

Pearl Harbor celebrates July 4th



Fireworks explode over USS Champlain (CG 57) and Republic of South Korean destroyers Yi (DDH 975) and Ulchimoonduk (DDH 972) as part of the July 4 celebration at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor. The ships are in Pearl Harbor supporting operations for RIMPAC 2004.

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
Staff Writer

Service members and their family members enjoyed a day of fun and games Sunday at Morale, Welfare and Recreation's July 4th Block Party at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor.

The eight-hour event offered numerous activities for all ages, food and culminated with a fireworks display over the harbor viewed by thousands of spectators.

During the afternoon, spectators watched a demonstration by the Hawai'i Academy National Trampoline Team, remote control car demonstrations and IXWF wrestling matches, which provided cheering from numerous spectators.

"My favorite part of the block party was the wrestling because it was funny and entertaining when they dressed up like Saddam Hussein," said Storekeeper 3rd Class Maria Vasquez, who went with some friends from her command.

The main stage first hosted the Pacific Fleet Band, followed by iNoA'oLe, a band that plays contemporary Hawaiian music. Natural Vibrations, a reggae band, entertained the audience before Jay Mohr, host of "Last Comic Standing" whose acting credits include "Saturday Night Live" and "Jerry McGuire," gave a stand-up comedy routine.

"My favorite part was Jay Mohr because he was funny and I had a good time watching him," said Cryptologic Technician-Technical 3rd Class Dan Balke who is stationed on USS Chosin (CG 65).

JN Chevrolet and the Hawai'i Corvette Association also provided a static exotic car and late model display for the avid automobile fans.

"I liked the car show," said Vasquez. "My favorite car was the Hummer even though it wasn't as exotic as other ones."

The block party also featured a returning game that pits friends against each other in hand-to-hand combat the joust.

"The jousting was really fun," said Balke who faced off against a shipmate. "I didn't win though."

MWR treated kids to pony rides, games and a wide array of inflatables, not to mention all the cotton candy they could eat.

MWR ended the day's events with a fireworks demonstration over Pearl Harbor that surpassed last year's bonanza, according to spectators.

"The fireworks were awesome," said Balke who watched them from the Chosin with other shipmates. "I was here last year and they were good, but the fireworks were much better this year."

Vasquez, who watched from Ford Island, agreed with the splendor of the demonstration.

"I saw the fireworks from Ford Island this year and that was great because I had a good overall view," she said.

Everyone agreed that they had a good time, and look forward to next year's events.

"I had fun, and I would definitely go again next year," said Balke.

Allies sweep Pearl Harbor

Canadian, U.S. Sailors conduct minesweeping exercise for RIMPAC. See story on page A-5.



Jump into fun

Barefoot Splash Fun Cruise offers wet, wild times. See story on page B-1.

Families, workers departing Bahrain

American Forces Press Service

Increased threat of terrorist attack has led Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to approve the temporary relocation of eligible family members and non-emergency Defense Department personnel from Bahrain.

Military officials are developing procedures to execute the mandatory departure, Pentagon officials said. News reports said the order could affect up to 650 family members and DoD employees who would be sent to safe haven in the continental United States.

Bahrain is headquarters for the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and the U.S. 5th Fleet.

A State Department travel warning issued July 1 urged U.S. citizens in Bahrain to consider departing and warned U.S. citizens to defer travel to Bahrain.

"Credible information indicates that extremists remain at large and are planning attacks in Bahrain," State Dept. officials said. "In neighboring Saudi Arabia, for example, terrorists have targeted residential housing compounds using vehicle bombs, resulting in numerous deaths and injuries, including to American citizens."

Pentagon officials said the departure has been approved for 30 days and will remain in effect thereafter until terminated.

Those who leave may not return until the mandatory departure is terminated.

Military officials have also issued a "stop-movement" order for all dependent personnel bound for Bahrain.

Navy launches PPV with groundbreaking ceremony

Karen S. Spangler
Assistant Editor

The Navy officially launched the start of public-private venture for Navy housing in Hawai'i at a groundbreaking ceremony held July 2 at the McGrew Point housing community.

Representatives from Hawai'i's Congressional delegation, Navy officials and representatives from Hawai'i Military Communities - the Navy's partner in the PPVs - participated in a traditional Hawaiian o'o stick ceremony for the groundbreaking.

The ceremony marked the beginning of phase one of public-private venture as HMC prepares to replace 900 homes at Halsey Terrace, Radford Terrace and McGrew Point housing areas. An additional 1,000 homes in the Moanalua Terrace and Hokulani communities will be managed by Forest City Management.

Kahu Kaleo Patterson offered a Hawaiian blessing for the new homes and explained the significance of the o'o stick ceremony. "In Hawaii, it is the equivalent of the shovel, but has very symbolic meanings of the old days and the people of the land. It is respect for the land and honoring the history and integrity of the land and the new relationship with the people," said Patterson.

Representatives from Hawai'i's Congressional delegation - Senator Daniel Inouye, Congressman Neil Abercrombie and Congressman Ed Case - as well as state senators Cal Kawamoto and Norman Sakamoto attended the ceremony.

Senator Inouye stressed the importance of providing quality homes for the military personnel who serve their country. Inouye described the new housing as a good thing "to help those who stand in harm's way for us with the finest housing."



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright
The Navy launched the start of PPV with an o'o stick ground breaking ceremony on July 2 at the McGrew Point Navy housing community.

Congressman Neil Abercrombie, along with Senator Inouye, former Congresswoman Patsy Mink and Congressman Ed Case, supported the legislation that provided the means for the Navy to partner with a private developer. "I am glad to see this come to fruition. This magnificent neighborhood will be here and will be enhanced," said Abercrombie.

Congressman Case was enthusiastic about the future for Navy housing in Hawaii. "This is an exciting time to be a part of civilian and military leadership in Hawaii. We are truly partners in the future of Hawai'i - not only in the future of the U.S. military, but in the future of Hawai'i overall," he noted.

He discussed the appeal that Hawai'i holds for military families. "It's not just a matter of saying Hawai'i is a beautiful place. They're looking for the same things we're looking for in a community - good education, receptivity in the community and quality

of life," he explained. Case said, "We must find new ways to deliver to our military what they need." The congressman promised the military community, "I look forward to helping you with these projects and future projects for the good of our military and our Hawaii."

Rear Adm. Gary Engle, Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, remarked, "Today marks the beginning of very significant quality of life improvements for our Navy families. We are very proud of the public-private venture program in the Navy and what we have been able to achieve in these effective partnerships with outstanding firms in the private sector."

Engle continued, "Today is a great day for Hawai'i's Navy families" and explained that phase one of PPV will privatize 1,948 Navy homes. Engle noted that PPV will result in the privatization of about 4,700 homes in future phases of PPV over the next several years.

"These homes represent the Navy's commitment - a promise - to our Sailors. As you stand watch over our freedoms, we will take care of your families," said Capt. Ronald R. Cox, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii. "Public-private venture is a very important link to providing quality homes for our families," he continued.

Paco Jordan, position title? with C. F. Jordan, the construction firm that will build the new homes, described the project planned for Hawai'i's Navy community. "We have blended the Hawai'i lifestyle with the latest technology. This will bring our Navy families a quality of life experience with exciting dimensions," he explained.

The first segment of the newly-constructed homes is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy early in 2005.



U.S. Navy photo by JO2 Devin Wright
Jay Mohr pauses during his visit aboard USS Chosin (CG 65) during his Naval Station Pearl Harbor tour July 1.

Show me the funny

JO2 Devin Wright
Staff Writer

Stand up comedian Jay Mohr visited Sailors stationed at Naval Station Pearl Harbor July 1.

Mohr, who has starred in movies such as "Jerry McGuire," "Picture Perfect," and "Suicide Kings" and is the creator and executive producer of NBC's number one comedy reality show "Last Comic Standing," performed at the

MWR Fourth of July Block party at the Banyans.

Mohr said he wanted to perform for a military audience to give back to the men and women in uniform.

"I don't know how service members gauge morale of the country, but I can say America has never ever been more supportive of the military," Mohr said. "It is so important to me personally to show that I appreciate the sacrifices made by our military members. We realize that you all volunteered for a job

that most Americans don't want any part of because we are not up to it," he noted.

There was a time, however, when Mohr wanted to wear a uniform.

"When I was 18, I thought about joining the Army," said Mohr. "While I was talking to the recruiter, I realized he would say anything to get me to sign up. He asked me what I was interested in. I said I wanted to do comedy. He said

Navy develops new shipboard surgical system

JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Staff Writer

The amphibious assault ship USS Tarawa (LHA 1) held an open house July 1 at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, displaying a new shipboard surgical system developed to support Sailors and Marines during maritime interdictions.

"The purpose was to disseminate the knowledge," said Lt. Cmdr. George Linville, command amphibious task force surgeon, shipboard surgeon system team leader and trauma surgeon for FST-9. "This is a brand new baby. Nobody knows about this."

The Naval Health Research Center developed the concept of a shipboard surgical team in January after Capt. Chris Hunter, Commander, Pacific Fleet surgeon, realized that Sailors and Marines aboard smaller ships were going to be taking casualties during maritime interdictions, shipboard seizures and other operations.

"We are out there to support our own Sailors and Soldiers who take casualties," said Linville. "The [goal] is to provide surgical support to our Sailors and Marines who are involved in these maritime interdictions."

The shipboard surgical team will deploy via an MH60 helicopter from a big deck ship to a smaller ship within the expeditionary strike group. Linville said with split operations, ships within an Expeditionary Strike Group would be scattered in many different places.

The team constructs a small-scale operating room within the mess decks of a smaller ship, using an authorized minimal medical allowance list, or their equipment, designed by the Naval Health Research Center to support operations in small spaces.

Linville said the biggest hurdle was designing a required operational facility.

"The biggest hurdle was over-



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley
An Australian officer examines the setup for the new shipboard surgical system aboard USS Tarawa (LHA 1). The new system allows a surgical team to set up an emergency operating room aboard smaller vessels by deploying a team via a MH60 helicopter. The team sets up the operating room in the mess decks of the ship using equipment developed by the Naval Health Research Center to fit into confined spaces.

coming the austere environment into which we were set," he said. "We're taking capability into an environment that's not supportive of that capability."

For example, the shipboard surgical team uses a five-pound anesthesia machine as opposed to a 600-pound machine that is used on a big deck ship.

In the initial tests, the team determined that the maximum distance they could deploy would be about 100 miles. However, the helicopter would have to refuel aboard the smaller ship, thereby losing valuable time.

Representatives from the United States, Canada, Chile, Australia, South Korea and Japan all came to

view the new system, hoping that the information might help out their ships as well.

"It's important that our allies also understand that we have this capability, and we can support their ships [and] Sailors surgically," said Linville. "When you have such a complex operation in its infancy, we have to keep our mind

open, be flexible [and] know that we are going to change our minds about various things to improve upon what we have developed."

Although the surgical system is fully operational, Linville said various tests would be implemented over the next year to ensure the team reaches its maximum capabilities.



U.S. Navy photo by J03 Corwin Colbert

Comedian Jay Mohr checks out a periscope onboard USS Greenville (SSN 772) during a tour July 1.

Mohr: Actor, comedian tours ship, sub while visiting Pearl Harbor Sailors

Continued from A-1

Tuesdays! We have stand up comedy on Tuesdays. I decided it wasn't for me," said Mohr.

During his time at Pearl Harbor, Mohr visited USS Chosin (CG 65) and USS Greenville (SSN 772).

Mohr wanted to perform at Pearl Harbor during RIMPAC because of the range of diversity the exercises bring.

"My assistant brought a performance at Pearl Harbor to my attention," said Mohr.

"One day I walked into the office and it was all laid out how the Fourth of July coincided with RIMPAC and so here we are. I brought my mom and dad, wife and son with me. We showed up early and are leaving late because we love it here," he added.

Though not all Sailors are familiar with Mohr's work, he managed to lift their spirits.

"I've never heard of him before," said Seaman Kirby Bell of USS Chosin. "He's funny though. We've been



U.S. Navy photo by J02 Devin Wright

Jay Mohr talks to SN Kirby Bell aboard USS Chosin (CG 65) during his July 1 tour aboard the ship.

painting and working hard and when he came by and told some jokes it was great," Bell said. "I needed a good laugh."

Mohr's visit gave Sailors the opportunity to showcase their vessel.

"This is a great opportunity for our Sailors to show off the ship and all the hard work they have been doing over the past few months," said

Michele Poole operations officer Lt. USS Chosin. "When someone like Jay Mohr, who is a celebrity, comes here and talks to our Sailors and is genuinely interested in what they do, it makes them proud of what they are doing. I think it makes them aware that what they do is important and know that the country is behind them," explained Poole.

Hawai'i Navy News Editorial

Big changes for a small agency

Commentary
PA2 Erica Taylor

U.S. Coast Guard



From its modest beginnings more than 200 years ago to the fully realized military branch it has become today, the U. S. Coast Guard has seen many transformations. The most impressive has been the change from the Department of Transportation to the newly-formed Department of Homeland Security. After more than a year in the new department, many subtle changes can already be found throughout the Coast Guard.

Termed our "nation's finest treasure" by Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, the move of the Coast Guard from DOT to its new department has accomplished several things: increased funding for the Coast Guard, provided a common face for all organizations that deal with protecting our nation's borders, and it also ensured that comparable missions are not performed by different agencies.

First, an increase in funding means more resources, such as people and assets, for the thinly stretched agency to support its traditional and expanding missions. Aging assets and obsolete technology make the need for funding a relentless issue for the Coast Guard.

Deepwater is a \$17 billion project that is set to replace and update the Coast Guard's fleet of aircraft and cutters. As the nation asks more and more of its Coast Guard, the amount of funding should be increased to rival the rate of mission growth, allowing for an increased workforce to handle the Coast Guard's multiplying missions. Once the Coast Guard has the staffing it needs, getting personnel qualified and trained is the next priority.

Although it wasn't until the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon that America truly embraced the idea of homeland security being a Coast Guard responsibility, homeland security is not a new mission for the Coast Guard.

Since its inception in 1790, keeping America's coastlines operational and free of illegal activities has been a traditional role for the Coast Guard. Until recently, it only accounted for about five percent of the service's budget.

Secondly, the goal behind the creation of the Department of Homeland Security was to have real-time interconnectivity between each stake-holding agency and a clear line of shared vision. Although Congress disagreed on how to accomplish this, on March 1, 2003, the Coast Guard separated from its longtime colleague, the DOT, and formally became an agency within the Department of Homeland Security. This move generated controversy not only with Congress, but the American public as well.

Much of the speculation surrounding the Coast Guard's move into the Department of Homeland Security revolved around the fear that more traditional missions, like search and rescue and fisheries enforcement, would be neglected to make room for the expanding missions of homeland security and defense readiness. Can the Coast Guard handle the extra workload without lessening its non-security missions? The simple answer to a complicated issue is yes, but it will take time.

Sept. 11 brought about considerable, immediate changes to how the Coast Guard approached homeland security, and how America viewed its Coast Guard. Faced with considerable overhauls in mission priorities, the Coast Guard shifted its focus from drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement to concentrate more zealously on homeland security. Missions were substantially reorganized and expanded, but the Coast Guard did not immediately receive new assets or additional personnel.

In response to the outcry surrounding potential mission re-organization, the Senate has approved various amendments to prevent the re-shuffling of Coast Guard missions and improve the level of security for the 95,000 miles that encompass America's coastlines.

In July 25, 2002, the Senate adopted the Collins-Stevens amendments, one of which requires the commandant of the Coast Guard to report directly to the Secretary of Homeland Security, not to the Undersecretary for Border and Transportation Security. The goal of the amendments is to ensure that the Coast Guard maintains its fundamental, non-homeland security missions, including maritime security, search and rescue, aids to navigation, fisheries law enforcement, maritime environmental protection and ice operations.

Finally, uniting several common-goaled agencies under one roof allows for

clear information sharing and working arrangements that were otherwise complicated by their previous separation. Being side-by-side, along with having consociate responsibilities, has allowed for more efficient protection of our waterways, ports, air, transportation systems and borders. Used to maneuvering through governmental transitions, the Coast Guard has long proven itself able to adapt.

Almost as old as the nation it persistently protects, the Coast Guard has deep roots in the creation and evolution of America. The Coast Guard motto, "Semper Paratus," means "Always Ready." Mirroring this motto, the Coast Guard has remained "always ready" by adjusting to meet the needs of an always-changing nation and world.

Making up the heart of the Coast Guard are five different organizations: the Revenue Cutter Service, The Lighthouse Service, the Steamboat Inspection Service, the Bureau of Navigation and the Lifesaving Service. In 1915, the service officially discarded the title of the Revenue Cutter Service and formally adopted the title of the United States Coast Guard.

What began in 1790 with 10 ships to stop smugglers, enforce tariffs and collect the federal revenue, has quickly grown to an impressive force whose scope of responsibility encompasses homeland security, search and rescue, protection of natural resources, migrant interdiction and national security.

Aiding in these efforts are more than 39,000 active duty, 7,800 reservists, 6,000 civilians and 33,000 auxiliary members that continually contribute to making the Coast Guard the world's premiere maritime service.

If history has proven anything to the Coast Guard, it is that change is constant. In America, one either changes with the times or becomes obsolete. If the Coast Guard wants to remain a relevant line of defense for America, it will have to stay true to form and continue to evolve. The security needs of our nation will forever be in a state of transformation. America enjoys enviable liberties and countless freedoms, all of which we have fought for and earned throughout our country's relatively short history.

Whether the Coast Guard permanently remains an entity within the Department of Homeland Security or moves on to another department, the Coast Guard will remain "always ready."

Commentary

Chapel Pennant A Final Lesson

Lt. Eric Battle, CHC
Naval Station Pearl Harbor

In the month of June, the nation mourned as we said our final "goodbye" to our beloved president and commander-in-chief, Ronald Wilson Reagan. Although President Reagan began his working years as an actor, history will remember him for the role he played as a public servant.

President Reagan used his time as a public servant to teach this nation, and the world, the value of freedom and the responsibility given to free people. His expertly crafted lessons in freedom appropriately ended with the breakdown of the communist bloc and the tearing down of the Berlin wall.

It is certain that for years to come, historians will study President Reagan's legacy and learn from the profundity of his words and actions. However, in spite of the many lessons Ronald Reagan's life as a public servant has given us, there is another and perhaps, more important lesson President Reagan left us with: President Reagan's final lesson to the American people was how to die with dignity.

The week of President Reagan's funeral was an odd week in our popular culture. It was odd, not because most Americans are unfamiliar with military custom and honors, but it was odd because mortality entered our living rooms in a profound and unavoidable way.

In a culture that shuns

mortality and tries to trick us into believing that items such as cars, lipstick or the latest diet fad will help us cheat death and indefinitely push away the inevitable, President Reagan's funeral reminded us that frailty, old age, and death are the unavoidable part of life.

While this thought may scare some, and unsettle others, careful observers of President Reagan's final farewell were not frightened by this reminder of our mortality, but were comforted by it.

In all that President Reagan had done for the world, his greatest victory was a victory over the despair of death. Instead, of seeing him as a frail victim of an unforgiving disease, we saw him as a conquering giant whose life created a legacy that the reality of death itself will never be able to weaken. He taught us that we, too, can achieve this victory, if only we stop seeing our time on earth as our time, but we realize that our time on Earth is our chance to create a lasting legacy of our own.

Sacrifice, service, principled living may seem like old fashioned concepts with no currency in modern culture, but these timeless principles are the very concepts that create legends and lasting testaments to our lives. I guarantee that if you live a just and noble life, in the same way that Ronald Reagan did, for all the people who loved and knew you, your legacy will be just as big.

For offering us this final lesson, once again, we say thanks Gipper.

Commentary

Ohana Line

I've heard that there are certain places around Oahu that are off limits for members of the military. Do you happen to know where those places might be?

The below establishments have been placed on the off-limits list:

- Hawai'i Natural High
343 Saratoga Road,
Honolulu, HI 96815
- Pearl Kai Mini Mart
98-199 Kamehameha
Highway, Aiea, HI. 96701
- Nimitz Mini Mart
3131 North Nimitz
Highway, Honolulu, HI 96819
- The Dungeon, Flesh,
Sexopolis, After Hours, The Shelter
1739 Kalakaua Avenue,
Honolulu HI

All military personnel are required to observe the rules regarding the off-limits establishments. Military personnel are prohibited from entering any establishment on the list, whether in uniform or in civilian clothing.

If any military personnel are found entering or leaving these establishments, they may be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

I live in Navy housing and I'm getting ready to get a pet. Can I pretty much get any kind of pet I want or are there certain kinds that are not allowed in housing?

According to housing regulations, authorized animals in Navy housing include dogs, cats, guinea pigs, domestic rabbits, white mice and rats which are indigenous to the United States, caged birds, fish and other cold-blooded animals sold commercially in Hawai'i. With the exception of fish, and puppies or kittens under the age of eight-weeks-old, residents are only allowed to have a maximum of two pets.

Specifically prohibited pets are gerbils, hamsters, mongoose, monkeys, white mice and rats from a foreign source, wild rabbits, game or hunting birds, doves, poultry, Aztec dwarf parrots, Vietnamese pot bellied pigs and certain Myna species. All snakes are prohibited in Hawai'i. Breeding of all animals is also prohibited.

For any further guidance, check your housing manual or contact 474-1800.

Hawai'i Sailors 'talk story

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Reford Nichols

Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Reford Nichols II is a well-rounded guy. Anywhere from playing basketball to auto body repair to whipping up a tasty dessert in the kitchen, Nichols has it covered.

The 20-year-old Pickens, Miss. native is now a culinary specialist aboard the USS Greenville (SSN 772).

"I do night baking. We make everything from cinnamon rolls to coffee cake - any kind of dessert," explained Nichols.

Outside of work, Nichols has a wide variety of interests.

"I'm into auto body," explained Nichols. "I like painting cars. I took a class my junior and senior years of high school. I did it every day for two years. Anything that was done to the body, I could do it," Nichols said. "One of my main goals is to own my own body shop. I want to get my degree in auto body, proving that I know how to do it," said Nichols.

In addition to playing basketball and working on cars, Nichols has a bit of a musical side.

"I enjoy music," he said. "I like playing drums and the piano. I started the keyboard about two weeks before I

Vital statistics

Name:
Reford Nichols II

Hometown:
Pickens, Miss.

Duty station:
USS Greenville (SSN 772)

Job:
Cook

Favorite part of the job:
Baking for the crew

joined the Navy, and I want to go back to that. It definitely caught my attention."

Two years ago, Nichols chose the Navy over college to give himself a bit of a clearer perspective on his life.

"I didn't want to go to college right out of high school because I still had the mindset of a high school kid. I wasn't too much into school, so I decided to join the military so I could get my mind right," Nichols said.

Nichols also entered the military with the desire to give back to his



Photo by Kamie Allmond

CS3 Reford Nichols II plays some hoops at Bloch Arena during his liberty time.

family.

"Before I joined the Navy, I was financially dependent on my family. My main goal is to be independent, and the Navy has provided that for me. I want to pay my mom and dad back for being there for me all my life. I want to own my own business and be financially stable."

Hawai'i Navy News

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Hawai'i Navy News

Camp Aloha kids tour USS O'Kane

JOSN Cherell Gerald-Lonon

Staff Writer

The USS O'Kane (DDG 77) hosted more than 50 boys and girls from the (Boys & Girls Club of Navy Hawaii) on July 2. The opportunity to go aboard the O'Kane was not only educational, but fun as well.

"I've never been on a ship this big," said one Navy child "This is great, my favorite part is the big guns. Can we turn them on?"

"My dad is in the Navy, and my brother is in the sea cadet program," said another navy child, "I'm going in the program next year. My dad wants me to wait so that my brother can make rank, so that I can't talk back to him."

"I want to be a Navy doctor when I grow up," said a third Navy child. "The bridge was the best part for me, because you get to sit in the captain's chair and look through the binoculars".

Ensign Angela Asemota gives tours on the O'Kane often. She feels the tours are not only good for the community, but it also boosts the morale of Sailors.

"It is important for the O'Kane to promote good relations with the community and with our youth" she said. "It is important for our Sailors to welcome the kids and show them their knowledge. This is what we do every day, but the little kids look at it and think, Wow, this is the best thing. It's really good to see the kids interested in what we do and asking questions."

The Boys & Girls Club of Navy Hawai'i, Camp Aloha, is offered to the children of all active duty parents. Children of parents that have deployed have priority. "It is a week long, free overnight camp," said project coordinator, Amy Koskovich. "We visit each branch of the service so they can check it out and get to know what each service is about, "Monday is Coast Guard day, Tuesday is Marine Corps day, Wednesday, is Army day, Thursday is Air Force day, and Friday is Navy day,"



U.S. Navy photo by IC2 (SW) George E. Huff III
Kids from Camp Adventure get a chance to try on a firefighting ensemble while taking a tour of USS O'Kane (DDG 77) July 2.

said Koskovich.

"I've been working with Camp Adventure and working with military bases for 11 summers. This is the most unique program I've seen; it's incredible the amount of trips, and the variety of the military that they see. The fact that they are all joining together, and it is like a joint unified thing. It's really, really unique and it is a great program," said Koskovich.

"It is a good feeling to hear a kid say, 'This is what I want to do when I grow up'. You are making an influence" Asemota said. "This tour also gives them a chance to not be scared all of the time. All they hear on the news is this person died, or this person died, this gives them a chance to see what their parents do when they are deployed. They are not always in the lines of danger," she said.

COMSUBPAC Sailors help bring ohana to Lehua Elementary School

JO3 Corwin M. Colbert
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Sailors volunteered to help beautify Lehua Elementary Schools in support of Hawaii's 3R (Repair, Remodel and Restore) project June 26.

Hawaii's 3R project is a Hawai'i public schools program that brings outside financial and human resources together to tackle an approximately \$640 million repair and maintenance backlog.

Members of COMSUBPAC, school volunteers and the local community put the final touches on the Lehua Elementary School by planting trees and shrubs in the new Hawaiian garden.

Yeoman 1st Class Kyle Kerbaugh and Fire Control Technician 2nd Class Benjamin Daniels feel helping the school and the community are extremely important.

"We are here to help beautify the school, get involved in the community and get dirty," said Kerbaugh.

"It's good work. I like helping the community. It gives a sense of unity between the military and the surrounding community," said Daniels.

Upon arrival at 8 a.m., the volunteer team was treated to a continental breakfast by school staff before they ventured out to do their gardening.

"I dug some holes for the planting and helped spread the mulch over the finished area," said Daniels.

"I planted some shrubbery, removed some overgrowth

and did a little weed removal," said Fire Control Technician 1st Class Benjamin Kern. "I have some experience, but at home, I do all the dirty work and my wife does the layout and design in our garden," he said.

Some of the COMSUBPAC volunteers had done a few community relations events with the school previously, but for others, this was their first experience and they were eager to participate.

"I weed-whacked and mowed with my own equipment and helped in the landscaping," said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Timothy Schaeffer. "I just thought I could help out. This was my first time helping with Lehua Elementary School, but I hear they also have a tutoring program during the school year which I want to get involved with," he said.

After the work was completed, everyone was treated to lunch from the Outback Steakhouse.

"I was surprised," Kern admitted. "Though I did not come for the food, I was expecting peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. So, Outback was a pleasant surprise."

As the day ended, everyone said they felt a sense of accomplishment and state Sen. Cal Kawamoto seemed pleased with the finished garden.

"Today's event went well. The group planted shrubbery, plants and trees in the new Hawaiian ohana garden," said Kawamoto. "We had an outstanding turnout. As always, we thank the military. The school is always supportive of them."

Toddler phones for help, saves mother's life



Photo by Lacy Lynn

Kaylynn Prince, at home with her mother Betty, pretends to talk on the phone.

Lacy Lynn
Staff Writer

It seemed like a routine medical emergency when the Federal Fire Department's Engine 105 was dispatched on a call for an unresponsive person at a Schofield Barracks housing unit on June 25.

According to their report, firefighters arrived on the scene just after 10a.m. where they found a plainclothes detective and another military police (MP) officer already investigating a call about a child crying.

The crew was preparing to leave when neighbors informed the fire crew and military police they had seen ambulances at unit 103 in the past.

Further investigation showed that unit 103 was where the call had originated, but firefighters were met with a locked door, and no response from inside the unit.

The medical crew had packed

up most of their equipment and were preparing to leave when one of the MP's and a firefighter found the garage door on one unit open, and the back door unlocked.

When they opened the door, they found an unconscious woman, and called the rest of the team back.

"All I heard was, 'Over here! Over here!'" said firefighter Ryan Satsuda, one of the crew who responded to the call, as the emergency team rushed back to the housing unit.

Nineteen-year-old Betty Prince was found facedown on the unit's dining area floor. Prince's 15-month-old daughter, Kaylynn, was standing next to her, and her infant daughter Danielle was in a crib in the living room.

The emergency crew stabilized their patient, and after giving her oxygen, Betty recovered consciousness and asked where her daughter was.

After the alarm was secured,

rescue workers learned that Kaylynn had initiated the emergency call that saved her mother's life.

"I've been to many medical emergencies during my career and have never seen a child of that age to be so bright," said Capt. Doug Eckert, who has been with the Federal Fire Department for 25 years.

According to the parents and rescue workers, the child sensed something was wrong with her mother, pulled the house phone and its charger off the counter, pressed redial, and reached her mother's friend Irene Wells on the other end of the line.

Wells recognized the toddler's cries, and when she was unable to reach Betty by phone, she called 911.

This is not the first time Kaylynn has used the phone to alert people to her mother's health.

"She's actually called quite a

few times for different people," said Kaylynn's mother, Betty Prince, including Betty's mother, and Betty's husband Dan Prince, a military mechanic for the Army.

"The first time I passed out she called my husband from the phone's "memory" button," said Betty

Betty has been experiencing a recurring, but undiagnosed health problem since May.

"She passes out three or four times a week," said Dan who has established 30-minute check-in calls with his wife while he is at work.

The child's phone call, the mother's friend, the firefighters and police, and the neighbors were all crucial links in what is called the "chain of survival" in the medical field, according to Capt. Eckert.

"One thing led to another and we found her that day. If any one of those links were missing, we wouldn't have found her," said Satsuda.

Canada, U.S. team up to counter hidden mines during RIMPAC

JO2 Barrie Barber

RIMPAC Combined Information Bureau

The U.S. and Canadian navies' mine warfare ships have combined their might at the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2004 exercise to better counter hidden, cheap and powerful explosives that could seriously damage or sink high-tech warships.

USS Avenger (MCM 1), USS Defender (MCM 2) and HMCS Brandon (MCDV 710) have expanded each others' capabilities to accomplish faster than what one side could alone, naval leaders said.

"Having them here allows us to put more neutralization assets out and clear areas about 40 percent faster," said Cmdr. Glenn Kuffel, commanding officer of the Avenger, based at Naval Station Ingleside, Texas.

"I really like working with those guys," said Lt. Cmdr. Stephan King, captain of the Brandon homeported in Esquimalt, British Columbia. "They are very professional. They know their stuff. They train as they fight."

"It's a learning experience," said Information Systems Technician 2nd Class David Primack, a Defender Sailor. "Train, train, train."

The two sides have met before at sea. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U.S. and Canadian navies joined forces with U.S. Naval Special Clearance Team 1 and Helicopter Mine Counter Measures Squadron (HM)14, the "Vanguards," with its MH-53E Super Stallions to clear mines from the port of Umm Qasr, Iraq. Their work allowed humanitarian aid to flow into the Persian Gulf nation.

During RIMPAC, the USS Dubuque (LPD 8) serves as a command and control ship.

When the ships leave Pearl Harbor's channel to begin the tactical phase of the exercise, the minesweeping force, led by HMCS Brandon, will clear the channel of "explosives" as the other warships depart.

To help accomplish that mission, Brandon carries a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that hunts and disables mines. It uses a TV camera and highly-detailed photographic imagery that maps the bottom of the ocean, much like a satellite photographs the earth from space.

Once the ROV finds the floating explosive, an operator on the ship can cut the mine's cable with surgical precision. Divers blow up the mine when it surfaces.

"It's an area of warfare that's commonly overlooked," King said.

U.S. minesweepers, which normally don't have a diver embarked, will test the battlespace preparation autonomous underwater vehicle (BPAUV) during the exercise, said Lt. Herlinda Rojas, a spokeswoman for the U.S. minesweeping task force. The blunt-nosed, oversized, torpedo-shaped device identifies mine-like contacts on a pre-programmed course before the ship arrives.

The combined force will also lay mines and participate in a search-and-rescue scenario. Moreover, the crews are expected to work with the twin-hulled catamaran High Speed Vessel Swift (HSV 2) in its first-ever at sea refueling, and provide support in the evacuation of "residents" during a humanitarian aid mission.

"We have a very clear focus on how we are going to accomplish cer-



Sailors from HMCS Brandon (MCDV 710) recover a practice mine in a pre-deployment evolution prior to Rim of the Pacific 2004 Exercise. The Brandon has combined forces with the USS Avenger (MCM 1) and USS Defender (MCM 2) in mine countermeasure operations during RIMPAC, the largest maritime exercise in the waters around the Hawaiian Islands.

tain tasks," King said.

The two navies are part of a task force of seven nations consisting of 40 ships, seven submarines and about 100 aircraft involved in the largest maritime exercise in the Pacific.

"It's a huge learning experience, no question," King said.

"A lot of these Sailors are very young," Rojas said. "This might be their first exercise."

To learn more about each other, the mine countermeasure ships

exchanged crew members during the run-up to RIMPAC. More than 60 Sailors crossed decks between the two navies.

"The cross-pollination was a huge success," King said. "It just pays dividends in the long run."

"It's good to go between countries and see what their technology is," said Lt. j.g. Peter Muschek, a naval surface warfare officer aboard Defender.

"They get to see how another country's navy accomplishes the

same mission," Kuffel said. "They get to see how ships are driven (and) how ships are fought. ...This whole trip has been a series of firsts for us."

The Canadian sailors gained more than knowledge about their allies, King said. "We have enjoyed immensely working with these guys," said the commanding officer, who leads a crew made up entirely of Naval Reservists. "The friendships that we've made, I'm sure they'll stand the test of time."

Latest phase of CARAT exercise series now underway in Thailand

JOC Melinda Larson

Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training Task Group Public Affairs

A combined force of nearly 4,000 U.S. Sailors, Coast Guardsmen and Royal Thai Armed Forces counterparts are set to break new ground during the Thailand phase of the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) series, which began in Thailand June 30 with a traditional ceremony.

Sixteen ships, along with a variety of aircraft and other units, are taking part in the exercise - the largest bilateral event of the year between the two navies. This year's edition, the 10th, contains a number of CARAT Thailand firsts.

"We have many reasons to be excited about the exercise this year," said Rear Adm. Kevin Quinn, commander of Logistics Group Western Pacific and in his role as the executive agent for CARAT, commander of Task Force 712, during the opening ceremony. "For the first time, two Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers — USS Russell (DDG 59) and USS McCampbell (DDG 85) — will take part along with the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Mellon (WHEC 717), the dock landing ship USS Fort McHenry (LSD 43) and the rescue and salvage ship USS Salvor (ARS 52). The U.S. task group is the most robust CARAT group ever and a symbol of commitment, as well as an example of the maturity of CARAT" Quinn explained.

Other new initiatives that exemplify the growth of the exercise, Quinn said, are on the communications front. The portable allied command, control and communications terminal system will be put to use during the exercise for the first time and will be installed on board His Thai Majesty's Ship Taksin.

"This system not only allows the two navies to communicate securely, but also provides us with a combined operational picture that can be used by our commanders at sea to maintain situational awareness of their units and tactical operations," Quinn said.

Additionally, through demonstrations aboard



Guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) prepares to pull alongside the guided missile destroyer USS McCampbell (DDG 85) June 30 after arriving for the Thailand phase of exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training.

McCampbell, U.S. Navy communications specialists will introduce the Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange (CENTRIX) system. CENTRIX is a global Internet protocol architecture that allows U.S. forces to share information and operational planning with allies.

This year, a combined, U.S. Navy, Royal Thai Navy (RTN) staff will exercise command and control of the combined task group from aboard Russell.

"At sea, the task group will focus on the many exercise hallmarks of CARAT, which include a full series of basic through advanced events designed to shape our warfighting skills," Quinn said. "These standard events are an important part of the exercise, but we will also be conducting a variety of other exercise events, many born of a changing world situation and as a result of new threats."

These include visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) symposia and practical demonstrations at sea by the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Mellon with RTN Navy and Coast Guard counterparts, as well as symposia on legal issues of mutual interest, such as the Law of the Sea, maritime interdiction operations and rules of engagement.

Amphibious operations with Royal Thai Marines from the dock landing ship Fort McHenry are also scheduled, as are diving and salvage operations with

Royal Thai Navy divers from the rescue and salvage ship Salvor. The RTN will put four minesweepers to sea during the exercise to hunt for U.S. mines deployed by a P-3C Orion aircraft.

"This year, CARAT will not only educate and give experience to U.S. and Thai forces, but it will also be beneficial to local civilians," said Rear Adm. Tawewuth Pongsapipatt, commander of the RTN's Frigate Squadron 2, during the ceremony.

U.S. Navy Seabees began work in early June on a multi-purpose building at a school in nearby Rayong province. Construction will be completed and the facility dedicated during the exercise. Several medical, dental and veterinary community action projects will also take place, providing free care for residents in and around the Sattahip area. Likewise, a number of community service projects by CARAT Task Group Sailors and Coast Guardsmen are scheduled.

"We receive so much kindness and friendship here, and we are glad we have an opportunity to make contributions that will benefit the well being of our Thai friends," Quinn added.

Nearly 1,400 U.S. Sailors and Coast Guardsmen, along with 2,600 Royal Thai Navy and Marine personnel, are participating in the exercise.

CARAT is a series of bilateral exercises held annually throughout Southeast Asia.

Crommelin intercepts cocaine shipment, arrests smugglers

OS1 Daniel W. Roberts

USS Crommelin Public Affairs

The guided missile frigate USS Crommelin (FFG 37) intercepted a shipment of cocaine and arrested five drug smugglers during an operation last month while deployed to the U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command area of responsibility.

The crew of USS Crommelin, working in conjunction with USS Ticonderoga (CG 47), made their first recovery of illegal narcotics since reporting on station patrolling the waters of the Eastern Pacific.

Just before midnight, June 22 while conducting Counter Drug Patrol, Jaguar 605, an SH 60B helicopter embarked in Ticonderoga, detected a drug ferrying speedboat or "go-fast."

Shortly after being detected, the speedboat fled the area, conducting a series of high-speed maneuvers in an attempt to elude the helicopter.

Crommelin, operating in the area, was called into action by Joint Inter-Agency Task Force (JIATF) South and maneuvered at high speed to intercept the fleeing go-fast. Easyrider 57, an SH 60B helicopter on Crommelin, was launched and aided in the chase, relocating the speedboat and allowing Jaguar 605 to refuel.

With Crommelin acting as a blocker, Ticonderoga maneuvered ahead of the speedboat and ordered the drug runners to stop. While Ticonderoga performed all the

necessary steps to persuade the go-fast to halt, Easyrider 57, using its forward looking infrared (FLIR) camera, visually documented the go-fast crew throwing their illegal cargo overboard. Ticonderoga then broke from the chase to recover the contraband while Crommelin continued pursuit.

Shortly after jettisoning the last of their narcotics, the speedboat shut down its engines and came to a halt. U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) 102 deployed from Crommelin via small boat and apprehended the five drug smugglers aboard the go-fast.

Ticonderoga recovered eight bales of cocaine and turned them over to Crommelin after testing and documentation. USS Ticonderoga then departed the area and Crommelin remained on station to search for more contraband.

By sundown the following day, USS Crommelin had recovered a total of 72 cocaine bales weighing over 50 pounds each and worth a total estimated street value of \$36 million. The smugglers were taken turned to appropriate authorities.

Since reporting on station in the Eastern Pacific on May 20, Crommelin has disrupted 4 narcotics smuggling operations, and detained 10 suspected drug smugglers. With nearly four months of counter drug patrol remaining, the crew of USS Crommelin says it's looking forward to more "busts" and making the trip from pick-up to delivery an uncertain one for narco-terrorists.

USS Chicago changes hands

JO3 Corwin Colbert

COMSUBPAC

Public Affairs

Cmdr. Rich Wortman relieved Cmdr. Craig Selbrede as commanding officer of USS Chicago (SSN 721) in a change of command ceremony on June 30 at the Naval Station Pearl Harbor submarine piers.

Capt. William Toti, Commander Submarine Squadron Three, was the principal speaker.

"Selbrede's last change of command was on July 23, 2002 when he was on the opposite end of this ceremony," said Toti. "When he relieved command, his schedule was already set. He had an upkeep, deployment installations, preparation for overseas movement certification, missile systems maintenance, load-outs and a deployment. None of the department heads had any prior Western Pacific deployment experience. Therefore, Selbrede had his work cut out for him.



U.S. Navy photo by JO3 Corwin Colbert. Cmdr. Rich Wortman takes his first salute as commanding officer of USS Chicago (SSN 721).

"During Operation Iraqi Freedom, USS Chicago operated independently, and the crew conducted special missions. While much of the world was focused on rumors of war in the Middle East, USS Chicago became the workhorse of Seventh Fleet," said Toti.

"It is important to note that USS Chicago never missed an operational commitment throughout Cmdr. Selbrede's tour. Beginning

today, it will be Cmdr. Wortman who is entrusted with this fine ship and crew, and it will be Cmdr. Wortman who is similarly charged with the defense of the nation. I know he is eager to begin," said Toti.

During his speech, Toti presented Selbrede with the Meritorious Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious service as commanding officer of USS Chicago.

Selbrede commented about his rewarding tour as commanding officer of Chicago.

"Officers and crew of Chicago, I have you to thank most of all. Your hard work and dedication carried us through all of the challenges. I would have liked to finish with you through the shippard period, but my time is up. I know you will give your best for Cmdr. Wortman, as you did for me," said Selbrede.

Selbrede's next command will be at the Chief of Naval Operations, Submarine Warfare Division in Washington, D.C.

4th of July



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

The petting zoo at MWR's July 4th Block Party gave children of all ages and adults a chance to pet some unique creatures, including this friendly pony, a pig and goats.



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

A child slides down an inflatable toy at the July 4th Block Party. Children had more than five inflatables in which they could bounce, slide, jump and smile.



Photo by Gilda Holy

Gabrielle Holy performs the national anthem at Sunday's block party before the fireworks display. Holy has performed for veterans' functions, at baseball games and at school.



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

The Xtreme Fun Xpress Train gave small children a chance to have some fun riding around the parking lot as many times as they wanted.



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Marine Sgt. William Zerwas, landing support specialist at Kaneohe Bay, and his children play with baby chicks at the petting zoo held during the July 4th Block Party at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The petting zoo also included a pony, pig and goats for spectators to touch and admire.



U.S. Navy photo by JOSN Ryan C. McGinley

Thousands of military members and their family showed up for MWR's July 4th Block Party on Sunday to enjoy with a wide variety of games, entertainment and activities.

Hawai'i Navy News Sports



Photo by Lacy Lynn

Sailors from the Canadian frigate HMCS Regina (FFH 334) square off for a game of ball hockey at Boards Blades Skate Park on July 1. Eight teams from the ship competed during the five-hour tournament that coincided with the celebration of Canada Day.

Canadians compete for hockey trophy in Hawai'i

Lacy Lynn
Staff Writer

Wherever Canadians go, they bring their favorite pastime with them. The crewmembers of the HMCS Regina (FFH 334) were no exceptions as they celebrated Canada Day in Hawai'i with a ball hockey tournament July 1.

Eight teams from the patrol frigate competed at the Pearl Harbor Boards & Blades Skate Park hockey arena in a single-elimination tournament that lasted for five hours.

The tournament was planned to celebrate Canada Day, the anniversary of British North American provinces uniting as a new nation.



Photo by Lacy Lynn

Gunner the Gopher, unofficial mascot of HMCS Regina (FFH 334), gets a ride around Boards and Blades Skate Park on July 1.

"It's Canada Day, today," said event organizer SLt. Mark Perron, "so why not do what we do best, play hockey." SLt. Perron added that ball hockey was a game that many of the crew played as children.

Ball hockey is similar to ice or roller hockey, but can be played on any flat surface.

Players wear regular shoes rather than skates, and instead of using a puck, they pass and shoot a small orange ball across the playing area.

Opening ceremonies for the tournament were provided by the Regina's unofficial mascot, Gunner the Gopher, who threw out the ball for the tournament's first face-off.

A woman from Regina, Saskatchewan, the ship's namesake city, sewed Gunner's gopher garb for the Regina crew.

Despite heat and humidity, the mammalian mascot rallied the crowd from the sidelines during the game, and performed in the arena during breaks in play.

The tournament was decided in overtime with a tiebreaking shootout, which left the score at 4:3.

The winning team, MS & Below Team MSE, kept their hold on the Inter-Mess Sporting Events Championship Trophy, and maintained bragging rights aboard ship until the next tournament.

The HMCS Regina's homeport is Esquimalt, British Columbia. The Regina arrived for RIMPAC exercise with the USS John C. Stennis task group on June 29.

Little League goes to the majors



Photo by Amiee Huepenbecker

A member of the Halawa Little League team slides back into first against a Pearl Harbor player after taking a lead off base during the July 3 Majors All-Stars Tournament. The Pearl Harbor Majors little league team hosted the tournament July 1 - 4 at Aiea Field. The teams were made up of kids 11-12 years old. Aiea Little League took home the tournament title.

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Shipyard machine shop adopts TOC

Cynthia Dang,
Kristin Ching

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard
Public Affairs

One of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's waterfront maintenance teams recently adopted a new way of thinking called Theory of Constraints (TOC) to help meet the Navy's challenge to have its fleet surge-ready at a moment's notice.

As naval shipyards transform to meet the needs of the Navy and the nation, this prioritization initiative lends maintenance flexibility to handle emergent-type ship work without impacting regular, ongoing projects.

"Instead of trying to do every job at the same time, we can concentrate on the real priorities," said Jonathan Spencer, a mechanic work leader at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's inside machine and hydraulics shop.

Before, he said, each project would believe their job was urgent, making prioritization of each job difficult to assess.

"We didn't know who we were supposed to listen to," said Spencer. "Now we know what to concentrate our resources on. It's less confusing."

Spencer's shop adopted the TOC philosophy based on prior success at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Submarine Fleet



U.S. Navy photo

The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's waterfront maintenance teams recently adopted a new way of thinking called Theory of Constraints.

Maintenance Project (FMB), who initiated TOC in March 2002. By 2003, FMB had increased on time completion of availabilities from 68 to 80 percent. They also reduced overtime by 14.5 percent.

Since then, other shipyards have adopted TOC.

"It proved to be fruitful and more efficient," said Capt. Jon Iverson, shipyard operations officer. "We hope to see the same type of improvement at [the inside machine shop] that we've seen at FMB."

TOC is a management philoso-

phy created by Dr. Eliyahu Goldratt. It is a set of tools, principles and applications used to find bottlenecks that constrain success. It focuses on increasing productivity and efficiency through process improvements.

By overcoming constraints that hold up work, the shop can maximize resources and eliminate snags.

They chose two elements of TOC to include in their systematic approach, Critical Chain Project Management (CCPM) and Drum-Buffer-Rope (DBR). These ele-

ments, along with TOC, are key pieces of the Navy's shipyard transformation plan, designed to meet the Navy's surge-ready maintenance requirements.

CCPM is a project management process. It involves evaluating all the steps throughout a project plan so that the shop can identify constraints in the system. The goal is to efficiently manage time buffers and task priorities. Mastering this strategy can increase project success rate, reduce the durations of work and reduce the stress frequently placed on resources.

DBR is a method for prioritizing jobs, efficiently using available resources and effectively controlling the flow of work through the shop. Each shop has heavily loaded resources that end up controlling the amount of work the shop can accomplish.

Cmdr. Kent Kettell, deputy director of naval shipyard Management Group, explained that this resource, called the "drum," sets the pace for components advancing through the shop just like the drummer in a parade sets the pace of the band. Time "buffers" are used to protect the schedule and the customer's due dates from unpredictable circumstances. "Rope" is a timing technique for releasing material onto the shop floor. So, "Drum - Buffer - Rope" is a method to remove waste from schedules and ensure commitments

are met.

"This is the first time any shipyard has attempted DBR," said Iverson. "It became easy to identify the highest priority in the shop and make sure nothing holds up the job."

So far, adopting these concepts has improved balancing the shop's workflow with the project needs. Weekly strategic meetings help the shop integrate project schedules, because they no longer deal with individual requests from major stakeholders, such as planning, engineering, production and the projects. Instead, they work as a team to assess priorities.

The shop also now uses two software programs that clearly define the most urgent jobs with color codes. It allows mechanics to immediately work on the jobs that have the closest deadline by integrating the schedules of all the projects on one calendar. Spencer said this takes the stress out of trying to guess what should take priority.

Fewer misunderstandings between production and the projects mean less disruptive variations in the schedule.

"By minimizing disruptions and planning our work as a team, we're sending the ships out on time," said Steve Andrews deputy production resources manager.

For more information on Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, visit www.phnsy.navy.mil.

PACOM included in vaccination programs

Special release from the U.S. Department of Defense

Dr. William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, announced June 30 that the anthrax and smallpox vaccination programs would include selected units within the U.S. Pacific Command, additional personnel now serving with the U.S. Central Command and other selected groups of individuals.

"The decision to protect additional personnel with these vaccines reflects our concern for their health and safety, as well as the continuity of essential operations," said Winkenwerder. "When we began these vaccination programs, we stated that we would periodically review them, evaluating the threats to our forces and vaccine availability. We recently completed such an evaluation and determined that the threat continues. In light of our successful implementation of these programs and the increased quantities of vaccine, we will include additional forces in the vaccination programs," he offered.

Vaccination offers an extra layer of protection, in addition to antibiotics and other measures, that is needed for members of the armed forces, emergency-essential DoD civilians and contractor personnel carrying out mission-essential services.

The program update will continue to include personnel assigned or deployed to the selected units for 15 or more consecutive days. DoD will offer the vaccinations to family members in these geographic areas on a voluntary basis. DoD will pursue vaccination, subject to appropriate personnel and contractor procedures, of emergency-essential civilian employees and comparable contractor personnel in these geographic areas.

DoD continues to reserve a portion of the vaccine supply for contingency use by other federal agencies. The Office of Homeland Security heads the planning effort among federal agencies for use of the vaccine.

The department continues to work aggressively with the Department of Health and Human Services, using a new federal coordinating committee and the Bioshield Legislation to prioritize and develop new and better vaccines and other medical countermeasures for biological threats to civilians and the military.

For more information about the anthrax vaccine immunization program, visit www.anthrax.mil.

For more information about the smallpox vaccination program, visit www.smallpox.mil.