



Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown online newspaper

# Homeport

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*Happy holidays  
to one and all!*

A word from our Commanders

# Pascagoula is little known secret

Pascagoula is a great place to be homeported. Although small, the unique training environment, the close-knit "small town" feel of the Navy community, combined with a common mission create a positive atmosphere unlike other homeports. Having had command of Ticonderoga during the past 18 months, I have enjoyed getting to know and experience the Gulf Coast lifestyle. Most importantly, Pascagoula supports our mission readiness as well as quality of service.

The recent redefining of the United States Southern Command deployment combines Maritime Interception Operations (MIO) in support of the national counter-drug strategy and engagement exercises with Latin American navies. In the past, a ship would deploy on counter-drug operations or as part of UNITAS. The new deployment concept provides a mix of naval operations that truly challenge the full range of a ship (and her crew's) capabilities.

One unique opportunity about Pascagoula is that although in the United States, our deployed area of operations (AOR) is just beyond the sea buoy. This means a reduction in transit time to and from commitments, which directly equates to improved mission support and increased time at home.

Over the past year and a half, Ticonderoga has had the opportunity to operate with the navies of Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, France, Chile, Great Britain, Peru, Columbia and Ecuador.



By Cmdr G.R. Sears II,  
Commanding Officer,  
USS Ticonderoga  
(CG 47)

As a surface warrior, one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences is to maneuver in a large formation of ships. Most ships in the U.S. Navy find few chances to practice this fundamental naval skill, but as a SOUTHCOM deployer the opportunities certainly do exist. Hunting submarines, exciting wargames against fast patrol boats and defending against state of the art jet aircraft round out the range of warrior skills.

As important as the operations are, so are interactions with foreign navies. The friendships forged and a broadened understanding of our Latin American neighbor's point of view, stand out in my mind above all my previous deployments. Liberty is also an important aspect of any deployment, and SOUTHCOM measures up.

Ticonderoga Sailors have enjoyed the sunny beaches of Barbados, Cozumel, and Rio de Janeiro and snow skied in Tierra del Fuego and in the Andes outside of Santiago, Chile. They toured rain forests and repaired schools as part of community relations project, but most important they got a chance to experience things that few back home get to see. Although as with all deployments the hours of hard work far outnumber the hours of liberty, both professionally and personally. The SOUTHCOM deployment builds memories that last a lifetime.

The other part of the deployment is counter drug interdiction operations. Often as tactically challenging as naval exercises, long hours of tedious searches are punctuated by the exhilaration of high-speed chases in the dark. Actually seizing contraband gives the whole crew tangible and immediate feedback that they are making an important difference.

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## Today's military like WWII veterans

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7, 2001 — President Bush told the sailors and Marines of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise that they are the new defenders of freedom during ceremonies commemorating the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 60 years ago.

"What happened at Pearl Harbor was the start of a long and terrible war for America," Bush told the crew of the ship in Norfolk, Va. "Yet out of that surprise attack grew a steadfast resolve that made America freedom's defender. And that mission, our great calling, continues to this hour as the brave men and women of our military fight the forces of terror in Afghanistan and around the world."

The Enterprise returned to Norfolk last month after participating in operations against the Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorist network in Afghanistan.

Bush said the surprise attack on the American base in Hawaii galvanized America. "During four years of war, no one doubted the rightness of our cause; no one wavered in the quest for victory," he said. "As a result of the efforts and sacrifice of the veterans who are with us today and millions like them, the



President George Bush

world was saved from tyranny.

"Many of you in today's Navy are the children and grandchildren of the generation that fought and won the Second World War," he continued.

"Now your calling has come. Each one of you is commissioned by history to face freedom's enemies."

The Enterprise sailed from Norfolk in April. "We were a nation at peace," Bush said. "All that changed on the morning of September the 11th. You were among the first to fight in the first war of the 21st century. You were ready. You performed with skill and honor. And you have made your nation proud."

Bush said terrorism is an ideology that respects no boundary of nationality or decency. He said terrorists want to concentrate power in the hands of a few individuals who will make the rest conform to their standards.

"They celebrate death, making a mission of murder and a sacrament of suicide," he said. "Yet, for some reason, ... only young followers are ushered down this deadly path to paradise while terror-

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Naval Station Pascagoula's hometown online newspaper  
**Homeport**

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Executive Officer . . . . .Lt.Cmdr. Shri Stroud  
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## From our Fleet

# Ticonderoga paints its anchor gold

By FC2(SW) A. McCloskey  
Asst. PAO, USS Ticonderoga

The Aegis guided-missile cruiser, USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) has been awarded the prestigious Retention Excellence Award. The award is a part of the Retention Excellence Program started three years ago by the Commander in Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet. The Retention Excellence Award, formerly known as the Golden Anchor Award, authorizes Ticonderoga to paint its anchor gold, a task which was done with a good deal of zealous pride by the ship's deck department.

The award was earned by Tico's Command Retention Team, and represents the retention of 81 percent of personnel approaching the end of their obligated service. The award is especially a source of pride for the ship's Command Career Counselor, NC1 (SW/CC) Manuel Pinillo, of Panama.

"I received my first Golden Anchor Award as a part of the Retention Team aboard the USS Emory S. Land," said Pinillo. "This has been a distinct pleasure and honor, since it is my first award as a ship's Command Career Counselor."



Photo by FC2 Anthony McCloskey

***Retention is tops -- Crewmen of the USS Ticonderoga (CG 47) proudly show off the banner and ship's flag representing their latest accomplishment, the CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor Award.***

Cmdr. Glen Sears, Tico's commanding officer, said, "The quality of our Sailors is outstanding and they have options. The fact that they are making the choice to 'stay Navy' is testament to not only the teamwork in Ticonderoga,

but also throughout the Navy."

So now with her anchor painted with a fresh coat of gold paint, Ticonderoga can set sail and show the world she is still setting the standard for excellence in the fleet. Even though Ticonderoga is the old-

est Aegis Cruiser, all the Sailors who sail on her take a good deal of pride and satisfaction in Ticonderoga's motto "First and Formidable," a fact advertised by her newly painted golden anchor.



***Adoption -- Crewmembers of the USS Ticonderoga (CG-47) answer questions from students at Jackson Elementary School in Pascagoula. The Tico crew formally adopted the school in a ceremony on Nov. 27.***

Photo by Stacey Byington

## From our Fleet



Photo by Stacey Byington



Photo by Stacey Byington

*In our schools -- Sailors off the USS Thomas S. Gates (CG 51) take time out of their busy day to help students at Martin Bluff Elementary School in Gautier. Above, one sailor uses change out of his pocket to help two second-grade students with counting. On the right, another sailor aids a student with a reading assignment in the school library. Although the Gates has not yet officially adopted Martin Bluff Elementary, a number of its sailors work regularly in the school.*

## Holiday wishes from SECNAV

During this holiday season, Americans across our great nation will gather in their homes and places of worship to count their blessings and look forward to the new year with hope.

This year, many Sailors and Marines stand their watch far from home. Whether you sail off the coast of other nations, stand guard on foreign soil, or serve nobly on the home front, I know that every Marine, Sailor, and civilian in the Department of the Navy stands ready to answer our nation's call.

Our mission is clear. Our calling to maintain peace and stability for our nation and the world has never been more important. The Navy and Marine Corps team's devotion to this noble cause has been constant since the birth of the republic.



**Gordon England**  
Secretary  
of the Navy

As we celebrate the next weeks with our family, friends and shipmates, let us take time to give thanks for the blessings of freedom that we have inherited and pray for the day when the world is forever at peace. Until that day, our nation will continue to depend on your honor, courage, and commitment to keep America free.

It is a privilege to serve with you during this critical time in our nation's history. Please accept my best wishes for a safe and joyous holiday season. God bless each of you, your families, and the United States of America!



Photo by Stacey Byington

*Sailors honored -- Sailors of the quarter from most of the commands in the Pascagoula area were honored recently by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce with a luncheon at Pelican Landing. This is a new endeavor by the Chamber and will continue on a quarterly basis.*

## Around the Homeport



Photo by Stacey Byington

*Transient suites are available for personnel moving into the area awaiting permanent housing. Because of recent upgrades to the station's bachelor quarters facilities, NAVSTA Pascagoula recently was awarded a Four- and Three-Star accreditation.*

## **Bachelor quarters receives four stars**

**By JO2 Renee Johnson**  
Public Affairs Office

Naval Station Pascagoula's combined bachelor quarters (CBQ) has been awarded the Commander in Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet's Four-Star award for its transient operations and the Three-Star award for its permanent operations through the Bachelor Housing Accreditation Program (BHAP).

"BHAP recognizes those commands that, based on customer expectations, exceed the minimum standards for service, facilities and amenities," said MSCS Calvin Dukes, the station's CBQ officer.

Commands receiving Three-, Four- and Five-Star accreditation (the highest level), provide their guests and residents with levels of service, comfort and security beyond the minimums required by DOD and DON.

"Particularly impressive is Naval Station Pascagoula's tremendous improvement, achieving a Four/Three-Star rating in less than two years. No doubt all of these teams are made up of super stars – and I salute you," wrote Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, head of Navy Region Southeast, in a message of congratulations.

"Everything was graded,"

said Dukes. "If one area had been lacking we would not have gotten it."

The CBQ staff began preparing for the inspection in February 2001 with the goal of obtaining accreditation for the first time in command history.

"One of the first steps in preparing for the inspection was to follow a checklist that included the necessary basic standards required prior to being considered for the accreditation," said Consolidated Visitor Quarter Manager Wesley Clark Jr.

Program Analyst Marie Jones from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command visited

the week of June 11 to inspect the finance side of the facility. She verified the accuracy of the accounts, insuring compliance with regulations pertaining to the Navy's non-appropriated billeting funds and recommended ways to detect and prevent fraud, waste and mismanagement of resources for fiscal year 2000 through.

John Bradley, a representative from CINCLANTFLT, came two weeks later to inspect the overall operation.

"He inspected each resident's room, which is unusual," said Clark. "He was checking for cleanliness, the

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## Around the Homeport



***Christmas party -- Sara Helton (above) selects a present from the pile of civilian gifts at the NAVSTA Christmas party gift raffle. MSI Kevin Albert (below left), picks a gift from the military pile. Cmdr. Tara LaCavera, NAVSTA Commanding Officer (below right), Lt. Steven Bukoski and BMCS Allen Herman inspect the winning Christmas centerpiece designed by the Public Works Department.***

Photos by Stacey Byington



## Around the Homeport

# Gautier students salute military veterans

By JO2 Renee Johnson  
Public Affairs Office

If you ever wondered whether or not the local community appreciates the sacrifices Sailors and soldiers make to serve their country, then maybe the recent deed of the children from Gautier Middle school will render an answer.

On Nov. 14 there were more than 70 posters that hung on the walls of the school's cafeteria for their Veterans' Day poster contest. Each poster was designed and decorated by sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students from Gautier Middle school.

Winners of the poster contest for both the sixth- and eighth-grade classes were judged for first, second and third place by SA Desmond Peters, who works in NAVSTA Pascagoula's First Division.

The posters' designs ranged from a large, hand-drawn and brightly colored U.S. flag to one girl's neatly placed, original photographs of her grandfather during his service in World War II.

One student had placed a photograph of Cmdr. Tara LaCavera, NAVSTA's commanding officer, which had been cut from a local newspaper, above his drawing.

The one thing each of these photos had in common was the suggestion of gratitude and appreciation for the United States and all veterans.

"Choosing the best poster was hard because they were all very good," said Peters.

The students began preparing for the contest two days earlier, said Amy Love, one of the eighth grade American history teachers.

"The purpose of the contest is to give the students an opportunity to honor our veterans through creativity," said Love.

"I think the recent Sept. 11 terrorist attack made them



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

### *SA Desmond Peters has a hard time selecting the winners of the Gautier Middle School Veterans' Day poster contest.*

more aware of the many soldiers fighting overseas," she added.

"I think the poster contest instills patriotism," said the school's Vice Principal Nickie Overby, a National Guard reservist for the Mississippi Army National Guard.

"Without active duty and reserve personnel we wouldn't

have the freedoms that we have today," said Overby. "Their participation in the poster contest will also instill in them a sense of pride and may spark a desire to serve their country in the future.

"I participated in the contest because I am thankful for all the stuff you all (the military) do and felt you would appreci-

ate my artwork," said one eighth-grade student, Brittany Johnson.

"I hope they not only gain the knowledge that freedom is not free, but also the appreciation for those who have fought for us and gain an understanding of the history of America," said Love.



### *Admiral's visit -- Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Rear Adm. Jan Gaudio, speaks with Matt Schultz, NAVSTA Pascagoula's facilities director, following a visit to the station on Dec. 6. The admiral presented a brief to all hands about the station's role in the region.*

Photo by Stacey Byington

## SIMA Happenings

# SIMA opens powder-coating facility

By Stacey Byington  
Public Affairs Officer

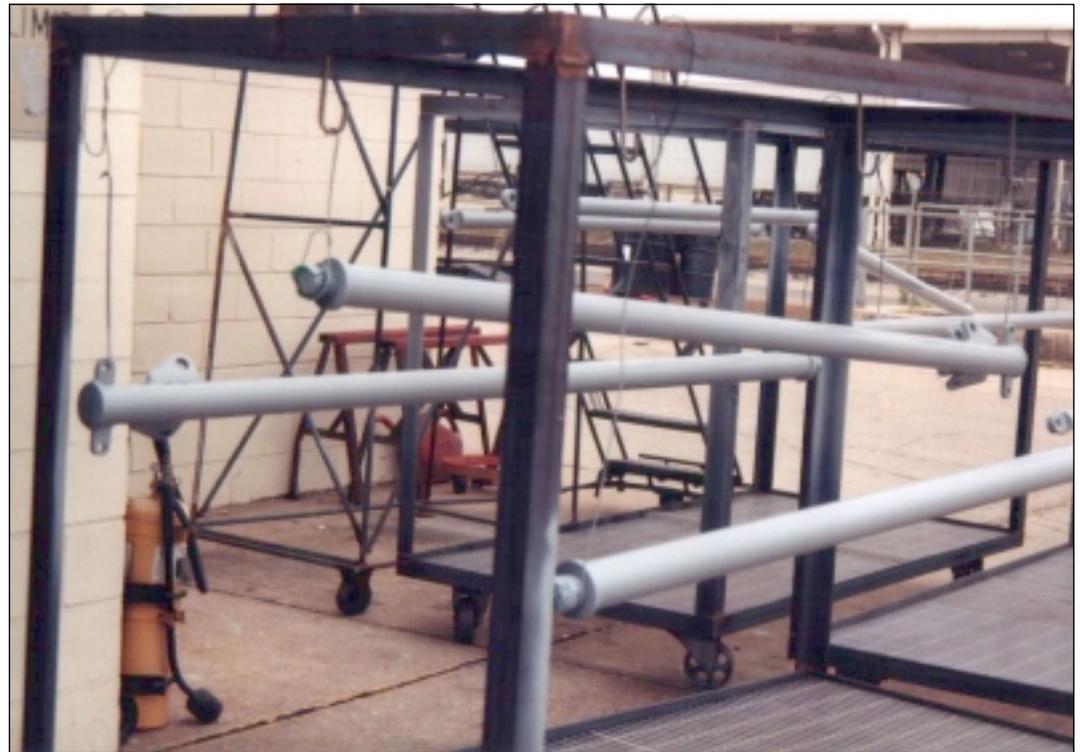
The Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity, Pascagoula, recently opened a new asset to aid area ships and shore commands – a corrosion control powder coat facility. It's the only one of its kind between Ingleside, Texas, and Jacksonville, Fla.

"It saves time, money, and has Navy (SIMA) people doing the work," said MMC(SW) Preston Millender, SIMA's corrosion control coordinator. "It allows us to support the entire Gulf Coast region."

SIMA's new powder coating facility, located at the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, was opened for business in mid-November. It allows commands to extend the life of exterior equipment on ships or shore. The reason the facility is at Gulfport instead of Pascagoula, is because Gulfport already had a sand-blasting facility, and it made more sense to co-locate the two processes.

"What we do is sand-blast equipment to the bare metal, clean it, prime it, coat it with the requested color, then bake it," said Millender. "The result is a high-gloss, durable finish. It saves man-hours of chipping and painting."

An example that Millender gave was a ship with 10 water-



U.S. Navy photo

***Pieces of a ship's mast show off their new grey powder coating, after being repainted at SIMA's powder-coat facility in Gulfport. The new finish is more durable to the weather.***

tight doors. With a civilian contractor, it would cost the Navy approximately \$300 per door. Using SIMA's powder coating facility, with SIMA personnel doing the work, the command just pays for material costs, like the paint.

"We have a faster turnaround, and much better quality control," said BMCS(SW) Joseph Yenolevich, the area

ships' superintendent. "The end result is almost like a porcelain finish. It is durable to the weather."

SIMA corrosion control personnel say anything that needs painting, and is left to the elements can have the powder coat finish put on. Turnaround time is normally between seven and 10 days depending on the piece of equipment.

"This process provides a much better quality product that the old Navy way (constantly painting and re-painting)," said Yenolevich. "The powder coating does not peel."

Any command wishing to take advantage of SIMA's new powder-coat process should contact Senior Chief Yenolevich and put in a job request.

## Naval Station Pascagoula 'Bravo Zulus'

**Navy/Marine Corps  
Commendation Medal:**  
LT Randy Williams

**Navy/Marine Corps  
Achievement Medal:**  
EN2 Bruce Turner

**25 years Civil Service:**  
Thomas Sarros

**10 years Civil Service:**  
John Batchelor Jr.

**Retirement after  
27 years Civil Service:**  
Thomas Hill

**Housekeeper  
of the Quarter:**  
Cecilia Balaye

**Frockings:**  
EO1 Mark Strong  
FC1 Nicholas Petric  
MGM1 Brian Weimer  
MA1 Clinton Huth  
OS1 Ralph Jones  
BM2 Shawn Hooks  
BM2 Norman Lempupaz  
BM2 Larry Mattison  
STG3 Chadrick Poole

## About the cover:

**Jennifer Bukoski, who will be four years old in January, tells Santa what she wants for Christmas. Jennifer was just one of several children who received an early present from Santa at the NAVSTA Pascagoula wardroom Christmas party.**

Photo by Stacey Byington

## SIMA Happenings



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

*In the Christmas spirit -- The Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity, Pascagoula, is getting into the Christmas spirit. Members of the command created a toy train, Santa's workshop, and even had a display with Santa's elves helping him climb to the top of the building.*

## SIMA CPOs honor American veterans

By JO2 Renee Johnson  
Public Affairs Office

Navy Chief Petty Officers from the Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity, Pascagoula, hosted their first Veterans' Day ceremony at the Mississippi Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Ocean Springs.

Just two months after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, Nov. 11, more than 100 guests joined the SIMA Chiefs and other Pascagoula Sailors to honor veterans who have served their country, and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"The seating was full and people were flowing out the

back of the memorial," said GSCM(SW) Charles W. Simpson III, SIMA's Command Master Chief.

"There was not a dry eye at the ceremony as the song "Ole Glory" played in the background," he added.

The ceremony included Parading of Colors, a flag ceremony by SIMA's CPO Honor Guard, and the presentation of a national ensign to the eldest veteran at the ceremony.

Simpson presented an American flag to Master Sgt. Jim Caire, an 82-year-old World War II veteran of the Army Air Corps.

"I was personally very choked up when I gave Master Sgt. Caire the flag. It is important that we recognize those who

previously safeguarded our rights and our freedom, and recognize them by showing our appreciation," said Simpson.

The SIMA chiefs took the initiative in planning and participating in the ceremony. They provided all the equipment necessary for the event including chairs, microphones, flags, and a podium.

"I felt privileged and honored to be part of the ceremony," said GSMC (SW) Edmond B. Billington III.

"It makes me proud to be part of the Armed Services," said MRC Ralph O. Hayes, another member of the honor guard.

Hayes said he likes showing his appreciation to those who have served before him

by giving part of himself and volunteering his time to the community.

"The message I hope we sent to the civilian community is that we are proud to serve, and we hope they're proud to have us serve them," added Billington.

The Veterans' Day celebration is just one of many community events for which SIMA's chiefs have volunteered.

"The SIMA Chiefs' Mess is very proactive," said Simpson. "In recent weeks, we have participated in two school fairs and plan to erect playground equipment at Martin Bluff Elementary School."

## Homeport's People



**NEX wet bar -- MM3 Breanta Fox, from SIMA's pumping valve shop, pours herself a strawberry 'Smooth-E' at Naval Station Pascagoula's Navy Exchange. The exchange recently added the new wet bar. Now customers can enjoy a hot cup of coffee or cappuccino, or a cool strawberry or peach-flavored 'Smooth-E.'** The NEX now has two new frozen food freezers. Food items added to the inventory include sandwich meats, hot wings and mozzarella sticks. Another addition is a new blown-glass display. Pascagoula's NEX is getting better and better.

Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson



Photo by JO2 Renee Johnson

**Angel tree -- BMI Derrick Henry and RP3 Jason Mullenix put the finishing touches on this year's 'Angel Tree.'** A number of people around the base helped make a child's Christmas a little brighter.



Photo by Stacey Byington

**Navy Relief awards -- Carol Lee Harshner, Thrift Store manager, receives a volunteer 100-hour award during a recent luncheon from NMCRS Pascagoula director, Jeanette Boyd, as did Eleanor Linder, Lillian Secord and Violet Sherwood. 300-hour awards were presented to Janet Cree, Sherry Cabral, Secord and Sherwood. Sherwood also received her 500-hour and 600-hour awards. Melissa Spear was honored for 1,500 hours, Lois Morano for 2,000 hours, and Christine Williams has volunteered 8,000 hours.**

## Military News

# USS Bulkeley commissioned in NYC

By Rudy Williams  
American Forces Press Service

NEW YORK, N.Y., Dec. 10, 2001 — They called him the “Sea Wolf” for his daring World War II exploits in Europe and the Pacific. He’s a Navy legend and the recipient of the Medal of Honor, Navy Cross and several other medals for heroism.

The Navy and the nation immortalized his name on Dec. 8 with the commissioning of the USS Bulkeley, the newest Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer. The ship is named in honor of Vice Adm. John Duncan Bulkeley who died in April 1996 at age 84. He served on active duty for more than 55 years.

Keynote speaker Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said immediately after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, New York City officials considered canceling the commissioning ceremony out of concern for the protection of the ship, her crew and the audience.

“But it’s easy to imagine what John Bulkeley would have said about that...,” Wolfowitz said. “Pass up a chance to see a ship of the United States Navy come to life in defiance of those who want to take life and freedom away? Move this ceremony? ‘Not on your life!’ he would surely say.

“There is no more fitting place to commission this ship, here within the shadow of Lady Liberty and within walking distance of ‘Ground Zero,’” he said. “In doing so, we can help to honor the tough old ‘Sea Wolf,’ who repeatedly showed throughout his career that he was not afraid to stand up to anyone who threatened our freedom.”

In citing some of Bulkeley’s wartime exploits, Wolfowitz said in the first weeks of World



DOD photo by Rudi Williams

***The crew of the destroyer USS Bulkeley stands at attention during commissioning ceremonies at New York City’s Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, Pier 88. The USS Bulkeley was built at Ingalls Shipbuilding at Pascagoula.***

War II, with most of the Pacific fleet wiped out and nothing but bad news coming from the Pacific, then Lt. Bulkeley and his men changed all that when they sank a Japanese cruiser.

“And they kept up the fight,” the deputy secretary said. “With little to no spare parts, ammunition or food, their motor torpedo boats repeatedly and unhesitatingly attacked Japanese ships in the Philippines. (They sustained) their operations for four

months and seven days with almost no support except their own ingenuity and daring.”

With Corregidor Island under siege in Manila Bay and Japanese forces closing in, Bulkeley’s PT boat spirited Gen. Douglas MacArthur, his family and the president of the Philippines through 600 miles of seas infested with enemy warships, Wolfowitz noted.

“By MacArthur’s own reckoning, they snatched him, the commander of the U.S. Forces,

‘out of the jaws of death,’” he said. “That heroic action in the Pacific earned the young sailor the Medal of Honor, the admiration of our nation, and a ticker tape parade here in his hometown, right down Broadway. A crowd of more than a million people turned out to honor Lt. Bulkeley and his crew.”

Bulkeley continued his exploits as commander of the destroyer USS Endicott in the European theater. “A month after D-Day, with only one of Endicott’s guns working, he attacked two German corvettes at point-blank range and sank them both,” Wolfowitz told the huge audience. “Afterwards he said, ‘as long as we had even one gun left, I was going to attack. That’s what’s expected of a United States Navy officer and warship.’”

Then in 1963, Bulkeley took that same toughness to Cuba, where he faced off with Fidel Castro while commanding Guantanamo Naval Base. “He cut the water line that Castro had turned off, and vowed that we would never again depend on Cuba as a water source,” Wolfowitz said. “To this day, we don’t.”

Not only was Bulkeley a combat hero, he was a hero for sailors and Marines. In one example, he insisted that emergency escape breathing devices be installed on every ship in the fleet.

“He lived to see the difference it made when the frigate USS Stark came under Iraqi missile attack in the Persian Gulf in 1987,” the secretary said. “Thirty-seven sailors perished in that tragedy, but many more would have died from the smoke and flames were it not for the breathing devices that John Bulkeley had put on board.

“There is no doubt that this  
*Continued on page 11*

## Military News

# Navy honors Pentagon heroes

By Jerome W. Mapp  
Navy News Service

Washington (NNS) — Eighty-five Department of the Navy uniformed and civilian personnel, who distinguished themselves following the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon, were honored Dec. 17 for their bravery and sacrifice.

Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark, and Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael J. Williams hosted the awards ceremony in the Pentagon Center Courtyard, exactly where some of the heroes stepped forward Sept. 11.

The Sailors, Marines and civilian workers were honored for battling fires ignited when the hijacked airliner crashed into the Pentagon, and for rescuing those trapped in the ensuing inferno created by the blast. Some were decorated for wounds received in the attack.

England pinned on medals and handed out award certificates to the heroes, as family members, friends and co-workers looked on from an audience that included a sea of Sailors, Marines and civilian guests.

"Today we are here to honor the naval men and women whose acts of courage, bravery and disregard for their own safety became the first acts of defiance against the enemies of freedom," praised England during the ceremony. "When the Pentagon became a combat zone, your honor, courage and commitment rose to the fore!"

The Navy leaders presented nine different categories of awards during the ceremony. Twenty-one received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for saving lives. This award is one of the highest non-combat awards for heroism the Department of Defense presents.

### Department of the Navy awardees

#### *Navy and Marine Corps Medal:*

Capt. George P. Croy  
Capt. Mark E. Kosnik  
Capt. David M. Thomas  
Cmdr. George M. Lancaster  
Cmdr. Samuel Perez  
Cmdr. Craig D. Powell  
Cmdr. Donald A. Schmiele  
Cmdr. Hugh D. Wetherald  
Lt.Cmdr. Charles Capets  
Lt.Cmdr. David A. Tarantino Jr.  
Lt. Olin M. Sell  
YNC John T. Krauss  
Gunnery Sgt. James Mceniry  
IT2 Steven G. Gully  
IT2 Jason M. Lhuillier  
OS2 Roberto Paz  
OS2 Jason W. Rakowski  
QM2 Christopher T. Suggs  
AB3 Class Kenyatta Jackson  
Lance Cpl. Dustin P. Schuetz  
Lance Cpl. Michael Vera  
YNSN Cean E. Whitmarsh

#### *Purple Heart:*

Cmdr. Charles E. Coughlin  
Cmdr. Robert N. Greenberg  
YN2 Charles Lewis  
ITSN Sarah M. Cole

#### *Defense of Freedom Medal:*

Jarrell N. Henson  
Amy E. Fowler

#### *Superior Public Service Award:*

Stephen Hoerst  
Kim Scott  
Georgios Sekeroglou

#### *Superior Civilian Service Award:*

George Axiotis  
Alphonso W. Moore  
Natalie Ogletree

#### *Meritorious Service Medal:*

Capt. Loren V. Heckleman  
Cmdr. Charles E. Coughlin  
Cmdr. John F. Kieffer  
Cmdr. George E. Navas  
Cmdr. James M. Spence  
Lt.j.g. William Parks  
IT2 Steven G. Gully  
IT3 Jesse G. Polasek

#### *Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal:*

Capt. John Feerick

Capt. Stephen Frost  
Capt. Philip W. Grandfield  
Capt. Dennis J. Kern  
Capt. Judy A. Logeman  
Capt. Thornwell F. Rush  
Capt. Kenneth K. Seen  
Capt. Jane F. Viera  
Capt. James W. Wise  
Cmdr. McWilliam V. Bollman  
Cmdr. Donald H.B. Braswell  
Cmdr. Jeffrey S. Jones  
Cmdr. Edward D. Langford  
Cmdr. Randall J. Lescault  
Cmdr. John M. Uhl  
Cmdr. Karl J. Van Deusen  
Cmdr. James R. Yohe  
Lt.Cmdr. Nelson C. Castro  
Lt.Cmdr. Robert B. Chadwick  
Lt.Cmdr. James J. Malloy  
Lt.Cmdr. Alan F. Nordholm  
Lt.Cmdr. Dale C. Rielage  
Lt.Cmdr. James F. Skarbek  
Lt.Cmdr. Michael W. Way  
Lt. Shaun A. Chittick  
Lt. Kelly D. Ennis  
Lt. Gregory E. Goodman  
Lt. Megan J. Humbert  
Capt. Matthew E. Sutton, USMC  
Lt. Thomas P. Wypyski  
Lt.j.g. Laura L. Mallory  
CTC Sheryl A. Alleger  
HMC Raymond D. Hamilton  
Gunnery Sgt. Matthew Malnichuck  
Gunnery Sgt. McClelland  
Staff Sgt. Ronald Mix  
Sgt. Tim A. Chambers  
Sgt. Michael K. Farrington  
YN2 Kevin W. Hazelwood  
HM2 Jeremy Wilkinson  
Cpl. Garret B. Bliss

#### *Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal:*

Lt.Cmdr. Joseph Listopad  
YNC Alrich M. Davis  
MSC Antonia Lopez  
YNC Richard A. Matthews Jr.  
ITSN Sarah M. Cole

#### *Navy Letter of Commendation:*

Capt. Arthur R. Miller  
Cmdr. Ronald D. Luka  
Cmdr. Kevin L. Magnusson  
Cmdr. Thomas J. Sawyer  
Lt.Cmdr. David A. Lemek  
Lt. Gregory E. Goodman  
YN2 Alexander E. Magee

One Sailor received the second of his career for life-saving heroics. Seven civilians also received various awards for their actions and contributions that day.

"When faced with the very real challenge of the defense of

our nation, these shipmates responded heroically," said Clark.

"Their actions and professionalism speak volumes about the quality of people we have throughout the Department of the Navy."

## PCU Mustin christened in Pascagoula

Navy News Service

The Navy christened the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer Mustin (DDG 89) in a ceremony Dec. 15 at Northrop Grumman Ship Systems Ingalls Operations, Pascagoula, Miss.

Mustin will honor one of the nation's most prestigious naval families. The Mustins' legacy to the Navy extended from 1896 until 1989, nearly one century of naval history.

Capt. Henry C. Mustin (1874-1923) was an 1896 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He earned a commendation for distinguished service in the capture of Vigan, Philippines, in 1899; flew the first aircraft ever catapulted from a ship; flew the first operational missions of naval aircraft during the Veracruz operation in 1914 and was the first commander of Aircraft Squadrons, Battle Fleet.

His son, Vice Adm. Lloyd M. Mustin (1911-1999), a 1932 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, took part in developing the Navy's first lead-computing anti-aircraft gun sight, which proved of major importance in the air-sea actions of World War II, and he served on the cruiser USS Atlanta during the naval battle of Guadalcanal.

His post-war service included commands at sea and development and evaluation of weapon systems. He later served as director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Cmdr. Ann Phillips of Annapolis, Md., is the prospective commanding officer of Mustin. Upon commissioning in 2003, the ship will be homeported in San Diego, Calif., as a member of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

## Barracks get four-, three-star accreditation ...

*Continued from page 5*

furnishings in each room, and verified the accuracy of the inventory list by checking each item's barcode label."

"It was a team effort. Everybody was involved, from the housekeepers and custodial workers to the front desk clerks," said Dukes.

More than \$200,000 was spent between January and June 2001 to improve the level of standards, Dukes added.

Some of the purchased items included new furniture, televisions, VCRs and vacuum cleaners, not normally provided to permanent-party rooms. This gave the rooms uniformity as well as improving the quality of life for all residents.



In addition to amenities purchased for each room, the Lakeside facility was repainted, re-carpeted and the outside perimeter was landscaped with shrubbery, trees and plants.

The next step is recommending yourself for the level you think you will qualify for,

said Clark.

"We will continue to increase the quality of life at our barracks facilities for both transient and permanent residents," said Dukes. "Our goal is to reach a level of standards that will make Naval Station Pascagoula CBQ a Five-Star facility this upcoming year."

## Pascagoula, a little-known secret ...

*Continued from page 2*

Pascagoula uniquely supports the individual needs of the independent deploying ships. Naval Station Pascagoula and its location itself offer several benefits to the ships homeported here. SIMA and other facilities are able to devote individual attention that would not be possible at a larger naval station. Although the base itself may not offer all the amenities found at larger naval stations, Sailors and their families are able to fulfill all their needs only a few minutes away by going to Keesler AFB or the Gulfport Seabee base.

The personal attention is something not usually experienced in the larger fleet areas.

Quality of service is also about time off duty. Being situated on the Gulf Coast there is a never-ending list of activities and sights. With New Orleans, Mobile, and Pensacola all within a couple hours radius, Sailors can experience a wide variety of events only limited by their imagination. For the outdoorsman it is hard to beat the area. Many people come and go in this area, which gives the Sailors the chance to meet people from around the world.

Biloxi also offers a lot in the way of entertainment, with its "casino row." Numerous attractions are here as a result of them, including several big-name acts.

Pascagoula is not understood by most of the Navy, but it has been interesting to find how many Sailors have discovered the secret. It is impressive to watch over the past two years the growth and changes at Naval Station Pascagoula. Experiences at sea, interactions ashore and friends at home make being homeported in Pascagoula a rewarding tour.

## Today's military likened to WWII veterans . . .

*Continued from page 2*

ist leaders run into caves to save their own hides."

The president said the terrorists are the heirs to fascism the United States defeated in World War II. "They have the same will to power, the same disdain for the individual, the same mad global ambitions," he said. "And they will be dealt with in just the same way."

He said free nations cannot

appease terrorists; free nations must defeat them. "This struggle will not end in a truce or a treaty. It will end in victory for the United States, our friends and for the cause of freedom!" Bush said.

The president the Norfolk audience that he would detail the new capabilities and technologies the military needs to fight and win these new wars.

"We'll need the intelligence to find the enemy where he dwells, and the means to strike swiftly across the world," he said. "We must have a military organized for decisive and total victory. And to you, the men and women of our military, I make this pledge: You'll have every resource, every weapon, every tool you need to win the long battle that lies ahead."

## USS Bulkeley commissioned in NYC ...

*Continued from page 11*

man helped save countless lives — it is a legacy that extends to the sailors and Marines who will man the USS Bulkeley today," Wolfowitz noted.

Wolfowitz pointed out that the USS Bulkeley's commander, Cmdr. Carlos Del Toro left communist Cuba as a child, came to this country, attended the Naval Academy, and rose through the ranks to take command of the Navy's newest destroyer.

"That story is in itself a testament to the promise of our nation and to Carlos Del Toro's own tough, fighting spirit," Wolfowitz said.

New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani traced the city's maritime tradition from the American Revolution to the present day. He said the Navy's first steamship was built there in 1814. The Monitor, which arguably became the most famous Union Navy ship of the Civil War, was built in Brooklyn in 1862. During World War II, Staten Island was home to a major destroyer shipyard. The Brooklyn Navy Yard produced many battleships, aircraft carriers and cruisers, he said.

"Many of the great ships of the 20th century made their maiden voyage through the waters of New York Harbor," Giuliani said.

"Today, one of the great ships of the 21st century will begin that same voyage. When the USS Bulkeley sets sail down the Hudson River, passing the Statue of Liberty, before the open waters of the Atlantic Ocean, she will be sailing through one of our nation's most historic waters. Like each of the Navy ships that sailed before her, she sails to protect our way of life, and our foundation of liberty and justice," the mayor said.

## MWR activities

# Shopping, sporting events on tap for new year

Naval Station Pascagoula's Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has a wide range of activities and events planned for the rest of December and for the month of January. They include:

**Dec. 22** -- Shopping trip to the outlet mall in Foley, Ala. MWR transportation is \$5.

**Dec. 22** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the Pensacola Ice Pilots at 7:35 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

**Dec. 28** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the Jackson Bandits at 7:35 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

**Dec. 29** -- Night out with ITT includes dinner and a movie. Free transportation. Call 761-2432 for reservations.

**Dec. 30** -- New Orleans Saints take on the Washington Redskins at 7:30 p.m. at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

**Dec. 31** -- New Year's Eve party at Cracker Jacks, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m.

**Jan. 1 - Apr. 30** -- Admission to Walt Disney World and Universal Studios is free for active duty military, discounts available for family members.

**Jan. 3 - 6** -- Professional cowboy championship finals at the Gulf Coast Coliseum. Reserved seats are \$17, general seats are \$14. For more information call 591-3700.

**Jan. 5** -- ITT trip to professional cowboy finals. Cost of transportation and admission is \$19. RSVP not later than Jan. 2. Call Ruth at 761-2432.

**Jan. 6** -- New Orleans Saints take on the San Francisco 49ers at noon at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans.

**Jan. 9** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the Peoria Rivermen at 7:05 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are

available through Ticketmaster.

**Jan. 12** -- ITT trip to super sales at Foley outlet stores. \$10 for transportation. RSVP no later than Jan. 9. Call Ruth at 761-2432.

**Jan. 14 - March 22** -- Cardio Challenge, trophies for top male and female. For more information call the gym at 761-2107.

**Jan. 14** -- Racquetball tournament at the base gym. Entry fee \$2.

**Jan. 15** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the Pensacola Ice Pilots at 7:05 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

**Jan. 19** -- ITT trip to China exhibition (7000 Years of Innovation) at the Mobile Explorem. The \$15 fee includes exhibits, IMAX and transportation. RSVP not later than Jan. 16. Call Ruth at 761-2432.

**Jan. 20** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the New Orleans Brass at 6:05 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

**Jan. 25** -- Mississippi Sea Wolves take on the Arkansas Riverblades at 7:35 p.m. at the Coast Coliseum. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

**Jan. 26** -- Liberty trip to the Senior Bowl. Pre-game tailgate party. For more information, call Maxwell at 761-2293.

Tickets for most activities and events are available through the Information, Tickets and Tours office, open Mondays through Fridays, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 761-2432. ITT also has tickets to Disney World, Universal Studios, Jazzland, Six Flags, Busch Gardens, Sea World, the Audubon Zoo and the Aquarium.

The Sports and Fitness Center at the gymnasium is open

seven days a week and holidays. The telephone number is 761-2107. The Sports and Fitness Center also has group cycling Monday through Thursday from 7:15 to 8 a.m.; Cardio Kickboxing on Tuesdays at 6 p.m., and on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.; and ABS classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 and 11:30 a.m.

The Cyber Cafe is open Monday through Friday, 4:30 - 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon to 10 p.m.

MWR's Outdoor Rental is open Mondays through Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., phone 761-2038.

Cracker Jacks at Lakeside is open Monday through Fridays, 5 to 10 p.m., and on Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Upcoming events at Cracker Jacks are:

**Jan. 3** -- 'Smackdown' on the big screen, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 6** -- Sunday football with specials, 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Jan. 7** -- 'Monday Night Football' Vikings vs. Ravens, 8 p.m.

**Jan. 10** -- 'Smackdown' on the big screen, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 13** -- Sunday football with specials, 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Jan. 17** -- 'Smackdown' on the big screen, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 20** -- Sunday football with specials, 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Jan. 24** -- 'Smackdown' on the big screen, 7 p.m.

**Jan. 27** -- Sunday football with specials, 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Jan. 31** -- 'Smackdown' on the big screen, 7 p.m.



**Remembrance Day Run -- LT Bill Daly (above), Ops Officer on the USS Thomas S. Gates, crosses the finish line first with a time of 18:13. More than 50 people took part in the sporting event commemorating the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941. Lt.j.g. Alyssa Farrell (left), off the USS Yorktown, was the first female to cross the finish line, with a time of 18:58.**

Photos by Stacey Byington