Mustin crew helps community during Thailand visit

From *USS Mustin* Public Affairs

LAEM CHABANG, Thailand – The guided missile destroyer *USS Mustin* (DDG 89) arrived in Laem Chabang, Thailand for a port visit and to participate in community service events in order to strengthen ties between the U.S. and the Kingdom of Thailand Oct. 22.

Since their arrival, more than 200 Sailors have participated in more than seven community service (COMSERV) events in Utapao, Rayong, Banglamung, Pattaya and Bangkok.

The events were coordinated through the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok.

The community service events included working side-by-side with Royal Thai Navy sailors to support the Princess Pa Foundation and volunteering at the Thai Red Cross to package supplies for those displaced by the worst flooding in 50 years in Thailand.

Sailors also gave blood at the Thai Red Cross and presented a check to the organization for $10,000 which *Mustin* Sailors raised through donations by crew members on the ship.

"As the community service coordinator I have been amazed at the consistently high level of motivation to help the Thai people the crew has displayed throughout the entire port visit," said Chief Intelligence Specialist Jayson Fuller. "Their compassion is shown in their smiles that don't go away and seeing the sincere appreciation expressed in the smiles and encouraging words by the local Thai people working right along side us, I wish that every Sailor gets a chance to experience how good it feels to help."

The COMSERV events also included visiting and playing with children at local children's homes including the Camillian Social Center in Rayong and the Pattaya Orphanage.

Lt.j.g. Justan Caesar, assigned to *USS Mustin* (DDG 89), donates blood to the Thai Red Cross Society during a community service project Oct.26. While in port, the crew of *Mustin* will participate in community service projects in an effort to build upon existing ties between the two nations.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Mikey Mulcare

Sailors visited with Buddhist monks and helped to clean the temple and college grounds at Wat Jitapawan in Banglamung.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to be able to come out and volunteer at these events. At the Orphanage, I played with the kids and it was great to see how happy they all were," said Sonar Technician (Surface) 3rd Class Joy Chase. "I've participated in four community service events and I plan on volunteering for more during my time in Thailand."

In addition to the COMSERV events, the helicopter detachment aboard *Mustin* the Warlords of Helicopter Anti-submarine Squadron Light, Det. 6, provided support to the U.S. Marine Corps Humanitarian Assistance Survey Team in their survey of the flooding in Thailand.

The COMSERV events and military engagements built upon existing ties between the U.S. and Thailand developed over years of cooperation together.

The Sailors have said many times that *Mustin* is honored to be able to conduct this port visit and participate in community service events to give back to the people of Thailand who have long been friends and allies.

"It is an honor to be back during this difficult time to support our Thai allies, who are doing a superb job meeting the challenge," said *Mustin* Commanding Officer Cmdr. Scott Tait. "The thoughts and prayers of the crew go out to all the Thai people, and others in the region, that have been effected by the flooding."

CNO speaks with Chiefs' Mess during leadership symposium

By MC2 (SW) Kyle P. Malloy, Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

SUFFOLK, Va – Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert delivered remarks at the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy's (MCPON) Leadership Mess Symposium for flag level senior enlisted leadership from all across the globe, Oct. 25.

CNO took the opportunity to speak with master chiefs about today's operational and fiscal landscape in the Pentagon, his priorities, vision and tenets in his Sailing Directions and about being judicious with the Navy's resources.

"You've got to be ready and make sure that you organize, train and equip your Navy to do today's mission today," said Greenert. "We've got to be ready and we can't be hollow."

Greenert then went on to highlight the importance of building the Navy of the future and the importance of cultivating a force of motivated and diverse Sailors and Navy civilians.

The CNO also reviewed his tenets and how he would like Sailors to look at future decisions during naval strategic planning. Greenert explained in detail his three tenets, warfighting first, operate forward and be ready.

"This is how I want you to look at it," said Greenert. "These are things [tenets] to use when a problem comes up."

And finally, Greenert expressed the importance of being judicious as leaders and always using sound judgment during the financial decision-making process.

"I want everyone to open their eyes and ask, can we afford to keep doing this and is this the right way to use people, time and money?" said Greenert.

After CNO's remarks the event concluded with a discussion on current and future Navy issues that the mess raised.

"The interaction with the CNO was inspiring," said Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON)(SS/SW) Rick D. West. "It was great for the team to hear from him in person."

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert addresses master chief petty officers during the Enlisted Leadership Symposium at the Lockheed Martin Convention Center Oct. 25.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Shannon E. Renfroe

MCPON's Leadership Mess Symposium hosts many top naval officials to conduct training on a variety of topics that aid in streamlining communication throughout the Navy's senior enlisted leadership.