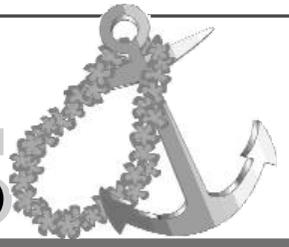


Hawaii Navy News



Volume 24 Issue 11

1997 Chief of Information Merit Award Winner

March 19, 1999

IN BRIEF

Photos needed for 1999 All Hands 'Any Day in the Navy' issue

It's time again to start thinking about breaking out that camera for this year's All Hands "Any Day in the Navy" pictorial issue.

All Hands is looking for quality photographs that capture Sailors, Marines, Department of the Navy civilian employees, Naval Reservists and their family members at work and at play - performing those daily tasks that contribute to mission accomplishment.

The shoot has been extended to encompass an entire week to allow commands more flexibility. Selected photos will be published in the October 1999 issue of All Hands.

Photographs taken should reflect the diversity of both people and capabilities in the U.S. Navy and must be shot during the week of Sunday, May 23 through Saturday, May 29, 1999. Photos depicting safety or uniform violations will not be considered. The best shots tend to be candid and unrehearsed, displaying the imagination and creativity of the photographer.

To be considered, photos must be received at All Hands by July 5, 1999. Photos will not be returned.

Submit processed and mounted color slides, or quality color prints, either 5x7 or 8x10. Digital images will also be accepted.

For more information, call the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 471-0281.

Pet Quarantine Public Meeting

The Hawaii Dept. of Agriculture is holding a public hearing tonight to discuss proposed increases in pet quarantine fees. The hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Hale Waiolama Building on 1428 King Street in Honolulu.

INSIDE HINN



Sacred Falls: A quiet getaway on Oahu for hikers. B-1

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1999 is 'year of testing' Y2K solutions, Hamre says

American Forces Press Service

Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre told lawmakers that 1999 is "the year of testing" and that DoD has made excellent progress in ensuring the department is Year 2000 compliant.

Hamre testified before the House Government Reform Committee March 2. He forecasted that 93 percent of DoD's computer systems would be Y2K compliant by March 31, the Office of Management and Budget deadline.

He said computer systems involved with nuclear weapon command and control are already compliant. "I would like to take this opportunity to state unequivocally that our nuclear command and control system has been thoroughly tested and has performed superbly," he said. "We will continue to test and evaluate our systems involved with this most important function as our highest priority."

Hamre said the Y2K problem, or millennium bug as it is also known, is particularly critical to the department's reliance on computers. "These are not simply weapon systems, the category best-prepared for the Year 2000, but command and control systems, satellite systems, the Global Positioning System, highly specialized inventory management and transportation management systems, medical equipment and important systems for payment and personnel records."

DoD has about 9,900 computer systems with about 2,300 deemed mission critical. "DoD also operates over 600 military bases, which are like small towns, where the infrastructure is also vulnerable to Year 2000 problems," Hamre said.

DoD assigned responsibility for fixing Y2K problems to

▼ See Y2K, A-3

NMCRS fund drive underway

By J02 Greg Cleghorne
HNN ASSISTANT EDITOR

"If you need help, you're never too far away from the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society," said Ed Josiah, budget counselor for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) at Pearl Harbor.

The 94-year-old society has been helping Sailors and Marines in Hawaii for 70 years by providing servicemembers, their family members and retirees with emergency assistance in their times of

need.

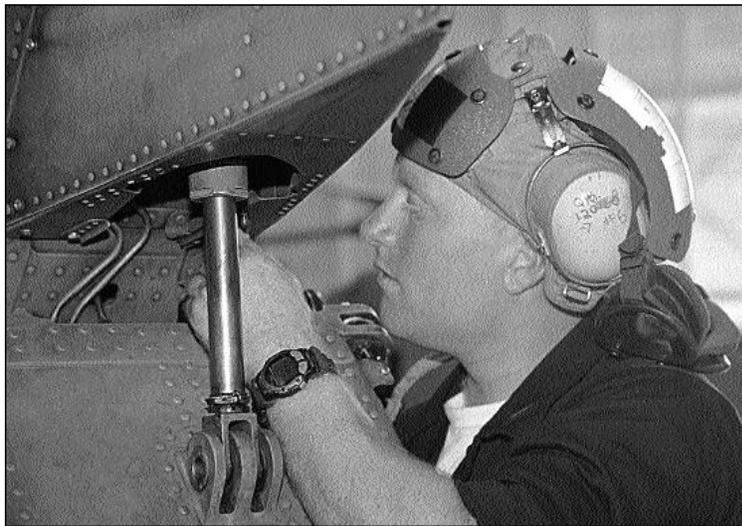
The NMCRS annual fund drive is underway and is looking to the local military community to give their time or money to support other servicemembers. The society provides servicemembers with many services, including financial assistance, in the form of interest-free loans or grants. Loans and grants are the number one means of support NMCRS provides. Last year, the Hawaii chapter provided about \$1.2 million.

Locally, last year, the society paid out

\$403,000 to send servicemembers, their family members or retirees home to be with an ill or dying family member.

"If it wasn't for the NMCRS, my family couldn't have afforded to go home to be with 'grandpa,'" said Lt. Dianne Eller, CREDO Chaplain. "We could only afford to have sent my husband. NMCRS made it possible for all five of us to go and be supportive of each other in this difficult time. It was invaluable, even critical that we were able to see

▼ See NMCRS, A-2



J01 David Nagle photo

AMH3 Shane White of HSL-37 performs maintenance on one of the squadron's helicopters at their new hangar at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay last Thursday.

Navy begins move to K-Bay

By J01 David Nagle
HNN EDITOR

Helicopter Squadron (Light) 37 (HSL-37) began operations at their new home aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), Kaneohe Bay on March 1. HSL-37 is the first of several

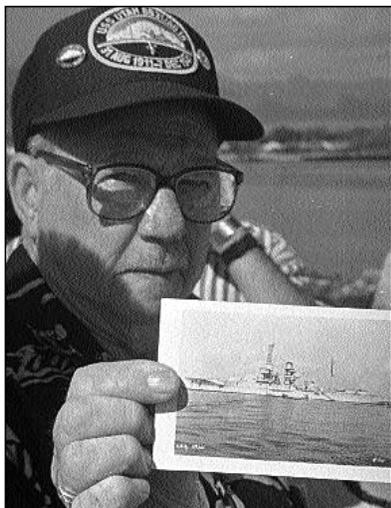
squadrons and activities that will move from Naval Air Station Barbers Point to MCBH in the coming months, in preparation for the air station's closure on July 1.

According to HSL-37's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. Patrick Smith, the squadron began planning the move in 1996, by reviewing ar-

chitectural drawings and hangar workspace modifications. The following year, the squadron began an in-depth look at how to make the actual move and formed a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) team. The squadron BRAC team,

▼ See HSL-37, A-5

Remembering the Utah



PH2 Chad McNealey photo

Pearl Harbor survivor Robert O'Hara shows off a picture of USS Utah (AG 16) as it looked while he served aboard from 1939-1941. O'Hara recently visited Pearl Harbor and the Utah Memorial, and shared his memories of life aboard the ship and the Pearl Harbor attack. For the complete story, see page A-4.

'Can Do' volunteers:

Seabees lend expertise at Tripler Fisher House

By J02(SW) Michelle Tuggle

THIRD NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE

When Zachary Fisher dreamed, he dreamed 'in color.' Founder of Fisher House Foundation, his generosity to service members and their families has traversed through decades of patriotism and united countless families during their dire medical emergencies.

Local Seabees are sharing in Mr. Fisher's dream. With approval from Army officials, Seabees will devote their time and skills to constructing a lanai for patients, or 'guests', at Tripler Fisher House.

Seabees visited Fisher House last week to present Col. Phillip Swinney and Maj. Karen Kelley of Tripler Logistics with blueprints for a proposed lanai. The lanai will be used to provide outside dining facilities and shade for guests.

According to Utilitiesman 1st Class (SCW) Rick Jensen, president of the First Class Association for the Seabees of Oahu, Seabees took on the lanai as a volunteer project shortly after they learned



J02(SW) Michelle Tuggle photo

BU1 Eric Tucker (second from left) explains the blueprints for a new lanai at the Fisher House to Col. Phillip Swinney, as UT1 Rick Jensen (far left) and BU1 David Fallon hold the plans.

that assistance was needed. "By us doing the labor and them buying the materials we could possibly save them about \$60,000," he said.

The house itself rests two steep blocks uphill from Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC). An aura of tranquility surrounds the house, perched high atop one of Oahu's most beautiful view points. The front door faces, what appears to be, the world as it opens up to a view of Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, and

the Pacific Ocean. The house can accommodate up to 16 family members and provides a common kitchen, laundry room, spacious dining room, library and toys for guests of a more 'tiny' stature.

"We are so thankful to have people and organizations like the Seabees in our corner," said Kathy Gregory, manager of Tripler Fisher House as she prepared food for her special guests. "We depend on

▼ See FISHER HOUSE, A-5