

Crommelin Reservists Augment Hawaii's Only Reserve Ship

Story Number: NNS050126-16

1/26/2005

By Journalist 1st Class Chris Halsey, Commander, Naval Reserve Force Public Affairs

ABOARD USS CROMMELIN (NNS) -- USS Crommelin's (FFG 37) Reserve detachment boarded the Reserve guided-missile frigate for their first extended drill weekend underway Jan. 7.

According to Lt. Cmdr. Patrick D. Grandelli, the detachment's officer in charge, the selected Reservists traveled aboard Crommelin's rigid-hull inflatable boat from Hickam Air Force Base near Pearl Harbor to the guided-missile frigate, anchored 3,000 yards from the Hawaiian shore.

"This weekend, we have 14 of the 16 members on board ship," explained Chief Electrician's Mate (SS) John L. Dooling, the detachment's leading chief petty officer. Dooling, a microcomputer analyst for First Hawaiian Bank, said that the selected Reservists drill together when ashore, but are attached to various divisions throughout the ship based on their rate or position.

Cmdr. Donald D. Hodge, Crommelin's commanding officer, added that the Reservists also worked on their damage control qualifications, small arms training and their watch station assignments.

According to Hull Technician 1st Class (SW) Robert E. Thompson, a full-time support member and an instructor on the damage control training team, the Reservists performed many basic damage control training evolutions during the weekend.

"A lot of these Reservists are junior, non-prior-service members who have never had this level of training before," explained Thompson, a Columbia, S.C., native. "We are having them do hose handling, de-watering, de-smoking, learn symbology and phraseology, and we'll put them through a couple general quarters [drills]."

One of the first exercises the Reservists completed upon boarding was combat systems department's small-arms training. According to Gunner's Mate 1st Class (SW) Dennis C. Wolf, one of the range safety officers, the Reservists joined dozens of active and full-time support crew members as they qualified on the 9mm Beretta and the Mosburg 500 shotgun.

"We want everyone on the ship to keep his or her skills sharp," explained Wolf, a Chicago native. "And we want our Reservists to be ready for recall and be able to support us. We are all one team, we are all one Navy."

For related news, visit the Commander, Naval Reserve Force Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/nrf.



050109-N-5039H-012 Pacific Ocean (Jan. 9, 2005) - Information Technology Specialist 3rd Class Christopher Pang, assigned to the reserve detachment aboard USS Crommelin (FFG 37), disembarks the guided missile frigate via a rope ladder to a ridged hull inflatable boat. The reservists completed their first extended underway drill weekend aboard the ship, where they completed small arms training, updated their damage control qualifications and completed basic watch standing requirements. U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Ken Horne (RELEASED)

[View Larger](#)

[Download HiRes](#)