

A NATION *Remembers* **DECEMBER 7, 1941**

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Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet Adm. Gary Roughead talks with Pearl Harbor Survivors after taking part in the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7.

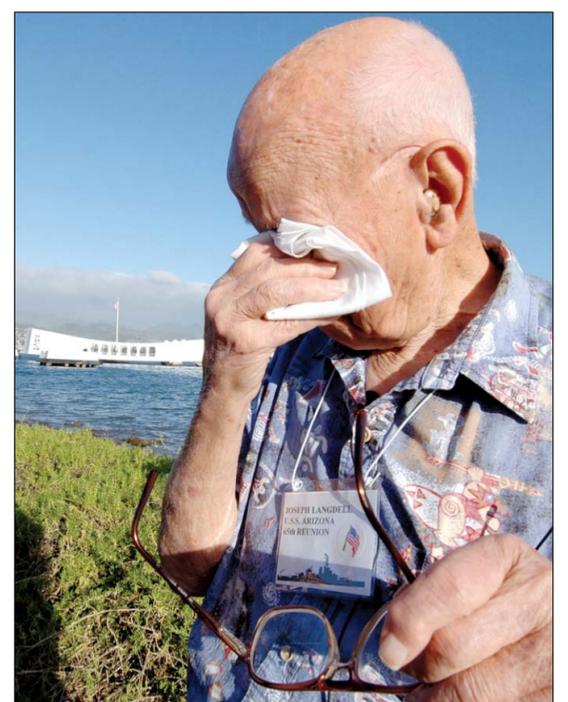
U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray

Fifteen USS Oklahoma Survivors along with Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Dirk Kempthorne, and governor of Oklahoma, Brad Henry, broke ground for a USS Oklahoma Memorial, which will be built next to the USS Missouri Memorial on Ford Island. More than 1,500 Pearl Harbor Survivors, their families and friends from around the nation,

along with more than 2,600 distinguished guests and the general public, took part in the annual observance of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. The theme of this year's historic commemoration "A Nation Remembers" reflected on how the remembrance of Pearl Harbor has evolved throughout the years since World War II.



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

Lt. Cmdr. (ret) Joseph Langdell was an ensign assigned to USS Arizona and on temporary duty at the bachelor officers' quarters on Ford Island during the Dec. 7, 1941 attack.

This week's edition of Hawai'i Navy News is a commemorative issue, paying tribute to the courage and heroism of those who lost their lives on Dec. 7, 1941 and the Pearl Harbor survivors of that "day of infamy."

A section presents coverage of the many events that were held as part of the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor during the week of Dec. 3-8.

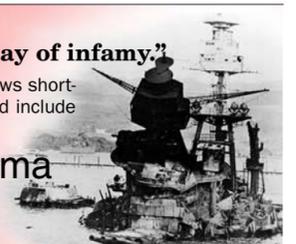
B section replicates some of the historical photos, that dominated the news shortly after the attack on the Navy fleet at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and include eyewitness accounts from survivors.



USS Nevada ceremony
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Shipyard honors Oklahoma
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Shipyard honors Oklahoma survivors

Marshall Fukuki

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard dedicated the foyer of its headquarters building on Dec. 6, in remembrance of the special bond forged between the shipyard and USS Oklahoma (BB 37) 65 years ago. In the aftermath of the Dec. 7 attack, shipyard workers rescued 32 Sailors trapped within the hull of the sunken battleship. Shipyard workers also resurrected Oklahoma in one of the most difficult salvage jobs in history and repaired her for sea transit.

"Shop 11 was a lifesaver," said guest speaker and Oklahoma 'cut-out' survivor James Bounds, referring to the numerical designator of the shipyard shop to which the rescuers belonged. "I can't say enough about them."

Among Oklahoma survivors, the term 'cut-out' applies to those among the select group of 32 who were cut out of the hull of the ship. Bounds, of Santee, Calif., was among a group of eight Sailors freed by shipyarders after being trapped 32 hours in Oklahoma's steering room compartment.

Bounds recalled how, on the morning of the attack, he



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

Capt. Frank J. Camelio, commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility; USS Oklahoma survivor James Bounds; Thomas Ackerman, naval facilities foreman; and Bill Sullivan, structural superintendent for Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard perform the traditional Hawaiian untying of the lei,

was just starting to clean up his below-deck living quarters when an officer ran through his compartment yelling, "Japs attacked Ford Island! This is no [expletive]!"

during the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard's USS Oklahoma lobby display dedication ceremony on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor. The renovation and dedication honors the historic tie between the Pearl Harbor Shipyard workers who aided in the rescue of 32 Sailors from the capsized ship in the days following Dec. 7, 1941.

Bounds, a 19-year-old seaman first class at the time, felt the ship shake three

times in rapid succession. Sailors on the level above him closed a hatch, prevent-

ing Bounds and seven others with him from climbing out of their compartment. The lights went out and soon after, Oklahoma began rolling over. Water started coming into Bounds' space so he and his shipmates retreated aft to the steering room. They found two wrenches and started pounding on the bulkhead to signal their presence.

"I couldn't see nothing, but I knew what was going on," said Bounds of the attack. He could hear bullets hitting the hull and explosions.

Water kept pouring in so the Sailors used everything they could find, including their clothes, to plug the vents. "I came down to my last item," said Bounds, referring to his underpants. "I decided to hold onto that."

The oily water was up to the Sailors' waists and the air had become stale when shipyard workers cut a hole above the Sailors, enabling them to escape around 4 p.m. on Dec. 8.

Capt. Frank Camelio, commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, noted that the USS Oklahoma Association donated the wheel from Oklahoma's secondary wheelhouse to the shipyard. It is mounted above the main entrance of the shipyard management building, 'helm' of the command.

Ceremony honors USS Nevada, survivors



Story and photo by MC2 (AW) Lindsay Switzer

Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i

Pearl Harbor Survivors from the USS Nevada (BB 36) were honored at a ceremony held Dec. 8 near the USS Nevada Memorial at Hospital Point. The ceremony was held on shore near the spot where the ship ran aground after receiving one torpedo and several bomb hits Dec. 7,

1941. The Nevada Memorial is located at Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Hospital Point on the other side of the harbor from Ford Island's "Battleship Row." The Nevada was the only battleship to get underway that day. The event was part of the 65th anniversary commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor and the week-long activities that were held.

The survivors were first escorted through a line of sideboys of Sailors from

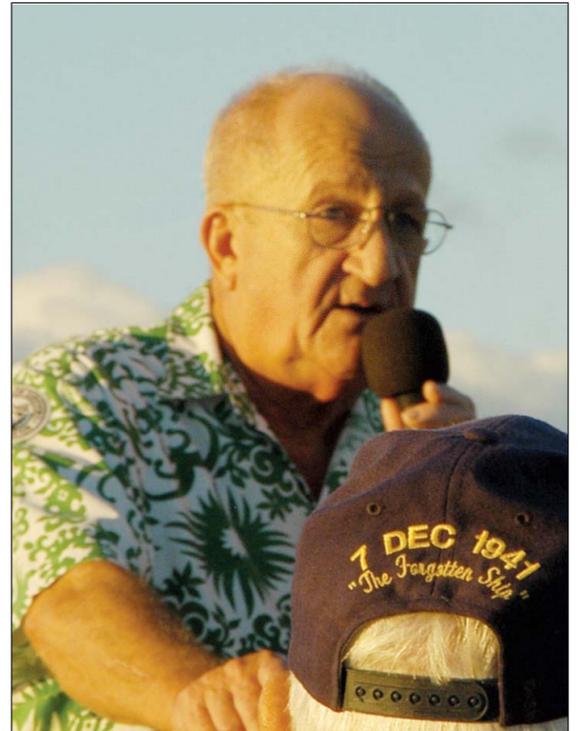
the USS Russell (DDG 59). They were later presented with a flag by officers and enlisted the same rate and rank as they were 65 years ago. The flags had been flown over the USS Nevada Memorial earlier that day.

"It was a pleasure and a shock with some excitement in there, too," said Tony Nady, who was a chief warrant officer on the Nevada the day of the attack. "This is something they've never done before. Every five years, we come here and they've never

done anything like this. This was wonderful." Nady spent a total of six years and nine months on the Nevada starting in 1938.

USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52) honored the gathered Nevada survivors as they performed a pass-in-review past the USS Nevada Memorial.

"To actually sit down and talk to these individuals, it puts a deeper meaning into what happened that day," said Russell's Command Master Chief (SW/AW) Julio Diaz.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Justin P. Nesbitt

Utah ceremony

A USS Utah Sailor's ball cap with the nickname "The Forgotten Ship" and the date of her demise, sits in the foreground as Jim Taylor, an honorary member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association, gives the opening remarks for the USS Utah Sunset Memorial Service on Dec. 6. The sunset ceremony was one of many events to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. The theme of this year's historic commemoration "A Nation Remembers" reflected on how the remembrance of Pearl Harbor has evolved throughout the years since World War II.



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

Tom Brokaw, former NBC nightly news anchor, departs from a visit to the USS Arizona Memorial following a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor Kilo Piers.



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

Arles Cole, a Pearl Harbor Survivor (center) assigned to USS West Virginia (BB 48), stands on the pier after placing a ceremonial wreath on a flag pole, which flies the state flag and holds a life ring of his corresponding unit during the attack Dec. 7, 1941. He is accompanied by Utilityman Chief Tom Sharpe and Park Service Ranger Christine Carr.

Dec. 7, 1941: Pearl Harbor attack remembered

Karen S. Spangler

Editor

They traveled to Hawai'i from thousands of miles away and gathered from all parts of the country – Pearl Harbor survivors easily recognizable in their flowered “aloha” shirts and caps inscribed with the names of Navy ships on which they served, many of them also wearing floral leis.

It was a time for the survivors to attend the week-long schedule of events commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor – to tell their stories, to renew acquaintances with former shipmates, to remember and to relive old memories.

For many, it would be their

“last hurrah” – now in their golden years, possibly their last chance to visit Pearl Harbor. For some, it would also be the first time they had made the trip since the tragic event 65 years ago.

As the events of the 65th anniversary commemoration unfolded, there were many poignant moments. The survivors shed tears as they recounted their experiences on the morning of Dec. 7 – as they relived what they saw, the emotions that they felt and told what happened.

Perhaps one of the most emotional moments was the reunion of the Pearl Harbor survivors and the Japanese pilots who had swooped down from the blue Hawaiian skies on that tranquil Sunday morning. Once enemies, the survivors

and former pilots hugged each other and cried – the events of Dec. 7, 1941 never to be forgotten, but now forgiven.

Some of those who had survived the attack decades ago have since returned to Pearl Harbor to be laid to rest with their fallen shipmates– Arizona survivors who wished their ashes to be interred in the corpse of the once-mighty battleship, others whose ashes were scattered in the blue waters of the Pacific.

As a light breeze danced across the water near Kilo Piers on Pearl Harbor on this balmy December morning, it brought reflections of a day much like this one – when the U.S. Navy received a devastating blow that crippled the Pacific Fleet.

Guests watched as the USS Russell passed in review. A single long blast signaled a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m. – the exact moment that the Japanese zeroes darkened the skies over Oahu to launch the attack on the Pearl Harbor fleet on a day never to be forgotten, Dec. 7, 1941.

Hawai'i Air National Guard F-15s streaked overhead in a “missing man” formation.

Tom Brokaw, former NBC Nightly News anchor, delivered the keynote address for the event as he paid tribute to the “greatest generation.” Marines fired a 21-gun salute. A bugler played Taps, the melancholy notes echoing through the air in the morning calm.

After the ceremony, on

the marble white Arizona Memorial, Pearl Harbor survivors paid tribute to former friends and shipmates, to those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Some were confined to wheelchairs; others stood humbly, silently, heads bowed, in this sacred place. They shed tears – for the 1,177 Sailors who died and those who still remain entombed in the sunken hull of the battleship USS Arizona and for the many others who were lost during the attack.

So they return – the heroes, the survivors of Pearl Harbor – as their numbers continue to dwindle, their voices fading to mere whispers.

They return to pay respects and to honor their

fallen shipmates, to remember that “day of infamy.”

The 65th anniversary commemoration marked the final journey for many of them to Pearl Harbor – the last time that the Pearl Harbor Survivors will convene as a group on Dec. 7 to pay tribute to their shipmates who are long gone, though never forgotten.

From the depths of the ocean beneath, drops of oil continued to seep from the remains of the once mighty Arizona battleship and mingled with the floral blossoms floating on the surface of the water – a constant reminder of the legacy that is Pearl Harbor, an ever-present memory of the day that tragedy struck the Navy's Pacific Fleet and the nation.

Survivors tour USS Pearl Harbor

MC1 (SW/AW) Keith Jones

Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i

Eight survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 asked ‘permission to come aboard’ one more time as they visited USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52) pier side at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 6 on the eve of the 65th anniversary of the attack.

The scheduled visit aboard the namesake ship was one of the many smaller events leading up to the Dec. 7 ceremony.

“I wasn't expecting to see so much celebration,” said William Rodda, who was stationed aboard USS Nevada 65 years ago and made the trip to Hawai'i to commemorate the anniversary.

The eight survivors pulled onto the pier in two full tour buses. Since every Pearl Harbor survivor who was serving on active duty in 1941 is at least 83 years old, many of the survivors have traveled across the Pacific to Hawai'i with family members, sometimes up to three generations. More than 50 survivors and their families took the time to ‘come aboard.’

Nineteen-year-old Catherine Samples is the granddaughter of USS Arizona Survivor, Clinton Westbrook. She made the trip with her mother, grandfather and sister and said that she has come to appreciate her grandfather's ordeal even more.

“It means a lot coming out here. I understand he went through a whole lot,” said Samples. “I've seen him on the History Channel and he's talked about certain things, but the details of stuff he doesn't talk about too much.”

For Sample, the week of events and traveling 6,000 miles to “walk in grandfather's footsteps” has changed her mind about history and more.

“I learned a lot about it in school, but I don't think it's the same as being here. It'll

change a lot of the way I look at [Westbrook] and [I'll have] greater respect,” said Sample.

Westbrook's granddaughter isn't the only person to feel honored to meet and experience history from a new perspective. Every survivor was paired up with a USS Pearl Harbor crew member to tour the ship. Some of the younger Sailors discovered that they had more in common with their Sailor counterparts than they realized.

“It's pretty interesting to hear their stories and it makes it worthwhile hearing what they went through,” said Boatswain's Mate Seaman Ricardo Gomez. Since many of the survivors were young seamen when the attack happened, Gomez said the experience was more bonding than a history lesson.

“They were asking questions about what we're going through right now [in the war on terrorism]. We were kind of sharing our own view on things from someone else's standpoint,” explained Gomez.

Many of the visitors walked the ship from stem to stern and tried to get a grasp on the ‘new’ Navy.

“I forgot how big they were,” said Rodda, who was a Sailor on the USS Nevada and slept in a hammock. “I was surprised to see how large this ship is. Nevada was big, but everything is different about this.”

Rodda is living history - a history that even Pearl Harbor's commanding officer has only read about before.

“It's better than reading a book,” said Cmdr. Vic Cooper, USS Pearl Harbor's commanding officer. “Having those that were here (at Pearl Harbor) on the namesake ship means a lot, just knowing they were here fighting when I wasn't even thought about yet.”

“I think having them share their stories with my young Sailors is the benefit I'm going to get from this. It will impact their heart and patriotism,” added Cooper.



Photo by MC2 Lindsay Switzer

Pearl Harbor Survivors wave to the USS Pearl Harbor (LSD 52) during a commemoration ceremony for the USS Nevada (BB 36) on Dec. 8. Pearl Harbor honored the gathered survivors as they performed a pass-in-review past

the USS Nevada Memorial. The ceremony was held on shore near the spot where the ship ran aground after receiving one torpedo and several bomb hits Dec. 7, 1941.

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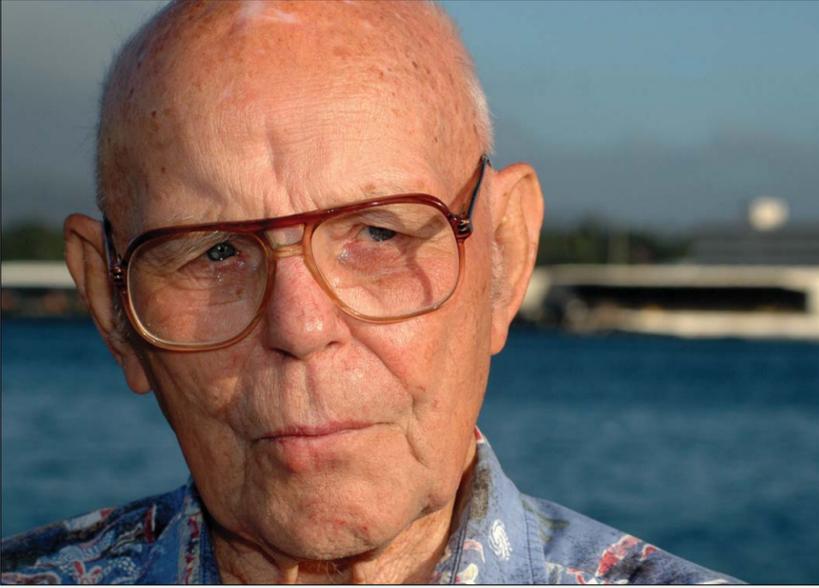
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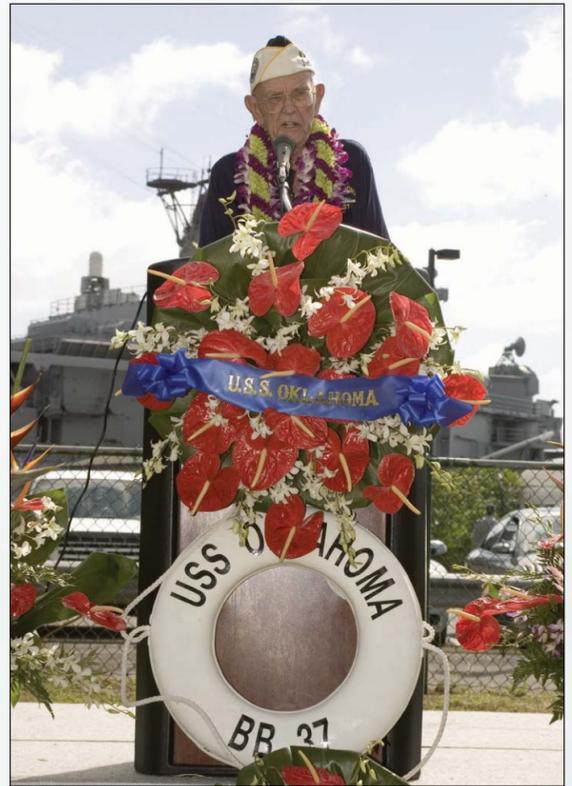
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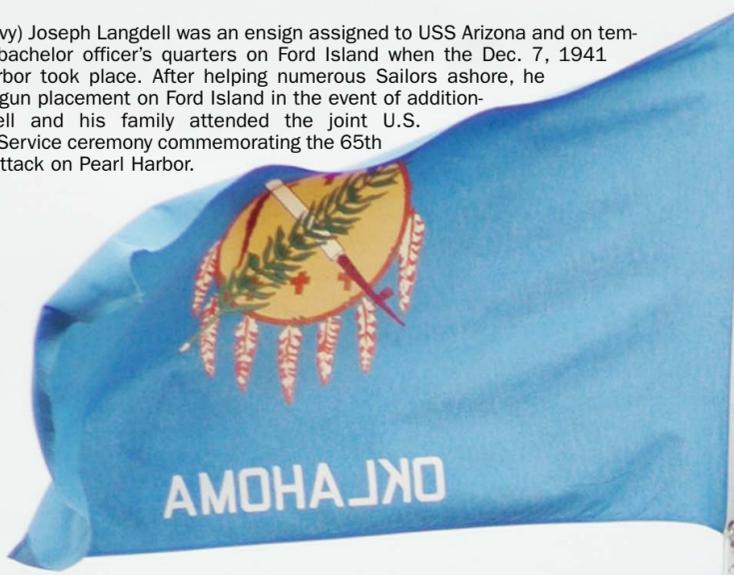
U.S. Navy photo by MCC David Rush

Lt. Cmdr. (retired Navy) Joseph Langdell was an ensign assigned to USS Arizona and on temporary duty at the bachelor officer's quarters on Ford Island when the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor took place. After helping numerous Sailors ashore, he manned a machine gun placement on Ford Island in the event of additional attacks. Langdell and his family attended the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray

Pearl Harbor Survivor Paul Goodyear expresses his thanks to everyone who helped to get the USS Oklahoma Memorial started during a ceremony for the memorial groundbreaking held Dec. 7 on Ford Island. "It's been 65 long years, but we finally have it." He and 15 other USS Oklahoma survivors broke ground for the monument, which will be built next to the USS Missouri Memorial on Ford Island.



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

A Sailor assigned to the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band sounds Taps as Marines from Headquarters Service Battalion, Camp Smith, Hawai'i, fire a rifle salute during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray

Brad Henry, the governor of Oklahoma, jokes with USS Oklahoma Survivors during a ground breaking ceremony on Dec. 7. Fifteen USS Oklahoma Survivors broke ground for a memorial, which will be built next to the USS Missouri Memorial on Ford Island. More than 1,500 Pearl Harbor Survivors, their families and friends from around the nation along with more than 2,600 distinguished guests and the general public took part in the annual observance of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.



(Left to right) Park Ranger Glenna Leavitt, Paul Goodyear, Pearl Harbor Survivor; and Quartermaster 1st Class Theodore Alexander render honors for the Sailors lost onboard USS Oklahoma during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC David Rush



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

USS Oklahoma survivor, James Bounds, tells the story of how he and his shipmates were rescued by Naval Station Pearl Harbor Shipyard workers following the events of Dec. 7, 1941, during the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, USS Oklahoma Lobby Display Dedication ceremony on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 6. The renovation and dedication honors the historic tie between the Pearl Harbor Shipyard workers who aided in the rescue of 32 Sailors from the capsized ship in the days following Dec. 7, 1941.



Hawai'i Air National Guard F-15s fly in a "missing man" formation over the USS Arizona Memorial as part of the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Daniel A. Barker



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

Pearl Harbor survivor, Arles Cole, salutes the national ensign during colors for a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor Kilo Piers. The theme of this year's historic commemoration "A Nation Remembers" reflected on how the remembrance of Pearl Harbor has evolved throughout the years since World War II.



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

John Finn, Medal of Honor recipient for his heroic actions at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, rises at the conclusion of a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He is the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient and is also the only living Pearl Harbor Day Medal of Honor recipient. He was 97 years old on July 24, 2006.



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Daniel A. Barker

An eight year-old boy from Carson City, Nev. collects signatures of Pearl Harbor Survivors during the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Daniel A. Barker

Pearl Harbor survivors and representatives of the U.S. military and U.S. National Park Service participated in a ceremonial wreath laying, as part of the joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Rear Adm. T. G. Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Hawai'i, delivers his comments during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor Kilo Piers.

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

Survivors share stories with sailors

MC2 (AW) Lindsay Switzer

Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i

Pearl Harbor Survivor "Woody" Derby shared his story of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor with a group of today's Sailors at the Sharkey Theater at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 4.

"They have to realize how bad it was. It was the worst defeat the U.S. has ever had on our own soil and it changed the direction of the world," said Derby.

On the day of the attack, Derby was a storekeeper second class aboard USS Nevada (BB 36). That morning, he had planned to play tennis.

When general quarters sounded at five minutes to eight, he wasn't quite sure what had happened. "I didn't know because I was down below and I couldn't see what

was going on, but I knew it was bad, it was really bad," said Derby.

At Monday's event, he not only talked to Sailors about what happened that day, but also about the months that followed the attack and the role the USS Nevada played in World War II.

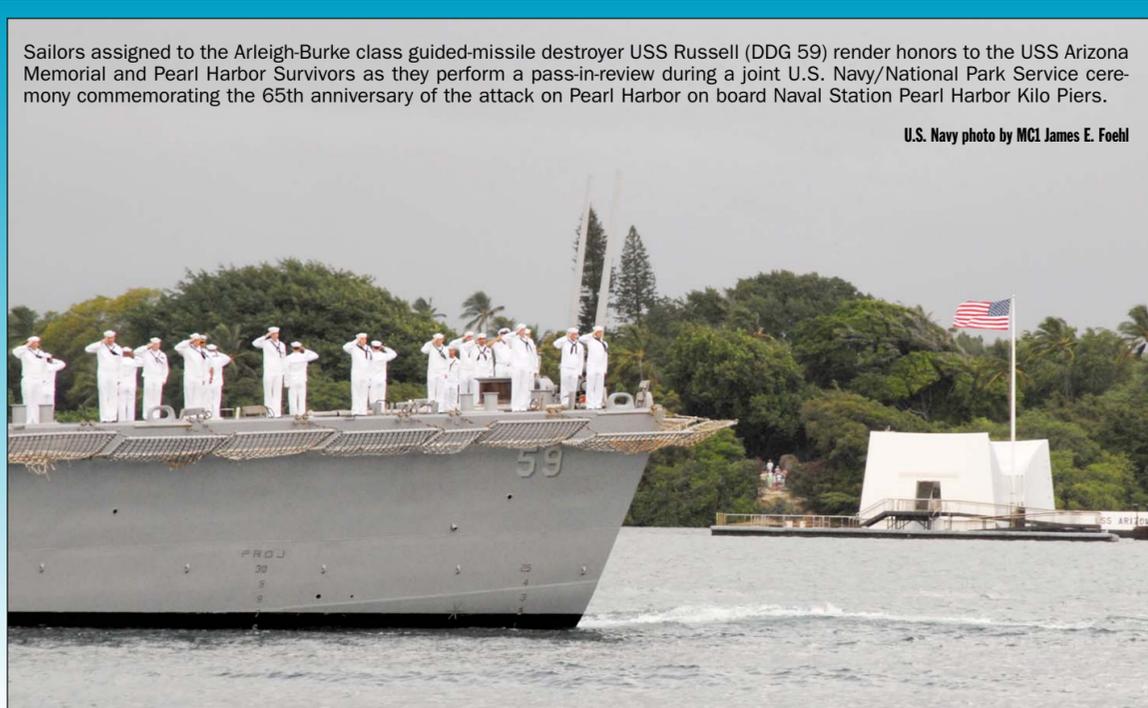
Later that day, select Sailors were able to hear a first-hand account of the attack - from the Nevada Survivor who had lived through it - during a boat tour of Pearl Harbor. Derby pointed out where ships were moored, the timeline of the attack from his perspective, and how his ship, Nevada, was the only battleship that was able to get underway on her own steam.

He explained for those "underway" with the former Navy chief about the circumstances that led to the Nevada running itself aground so they could keep the opening to Pearl Harbor clear.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Lindsay J. Switzer

"Woody" Derby, a Pearl Harbor Survivor, talks to Sailors at the Sharkey Theater at Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Dec. 4. On Dec. 7, 1941, Derby was a storekeeper 2nd class on battleship USS Nevada (BB 36). He was visiting Pearl Harbor for the 65th anniversary commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Sailors assigned to the Arleigh-Burke class guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) render honors to the USS Arizona Memorial and Pearl Harbor Survivors as they perform a pass-in-review during a joint U.S. Navy/National Park Service ceremony commemorating the 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor Kilo Piers.

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

Russell renders honors to Pearl Harbor Survivors during Dec. 7 Ceremony

Ensign Theresa Donnelly

USS Russell (DDG 59) Public Affairs

Survivors and their family members were given the rare opportunity to see a U.S. Navy ship underway render honors to the USS Arizona, as a special tribute to the sacrifices and lives lost on Dec. 7, 1941, when USS Russell (DDG 59) participated in the 65th anniversary commemoration of the attacks on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7.

The crew took great pride in being chosen to take part in such a momentous event. Operations Specialist 2nd Class (SW) Andrew Etherton said, "I am so excited to share in the history of Sailors that have come before me, to honor the mem-

ory of those who have given their lives to this country."

At 6:30 a.m., the crew started underway to begin the journey circling around Ford Island. At the exact moment the Japanese attacked 65 years ago, a moment of silence was observed by Russell as it passed by the USS Arizona Memorial to render honors to both the memorial and Pearl Harbor Survivors.

Mal Middlesworth, a survivor from the National Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association, returned the salute on behalf of the organization. Despite the overcast skies and dark clouds, more than 4,100 survivors, family, VIPs, military members, and the public watched as the crew of Russell manned the rails facing Kilo Pier.

For one Russell crew mem-

ber, the event took on a special significance. Lt. j.g. Jenna Van Zeyl's grandfather, Zigmund Balamut, was a member of the Army Air Corps who was stationed at Hickam Air Force Base when the attack began. "The event is part of my family heritage. My grandfather is really proud of my involvement in all the activities," said Zeyl.

Cmdr. Brad Cooper, Russell's commanding officer, said that he was honored that the ship was able to play such a huge role in the events. "This really is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and true privilege for the great crew in Russell. We are honored beyond words to share this special occasion with America's 'Greatest Generation,'" he said.

Russell is one of five guided missile destroyers sta-

tioned at Naval Station Pearl Harbor. Her multi-mission capabilities in air, surface and subsurface warfare areas make the warship a valuable asset to the battle group. Russell also holds the distinction as one of the first ships on the waterfront to operate with ballistic missile defense (BMD) capabilities.

Ship's Serviceman 3rd Class (SW) Dennis Nardo has been onboard Russell for over three years and reflected on what the commemoration meant personally to him. "Russell's involvement with the ceremony is one of the biggest privileges in my time of service. Since I was not born when this happened, this is a wonderful way to understand and honor the sacrifices made by those that served during World War II," said Nardo.



Dedication of Arizona model at Arizona Memorial Museum

A traditional Hawaiian blessing is performed for Pearl Harbor Survivors and guests at the unveiling of a new USS Arizona model at the Arizona Memorial Museum. More than 2,600 Pearl Harbor Survivors, their families and friends from around the nation along with 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public took part in the annual observance of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by MCC Don Bray

Air museum immerses visitors in history

MC2 (SW) Ben A. Gonzales

Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i

The Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island opened its doors on Dec. 7, giving visitors an opportunity to see first-hand the mighty machines that changed warfare forever.

Today Ford Island is quiet, but it still shows the scars of war even after 65 years. Many retired military and civilian sponsors were excited to be a part of the grand opening that coincided with the historic 65th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

The attack launched a war that was fought on two fronts. Living legend Gen. Chuck Yeager was thrust into the war in Europe after the Japanese attacked Hawai'i, and was on hand 65 years later to help launch the museum that is dedicated to keeping history alive.

"You have to see how it evolved," said Yeager, who was the first man to break the sound barrier on Oct. 14, 1947. "Today we smoke out to mach two and it's all jets and all stand-off weapons systems, but that's not the way it was. It's interesting to see how things changed over the last 50 to 60 years."

Yeager noted that the war in the Pacific was different

from his experiences in Europe, but said that through a fraternity of World War Two 'aces,' he has shared experiences with Navy pilots from battles fought half-a-world away.

"In the Pacific, it was a Navy war and it was a low-altitude war. Their job was a little more desperate with carriers and many, many airplanes," said Yeager. He knows about desperate. The day after he first shot down an enemy aircraft, he was shot down himself. But by the end of the war, he had downed 13 enemy planes, five in one day. And he knows air power. "Air power won the war in the Pacific," he noted.

Air power has changed not only the face of Hawai'i, but the entire Pacific Rim, according to Allan Palmer, the executive director of the Pacific Aviation Museum. "Particularly here in Ford Island Pearl Harbor, aviation is very important for how people get here. It's a very important part of the state's economy, as it brings one more attraction to the other many attractions that are here today," Palmer said.

"The military brought aviation here to protect the Pacific as well, but our main mission here is to tell aviation's story from all military perspectives - from World War One to the present day," explained Palmer.

The Pearl Harbor



U.S. Navy photo by PSC (SW/AW) Christopher Stone

Living legend, Gen. Chuck Yeager, the first pilot to break the sound barrier, was guest speaker at the grand opening of the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island on Dec. 7.

Survivors have strong ties to the horrific, but historic event that took place in 1941 and many of them have expressed the belief that the younger generation must learn from the past in order to have a sound future. Palmer believes that the aviation museum will allow people to immerse themselves into our military history and learn of the mistakes and successes of the past.

"The attack on Pearl Harbor started World War Two as far as the United States is concerned and it very nearly devastated the American fleet," said John C.

Diller, a former Navy flight officer and a sponsor of the museum.

"They wiped out almost all of our battleships. They didn't get the aircraft carriers because they were out to sea. I believe that if our youth, as well as older generation, want to learn and remember the past and our Navy, this is the place to start," said Diller.

Since the Navy closed the airfield on Ford Island, there has remained a reminder of Ford Island's historic military aviation presence.

"This is very important to me because we are bringing aviation back to Ford Island. After an especially long break, the Navy operated here until about 1997. The airfield was open and it was used for both military as well as civilian training. When it closed, aviation left and this is really the first time that it's back now," noted Palmer. "More importantly, we are back here with some of the planes that were here in service during the attack on Pearl Harbor," he added.

A visitor's experience to the museum begins in a theater setting at hangar 37, the nearest hangar to the old control tower. They will see film of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack that details the battle scene with original film and still photographs. At the conclusion of the preparatory film, visitors will exit into



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 (SW) Ben Gonzales

Vintage World War II aircraft are on display at the new Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. The grand opening for the aviation museum was held Dec. 7.

the exhibit area where they will experience life on early Ford Island, seeing aircraft and artifacts from World War II in the Pacific.

As visitors complete their tour of hangar 37, they will

exit on the ramp and relive the aftermath of the Japanese attack with a debris field with smoking patrol bombers (PBYs) and

▼ See CENTER, A-10

Tom Brokaw visits Russell Sailors

Story and photo by Ensign Theresa Donnelly

USS Russell (DDG 59)

Tom Brokaw, former NBC Nightly News anchorman and television journalist, made a visit to USS Russell (DDG 59) on Dec. 7 after he delivered the keynote address at the 65th anniversary commemoration of the attacks on Pearl Harbor.

Brokaw has a history of personal involvement with the United States military and specifically the generation of Pearl Harbor Survivors. His book, "The Greatest Generation," is a detailed chronicle of the lives and stories of people who grew up during the great depression and went on to fight in World War II.

He is also a recipient of the Sylvanus Thayer Award, a prestigious award given annually by the United States Military Academy at West Point. Usually reserved for members of the armed forces, this award recognizes an individual who exemplifies the motto, "duty, honor, country." Sailors aboard Russell



Tom Brokaw, former NBC Nightly News anchor, visited Sailors aboard USS Russell while at Pearl Harbor for the 65th anniversary commemoration. Brokaw was the keynote speaker for the event.

had the opportunity to meet the well-known journalist and icon in the television industry. Seaman Justin Schendel said, "It was interesting because I grew up watching him on television with my parents so the chance to meet him was incredible."

As a group of Russell Sailors gathered on the ship's fo'c'sle to greet the newscaster, Brokaw spoke of the wonderful contributions that the men and women of service make on a daily basis. "It's really the best time to be in the Navy and a great pleasure to be here. I continue to be so impressed with the integration on today's Navy," he said.

After a brief speech, the news personality shook Sailors' hands and posed for photos. "It's really a once in a lifetime opportunity to meet a man that has given so much back to society and who really cares about the military the way that he does," said Navy Counselor 1st Class (SW/AW) David Hawkes.



U.S. Navy photo by CTR3 Aaron Hilua

Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry poses with Sailors aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS O'Kane (DDG 77). Henry was in Hawai'i for the ground breaking ceremony of the USS Oklahoma Memorial. While onboard O'Kane, Henry and family and friends toured the ship and met with Sailors from Oklahoma.



A Pearl Harbor Survivor views vintage World War II aircraft at the grand opening of the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island on Dec. 7. Survivors and their families attended week-long events held in conjunction with the 65th anniversary commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on the Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor.

U.S. Navy photo by PSC (SW/AW) Christopher Stone

Tom Brokaw reflects on the 'greatest generation'

MC1 (SW/AW) Keith Jones

Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i

NBC News icon Tom Brokaw, who authored "The Greatest Generation" that documented the World War II generation's accomplishments, was the keynote speaker for the 65th anniversary commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor. Before the remembrance ceremony, Brokaw sat down with journalists from Fleet Public Affairs Center Detachment, Hawai'i, to talk about Pearl Harbor's place in history.

PACEN: What does it mean to you to be here and recognize these great Americans on the 65th anniversary of Pearl Harbor?

Brokaw: You know, Pearl Harbor happened one year after I was born, so I've lived my life with these veterans in effect, and I wrote about them in "The Greatest Generation." By coming here, I'm able to pay tribute to them for what they meant

to all of us. We have the world that we have today because of how they responded after this attack. It was really a devastating moment in American military and political history, but in effect, it saved the world.

The Japanese are better off as a result of what happened after Pearl Harbor, and so are the Germans. If they had lived under Japanese imperialism and fascism for the rest of their days, I don't think they'd be as happy or as prosperous as they are now.

PACEN: You coined the term "The Greatest Generation" for this era. What kind of message would you like to convey in your keynote address later this morning to not only the veterans in attendance, but also to the American people?

Brokaw: Well, really I'm talking to those who have come along after "The Greatest Generation." I use them as role models because they responded as one.

Danny (U.S. Senator Daniel) Inouye, the senator

from Hawai'i who lost an arm when he earned the Congressional Medal of Honor, raises his one good arm and clenches his fist, and he says, "We were one, then."

The great lesson of America is we are at our best when we're not ideologically opposed to one another, but when we have a common cause. When these people came back from the war, they didn't stop contributing to society. They became the church wardens and they became school board members and the coaches of the youth teams. They ran for mayor and for governor and for president of the United States. Their wives did the same thing.

There was this constant sense of obligation to their country and I think that's an important lesson.

PACEN: Obviously you did a lot of research for your book. Is there any story that comes to the forefront for you when you think about the attack on Pearl Harbor?

Brokaw: I remember two

or three big ones, but when I was a child growing up in South Dakota, there was a small swimming pool in a town near where I lived. The story always was the pool was built in the 1930s and a young man from that town learned to swim there - and he was at Pearl Harbor and he escaped his burning ship because he could swim. He dove into Pearl Harbor and swam through the burning water, and I never went to that pool because I didn't want to think about that.

These are the kinds of stories that make an impression on you when you're a young man.

I think the stories of (Pearl Harbor) that have the most meaning to me are the stories of how they responded by whatever means necessary. One guy was throwing wrenches at the planes as they went by because he couldn't get enough ammo into his gun position yet, the people who broke into the armory so they could get whatever weapons they had. As you know, cooks and stewards were involved in the fighting that day.

That really became emblematic of what happened during the rest of the war. They did whatever necessary to fight back. Once they got themselves organized they were able to do it in pretty grand fashion. We're very lucky that the Japanese didn't have a second attack here.

PACEN: Is there anything you would like to say about your time here this week commemorating the 65th anniversary?

Brokaw: I think the important thing is this is the last big anniversary for these veterans. They're now in the later stages of their lives. They're 85 years old. What I tell young people across America is, "If you have a family member or even a friend or somebody in your community who served in World War II, go talk to them. Get them to put down their experiences because they are so instructive."

This is a modest generation. They don't like to talk about what they went

through - in part because it was so painful. And they don't want to be thought of as heroes, because they say the real heroes are the ones who are still down in the bottom of Pearl Harbor. We need to find ways to get them to come forward and leave behind the lessons of their life.

PACEN: Is there anything you'd like to say to service members currently serving in the war on terrorism right now?

Brokaw: What I'd like to say to the members who are in uniform is that I've never stopped thinking about your service, and I've never stopped being grateful for it. We know that you're serving for modest wages at a high price and I especially think about your families.

As a parent, I can only imagine what they're going through, or what your wives and fiancés are going through. So, wherever I go in America, I remind people this is not just a war for those in uniform, this is a war for everyone.

Hamilton Sailor wins award



Photo by Sean Hughes, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Lt.j.g. Ryan Pierce (second from right) of USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) was named a grand award recipient for the 2006 Honolulu Council Navy League Sea Service Awards during a luncheon Dec. 8 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel. Pierce, the grand prize winner in the junior officer category, received a \$500 cash award. Pictured are Tim Guard, president, McCabe, Hamilton & Renny Co., Ltd.; Jack Flanagan, president, board of directors, Honolulu Council Navy League; and Rear Adm. Joseph Walsh, Commander, Submarine Force Pacific. Pierce is the force protection officer for Paul Hamilton and excels as a leader and mentor, as well as a highly proficient watchstander. Most notably, he contributed to the success during deployment to the Western Pacific in support of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT). He interacted extensively with officers and Sailors from the navies of Singapore, Thailand, Brunei and the Philippines, and in preparations for deployment with the John C. Stennis Strike Group. He was chosen from among 42 finalists from the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, who were honored at the annual awards luncheon sponsored by the Honolulu Council Navy League.

Housing lighting guidelines

Navy Region Hawai'i leadership and Forest City Residential Management have provided guidelines for Christmas decorations and lighting for Navy housing residents.

Holiday lighting is authorized for use only between the hours of 5 and 10 p.m. and must be removed by the second weekend in January.

Lights must not be left on when no one is on the premises. Any lights or decorations attached to the residence must not cause any physical damage. Gutter clips or similar clip devices are required for affixing exterior lighting; nails/screws/tacks are not permitted.

Roof decorations and lighting above the first floor roofline are not allowed.

Pacific Aviation Museum: Yeager, flying legend, at ceremony

Continued from A-7

other seaplanes. Jitneys outfitted as Red Cross vehicles will next be engaged to move the visitors on their museum tour toward the farthest building, hangar 54.

Just beyond that hangar is a visible bomb crater, the site of the first Japanese bomb dropped on Pearl Harbor. Shrapnel marks are clearly visible where two other hangars once stood. Audio descriptions of the attack fill visitors' ears in the voices of survivors as

they ride jitneys along the tour route.

Palmer and other proud sponsors of the Pacific Aviation Museum anticipate future patrons and hope that the museum venue will bring fun and knowledge together for friends and families who visit.

"Because of Ford Island, and all of the activity here surrounding the history of Dec. 7, you can see they have done a wonderful job with this museum," said Yeager.

"It's good history here, not just Dec. 7."

To visit the museum, tickets may be obtained through an approved travel desk or purchased at the USS Bowfin Memorial ticket office. The Bowfin is located next to the USS Arizona Memorial. The ticket office is open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday and can also be reached by visiting www.pacificaviationmuseum.org.