

Chinese navy ships visit Hawaii



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Ben A. Gonzales

The Chinese navy destroyer Qingdao (DDG 113) transits through the Pearl Harbor channel while being escorted by a harbor patrol boat as it arrives for a routine port visit in 2006.

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Three People's Liberation Army-Navy [PLA(N)] ships are scheduled to arrive today at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as part of a routine port visit Sept. 6-9.

The ships visiting Hawaii are Qingdao (DDG 113), a Luh-class destroyer; Linyi (FFG 547), a Jiangkai-class frigate; and Hongzhu (AOR 881), a Fuqing-class fleet oiler. Foreign navy ships come to Pearl Harbor-Hickam regularly for scheduled port visits. Other ships that have come to Hawaii this year include the British destroyer Daring, Australian frigate Perth, and Japanese ships Shimokita, Atago and Hyuga.

As part of a planned series of military-to-military exchanges between the two nations, Adm. Cecil Haney, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, visited China this past May in conjunction with a port visit by USS Shiloh (CG 67) at Zhanjiang, China.

During this reciprocal port visit to Pearl Harbor-Hickam, the Chinese ships will be hosted by USS Lake Erie (CG 70). Over the weekend, Chinese and U.S. leaders will conduct dialogues to build confidence and mutual understanding between the two nations. This routine port visit will give Chinese sailors an opportunity to interact with their U.S. counterparts.

The capstone of the port visit will be a one-day search-and-rescue (SAR) drill on Sept. 9 that will highlight the ability of the two nations to cooperate and communicate at sea.

The last port visit by PLA(N) ships to Pearl Harbor-



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Ben A. Gonzales

A Pearl Harbor Sailor prepares to assist with the mooring of the Chinese navy oiler Hongzhu (AOR 881) during a visit in 2006.

Hickam was in September 2006 by the Qingdao and Hongzhu.

This port visit is part of the U.S. Navy's ongoing effort to maximize opportunities for developing relationships with foreign navies as a tool to build trust, encourage multilateral cooperation, enhance transparency, and avoid miscalculation in the Pacific.

Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, will officially greet the ships upon their arrival today.

Trained, ready USS Hopper deploys today

Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs

The guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) departed Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam today for an independent deployment to the U.S. 5th Fleet and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of responsibility, 16 years to the day of the ship's commissioning in San Francisco, Sept. 6, 1997.

Commanded by Cmdr. Dave Snee, the ship and its crew of nearly 280 Sailors will conduct integrated operations with allies and partners.

"Hopper-nation," as the crew is referred to, is ready and excited to deploy and represent our nation and Navy," Snee said. "We appreciate the support of our families here and back on the mainland. Their support helps us operate forward and accomplish the mission."

Hopper will conduct maritime security, interdiction operations and theater security cooperation and will be ready to provide humanitarian assistance, anti-piracy operations and other assistance as needed.

"Hopper is certified, capable and ready to deploy forward to support [U.S.] 7th Fleet and [U.S.] 5th Fleet commanders in protecting strategic maritime crossroads," said Capt. Wallace G. Lovely, commodore of Destroyer Squadron 31.

"USS Hopper recently underwent an extensive docking selected restricted availability at Pearl Harbor Naval



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Sean Furey

The guided-missile destroyer USS Hopper (DDG 70) transits off the coast of Kauai during an independent deployer certification (IDCERT) July 20.

Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility," Lovely said.

"Her namesake, 'Amazing' Grace Hopper, would be proud of the upgraded technologies that USS Hopper brings to the fleet, but most of all, she would be proud of the motivated, committed and tactically-ready Sailors on board," he said.

Hopper is named after Rear Adm. Grace Hopper, pioneering computer scientist and recipient of the National Medal of Technology (now known as the National Medal of Technology and Innovation), the highest honor of its type in the United States.

Hopper is homeported in Hawaii, assigned to Destroyer Squadron 31 and part of Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

Guided-missile destroyers are multi-mission anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-surface warfare surface combatants.

U.S. 3rd Fleet leads naval forces in the eastern Pacific from the west Coast of North America to the international dateline and provides the realistic, relevant training necessary for an effective global Navy.

To learn more about USS Hopper, visit: <http://www.hopper.navy.mil/>.



Adm. Nimitz statue unveiled

Story and photo by MC1 Daniel Barker

Navy Public Affairs Support Element West Det. Hawaii

A nine-foot bronze statue on a black granite pedestal, honoring Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz who directed the War of the Pacific, was unveiled at its permanent installation

next to the battleship USS Missouri 'Mighty Mo' (BB-63) Memorial during a ceremony Sept. 2 on Ford Island.

The statue unveiling was part of the End of World War II commemoration ceremony that marked the 68th anniversary of the signing of the Instruments of Surrender. The statue

See NIMITZ, A-7

Save Energy

If you are away from home for more than eight hours, raise the thermostat setting, and you can expect to see up to a three percent savings on cooling costs for each degree of setback. This is the number one way to conserve energy. This will reduce the amount of energy used to cool your home while you are away.



Ceremony remembers 'End of World War II' See page A-2



'Sole' searching: Boots represent fallen service members See page A-6



15th Wing aids Navy with aircraft relocation See page A-2



Adm. Haney hosts Fleet Adm. Nimitz's grandsons See page A-7



Joint base helps Feds Feed Families See page B-1



JEMS Job Fair to be held Sept. 25 See page B-3

Ceremony remembers 'End of World War II'

MC1 Cynthia Clark

Defense Media Activity,
Hawaii

The USS Missouri Memorial Association commemorated the 68th anniversary of the end of World War II during a ceremony Sept. 2 at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

The ceremony was followed by the dedication of a statue honoring Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

"It's an honor to be here to commemorate this 68th anniversary of the ending of World War II and, of course, to honor the legacy of Fleet Adm. Nimitz," said keynote speaker Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

"Sixty-eight years ago, this mighty warship was anchored, as mentioned in Tokyo Bay, and it was on her decks on the same time of day that the Instrument of Surrender was signed," Haney said.

In addition to the speech by Haney, Adm. Nimitz's grandson, Chester Nimitz Lay, and family friend, retired U.S. Navy Capt. Michael Lilly, addressed the crowd.

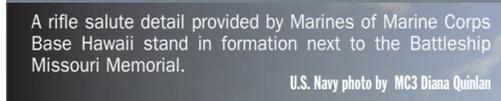
Capt. Jeff S. Ruth, USS Nimitz (CVN 68) commanding officer, also sent his regards via video message.

Earlier in the ceremony, several World War II veterans who were on board the



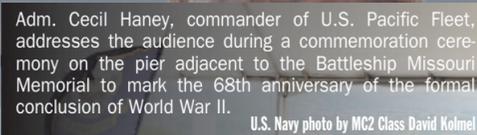
A nine-foot bronze and granite statue honoring Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz is unveiled on the Pier Foxtrot Five next to the Battleship Missouri (BB-63) Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



A rifle salute detail provided by Marines of Marine Corps Base Hawaii stand in formation next to the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



Adm. Cecil Haney, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, addresses the audience during a commemoration ceremony on the pier adjacent to the Battleship Missouri Memorial to mark the 68th anniversary of the formal conclusion of World War II.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Class David Kolmel



USS Missouri when the surrender took place, were honored.

"I have also been privileged to talk to veterans and hear their first-hand accounts of these battles and how they fought with tenacity, dignity, honor, courage and commitment," Haney said. "Fleet Adm. Nimitz sent these courageous men to these remote and difficult places to fight and win."

One of these men, Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Art Albert, shared his feelings from that day almost 70 years ago.

"It was a great day. I was only 18 then," he said. "We were just astounded [by the dignitaries]. I was standing there thinking, 'isn't this nice,' because I knew 'that was it.' It made you feel good."

Following the ceremony marking the anniversary, many dignitaries, including former Secretary of the Navy Gordon England and former Commander U.S. Pacific Command Thomas Fargo, dedicated the statue of Nimitz.

The 9-foot bronze statue will stand along the pier where the USS Missouri (BB 63) is berthed. It reminds visitors of the man who directed the war in the Pacific, commanded the largest ocean area, and led the most ships of any single commander in the history of the world.

15th Wing aids Navy with aircraft relocation

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

When renovations at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe, left the fixed-wing aircraft assigned to Navy Patrol Squadron Nine without a runway to use, the unit didn't have to look any further than the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam flightline to find a temporary home for their mission.

For the next two months, the 16 Navy aircraft of NPS-9, which include 11 P-3s, three VR-51s and two Hawkets, and more than 175 maintainers and aircrew members, will perform their primary mission of anti-submarine, anti-surface warfare and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance from Hickam.

"I'm excited to have the opportunity to exercise the joint-team concept," said Navy Capt. Lance Scott, commander of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, after the arrival of the first aircraft to joint base Aug 23. "Col. Roscoe and his team have been incredibly supportive," Scott said.

Scott also said he looks forward to strengthening the working relationship with Hickam personnel and expects the unit to do well in their new working environment.

"I'm really appreciative of 15th Wing leadership for extending this invitation to us, and we are thankful for all the hard work that went



Navy Capt. Lance Scott (left), commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Two, walks with Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, to meet a Navy P-3C Orion aircraft as it lands on the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, greets the flight crew of a P-3 Orion shortly after their arrival on the flightline at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.



Aviation Machinist's 3rd Class Brittney Mueller, Patrol Squadron Nine, performs a daily inspection on a P-3 Orion shortly after its landing.

into coordinating our stay," Scott said.

While at Hickam, the Navy personnel will continue to perform 24-hour operations, providing maintenance and aircrew support as normal. "This was a seamless transition," Cmdr. Kati Hill, VP-9 commander executive officer, said of the relocation process.

"Everybody here has been really terrific and supportive of the move," Hill said.

This is not the first time the Air Force and Navy have worked together to overcome a potential mission stoppage. The Navy has relied on the use of the JBP HH runway many times in the past—including as recently as February 2011—an ongoing partnership that Col. Johnny Roscoe, 15th Wing commander, said the base is more than willing to provide.

"This is what it means to be a mission partner,"

Roscoe said. "We're here every day working closely with our sister service to get our respective missions accomplished in the most effective and efficient way possible. Wherever we are able to lend a hand or offer up our support, we're more than willing to do that."

"This was a pretty big undertaking and a definite win for our joint planning teams," said Lt. Col. Elizabeth Hanson, 15th Wing chief of plans and

programs.

"We have essentially relocated all of Kaneohe Bay's fixed-wing assets and set up flying operations from a new location without any mission degradation, while maintaining our operations here."

While the arrival of the aircraft may appear to be the end of the story, it really just marks the midpoint of the joint Air Force-Navy partnership effort. Planners and airfield operations per-

sonnel will continue to closely coordinate during this period of increased activity to ensure smooth operations continue on the already busy airfield.

Despite the additional workload, Roscoe said he looks forward to having the aircraft and crews working on base for the next couple months.

"This is great," he said. "I'm glad to have these guys here. It's going to be a lot of fun."

Commentary

A survivor's perspective on witnessing end of WWII

Gil Meyer

USS Utah Survivors Association

(Editor's note: Retired Chief Electronics Technician Gil Meyer served aboard USS Utah (AG-16), which was sunk during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Throughout World War II, he served aboard USS Detroit (CL-8). His reflections about the meaning of Sept. 2, 1945 are shared here, edited for brevity.)

What does each Sept. 2 mean to me?

Shortly upon the conclusion of the Iwo Jima and Okinawa campaigns, Detroit crew members witnessed the historical WWII climax in Tokyo Bay, Sept. 2, 1945.

As World War II concluded, we stood on the deck of USS Detroit (CL-8) in Tokyo Bay viewing the surrender ceremony aboard USS Missouri (BB-63). The protracted fight for victory over Imperial Japan was ours at last. On a slightly overcast day in Tokyo Bay, Sept. 2, 1945, it was gratifying to each of us as we personally



USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay on Sept. 2, 1945.

witnessed Foreign Minister Shigemitsu, followed two minutes later by General Umezu, as they signed the Instrument of Surrender for Imperial Japan. Finally, for us, WWII was over!

This was an emotional day for every American Sailor who was fortunate enough to be present aboard one of the ships in Tokyo Bay during

the Imperial Japanese surrender. Certainly it was a sorrowful day for the Japanese officials having to sign the surrender document.

For those of us who survived the Pearl Harbor attack by the Imperial Japanese Navy, this was our day. Suddenly revenge was no longer a factor. Yes, we

felt sympathy for the pitiful Japanese people, but not remorse. It was their government, not ours, who should accept the sense of guilt for the Japanese militarist wartime leaders' atrocities.

It was, indeed, a wonderful feeling standing on the deck of Detroit, in Tokyo Bay, as we witnessed the formal surrender of

Imperial Japan.

After suffering through nearly three years and nine months of WWII, by destroying the Imperial Japanese war machine and military industrial complex, at last we finally avenged the horrible deaths inflicted upon many of our shipmates and countrymen. After our visit to firebombed downtown Tokyo and meeting many of the pitiful inhabitants ... we suddenly felt a limited sense of compassion for these same hapless wartime victims.

At our advanced ages, few survivors of the attack on the U.S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor remain alive. The ranks of those who survived this war and lived long enough to actually witness the signing of the Instrument of Surrender are growing thin. With the aid of divine intervention, I am one of the few who was there when WWII started, then survived long enough to be a participant in the conclusion in Tokyo Bay, Sept. 2, 1945. Beyond a doubt, all of us had already lived longer than we could possibly have conceived.

From Detroit ship's log:

"August 31, 1945 USS Detroit and USS Kalk detached to proceed to Tokyo Bay. USS Kalk in screening station 1500 yards ahead of USS Detroit. MISSION: Flagship of Logistics Support Group and Japanese Repatriation Group.

September 1, 1945 - 0830 Maneuvering on various courses and at various speeds to enter Sagami Wan (outside Tokyo Bay) en route to Tokyo Bay, Japan. COMMENT: By 0830, 1 September, 1945 Detroit and Kalk were entering Tokyo Bay, Japan. It was a hair-raising experience to be aboard one of the first ships to enter Tokyo Bay. The Japanese heavily mined Sagami Wan and the entrance to Tokyo Bay. Anything could be expected. However, as we came within sight of Yokohama, we could see a newly painted sign on the side of a multi-story building, "WELCOME U.S. NAVY." Detroit anchored in berth F-84. In the "berth of honor," next to Missouri."

Diverse Views



What is your favorite holiday?



Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Marissa Ciambotti
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"My favorite holiday is Christmas, because my kids get really excited about it."

Airman 1st Class Alex Michels
792nd Intel Support Squadron



"I like Flag Day because it is my birthday, the day I joined the military and the day I should sew on senior airman."



Mia Medlin
NEX Uniform Shop

"Christmas because that's the time when everybody's got that love in him (during Christmas holidays). That's why I like Christmas."

Technical Sgt. Souksavanh Souvannavong
647th Force Support Squadron



"My favorite holiday is New Year's Eve. It fills me with optimism for the new year, and everyone gets to start with a fresh, clean slate."



Lt. Phillip D. Jones
Navy Recruiting District Los Angeles

"My favorite holiday is Christmas. It's a great time to get together with family and also just observe one of the holy days in Christian faith."

Sharon Yoshizama
Navy Region Hawaii



"My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving because we can reflect on what we're thankful for and how fortunate we are."



Yeoman 2nd Class Natalie Sandaval
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

"I would say my favorite holiday is Christmas just because everybody gets together and does things together and does things as a family and celebrates."

Amanda Logan
Recreation Assistant
647th Force Support Squadron



"Thanksgiving has to be my favorite holiday because my family makes the best green bean casserole. It also gives me a chance to hang out with my family. But it's really about the food."



Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Amanda Taramoto
Navy Recruiter, Kapolei, Hawaii

"My favorite holiday is Christmas because all my family is around enjoying good food and celebrating life and love of Christ."

(Provided by SrA Christopher Stoltz and MC2 Nardel Gervacio)

Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

Commentary

September is Suicide Prevention Month

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel

The Department of Defense has no more important responsibility than supporting and protecting those who defend our country, and that means we must do everything possible to prevent military suicide.

As we observe Suicide Prevention Month, the entire DoD community – service members, civilians, members of our families and leaders at every level – must demonstrate our collective resolve to prevent suicide, to promote greater knowledge of its causes and to encourage those in need to seek support. No one who serves this country in uniform should ever feel they have nowhere to turn.

The Department of Defense has invested more than \$100 million into research on the diagnosis and treatment of depression, bipolar disorder and substance abuse, as well as interventions for relationship, financial and legal issues – all of which can be associated with suicide. We are working to reduce drug and alcohol abuse, and we are steadily increasing the number of mental health professionals and peer support counselors.

Effective suicide prevention training is critical to all these efforts, and we are instructing our leaders on how to recognize the signs and symptoms of crisis and encourage service members to seek support. We are also reaching out to military families and the broader communi-

ty to enlist their support in this cause.

Seeking behavioral health care is a choice that embodies moral courage, honor and integrity. Those values are at the foundation of what we stand for and what we defend. The Military Crisis Line is there for all who need it. I encourage anyone in need to call 1-800-273-8255 and press 'one' to speak to a trained professional, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This service is confidential and available to all service members and their families.

Always remember that our most valuable resource is each other. When one of us faces a challenge, we all must stand together. By fighting as one team, we can – and we will – help prevent suicide. Thank you.

Planes fly in formation at surrender ceremonies



Official U.S. Navy photograph

Navy carrier planes fly in formation over the U.S. and British fleets in Tokyo Bay during ceremonies on Sept. 2, 1945 when Imperial Japan officially surrendered to allied forces. The ceremony ended World War II. USS Missouri (BB-63), where the ceremonies took place, is at left. USS Detroit (CL-8) is in the right distance.

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Commentary

A Tale of Two Cities ... care

Chief Master Sgt. Leslie Bramlett

15th Wing Command Chief

Charles Dickens wrote a novel titled "Tale of Two Cities." I know you haven't heard that title since high school.

Its famous intro, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times ..." has been quoted for more than 100 years and is used to describe everything from family life to finances. However, let's use the quote to consider two examples that carry important messages.

When I was a squadron superintendent, I received a call from an NCOIC technical sergeant one Saturday. She was at her wit's end dealing with her Airman. She rattled off a series of things the Airman had done (or not done) and then punctuated her run-down with words that shocked me. She said, "Senior Master Sgt. Bramlett, I hate her!" (Ummm...never heard that one before from an NCO). She went on to say, "I hate her because she reminds me of myself at that age. I thought I knew so much and ended up hurting myself."

Her confession gave me an opportunity to do some mentoring with the NCO about self-reflection. It is important to know yourself and consider the impact that has on your leadership style. If not, you run the risk of breaking instead of building up others. An honest look may reveal a need for self-adjustment and self-care.

But this is about two cities, right? The second is an awesome example that was relayed to me by an Airman during my unit visit. Recently, there was a memorial for a fallen Airman. Just before the memorial, a local first sergeant went to some of his newly assigned Airman and told them to grab their hats (he didn't tell them where they were going). The shirt took them to the memorial to show them how the Air Force is like a family and how life can be cut short. In that mentoring episode, the shirt was primarily concerned about his new Airmen and setting them up for success in career and life. He did it because he cared.

Both the technical sergeant and first sergeant provide good lessons: (1) It's important to know yourself and how it factors into how you take care of others. (2) It's important to know your folks and what they need.

Finally, I heard a quote that said, "I'd rather have one person with passion than 10 people with knowledge and no passion. You can teach stuff, but caring comes from something deeper." Taking the time to care can convert the "worst of times" to "the best of times" for our Airmen. Keep leading the way.

"Powerful Airmen...always ready!"

Sailors learn how to cope with stress

Story and photo by
MC2 Nardel Gervacio

Navy Region Hawaii
Public Affairs

Sailors from various commands at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam learned how to cope with stress when they recently attended operational stress control (OSC) training.

The training aimed to teach Sailors how to recognize signs and symptoms of stress in themselves and others and how to manage operational stress.

"The Navy OSC Leader Training is designed to assist Navy leaders in assessing individual and unit stress responses and provide tools to help their Sailors better navigate operational stress. This is not a medical course, but rather one designed by line leaders for line leaders," said Capt. Kurt Scott, director, Navy Behavioral Health.

"The course is characterized by dialogue and case studies. Personal stories highlight the impact of stress on individuals and their families and demonstrate how application of tools and leadership intervention can build and maintain resilience and readiness," Scott said.

The training explains how early recognition and treatment for stress injuries or illnesses may enable Sailors to continue to fulfill their duties.

"The training encourages junior leaders to provide an environment where Sailors feel comfortable sharing life's stressors before small issues become more serious. They



Sailors assigned to various commands at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam listen as Mike Malinis, education services trainer, talks about the consequences of too much stress during operational stress control (OSC) training held at Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel.

are also encouraged to take action to help Sailors get any necessary and appropriate assistance," said Scott.

Improperly managed stress damages a Sailor's health and impacts his or her ability to achieve the mission.

The OSC awareness training included the recognition of symptoms of impairment, no matter what the cause, and provided options, strategies and resources to help the affected Sailor and their family.

"I thought the training was very insightful. It got everyone involved. It was more interactive than a lecture," said Quartermaster 2nd (SW) Class Megan Steffy, assigned to Navy Region Hawaii.

Skills and perspectives

were gained from the leader discussions during the course and introduced realistic scenarios to role-playing, practice communication and intervention exercises. Students practiced asking tough questions to address Sailor's issues and then discussed practical solutions.

"I loved the training. It wasn't just your typical NKO/GMT training. It had real scenarios, question and answer sessions," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class (SW/AW) Omar Navarro, assigned to Navy Region Hawaii.

"No one knows everything. However, I know I have the tools to help me make a decision in the future. It all starts with knowing your people," Navarro said.

"We want our attendees

to leave (the training) with an understanding of their roles as leaders in preparing shipmates and families for the inevitable stressors of Navy life," Scott said.

"We want them to be able to recognize stress reactions and know where they can go for help. We want our attendees to leave with a belief that together we can create command environments that reward help-seeking behaviors."

According to Scott, "When members of a command talk about what they see as stress-related issues and how course tools could be applied in their commands, OSC becomes more than a concept. It becomes a way of doing day-to-day business."



Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

(Right) Chief Logistics Specialist (SW/AW) Archimedes Cayanan (purple shirt), who is assigned to NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Pearl Harbor (FLCPH), volunteered his time and energy to help 30 chief petty officer selectees at Navy Hale Keiki School (NHKS) on Aug. 31.

U.S. Navy photo by Jim Murray

(Below) Members of a joint service color guard prepare for the End of World War II commemoration ceremony that marked the 68th anniversary of the signing of the Instrument of Surrender, with USS Arizona Memorial in the background.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Diana Quinlan



(Below) Retired Chief Aviation Radioman George Bennett, a Pearl Harbor survivor, talks with chief petty officer (CPO) selectees assigned to Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. Bennett spoke about the attack on Pearl Harbor and answered questions from selectees.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Nardel Gervacio



(Left) Sailors aboard Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG-65) volunteer Aug. 30 at a child day care center in the Republic of Singapore. The Sailors helped clean the facility and met all the children.

U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Andrew Albin

(Right) Sailors aboard Ticonderoga-class, guided-missile cruiser USS Chosin (CG-65) set up a ladder to bring aboard the pilot to help Chosin pull into Changi Naval Base during a port visit to the Republic of Singapore on Aug. 26.

U.S. Navy photo by FC3 Andrew Albin



'Sole' searching: Boots represent fallen service members

Story and photos by Sr Airman Christopher Stoltz

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

TRIPLER ARMY MEDICAL CENTER – Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen all have one thing in common: they all wear boots to work. Most lace them up in the mornings, while some cheat and purchase the ones with zippers on the sides. Regardless of how they are put on or what material they are comprised of, the clunky, often uncomfortable boots play a large role in service members' lives.

While boots are one of the first things service members put on every day, it is one of the last things ever worn by those killed-in-action.

This realization gave Theresa Johnson, Tripler Fisher House manager and Army spouse, the idea to create the Fisher House Hero & Remembrance Run. While there are many events and runs to commemorate the armed forces, this run comes with a unique take: attendees can both run and see more than 6,700 boots – one for each casualty in Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn.

Although this year's run is only the second iteration, she expects more than 5,000 attendees. She said her husband and son inspired her to create the event. Her son is about to deploy.

"At any time, I could be laying down a boot for my husband and son," she said.

The Tripler Fisher House is a "home away from home"



for families and patients receiving medical care at Tripler Army Medical Center, located in Honolulu. Families served are from the Pacific area, including Korea, Japan, Okinawa, and Guam.

Active duty and retired persons from all services are helped in their time of need. The Tripler Fisher House is run with donations and non-

appropriated funds.

For this and last year's event, the boots, badges and labor are based on donations from the local community. According to Johnson, the event is not used to raise funds for the Tripler House, but is an event held only to remember and honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

"We (Tripler House)

honor all branches, regardless of duty status," she said. "We wanted to bring back names and faces, not just a number. You hear about casualty numbers all of the time on the news. We wanted to share their story, instead of 'there's another one, there's another one.' That number has a family, that number represents a person who sacrificed every-

thing," Johnson explained.

"You see some really crusty old boots, but I honestly like it that way," she said. "We even have boots donated by families with stories attached to them, sharing the experiences of those who have worn them and the loved ones they left behind."

One of the stories on the boots was provided by for-

mer soldier Mark Eric, a six-year Army veteran who served from 2002-2008. While most families attending write stories for one boot, Mark is doing the same for 19.

"This event is a great way to honor and show respect to my friends," he said.

"I donated a pair of boots I wore during both of my deployments. This is my first time volunteering for this event, and it is an honor and privilege to remember the people I served with, the people who I considered part of my family."

Mark is not only a volunteer for this event, but also lives at the Fisher House as he recovers from post-traumatic stress disorder. The boots he lays on the Fisher House lawn are covered with photos and stories of his fallen friends. He remembers better days, times he cherishes when they were more than a just picture and a memory.

"This is a good way to cope," he said.

Although the front lawn of the Fisher House resembles more of a boot factory and less of a grassy area, Johnson said she still needs more donations to ensure every sacrifice is represented.

When asked by a volunteer for an exact number of boots currently on the Fisher House property, she replied: "too many."

The Fisher House Hero and Remembrance Run is slated for Sept. 7 on Ford Island. For more information about Fisher House or the run, contact Johnson at (808) 433-1291 or visit www.fisherhouse.org.

Closures announced for Fisher House run

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Public Affairs

Fisher House will host the SK Hero & Remembrance Run, Walk or Roll 2013, which will be held Saturday on Ford Island.

The run starts at 7 a.m. with an official welcome and military honors beginning at 6:30 a.m. The route begins at the Pacific Aviation Museum, around the bridge entry gate and

back. Participants should be in place on Ford Island no later than 6 a.m.

Due to the large number of participants expected, motorists and residents on Ford Island should plan accordingly.

The biggest impact to vehicle traffic will be between 6:30 and 8 a.m. On Ford Island, expect delays and redirection around the former airfield. Traffic closures will be as follows: Ford Island Bridge, all roads

entering Chafee Boulevard and O'Kane Boulevard will be closed from 6:45 to 7:45 a.m. From 7:45 to 9 a.m., all lanes on the bridge will not be closed, but drivers should be alert for pedestrians.

Motorists will be directed to park between O'Kane Boulevard and the Pacific Aviation Museum. All vehicles must be removed from parking lot immediately after the conclusion of the event. Vehicles left in the parking lot one hour

after the culmination of the event will be subject to towing at owner's expense.

Ford Island residents participating in the event are highly encouraged to walk to the venue to ease vehicle traffic on the island.

Monitors will be stationed at intersections on Ford Island to assist runners/walkers and motorists. Drivers should be cautious of road guards and participants.

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- ✓ We are here to help
- ✓ You can remain anonymous
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Chester Nimitz Lay (left) and Richard Lay (right), grandsons of Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, look at some personal effects of their grandfather's during a tour of the U.S. Pacific Fleet headquarters compound where their grandfather worked and lived.

Adm. Haney hosts Fleet Adm. Nimitz's grandsons

Story and photo by
MC2 David Kolmel

U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

Adm. Cecil D. Haney, the 33rd commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, hosted the grandsons of the leader who defined that job seven decades ago, Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, on Aug. 30.

Nimitz served as the commander-in-chief for U.S. Pacific Fleet from Dec. 31, 1941 to Nov. 24, 1945.

Chester Nimitz Lay and his brother Richard Lay, along with their wives Marion and Jean, respectively, toured the headquarters building where Fleet Adm. Nimitz worked and the house he lived in during World War II.

Haney took the opportunity to learn more about the man who

directed the Navy's war effort in the Pacific and who signed the Instrument of Surrender as the U.S. representative.

"We shared personal insights on a legendary warrior who was so instrumental to our victory in the Pacific and whose legacy we proudly preserve in the fleet today," Haney said.

For the Lay family, it was a memorable experience to see where their grandfather worked and lived during World War II. They also saw photos, personal effects and paintings that they had never seen before.

"It was a wonderful experience to see where my grandfather spent the first half of the war and see the memorabilia," said Chester Nimitz Lay. "Also, having lunch in the Nimitz house with Adm. Haney

was a great experience as well."

During the Lays' first visit to Hawaii, they attended a ceremony Sept. 2 to commemorate the anniversary of the formal conclusion of World War II on the pier adjacent to the Battleship Missouri Memorial. Following the ceremony, a nine-foot bronze statue of their grandfather was unveiled. The statue depicts Fleet Adm. Nimitz as he appeared at the battle of the Marshall Islands in February 1944.

"I continue to be humbled by the opportunity to sail in Adm. Nimitz's wake as U.S. Pacific Fleet commander and feel even more closely connected after having spent time with his descendants," Haney added.

For more news from Pacific Fleet, visit www.navy.mil/local/cpf/.

Nimitz family attends

Continued from A-1

depicts Nimitz as he appeared at the battle of the Marshall Islands in 1944. Nimitz at that time commanded the largest ocean area and the most ships of any single commander in history.

"Despite the inevitable force reduction that follows every major conflict, he made sure that the Navy he led maintained a continuous presence in the Pacific in order to promote security and stability in the region," said keynote speaker Adm. Cecil Haney, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, about Nimitz, who became chief of naval operations following the war.

"This may be his most enduring legacy. Our presence in the west Pacific since the 1940s has helped most of these nations grow and their economies thrive," Haney said.

"The ceremony onboard the Missouri 68 years ago was as much about ending the war as starting a new and lasting spirit of friendship between Japan and the U.S. that continues today," said Michael Carr, president of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. "The roots for our enduring friendship began that day."

The Nimitz statue is permanently installed facing toward the USS Arizona Memorial which, together with the Battleship Missouri Memorial, represent the beginning and end of U.S. involvement in World War II.

"We are struck by the symbolism of it being next to the Arizona," said retired Navy Capt. Michael Lilly.

"War's end - war's beginning, with hoards of history between the two, it's so

appropriate that it's the only place," Lilly said.

Several hundred attendees at the event included service members from all branches of service, civilians and veterans. Some of the attendees included relatives of Fleet Adm. Nimitz.

"This is the anniversary of the signing of the surrender of Japan, Sept. 2, 1945, and here on the battleship Missouri," said Chester Nimitz Lay, grandson of Fleet Adm. Nimitz.

"I think we're honoring not just our grandfather but all the veterans who fought and died in World War II."

"It was a very emotional day for everybody, of course, and I'm very privileged and honored to be here amongst the World War II veterans and Pearl Harbor survivors," said Rear Adm. Rick Williams, commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

"They are the living monuments that we get to be around, and it's a rare privilege for everybody to be gathered in one setting like this with the mighty Missouri behind us and now the fantastic statue of Chester Nimitz that Mr. Rip Caswell so beautifully built for us. This is a great honor," Williams said.

Sculptor Rip Caswell was in attendance with his son. Together they conducted the official statue unveiling.

"I'm really thankful for the U.S. Naval Order to have been chosen to do this project and the opportunity to give back to those who have served our country," said Caswell. "It's a small way that I could serve and give back with my talents and passion."

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<http://www.hookelenews.com/> or visit

<https://www.cnic.navy.mil/Hawaii/index.htm>

