



In Brief

Enlisted detailers to visit Hawaii

Twenty five enlisted detailers will visit Naval Complex Pearl Harbor Feb. 26-28. Individual detailing will be conducted each day from 7-11 a.m., at Bldg. 679, the Career Information Center (CIC). For appointments, call 473-3289 (CIC Front Desk), 473-5831 (NC1 Alford), 473-1036 (NCC Walker), or 473-2269 (NCC Matthews).

Personnel within nine months of their planned rotation date (PRD) will be given priority for appointments. However, all personnel are encouraged to talk to their detailer for career guidance.

Detailers will visit shipboard commands Feb. 26-28, 1-4 p.m. Contact MID-PAC CCC, NCC Walker, at 473-1036 for appointments. Two briefs will be held at Sharkey Theater:

1. Feb. 26, 9-11 a.m. (for CO/XO/CMC).
2. Feb. 27, 8-11 a.m. (for All Hands, including spouses).

Briefs will include information on recruiting duty, the JASS Assignment System, communication with detailers, and the Enlisted Personnel Assignment System. A question and answer session will follow.

Volunteers needed

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking volunteers to assist with removing invasive plants and restoring habitats for native vegetation tomorrow from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the Kalaeloa Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge (formerly Barbers Point Naval Air Station).

Volunteers are asked to meet at the Kalaeloa McDonalds Restaurant on Lexington Ave. at 8 a.m.

A representative from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will kick-off the day with a talk on endangered native vegetation in the Kalaeloa area and why volunteer assistance is needed to support the recovery and perpetuation of these plants.

Volunteers should bring suntan lotion, a hat, water and wear sturdy shoes.

For additional information, contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 473-2926.

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Let the 'Follies' begin! Check out Mardi Gras Follies 2001... B-1.

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Inquiry delayed

Change gives parties more prep time

By J01 Joseph Gunder
Navy Wire Service,
JOC Gerard Sekerak
Editor

In an effort to give the parties involved additional time to prepare, the Navy has rescheduled its Court of Inquiry to determine why USS Greenville (SSN 772) collided with the Japanese fishing training vessel Ehime Maru in the waters south of

Diamond Head, Hawaii.

At the News' deadline, inquiry proceedings were scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. Feb. 26.

Cmdr. Scott Waddle, the sub's commanding officer; Lt. Cmdr. Gerald Pfeifer, the sub's executive officer; and Lt. j.g. Michael Coen, the officer of the deck will all appear Monday before a board of three admirals and will face questions as to why, despite several periscope sweeps and advanced sonar, the crew did not detect the 190-foot boat before starting an emergency ballast blow.

If the board finds evidence of gross negligence or dereliction of duty, a formal court martial could be ordered by Adm. Thomas B. Fargo, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The court of inquiry, the Navy's highest form of administrative in-

vestigation, will be chaired by Vice Adm. John B. Nathman, Commander, Naval Air Forces, Pacific Fleet.

Other members of the court include Rear Adm. David M. Stone, Commander Cruiser/Destroyer Group 5, and Rear Adm. Paul F. Sullivan, director of Plans and Policy at the U.S. Strategic Command. Rear Adm. Isamu Ozawa from the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force has been invited as an advisor. "The seriousness in which I view this tragic accident is reflected in the level of the investigation and the seniority of the court members.

They will provide a full and open accounting to both the American and the Japanese people," said Fargo during a Feb. 17 press conference.

USS Greenville moved into a dry dock at Pearl Harbor on Tuesday to

begin a series of inspections.

The Japanese government formally requested that the wreck of the Ehime Maru be salvaged.

Two deep submergibles remaining on station; Scorpio II from the motor vessel C-Commando and Deep Drone from USS Salvor (ARS 52).

The vessel was found nearly intact at a depth of just over 2,000 feet, but the submersibles have been too large to enter the wreck to search for any of the missing.

The Navy is currently conducting a survey to determine the feasibility of recovering the Ehime Maru. The analysis is expected to take several days.

For the latest information about the USS Greenville incident, visit the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet web site at <http://www.cpf.navy.mil>.



Familymembers of PNC(SW) Tom Barr: (left to right) daughter, Celina; son, Thomas; wife, Theresa and bother-in-law, Donte Cruz wait pier-side as USS Crommelin (FFG 37) pulls into Pearl Harbor after a six-month Western Pacific deployment.

J03 Brenda Diggs photo

Three Pearl Harbor based ships return

By J03 Sunday Sawyer
STAFF WRITER

More than 800 Sailors aboard USS Fletcher (DD 992), USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Crommelin (FFG 37) rushed to embrace friends and families as they disembarked on to Bravo piers 25 and 26.

The three ships returned to Pearl Harbor Feb. 14 and Feb. 17 from a routine six-month deployment to the Western Pacific (WESTPAC) and Arabian Gulf as part of

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Fire Department graduates twenty

By Karen S. Spangler
Navy Region Hawaii

Twenty new firefighters graduated from the Federal Fire Department's recruit training program during commencement ceremonies held Feb. 16 at Lockwood Hall.

The program is the only one of its kind in Hawaii and the first Federal Fire Department recruit training program to include emergency medical services and state of Hawaii crash/rescue personnel.

Roger Pinell, who has been a paramedic for 10 years and a graduate of the new program, was enthusiastic about the opportunity to become a

firefighter/paramedic.

"I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to become a firefighter/paramedic and couldn't have done it anywhere else on the island," he said.

"This is fulfilling my dream. Even though I've been a paramedic for 10 years, it has been my lifelong dream to be a firefighter/paramedic," he

added.

Federal Fire Department Chief Michael Jones explained the new program between the Federal Fire Department and the state, "I offered help in training their people.

"One of the requirements for the Navy fire department is that all of

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Silver Dolphin receives four-star accreditation

By JOC Gerard Sekerak
Editor

Capt. R. D. Hughes formally presented the Captain Edward F. Ney Ashore Four-Star accreditation to the Silver Dolphin Bistro last Friday.

The Ney Ashore Accreditation Review Team (ART) completed an accreditation review of the Silver Dolphin on June 21, 2000. Based on the result of the ART's onsite evaluation, the Silver Dolphin Bistro earned a four-star rating.

The Ney awards program for ashore was recently revised to score all general messes on established criteria and to award three-star through five-star ratings to each.

The four-star rating marked the first time the Silver Dolphin received accreditation under the new guidelines for the recently restructured Ney program.

Under the old program, Silver Dolphin won the Ney Award in 1994, 1997, and 1998 and received honorable mention in 1999.

"It goes on a point system and that's where our score put us, said Mess Specialist Senior Chief Connell Crooms, Navy Region Hawaii Quality

of Life Assurance Chief. "It would have been better if we could have obtained a score for the five-star accreditation, but four star is the next best thing. It validates our standards of premier customer service."

The Secretary of the Navy and International Food Service Executives Association (IFSEA) established the Ney awards in 1958 to improve and recognize quality food service in the Navy. IFSEA is a food service industry trade association whose members include executive chefs, dieticians, and managers of restaurants.

"It wasn't hard work," said Crooms of the effort that went into achieving the four-star accreditation, "because we live by all rules that govern our dining facility and we strive to be the very best. In fact, we're already setting our sights on five-star [accreditation] next year," he added.

The Ney awards recognize overall food service excellence by evaluating key areas in customer service, restaurant cleanliness and management. The independent team reviewed food preparation, management, administration, equipment safety and sanitation.



MSC(SW) Rodolfo Badan accepts the Captain Edward F. Ney Ashore Four-Star accreditation from Capt. R.D. Hughes, Commander, Naval Complex Pearl Harbor.

PHAN Casey James photo