Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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Nile C. Kinnick High School NJROTC hosts POA, MIA Recognition Day ceremony

Story and photo by Greg Mitchell, CFAY Public Affairs

Nile C. Kinnick Jr. Navy Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) conducted a National Prisoners of War (POA) and Missing in Action (MIA) Recognition Day ceremony at Benny Decker Theater onboard Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) Sept. 19 in honor of those who sacrificed their lives while serving their country.

In attendance were fellow Kinnick classmates, Sailors and Marines, members of the community and representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

"This POW/MIA ceremony is pretty much for POW MIA Recognition Day which is Sept. 16. We decided to do it ahead of schedule for the students to see what the Navy JROTC do best which is Navy ceremonies, and to give the ROTC cadets a chance to get out there and show the school what the JROTC is all about," said 1st Sgt (Ret) David W. Grinstead, Sr., Nile C. Kinnick High School, naval science instructor, NJROTC.

"Also, it is for the veterans who are still in the country of Japan. We have VFW members here today as well as Sea Bees, Marines and Naval [other] service members and the ceremony is for us to remember those who are still POW and MIA. We still have some who are MIA from Afghanistan and Iraq and obviously a lot from previous conflicts so, we just want everyone to take time to remember those who have sacrificed for their nation and most importantly

See ***NJROTC*** *page 8*

Nile C. Kinnick High School Navy Jr. Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) Cadet Senior Chief Jirah Cohen places a Marine Corps cover on a ceremonial table dedicated to America's prisoners of war and missing in action during a Recognition Day ceremony at Benny Decker Theater Sept. 19.

CFAY holds awards dinner for Ombudsman, honors service

(Left) USS George Washington **(CVN 73) Ombudsman Sharmana Perkins and Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) Commanding Officer Capt. David Owen ceremoniously cut a cake during an ombudsman appreciation dinner held in the CFAY Adm. Arleigh A. Burke Officers' Club Sept. 21. CFAY held the event in honor of the volunteer work by local ombudsman.**

Story and photo by Joe Schmitt, CFAY Public Affairs

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) leaders, service members and family members said thank you to Yokosuka ombudsman for their service at an appreciation dinner held Sept. 21.

Adm. Elmo Zumwalt established the Navy Ombudsman program 42 years ago asking for volunteers to act as liaisons between family members and commands. Every year on or near Sept. 14, the anniversary of the group's founding, the Navy takes time to thank those community members who have stepped forward and volunteered their time and energy.

"With my three tours as a command master chief, one of the people I work closely with, especially when deployed is the ombudsman," said CFAY Command Master Chief Martin King. "They push the information to the families and also push information back to me so I can get it to the captain. These ombudsman work extremely hard, they do incredible work, they don't get paid, they volunteer for this, and I think that this is pretty incredible. Any recognition we can give them is well deserved."

This year more than a hundred people from local ombudsman groups and their commands gathered in the CFAY Adm. Arleigh A. Burke Officers' Club for the official ceremony. CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. David Owen personally thanked the ombudsman for their hard work during the year.

See ***OMBUDSMAN*** *page 12*

INSIDE

George Washington visits Guam for friendship, goodwill

The U.S. Navy's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier, *USS George Washington* (CVN 73), pulled into Guam for a routine, four-day port visit Sept. 21.

Page 4

CFAY command fitness leaders achieve certification

Command fitness leaders assigned to afloat and ashore commands at CFAY attended a certification course to learn how to run a physical readiness program efficiently and effectively.

Page 8