



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
850 TICONDEROGA STREET, SUITE 110
JBPHH, HAWAII 96860
PHONE: 808-473-2888 FAX: 808-473-2876
www.cnmc.navy.mil/hawaii



MEDIA RELEASE

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POC: Lydia Robertson, Director of Public Affairs
Cell: (808) 554-4813
Duty Cell: (808) 371-5189

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Navy Responds to a Release from a Fire Suppression Drain Line at Red Hill

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii –

The Navy is investigating the cause of a water and fuel mix release in the drain line for the fire suppression system in the tunnel downhill of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor (FLC PH) personnel responded to what was initially assessed as a water leak shortly after 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20. This pipe is not connected to the Red Hill Fuel tanks or main fuel pipelines, all of which are secure.

Overnight, the release began to contain some amount of fuel which increased into Sunday morning. Approximately 14,000 gallons of a mix of water and fuel was contained in the lower tunnel and has been recovered and transferred to an above ground storage tank as of midday Sunday. The rate of release has reduced considerably and continues to be captured. The incident occurred roughly ¼ mile downhill of the actual fuel tanks.

The Navy made initial notification to Department of Health Saturday night and is providing updates Sunday. An investigation was started immediately and is ongoing.

There are no signs or indication of any releases to the environment, and the water remains safe to drink.