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HAWAII'S NAVY NEWS



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Local SUBPAC CO wins Stockdale Award

Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs
Navy Wire Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Cmdr. John M. Richardson and Cmdr. Jeffrey S. Jones are this year's recipients of the Vice Admiral James Bond Stockdale Leadership Award. The award was presented Oct. 23 by retired Vice Adm. Stockdale and Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. William Fallon, during a Pentagon ceremony before officers, friends and family members.

The Stockdale awards are different from most Navy awards in that an individual must have command of a ship, submarine or squadron; be a frocked captain or commander; and must be nominated by his or her peers who are also eligible for the award. An awardee is selected from both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets.

Richardson, the Pacific Fleet winner, is a native of Petersburg, Va. and a 1982 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. He was nominated by Cmdr.

C.K. Merkel for his leadership of USS Honolulu (SSN 718) during a deployment with the 7th Fleet, winning the battle efficiency award for 2000.

"It's quite an honor to win an award with Admiral Stockdale's name on it," said Richardson. "I am the recipient of an award given for inspirational leadership, but I'm sure I have received more inspiration than I have given and it's a privilege to share this moment with so many people who have inspired me."

"The most significant thing, and the biggest honor, is to be nominated by your peers," Richardson added. "There's no better 'well done' than from the guys who are serving with you and it is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life."

Married to the former Dana Silva, Richardson is the father of four children with a fifth on the way. He is a former naval aide to the president.

Jones, a Coral Gables, Fla., native, en-

▼ See STOCKDALE, A-2

Tripler adds new pharmacy location



J02 Jim Williams photo

Tripler Army Medical Center opened a new pharmacy refill pick-up site at 3189 Nimitz Road (Building 4) adjacent to Navy housing in order to better serve its patients. Conveniently located, just off Nimitz Highway on Nimitz Road between Camp Catlin and Peltier Roads, the pharmacy is wheelchair accessible with quick and easy parking. This site is only for refills which must be called in the day prior to pick-up. To order your refill prescriptions for pick-up at the new site, call the Department of Defense Consolidated Pharmacy Phone System at 433-6962. The pick-up site will be open weekdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and closed on weekends and holidays. Questions about the new pick-up site may be directed to Tripler Army Medical Center Pharmacy at 433-7883.

Optimal Manning Project enters next phase, reduces billets

Ens. Ron Flanders
SURFPAC Public Affairs

A project that will help the Navy determine manning requirements for the fleet of the 21st Century has entered its next phase. USS Milius (DDG 69) and USS Mobile Bay (CG 53), the two Pacific Fleet ships participating in the Navy's

Optimal Manning Project, have both reduced their number of billets authorized (BA).

Milius has reduced its BA from 289 to 231 while Mobile Bay, already the beneficiary of "smart ship" technology, has reduced its BA from 321 to 287. The two ships will now go through an entire deploy-

ment cycle with these new manning levels.

The ships have accomplished these reductions in three ways: installing technologies, new procedures and new policies.

Aboard Milius, the installation of a new self-service mess line has allowed the ship to reduce the number of food service attendants

(FSA) on the ship. This is a move that the commanding officer of Milius, Cmdr. Jeff Harley, sees as improving quality of service for Milius Sailors.

"My Sailors didn't join the Navy to become food service attendants," Harley said. "Reducing the number of

▼ See MANNING, A-7

DoD announces new ways to express support

Department of Defense
Navy News Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — The Department of Defense Oct. 30 announced new ways for Americans to show support for their servicemembers deployed overseas. The initiatives, made necessary by a moratorium on mail addressed to "Any Servicemember," provide alternatives to traditional letter-writing campaigns. DoD suggests that Americans support the troops by instead supporting the communities in which they live.

One way to show support is by doing a good deed on behalf of servicemembers. Visit a VA hospital or nursing home, or volunteer in the local community to help make up for servicemembers who normally would volunteer but are now deployed or otherwise too busy with their duties. Many servicemembers volunteer to coach children's teams, feed the homeless, and aid their communities in a variety of other ways. Interested Americans can show their support and honor their military by volunteering in their local communities.

Although many towns do not have a military base nearby, military recruiters are stationed nearly everywhere. Local governments and chambers of commerce are encouraged to reach out to these local members of the military, invite them to speak at community events, and encourage members of the community to learn more about America's military.

Members of the community who know military families might want to offer their support by reaching out to those families while their loved ones are deployed.

A number of private organizations are developing Web-based methods for Americans to show support. While donations of food and gifts for delivery overseas can no longer be accepted, interested Americans might contribute instead to military relief societies.

▼ See SUPPORT, A-2

Air strikes target caves, tunnels, troops

Rudi Williams
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (NNS) — Department of Defense spokeswoman Victoria "Torie" Clarke held an impromptu Pentagon press briefing Oct. 29, to give reporters "the top line" of what happened in Afghanistan Oct. 28, what's being focused on today and to run down responses to rumors and speculations.

Noting that the United States continues to support the Northern Alliance and other opposition groups, Clarke said 79 air sorties flown in the areas of Mazar-e Sharif, Kabul, Jalalabad, Konduz and Bamian struck at targets including al Qaeda and Taliban caves and the Taliban military.

Commando Solo radio broadcasts and leaflet and humanitarian ration drops continued around Mazar-e Sharif, Clarke said. The objectives include the continued hammering of emerging targets, the caves and tunnels, and Taliban armor and troop formations, she noted. Commando Solo and leaflet and ration air drops are also continuing.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said in Oct. 28 television interviews that the United States is focused on the caves and that there are a lot of them. "It's a complex system and we're trying to work through them systematically," Clarke quoted Rumsfeld as saying.

Clarke parried reporters' requests for specific details on Enduring Freedom operations. "We can tell you what we plan to do, give a general sense of how we plan to go about doing it, but I'll leave the adjectives up to others," she said of military operations. "We've been consistent about what our objectives are and pretty clear about what we've been doing lately, which is going after troop concentrations, command and control and emerging targets where we find them."

Asked about the second attack on Red Cross warehouses in Kabul over the weekend, Clarke said the strike was purely accidental - a "different kind of mistake" from the first incident earlier this month. The military's information was incomplete - attack planners knew the facilities were warehouses, but not that they belonged to the Red Cross.

For more information about the Department of Defense today, go to <http://www.defenselink.mil/today>.

Russell gets underway



J0CS (SW) Phil Eggman photo

A family member of a Sailor aboard USS Russell (DDG 59) waves as the ship departs on a deployment Oct. 25.