



**Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Commander, Submarine Force Pacific
Change of Command Ceremony
Pearl Harbor, HI
Admiral Patrick M. Walsh
Friday, 10 December 2010**

Thank you, Doug, for your kind introduction.

Admiral Fargo, Deputy Undersecretary Verga, distinguished guests, men and women of the Submarine Force Pacific, family and friends - Good morning and Aloha! A special welcome to family and friends who have traveled to celebrate this wonderful occasion.

Admirals McAneny and Caldwell, Peggy and Kim, thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your change of command ceremony – to honor you and your families publicly for your service and support.

My remarks begin with you...our friends, family, and our extended ohana, because we are reminded that the days pass too quickly, our opportunities with each other too fleeting, our reunions too limited, to miss out on a chance to express our personal gratitude to each other....for each other. It is important and good to have all of you here as we celebrate this very important day for our fleet and our families.

I am especially pleased for the opportunity to welcome USS North Carolina to the Pacific Fleet. Captain Schlauder, yesterday, your ship and crew looked sharp and readyand dry....we are fortunate to have one of our Navy's newest attack submarines in our lineup. North Carolina's capabilities are well-suited for the challenges of today and tomorrow. We need all of you in this dynamic region.

Just three days ago we marked the 69th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor – a defining event which propelled our nation into a global conflict. The storied acts of courage and heroism

that brought victory in World War II endow special meaning to all who serve and support the United States Navy – perhaps no group more so than the submarine community.

This historic setting was the home of your predecessors...and from this very base, brave crews set forth on dangerous combat missions -- many of these courageous submariners did not return. The extraordinary contributions of the submarine force were absolutely pivotal to our victory in the Pacific.

The valor, perseverance, and innovation of World War II submariners is legend – these same attributes were instrumental throughout the Cold War, and continue to inspire those who sail the depths of the oceans today.

The submarine community can point to distinguished leaders – Nimitz, Lockwood, Ramage, Fluckey, Clarey – whose vision and commitment continue as the foundation of our Navy's success. Leadership is at the heart of any successful organization...and the success enjoyed by COMSUBPAC over the past few years is clearly the result of yet another inspiring submarine leader: Doug McAneny.

Over the past two years, Admiral McAneny has had the enormous task of overseeing submarine operations and being the point man for submarine manning, training, maintenance in the Pacific. Our submarines bring capabilities vital to our national security and our alliances in the Asia-Pacific region. On any given day, an average of 30 U.S. submarines are underway...typically 60% of them being Pacific Fleet boats. Under Admiral McAneny's guidance, the Pacific Submarine Force has dramatically improved its combat readiness, meeting increased national tasking while maintaining the highest standards of operational excellence. Doug and his team have also played a key role in advancing the undersea warfare capabilities of our allies and partners, enhancing collective security. His compassionate leadership also made a positive impact on the quality of life of our Sailors, their families and local communities where they serve or deploy. Many of his initiatives have been adopted by the Navy...and his emphasis on

individual accountability and personal responsibility have had significant positive impact on personal standards for the fleet.

During Admiral McAneny's command, SUBPAC Sailors have supported local communities wherever they serve by supporting blood and bone marrow drives, participating in community clean-up and repairs, building homes through Habitat for Humanity, and mentoring and tutoring students in schools. These are just a few examples of service that reflect who we are as Sailors and what we stand for. Admiral McAneny has followed the rich traditions of his many distinguished predecessors, but his bold vision has put SUBPAC on the right course to meet future challenges.

Those of us who wear the uniform know that the most important part of our lives, the most important source of strength and support is our family. Spouses comprise a special class of patriots who share the same devotion to service and caring for people. Peggy, we thank you for all that you have given of yourself, your time and your service. We are also grateful to Katie McAneny, who has been an invaluable part of my PACFLEET N5 team.

Admiral McAneny is transitioning from the world of operations to the world of ideas – not an easy task and not one that everyone can do. He will be the new commandant of the National War College – a premier joint educational institution that has produced many international leaders. Doug, congratulations on this prestigious assignment. Leaving Hawaii for Washington may be difficult, but I am sure you will quickly appreciate living at Fort McNair - as soon as the snow melts - and the short stroll along the golf greens to your office each day.

Doug and Peggy, on behalf of the entire Pacific Fleet, please accept my heartfelt thanks for all you have done - we are grateful for your support and wish Katie, Amy, and John the very best.

Today we extend a warm welcome to Admiral Frank Caldwell and his wife Kim. They come to us from the Pacific Northwest and command of Submarine Group NINE their involvement

with the Navy family and local community was well-regarded. Admiral Caldwell's tremendous professional reputation and operational brilliance are also legendary.

Frank, our Navy has recognized your rich experience and superb talents by assigning you even greater responsibility, and I am pleased to have you at the helm of SUBPAC – you are the right leader in the right place, at the right time. Congratulations...I look forward to the continued success of COMSUBPAC on your watch, so welcome to the ohana! I know you and Kim will both apply your abundant energy and dedication here our Sailors, families, and community friends will be better for it.

We are fortunate to have shipmates like the McAnenys, the Caldwells, and the men and women of the Pacific Submarine Force who teach us that the personal satisfaction we receive from serving will give us the greater benefit for the act that we provide for others.

I would also like to express my gratitude to our partners in the Hawaii community.... We rely on your support each day. Thank you for standing with us in defense of freedom and the preservation of peace and prosperity. God Bless America and the United States Navy.

Doug, please join me at the podium.....