

66th anniversary: Honoring the past, building for the future

MC1 Johnny Michael
Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy and the National Park Service hosted a joint memorial ceremony Dec. 7 at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor, commemorating the 66th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. More than 2,500 people attended the event, including nearly 50 survivors of the bombing which took the U.S. by surprise more than half a century ago.

The solemn two-hour ceremony featured a Hawaiian blessing performed by Kahu Kauila Clark, the presentation of the colors by the joint service color guard, a 21-gun salute by the U.S. Marine Corps 3rd Marine Regiment, and the National Anthem played by the Pacific Fleet band.

In observance of the start of the attack, at 7:55 a.m. the Pearl Harbor-based, guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) blew the ship's whistle which ushered in a moment of silence. The observance concluded a minute later with a missing-man flyover executed by a formation of CH-47D Chinook helicopters from the Hawai'i Air National Guard Company B, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation Regiment stationed at Wheeler Army Airfield. Aviation Machinist's Mate 1st Class Nichole Kirkpatrick, an aircrewman assigned to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 51 at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe Bay, noted that the elements of the ceremony, especially the helicopter flyover, came together in a very moving way.

"It was very impressive and I'm glad I took the opportunity to come out here," Kirkpatrick said. Shortly following the flight of the Chinooks, Lake Erie passed abeam the Arizona Memorial as the ship's Sailors manned the rails and rendered honors to the USS Arizona



Photo Illustration

More than 2,500 people, including survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor, attended the 66th anniversary commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941 tragedy on Dec. 7 at Kilo Piers aboard Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The USS Oklahoma Memorial Committee at Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service also hosted a joint dedication ceremony for the USS Oklahoma (BB 37) on historic Ford Island.

Memorial and to the Pearl Harbor survivors at the ceremony. A B-2 from the 509th Bomb Wing from Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo. conducted a flyover in honor of those who gave their lives in the defense of their country at Pearl Harbor. The theme for the ceremony was, "Honoring the Past, Building for the Future." Following this theme, USS Arizona Memorial Superintendent Douglas Lentz spoke about the importance of remembering the

past. "Today, on the 66th anniversary, we reflect on what is significant about Dec. 7, 1941," said Lentz. "We honor those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. Our rights, our freedoms, came at a human cost - a cost that we should never forget."

Adm. Thomas Fargo, national vice-chairman of the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund, reflected upon the loss in its human terms as captured

by the Arizona Memorial.

"And when we step on the memorial and walk amidst the dappled pattern of shadows and sunlight, where the only sounds are the whispered words and the snapping of our flag above, the unmistakable reality of loss is captured forever in our memory," said Fargo. "It's impossible not to feel the impact of those names carved into the cold stone of the memorial's shrine."

Hawai'i Gov. Linda Lingle spoke

to those assembled at the ceremony about the sacrifice of Pearl Harbor victims and survivors and the importance of keeping their stories alive.

"It is our obligation never to forget their sacrifice," said Lingle. "These survivors are national treasures, an irreplaceable link to our past and a pivotal point in our modern history."

As the NPS chief historian, Dr. Robert Sutton also talked about the importance of preserving the past for future generations and he announced plans that are underway to improve Pearl Harbor facilities. "My colleagues here at the USS Arizona Memorial, in partnership with the Arizona [Memorial] Museum Association, are developing a new visitor's center and museum that will provide an introduction to all the associated sites in and around Pearl Harbor," said Sutton. "It will present an overview of World War II with a wealth of artifacts and exhibits and most importantly, it will honor the heroes who gave so much to honor our freedoms."

Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, keynote speaker, underscored how the military of today is the result of the example set by the World War II veterans.

"Our theme is 'Honoring the Past and Building for the Future.' Today's Pacific Fleet Sailors and Marines would make the 'Greatest Generation' proud of their service," said Willard. "Together our Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, all baby boomers, X-generation, millennials, are dedicated Americans whose skill in the military service is unsurpassed."

The past met the future when Cryptologic Technician (interpretive) 2nd Class Bailey Sharbrough was re-enlisted 66 years after her

See ANNIVERSARY, A-2

Memorial dedicated on Ford Island

MC1 James Foehl
Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs

Ensign Theresa Donnelly
USS Russell (DDG 59) Public Affairs

The USS Oklahoma Memorial Committee at Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service hosted a joint dedication ceremony for the USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on Dec. 7 on historic Ford Island.

The memorial stands to honor the 429 Sailors and Marines on board Oklahoma who lost their lives Dec. 7, 1941 after the ship was hit by five torpedoes and capsized at Pearl Harbor.

"Today we will right a terrible wrong," said Rear Adm. Doug McClain, director of global operations, U.S. Strategic Command and master of ceremonies for the event. "We will finally dedicate a memorial to the 429 Sailors and Marines that have not yet been recognized properly."

At 7:55 a.m. on Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese launched an air attack on Pearl Harbor which forever changed the world in which we live.

"That day, 429 U.S. Sailors and Marines lost their lives, tragically killed. Today we will remember and honor their service and sacrifice to



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle meets with USS Oklahoma survivors prior to a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on historic Ford Island. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after the ship was hit by torpedoes and capsized at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

this country," said McClain.

A traditional Hawaiian blessing was delivered for the memorial by Kahu David Ka'upu and the colors were paraded by Oklahoma high school Navy and Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets from Claremore High

School and U.S. Grant High School.

Guest speakers for the event were Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command; Oklahoma survivor Edward Vezey; Lisa Ridge, granddaughter of Oklahoma crew member Petty Officer Paul Nash; Lyle

Laverty, assistant secretary of the interior; Jim Reynolds, Oklahoma State Senate; Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle; Brad Henry, governor of Oklahoma; Neil Abercrombie, U.S. Representative from Hawai'i;

See OKLAHOMA, A-10



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter

A Sailor assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor's honor guard presents Becky Johnson with an American flag during an interment ceremony for her father, Richard Adams, at the USS Utah Memorial on Dec. 7. Adams was a pharmacist's mate aboard USS Utah during the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Golf course pays tribute to Medal of Honor recipient See page A-4



USS Hopper keeps gold anchor See page A-11



Russell officer receives leadership award See page A-2



Looking back at 'day of infamy' See page B-1

Russell officer receives leadership award

**Story and photo by
Ensign Theresa
Donnelly**

*USS Russell (DDG 59)
Public Affairs*

Lt. j.g. Kathleen Ball, assigned as the navigator on USS Russell (DDG 59), received the VADM Robert K.U. Kihune Leadership Award during the ship's friends and families cruise on Nov. 30. The award is given each year by the Surface Navy Association (SNA).

It is presented to surface warfare qualified junior officers who demonstrate superior leadership while assigned to a surface ship that is homeported at Pearl Harbor. VADM Kihune is a former commander, Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Because the ship was underway for Composite Training Unit Exercise, Ball was unable to attend the Oct. 19 SNA Awards luncheon held on historic Ford Island. Instead, with parents Larry and Loretta in attendance as well as numerous other Russell supporters and family members, an awards ceremony held in the ship's wardroom provided an ideal venue to present both the certificate and a koa-framed nautical print to Ball.

Additionally, her name was engraved onto a plaque located at the headquarters of Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"I am truly honored and humbled to receive this award," said Ball. "Having my family on the ship to

take part in this ceremony made it a very special event."

Ball's accomplishments are wide reaching and numerous in scope. While serving as the ship's Tomahawk Strike officer, she ensured 100 percent crew retention and led the team to certify during the ship's unit level training assessment certification, a first ever for any ship on the Pearl Harbor waterfront.

"She is the best division officer that I have ever had since coming into the Navy.

She sets the example and takes awesome care of her people," said Russell's assistant navigator, Quartermaster 1st Class Charles Hughes.

Lt. j.g. Kathleen Ball poses with USS Russell's (DDG 59) commanding officer, Cmdr. Brad Cooper, and her parents, Loretta and Larry Ball, after being presented with the Surface Navy Association VADM Kihune Leadership Award.



Preserving the past for future

Continued from A-1

great uncle, Fireman 2nd Class Garris Hodges, perished along with 1,177 other Sailors and Marines on USS Arizona (BB 39). Capt. Taylor Skardon, commanding officer, NAVSTA Pearl Harbor, praised Bailey's service and noted the significance of her lineage. "Petty Officer Sharbrough, you honor us all with your service and the sacrifice of your great uncle," said Skardon. "Help us and this great nation of ours to remember the generations who follow behind you in the uniform of this country, and never forget the sacrifices of those who went before us, so we could be here today."

Following the re-enlistment, 16 wreaths were presented in honor of the Sailors and Marines stationed aboard the ships bombed during the attack, the five branches of the U.S. military, the state of Hawai'i and the National Park Service.

"It was a wonderful thing," noted Joe Weinmeier, a Marine Corps private during the battle at Iwo Jima, who was particularly impressed with how the ceremony demonstrated "... a lot of dedication and respect for all the World War II veterans."

CNO's first podcast urges Sailors to learn

Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) — During his first podcast on Dec. 3 as Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Gary Roughead urged Sailors to gain understanding, seek knowledge and opportunities to learn about other cultures. He emphasized that the maritime strategy's key to success was the interpersonal relationships that Sailors have with sailors of other nations.

Roughead talked about the importance of young Sailors and officers having interaction with their counterparts from other navies. Doing so will lay the foundation for continuing relationships and friendships with Sailors from other nations that will last a lifetime.

His hope is that they will make relationships and friendships with sailors from other nations that will last for a lifetime.

"Years from now, when a Sailor from our Navy meets another sailor from another Navy and they sit down to have that cup of

tea, they are not sitting down and meeting for the first time. They are sitting down and talking because they have been friends for a lifetime," he said.

Roughead also spoke about the cooperative development of the strategy, noting that all three maritime services were involved. The strategy focuses on envisioning future missions and the capabilities the maritime services need to perform them.

"It is the first time that the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard came together to develop a maritime strategy that looks to the future and envisions the world in which we will live," Roughead said.

A major change in the strategy from previous maritime strategies that Roughead talked about was proactive humanitarian assistance. He mentioned some of the recent operations Sailors have performed in support of this expanded capability.

"So many of our Sailors have contributed in magnificent ways in disaster

relief whether it was in tsunami of 2004, or the earthquake in Bangladesh, or the relief effort we have in Bangladesh going on today and as a result of the storm," Roughead said.

He added, "We can really make a difference in people's lives around the world and in that making a difference, we can bring other countries, other navies other non-governmental organizations together in a cooperative way that just makes the world we live in a better place."

Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead discusses issues such as his recently released "CNO Guidance" and his thoughts on the new maritime strategy during an interview with Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Mathew Oldham. The interview will be used to produce upcoming podcasts, which will be available for download on www.navy.mil.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Richard J. Brunson



Naval Safety Center gives tips for holiday theft prevention

April Phillips

Naval Safety Center Public Affairs

NORFOLK (NNS) — The holidays are here and Sailors and Marines are packing the malls in search of the perfect gifts for family and friends. For many, trying to find a parking spot within a mile of the store is a top priority, but the Naval Safety Center reminds everyone that there are other not-so-jolly things to be aware of during this time of year.

The holidays are prime time for thieves and muggers who prey on unsuspecting shoppers. However, there are some simple things everyone can do to reduce the risk of becoming a victim.

"Awareness is the key," said John Williams,

an off-duty and recreational safety specialist at the Naval Safety Center. "See who's around, take note of suspicious people. Intuition will tell you when a person is suspicious, so trust your intuition."

Many thieves target people in parking lots. Shoppers may get distracted trying to get their packages loaded into the car and this gives the bad guys an opportunity to strike. Williams said that it's important to park cars in well-traveled areas.

"Avoid isolated areas," he warned. "Park in well-lit lots and try to leave the mall before it closes. You're a bigger target if there are only a few cars left in the lot and there are fewer people around to dissuade a would-be thief."

Shoppers should also be mindful of the

packaging used to carry purchased items. If expensive watches or jewelry are carried around in bags marked with the store's brand name and logo, thieves can be tempted to follow. Williams recommended putting these purchases inside other, more generic bags and keeping them close to the body so they can't be easily snatched.

He also said it's a good idea to put packages in the trunk of the car rather than in the passenger compartment where they are visible to anyone walking by. This is especially important if shoppers will be stopping at other stores, since the visible packages can tempt thieves.

To deter this, most malls have security officers patrolling the parking lots. There are

other officers available to offer assistance inside.

"If you think someone is following you, avoid making eye contact, but do try to notice things about the suspicious person. Make note of what they're wearing and their approximate height and weight. Alert mall security. Also, if you're uncomfortable, ask the mall security personnel to accompany you to your car. It's what they're there for," Williams stressed.

If, in spite of all these efforts, a holiday shopper is approached by a thief, Williams said it's important to remain calm. Don't argue - simply give the robbers what they're asking for. After all, gifts can be replaced, but the life of a Sailor or Marine cannot.

Commentary

Fireside Chat

Naval Region Federal Fire Department

Christmas tree or Christmas torch?

Victor Flint

Federal Fire Department

The holidays are a time of year for celebration and jubilation. Part of the celebration is decorating the house, office or work space with lights, garland and possibly a Christmas tree.

Statistics show most-structure fires are from November through January. Many of these fires involve Christmas decorations or the tree itself. This fire is always much worse when a natural tree is involved.

When a natural Christmas tree catches on fire, the temperature can reach 2,000 degrees within seconds. It's unbelievable how easy and fast this happens, and always with catastrophic results.

The Federal Fire Department does not want a Christmas tree fire to ruin your holiday plans. Here are some safety tips to help you prevent your Christmas tree from turning into a Christmas torch:

- Check for freshness when picking a natural tree. Shedding needles and branches that break easily are a bad sign.

Fresh needles and branches are green and flexible. They shouldn't break or fall off when handled.

- Cut the base of the tree off (one - two inches), and keep it in water to prevent

from drying out. Install the tree in a stable holder and keep the holder filled with water as well.

- Placement of your tree is also important. Do not block exits and/or paths of egress with your tree. Do not have any flame or heat-producing appliances or light fixtures near your tree. Be careful of curtains and open windows. You don't want your tree to be blown down.

- Be careful using electric lights. No more than three sets (depending on the size and length of the lights) should be on an extension cord. Check the box for the manufacturer's installation instructions to be sure. Always use UL listed lights and cords. And keep the wires and plug ends away from the water in the tree stand.

- Use only fire resistant ornaments and decorations.

- Do not leave the lights on all the time. Turn off the tree lights when you go to bed at night or when you leave the house, shop or office.
- Never use real, burning candles on or near your tree. On behalf of everyone in the Federal Fire Department, have a happy and safe holiday season.

For more information about holiday fire safety, Christmas trees and other fire-related questions, call 474-7785.



Collection of Rear Adm. B.F. Hutchison, courtesy of Mrs. Worth Sprunt, 1974. U.S. Naval Historical Center photograph

Sailors make Christmas happy for needy children

A Christmas party for disadvantaged children is held on board the battleship USS California (BB44) by her crew at San Pedro, Calif. December 1921.

Hawai'i Navy News

Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i
Rear Adm. T. G. Alexander

Chief of Staff, Navy Region Hawai'i
Capt. Donald D. Hodge

Director, Public Affairs - Agnes Tauyan

Deputy Public Affairs officer - Terri Kojima

Managing Editor - MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

Leading Petty Officer -
MC1 (AW/SW) James Foehl

Editor - Karen Spangler

Staff Writer - MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Contributing Writer - Blair Martin

Technical Adviser - Joe Novotny

Layout/Design - Pete Buentipo, Jr.

Hawai'i Navy News is a free unofficial paper published every Thursday by The Honolulu Advertiser, 605 Kapiolani Blvd., Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813, a private firm in no way connected with DoD, the U. S. Navy or Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i.

All editorial content is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the staff of the Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office: 850 Ticonderoga, Suite 110, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i, 96860-4884. Telephone: (808) 473-2888; fax (808) 473-2876; e-mail address: hnn@honoluluadvertiser.com World Wide Web address: www.hawaii.navy.mil.

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication pri-

marily for members of the Navy and Marine Corps military services and their families in Hawai'i. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U. S. Government, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The civilian publisher, The Honolulu Advertiser, is responsible for commercial advertising, which may be purchased by calling (808) 521-9111.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products and services advertised by the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps, Commander, Navy

Region Hawai'i or the Honolulu Advertiser.

Everything advertised in this paper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

A confirmed violation of this policy of equal opportunity by an advertiser will result in the refusal to print advertising from that source.

Hawai'i Navy News is delivered weekly to Navy housing units and Navy installations throughout Oahu. Housing residents may contact the publisher directly at (808) 538-NEWS (538-6397) if they wish to discontinue home delivery.

Golf course pays tribute to MOH recipient

MCC (SW/AW) David Rush
Managing Editor

Medal of Honor recipient Lt. John Finn (Ret), one of 15 Medal of Honor recipients from the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, was on hand at the Navy/Marine Golf Course near Pearl Harbor when the number four hole marker was unveiled on Dec. 12.

The golf course features similar markers for all 15 Pearl Harbor Medal of Honor recipients. Finn received the Medal of Honor in recognition of heroism and distinguished service during the Japanese attack.

A chief petty officer at the time of the attack, Finn was stationed at Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay. During the first attack by the Japanese aircraft, Finn took control of a .50 caliber machine gun post and continued to fire on the attacking planes despite getting hit numerous times by enemy strafing fire.

As of October 2007, at age 98, Finn is the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient and is also the only living Pearl Harbor Medal of Honor recipient.

Although Finn was delighted to have a marker with his name, he said he is not a golfer. Nevertheless, he did express his gratitude. "I am honored and appreciate what you have done here," said Finn.

Finn was quick to recognize most of the recipients died and received the Medal of Honor posthumously, and credits their duty to country, along with those serving today, as a

reminder of what America means to him. "All in all, the people who are in the military do their jobs, and we as Americans should be proud."

Also on hand was Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Alex Ramosruano of Helicopter Squadron 37 (HSL-37) based at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i - Kaneohe. He was in charge of taking Finn around the island during his stay.

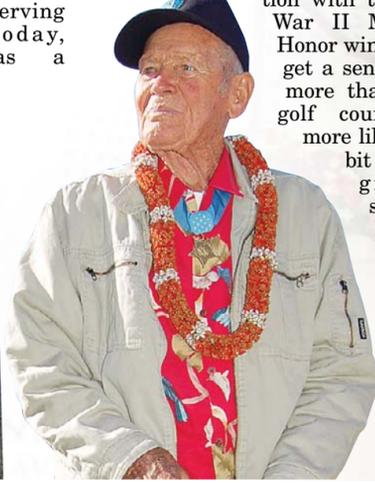
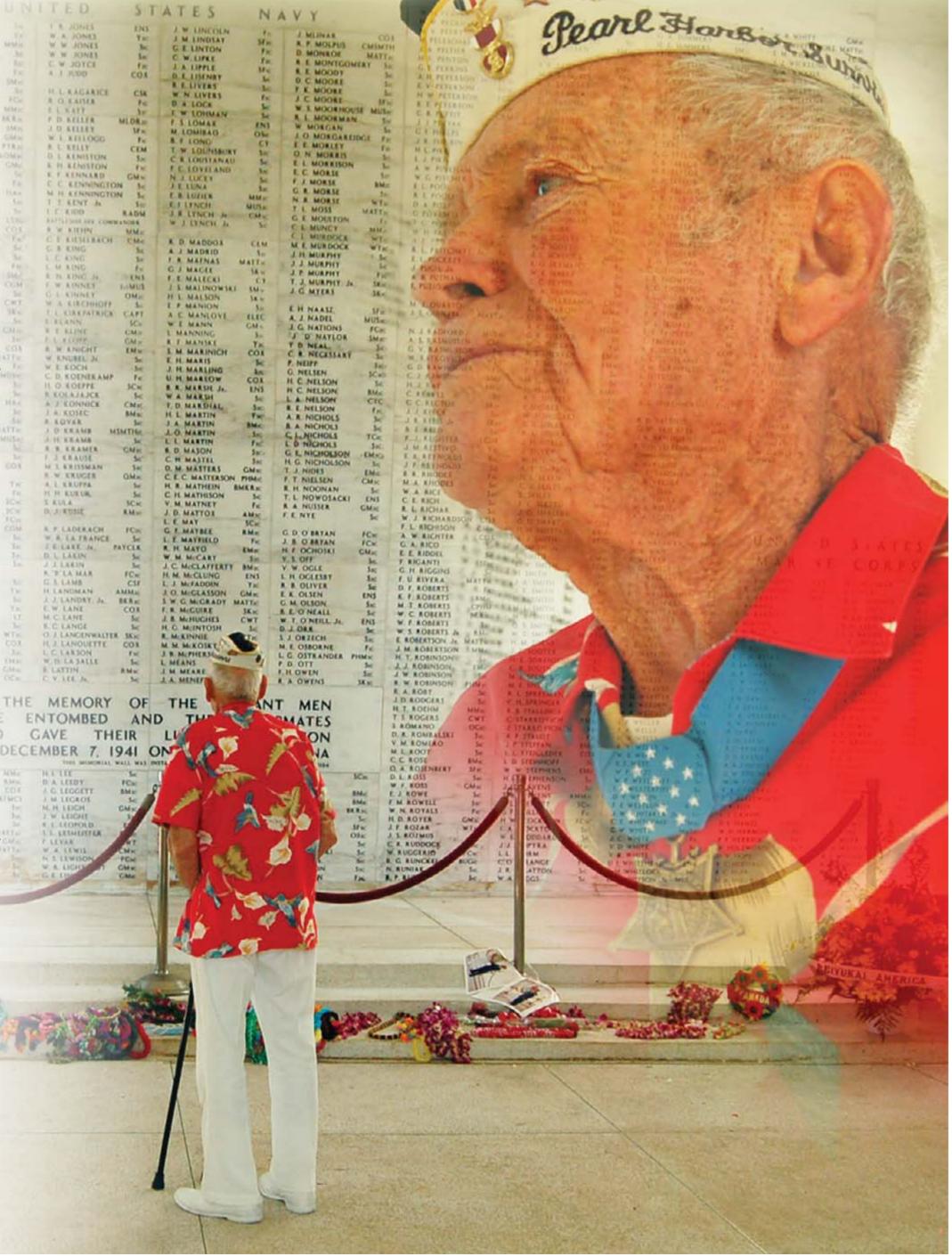
"Meeting someone who is such an important figure in Hawai'i was an honor. I was pretty excited since we picked him up from the airport, and I've been privileged to be with him for the four days during his visit," said the native of Guatemala.

Chief Aviation Structural Mechanic Caleb Nation, quality assurance chief at HSL-37, is also a family member. "He is the first cousin to my grandmother. He was a chief, and I am a chief, so we have spent a lot of time talking about that."

In addition to being related to Finn, the younger chief is also very familiar with Finn's former workspace. "I work in the exact same hangar John worked in. I enjoy hearing about the history first hand. He will tell the story the way it happened, and it's great to spend time with him," added Nation.

As for having the names of the Medal of Honor recipients displayed throughout the golf course, Todd Nicely, golf director, Navy golf courses in Hawai'i, said it was a privilege to tie the Navy/Marine Golf Course in with the historically rich area.

"Making a connection with the World War II Medal of Honor winners, you get a sense this is more than just a golf course, but more like a little bit of sacred ground," said Nicely.



Pearl Harbor Highlights



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Seaman Apprentice Chaz Chesnek, assigned to Naval Station (NAVSTA) Pearl Harbor, lays down a wreath in the shrine room of USS Arizona Memorial. The wreaths were donated by more than 40 veterans' organizations and serve as a tribute to service members killed during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public joined Sailors, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends on board NAVSTA Pearl Harbor for the annual observance to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



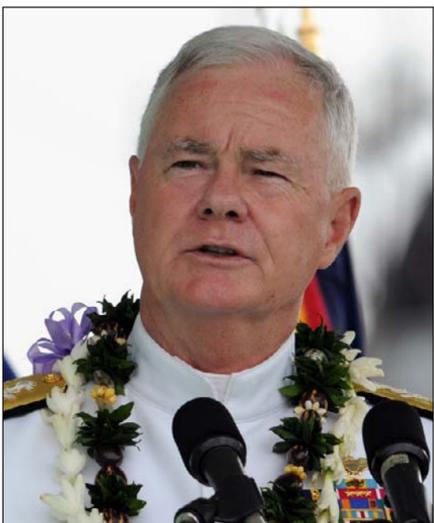
U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sarah Murphy

Divers from the National Park Service swim away from the pier of USS Arizona Memorial with the remains of Ensign Millard Ramsdell during an interment ceremony for the former USS Arizona (BB 39) crew member. A survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Ramsdell was laid to rest in gun turret number four to be reunited with his former shipmates who lost their lives on that historic day in 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC (SW/AW) David Rush

Navy Junior Officers Training Corps cadets stand by to scatter flowers during a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on historic Ford Island. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after the ship was hit by torpedoes and capsized at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Class James E. Foehl

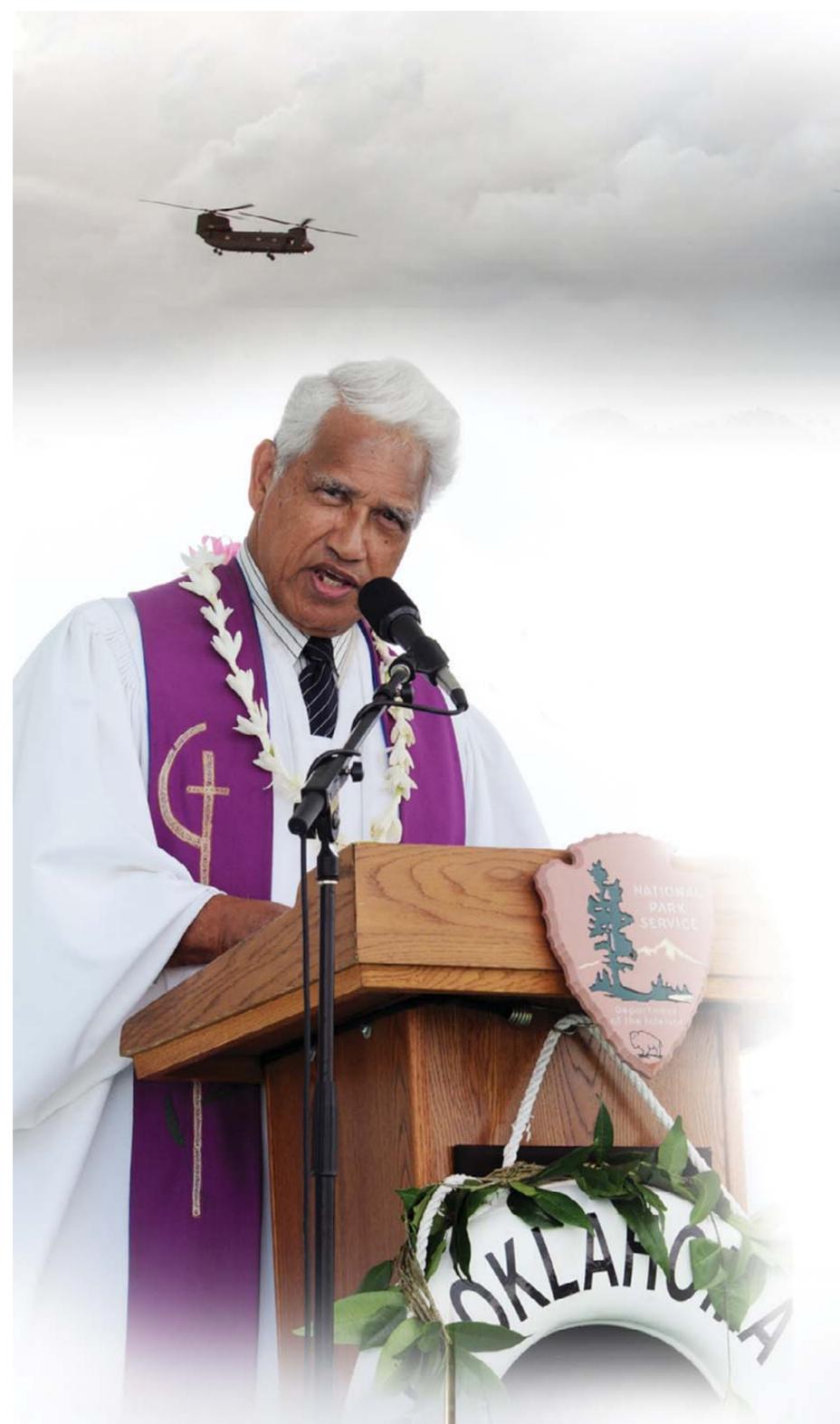
Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, delivers his remarks during a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 James E. Foehl

Pearl Harbor survivors listen to guest speakers during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public joined Sailors, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor for the annual observance on Dec. 7.





U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Kahu David Ka'upu delivers a traditional Hawaiian blessing during a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on historic Ford Island. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after being hit by five torpedoes and capsizing at Pearl Harbor held Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) 2nd Class Bailey Sharbrough, assigned to Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii, recites a re-enlistment oath as it's administered by Pearl Harbor Survivor Woodrow Wilson Derby. The re-enlistment took place and was witnessed by Adm. Robert F. Willard, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public joined Sailors, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor for the annual observance.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 (AW/SW) James E. Foehl

Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander, U.S. Pacific Command, and the Hawai'i Governor Linda Lingle, applaud during a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on historic Ford Island. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after being hit by five torpedoes and capsizing at Pearl Harbor held on Dec. 7, 1941.

Lt. Demetric Felton, assigned to Naval Station Pearl Harbor, delivers the opening prayer during an internment ceremony for Richard Adams at the USS Utah Memorial on Dec. 7. Adams was a pharmacist's mate on board USS Utah during the attacks on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 David N. Dexter

Becky Johnson scatters the ashes of her father, Richard Adams, during an internment ceremony for Adams at the USS Utah Memorial on Dec. 7. Adams was a pharmacist's mate on board USS Utah during the attacks on Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MC1 James E. Foehl

USS Oklahoma survivors salute during colors as part of a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication ceremony for USS Oklahoma (BB 37) Memorial on historic Ford Island. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after the ship was hit by five torpedoes and capsized at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight.

(Left to right) Pearl Harbor survivors, Bob Kinzler, Sterling Cale, Earl Smith and Roy McKeehen, render a salute during Taps at the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 66th Anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Senior Chief Gas Turbine Technician (Mechanical) (SW) Matthew Danfort, assigned to Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, shakes the hand of Pearl Harbor survivor, Woodrow Wilson Derby prior to a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony on Dec. 7 commemorating the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public joined Sailors, Pearl Harbor survivors and their families and friends on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor for the annual observance.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael A. Lantron

Rear Adm. Doug McClain, director of global operations (J3), United States Strategic Command, talks to a Pearl Harbor survivor prior to a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 66th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



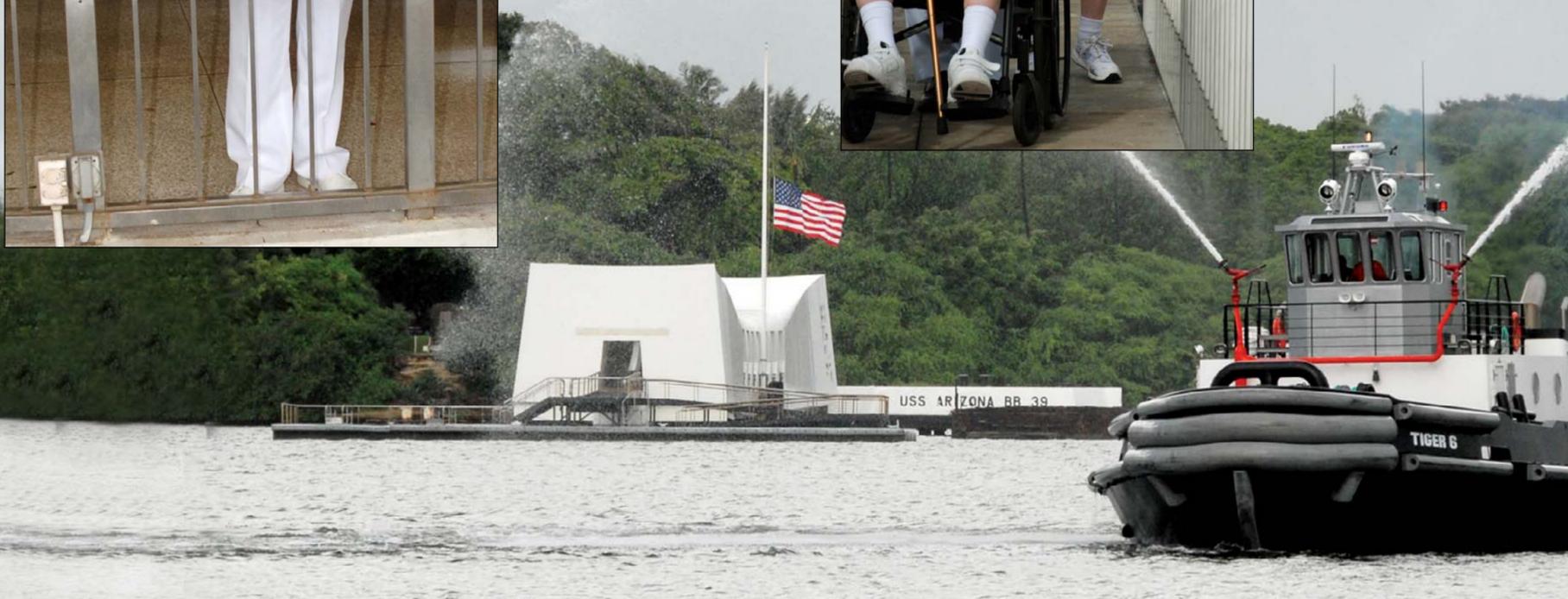
Adm. Timothy Keating, commander, Pacific Command, tosses an orchid into the water during a floral tribute aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. Prior to the event on the memorial, Keating attended a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 66th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Michael Hight



Visitors read the names of former crew members of USS Oklahoma (BB 37) during a joint Oklahoma Memorial Committee/National Park Service dedication for the newly constructed memorial. The memorial honors the 429 Sailors and Marines on board who lost their lives after the ship was hit by five torpedoes and capsized at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sarah Murphy





U.S. Navy photo by MCSA Byung K. Cho

Al Shoeigh, a U.S. Navy League Barber's Point Council member, officially re-dedicates the Ewa Marine Corps Air Station wayside exhibit and plaque. The exhibit details the history of the airfield and its destruction by Japanese aircraft 66 years ago.

Wayside exhibit re-dedicated at Barber's Point

MCSA Byung K. Cho

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

A rifle detail and color guard from Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC) based at Camp Smith gave a 21-gun salute and held colors for the re-dedication.

BARBER'S POINT, Hawai'i— The U.S. Navy League Barber's Point Council held a re-dedication ceremony for the Ewa Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Wayside Exhibit and memorial plaque at Barber's Point Golf Course on Dec. 7.

The exhibit details the history of the airfield and its destruction by Japanese aircraft 66 years ago and honors the four Marines who died during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

“What the public doesn't know is that when the attack took place, nine of them turned into Ewa before hitting Pearl Harbor and attacked 44 Marine planes that were sitting on the runway,” said Al Shoeigh, a U.S. Navy League Barber's Point Council member. “A few Marines ran out and shot at the Japanese planes and were killed.”

The four Marines who died were Sgt. Carlo A. Micheletto, Sgt. William E. Latschau Jr., Pfc. Edward G. Lawrence and Pvt. William G. Turner.

Oklahoma memorial honors Sailors, Marines

Continued from A-1

Mary Fallin and Tom Cole, U.S. Representatives from Oklahoma; and Don Beck, architect for USS Oklahoma Memorial.

"We've gathered today to dedicate this memorial on the very ground where we believe the Sailors swam to shore and where some died. This is hallowed ground," said Lingle. "This memorial will also teach future generations about their sacrifice and it's important part of our nations past."

USS Oklahoma Memorial is constructed of 429 pieces of three-dimensional white marble columns, engraved with the names of each crew member who perished during the attack. The white marble columns are arranged in a "V" shape, designed to resemble Sailors manning the rails. Surrounding the columns are black marble slabs etched with notable quotes from Oklahoma survivors.

"Paul Goodyear, a survivor of USS Oklahoma said this, "The memorial is going to be a relief to each and every Sailor, but I think the most healing balm will be for the brothers and sisters and the grandchildren of these kids. Today the healing takes a giant step,"

said Lingle.

Following the dedication, USS Oklahoma survivor Paul Goodyear broke the memorials' colors for the first time in a ceremonial flag raising.

The event closed with a 21-gun salute from the Navy Region Hawai'i Ceremonial Guard and a solemn bagpipe march through the memorial echoing "Amazing Grace."

"We were the only ship that didn't have a place to be remembered," said Oklahoma survivor Jim Bounds. "I feel like these guys can finally rest in peace and I feel much better now."

Russell Sailors honor Oklahoma survivors

In a touching ceremony, crew members assigned to guided missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) honored 16 USS Oklahoma (BB-37) survivors during an unannounced flag presentation ceremony at a dinner reception on Dec. 7 at the Sheraton Waikiki.

"I really wasn't expecting this. What a nice surprise," said retired Navy Seamen 2nd Class George A. Smith.

Survivors, family members and Oklahoma supporters gathered at the reception to honor and commemorate the Sailors who lost their

lives 66 years ago when the Oklahoma capsized after torpedoes impacted the ship's port side.

The reception included a slide show with pictures of the Oklahoma crew members and a speech by historian Kevin King, who helped to make the memorial a reality.

The project started over seven years ago and has been funded mostly by donations from Oklahoma businesses and foundations and then pushed forward by legislation in 2006 with Congress officially signing the memorial into law.

The Russell Sailors were proud to take part in such a historic and meaningful event.

"I was so honored to meet the survivors," said Ensign Lisa Bydairk, assistant communications officer. "I have such a great amount of respect for these men and what they went through."

"It was such a special experience to be able to share that moment with the survivors," said Operations Specialist 2nd Class Gabriel Evans. "I was really emotional," he added.

Each flag was ceremoniously raised and lowered immediately following the dedication and accompanied by a personalized certificate with

the exact time that the flag was raised.

At the reception, Russell Sailors interacted with Oklahoma residents, family members, memorial supporters and survivors prior to presenting the flags.

After a salute from a Russell Sailor, each survivor was given the opportunity to say a few words if they wished. Many spoke of the tragedy that occurred on that day and what the memorial meant to them after so many years.

"I feel like these guys can finally rest in peace," said Jim Bounds, Oklahoma survivor and San Diego resident

"We have been praying about this for so many years and we were the only ship that didn't have a memorial. I am so happy that this day has come," Bounds commented.

"I am grateful for what these men did for our nation and it was truly a pleasure to present them with a flag commemorating their service," said Hull Maintenance Technician 3rd Class Thomas Ray.

Hawai'i engineer named top civilian

Don Rochon

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific

WASHINGTON - Rear Adm. Wayne "Greg" Shear, commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), announced on Nov. 26 the 2008 NAVFAC Military and Civilian Engineers of the Year at NAVFAC Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"The remarkable achievements of these individuals made this year's competition very challenging," said Shear. "Everyone demonstrated the highest degree of engineering professionalism and technical expertise."

From an elite group of nominees, NAVFAC Pacific's Florence Ching was selected as the Civilian Engineer of the Year and Lt. Cmdr. Scott King from NAVFAC Southwest was selected as the Military Engineer of the Year. They will be the NAVFAC nominees for the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Federal Engineer of the Year award.

"Both engineers have been active

members of several technical associations, have received numerous awards, and have given generously of their time to their communities," said Shear. "These examples of their superior work have truly distinguished them as outstanding members of the engineering profession and the Navy team."

"I was surprised and honored to find out that I was the NAVFAC Engineer of the Year," said Ching. "This honor is a reflection of all of the extremely talented individuals from the various business and support lines that I have the privilege of working with as a project manager at NAVFAC Pacific."

Ching is a registered engineer in the state of Hawai'i. Her outstanding organizational and fiscal management skills, combined with her customer focus, resulted in on-time completion of 97 design projects valued at \$67 million for work to be accomplished by Navy construction forces in California, Nevada, Washington, Hawai'i and overseas areas, such as Okinawa, Japan, Korea, Singapore and Guam.

Her exceptional program-project management skills included the management of more than \$167 million worth of military construction projects. Two projects under her oversight, the Pacific Warfighting Center on Ford Island and the Helicopter Flight Training Facility at Marine Corps Base Hawai'i, were identified as critical projects in the military construction program.



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Timothy Banton of USS Hopper (DDG 70) pulls on a fuel hose while the ship's flight deck crew conducts refueling on deck with Marine Corps helicopter UH-1N Twin Huey while in the western Pacific on Nov. 23.

USS Hopper keeps gold anchors for meeting CNOs retention goals

**Story and photo by
Ensign Katie E. Burkhardt**

USS Hopper (DDG 70)

ONBOARD USS HOPPER (DDG 70) – The anchor housed on the USS Hopper's bow will remain painted gold after the Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i-based Arleigh Burke destroyer was awarded the retention excellence award for the second consecutive year.

The retention excellence award is awarded to commands that meet or exceed the Chief of Naval Operations' re-enlistment goals for a given fiscal year. It recognizes the hard work and diligence of Hopper's command leadership in their efforts to motivate, encourage and care for their Sailors.

Hopper's command career counselor,

Navy Counselor 1st Class Cynthia Ybarra, was pleased with the award because it publicly recognizes the extraordinary efforts to which Hopper Sailors take care of one another and provide an understanding of all options. "When a Sailor feels like they are taken care of and valued, they want to stick with the organization," said Ybarra.

Retention not only depends upon a Sailor's quality of life, but is also affected by information each Sailor has to make educated decisions about his or her long-term goals and plans.

One of Hopper's 27 re-enlistments in Fiscal Year 2007 was Electronics Technician 2nd Class Jonathan Budzinsky. His desire to finish his college degree and transfer ashore were key factors for his long term plans.

Budzinsky's decision to re-enlist was based on solid information about the opportunities for monetary bonuses, duty stations and higher education that often accompany a Sailor's commitment to continue service.

Information is also an enabler for Sailors planning on moving to a civilian career. Hopper's efforts to assist service members in their transition to civilian life can turn a Sailor into a recruiter and Hopper seeks to broaden horizons and assist Sailors with their ultimate career decisions.

Ybarra noted that efforts such as transition assistance workshops, in addition to maintaining quality of life for all Sailors, will create a "wonderful spokesperson" for the military in the civilian community.



