THE WEEKLY MO‘OLELO

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Keep up with the latest news from across Navy Region Hawaii.
Click on any story to read the full version online. Some networks do not allow access to embedded links. For those readers, right click the PDF and open in your internet browser.

Navy Closure Task Force - Red Hill App

Keep track of Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility decommissioning efforts via the NCTF-RH app. For updates on tank cleaning, the decommissioning plan, environmental remediation, regulatory approvals, and operational planning for major milestones, download the app from the iOS app store or the Google Play store for Android users. Users can search for “NCTF-Red Hill.”



$1.3M Grant Supports Water System Resiliency Planning for West Kauai, PMRF

The Dept. of War’s Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation has awarded the Kauai Dept. of Water $1.3 million in grant funding to conduct survey, design, and predevelopment work to support the county’s Kekaha-Waimea water system, which also services the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF). The project will assess current and future water needs, evaluate engineering and infrastructure options, and develop a strategic implementation plan for water resources, storage, transmission, and distribution improvements.



NAVFAC Hawaii Outlines Infrastructure Priorities, Calls for Industry Partnership

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Hawaii last week outlined a growing pipeline of infrastructure work across utilities, waterfront facilities, shipyard modernization, airfields, and bachelor quarters during a trade show for the design and construction industry. Aaron Darley, NAVFAC Hawaii chief engineer, told PBX Hawaii that priorities include potable water and wastewater upgrades, repairs to aging piers and wharves, a new dry dock, command centers, and military housing.



NCTF-RH Participates in STEM Day of Discovery at UH

Navy Closure Task Force-Red Hill (NCTF-RH) team members participated in the 25th Annual Astronaut Lacy Veach Day of Discovery STEM event at the University of Hawaii’s Institute for Astronomy on Oct. 18. The NCTF-RH table offered a hands-on introduction to core-sample drilling and water chromatography. Charged with the safe decommissioning of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Stoarge Facility, NCTF-RH was established by the Dept. of the Navy as a commitment to the community and the environment.



PMRF Hosts Elected Officials for Mission and Community Impact Tour

State and county elected officials from Kauai toured Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) Barking Sands on Oct. 16 to better understand PMRF's mission, its economic impact on the island's economy, established community integrated resources and leased lands. Capt. Robert Prince, PMRF commanding officer, and PMRF personnel addressed community concerns and discussed potential operational support. PMRF is the world's largest instrumented multi-domain test and training range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations simultaneously.



U.S. Navy Fireman Killed in 1941 Finally Laid to Rest

U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Howard Lucas Adkins was laid to rest with full military honors at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on Oct. 8, nearly 85 years after he was killed in the Dec. 7 attack on Pearl Harbor. Adkins served aboard USS California (BB-44) and was among 103 crewmen who perished. His remains were among those previously interred as Unknowns at the cemetery before being exhumed in 2018 for further analysis and identification.



This Week in History: October 31, 1939

On Oct. 31, 1939, the title to the Army's Luke Field quarters, garages, squadron offices, enlisted barracks, and athletic facilities on Ford Island passed to the Navy. With the transfer of those properties, the Navy would soon begin the development of a fleet airbase for the Pacific Fleet's carrier aircraft. Photo: Ford Island, Oct. 25, 1939. Luke Field is in the center of the island, with the Army's former aviation facilities on the left.

Laulima Navy underscores our responsibility to the community and the ways we work alongside partners to help and support our neighbors. Service to others and a commitment to the greater good are values we hold in high regard. It is a privilege for all of us to call Hawaii home and we seek every opportunity we can to show how much we treasure this place. Scan the QR code to learn more about Laulima Navy.

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