Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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CFAY chief selectees hold 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony

Story and photo by MC3 Gregory A. Harden II (SW/AW), Navy Public Affairs Support Element Japan

Chief petty officer selectees assigned to various commands on board Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) held a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the base memorial Sept. 11.

The event, organized by the chief petty officer selectees, consisted of speakers expressing the importance of remembering the sacrifice of nearly 3,000 lives lost during the attacks, and the global ramifications that followed.

"Yokosuka chiefs donated a memorial to the chief's club and since then it has been a tradition for new chief selectees to organize and conduct the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony before getting frocked," said Chief (Sel) Navy Counselor Antonia Brown.

Capt. David Owen, commanding officer of CFAY, provided his opening remarks, which emphasized the importance of the ceremony.

"This is the 11th anniversary of 9/11 with it comes memories of tragic events and the reminder that something of this magnitude can occur at any time and place," said Owen. "We must be vigilant to ensure that it never happens again, and to do so we must never forget these past events that took place on 9/11."

Guest speaker, Navy Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Agent John Freeman, a recipient of the Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism and the NCIS Expeditionary Medal is currently the Special Agent in Charge, NCIS Far East Field Office, Yokosuka, Japan, said he was honored to speak at the day's event.

"It is a distinct honor to be here today for the 9/11 commemoration," said Freeman. "Because of 9/11, NCIS re-aligned, refined, and reset our capabilities and personnel with counter terrorism as our top priority."

There were 2,792 people killed as American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the World Trade Center towers, 40 passengers and crew died when United Flight 93 went down in Pennsylvania, and 184 perished as American Flight 77 flew into the Pentagon. These numbers do not reflect the rescue workers who lost their lives that day, or military lives lost in support of the war on terrorism.

Brown said that the ceremony was very important to her and felt privileged to be able to dedicate her time and pay her respects to the victims and loved ones of the tragedies on 9/11.

CFAY welcomes 44 new chief petty officers

MCC Brock Taylor of Commander, Naval Forces Japan, gets his new anchors pinned on by MCC (SW/NAC) Mike Kennedy and his wife Shinobu, during a pinning ceremony for new chiefs. Taylor was one of 44 new chief petty officers who were pinned at Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka's promotion ceremony.

Story and Photos by Paul Long, CFAY Public Affairs

Forty-four new chief petty officers (CPO) were welcomed in to the Chief's Mess during a pinning ceremony at the Fleet Theater at Commander, Fleet Activities, Yokosuka (CFAY) on Sept. 14.

The new CPOs represented a variety of commands at CFAY.

Their journey from first class petty officer to chief began approximately six weeks ago with the release of Navy Administrative Message 232/12, the results of the Navy E7 Selection board for fiscal year 2013. The names on this list are known as 'chief selectees'.

After approximately six weeks of specialized training conducted by chiefs, senior chiefs, and master chiefs, the chief selectees were frocked at the pinning ceremony.

The pinning ceremony's Master of Ceremonies Chief Quartermaster Ingram Jansen said, "Although the pay grades (E-7 thorough E-9) are equivalent to those in the other services, the Navy is unique in that it confers much more authority and responsibility on the chief while demanding more performance and results than any of the other services. Even the uniform is changed. The chief is required to be a fountain of wisdom, the ambassador of good will, the authority on personnel relations, as well as the technical expert."

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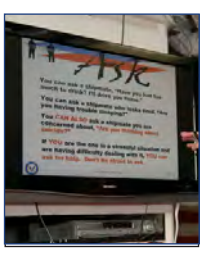

USS Mustin furthers suicide prevention awareness

Sailors assigned to guided-missile destroyer *USS Mustin* (DDG 89) took part in suicide prevention training on the ship's mess decks Sept. 11.

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CFAY school bus drivers train for disaster plan

Yokosuka City officials and police officers held a training class for Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka Naval Facilities Engineering Command Far East school-bus drivers Aug. 24.

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