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USS Chafee returns home from deployment

Naval Surface Group
 Middle Pacific
 Public Affairs

The guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90) returned home to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam yesterday from an independent deployment to the U.S. 3rd, 4th and 7th Fleet areas of operations.

Deployed since May, the crew of more than 350 Sailors conducted presence operations and goodwill activities with partner nations while steaming a total of 42,000 nautical miles and visiting 10 different ports across the Pacific and around South America.

"I couldn't be more proud of this crew," said Cmdr. Shea Thompson, Chafee's commanding officer. "They have spent the last seven months performing at a level that has come to define this ship and the 'Chafee Standard' — disciplined, fearless and lethal. This crew can be justifiably proud to have furthered our nation's strategic goals."

The "Honey Dippers" of Detachment 6 of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 37 were embarked aboard Chafee throughout the deployment and returned home to Marine Corps Base Hawaii Dec 16.



(Top photo) USS Chafee (DDG 90) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. U.S. Navy photo by MCC John Hageman. (Above left) Yeoman 2nd Class Komla Amewouame, assigned to the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90), meets his daughter for the first time after Chafee's return from a seven-month independent deployment. U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Laurie Dexter. (Above right) FC2 Kelli Flanagan mans the rails at Chafee's return to homeport. U.S. Navy photo by MCC John Hageman.

Detachment 6 embarked two MH-60R Seahawk helicopters that supported Chafee's role in multi-national exercises and added extended search and communications capability to

its security operations.

In a joint effort with the U.S. Coast Guard and partner nation law enforcement officials, Chafee supported the Oceania Maritime Security Initiative (OMSI)

and provided a strong security presence throughout Oceania. Chafee conducted 19 boardings of U.S. and foreign fishing vessels to ensure compliance with U.S., partner nations, and

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission laws and regulations.

This effort involved Chafee patrolling the high seas and exclusive economic zones (EEZs) of the Repub-

lic of Marshall Islands and Federated States of Micronesia.

Chafee also took part in exercises Talisman Sabre 2015, UNITAS PAC and LANT 2015, as well as other bilateral exercises with the Chilean, Brazilian, Japanese, Mexican and Peruvian navies, while serving as part of the George Washington Carrier Strike Group. Chafee also escorted USS George Washington (CVN 73) during its Southern Sea deployment around South America and through the Straits of Magellan before the carrier's return to Norfolk, Va. this month.

UNITAS is the U.S. Navy's longest running annual multinational maritime exercise. UNITAS, which means "unity" in Latin, is a demonstration of the U.S. commitment to the region and to the value of the strong relationships forged between our partner militaries.

Chafee Sailors engaged local communities through community relations events in Australia, Peru, Chile and Brazil. Projects included spending time with children in special care hospitals, refurbishing

See **CHAFEE** page A-6

Airmen show C-17 medical capability to Indian defense minister

Capt. Nicole White

15th Wing Public Affairs

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Pacific Air Forces Airmen showcased aeromedical evacuation (AE) capabilities of the C-17 Globemaster III as they hosted Manohar Parrikar, India defense minister, and Arun K. Singh, Indian ambassador to the U.S., Dec. 7, as a part of a U.S. Pacific Command visit designed to enhance the U.S.-Indian partnership.

"It is an honor to host Minister Parrikar and Ambassador Singh and discuss how the Indian and U.S. air forces can further enhance their cooperation," said U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Mark Dillon, PACAF vice commander. "A strengthened partnership between our two nations is important for regional peace and security. India's 'Act East' policy and the U.S. rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific highlight our converging interests."

During talks earlier in the day, U.S. Navy Adm. Harry B.

Harris Jr., U.S. PACOM commander, and Parrikar discussed the growth of the strategic partnership between the two nations and how routine, regular and predictable engagements strengthen that partnership. The two also emphasized the importance of expanded maritime security cooperation within the context of broader military-to-military ties, especially in the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

For its part in the visit, PACAF Airmen offered an in-depth AE demonstration with one of India's newest aircraft, the C-17.

The Indian air force (IAF) has the world's 2nd largest fleet of C-17s, behind the U.S., and these aircraft have already proven their value in supporting international response to regional crises. During India's OPERATION MAITRI, IAF used six C-17s and five C-130s, among other airlift assets, to bring personnel and supplies into Nepal alongside PACAF C-17s. The capabilities the C-17 brings to the IAF are tremendous," said Col. Randall Huis, 15th Wing commander. "They will now have the ability



PACAF Airmen demonstrate the aeromedical evacuation capabilities of the C-17 Globemaster III to Manohar Parrikar, the India defense minister (left), and Arun K. Singh, the Indian ambassador to the U.S., Dec. 7 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

to tackle issues using one platform versus multiple aircraft. For example, the C-17 can be used to air drop supplies needed for humanitarian aid into places

not easily accessed."

By demonstrating AE capabilities of the C-17, Airmen here are providing Indian defense officials an understanding of how they

can better leverage their C-17 fleet in a variety of contingency scenarios to include natural disasters.

"With the [institution] of AE, IAF introduces a category of treatment and care," Col. Terri Bailey, chief of aeromedical support, PACAF Surgeon General. "AE allows for the C-17 to be used in a multifunctional capacity to treat patients over long distances. The aircraft is already equipped to handle anything from neonatal care to critical care patients."

The C-17 provides the Indian air force with a payload of 164,900 pounds and can take off from a 7,000-foot airfield, fly 2,400 nautical miles and land on a small, austere airfield with runways of 3,500 feet or less. The C-17 is equipped with an externally blown flap system that allows a steep, low-speed final approach and low-landing speeds for routine short-field landings.

The IAF received their 10 C-17s in June 2013. India paid \$4.1 billion for the aircraft, which is expected to replace their IL-76 fleet.

New Hawaii law to raise smoking age Jan. 1

Brandon Bosworth

Assistant Editor, Ho'okele

On Jan. 1, 2016, Hawaii will become the first state to ban smoking for anyone under the age of 21. Senate Bill 1030 prohibits individuals under the age of 21 from buying, possessing or consuming tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, and bans businesses from selling these products to those under the age of 21.

Those under the age of 21 convicted of breaking the law will be fined \$10 for the first offense and \$50 for subsequent offenses unless the person performs at least 48 hours of community service.

"Hawaii is making it easier for smokers to quit," said Rear Adm. John Fuller, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific. "Quitting tobacco is one of the best things we can do to improve fitness and readiness."

The risks posed by smoking are

well documented.

"According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 16 million Americans are living with a disease caused by smoking," said Eleanor Bru, nurse educator, Naval Health Clinic Hawaii. "That is a considerably large amount. The effort to quit smoking or dipping may be hard for some. However, if you take the first two steps which is getting the support you need and committing to a plan, then you are already heading in

the right direction."

"Healthcare providers know the dangers to warfighters—increased injuries and decreased stamina and lung capacity—so they provide nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) products such as NRT gum and patches," said Fuller.

"My advice to smokers: Take advantage of these therapies," he added. "My advice to nonsmokers: Don't start. My advice to leaders in our ranks: Lead by example."

For information about quitting

tobacco use, contact Naval Health Clinic Hawaii Health Promotion at 471-2280. Navy Medicine tobacco cessation programs are available to all Sailors, Marines, beneficiaries, family members and retirees.

On the Hickam side of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, the Human Performance and Rehabilitation Center offers tobacco cessation programs for service members and family members. For more information, call 448-6170.



Honolulu mayor proclaims Dec. 10 'USS Chung-Hoon Day' See page A-2



Navy spreads the word on stopping spread of dengue See page A-4



'Holly, jolly' holiday events planned at JBPHH See page B-1



Three Chinese navy ships visit Hawaii See page A-2



15th Wing leaders travel to the highest point on Oahu See page A-6



Celebrate with Santa and 'Mighty Mo' See page B-6

Adm. Swift talks regional trends during Cooperative Strategy Forum

Story and photo by Staff
Sgt. Chris Hubenthal

Defense Media Activity —
Hawaii News Bureau

Navy Adm. Scott Swift, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, spoke to more than 100 personnel at the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) during a cooperative strategy forum co-hosted by the Chief of Naval Operations Dec. 14 in Honolulu.

During the forum, Swift delivered a keynote speech to attendees that shared his expectations of those operating in the waters of the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

"I'm focused on the behavior of all naval and maritime forces in the region, not on any specific country," Swift said. "I expect all naval and maritime forces, including my own, to operate responsibly, safely and in full compliance with international law."

The event involved representatives from 10 partner nations with a focus on participants gaining a better understanding



Navy Adm. Scott Swift, commander of U.S. Pacific Fleet, talks to students about regional issues in the Indo-Asia Pacific Region during the Naval War College cooperative strategy forum at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies Dec. 14 in Honolulu.

of each other's viewpoints and fostering improved future collaboration.

Navy Capt. Patrick Gibbons, chief of Naval Operations Staff operations, plans and strategy legal adviser and oceans policy

adviser, explained how the forum builds relationships and strengthens collaborative efforts between the U.S. and its allies.

"This forum is designed to facilitate an exchange of views

among all our allies and partners in the region," Gibbons said. "This exchange of views helps us to understand each other's approaches to the challenges in the region but it also facilitates personal relationships between the attendees. We have flag officers, O-6s, O-5s, and in the case of some countries, O-4s who are going to be here and spend two days with their U.S. and other foreign country counterparts."

Navy Cmdr. Jonathan Odom, APCSS military professor and Cooperative Strategy Forum organizer, said that the APCSS also benefits from these types of multinational events.

"One of the top three priorities in our curriculum, both in workshops and courses that we teach, is now maritime security," Odom said. "For us to hold an event here where you have the leaders or representatives of the navies throughout this region discussing ways to cooperate on maritime issues is clearly quite an opportunity for us."

As part of the event, Swift

explained why maintaining cooperation between partner nations in the region is important.

"Today all Indo-Asia-Pacific nations benefit from a rising tide of prosperity," Swift said. "We all have major stakes in this region's continued success, especially at sea, where so much of our trade, investment and interaction take place."

Swift offered his thoughts on the way ahead for the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

"I'm convinced the continued promotion of the rules-based system that evolved over the past 70 years remains the best way forward for all nations in this region, large and small, to continue to rise peacefully, confidently, securely, and economically," Swift said. "My concern is that after many decades of peace and prosperity at sea, we may be seeing the leading edge of a return of 'might makes right' to the region. Such an approach may once again impact the vibrant but vulnerable waters of Southeast Asia."

Honolulu mayor proclaims Dec. 10 'USS Chung-Hoon Day'

Navy Region Hawaii
Public Affairs

In recognition of Arleigh Burke Class guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon's namesake, service and achievements, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell issued a proclamation Dec. 10 naming the day "USS Chung-Hoon Day."

The printed and framed proclamation was presented by Caldwell's staff to a surprised crew and their family members at the ship's holiday party. Commander Tom Ogden, commanding officer of Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), accepted the proclamation and noted a deep connection with Hawaii.

"Chung-Hoon was honored to receive this proclamation from Mayor Caldwell. The relationship that Chung-Hoon shares with Hawaii based on our

namesake and the personal relationships we have built with the citizens of Hawaii makes this even more special," Ogden said.

"We look forward to continuing to build this relationship while sharing the spirit of Aloha as we deploy to the western Pacific Ocean in the near future."

The ship, commissioned in Pearl Harbor Sept. 18, 2004, is named for Rear Adm. Gordon Pai'ea Chung-Hoon, who "as Commanding Officer of the USS Sigsbee in the spring of 1945, assisted in the destruction of 20 enemy planes while screening a carrier strike force off the island of Kyushu, and was awarded the Navy Cross and Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism," as noted in the pro-

clamation.

"In the past 11 years the ship and her crew continued the extraordinary service and dedication exemplified by Rear Admiral Chung-Hoon, while also maintaining a level of readiness that is second to none," it reads.

Guest of honor, ship's sponsor Michelle Punana Chung-Hoon, Rear Adm. Chung-Hoon's niece, was in attendance at the holiday party. She is invited to ship functions and key Navy ceremonies in Pearl Harbor.

The proclamation lists awards the ship achieved in the past 11

years and concludes:

"Whereas, the men and women who serve aboard the USS Chung-Hoon make tremendous sacrifices when deployed at sea by being away from friends and family for extended periods of time, and through its ombudsman, the ship ensures sailors remain connected with loved ones back home; now, therefore, I, Kirk Caldwell, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, hereby proclaim December 10, 2015, to be

USS Chung-Hoon Day in recognition of the guided-missile destroyer's years of unparalleled service and her crew's dedication to protecting life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for the American people."



The guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) sails through the Pacific Ocean on Nov. 10.

U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Jonathan Jiang

Three Chinese navy ships visit Hawaii for goodwill tour

Naval Surface Group Middle
Pacific Public Affairs

Three People's Liberation Army-Navy [PLA(N)] ships visited Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam from Dec. 13 to 17.

CNS Jinan (DDG 152), CNS Yiyang (FFG 548) and CNS Qiandaohu (AOE 886) arrived in the morning Dec. 13. This routine port visit gave Chinese sailors an opportunity to interact with their U.S. counterparts and demonstrate parity and reciprocity between two maritime nations.

Foreign Navy ships come to Pearl Harbor-Hickam regularly for scheduled port visits. In recent months Pearl Harbor-Hickam was visited by the PLA(N) ship Zheng He, by a ship from Bangladesh, and several times by Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force vessels.

As part of a planned series of military-to-military exchanges between the two nations, the ships were hosted by USS Preble (DDG 88), USS

Chosin (CG 65), and USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93). Chinese and U.S. naval officers conducted dialogues to build confidence and mutual understanding.

The Chinese ships were met by Rear Adm. John Fuller, commander of Navy Region Hawaii, Capt. Stanley Keeve, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and Capt. Kevin Brand, commanding officer of USS Chosin.

American and Chinese sailors engaged in deckplate level events including touring each other's ships and participated in sporting activities. Receptions aboard the PLA(N) vessels and USS Preble also took place.

The last port visit by PLA(N) ships to Pearl Harbor-Hickam was in October 2015.

The U.S. Navy is committed to continued engagement to improve mutual understanding, build trust, enhance transparency, and reduce the risk of misperceptions and miscalculations.



Local well-wishers wave flags as the People's Liberation Army-Navy PLA(N) ships CNS Jinan (DDG-152), CNS Yiyang (FFG-548) and CNS Qiandaohu (AOE-886) arrive Dec. 13 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled port visit.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nardel Gervacio

Diverse VIEWS



What's the best thing that happened to you this year so far?



Staff Sgt. Daniel DeLuna
15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

"It might be a cliché, but the best thing to happen to me this year was getting an assignment to Hawaii. My wife's dream was to live in Hawaii and I'm glad I was able to make it come true."

QMSA Alden Brown
USS John Paul Jones (DDG-53)

"The best thing this year has been getting stationed in Hawaii. I got here in April and I love being out here."



Master Sgt. Michael Dinneen
154th Wing Chapel/HIANG

"In the summer of 2015, I was able to complete a bucket list item. I took Norma (my 2008 FLHP Harley Road King) to the mainland for a 'Four Corner's Trip': California to Florida to Maine to Washington; 42 days, 35 states and 1,341 miles. The only state that I have not ridden in is Alaska. That's my next trip."

SN Timothy Heitert
USS Michael Murphy (DDG-112)

"The best thing this year for me was finding out that I made rate. I was chosen for CTR and I am very excited to start my new job."



Capt. Angelica Hawrysiak
690th Cyberspace Operations Squadron

"Getting to spend ample time with my family and landing an assignment to Hawaii."

QMSN Blake Rodriguez
USS John Paul Jones (DDG-53)

"The best thing which happened to my family this year is we got a dog. It has brought me and my wife together and completed our household."



Staff Sgt. Alexander Seguin
37th Intelligence Squadron

"I would have to say this is one of the best years I have had in my career. This year I joined the club of being a NCO and I've been blessed with having another baby."

Tech. Sgt. Sarah Strasen
15th Operations Support Squadron

"I had the honor and privilege to shake the hands and meet the last two survivors of the attack on Hickam Field during the 74th Remembrance Ceremony on Dec. 7, 2015. It was the most humbling experience I have ever had. They are true heroes."



Provided by Lt. Paul Fylstra and David D. Underwood Jr.

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

Ho'okele to be on hiatus

Today's edition of Ho'okele will be the last issue for 2015 before its holiday hiatus. The first issue of Ho'okele in 2016 will be Jan. 15.

During the time that Ho'okele is on break the publisher, Oahu Publications, will publish a joint military issue, Military Star, which will combine news from all of the services.

Happy holidays to all of our readers! Stay safe. Enjoy the holidays with your families. We'll see you in the new year.

- Editors

Keep those deployed in mind during holidays

Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith

Commander, Navy Installations Command

(Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith, Commander, Navy Installations Command, published a holiday message for everyone in the CNIC family. Both Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Pacific Missile Range Facility are part of the CNIC family of installations worldwide. Vice Adm. Smith is a former Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (Oct. 2008 to Nov. 2011). His message is available in the most recent edition of CNIC Shoreline: <http://go.usa.gov/cKzHb> — Editor)

Team,

As we approach the end of the calendar year, I'd like to personally thank each of you for all your hard work and dedication in meeting the demands that are placed upon us every day in support of the Fleet, Fighter and Family. It is because of your spirit



Vice Adm. Dixon R. Smith

and commitment to doing your best that we are able to succeed. I have had the privilege to witness much of the work you do firsthand during my travels throughout this past year and I look forward to continuing to connect with you in 2016.

In November, we recognized a variety of events, including Native American Heritage, Military Child, and Wounded Warrior month. On Veterans Day I had the privilege of speaking at the Wounded Warrior — Safe Harbor Foundation luncheon

here in Washington, D.C. It was an absolute honor to recognize our warriors on such a hallowed day for our Nation. The value CNIC's Wounded Warrior — Safe Harbor program brings to these brave men and women and their families is deeply appreciated by those who are enrolled, and I commend everyone across the enterprise who has contributed to this important mission.

With the holidays upon us, it is easy to get caught in the social engagements and festivities, or traveling to see loved ones.

These events can also come with some added stress — I ask that while we take time to relax that we also keep an eye on our shipmates to ensure we all are able to enjoy this time of year. I would be remiss if I did not ask each of us to pause to keep those deployed away from their family, friends, and loved ones in our thoughts during the holiday season as they stand ready to defend our freedom.

As we continue to mon-

itor the news about the recent terrorist attacks in Paris and California, and threats made against the United States and other nations, I ask that you continue to remain vigilant; that you maintain a heightened sense of awareness. Know your surroundings as you venture out, and become familiar with the tips and helpful information offered on the Department of Homeland Security website outlining their "See

Something, Say Something" campaign at www.dhs.gov.

Looking ahead into the New Year, I am confident we will continue to provide first class service to the fleet through the relationships we build and maintain with one another and our external stakeholders. Working together, we will focus on our FY16 objectives, live by the values of our guiding principles, and continue to make the Navy better for the Fleet, Fighter, and Family. Here's to 2016!

Safety Center brings back 'Friday Funnies'

Naval Safety Center

(Just like "That Guy" cartoons or "Darwin Awards," "Friday Funnies" Summary of Mishap reports take serious safety issues and shine a light of absurdity, all to make people think about their decisions. Friday Funnies were popular as naval messages throughout the Fleet. Now they return online: <http://ow.ly/VZCQq>.)

From the Naval Safety Center:

Welcome to numero uno in our new series of archive editions of the Summary of Mishaps. The plan is to plow our way through true-life misadventures from the past, adding chapters to our risk-mismanagement masterpiece, "How Not To Do Stuff." This week's topic: alcohol (not in moderation).

There's a reason why the word "toxic" is imbedded in the word "intoxication."

A. An SKSA returning from liberty was sitting on the edge of a pier, waiting to make a phone call. He was way too drunk to be in such a precarious position, but shipmates weren't worried about him, the report said, because he had been "able to hide most of it" and could still walk a straight line. His shipmates soon got a chance to note that he could also fall in a straight line, because he passed out and dropped into the oil slick, soda bottles, cigarette

butts, shriveled orange peels, scraps of styrofoam and other assorted garbage below.

A pair of Sailors jumped in to keep him afloat until a rescue boat arrived. He swallowed vomit and spent two weeks in sickbay with pneumonia. The two rescuers should get tetanus shots and awards, in that order.

B. Question: Where were the two Sailors going when the driver, an E-2 with a suspended license and a BAC of 0.16 and no seatbelt and doing 45 mph in a 30 mph zone, veered off the road and slammed into a couple of trees?

Answer: The package store, of course. Why? Because they had absorbed all of the beer available in their barracks. The driver was trapped inside for a half-hour before the rescue squad extracted him. He spent 17 days in the hospital. The passenger, who was buckled up, escaped with a broken nose. Good headwork on the seatbelt. Bad headwork on riding with a guy who was legally drunk and illegally driving.

C. Snug and safe at home, an HM3 was planning his afternoon. "Self," he said, "I believe I'll knock back a few beers. And not only that," he continued, "I'll leave the definition of 'a few' until later."

Five hours later and legally drunk, he decided

that he just positively had to go to the store. The report doesn't come out and say that he had depleted his suds supply. Perhaps he just needed some dish detergent and a light bulb. Hope it wasn't anything perishable, though, because he didn't make it back. Nope, he plowed into the rear end of a slow-moving car. He didn't notice the speed differential.

On the bright side, he was wearing his seatbelt. On the dark side, that didn't keep him from a DUI charge. "Visibility was limited due to night time conditions," the report said. Yeah, that's what it was. The visibility.

D. A Marine E-3 headed into town with a powerful thirst and a pathetic understanding of the meaning of the word "few" when applied to alcoholic beverages. During the next four hours he consumed nine Long Island iced teas, which, for you teetotalers out there, is one of the highest-octane drinks available.

He was drunk when he got back to base (the report doesn't say how he accomplished this part of his mission). But he was still thirsty, so he hit the club and kept drinking until they kicked him out.

A buddy, bless his heart, offered him a ride home. Soon the marinated Marine started gasping and com-

plaining about chest pains. So his journey continued to a naval hospital — he just wasn't conscious for this part because he had passed out at the barracks.

Docs figured he was allergic to alcohol. Of course, anyone is allergic to that much alcohol, but I suppose they were correct. The Marine ended up with four days of light duty, which, by some coincidence, was how long his hangover lasted.

E. A seaman and his fireman recruit buddy were partying overseas. After drinking steadily for several hours, the seaman scrutinized his pal and concluded he was sober enough to drive through those twisting European streets on the way back to their ship. Thus, the two shipmates (who'd "only had a couple of beers") struck out for fleet landing in the fireman's car.

However, the seaman was wrong, you see. The fireman was so drunk at the time, he remembers nothing after staggering out of a bar around 2230. Four hours after his last conscious recollection, this extra from the "Night of the Living Dead" loses control of his car and smashes headlong into a light pole. Then they roll down an embankment and come to a rest upright in a clump of bushes.

Moral: Better safe than smashed.

Hickam buildings damaged after attack

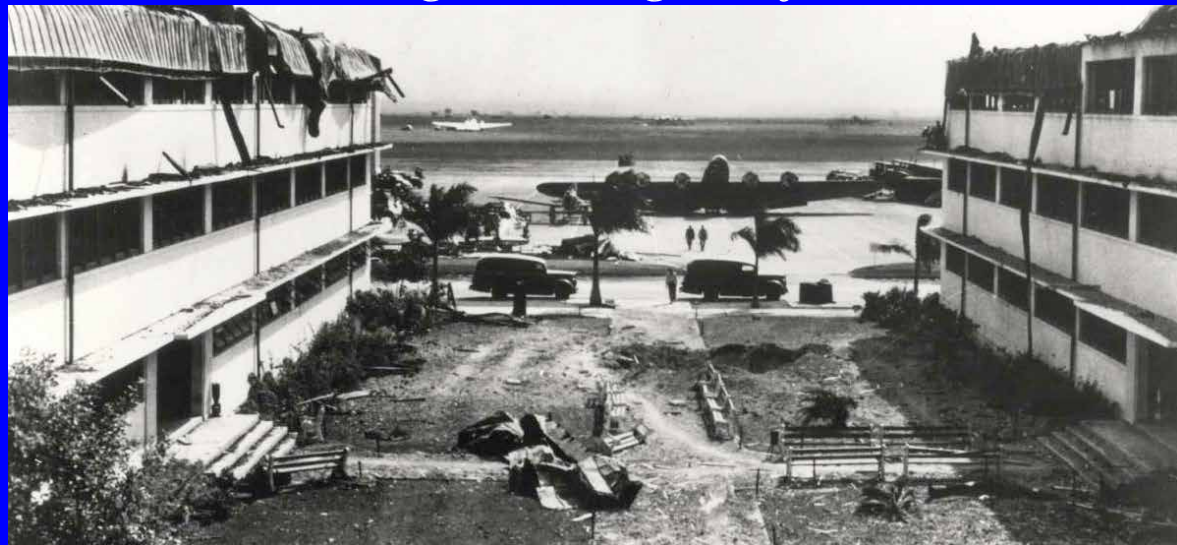


Photo courtesy of the state of Hawaii Department of Transportation

This photo shows the view looking out toward Hangar Avenue and the flight line from the courtyard between the heavily damaged Wing E and Wing D of the big barracks at Hickam Field. This historical photo was taken after the attack by Imperial Japan on Dec. 7, 1941.

HO'okele

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U.S. Navy film photo

Lt. Ryan Larson, of Erie, Pa., demonstrates the working of a sentinel trap used for catching day-biting mosquitoes. The demonstration took place outside of Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit (NEPMU) 6, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

Navy spreads the word on stopping spread of dengue

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

The Navy in Hawaii is spreading the word about stopping the spread of dengue fever. On Dec. 10 Navy Entomologist Lt. j.g. Liza Gerardo of Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Six (NEPMU-6) appeared on local TV to talk about how dengue can be prevented.

As of Dec. 10 there were 145 cases of dengue isolated on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Gerardo showed how mosquitoes are trapped and identified. She was interviewed by co-anchor Jai Cunningham on KHON2's Wake Up 2day biweekly Navy News segment.

The Navy routinely conducts surveys, studies and shares information with the state. Providing information about dengue and tips for preventing mosquitoes is everyone's responsibility, according to the health officials.

"Dengue is a virus that is transmitted by (certain types of) infected female mosquito and ... it makes you feel really crummy for a couple of weeks," Gerardo said. Symptoms include



Photos from the Walter Reed Biosystematics Unit

The primary mosquitoes that transmit dengue fever, the yellow fever mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) (left) and the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) (right).

high fever, headaches and joint pain. Dengue can be life-threatening in rare situations.

As for prevention, Gerardo gave advice on "the four Ds of dengue — drain, discard, deny and DEET."

"Drain: If you have any flower pots, food bowls for your pets or gutters, make sure they're drained at least once a week.

"Discard: Look around your home; if you have any empty containers or rubbish, throw it away. Make sure it's not collecting water.

"Deny is about exclusion,

so make you have no holes in your screens and they are put up appropriately so when you open the windows no mosquitoes come inside.

"DEET: We recommend everyone wear a DEET repellent like the ones I brought, or an appropriate alternative ... available at any regular store."

Gerardo displayed examples of repellent and demonstrated how mosquito traps and collection are used in the field.

The video and a related story are available online: <http://ow.ly/W02kj>.

55th Annual Sea Services Award luncheon recognizes service members

Navy Public Affairs Support Element Detachment Hawaii

HONOLULU—The Honolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States recognized more than 50 military members during the 55th Annual Sea Services Awards Luncheon held Dec. 3 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu.

The Navy League presents the annual Sea Services Awards to service members, as well as civilian members of the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, for outstanding personal contributions that advance the logistic readiness and competence of the sea services.

"Each branch of the armed services instills core values in its members from the moment they step forward to serve our great country," said Capt. James Kalowsky, commanding officer of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, who was the keynote speaker.

Following the parading of colors and the playing of the national anthem, retired Capt. Carl Devoe and Kalowsky presented awards to more than 50 military members.

"We recognize you today. We honor your leadership, and we honor the trust that you have established with yours peers," said Kalowsky.

"We honor the initiative responsi-

bility and judgment that you have."

During the presentation of awards, many of the honorees were surprised to learn they were nominated to receive the Sea Services Award.

"I have just learned about this award, and I am very excited to have my command nominate me for it," said Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 1st Class Courtney Evers, assigned to Navy Operation Information Command at Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH).

"This award shows me that hard work I put in every single day is appreciated by my chain of command," said Navy Aircrew Survival Equipmentman 3rd Class Diego Beltran Carreno, assigned to Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 at MCBH.

Family members, friends and colleagues also accompanied many of the honorees to show their support.

"As you go forward honorees, carry with you the concepts of authority, responsibility and accountability because you've already entered into the realm of the leadership," said Kalowsky.

"I would like to thank the Navy League for leading us in exercising that often not exercised positive accountability in recognizing our honorees today," said Kalowsky.

"Honorees, you got caught doing something good, and now you will be held accountable for it."



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Katarzyna Kobijak

Capt. James K. Kalowsky, commanding officer of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility and keynote speaker, delivers remarks during the 55th annual Navy League Sea Services Awards Luncheon at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu.

New fitness course looks to help military 'WREC' their slow run times

Staff Sgt. Christopher Stoltz

15th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen and Sailors at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam who are looking to decrease their run times have a new option, as the 15th Medical Group has launched the Warfighter Run Enhancement Course, or WREC.

The program, which lasts five weeks, is a way for military service members to learn new ways of decreasing their run time. The program is not just for those who are struggling with their run times, but

also for those who are looking to further excel.

Jonathan Low, an exercise physiologist, created the Warfighter Run Enhancement Course.

Low modified a current program to emphasize injury prevention, through increased dynamic warm-ups, and making the "running" portion more variable and intense. He also took the program's original design of eight weeks and shortened it to five weeks to decrease attrition.

"Any active-duty personnel are eligible for the WREC," said Low. "Originally, the program was designed to help Air-

men who were 'on-the-bubble' with their run times, or those with a PT score of 80 or below. This was expanded to be available to all Airmen and allows for all service active-duty members to attend."

According to Low, the WREC is based on the optimum performance training model of the National Academy of Sports Medicine. It focuses on decreasing the risk for injury by properly preparing the body for a "stress" and by appropriately "dosing" both exercise type and intensity to elicit maximum physical response.

"The goal of the WREC is to teach the Warfighter a more

beneficial, time-appropriate and effective way to improve their running abilities," said Low.

Low said the health promotion element of the 15th Aerospace Medicine Squadron's Public Health Flight holds the course approximately every seven weeks. The program lasts approximately five weeks from start to finish, involving a pre- and a post-1.5 mile run assessment and is held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at Earhart Track on the Hickam side of Joint Base, beginning at 6 a.m.

"Mr. Low created the WREC to show the modern Warfighter

that they can accomplish large physical effort tasks within a small amount of time using both focused effort and direction," said Colleen Treacy, 15th MDG health promotion program coordinator. "As an Exercise Physiologist, it is Mr. Low's desire to show how proper subject matter expertise, when applied effectively, can change not only fitness levels — but also impact other aspects of life for our active-duty service members."

For more information about the program, or to request to join, contact the Hickam HPARC at 448-6180, or email the request to 1515mdg.hparcfitness@us.af.mil.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights

Daniel Martinez, left, chief historian at the USS Arizona Memorial, and Rear Adm. John Fuller, right, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, escort the ashes of Retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Langdell onto the USS Arizona Memorial for an interment Dec. 7.

Photo by Bonnie Grower



(From left to right): Daniel Martinez, left, chief historian at the USS Arizona Memorial; Ted Langdell and John Langdell, sons of Retired Navy Lt. Cmdr. Joseph Langdell; and Rear Adm. John Fuller, right, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific present an urn with the remains of Joseph Langdell to divers positioned dockside. During a ceremony held Dec. 7, divers inserted the urn into the number two turret of the USS Arizona as other members of Langdell's family observed. Langdell's ashes will remain with his shipmates who were lost on Dec. 7, 1941.

National Park Service photo by Brett Seymour

(Right) Manohar Parrikar, the India defense minister (right), and Arun K. Singh, the Indian ambassador to the U.S., received an in-depth aeromedical evacuation demonstration of the C-17 Globemaster III from Pacific Air Forces Airmen at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Dec. 7. The Indian air force has the world's second largest fleet of C-17s, behind the U.S.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Aaron Oelrich



Sailors assigned to USS Chung Hoon (DDG-93) and USS Preble (DDG-88) compete with Chinese sailors in a friendly game of tug-of-war Dec. 15 at Quick Field, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The People's Liberation Army-Navy PLA(N) ships CNS Jinan (DDG-152), CNS Yiyang (FFG-548), and CNS Qiandaohu (AOE-886) arrived in Hawaii for a scheduled port visit, Dec. 13.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nardel Gervacio

Sailors assigned to USS Chung Hoon (DDG-93) and USS Preble (DDG-88) compete with Chinese sailors in a friendly game of basketball Dec. 15 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Fitness Center.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Nardel Gervacio



15th Wing leaders travel to highest point on Oahu

Story and photo by
Tech Sgt. Aaron Oelrich

15th Wing Public Affairs

Col. Randy Huiss, 15th Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Jerry Williams, 15th Wing command chief, along with other leaders from the Hawaii Air National Guard, traveled to the highest point on the island of Oahu, Dec. 4, to understand the unique mission of the 169th Air Defense Squadron on Mount Kaala Air Force Station.

According to Huiss, this visit was an opportunity to better understand the mission of the 169th ADS and improve the integration with the HIANG and active duty Air Force.

Airmen from the 169th ADS travel from sea level to roughly 4,000 feet up the mountain just to get to their duty location. Once at the top of the mountain, they stay for 24 hours to keep watch over radio antennas and equipment, preventing any interruption to the air defense mission of the squadron.

“One thing that really stood out was the conditions some of them have to overcome to accom-



Master Sgt. Morris Niibu, a radio frequency technician for the 169th Air Defense Squadron, shows Col. Randy Huiss, 15th Wing commander, the Federal Aviation Administration's radar tower during a tour of the Mount Kaala Air Force Station, Dec. 4.

plish the mission, just to get up the mountain driving on a one lane road after a 24-hour shift,” said Huiss.

There are between 15 and 20 Airmen from the 169th that work in two-man teams. When on duty, they eat, sleep and exercise high above the rest of the island.

“We work 24 hours because the road is very dangerous. There are no lights and it is very narrow, so we only drive it during the day,” said Master Sgt. Morris Niibu, a radio frequency technician for the 169th ADS.

Regardless of the challenges faced by the Airmen of the 169th ADS, they perform in a professional manner.

“They are some of the most professional that I have ever seen,” said Lt. Col. Christopher Jarratt, 169th ADS commander. “They are very self-sufficient and maintain a very high level of technical capability. I know if there is ever an issue with the radios it will be corrected immediately. I am extremely proud of the 169th ADS and the HIANG, performing this mission 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and never taking a day off from the mission.”

USS Tucson visits Subic Bay during Indo-Asia-Pacific deployment

Lt. j.g. Jimmy Dinh

USS Tucson Public Affairs Office

SUBIC BAY, Philippines — The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) arrived at Subic Bay Dec. 6, for a visit as part of its Indo-Asia-Pacific deployment.

Home-ported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, USS Tucson is able to operate in all oceans of the world.

With a crew of approximately 150, Tucson will conduct a multitude of missions and showcase the latest capabilities of the submarine fleet.

“USS Tucson will provide unique capabilities in support of the theater commander's strategies during the length of our deployment,” said Cmdr. Michael Bequette, Tucson's commanding officer.

The submarine's crew operates with a high state of readiness and is always prepared to tackle any mission that comes their way.

“The men have worked and trained hard to prepare the ship for deployment and their performance over the past eleven months has been



U.S. Navy file photo

The Los Angeles-class, fast-attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770) arrives at Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka in Japan in this file photo during a previous routine deployment last year to the western Pacific.

nothing less than exceptional,” said Senior Chief Electronics Technician Billy Daly Jr., USS Tucson's chief of the boat. “I am proud to serve with each and every one of these Sailors and to be part of USS Tucson.”

For many of the crew members, this was their

first time visiting the Philippines.

“I look forward to learning about the customs and traditions of the Philippines,” said Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Evan Lusk. “I intend to view local sites and look forward to some well-earned rest and relaxation.”

However, some of the Tucson's Filipino-American Sailors had an opportunity to connect with their heritage.

“I am excited to visit my family's home country and share our native heritage with my fellow shipmates,” said Seaman Christian Bello.

Measuring more than 360-foot-long, USS Tucson is one of the stealthiest and most advanced submarines in the world. This submarine is capable of supporting a multitude of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike, intelligence, surveil-

lance and reconnaissance.

Tucson is the 59th Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine and the 20th of the improved Los Angeles attack submarines to be built.

For more news from Commander, Submarine Group 7, visit www.navy.mil/csg7/

Families and friends welcome USS Chafee Sailors home

Continued from page A-1

schools and building playgrounds.

The officers and crew achieved numerous new career milestones to include the following: 22 reenlistments, 11 Surface Warfare Officer and 95 Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualifications, and 17 new Officer of the Deck letters achieved.

Along the way, Chafee also set

a new world record for refueling at sea as it received 205,292 gallons of fuel from USS George Washington during a four hour alongside in August. Chafee would go on to conduct four more refueling operations with the carrier for a total time of 12 hours alongside.

Chafee also executed a variety of diplomatic tasking where it hosted several foreign naval VIPs, dignitaries, and a U.S.

Congressional delegation. The highlight of the engagements was the special visit by U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands, Timothy Broas, and prime minister of Curacao, Ben Whiteman while the ship was on a brief stop in Curacao. Broas was treated to a luncheon by the Ney Award finalist galley staff before touring Chafee and getting the chance to learn about the ship's capabilities from crewmembers.

Ultimately, the ship transited through the Straits of Magellan and navigated home via the 50 nautical mile stretch through the lakes and locks of the Panama Canal.

USS Chafee is named for Gov. John L. H. Chafee, who served in both the enlisted and officer ranks in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and Korea before serving as Secretary of the Navy, senator and

two-term governor of the state of Rhode Island.

Homeported at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Chafee is a multi-mission ship with strike warfare, anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-surface warfare capabilities designed to operate independently or with an associated strike group.

This is the ship's first operational deployment since 2012.

Navy Reads: Heartfelt 'Destiny and Power' of Bush 41

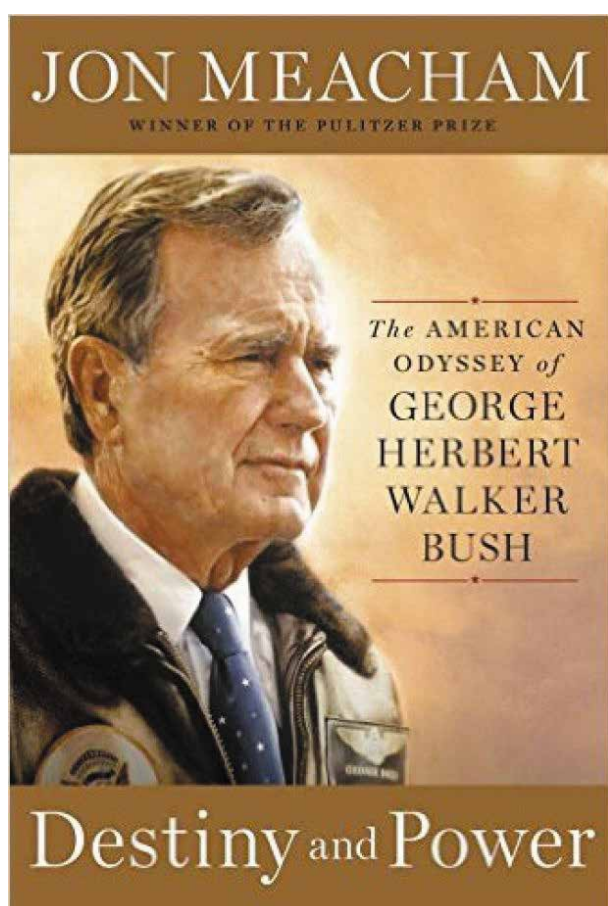
Review by
Bill Doughty

The future President George H. W. Bush was 17 years old, attending Phillips Academy Andover, when Imperial Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. When he turned 18 he went off to war. When he was 20 he was a naval aviator with VT-51 in the Pacific, flying from the deck of USS San Jacinto.

On Sept. 2, 1944 Bush was shot down in action over Chichi-Jima, an island heavily defended communications/supply island 700 miles south of Tokyo. His squadron's mission was to take out a radio tower atop Mount Yoake.

Author Jon Meacham recounts the terror Bush felt before, during and after his plane was hit by enemy fire.

Bush was in range of the tower. The Japanese guns filled the air with flak. Flying at a thirty-five-degree angle to the surface, Bush zeroed in on the target and went straight for it. Racing ever closer to the island, the plane was hit. As the Avenger jolted forward, Bush was able to keep it on target. Smoke filled the cockpit. Flames raced along the wings.



Bush stayed the course and dropped his bombs, damaging the radio tower, according to Meacham, before accelerating back out to sea. He knew his plane was losing altitude due to the severity of the fire. "Hit the Silk" he remembers telling his two crewmen.

"Buffeted by the wind ... Bobbing on the surface ...stung my a Portuguese

man-of-war ..." Bush was a target for the Japanese as he paddled with his arms and waited for help. He was rescued by the submarine USS Finback. His first concern was for his aircrew. Two were lost and never found.

Meacham's account comes in Part II of "Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of



Bush in WWII.

Photo courtesy of
Navy History and Heritage Command

George Herbert Walker Bush" (Random House, 2015). Part II is titled "War and Marriage."

The crucible event in the western Pacific galvanized Bush's character, which had first been shaped, according to Meacham, by Bush's mother to be "courageous, competitive, caring, and tireless." Yet a complicated amalgam of guilt and appreciation for being alive continued throughout his life:

There was no logic to the costs of combat. Bush realized, no real rhyme or reason. All you could do was your best, and take what came ... "I'll always wonder, 'Why me? Why was I spared?'" Bush re

called. He spent the rest of his life striving to prove that he was worthy of being saved when others were doomed.

Undoubtedly his wisdom gained in combat and service in the Navy at such a young age helped inform his decision-making decades later as commander-in-chief.

Meacham's masterwork biography includes a generational perspective of Bush's family, including with his partner First Lady Barbara Bush; his time at Yale; his achievements in business; life in Texas; diplomacy in China; the "Age of Reagan;" the winning of the Cold War; his Presidency; and the "Twilight" years since.

While most of the book understandably focuses on politics, Meacham makes it personal; he takes us into the mind of the former president, thanks to extensive interviews, access to Bush's recorded diary and well-documented research.

Our only complaint is that there could have been more space devoted to Bush Sr.'s service in the Navy. There's a brief but warm mention of the commissioning of USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77). Still, there's more here

than in other biographies of our 41st president.

Former Chief of Staff John Sununu, for example, devoted barely one page out of nearly 400 to his former Boss's naval career in "The Quiet Man: The Indispensable Presidency of George H. W. Bush" (Broadside Books, 2015).

Sununu writes:

"Underneath his kinder and gentler exterior are a bona fide toughness and a commitment to complete his missions. After he was shot down—he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism—he arrived in Hawaii for reassignment. He was offered a choice of returning to the United States or rejoining his old squadron, which was still battling in the Pacific. Bush elected to return to his squadron."

Nearly all of the rest of Sununu's book is a subjective behind-the-scenes look at the Bush 41 administration. Nearly all political. Meacham's work is much more objective, more insightful and, ironically, more heartfelt.

Read a review of "Fly-boys of WWII" also on Navy Reads.

(Doughty writes Navy Reads on weekends: <http://navyreads.blogspot.com/>.)

Rare images reveal details of U.S. Navy seaplane lost in Pearl Harbor attack

NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries

NOAA and University of Hawaii archaeologists have released rare images of a U.S. Navy airplane sunk during the opening minutes of the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor on Oahu on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. The attack led to the United States' entry into World War II.

Minutes before attacking Pearl Harbor, Japanese Imperial Navy aircraft bombed the nearby U.S. Naval Air Station on the east coast of Oahu. There were 27 Catalina PBV "flying boats" on the ground or moored on Kaneohe Bay which were destroyed, and six others were damaged. The strike on the seaplane base was a significant loss for the U.S. military, as these long-range patrol bombers could have followed the Japanese planes back to their carriers.

In 1994, Kaneohe Bay's murky waters thwarted a University of Hawaii dive team's attempt to photograph the wreck of a Catalina PBV-5. A second effort in 2008 by a local sport diving group, Hawaii Underwater Explorers, also had limited success.

In June, with better visibility and using improved camera equipment, a team of students from the University of Hawaii Marine Option Program returned to the wreck and con-



Photo courtesy of the UH Marine Option Program

A diver examines the gunner's forward turret on a PBV-5 Catalina resting on its right side in Kaneohe Bay. The plane was sunk during the attack at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

ducted a detailed archaeological survey. The student effort was coordinated by Hans Van Tilburg, a maritime archaeologist with NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. This latest effort also produced the first systematic photo and video documentation of the entire site.

Van Tilburg said while the precise identity of the aircraft remains unknown, it is possible the crew died while attempting to take off in the face of the

attack. The plane, which rests in three large pieces at a depth of 30 feet, is protected by the Sunken Military Craft Act of 2004, which prohibits unauthorized disturbance of military vessels or planes owned by the U.S. government, as well as foreign sunken military craft that lie within U.S. waters.

"The new images and site plan help tell the story of a largely forgotten casualty of the attack," Van Tilburg said. "The sunken

PBV plane is a very important reminder of the 'Day of Infamy,' just like the USS Arizona and USS Utah. They are all direct casualties of Dec. 7."

"This sunken flying boat is a window into the events of the attack, a moment in time that reshaped the Pacific region," said June Cleghorn, senior archaeologist at Marine Corps Base Hawaii. "Understanding this site sheds light on the mystery of the lost PBVs and honors the legacy

of the Navy and Marine Corps Base in Hawaii."

The University of Hawaii Marine Option Program is the only institution that offers maritime archaeological survey training to undergraduates in the Pacific. The survey course, known as MAST (Maritime Archaeology Surveying Techniques), teaches marine scientists how to document significant but little-known World War II historic artifacts and

other types of submerged sites.

"We're excited to partner with NOAA in order to create these unique and important opportunities for our students," said Cynthia L. Hunter, Marine Option Program director. "Partnerships like this provide a means by which forgotten history is remembered, and stories like those of the PBV fleet can be shared with new generations, including the students who worked to map the wreck."

To see photos, video and other materials, visit <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/shipwrecks/pbv-5/>.

NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 170,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters. Through active research, management, and public engagement, national marine sanctuaries sustain healthy environments that are the foundation for thriving communities and stable economies.

NOAA's mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and our other social media channels.

Remembering Pearl Harbor: A 'body blow' to America

Story and photos by Sean Kimmons

Air Force News Service

WASHINGTON (AFNS) —When the first bombs exploded on a nearby airfield, marking the start of the Japanese sneak attack on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941, Edward Davis and others scrambled from a chow hall.

The 94-year-old Army veteran said he and other Soldiers were having breakfast at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, when Imperial Japanese aircraft dive-bombed the adjacent Wheeler Army Airfield.

"We all ran outside and looked up at the sky to see what was going on," the retired first sergeant said before a Pearl Harbor remembrance ceremony Dec. 7 at the World War II Memorial.

At that point, a few Mitsubishi A6M Zero fighters roared over the Army base and fired at them, killing and injuring several Soldiers from his unit.

"I couldn't believe it," he said, recalling how the attacks stoked fears of a looming Japanese invasion. "It was an unbelievable tragedy."

The attacks on the island of Oahu eventually left more than 2,400 dead and almost 1,200 wounded as it catapulted the U.S. into the war.

"It dealt us a body blow that I think was a rude awakening to Americans," said Herb Durham, a former Army Air Corps pilot. "The war had started and as a young man I was eager to get in."

During the war, Durham, one of about 20 WWII veterans at the ceremony, said he had some scary moments in Europe where he flew Republic



P-47 Thunderbolt fighters.

One time while strafing German positions, a 20-mm round hit his canopy, causing shattered glass and shrapnel from the round to cut his face.

"I was lucky I had on my oxygen mask and goggles," he said of the March 1945 mission. "The doctor said I was lucky I didn't lose my left eye."

About a month later, Durham faced his biggest test when his aircraft was

shot down behind enemy lines.

"I was dive-bombing a target and when I pulled off the target I got hit in the engine," the 91-year-old veteran recalled. "But I had a lot of air speed so I pulled up to about 6,000 feet and bailed out."

Durham was later caught by German soldiers who threw him in a prison camp. But a few weeks later, he said, the soldiers abandoned the camp as U.S. tanks ap-

proached it, freeing him and others.

In the Pacific Theater, former Marine Cpl. Ed Graham, who joined a dozen veterans on an honor flight from Texas for the ceremony, was sent to the tense Battle of Iwo Jima.

At first, Graham, 90, said he was part of a floating reserve until the battle turned fiercer than expected and ultimately had about 26,000 American casualties including

6,800 dead.

"We weren't supposed to go in but they tore them up so bad the first day," he said of how the Japanese forces pinned down his fellow Marines. "It was pretty bad for the whole crew."

Graham, assigned to the 3rd Marine Division, was later sent to the island to help purify water for combat-weary troops in the 36-day battle.

"All we had to worry about were mortars and

snipers," he said.

But he and other troops received some motivation when U.S. troops raised the American flag on top of Mount Suribachi, which later became an iconic image of the war.

"I was on board the ship when they raised it and everybody clapped, yelled and screamed," he recalled. "It was quite a sight."

The attack on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent "a date which will live in infamy" speech by President Franklin D. Roosevelt inspired many young men to sign up and fight in the costly war, which left more than 400,000 American servicemen dead and forever shaped the world.

Navy veteran Ted Waller said he rushed to the recruiter's office following the attack.

"I went down the next day and tried to sign up but there were so many people there that they told us to go home until after Christmas so we could spend time with family," the 92-year-old veteran recalled. "I came back the day after (Christmas) and got sworn in."

Waller went on to take part in the world's first all-aircraft carrier naval clash, the Battle of the Coral Sea, and roughly a dozen other battles. He then witnessed the Japanese surrender some of its South Pacific territories while on board the USS Portland at Truk, Caroline Islands, on Sept. 2, 1945—an event often overshadowed by Japan's surrender on the USS Missouri in Toyko Bay, Japan, that same day.

"At the time it didn't mean anything, but now it does," he said of the formal surrender. "It was the beginning of changes in our American life."

JBP HH hosts 46th annual Freedom Tower Lighting

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Aaron
Oelrich

15th Wing Public
Affairs

Leaders from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, military service members and their families welcomed the holiday season during the 46th annual Freedom Tower Lighting celebration held Dec. 11 at Joint Base.

According to Todd Offet, the master of sermons for the event, 4,000 service members and their families attended the annual celebration.

The event began in the

early evening, allowing everyone to enjoy a variety of attractions including bounce houses, an interactive trampoline exhibition, craft building, a free photo with Santa Claus as well as entertainment provided by the Air Force Band of the Pacific.

Although the event was full of various attractions, the main event was the lighting of the Freedom Tower itself.

Capt. Stanley Keeve, commander Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Col. Randy Huiss, 15th Wing commander, pulled the lever to illuminate the more than 5,000 lights strung from top of the 178-foot tower.

"This is a great family event that would not be possible without a lot of hard work," said Keeve. "We have a lot of people to thank. To MWR, Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Civil Engineering Squadron, who strung the lights, Security Forces and our medical professional, thank you."

Freedom Tower is slated to be lit all week, beginning at dusk. Pending any decision to remove the lights sooner, visitors should be able to view the illuminated tower until the end of the year. Freedom Tower is located on Manzelman Circle, near Hickam Elementary School.



This holiday: Make connection, donate blood

Armed Services Blood Program

The holiday season has finally arrived, and with it comes time spent with friends, families and a multitude of loved ones.

The need for blood donations does not take a holiday, as blood is perishable and cannot be artificially reproduced.

The Armed Services Blood Program (ASBP) encourages everyone to make a special holiday connection and donate blood.

"Whether you have donated blood before or not, I really encourage you to get out and roll up your sleeve this holiday season," said Navy Capt. Roland Fahie, ASBP director. "There are many ill or injured service members, veterans and their families in need of blood all over the world, and your selfless act of donating will help save their lives."

It is common for blood donations to decrease during the winter months as many of the ASBP's usual donors are on leave for the holidays. However, the need for blood does not cease. Each year, the military blood program provides blood and blood products to more than

1.3 million service members, veterans and their families worldwide. In order to do that, the program relies on volunteer donations from active duty service members and civilians alike.

"Year round, a large portion of our donor pool is unable to donate because they were deployed or stationed in a malaria endemic country," Fahie said. "These type of travel restrictions limit who can donate, so this means the Armed Services Blood Program relies heavily on donations from our military family in order to ensure that our blood needs are continually met."

Making the connection is about more than donating blood, Fahie said. "It's about saving lives — many times it means saving the lives of a complete stranger. Other times, it means donating blood in honor of a loved one."

This year, family members traveled all over the country to support their family members. Bosma, Etter and Greenberg families, for example, rolled up their sleeves on both coasts while Ryan Newkirk donated in honor of her fiancé who was more than 900 miles away.

The ASBP has more than 20 blood donor centers worldwide, all of which will conduct blood drives over the winter months, weather permitting. Walk-in donations are welcome. However, appointments are encouraged. Visit www.militarydonor.com to find a list of upcoming blood drives in your area.

"It is important to remember that the need for blood does not stop during the holiday season," Fahie said. "The Armed Services Blood Program is determined to provide safe, quality and potent blood and blood products without interruption, and we need your help to do it. Make the Connection this year, donate blood."

About the Armed Services Blood Program

Since 1962, the Armed Services Blood Program has served as the sole provider of blood for the United States military. As a tri-service organization, the ASBP collects, processes, stores and distributes blood and blood products to Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and their families worldwide.

As one of four national blood collection organizations trusted to ensure the

nation has a safe, potent blood supply, the ASBP works closely with civilian counterparts by sharing donors on military installations where there are no military blood collection centers and by sharing blood products in times of need to maximize availability of this national treasure. Visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil to find out more about the ASBP or to schedule an appointment to donate. Follow @militaryblood on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube and Pinterest to interact directly with ASBP staff members, see more photos or get the latest news.

Upcoming blood drives

- Dec. 21, 9 to 11 a.m., Health Clinic, building 683, Schofield Barracks.
 - Jan. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Schofield Barracks Tropics, Schofield Barracks.
 - Jan. 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., SEAL Division Team-1 SDVT-1 classrooms.
- (For more information, contact Michelle Lele-Himalaya, Armed Services Blood Program, Tripler Army Medical Center, at 433-6699 or email Michelle. Lele.civ@mail.mil.)