

## FLEET FOCUS

# Fleet Technical Support Center Det awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation

By SK1(SW) Allan L. Gason  
FTSCPAC

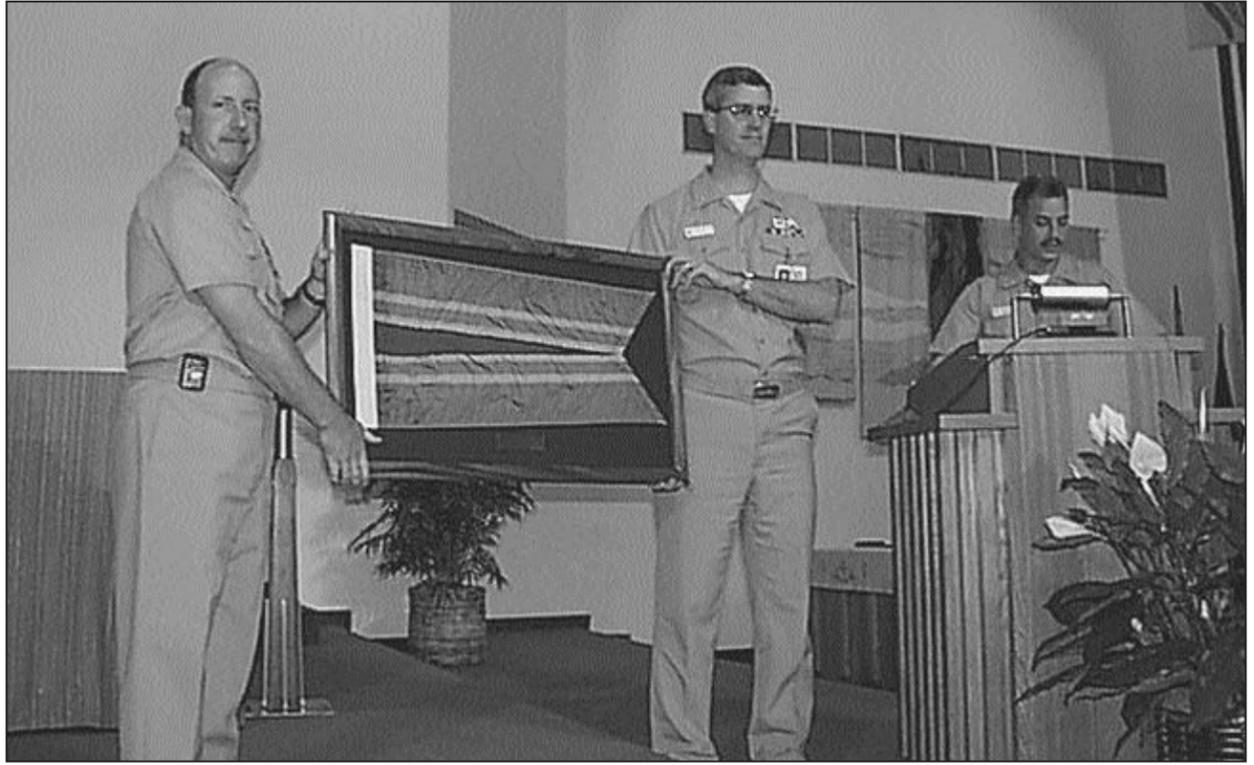
Fleet Technical Support Center Pacific (FTSCPAC) was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) by the Secretary of the Navy.

Capt. Mark Petersen-Overton, FTSCPAC's Commanding Officer, presented the award to Lt. Cmdr. Gary Perkins, FTSCPAC Detachment Pearl Harbor Officer-in-Charge at an all-hands ceremony held Nov. 18.

The citation covered the period of October 1995 to October 1998, and states "...the personnel of Fleet Technical Support Center, Pacific and its detachments have provided exceptional and unparalleled distinguished service to the ships and personnel of the United States Pacific Fleet. World-class support in the form of emergent shipboard technical assists, innovative maintenance assists, and the injection of new technologies have made FTSCPAC a leader in the United States Navy maintenance community."

"I am very proud of the military and civilian staff members who contributed towards the combined effort in earning this award," Petersen-Overton stated. He also urged that new members in the command continue to provide the excellent support the fleet has been receiving and has grown to expect.

The Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) award was established by the Secretary of the Navy on July 17, 1967. Non-combatant units receiving the award must display extremely meritorious service in support of military operations, which were outstanding when, compared to similar units.



FCC(SW) Kama photo

Lt. Cmdr. Gary Perkins, Fleet Technical Support Center Detachment, Pearl Harbor's officer in charge (left), receives the Meritorious Unit Commendation from Capt. Mark Petersen-Overton, FTSCPAC's commanding officer during an all-hands ceremony Nov. 18. FTSCPAC received the MUC for outstanding service for the period from October 1995 through October 1998.

## FTSCPAC welcomes new officer in charge



SK1(SW) Allan Gason photo

Lt. Cmdr. Gary Perkins (left), Capt. Mark Petersen-Overton (center) and Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Au-Franz (right) cut the Change-of-Charge cake. Au-Franz relieved Perkins as Officer-in-Charge of Fleet Technical Support Center Detachment, Pearl Harbor during a ceremony recently.

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Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Au-Franz relieved Lt. Cmdr. Gary Perkins, as Fleet Technical Support Center Detachment Pearl Harbor (FTSCPAC) Officer-in-Charge on Nov. 19. Capt. Mark Petersen-Overton, FTSCPAC Commanding Officer was onboard for the ceremony.

Petersen-Overton, keynote speaker for the ceremony, praised Perkins leadership during his tenure as Officer-in-Charge.

"Your dedication has been instrumental in FTSCPAC being awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation."

Petersen-Overton also presented Perkins the Meritorious Service Medal for his tour as officer-in-charge. Perkins departs for a tour at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Au-Franz, a native of Garden Grove, Calif. enlisted in the Navy on October 3, 1977. His past assignments include USS Sample (FF1048) and Shore Intermediate

Maintenance Facility, Pearl Harbor. He received his commission on October 1, 1987.

Following officer indoctrination Au-Franz reported onboard USS Buchanan (DDG-14) as the electronics material officer. He is a plankowner on USS Chosin (CG65) where he served as the communications officer and electronics materials officer.

After his tour as maintenance department head at Naval Ocean Processing Facility, Ford Island, he took charge of Combatant Homeport Engineering Team (CHET) Pearl Harbor. Au-Franz reported back to the fleet on USS George Washington (CVN73) as combat systems officer and took part in Operation Southern Watch during his tour.

FTSCPAC is one of six dets in the Pacific operational area. Its mission is to provide expert Fleet Technical Assistance, logistical support and onboard maintenance training to the frontline units of the Pacific Fleet.

## Frank Cable 'turns to' on Kamehameha

By JO3 Danielle Boyd  
USS FRANK CABLE

USS Frank Cable (AS 40) is building quite a reputation for itself; a reputation that not only follows, but also precedes her wherever she goes. During Cable's recent port visit to Singapore, that reputation grew even stronger, thanks to USS Kamehameha (SSN 642).

"The Cable has a reputation for getting things done quickly and effectively," said Lt. Chapman Godbey, Kamehameha's combat systems officer. "Even if something unplanned pops up, they take care of it."

Cable worked on Kamehameha for four days during a ten-day upkeep in Yokosuka, Japan. The next time Kamehameha is scheduled for repairs isn't until February, when they return to their homeport in Pearl Harbor, meaning the four days the Cable had were imperative.

"Everything that can possibly be done, we're getting done," Godbey said.

"The Cable Sailors are doing great, you can see it all over the place," commented Cmdr. Derek Hesse, commanding officer of Kamehameha. "In fact, there were more Cable Sailors aboard than there were our own."

Cable's extensive repair department replaced and fixed various parts of the sub, including replacing the main engine bearing and fixing the dry deck shelters, a job special to Kamehameha because she is the only ship in existence to have two of these shelters. Cable Sailors performed extensive electrical and upholstery work as well. The repairs were essential as the ship prepares to participate in the Seventh Fleet exercise, Foad Eagle '99.

"The Cable crew has well earned its reputation," Godbey commented. "They got a lot done in such a short time, and they did it with a good attitude. They see what needs to be fixed and they just do it."

### Around the Fleet

Navy communications satellite successfully launched

The U.S. Navy's 10th UHF Follow-On Communications Satellite successfully launched into a sub-synchronous transfer orbit by an industry and government team here Nov. 22.

The Ultra High Frequency (UHF) Follow-On Communications Satellite constellation is used to satisfy the Department of Defense (DoD) requirements for UHF, Extremely High Frequency (EHF), and Global Broadcast Service (GBS) communications, providing fleet broadcast to all Navy ships and command and control networks for selected aircraft, ships and submarines. Following the launch, the UHF Follow-On constellation will consist of eight modified 39-channel mHughes HS-601 satellites and one in-orbit spare.

The F10 UHF Follow-On (UFO) Communications Satellite is the last of 10 scheduled Hughes Space and Communications Company (HSC) HS-601 models for the U.S. Defense Department.

HSC contracted with Lockheed Martin Commercial Launch Services/International Launch Services (ILS) for the lift to

orbit of Atlas I, Atlas II and Atlas IIA launch vehicles over the history of the program.

UHF Follow-On Communications Satellites replace the TRW-built Fleet Satellite Communications (FltSatCom) and the Hughes-built Leased Satellite (LeaSat) spacecraft currently supporting the Navy's global communications network, serving ships at sea and a variety of other U.S. military fixed and mobile terminals. They are compatible with ground and sea-based terminals already in service.

The satellites transmit to small, mobile, tactical terminals. UHF satellites F2 through F9 are in orbit and operational. UHF F1 is functional, yet in an orbit which makes it unusable for its original purpose because of a launch vehicle failure. Satellites F8, F9, and F10 carry a Global Broadcast Service Ka-Band payload that provides high-speed, wideband broadcast signals to the warfighter. This interim GBS package will revolutionize communications for the full range of the DoD's high-capacity requirements, from intelligence dissemination to quality-of-life programming.

## Kansas Governor tours USS Pasadena



Cmdr. Mark Ginda (center), USS Pasadena (SSN 752) commanding officer, and Lt. Cmdr. Rob Dane, discusses the fire control systems with Kansas Governor Bill Graves (left) who toured the ship recently as part of his visit to Hawaii.