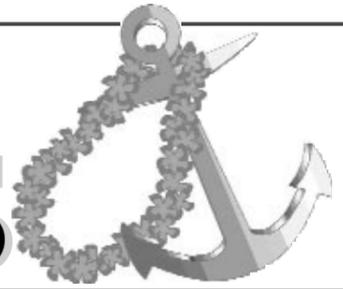


Hawaii Navy News



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IN BRIEF

Naval Magazine Changes Name

Naval Magazine, Lualualei, Hawaii, has been changed to Naval Magazine Pearl Harbor. The name change is a result of the command's recent headquarters move from the Lualualei Branch to Pearl Harbor's West Loch.

Barbers Point Exchange

The Barbers Point Main Exchange is closed on Mondays. For more information concerning NEX activities, call 423-3396.

Opportune Lift Available to Seattle

The Opportune Lift Program, which provides space available for privately owned vehicles only is available from Hawaii to Seattle, Wash. There will be space available tentatively scheduled to load onboard USS Rainier, Feb. 3.

Applications must be submitted personally to Commander Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific, Bldg 1631, room 125.

Customer service is open Tuesday and Thursday from 1 - 3 p.m. Cost of crane services depend on the number of loads, normally range from \$30 to \$50 each end, compared to \$850 cost of a regular shipment.

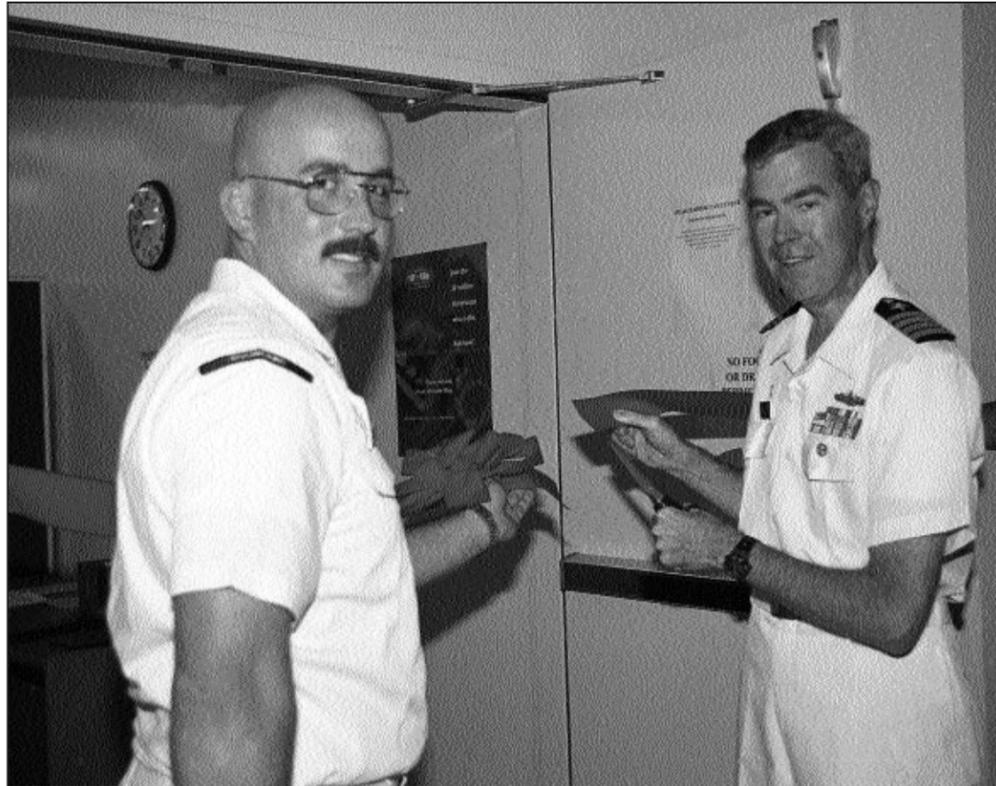
Any further destination will have to be arranged through a private shipping company.

All active duty, retired service members, and civil service personnel on official transfer orders are eligible.

You must have one copy of your PCS orders, vehicle title or letter from the lien holder if the title is not clear, vehicle registration and your military ID card

For more information call SK1(SW) Garcia at 473-0692 or 473-3045.

Tax Center opens at Navy Legal



PH3 Dawn Morrison photo

IT1 John Ryan (left), from U.S. Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet staff, and Capt. Henry J. Sanford (right), commanding officer for Naval Station Pearl Harbor, cut the ribbon officially opening the Navy Legal Office's Tax Center. The Tax center began the 1999 tax season for the Pearl Harbor community immediately following the opening ceremony. NL-SO Tax Center sponsors a federal and state income tax assistance program now through April 15. Services are available to active duty, retirees, reservists and dependents which include tax preparation, advice, computerized tax returns, and electronic filing for expedited returns. The tax center located in Bldg. 1746 and will be open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wednesdays till 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. by appointment only. Walk-ins are available until one hour prior to closing.

By Ens. Ryan Roberts

NAVAL LEGAL CENTER

Capt. Henry J. Sanford, commanding officer for Naval Station Pearl Harbor, officially opened the Naval Legal Service Office's Tax Center beginning the 1999 tax season for the Pearl Harbor community.

The Tax Center will sponsor a federal and state income tax assistance program now through April 15. Volunteer services available for active duty, retirees, reservists and family members include tax preparation, advice, computerized tax returns, and electronic filing for expedited returns.

Referring to this free service, Sanford remarked, "This is an outstanding quality of life program."

He mentioned that last year the Pearl Harbor Tax Center assisted over eight thousand Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines and their family members saving over \$556,000 in commercial preparation fees and refunding over \$6.8 million. Acknowledging the dedication of the personnel running the tax center, he stated, "Thanks must be given to you volunteers and TAD personnel, without whom this program would not be possible."

Lt. Akihito Itoh, the tax officer for this year, agreed, "The personnel are the key to the success of this program. Computers, forms and supplies are useless without the hard

▼ See TAXES, A-6

See Also:

Special tax rules for military members... A-6

Navy Ohana takes advantage of online QOL survey

By JOCS(SW) Phil Eggman

NAVY REGION HAWAII

SAILORS and their families are taking advantage of the Hawaii Navy Ohana Quality of Life (QOL) Survey; with over 200 responding in the first 72 hours the survey went on-line.

"The survey is extremely successful so far because people can take it from any computer with internet access, i.e. their work station or from home and at their convenience," said Sharleen Proctor, Navy Region Hawaii Ohana project coordinator. "The survey is also

successful because people want to feel part of any positive changes.

Compared to last year, the advantages of this year's survey are many. "It is computerized and captures the customer's views on ALL the services the Navy offers in Hawaii; not just in those areas where people have complaints," Proctor said.

The web-based survey, which takes advantage of technology while emphasizing convenience to the member, is available now through Feb. 21. The on-line survey can only be found at the COMNAVREG webpage at <http://www.hawaii.navy.mil>. Active duty personnel, family members, reservists, Department of the Navy

civilian employees and retirees can participate.

"In the first 72 hours, the responses have already provided valuable information and insight," said survey designer Christine A. Hesemann of the Navy Region Hawaii Business Office. "This information is going to help generate a lot of attention to the needs of the Navy Ohana.

"Of course the more input we receive the better the focus on issues that are important to Sailors and family members," she added.

In years past there was no "survey" per se, just a sheet of paper that people would fill out related to whatever comment they had.

However, Proctor said there were 700 comments that came into her office last year pertaining to quality of life issues.

"I believe we will have a better return with the on-line survey due to its convenience, increased advertising, increased Command Master Chief involvement and raised Flag level awareness," she said.

"And this year's survey is much easier for the individual to obtain," Hesemann said. "Instead of trying to find a paper copy, the survey is available 24-hours-a-day on the internet."

According to Hesemann, by being

▼ See OHANA, A-8

See also...



A look at Haleakala mountain on Maui ...B-1

INDEX

Commander's Column	A-2
Chapel Pennant	A-7
MWR	B-2
Movie Call	B-3
Community Calendar	B-4
Classifieds	B-5

Great Aloha Run 2000

Applications for the Great Aloha Run 2000 are available at Bloch Arena and other base fitness centers. Hawaii's premiere 8.15 mile run/walk charity event will begin sunrise—7:01 a.m.—on Feb 21. Individual runners from our military services and the Sounds of Freedom Teams have been major participants since the first Great Aloha Run/Walk in 1985, an event that reflects the goodwill and dedication of thousands of volunteers and participants. Service members, their family members and DOD civilian employees should use the blue and white military entry forms. Entry fee is \$25 for applications post-marked no later than 4 Feb. The Sounds of Freedom Team division is open to active duty military units running in formation with 10 or more participants. Team applications and fees of \$12 per person must reach the Great Aloha Run Office at 418 Kuwili Street, Suite 102, Honolulu HI 97817 no later than Feb. 7. A course drive through and packet pick-up will be held on Feb. 15. Navy Teams must call Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs, at 471-0281, as soon as possible to coordinate special Sounds of Freedom Team bus transportation, packet pick up and more information.



file photo