

WINDJAMMER

APRIL TO JUNE 2014

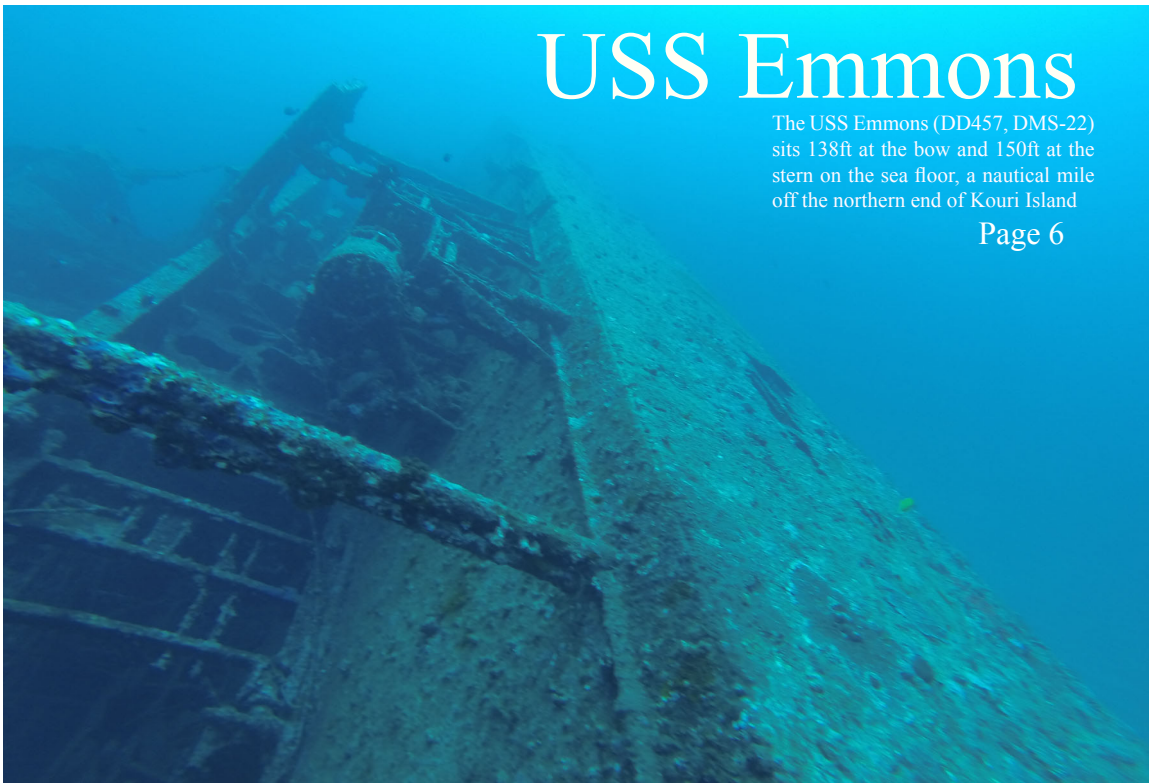
Remembering Sailors

USS Emmons Memorial Dive



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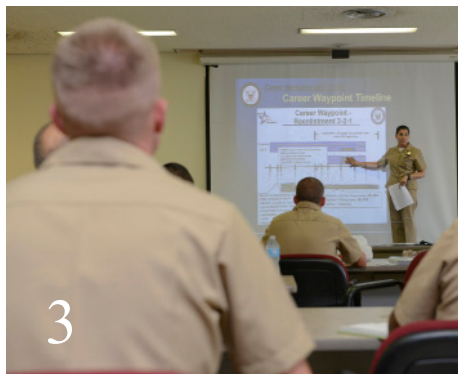
USS Emmons

The USS Emmons (DD457, DMS-22) sits 138ft at the bow and 150ft at the stern on the sea floor, a nautical mile off the northern end of Kouri Island

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Fleet Activities Okinawa

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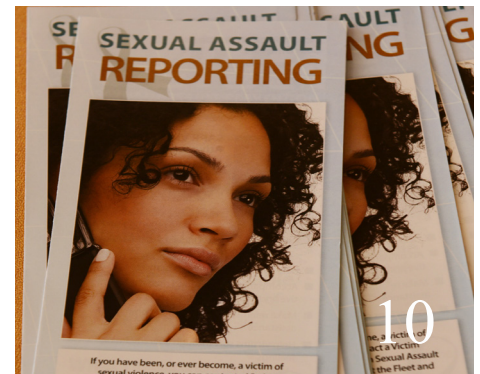
First Class Symposium

The Island-Wide Chief Petty Officer's Association (CPOA) held a First Class Petty Officer (FCPO) Symposium April 21-25 for Sailors on Okinawa to help prepare them for leadership at the next level.



DEFY Graduation

Today's younger generation is faced with a myriad of temptations and tests that could lead them in the wrong direction, DEFY helps keep them on the right path.



Agent of Change

Fleet Activities Okinawa Unit Victim Advocates raised sexual assault awareness through different events during April, educating the military community about sexual violence and how to prevent it.

Emergency Training 11



An Emergency Operations Center (EOC) filled with 26 people is so unbelievably cold.

Community Service 13



Community Service projects are an important part of the Navy's mission.



On the cover

Silhouette of a 20mm Anti-Aircraft gun mounted on the USS Emmons.
Photo by Troy Williams

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Fleet Activities Okinawa Welcome's Aboard

CMDCM Daniel Irwin

Master Chief Daniel Irwin is a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado. He enlisted in the Navy in June 1996 and reported to basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois. After graduating, he reported to the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training, Millington, Tennessee where he attended Aviation Structural Mechanic (Safety Equipment) (AME) 'A' school with a follow-on school in Norfolk, Virginia to attend the Navy's E-2/C-2 specific aircraft training 'C' school.

In December 1996, he reported for his first duty assignment to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Three Zero (VRC-30) Detachment Five forward deployed to Atsugi, Japan. During his tour, he completed numerous deployments in the Western Pacific onboard the USS Independence (CV-62), where he qualified as an Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist and advanced to Petty Officer 2nd Class.

In March 2001, he reported to Executive Transport Detachment (ETD), Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii maintaining aircraft for COMPACFLT. While serving as the Leading Petty Officer and Quality Assurance Representative he advanced to Petty Officer 1st Class.

In January of 2004, Irwin reported back to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Three Zero (VRC-30) Detachment Five in Atsugi, Japan making several deployments onboard USS Kitty Hawk (CV-63) to

the Western Pacific theater. While there he served as the Detachment Leading Petty Officer, qualifying as Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, Safe-for-Flight and advanced to Chief Petty Officer.

In June of 2007, he reported to Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois. There he served as a Recruit Division Commander for eight divisions and as a Fleet Quality Assurance Inspector.

In August 2010, he reported to Strike Fighter Squadron One Nine Two (VFA-192), homeported in Lemoore, California. During this tour, he served as the Line Division

Leading Chief Petty Officer and Night Check Maintenance Control. He was selected for the Command Master Chief Program while deployed onboard USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74) in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.

In June 2012, Master Chief Irwin reported to Strike Fighter Squadron Four One (VFA-41) as the Command Master Chief and then reported to his current assignment as Command Master Chief, for Fleet Activities Okinawa (CFAO) in May 2014.

Master Chief Irwin is a graduate of the Senior Enlisted Academy, Class 166 Gold Group, a graduate of the CMC/COB Course, class 102 and holds a Bachelors degree in Professional Aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

His personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (5 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (4 awards), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and numerous unit and campaign awards.



First Class SYMPOSIUM

Gives FCPOs 'Inside' Look at Chief



The Island-Wide Chief Petty Officer's Association (CPOA) held a First Class Chief Petty Officer (FCPO) Symposium April 21-25 for Sailors on Okinawa to help prepare them for leadership at the next level.

The Symposium consisted of classroom instruction, team building events, personnel records review, and a seven-member Master

The role of the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) has long been an integral part of the U.S. Navy.

Chief question and answer board.

The role of the Chief Petty Officer (CPO) has long been an integral part of the U.S. Navy. When Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) Mike Stevens took office in 2012, he recognized that training Chiefs for their new

leadership role in six weeks, as the original CPO induction dictated, was hindering them in becoming as successful as possible. It was at that time he implemented the CPO 365 training process that would afford Sailors a longer period of time to train.

CPO 365 is a year-long development and training for FCPOs that includes two phases, the first of which begins in September each year and Phase Two of training which begins when CPO selectees are announced at the end of July and concludes with the chief pinning ceremony on September 13th.

Hospital Corpsman Chief Lorenzo Basilio, Group Surgeon Chief for the 3D Marine Logistics Group (MLG) said he was part of the first group to go through CPO 365 Phase 2 on Okinawa and said the things he learned then are the things he and the other facilitators are teaching the FCPOs now.

"Our goal is to provide more insight to Phase 2, things that

had I known going into Phase 2, would have helped me through the process," said Hospital Corpsman Chief Petty Officer Geraldine Kirk, Manpower Chief and Personnel Officer for 3D MLG.

Most of the students in attendance are Chief Board eligible, and the facilitators hope the personnel record review will help prospective Chiefs in getting selected to the next rank.

Master Chief Petty Officer Donald Schrader, Command Master Chief of 3D MLG, III MEF, said

"It's all about sharing knowledge and making everyone else better."

their goal is to enhance the opportunity of the FCPOs attending the symposium a chance to make CPO and make their packages they are sending to the selection board as competitive as possible.



“We don’t want a deserving Sailor to lose out on an opportunity to be promoted to Chief Petty Officer based on a technicality,” he said.

Electronics Technician First Class Adam Harris, who works at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) Far East, advice to other FCPOs is to start now. He said even though he is not eligible for Chief, there were several issues with his ‘future’ package that he would not have seen without the guidance of some of the CPOs in this program.



“Now, I have plenty of time to work on getting my personnel record straightened out before I take the January 2015 Chief’s exam,” he said.

Hospital Corpsman First Class Brian Shimasaki, who works in the Naval Hospital Okinawa Emergency Room, said he has learned how to properly put a package together, which he had never done before because he too is not board eligible, but he said it helped him learn about things he didn’t know and to fill in

the gaps and make him better as a whole.

Shimasaki added that although he has been in the Navy only a short time and although he is not up for CPO yet, he felt this symposium will help him do the things that will



make him more competitive and to know what to look for as far as mistakes go in his record.

“Then I can pass that on to my peers and junior Sailors and help them in their career,” he said. “It’s all about sharing knowledge and making everyone else better.”

Schrader said the intent of the symposium was to bring all the FCPOs together from around the island to stimulate discussion and understanding between them to help them network and to not only work like a CPO, but to start thinking like a



CPO.

“Besides the training, we want to provide a way for them to network and work together as FCPOs that will help when they are CPOs,” Kirk added. “We want them to work together and rely on each other just like the Chief’s Mess does.”



Basilio added that the facilitators want to pass on the knowledge and experience they have gained as Chief Petty Officers or Master Chief Petty Officers to the future CPOs in the room and get them into the mindset of a CPO.

Hospital Corpsman First Class Kadian Jones, the Leading Petty Officer for the Medical Distribution Team’s 3 Supply Battalion of the Combat Logistics Regiment of the 3 MLG said with all the Chiefs, Senior Chiefs, and Master Chiefs

“We want them to work together and rely on each other just like the Chief’s Mess does.”

who have given up their time to come and share with and mentor the FCPOs has shown her that it is all about giving back.

“In the future, someday I will be in their shoes and I will be doing the same thing for a junior Sailor,” she said. “Hopefully I can be the positive influence that gets them to the next level.”

D RUG E DUCATION F OR Y OUTH

Steers Youth in Right Direction

Story and Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Todd Macdonald

Today's younger generation is faced with a myriad of temptations and tests that could lead them in the wrong direction. The Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program, started by the Department of Navy and the Department of Justice 20 years ago for kids ages nine through 12, can help youth make an educated decision when they are at a fork in the road down the path of life.

On May 10th, at White Beach Naval Facilities' Port of Call Club, 39 students received their graduation certificates for successfully completing the 9-month program.

According to Duane Brinkley, Operations Coordinator for DEFY in Okinawa, it is a free program that is proactive rather than reactive, and offered to Department of Defense youth, ages 9-12.

"I am proud to say CFAO has continuously offered and administered DEFY for the past 18 of the 20 years the program has been in existence," he boasted. "We are tied for the longest running DEFY program in the Military world-wide."

Brinkley said there are two phases to the 'camp' that limits the classes to 45 students, but has taken on as many as 50 depending on funds and youth applications. "There is an eight day Phase I camp which is classroom based and meets Monday through Friday the first week and Monday and Wednesday the following week," Brinkley said. "Phase II starts during the fall and meets one Saturday each month until graduation that following May."

The program offers guidance and lessons on topics such as peer pressure, bullying, gang resistance, internet safety, leadership and teamwork.

For recent DEFY graduate, 12 year-old Noah Sloss,

the Bullying Class offered him the most help because it made him realize how to deal with it if he came across it.

"Before taking the class I didn't know much about bullying because I haven't really seen it, but through the class I can now identify it and try to stop it, or get the person help who is getting bullied."

Fourteen year-old Junior Staff member Sydney Medina, who went through the program just last year here in Okinawa, said she likes being with kids and feels comfortable around them so it seemed like a good fit for her to volunteer.

"I wanted to stress to these kids about drugs, because it really isn't talked about much in my high

school," Medina said. "Here they learned about all the dangers of drugs and how to get away from the negative influences of it."

"They taught us about drugs in a fun way that didn't feel like you were being taught," Sloss added. "Plus, I got to make friends along the way so that was good too,"

Brinkley said the youth also become involved with cultural connections and community relations, where focus is put on Drug awareness and education by teaching the youth about the consequences of their actions and the dangers of risky behavior.

"A lot of people who hear about the program think it won't work for them, which may be true, but people really don't know until they try it," Brinkley said. "Honestly though, I think it can help everybody in some way or another."



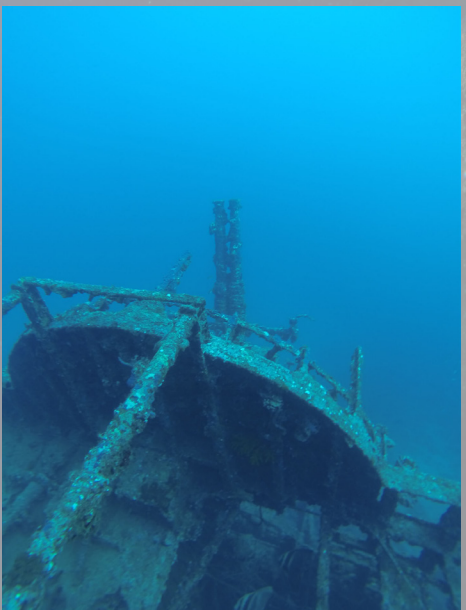
Remembering Sailors

USS Emmons (DD457, DMS-22) Memorial Dive



The USS Emmons (DD457, DMS-22) sits 138ft at the bow and 150ft at the stern on the sea floor, a nautical mile off the northern end of Kouri Island, Okinawa Japan. The dive boat arrives to the anchor buoy which is tied to the ship, the anticipation to see a famous WWII ship, 69 years after it was sunk by Kamikaze's, well up in your stomach.

You drop over the edge of the boat backwards, finding the ropes that lead down to the Emmons. Descending to 30 foot, looking down you see faint lines that make out



the sides and bottom of the ship. Descending deeper into the blue water, vivid lines start forming the outline of the ship. As you close in the view is surreal.

You set your buoyancy to hover above the ship making sure not to stir up the years of sediment that have accumulated. You slowly swim toward the stern trying to imagine what the Sailors aboard were doing and thinking the moment the ship was under attack by kamikazes. You see depth charges still in place ready to be deployed,



guns with rounds still loaded, you can picture the Sailors devotion to fight for their doomed ship.

The aft of the ship is torn away scattered across the sea floor. Proceeding back to mid-ship, you notice a buoy line and see what nature and time have done to this vessel. It is then that you are overcome by what an honor it is to commemorate the Sailors who gave their lives defending her, before time and nature takes it completely.

A wreath is placed above the builder's plaque, the American flag unfurled by four divers who place it under the Builders and Sailors Plaque. They pause for a moment

to honor the men, both American and Japanese, who gave their lives fighting for their countries.

Sunk by five Japanese Kamikazes on April 6, 1945 the Emmons sits



peacefully on the bottom of the sea floor, the final resting place for U.S. and Japanese Sailors alike. Kurt Reese, Site Manager for the Underwater Egress Trainer on Camp Hansen and official videographer for the USS Emmons memorial dive said, "U.S. and Japanese divers conduct a memorial dive every year and try to do it as close to the date of the sinking as possible."

"We feel it's more appropriate to do the dives on the actual anniversary date if possible. Obviously they will vary from year to year as weather has the final say when it comes to when we do the dive."



USS EMMONS (DD-457)

Photo by Troy Williams

April 6, 1945, The USS Emmons and her sister ship, the USS Rodman, were on duty to provide fire support for Anti-Mine sweeping unit 11 northwest of Okinawa in the Iheya Rhetto Channel. While the ships were en route to their assigned areas, the Japanese were preparing to launch the first of their kamikaze attacks. Most of the aircraft committed to the defense of Okinawa were naval planes under the command of Vice Admiral Matome Ugaki, commander of the Fifth Air Fleet.


Four hundred and fifty planes were committed to the main attacks which took place on April 6, with 296 of them being kamikaze aircraft.

Sometime after 3 p.m. that afternoon, the Rodman and Emmons, about four miles apart, while approaching the northern tip of Okinawa, fell into the sights of the kamikaze aircraft. At 3:32 p.m., three planes dove out of the clouds to attack the Rodman. Despite heavy fire from the Rodman and Emmons, one plane crashed the forecastle of the Rodman which started huge fires.

A bomb landed nearby, rupturing the hull of the Rodman causing flooding of forward compartments. On the Emmons, Capt Eugene Foss turned and headed towards the Rodman to lend fire support. The Emmons began to circle the Rodman at 25 knots to provide maximum fire support against an estimated 50-

75 enemy aircraft. Bettys, Tonys, Vals, and Zekes were identified and had the ships surrounded from distances of 20-70 miles. By this time, Marine Corsairs and Hellcats had joined the fight and were shooting down the Japanese aircraft attempting to crash the ships. The Rodman and Emmons scored hits on enemy planes which escaped the Marine pilots.

At 4:30 p.m., the first direct attack on the Emmons was initiated by a "Betty" diving out of the clouds. The plane missed and came around again as the Emmons took evasive maneuvers. Smoking after being hit, the plane missed the starboard 40mm Gun Mount by three inches and crashed into the water near the



port quarter of the Emmons. Two others attacked, missed, and crashed near the ship after being hit by Anti-Aircraft (AA) fire. During the next hour, the attacks continued with many planes crashing after missing their targets or being hit by AA fire and crashing into the ocean.

The first of five hits on the Emmons took place at 5:32 p.m. A fighter plane got through the AA fire and crashed into the fantail of the ship. Fires were started, the steering engine room was destroyed, and the rudder was rendered useless.

The second hit came from a Val, which crashed the Emmons' mine sweeping cable reel just below and aft of the #3 Five Inch Gun at the Emmons stern.

The third hit was just below the Emmons' bridge in the vicinity of the radio shack on the starboard side. A few seconds later, the fourth hit came in at the port side of the CIC or Combat Information Center. Captain Foss was blown from the bridge and landed, badly burned and temporarily blinded in the water.

All hands in the Combat Information Center were killed. The fifth and last plane hit at the starboard bow. Aviation fuel from the planes was burning below decks, setting off the ammunition for the # 1 and # 2 five inch guns, which were now out of commission. All five hits took place within two minutes. Sixty

men were killed or missing in action.

Firefighting was attempted, but due to sustained damage to the water mains and firehouses, it was tough going. Several attempts were made to take the ship under tow so it could be taken to the Keramas anchorage for possible salvage and repair. None of these attempts were successful.

The Emmons continued to drift towards enemy held Motobu peninsula when the decision to sink it was announced. At 2:30 a.m., The USS Ellyson, another destroyer, received word to sink the Emmons so that it would not drift into enemy territory.

The Ellyson approached the Emmons and opened fire with her Five Inch Guns. Ninety-Six rounds of 38 caliber AA common were shot at the Emmons. At 3:18 a.m. on April 7, 1945, the USS Emmons capsized and sank in 150 feet of water off of Kouri-Jima. (Kouri island).

BUILDER: Bath Iron Works
LAI D DOWN: 14 November 1940
LAUNCHED: 23 August 1941
COMMISSIONED: 5 December 1941
RECLASSIFIED: DMS-22, 15 November 1944
FATE: Sunk by Kamikazi, 6 April 1945
CLASS & TYPE: Gleaves-class Destroyer

DISPLACEMENT: 2,050 Tons
LENGTH: 348 Ft 4 in (106.17m)
BEAM: 36Ft 1 in (11m)
DRAFT: 15Ft 8in (4.78m)
PROPULSION: 50,000 shp (37MW)
SPEED: 35 knots (65 km/h)
RANGE: 6,500 Nautical miles at 12kt (12,000 km at 22 km/h)

COMPLIMENT: 208
ARMAMENT:
4 x 5in (127mm) DP guns
6 x 0.5 in (12.7mm) guns
6 x 20mm AA guns
10 x 21 in (53cm) torpedo tubes
6 x depth charge projectors
2 x depth charge tracks



It was discovered by a team of divers in 2001, 150 feet below the surface, littered with anchors from local fishing vessels. She now serves as an artificial reef and grave site. Though it lay silently on its side, the memories from the survivors live.

The ceremony commemorates the personnel who perished that day by placing a wreath made every year by Susan Gada. She said this is her way of paying respect to the men that made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives so she could have her freedoms today.

A U.S. flag and a banner are placed near the Builder's Memorial plaque that lists those killed or missing in action. Reese said the divers commemorate the ship to honor the memory of the men lost that day. "Through our actions we ensure that they, and their contribution to the defeat of tyranny during the days of

WW2, will not be forgotten".

Russell Lemasters, Product Specialist at Tsunami Scuba for Camp Hansen's Marine Corps Community Service (MCCS), participates to pass on the memories of those that have gone before us so they remain immortal and their legacy continues to live on.

"It's an honor and a privilege every time I am invited to go," Russell said with a smile. "All the divers participate for different reasons."

The USS Emmons Association holds an annual reunion with the surviving crew members, their children, and their grandchildren. The photos and videos taken on the dive are given to them to show at the reunion, keeping the survivors up to date. The memorial dive also raises money for the survivor's scholarship fund which is given to the children and grandchildren of Sailors attached to the ship during its years of service.

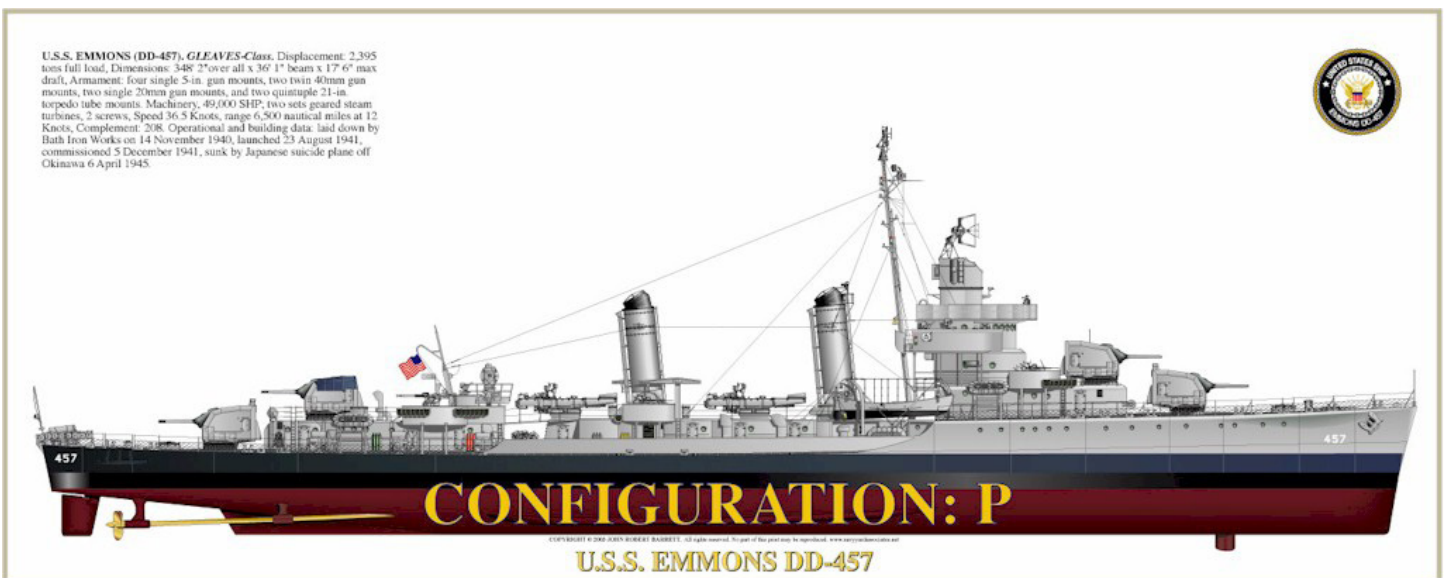
Reese encourages divers to be advanced certified with deep-water specialties to dive the site, as the depth they will go is not for beginners. Reese also recommends if divers are going for the first time, they should focus on one area of the

ship and not worry about seeing the whole thing at once. He said there is plenty to see and its best done over multiple dives. Divers who plan on staying down for any length of time have should have some type of technical certification.

"You can easily see the whole ship from 110 feet, but there are several interesting artifacts on the sea floor around the ship," Reese added.

He urges anyone interested in diving the Emmons to ask others who have visited the site for any input and to gather as much information as possible in regard to conditions around the ship as currents can get swift in that area.

Story and Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Benjamin Stevens



U.S.S. EMMONS (DD-457), GLEAVES-Class. Displacement: 2,395 tons full load, Dimensions: 348'2" over all x 36'1" beam x 17'6" max draft, Armament: four single 5-in. gun mounts, two twin 40mm gun mounts, two single 20mm gun mounts, and two quintuple 21-in. torpedo tube mounts. Machinery, 49,040 SHP; two sets geared steam turbines, 2 screws, Speed 36.5 Knots, range 6,500 nautical miles at 12 Knots, Complement: 208. Operational and building data: laid down by Bath Iron Works on 14 November 1940; launched 23 August 1941; commissioned 5 December 1941; sunk by Japanese suicide plane off Okinawa 6 April 1945.



CONFIGURATION: P

U.S.S. EMMONS DD-457

AGENT OF CHANGE AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

Nationally, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) occurs in April and commits to raising awareness and promoting the prevention of sexual violence in the military through the use of special events and public education.



Locally, Fleet Activities Okinawa Unit Victim Advocates raised awareness through different events during the month, educating the military community about sexual violence and how to prevent it.

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Petty Officer Denise Duplessis, a Unit Victim Advocate, said SAAM is important because it is a time when the advocates can deliver much needed information on how to prevent and respond to sexual assaults and how together, the military as a whole can change the culture of violence.

“It gives us time to reflect on how we can each do our part to help someone in times of need and lets victims know that there is help available,” she said.

Fleet Activities Okinawa’s Sexual Assault Response Coordinator

(SARC) Hospital Corpsman Chief Tremayne Tuck said this also lets victims know that they aren’t by themselves.

“We are here for them, we will stand with them, and we are not going to give up,” he said.

Tuck added that SAAM provides an annual opportunity to create an environment in which sexist behaviors, sexual harassment, and sexual assault are not condoned, tolerated, or ignored.

Tuck said it all starts in the locker room, conference room, or office space where sexist, sexual, or inappropriate comments take place. He said it has to be stopped there.

“We have to be professional and show that we will not tolerate that kind of behavior,” he said. “Because if we don’t, then we are saying it is o.k. and not sending the right message.”

The 2014 Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) campaign focuses on healthy sexuality to have knowledge and power to express sexuality in ways that enrich our lives. It’s about every person being able to make consensual, respectful, and informed choices.

Seaman Yeoman Taneisha Mck-



inney, who was at Kadena Gate 4 passing out air fresheners, first aid kits, stress balls and lanyards with the sexual assault prevention and response hotline phone number on them, said getting the word out and making people aware of Sexual Assault Awareness is a topic that shouldn’t go unnoticed.

“Everyone has a mother, or a sister, or a wife, or girlfriend,” Tuck



said. “When you put it into context that it could happen to them, then people might look at it differently.”

Many people say that sexual assault is something that can never be stopped, Tuck added, that no matter what is done, it will still happen.

But he says people have to get over the negative thoughts and beliefs that sexual assault cannot be stopped. “Until we change that way of thinking, we won’t be able to change anything,” he said.

Story and Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Todd Macdonald

CONTROLLED



CHAOS

AN INSIDE LOOK AT INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM TRAINING

An Emergency Operations Center (EOC) filled with 26 people is so unbelievably cold; wearing a jacket is a necessity. There is a hushed silence amongst the participants of today's training event where everything but the kitchen sink will be thrown at them in response to some kind of man-made or natural disaster taking place on White Beach Naval Facility involving the Secretary of Defense and Fleet Activities



ageable level. Things are about to get hot.

The class is a three-day Incident Management Team training, combining classroom instruction, video presentations, and simulated real-world scenarios provided by a team of instructors who traveled all the way from Norfolk, Virginia.

Mike Crockett, Commander, Navy Installations Command Shore

Operations Training Group Chief, lead facilitator and



Okinawa's (CFAO) own Commanding Officer.

What begins with a simple radio communication to the Operations Section Chief, will crescendo into a level so loud that not only will you not be able to hear yourself think, but it will cause the Command Duty Officer to bel- low, "Attention in the EOC!" to bring the noise down to a man-



a retired Navy Commander said the purpose of the real life scenarios is to train the CFAO team of watch standers in their EOC and leave them better prepared to

respond to disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis that are prevalent in this area.

He added there are unique challenges facing the Navy



in Okinawa, the first; Okinawa is in a high typhoon threat area, and second the joint environment involving the Air Force and Marine elements on island.

“It is a mission critical role for the Incident Management team to be able to handle any situation, to support the Air Force as well as the Department of Defense, and the local Okinawan partners, without affecting the Navy’s mission,” Crockett said.

Fleet Activities Okinawa’s Commanding Officer, Captain Michael Michel said the Incident Management Team training is important to him and something he feels strongly about.

“I hope I’m wrong, but this Emergency Operation Center will stand up at some time or another,” he said. “It could be an aircraft crash, natural disaster, or man-made disaster, so this is extremely valuable training that will affect everybody.”

Lieutenant Geoffrey Gillespie, Staff Judge Advocate

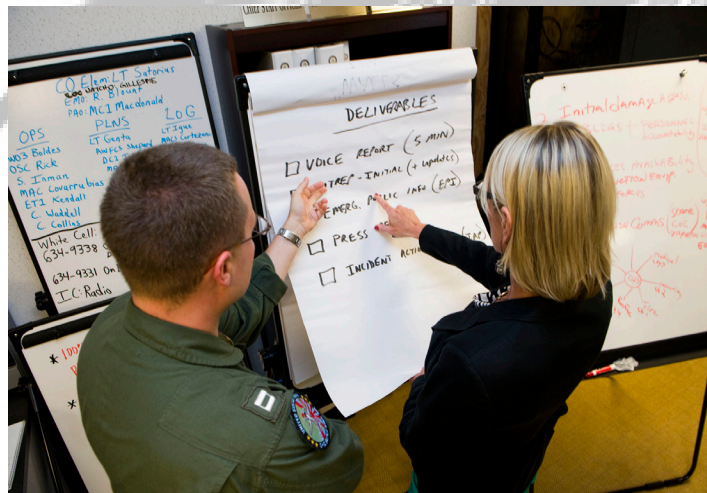


at the Regional Legal Service Office for CFAO, and the assigned Command Duty Officer for the exercise who was responsible for quarterbacking the EOC during the scenario, said training like this gives the team the experience, knowledge, and practice needed to maintain a high level of proficiency and preparedness to respond to any emergency situation.

“We have a group of very hard working, very talented people, and this training showed us once again what a great team we make when we all come together,” he added.

Rochelle Blount, Fleet Activities Okinawa’s newly appointed Emergency Management Officer felt the exercise was realistic in what the team would have to do and how they would need to respond. As the ‘new kid on the block’ she said she was floored at how well they worked together as a team.

“It proved to me that when a tragedy hits this island,



the teamwork CFAO has, will enable us to respond effectively,” Blount said.

Crockett added that CFAO provided his training team with not only a packed class of 26 people, but of primarily senior people who will be the ones manning up the EOC, so the training, in his opinion, could not have been more appropriate.

“Rarely do we receive such a great reception as we have received here,” Crockett added. “CFAO packaged our class with knowledgeable students that gave us wonderful feedback and provided us with positive and informational open discussions in class that was extremely valuable.”

Story and Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Todd Macdonald

Community



1. Sailors enjoy a Karate performance at Busy Bee School.
2. Sailors participate in English through play exchange at the Heshikiya Community Center.
3. Sailors participate in English through play exchange at the Heshikiya Community Center.
4. Sailors participate in a Hijagawa-no Sato retirement home birthday party.
5. Sailors participate in English through play exchange at the Ayahashi Elementary school for the end of the academic school year.
6. Sailors participate in English through play exchange at the Yara Youth Center.
7. Sailors participate in English through play exchange at the Heshikiya Community Center.
8. Sailors join in for a game of dodgeball at Kadena Youth center near Kadena Air Base.
9. Sailors participate in an English through play exchange at the Heshikiya Community Center.
10. Sailors participate at Ayahashi Elementary school end of the academic year exchange play dodgebee (dodgeball with Frisbee).
11. Sailors help set up candles at Lamplight of Peace to commemorate the Battle of Okinawa.
12. Sailors sit and talk with local school kids at Busy Bee School.

Service



