



IN BRIEF

Quality of service survey

The Quality of Service Survey has been extended to Nov. 10 to provide a maximum opportunity for active duty Sailors and officers to voice their "quality of service" issues in the region. The survey is anonymous and is located on the Commander, Navy Region Hawaii webpage (www.hawaii.navy.mil).

This is your opportunity to make your concerns known concerning job satisfaction, importance and the impact specific working conditions have in your work life. Survey results will allow your chain of command to find out what is going well and what needs to be improved. Your concerns do matter.

Sailors who do not have access to the Internet at home or at work should contact their unit's Command Master Chief (CMC) to make arrangements for access to the survey.

CFC extended

An additional two weeks has been added to this year's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) to give more military members and federal employees the opportunity to participate. On behalf of the 1,400 CFC charities, CFC is truly grateful for all the donations and pledges received so far. If you have not already received your donor pledge card and brochure from your key person, you can expect to be contacted soon. Your donation goes directly to the charity or charities you designate.

CFC supports various local, national and international charities. To find out more information on the Combined Federal Campaign, visit www.cfc-hawaii.org.

Holiday hometown news greetings

Naval Media Center FSD Pearl Harbor will videotape holiday hometown news greetings at Merry Point from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 7.

Servicemembers may wear uniform or civilian clothing and may bring family members. Greetings will be released on Direct To Sailor Television, Armed Forces Radio and Television Service and on servicemembers' hometown cable channels.

For more information, call JO2 Laura Castro at 474-6605.

INSIDE



Enjoy a millenium adventure with MWR... B-1

INDEX

Fleet News	A-5
Chapel Services	A-6
MWR	B-2
Movie Call	B-2
Single Sailors	B-3
Community Calendar	B-4
Classifieds	B-8

SOCPAC changes hands

Wurster takes charge of Special Operations command, Pacific

By JOC Doug Holl
PACOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP H.M. SMITH, HAWAII — Air Force Brig. Gen. Donald C. Wurster assumed command of Special Operations Command, Pacific

from Air Force Maj. Gen. Jack R. Holbein during a recent change of command ceremony here. Wurster is the tenth officer to hold the position of SOCPAC commander.

During the ceremony Adm. Dennis C. Blair, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Command, praised Holbein for his excellent leadership and his improvements in equipment, procedures and training at SOCPAC.

"You leave SOCPAC an even better command than when you arrived," said Blair. "That is the mark of a top-notch commander. I have always had confidence that not only will SOCPAC do today's missions in expert fashion, it will do tomorrow's missions even

better."

Holbein, who is scheduled to assume duties as the Joint Forces Command chief of staff in Norfolk, Va., reflected on his tour at SOCPAC. He mentioned the command's involvement in counter-drug operations, humanitarian operations and contingency missions throughout the Pacific Command's area of responsibility.

"The prize of the general is not a bigger tent, but command. Fellow SOCPAC members, you are a prize," said Holbein. "You are the CINC's 911 force, always at the tip of the spear, ready to do the nation's work within six hours of notification and

you do this 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year."

Wurster expressed his appreciation to Holbein for leaving the Special Operations Command, Pacific in such a splendid state and noted the uniqueness of serving in the special operations community. "Our community is inherently joint," said Wurster, "one where our individual contributions — like the twisted strands of a rope — provide more strength than each could provide independently. It is great to be back among special operators."

Wurster came to SOCPAC from an

▼ See SOCPAC, A-6

...and the winner is, Hopper!



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

USS Hopper communications officer, Ens. Jody Mandeville, presents a plaque to his crew as the winner of the Surface Line Week competitions at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Eleven commands participated in 37 athletic and professional skill events over a two week period, ending last Friday. These factors led to an extremely successful event that furthered the overall goals of promoting professional skill development, physical readiness, teamwork and sportmanship. See A5 for related photos.

Gathering hurricane information for next year

By Karen S. Spangler
NAVY REGION HAWAII

Another hurricane season is almost at an end and the Hawaiian Islands have again been spared a visit from one of Mother Nature's furious storms. Island residents experienced some anxious moments as they watched and waited when Tropical Storm Daniel churned toward Hawaii. But within the last few hours, Daniel suddenly changed course and island residents breathed a sigh of relief. It was only a "dress rehearsal" - that time - but it forced islanders to face the reality that a hurricane can indeed visit the islands at any time and with little warning.

One thing to keep in mind is that many of the same preparations that you made for hurricanes should always be ready in the event of any emergency or natural disaster. It never hurts to be prepared - if you have to evacuate your home for any reason or if you are left without power or cannot leave your home to replenish supplies.

In preparation for upcoming hurricane seasons, a charting and mapping survey of shallow coastal waters of the populated areas of Oahu, Kauai, Molokai and the Big Island is underway. The three-month-long hydrographic survey of Hawaii's coastline is being conducted by the Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Center of Expertise as a partnership between the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command and the Army Corps of Engineers.

By using a state-of-the-art airborne laser, data will be produced to plan hurricane evacuation routes. Previous surveys employed boats and echo sounders, a process that could take years as opposed to months with the airborne laser.

The data that is collected is put into models that show flooding zones. These studies will show how far a hurricane-generated wave will travel inland, what areas need to be evacuated and what emergency routes should be used.

The Navy and Army Corps of Engineers will make hurricane information available to state and county civil defense planners.

Gathering hurricane information is vital in order to make adequate preparations. The 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, a component of the 403rd Wing located at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss., is a one-of-a-kind organization and the only unit in the world to fly hurricanes on a regular basis to gather data. Nicknamed the "Hurricane Hunters", the squadron provides surveillance of tropical

Pearl Harbor gives thanks to Cole families

By JOSN Tim Walsh
NAVY REGION PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Throughout her life, Kathy Kinnemen, Director of the Single Sailor Program at the Armed Services YMCA, has been involved with the Navy in one capacity or another. As a wife, a mother or just a friend she knows the hardships a Navy life can bring. She feels a bond with every Sailor and their family. According to Kinnemen, "we're all one big family." So, imagine how she felt when she heard about the terrorist attack on the USS Cole (DDG 67).

Many, if not all Sailors, share some attachment with their shipmates aboard the

Cole. That's one reason why Kinnemen is providing a way for Sailors to send their most sincere condolences to the families of Cole Sailors.

"It's (filling out a card) a really wonderful thing. People need to do this," Kinnemen said. "When given the chance to write a card to someone, to express their condolence to the family, people seem very happy."

Since Oct. 18 Kinnemen has been passing out cards for people to fill out. She stood in front of the Navy Exchange Oct. 20 handing out cards and has been trying to get cards to deployed ships so Sailors at sea can also write a note to Cole families.

▼ See COLE, A-3



Pedro Valdez photo

A young girl takes the time to fill out a card for the family of a USS Cole (DD667) Sailor at this weekend's Barbers Point haunted hayride. Several booths have been set up throughout Pearl Harbor for those who would like to send a card.

Navy assists USS Cole families, Sailors

By JOC(SW/AW) Mike Morley
NAVPERSCOM PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NWS) — When a powerful explosion rocked the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS Cole (DDG 67) Oct. 12, it sent shock waves throughout the fleet and cast a shadow on every Sailor and Navy family member around the world.

At Navy Personnel Command (NPC) in Millington, Tenn., there was little time for reflection on the tragedy. Within an hour of notification of the incident, emergency plans were put into action. The Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) was activated to help open the flow of information to the families of USS Cole

Sailors and for families of Sailors assigned to other ships in the region.

"Our focus was very clear right from the beginning and that was to rapidly stand up the ECC and be able to gather and provide very specific, accurate and timely information to the families," said Rear Adm. Gerald Hoewing, commander, Navy Personnel Command.

Within minutes of the attack on USS Cole, national media outlets broke from regular programming and began live coverage, broadcasting a special 1-800 information line that had been set up for Cole family members. At the other end of the line were Sailors, more than 200 of them in all and many of whom were volunteers, manning the 32 phone banks in the ECC. These Sailors gathered contact infor-

mation from concerned family members; within the first 24 hours, the ECC received more than 6,000 inbound phone calls.

For the loved ones of deceased and missing crewmembers, NPC's Casualty Assistance Branch started the process of having Casualty Assistance Call Officers (CACOs) assigned. The CACOs teamed up with Navy chaplains to begin the difficult task of making personal notifications to those families.

"A chaplain's presence brings stability and reassurance to that situation," said Chaplain (Cmdr.) Dale Parker, NPC's Special Assistant for Pastoral Plans. "A chaplain provides pastoral support not

▼ See NAVY, A-2

▼ See HURRICANE, A-3