An Air Force C-17 Globemaster III assigned to the 154th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, approaches at Yokota Air Base, Japan March 29. The Sakura trees reached full bloom two days earlier than last year.

(Photo by Yasuo Osakabe)
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii oversees two installations: Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Oahu and Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, on Kauai. As Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, we provide oversight for the ten surface ships homeported at JBPHH. Navy aircraft squadrons are also co-located at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, Oahu, and training is sometimes also conducted on other islands, but most Navy assets are located at JBPHH and PMRF. These two installations serve fleet, fighter and family under the direction of Commander, Navy Installations Command.

A guided-missile cruiser and destroyers of Commander, Naval Surface Force Pacific deploy independently or as part of a group for Commander, U.S. Third Fleet and in the Seventh Fleet and Fifth Fleet areas of responsibility. The Navy, including your Navy team in Hawaii, builds partnerships and strengthens interoperability in the Pacific. Each year, Navy ships, submarines and aircraft from Hawaii participate in various training exercises with allies and friends in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to strengthen interoperability. Navy service members and civilians conduct humanitarian assistance and disaster response missions in the South Pacific and in Asia. Working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Navy in Hawaii provides drug interdiction and fisheries enforcement operations for Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In even-numbered years Hawaii hosts the biennial summer Rim of the Pacific Exercise, the world’s largest military maritime exercise, featuring more than two dozen nations and 25,000 personnel.

The Navy family in Hawaii comprises around 50,000 people, most of whom are active duty service members and their families, and includes nearly 15,000 civilians and contractors as part of our workforce.

JBPHH includes the Pearl Harbor waterfront, Hickam flight line, Wahiawa annex and several other areas in West Oahu and provides a major logistics and other support hub for the military and military families. Supporting the nation’s ballistic missile defense initiative, the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the western coast of “The Garden Island,” is the world’s largest instrumented multidimensional testing and training missile range.

We provide services to the U.S. Pacific Command, one of DOD’s six geographic combatant commands, with an area of responsibility covering half the globe. We directly support two component commands whose headquarters are on JBPHH: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, U.S. Pacific Air Force. Close to our own Region/MIDPAC headquarters command is Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. With 18 forward-deployable combat-ready U.S. Navy submarines, Pearl Harbor is home to the largest submarine presence in the Pacific. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, on JBPHH, is the largest ship repair facility between the West Coast and the Far East. Within our region we support more than 100 tenant commands.
The rate of chief petty officer (CPO) is honored every April 1 with CPO birthday celebrations around the world and across the seven seas.

The earliest known unofficial use of the term chief petty officer dates back to 1776 when the Continental Navy ship Alfred’s foremost cook, Jacob Wasbie, a cook’s mate, received the title “chief cook.” The rate of chief was officially established over a century later on April 1, 1893.

There are currently three ranks of chief petty officer in the United States Navy: chief, senior chief and master chief. According to Naval History and Heritage Command, “Chiefs are recognized for exemplary technical expertise within their rating, superior administrative skills, and strong leadership ability. Most importantly, chiefs bridge the gap between officers and enlisted personnel, acting as supervisors as well as advocates for their Sailors.”

The CPO birthday is a time for chiefs to review and gain new knowledge about the history of being a chief; it is a time to “recharge” their anchors, learn and share the history and legacy of the chief with one another.

Navy Region Hawaii Command Master Chief Mario Rivers said, “It is a legacy that has stood the test of time since 1893; we are now part of that legacy. It is so very important that we recognize our history, for it is our history that has made us who we are. We are fortunate to be part of an elite group of men and women that have been given the privilege to wear the fouled anchor and be referred to by those that do not even know your name as chief. No one can ever take that away from us and we should feel good about who we are, but more importantly, feel great about what we do. In the end, our legacy will not be remembered by what we accomplished as individuals, but more so by the Sailors we were able to influence as chiefs.”

COVID-19 has created challenges to the way we make chiefs and celebrate the legacy of chiefs. The 128th chief’s initiation was no exception, but COVID-19 did not defeat the season. "Collectively as a group, we planned well in advance of our requirements, and reviewed each timeline, calendar and schedule of events to make certain that a prioritization was put in place that included the wearing of masks, social distancing, and temperature screening. In the end we didn’t have anyone miss training to contracting COVID-19, and I couldn’t be more proud of the plan our installation team put in place," said Rivers.

It is tradition that a Khaki Ball honoring the newly pinned chiefs follows the season, however, COVID-19 prevented the ball from happening. This year, the new chiefs were honored during the CPO birthday celebration.

Traditionally the CPO birthday is celebrated with a “dining in,” a formal dinner full of ceremony, CPO history-based skits, networking, and bonding. This year the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Chief’s Mess hosted a cake cutting ceremony. During the ceremony, there was a CPO history and heritage training session and the new chiefs were welcomed and recognized by the Chief’s Mess.

Story by Wayne Randall
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs
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The CPO birthday is a time chiefs reflect on what it means to be “the chief.” Rivers is the third generation in his family to join the Navy. On the day his father donned anchors in 1984, he decided all he wanted to do was be a Navy chief. Rivers was only 7 years old.

“Being a chief petty officer requires an absolute professional that is completely committed to service. Service to our nation, Sailors and our command is not a dress rehearsal. John F. Kennedy once said that ‘a nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces, but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers.’ Everyday matters and therefore we must do our best to carry on the legacy of those that came before us, and make each day our masterpiece,” said Rivers.

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Total-Force Airmen from ‘Team Hickam’ completed three weeks of fighter operations with visiting F-16 Fighting Falcons on March 11 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH) during the second iteration of exercise Pacific Raptor.

The exercise was held to generate dissimilar aircraft combat training with the Alaska-based aircraft from the Eielson Air Force Base, exposing the Hawaiian F-22 Raptors to new combat strategies that are likely to be faced in the event of an air-to-air battle.

“We’re helping the F-22s by replicating adversary capabilities so that they are trained and ready for any fight the Air Force wants to take them to,” said Capt. Daniel Simpson, 18th Aggressor Squadron pilot.

In the fighter community, the ‘Aggressors’ are known to provide world-class mimicry of adversarial practices, so much that it permeates throughout their aircraft paint scheme and heraldry. In a similar fashion that method actors adopt behaviors of portrayed characters, Aggressor personnel are branded with insignia that resembles that of Cold War opponents to represent a past threat, along with foreign paint designs that are easily identified on sight.

A typical training day entailed the launching of KC-135 Stratotankers from the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron, followed by back-to-back takeoffs with the Hawaiian Raptors and Aggressors, which received in-air refueling between each combat scenario. Each round of refueling was planned so...
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Before, during and after each training mission, air battle managers and command and control personnel from the Hawaii ANG’s 169th Air Defense Squadron monitor the air space and relay information between aviators and command staff. The squadron utilizes powerful radar and surveillance technologies on a 24/7 basis, keeping a watch on the skies throughout and around the Hawaiian Islands.

Personnel from JBPHH’s Fleet Logistics Center also helped enable fighter operations throughout the exercise. Logistics personnel provided ground fuel to aircraft as a means to develop joint interoperability and streamline the transfer of resources between service branches whenever needed.

“One of the most important aspects to making this exercise successful is teamwork,” said a Hawaii ANG Raptor Pilot, distinguished as a Pacific Raptor superior performer. “To that end, the Hawaiian Raptors get to integrate with the Air National Guard and active duty as a TFI (Total Force Integration) unit, working side-by-side on a routine basis. In addition to that, it takes everyone else on this base from maintenance to the support personnel to the 203rd Air Refueling Squadron’s flying tanker support to the controllers at the 169th, and the NAVSUP from the Pearl Harbor Fleet Logistics Center by providing awesome fuel support.”

Similar to other large exercises hosted by the Hawaii Air National Guard, such as the ongoing iterations of Sentry Aloha, partnered units from around the globe visit JBPHH on a routine basis to integrate with the fifth-generation Hawaiian Raptors over, perhaps, the world’s most isolated and vast training spaces, in the center of the Pacific Ocean.
APRIL IS EARTH MONTH

COVER STORY

Healing in Hoola Ma Puuloa

PEARL HARBOR

Story and photos by MC1 Holly Herline
JBPHH Public Affairs

It is said in Hawaiian culture that the hale, or sheltered home-like structure, was one of three things that was necessary for the Hawaiians, along with the canoe and the farm. The hale was for rest and procreation, the canoe for travel and warfare, and the crops for sustenance.

Each of these three necessities could be found at the loko ia, or fishponds, that once lined the Pearl Harbor, or Puuloa, region between the 14th and 19th centuries. These unique Hawaiian inventions were made of a distinctive rock-wall surrounding shallow nearshore reefs that could range in size from a single acre to more than 100 and were intended to farm fish.

The early 1900s brought on changes that effectively wiped out practical use of the ancient ponds, while agricultural development filled many of them in, taking with them a piece of the Hawaiian culture. Locally, only three discernable ponds remain to this day. The most accessible pond, Loko Paaiau Fishpond, is currently being restored and returned as closely as possible to its original state.

The Navy, members of Alii Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club and community volunteers gathered at Loko Paaiau located near McGrew Point military housing, March 26, to bless the newest addition to the restoration, a covered structure named...
Hale Alii o Na Koa, or Royal House of the Warriors.

The blessing of the hale was dedicated to Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole as the celebration fell on his 150th birthday. It was only fitting as he was a true steward of the land and people of Hawaii. His legacy lives on in the Hawaiian Civic Club he helped found in 1918 that remains active today and an instrumental part of this restoration project.

The project that started in 2015, between the Navy and Alii Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club, began with the clearing of invasive mangrove to uncover the fishpond. Recent progress at the pond has centered around maintaining the cleared land, rebuilding the wall that encloses the fishpond, and most recently this hale.

Rear Adm. Robb Chadwick, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, and Capt. James G. Meyer, commanding officer of Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii, were in attendance and have been integral driving forces behind the Navy’s involvement and prioritization in the project. Both offered traditional hookupu, or offerings, during the blessing portion of the ceremony. Chadwick noted the teamwork it has taken to get to this point in the restoration process.

“The Navy has been an integral part of this community and it is not something that we take for granted,” said Chadwick. “This project has far surpassed my expectations of what I thought it was going to be. When you walk the area and along the sea rock, you get an immense sense of the amount of work that goes into it. It’s an impressive effort.”

Made by hand and without any screws, nuts, or nails, it is as culturally traditional as possible while adhering to modern standards. The difference comes in this hale’s purpose; historically it would be used to house the guardian and maintainer of the pond. This one is dedicated to healing, relaxation, and meditation.

“This will be a resting place for fallen warriors and veterans,” said Francis Sinenci, lead builder and Vietnam veteran. “Me being a retiree, I built this to honor our wounded warriors and those with war related issues.”

As restoration and preservation of the fishpond continues, it is clear that veterans are not the only ones who will benefit from the healing intentions of this structure and surrounding area.

The overall project has brought healing to the land. The end goal of the restoration will be to have a fully functional fishpond restored closely to its original state when it was created more than 400 years ago.

“It is so easy for all of us to lose culture, not just Hawaiians,” said Kehaulani Lum, Alii Pauahi Hawaiian Civic Club president. “You can lose, just in one generation, the wisdom that your ancestors have passed on for more than hundreds of years. That applies to us, and maybe even more so because we have had limited access to our original aina, or land.”

Functional return of the fishpond will bring with it a chance for native Hawaiians to learn about a piece of their culture that they were once only able to hear about. Future generations will be able to physically visit a place of their ancestors and participate in the fishing practices they once utilized.

Although the completed pond and hale will be an invaluable resource for gathering and teaching historical and cultural information, the learning has already started. As volunteers from the military, local community and school groups come together, they are learning about each other.

“This is an avenue to get to know each other, solve issues, hear each other’s struggles and gain trust in one another,” said Jeff Pantaleo, NAVFAC Hawaii archeologist and restoration planner. “This started out as healing the fishpond and it became healing between the native Hawaiians and the Navy. This is truly a community restoration.”

(JBPHH Public Affairs Story and photos by MC1 Holly Herline)
In July 2020, Navy divers assigned to Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit (MDSU) 1 based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Intermediate Maintenance Facility Dive Locker Team began Phase I of a Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), Integrated Warfare Systems Engineering Group (SEA 05H) project to remove underwater components of an inactive Fleet Operational Readiness Accuracy Check Site (FORACS) at Nanakuli Beach Park. The FORACS had ceased operations in 2010 and the Navy began dismantling old conduit and cables. Sailors removed more than 30,000 pounds of defunct equipment off the reef. (For the initial story, see “MDSU-1, NAVSEA Remove Defunct FORACS Equipment off Nanakuli Beach” at https://go.usa.gov/xHYfp.)

In September 2020, the team continued with Phase I of the project which involved relocating selected corals from remaining conduits slated for removal, to a nearby area. Since the cables were first installed in the 1960s, ocean life, including corals, recruited to and became attached to the equipment.

As a part of the Navy’s commitment to reducing impacts on coral reefs, appropriately sized healthy corals were removed from the cables and reattached to the ocean floor further offshore.

“SEA 05H is committed to being good environmental stewards and this project allowed them to continue that legacy. It was very important to us to ensure every single possibly viable coral was transplanted,” said Dawn Rodes, SEA 05H FORACS Program Manager. The Navy worked in partnership with the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources. Corals must meet optimal transplant criteria of size and health to have the best outcome for regeneration.
Eligible coral colonies were carefully removed with a small chisel and mallet from the cables or conduit. They were placed in empty plastic milk crates and carefully transported to a new nearby location, all the while being submerged. Divers swam the crates to the sea floor and then the coral colonies were secured with a special underwater epoxy. This approach is fairly successful in establishing corals in a new location and is a common practice among scientists worldwide.

A total of 24 coral colonies were transplanted in September 2020 and are being monitored at various intervals to determine ongoing conditions and transplant success. “At the last monitoring event in February 2021 many of the transplants were doing very well,” said Marine Ecologist Stephen Smith of the Scientific Diving Services at Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific.

According to Smith, corals occur from the North to South poles, from the intertidal zone to the deepest portions of the ocean. Most people only think of shallow water tropical coral reefs, like in Hawaii.

“It is important to remember that the presence of some coral does not necessarily constitute a coral reef. For example, a rainforest species of tree in a parking lot planter does not mean the parking lot is a rainforest,” he said.

“The species of coral in this project are important in that they provide, directly and indirectly, shelter, and food for a wide range of marine invertebrates and fishes. Many of those are in turn prey for larger animals. Well-developed reefs also provide shore line protection and act as natural breakwaters to reduce wave energy and protect the shoreline,” he said.

The next monitoring event of the transplanted coral will occur in April 2021. “This project will provide important insights into how best to transplant corals off old, rusting metallic surfaces,” said Smith.

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According to the International Tsunami Information Center, Hawaii has used April as Tsunami Awareness Month, since the 1990s. Federal, state and local government agencies team together to sponsor awareness and outreach events aimed at sustaining awareness of Hawaii’s tsunami hazards.

In addition, the April 1, 1946 tsunami from the Aleutian islands surprised the state, which was without a tsunami warning system, killing 158 people.

As a result, the United States started the U.S. Seismic Sea Wave Warning System in 1949, which today is known as the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC). The last tsunami that caused damage in Hawaii was the 2011 Great East Japan tsunami, which was observed statewide causing over $30 million in damage.

Since 1946, more than 220 people have died in Hawaii, including six on Oahu, due to tsunamis. Knowing if you’re in an evacuation zone, recognizing the natural warning signs, and understanding how you will be alerted can make a difference between life and death.

**UNDERSTANDING TSUNAMI ALERTS**

Tsunami alerts are issued in Hawaii by the PTWC. There are four levels of tsunami alerts: warning, advisory, watch, and information statement.

Each alert is tied to a specific action for you to take. When an alert is issued, stay tuned to local TV, radio, and official social media for more detailed or specific information.

When there is a tsunami warning, the public will be advised which evacuation zone to leave. Don’t wait to evacuate. It can take time to clear an evacuation zone, so leave as quickly and safely as possible.

“A tsunami warning can be as short as 30 minutes to several hours to arrival depending on the origin. The key is to ALWAYS be prepared. Have a plan and know your evacuation routes,” advises Warren Ferguson, emergency management officer for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

**Tsunami Alerts**

- **Warning**: Dangerous coastal flooding & powerful currents possible
  - Move to high ground or inland
- **Advisory**: Strong currents & waves dangerous to those in/very near water possible
  - Stay out of water, away from beaches & waterways
- **Watch**: Distant tsunami possible
  - Stay tuned for information
  - Be prepared to act
- **Information Statement**: No threat or very distant event & threat not determined
  - Relax

For more information on how to prepare, please visit www.weather.gov/tsunamisafety

By Bryan Cheplic, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs
For more information regarding Hawaii tsunami preparedness and safety please visit: www.weather.gov/hfo/tsunami_safety

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Find out if your home, school, workplace, or other frequently visited locations are in tsunami hazard areas along the coast. Know the height of your street above sea level and the distance from the coast or other high-risk waters. (Local administration may put sign boards along the coast). Routes from your home, school, workplace, or you could be where tsunamis present a risk. If school is in an identified inundation zone, find out evacuation plan is.

Evacuation routes.

Hawaii or stay tuned to a local radio or TV station of local watches and warnings.

Discuss tsunamis with your family. Everyone should know what to do in a tsunami situation. Discussing tsunamis ahead of time can help reduce fear and save precious time in an emergency.
The Airman’s Attic at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam is getting a facelift by its executive council with the help of volunteers.

The Airman’s Attic is a facility dedicated for junior enlisted airmen and their families to shop for a plethora of free donated goods ranging from baby supplies to military uniforms.

"On Jan. 1, we took over as the new executive council and we all just took a step back and looked at the Airman’s Attic as a whole and felt like it needed a freshen up or a facelift," said Master Sgt. Paul Asp, Pacific Air Forces Command law office manager.

The renovation entails fresh paint, updated floors, measures to prevent mold, and overall a safer and cleaner place to shop for airmen and families.

"The first impression we got when we walked in the door was this is our Airman’s Attic, we can do better than this for our airmen," said Asp. "We want to leave our mark and make sure it remains in good shape for future years. We had a vision, and we wanted to make it ours."

Many volunteers stepped up to the plate and brought this vision to life creating a fresh new spin and sprucing up the store.

"The renovation allowed us to provide a fresh new look for the organization and the airmen and families we provide for," said Airman 1st Class Venice Dizon, 15th Comptroller Squadron financial operations technician. "It also optimized the organization of our inventory, which in turn allowed us to improve our inventory for the newer generation of airmen."

Big changes are being made with the same goal in mind: to create a better and safer environment to give back to generations to come.

"It’s important to give back to our junior enlisted, to give them the resources they need to make ends meet if they need it," said Asp.

"Airman’s Attic is just there to make sure the junior enlisted are taken care of."
RESPECT. PROTECT. EMPOWER.

Sexual Assault Prevention & Response
1. Members of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and U.S. Marines from the Second Battalion Third Marine Regiment salute during a disinterment ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Honolulu March 29. The ceremony was part of DPAA’s efforts to disinter the remains of unknown service members lost during the Korean War. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rusty Frank)

2. Adm. John Aquilino, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, speaks with Vietnam Veterans during a National Vietnam War Veterans Day commemoration ceremony held at the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam chapel. March 29 marks National Vietnam War Veterans Day to thank and honor our nation’s Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice. (Photo by MC1 Holly L. Herline)

3. U.S. Air Force Capt. Keenyn Duncan, right, and 1st Lt. Lily Forlini, center, both 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy pilots, walk on the flight line April 1, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). An all-female crew assigned to Travis Air Force Base flew the C-5M that delivered 120,000 pounds of cargo from Joint Base Lewis-McChord to JBPHH. (Photo by SrA Jonathon Carnell)

4. Chief Sonar Technician (Submarine) Bryan Sipps, assigned to the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Hawaii (SSN 776), holds his daughter during Hawaii’s homecoming. Hawaii returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam from deployment in the 7th Fleet area of responsibility. Hawaii performed a full spectrum of operations, including anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, during the seven-month, Indo-Pacific deployment. (Photo by MC1 Michael B. Zingaro)

5. The Chief’s Mess at NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor salute to recognize the 128th Chief Petty Officer’s Birthday. (Photo by Daniel L. Mayberry)

6. U.S. service members with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) screen dirt with local workers during a recovery mission in the Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia Feb. 16. DPAA’s mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting for missing and unaccounted-for U.S. personnel to their families and our nation. (Photo by Sgt. Jacqueline A. Clifford)
APRIL 2021 • HO’OELE

U.S. Air Force Capt. Keenyn Duncan, right, and 1st Lt. Lily Forlini, center, both 22nd Airlift Squadron C-5M Super Galaxy pilots, walk on the flight line April 1, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH). An all-female crew assigned to Travis Air Force Base flew the C-5M that delivered 120,000 pounds of cargo from Joint Base Lewis-McChord to JBPHH. (Photo by SrA Jonathon Carnell)

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For the past 23 years, the Ford Island Bridge Run has been one of the largest 10k runs on Oahu. Race walkers, leisure walkers, serious and recreational runners have all enjoyed the scenic and historical sights along the run. KEEP THE TRADITION, JOIN THE FUN!

COURSE: Virtual 5k and 10k running/walking event that can take place anywhere in the world indoors or outdoors.

REGISTRATION: Entry fee is $25 for all. Entries accepted until April 30, but must be received by April 16 to ensure shirt size. Register online at active.com. Email entries and questions can be sent to tina.lui@navy.mil

ELIGIBILITY: Runners and walkers.

TIME SUBMISSIONS: Participants may submit their times via email to michael.nagamine@navy.mil and post pictures on social media. Posts must tag @greatlifehawaii and use the hashtag #24thannualfordislandbridge. Last day to submit times online and posted on social media is April 30.

GIVEAWAYS AND PRIZES: All finishers will receive a DriFit shirt and finishers medal. Prize drawings will be held throughout the month of April. All who complete the run will be entered in a drawing to win the grand prize of a 2-night stay at the Queen Kapiolani hotel in Waikiki. Grand prize drawing on May 1.

For information call, 473-2437 or 473-1921

No official endorsement intended