



Above: Cadets put what they have learned of seamanship to the test during a sailing race at Rainbow Bay Marina.



The cadets stand by for graduation at the Arizona Visitor's Center June 27.

JROTC

Leadership begins here

Above: The cadets start their 1.5 mile run for their physical fitness test.

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For nearly two weeks in late June, 94 cadets attended a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) Hawaii Leadership Academy here at Pearl Harbor that gave some perhaps Sailors-to-be a glimpse at their naval future.

Under the guidance of more than 20 active duty, reserve and retired service members, the cadets spent their time learning the ins and outs of military life.

"We try to give them a good perspective in the short time we have them," said retired YNCS (SW) Linda Naki. "They make it easy for us to teach them because they want to be here."

And being here is an important aspect of the academy. Although many of the cadets are from Oahu or neighboring islands, some cadets travel as far as Illinois and Japan.

The training the academy offers is worth the trip; ranging from submarine and ship tours, a visit to USS

Arizona Visitors' Center and a hike up Diamond Head Crater to marching drills, swimming and sailing instruction, personnel inspections and the day-to-day living on a Pacific Fleet berthing barge with 93 other cadets.

Naki admits it takes a little getting adjusted to. "The barge is really something to experience," says Naki with a mischievous grin, but you don't hear the cadets complaining about their accommodations. The reason for the cadets' complacency perhaps can be found in the drill instructions order of 'no complaining!' Four Marines from Kaneohe Marine Corps Base went far above and beyond the call of duty for volunteering their time and ability to leadership academy and cadets who live by their drill instructors' letter of the law.

After coming to Pearl Harbor, 'the Best Homeport in the Navy', the cadets got a taste of the Navy and perhaps the military in which they someday will serve. Rest assured that with the training received at the Hawaii Leadership Academy, our military's future leaders have had a great start.



Above: A cadet gets a supportive hug upon completing her PFT.



Retired Marine Corps Lt. Col. Fields gives a motivational speech upon the conclusion of the cadets final drill competition just prior to the announcement of how each squad placed.