

## Around the Fleet

### Pentagon tiltrotor technology presented

The Department of Defense hosted a Tiltrotor Technology Presentation on the Pentagon's River Entrance parade ground to demonstrate the capabilities and versatility of tiltrotor technology recently.

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen presided at the event, which began with the arrival of the test prototype XV-15 tiltrotor technology demonstrator, followed by arrival of a production-model MV-22 (Marine Corps variant of the V-22 series) Osprey at the Pentagon River Entrance.

Cohen was available to the press immediately following arrival of the two aircraft on the River Entrance parade ground fielding many questions about the role of the aircraft, its application and use by the armed forces into the next century.

The XV-15 and MV-22 remained on display after the event for public viewing and to afford Pentagon employees and interested parties the opportunity to see the world's first production tiltrotor.

This unique aircraft is a technological breakthrough that is expected to revolutionize the execution of many military missions.

The XV-15, a NASA-inspired, Bell Helicopter-produced experimental tiltrotor aircraft, is the precursor to the V-22 Osprey.

The Osprey will provide a multi-mission, multi-service versatility and capability applicable to a wide range of contingencies.

It is capable of carrying 24 combat-equipped personnel or a 15,000-pound external load. It also has a strategic self-deployment capability with 2,100 nautical mile range with a single aerial refueling.

Its vertical/short takeoff and landing (V/STOL) capability allows it to operate as a helicopter for takeoff and landing. Once airborne, the engine blades rotate forward 90 degrees, converting the V-22 into a high-speed, high-altitude, fuel-efficient turbo-prop aircraft.

Current plans call for the Marine Corps to field 360 MV-22s by 2013; the Air Force to purchase 50 CV-22s (Air Force special operations variant); and the Navy to acquire 48 HV-22Bs for combat search and rescue (CSAR), special warfare and logistics support.

### Navy assumes control of communications satellites

The Navy accepted control of one of the Department of Defense's primary satellite communications systems from the U.S. Air Force earlier this summer in the latest initiative by the two services to consolidate their space operations.

The Naval Satellite Operations Center (NAV-SOC) assumed control of the Ultra-High-Frequency

Follow-On (UHF F/O) communications satellites on July 2 from the command's Point Mugu, Calif., headquarters via new connections to the Air Force's satellite control network.

Currently, eight UHF F/O spacecraft, in geosynchronous orbits above the Earth's equator, provide worldwide communications at ultra-high and extremely-high frequencies, in addition to hosting the Global Broadcast System payload.

An additional UHF F/O satellite is scheduled for launch this fall to complete the operational constellation.

This transfer of satellite control is a direct result of a study sponsored by U.S. Space Command that recommended the Air Force and Navy consolidate their satellite control systems into one common "plug and use" network.

The first part of this consolidation resulted in the Navy assuming control of four Fleet Communications Satellite (FLTSAT) spacecraft in June 1996. Through a cooperative effort between NAVSOC and the Air Force's 3rd Space Operations Squadron, the UHF F/O mission transfer was accomplished on schedule and will result in significant savings for the Department of Defense.

### Department of Defense protects people and assets from hurricane Floyd

As Hurricane Floyd moved up the East Coast, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines relocated hundreds of military aircraft and vessels out of Floyd's path, and evacuated all non-emergency military and civilians to help ensure their safety.

The Navy relocated from Jacksonville, Naval Air Station, Fla.: 12 SH-60 helicopters to Whiting Field, Milton, Fla.; seven SH-60s to the USS John F. Kennedy underway; 15 P-3 Orion aircraft to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio; 13 P-3s to Dyess Air Force Base, Texas with five remaining in hangars; 12 F/A Hornets to Corpus Christ Naval Air Station, Texas; 13 F/A-18s to Fort Campbell, Ky.; 16 S-3 Vikings to Meridian Naval Air Station, Miss. and six SH-3 H helicopters are hangared.

The Navy also relocated 80 ships and submarines from Mayport, Fla., Kings Bay, Ga. and the Norfolk, Va. area to the open seas. Vessels in the Norfolk area are underway and will remain so until Floyd passes.

The Marine Corps evacuated about 7,000 Marine recruits and drill instructors from Parris Island, S.C. to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany Ga. The Marines also have evacuated the Blount Island Command near Jacksonville, Fla.

Also, the Marines moved fixed-wing aircraft from Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N.C. to safer locations.

# Sailor hits all the right notes

KHPR Radio

Presently Stationed at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Pacific, Electronics Technician 2nd Class Mark Boyle recently took first place in Hawaii Public Radio's third annual art song recital competition. Mark Boyle has been in the Navy four years and NC-TAMS Pacific is his first duty assignment.

Boyle, who is originally from Connecticut, sings in the tenor range. He will share a recital on Sept. 24, 7:30 p.m. at Orvis

Auditorium, University of Hawaii Manoa.

He studied Music Education and Voice Performance with Dr. Jeffrey Ballard at Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania from 1991 to 1995 and entered the Navy. He advanced to the rank of Electronics Technician 2nd Class soon after.

While at Susquehanna, Mark met his wife, sang in the university choir, played trombone in the jazz band and directed a church choir in the local community.

He plans to finish his Bachelors degree and continue on to get his Masters in

Sacred Music, his Doctorate in Choral Conducting and teach at the collegiate level.

He has been a soloist with the Honolulu Luthern Church Choir and received a scholarship to the Hawaii Opera Theatre Mae Orvis Opera Studio.

Mark's recital program at Orvis will include songs by Barber and Schumann. His accompanist is Beebe Freitas.

The other Art Song Contest finalists include non-military performers: soprano, Phyllis Haines; baritone, Quinn Kelsey; and Bea Lemke-Frieszell, mezzo-soprano.

Gary Hickling, host of HPR's "Great Songs" will be the master of ceremonies providing background on the songs.

Hickling says, "An art song results when a composer is inspired by a poem to write a song, which is conceived for classically trained voice and piano".

Hickling's program "Great Songs" has been heard on Hawai'i Public Radio since 1988. Broadcast on KHPR (88.1 FM) and KKUA (90.7 FM), it covers all eras, languages, cultures and voices in 'Art Song' from the 1700's to our own time.

## USS Tucson hosts local shipyard workers

USS Tucson Public Affairs

It's not unusual for a submarine to host a VIP cruise. Whether the guests are a visiting Senator, Midshipmen, business leaders or family members of the crew, there is no better way to convey the submarine experience than to experience a day at sea.

On Aug. 24, one week prior to beginning a Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, USS Tucson (SSN 770) hosted perhaps the most important (and unusual) group of VIP guests — shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility workers (and their family members) who will be working on Tucson during the upcoming availability.

The shipyard cruise was the idea of Tucson Commanding Officer, Cmdr. D.J. Murphy, a veteran of three SRAs in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

"I knew from my previous experience that many of these people have spent their working lives at this shipyard but have never had the opportunity to go to sea or to bring their spouses or children," said Murphy. "It is important to the success of this SRA to develop good relations with the men and women who will be working in our home for the next three months."

The response to the cruise offer was a little overwhelming. Nearly 40 shipyard workers, their spouses and children embarked Tucson to get a first hand look at their work in action.

One of the highlights of the trip for almost every shipyard worker was the chance to show their family what they do for a living. Unlike other jobs, family can't just visit dad or mom at the office.

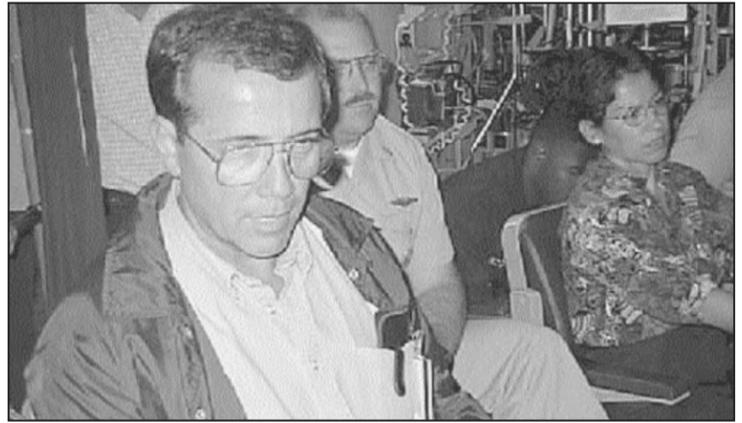
Thomas Hardy, shop 38 work leader, said that the cruise was "a priceless opportunity to show my boys the results of what I do at work." Hardy has worked on submarines for almost 20 years, but this was the first time that he had ever been invited onboard for a ride.

"It isn't until you get to 600 feet [beneath the surface of the ocean] that you fully appreciate the importance of what you do," commented Hardy.

Darrel Yuson brought sons Bryce and Donovan along for the trip. "I pulled them out of school for the day because I knew that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Yuson. He noted with wide eyes that "it's amazing that [the captain] will let an eight and nine year old drive the boat. That is definitely something they will never forget."

To start the trip, everyone got a chance to go to the bridge and ride along on the surface with the Captain and Officer of the Deck. As Tucson passed alongside the shipyard, project manager Keith Baba noted the interesting perspective with a smile, "It's not a view I've ever had before."

Another group was amazed by the fact that the huge nuclear submarine would alter course and come to all stop outside



USS Tucson photo

Jim Hyde (left) and Suzanne Baba take the controls of USS Tucson (SSN 770) under the watchful eye of Chief of the Boat Gary Hildreth during a VIP visit hosted for Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facilities workers and family members.

the channel in order to allow a small fishing boat to pass safely ahead. Many just took the opportunity to photograph the unique and unobstructed views of Diamond Head and Honolulu.

After their time on the bridge, everyone came below for the most important part of the cruise: submerged operation. As Tucson dove beneath the surface, it became quite clear that this group of VIPs was very different from the norm. Instead of asking basic questions, the shipyard workers were busy testing the limits of the crew's knowledge with insightful and advanced questions about the systems that they normally work on. Others were excitedly walking around the boat to show family members where they spend so much time.

Following the dive, guests were given the chance to actually drive the submarine, making depth and course changes at the order of the Officer of the Deck. "It was really fun, but also really hard, trying to steer the submarine," laughed Beatrice Bow.

While driving the submarine was clearly the highlight for most of the kids on the cruise, the sight of their children in control of the submarine made numerous parents remark that they were happy driver's licenses were many years away.

After crewmembers took their places back at the helm and sternplanes, the Captain ordered the ship taken through a series of rapid depth changes. Called "angles and dangles", these rapid depth changes (at angles up to 30 degrees) between 150 and more than 600 feet were the group's favorite part of the trip.

Normally used to test stowage and system integrity, the roller coaster effect served to make the shipyard workers thankful for the excellent work that they

do. The success of stressful ship evolutions like "angles and dangles" is directly dependent upon the quality of both crew and shipyard maintenance projects. Elaine Tochiki was surprised at how dramatic the angles were and "happy that [she] didn't eat too much for lunch."

Sonia Dietz elicited a laugh from several members of the crew when she said, "I don't know how you guys can do this for months. I've been out here for three hours and I already feel compacted." Of course this was the point of the cruise: for shipyard and ship's force to get to appreciate one another a little bit better. The capabilities of a submarine and lifestyle of the crew were suddenly more than just a vague idea for the shipyard workers and their families.

By the end of the trip, every guest was effusive in their praise for the crew, wardroom and captain. "I'd just like to thank you, and especially the crew, for doing this for us...hopefully this will start a trend," said Jim Hyde as he spoke for the group during an open forum discussion with the captain toward the end of the cruise. Echoing the sentiments of Murphy, Hyde expressed his belief that events such as the VIP cruise could only lead to improved working relationships between ships and shipyard.

Thomas Hardy's comment at the end of the trip was perhaps the best proof that the VIP cruise had created the air of cooperation and enthusiasm that Murphy had hoped for: "It's just amazing to finally be aboard a submarine that is actually operating. I can't thank you guys enough for this opportunity. I'm going to do everything I can to make sure I get to do work on Tucson [during the SRA]."

## Future Navy dentists visit Pearl Harbor



Lt. David Craig photo

Seven fourth-year students, from the Universities of Pennsylvania and Minnesota, reported to Naval Dental Center, Pearl Harbor to begin their "clerkships." These students are enrolled in the Health Professional Scholarship Program (HPSP), offered to top dental students who are also interested in naval careers. Once a student is selected for the scholarship program, they are then commissioned as an ensign in the reserves. Upon graduation, they will be commissioned as lieutenant in the Naval Dental Corps and obliged to serve three to four years active duty as a Navy dentist. (Left to right) Ens. Ethan Chute, Ens. Chris McTavish, Ens. Erik Skatvold, Ens. Anurag Patei, Ens. Eric Schoenbeck, Ens. Joshua Dembsky and Ens. Arron Cruthers (not shown).

### SPOT CHECK

## The Pacific Fleet today

Personnel: 230,511  
 • 129,382 USN  
 • 70,459 USMC  
 • 12,848 USNR  
 • 30,670 civilians

Ships: 188 (\*)  
 Underway: 64 (34%) (\*)  
 Aircraft: 1,423 (\*\*)  
 Exercises: 1  
 Port Visits: 11 countries

Aircraft Carriers Underway/Deployed:  
 • USS Kitty Hawk  
 • USS Constellation  
 • USS Abraham Lincoln  
 • USS Carl Vinson

LHA/LHD Underway/Deployed:  
 • USS Peleliu  
 • USS Belleau Wood  
 • USS Essex

\* — Includes Military Sealift Command ships  
 \*\* — Includes USMC aircraft