as two years."

Harrison said that they have used this design-thinking approach for submarine and surface ship sonar and combat systems over the past several years, and it has produced some great capabilities.

Harrison believes TANG design-thinking events help

support the Chief of Naval Operations tenets of warfighting first and operate forward because these innovative capabilities will be pushed to forward-deployed warships based on Undersecretary of Defense Frank Kendall's Better Buying Power 3.0 initiatives. These emphasize achieving dominant capabilities through innovation and technical excellence.

Harrison added that the TANG design-thinking approach could really help solve many of the system problems in the Navy.

"Our Sailors and officers live with these systems for weeks and months on end while they are underway, so they really know the limitations of the systems and have been brainstorming on every watch, what they would do if they were in charge of development," said Harrison.

"These TANG events provide a structured approach for the developers to listen to their great ideas, and we are constantly amazed at what they come up with," he added.

Sonar Technician 2nd Class Adam Worzella of the Naval Ocean Processing Facility in Dam Neck, Va. said he is excited to see the new challenges that will be implemented into the fleet from events like TANG.

"I think it is great," said Worzella. "It will definitely make it easier to implement new systems and make it more fun in the process of trying to figure stuff out from people who have been in and seen all the systems that we currently have."

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