

Battleship Missouri Memorial hosts end of WWII ceremony

MC2 Diana Quinlan

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West, Detachment
Hawaii

Hawaii-based service members, veterans, government leaders and civilians attended a ceremony commemorating the 69th anniversary of the end of World War II held Sept. 2 aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Now moored at Ford Island, the location where Sailors first witnessed the attack that brought America to war, Battleship Missouri Memorial serves as a monument and a reminder for the beginning and end of WWII for the United States.

On Sept. 2, 1945, Japan officially surrendered as the Japanese Instrument of Surrender was signed on the wooden decks of the "Mighty Mo." Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and other world leaders oversaw the historic event that is remembered today.

At Tuesday's ceremony, Rear Adm. Robert P.

Girrier, deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, was guest speaker.

"On Sept. 2, 1945, right here on these decks, World War II was officially ended," said Girrier. "When you consider the lives lost, the emotional and physical suffering, and the damage and destruction left behind, the cost of the war was incalculable. But as the war ended and the world rejoiced, it didn't stay focused on the past; instead, it looked to the future with hope and expectation of great things to come," Girrier said.

He spoke of the collaboration between the United States and Japan after the war in an effort to rebuild the world around them. Girrier also commended constant efforts to improve mutual understanding, respect and a relationship that would lead to vast improvements in technology, economy and reliance on one another.

"Today, the United States has forces forward-deployed in Japan as part of our alliance, and that gave us the ability to respond instantly," said Girrier.

"And we work and train with the Japan Self Defense Forces continuously as we prepare to confront any possible manmade crisis or natural disaster that may challenge stability and security in this important region. We're there for each other and just knowing that is sometimes all that is needed."

He also stressed



Art Albert, a World War II veteran who served aboard USS Missouri from 1944 to 1947, reads a program during a ceremony of the 69th anniversary of the end of World War II aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

you feel? Good, right? This is how I feel. I am home," said Albert. "I went through the Korean and Vietnam Wars after I left [USS] Missouri but this is it. I do not care about other [duty stations]. This is my home."

Albert recalled the men who gathered on decks and guns of the battleship as Gen. MacArthur arrived and the joy of his fellow Sailors as WWII was officially over. He also spoke of the pleasure he feels of seeing his "home" being taken care of.

"I am very grateful to the people here who take care of the ship," said Albert. "They work hard, and it is the greatest thing that they did since the ship has been here—bringing it back like I used to know it when it was put in commission in 1944."

Michael Carr, president of the Battleship Missouri Memorial, spoke about the importance of remembering the past, learning from mistakes, and striving for a better future. He thanked veterans as well as current and future service members for their dedication to the nation and its safekeeping.

"We are here today to honor the anniversary of the peace," said Carr. "Our eternal thanks go out to the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen and merchant marines who serve America with distinction and honor and made this day possible."

He also welcomed guests to the unveiling of the newly renovated wardroom, which was restored to its 1991 inspection-ready condition the last year the battleship was in service.

The ceremony concluded with a Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam rifle detail providing a gun salute and the Marine Forces Pacific Band playing echo Taps.

the importance of cooperation between all nations and strength that these relationships can offer.

"Today, as our world becomes more and more interconnected and interdependent, as we all rely on freedom of the seas for the safe and efficient movement of trade between nations, the relationships that we have established with our allies, our partners and our friends are important to all of us," Girrier said.

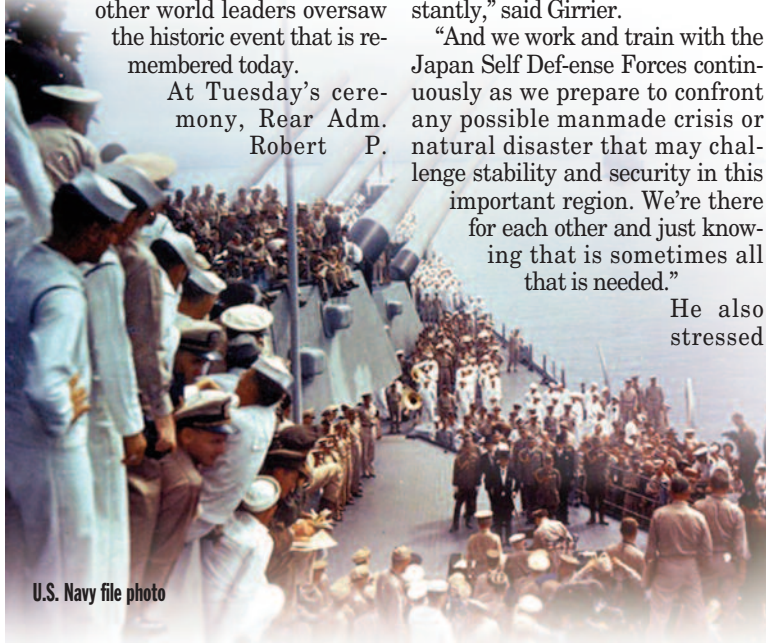
He also expressed his gratitude to the veterans for their sacrifices, their

strength and for the future they secured for the new generations.

One such person, representing today's youth, was Caitlyn Lodovico, a student from Radford High School, who researched and wrote an award-winning essay for the Battleship Missouri Memorial Sept. 2 essay contest. She was at the event and read her essay to the audience.

Art Albert, a World War II veteran who served aboard USS Missouri between 1944 and 1947, spoke of his experience at the ceremony and the feeling of standing on the deck plates of his first ship.

"When you come home, how do



U.S. Navy file photo

USS Lake Erie departs for new homeport

(Above, below) Sailors aboard the guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) man the rails as the ship prepares to depart Aug. 29 from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for a scheduled homeport change to San Diego.



U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Tiarra Fulgham

We're in this together: One suicide is one too many

MC3 Johans Chavarro

Navy Public Affairs Support
Element West, Detachment
Hawaii

Starting in September, the Navy will promote the message, "Every Sailor, Every Day," to encourage all Sailors, leaders, families and members of the Navy community to strengthen their connections with those around them in accordance with Suicide Prevention Month.

Unfortunately, suicide is currently one of the top causes of death in the Navy, claiming the lives of approximately 44 Sailors in 2013 alone and, according to Navy Personnel Command, 39 lives so far in 2014.

While these statistics suggest a decrease in frequency of total suicide fatalities from previous years, the numbers show some Sailors feel there is nowhere to go and no other option.

In an organization that requires the cooperation and unity of every Sailor to accomplish its mission, one suicide is one too many.

So how do we keep moving forward?

According to Lt. David Broderick, a psychologist at Makalapa Mental Health Clinic Pearl Harbor, in addition to the web of resources that target raising awareness, reduction and response to suicide, it is also increasingly important to "get ahead of the problem" and address the social challenges and stigmas that may lay at the crux of the issue.

"Efforts need to continue to be made toward de-stigmatizing and being more empathic about suicide so that the person asking for help doesn't feel overwhelmed with asking for it," said Broderick.

"If people are hesitant to go and talk to their chain of command about feeling depressed or hopeless, because they worry their career might get affected, or because



Photo illustration by MC2 Diana Quinlan

maybe they're not yet at that point of really wanting to hurt themselves, then things can certainly end up escalating, the longer they wait," Broderick explained.

Lt. James Ragain, a chaplain attached to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, echoed Broderick's sentiments, saying there are a lot of social challenges and stigmas that come with suicide.

"For the person that may be having thoughts about suicide, there's certainly the stigma of, 'am I going to be seen as different?' or, 'are people going to treat me as weak?' said Ragain.

"And on the other end, there's the taboo of asking difficult questions about people's lives and asking the question we're trained to ask, 'are you thinking about suicide?' We may think that by asking this question, this person may reject us and cost us a friendship."

According to Ragain, the programs that are available work effectively to equip individuals with the know-how and insight to identify external indications and red flags as well as providing help to those who need it.

"Oftentimes, the tools can be like giving cough syrup to someone who needs an anti-body. We need to get below the

surface," Ragain said.

"If they can't open up to anyone, or if they don't feel safe opening up to anyone, and no one is there to ask that clear and direct question, 'are you thinking about suicide?', then the situation can certainly snowball out of their control," said Ragain.

Lt. Cmdr. Kaarin Coe, previously a social worker and the suicide prevention coordinator at Military and Family Support Center Pearl Harbor, said that while the task of asking a shipmate or co-worker if they are having thoughts of suicide or are in need of professional help may seem daunting, it is important to keep in mind the Navy's core values to intervene when something is out of place in the work place as well as with those around us.

"The Navy's greatest asset is their people," said Coe. "Nothing moves, flies, or sails without someone at the helm—whatever form that may take."

"When we take care of each other, we ensure our Navy stays not only 'fit to fight' but focused on the mission. When we get people support sooner rather than later, they are able to either maintain

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735th AMS Warriors take pride in getting their hands dirty
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Navy contractors begin drilling for two new ground water monitoring wells
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Kalowsky relieves Osgood at shipyard change of command ceremony
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Navy holds open house to discuss Radford High School remediation project
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Submarine Sailors target new fitness concept
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Armada Republica Colombia ARC Nariño (FM-55) tours
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735th AMS Warriors take pride in getting their hands dirty

Story and photo by
Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden

15th Wing Public Affairs

The 735th Air Mobility Squadron (AMS) is primarily known for operating the passenger terminal and enabling the space available travel option for active-duty members, retirees and their family members. Many Airmen in the squadron are also hard at work behind the scenes, providing passengers and crew members with a clean, comfortable and safe mode of transportation when they fly.

In addition to checking in passengers and loading baggage onto the aircraft, Airmen in the 735th AMS Fleet Services flight are responsible for cleaning and servicing the aircraft.

To accomplish this, the flight is divided into two sections—dirty fleet and clean fleet.

Dirty fleet Airmen are responsible for cleaning the bathrooms, removing the trash, and making sure there is potable water onboard—a job which could be messy and time consuming. As soon as the aircraft lands, a lavatory service truck is used to suck out the onboard waste and replace it with new fluid in preparation for the next flight—a job that may be dirty, but is highly necessary if passengers intend to use the bathroom.

"It's a dirty job for sure," said Staff Sgt. Preston Harris, 735th AMS passenger services representative. "The waste could dump out on you when it's being removed. It can definitely get really nasty if you aren't careful."

While dirty fleet Airmen focus on cleaning the aircraft after it lands, clean fleet Airmen focus on replenishing and preparing for the next flight.



Tech. Sgt. Alejandro Lopez, 735th Air Mobility Squadron non-commissioned officer in charge of aircraft services, prepares to hook a "blue juice" hose up to a C-17 Globemaster III during the de-fleeting process on the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam flightline Aug. 26. (See additional photo on page A-5.)

What clean fleet brings to the table primarily depends on what a particular aircraft needs. They are charged with stocking coolers of water, toiletries, pillows and blankets and, most importantly, food.

"What we do all ties in together," said Harris. "Once passengers make it onto the aircraft, they want to be comfortable, and that's what we provide. Nobody wants to travel on a dirty, smelly flight. Nobody wants to be freezing cold and not have a blanket to use or a pillow to lay their head on."

Harris said the best part about it is being able to take care of the crew and passengers.

"Nobody really knows about us because we work behind the scenes, but what we do is really important," he said. "If we didn't do our job, it could become a health and safety concern."

"Everybody here takes pride in what we do," Harris added.

For Senior Airman Amanda Wheeling, 735th AMS air transportation journeyman, being a part of fleet services is also about showing the passengers you care.

"I don't mind that it's a dirty job. It's dirty, it's hot, but I enjoy it," she said. "Both dirty fleet and clean fleet are extraordinarily important because nobody would like not being able to go to the bathroom on a nine-hour flight, but they also wouldn't like flying without ear plugs."

Wheeling, a self-professed organizer, said she loves the physically demanding aspects of her job and being able to make things straight and organized but also likes being a part of the bigger picture.

"I love clean fleet because you get to see every aspect of our job from start to finish," she said. "My favorite part is getting to go to every aircraft and being a part of the recovery process. It's fun."



U.S. Navy photo by ITL Michael Low

Navy contract workers conduct drilling procedures for the installation of the first of two new groundwater monitoring wells north of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Navy contractors begin drilling for two new ground water monitoring wells

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Navy contractors began drilling operations Aug. 28 to install two new groundwater monitoring wells north of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

There are currently seven groundwater monitoring wells in the vicinity of Red Hill. These two additional wells will enhance understanding of groundwater movement in the vicinity of the facility and provide alerts should any contaminants be detected.

The wells were sited and planned in direct cooperation with, and approval by, appropriate state and federal regulatory agencies, principally the underground storage tank section of the Hawaii Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Planning and fieldwork are being conducted following appropriate regulatory, health, safety and security procedures. Well drilling and installation will be done by Valley Well Drilling, based in Kapolei, and is expected to be completed by the end of October 2014.

Oahu's drinking water is drawn from sources, including the Navy's Red Hill water supply shaft, which are sampled and analyzed by certified laboratories regularly to ensure it is safe for consumption. Drinking water collection sources are different in purpose and structure from groundwater monitoring wells, also referred to as sentinel wells, whose purpose is not supply but to detect potential contaminants and provide information on groundwater movement and behavior.

"The siting and installation of these additional groundwater monitoring wells is a direct result of the collaboration between the Navy, state Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and

our combined interest to further refine understanding of how ground water moves near the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage facility," said Aaron Poentis, environmental program director for Navy Region Hawaii. "We value this precious resource along with our fellow residents, families and friends."

There is currently a network of seven sentinel wells in the vicinity of Red Hill; six of those are operated by the Navy. Data from the two new wells will be added to the existing network and used to validate models that are intended to describe possible groundwater movement and ability to transport any contamination toward drinking water sources.

Certified civilian and Navy laboratory tests indicate that drinking water sources in the Red Hill vicinity continue to meet federal safe drinking water and state of Hawaii standards.

The Navy awarded the overall contract on May 22 to Battelle Memorial Institute and Parsons Government Services for evaluation of the Red Hill facility, based on their previous experience at other similar Department of Defense sites on Oahu. The contract tasks include planning, fieldwork and documentation for the installation of Red Hill monitoring wells.

The total cost of all three phases of installation for the two wells is expected to be approximately \$670,000 with about 75 percent of that cost invested in the fieldwork phase efforts, which are subcontracted to firms based in Hawaii.

The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility is operated within industry standards and maintained under American Petroleum Institute guidelines. It is a national strategic asset and continues to provide vital, secure fuel storage for ships and aircraft of U.S. Pacific Fleet and other military branches.

Commentary

Lessons from the past teach us to be vigilant while reaching out

Rear Adm. Robert Girrier

Deputy Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

(Editor's note: This is an excerpt from a speech given by Rear Adm. Girrier at a ceremony commemorating the 69th anniversary of the end of World War II which was held Sept. 2 at the Battleship Missouri Memorial.)

On Sept. 2, 1945, right here on this great ship, World War II was officially ended. Almost seven decades have passed since the end of World War II, but the effect of that war continues to be felt today. It's like a stone thrown in a pond, where the ripples spread out. The center becomes quiet, but the waves don't rest. They keep moving forward—creating change.

In the decades following the war, nations torn asunder began to rebuild. They grew, they prospered, and they thrived.

Today, our once-bitter enemies are some of our closest allies. Germany and Italy are part of the NATO



Official U.S. Navy photograph U.S. Navy Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, signs the Instrument of Surrender as United States representative, aboard USS Missouri (BB-63) on Sept. 2, 1945.

alliance, and Japan is one of only five bilateral treaty allies we have in the Pacific. Over the decades, these alliances have withstood the test of time—through peace and through crisis.

That is perhaps the greatest effect World War II has had on the world—the relationships we established before, during and after the war. Today we are on friendly terms with the nations in the Indo-Asia-Pacific as we build our future—together. We work at it all the time, and it's more

than worth it.

Many of you saw an example of this type of hard

work this summer as we hosted the Rim of the Pacific Exercise—(RIMPAC) here in Hawaii. During RIMPAC 2014, we had ships from 22 nations here in port and conducted exercises around these islands, just one of the many ways we work on those all-important relationships.

By working together now, we're building the relationships necessary for stability and security in the coming decades and into the next century. That is the reason why our nation has renewed its focus and attention to this vital part of the world as we rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific.

For decades, the Greatest Generation—those who fought in World War II—have been here to remind us of that important time in history so that we don't forget. Now, sadly, each year we see fewer and fewer in attendance at these events, fewer veterans to remind us of heroic deeds of the past, or to warn us of the perils we may face in the future.

Our job is to teach the next generation to take on the task of remembering and honoring those who fought so hard and of upholding our principles.

We've come a long way over the last seven decades. And it's essential to remain

vigilant and strong—always—keeping a weather eye on the future as there will be more and more challenges.

But I also know that the opportunities that continue to ripple through time as a result of World War II have given us a chance at something truly unique and special in this world—a world where we learn from the past, we remember, and strive to work together, in friendship and peace, for the prosperity of all.

In our increasingly globalized world, this combination—to be vigilant and ready while also reaching out—seems to me like common sense.

Kalowsky relieves Osgood at shipyard change of command ceremony

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

During a change of command ceremony Aug. 29 at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Capt. Jamie Kalowsky relieved Capt. Brian Osgood as the 46th commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PHNSY&IMF).

The presiding officer for the ceremony was Vice Adm. William H. Hilarides, commander, Naval Sea Systems Command. The guest speaker was Rear Adm. Phillip G. Sawyer, commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (SUBPAC). Both flag officers praised Osgood for his leadership of the shipyard and commended the work force for their support to the fleet.

Osgood, a Florida native and University of South Florida graduate, spoke about the shipyard's many accomplishments during the past four years and their reflection of his guiding principles: "Work Hard, Play Hard and Live



U.S. Navy photo by Danielle Jones Capt. Brian Osgood, outgoing commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, renders a salute as he is piped ashore at the end of the change of command ceremony held Aug. 29.

Strong."

"I'm proud of how we have executed one of the most important missions in the Department of Defense—delivering material readiness to the homeported ships and submarines in Hawaii and Guam and providing emergent response to the Pacific Fleet anywhere in the Pacific area of

responsibility," he said.

Osgood's next assignment will be on the SUBPAC staff as the submarine maintenance officer.

Kalowsky, a native of Scranton, Pa. and a 1991 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, assumes command of PHNSY&IMF following duty as operations officer at Portsmouth Naval

Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.

During the ceremony, he thanked shipyard management and labor leadership for an outstanding turnover.

"It is readily apparent that you value people, you have purpose, and you never quit. I look forward to working with you to achieve shared success," he said.

Diverse Views



What is one of the best books you have ever read and why?



BM2 Charles McConnell
Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

"Fearless", by Eric Blehm. It's a biography of Adam Brown, a Navy SEAL who passed away."

Master Sgt. Michael Shannon
PACAF



"The Last Honest Place in America." An interesting read on how Las Vegas was developed.



CT12 Jason Harrington
NIOC Hawaii

"The Demon-Haunted World," by Carl Sagan. It gives you a more scientific way of looking at the world to keep from being overcome by fear and superstition."

Tech. Sgt. DeRon Branch
647th Civil Engineer Squadron



"One of the best I have read would be 'The Pursuit of Happiness.' Very profound book."



ET3 Julia Lawrence
MALS-24

"I have to be honest and say 'Harry Potter.'"

Maj. Eric Theriault
PACAF



"I really enjoyed 'Ender's Game.' Even though it was written in the '70s, I found it fascinating, and the struggles Ender went through at such a young age engrossed me."



Lt. Daniel West
USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53)

"Last Stand of the Tin Can Soldiers." It speaks to what a well-assembled team can do even when they're faced with overwhelming odds."

Staff Sgt. Justin Davenport
535th Airlift Squadron



"Scar Tissue." An interesting look behind the scenes of the Red Hot Chili Peppers."

Provided by Lt. j.g. Eric Galassi 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

Ceremony ends World War II



Adm. William F. Halsey and Vice Adm. John S. McCain chat by the rail on USS Missouri (BB-63), after the conclusion of the surrender ceremonies of Imperial Japan on Sept. 2, 1945. The ceremony formally ending World War II took place 69 years ago this week in Tokyo Bay.

Official U.S. Navy photograph

HO'okele

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The Los Angeles-class, attack submarine USS Greeneville (SSN 772) moors to the pier at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam as it returns Aug. 25 from a six-month deployment to the western Pacific.

USS Greeneville returns home

Story and photo by
MC1 Steven Khor

Submarine Force Pacific
Fleet Public Affairs

An excited crowd lined the submarine piers for a warm *aloha* welcome as the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Greeneville (SSN 772) returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Aug. 25 following a deployment to the western Pacific.

Families and friends showed off signs, banners and lei as the submarine came into view in the harbor.

Cmdr. Martin Muckian, the submarine's commanding officer, said the crew was outstanding during deployment.

"I am very proud of the crew," said Muckian.

"They performed superbly in every area, from the tactical watchstanders, to the nuclear propulsion plants operators, to the cooks. Every Sailor did his job and did it well, and that enabled Greeneville to do some great things for [U.S.] 7th Fleet on this deployment," he said.

The 150-man crew of

Greeneville was forward-deployed for more than six months, completing a variety of operations and missions vital to national security.

For a young seaman, it was his very first deployment while for a seasoned senior chief, it was his 12th deployment.

In addition to gaining the experience of operating in the western Pacific, the deployment afforded Sailors the opportunity to work on critical qualifications.

Over the course of the deployment, 15 enlisted Sailors and two officers became submarine qualified and are now able to wear their respective submarine warfare insignia, or "dolphins."

"The crew is feeling sky high after this deployment," said Muckian.

"They were asked to do some difficult things and they know they delivered. It's a great feeling for them. When you combine that feeling of accomplishment with the joy of seeing your family and friends again, it makes homecoming a great day."

While on deployment, Greeneville's crew helped

strengthen community ties in Guam as well as with foreign allies in Republic of Korea and Singapore.

Muckian said Greeneville Sailors were great ambassadors for the U.S. Navy, and they had a lot of fun on deployment and did everything from mountain hiking in South Korea to scuba diving in Guam.

"It was a memorable experience for everyone," added Muckian.

For Meghan Scassero, having her husband, Electrician's Mate 1st Class Joshua Scassero, home after such a long time meant the opportunity to enjoy their anniversary together.

"Tomorrow is our anniversary," said Scassero. "So we're going to spend time together. I've missed him terribly, so it is nice to have him home."

USS Greeneville is the 61st Los Angeles-class submarine and the 22nd improved Los Angeles-class attack submarine.

USS Greeneville was commissioned a U.S. naval warship at Norfolk Naval Base on Feb. 16, 1996. Greeneville changed homeport to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in March 1997.

Navy holds open house to discuss Radford High School remediation project

Story and photo by
Denise Emsley

Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Hawaii

Navy and contractor subject matter experts, along with representatives from the Hawaii Departments of Health and Education, spoke with Radford High School, Makalapa Elementary School and Navy Hale Keiki school parents at an informational meeting held Aug. 28 in the high school cafeteria. The purpose of the gathering was to discuss remediation actions at Radford's track and field which began Aug. 25.

"We wanted to reach out to the community directly impacted by this remediation project with as much detail as possible, so they would understand that we are looking out for the safety and well-being of everyone that may be affected: site workers, teachers, students, family members and the public," said Aaron Poentis, NAVFAC Hawaii environmental director.

"This project is complex, and our goal is to ensure everything is done properly and thoroughly the first time," he said.

The open house meeting was held for two hours and provided an opportunity where attendees could learn about what

had occurred since initial discovery and reporting to the Navy in late January and the work and timeline for this fall.

Various poster boards describing the remediation project were accompanied by subject matter experts to assist attendees' understanding of the remediation process in a one-on-one environment.

"The whole point of this meeting was to provide as much information as possible so that everyone is informed, comfortable with our actions, and to answer as many questions as possible," said Poentis.

In December 2013, the State of Hawaii Department of Education (DOE) encountered buried debris during excavation work to replace the high school's cinder running track with a synthetic track. The Navy was informed of the discovery of the debris in January 2014. Since then, the DOE, Hawaii Department of Health and the Navy have coordinated remediation action for the track and field.

The Navy received right of entry paperwork from the City and County of Honolulu on Aug. 25 and immediately began preparations such as coordinating equipment to be moved to the site, securing the remediation area, and initiating

See REMEDIATION, A-7



Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and contractor environmental specialists speak with concerned parents of students attending Radford High School, Makalapa Elementary School and Navy Hale Keiki School at an open house meeting held Aug. 28. The event provided an opportunity to learn about the remediation issue and the Navy's future actions.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam *Highlights*

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam rifle detail awaits orders during a ceremony of the 69th anniversary of the end of World War II aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial. On Sept. 2, 1945 Japan officially surrendered as the Japanese Instrument of Surrender was signed onboard the ship by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz, Japanese Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and other world leaders.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Diana Quinlan

(Below) Senior Airman Coby Hargrove, 735th Air Mobility Squadron air freight journeyman, backs a lavatory service truck up to a C-17 Globemaster III in preparation for de-fleeting the aircraft on the JBPHH flightline Aug. 26. During de-fleeting, waste water is removed from aircraft using a lavatory service truck and replaced with "blue juice" in preparation for the next flight.

U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Terri Paden



The crew of the Los Angeles-class, fast attack submarine USS Greenville (SSN 772) throws lines to moor pierside at JBPHH after completing a six-month deployment to the western Pacific region on Aug. 25.

U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Steven Khor

The official party (from left: Capt. Jamie Kalowsky, incoming shipyard commander; Vice Adm. William Hilarides, NAVSEA commander; Capt. Brian Osgood, outgoing shipyard commander; Rear Adm. Phil Sawyer, commander, Submarine Forces U.S. Pacific Fleet) salutes during posting of colors at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard change of command ceremony held Aug. 29.

U.S. Navy photos by Danielle Jones



Suicide prevention emphasized by Navy leaders

Continued from A-1

their ability to be mission-focused or return to duty faster than if they wait until there is a crisis. I believe this is the cornerstone of our core values," she said.

Ragain said to continue moving forward it is crucial that Sailors and individuals find the honor, courage and commitment to initiate early avenues of communication with those who may be showing signs of suicide.

"When someone starts that internal dialogue about suicide and they have someone they can talk with about what's going on in their life, it lets them get everything out onto the table and for a lot of people, it's like a huge weight's been taken off their shoulders," said Ragain.

"For others, as they listen to themselves talk about suicide and about their issues, it's almost like they convince themselves not to do it because they now have that connection with someone and they know they're no longer alone."

Because of this, it is imperative that Sailors and individuals remain perceptible to changes in behavior and attitude of someone who they may suspect is struggling emotionally, said Ragain.

"One thing that happens when people are thinking about suicide is they give out invitations to people, to connect with them and talk about their feelings," said Ragain.

"I use 'invitations' as opposed to 'warning signs' because what they're doing is inviting other people to talk about this major decision they're going to make in their life. These invitations may come in the form of the things

they say like, 'There's no hope for me. Things will be better once I'm gone' or as blatant as, 'I'm going to kill myself.' Invitations also come in the form of their appearance or how they isolate themselves from other people," Ragain explained.

Coe said that anyone can become susceptible to suicidal thoughts. Thus it becomes important that everyone recognize their role as a resource by remaining vigilant to the signs that may be out of the ordinary with their coworker or shipmate.

"Being aware of changes in mood, demeanor and behaviors are key in recognizing early that something may be going on," said Coe. "Knowing the resources available can also help get someone to the support they need sooner."

Once contact and communication are established, Sailors and individuals can then move on to subsequent resources that will work more directly to provide the support and help necessary.

At this stage in the Navy, Broderick suggested that commands continue to stress that Sailors seek help and resources.

"Commands need to continue stressing that, and eventually people may find themselves more willing, or not as nervous, to seek help and go talk to someone," Broderick said.

"The clinic is a place for everyone to come for outpatient treatment for whatever life stresses they may have going on," said Broderick.

"We offer therapy groups here to individuals with psychologists and social workers. We also have psychiatric nurse practitioners and psychiatrists

available here to work on the medication aspect. Our mission is to get people back to work and to feel stronger about going back to work."

But to accomplish this mission first requires one to make that uncomfortable effort and ask that difficult question, "Are you thinking about suicide?"

It is only through increased empathetic and open communication that this can be achieved, said Coe.

"The more a difficult topic is discussed open and honestly, the more it breaks down the taboo/stigma. Recognizing that we all need help at different points in our lives is key," she said.

From Sept. 1-30, "I Pledge to ACT," a web-based effort, will take place to encourage all Sailors, families and members of the Navy community to take steps in building personal resilience, supporting their shipmates, and intervening if they notice signs of distress. The pledge is completely anonymous and available to all audiences through the NPC website, www.public.navy.mil.

For more information about suicide awareness, visit

- www.chaplain.navy.mil. Navy chaplains have 100 percent confidentiality and cannot break this without the person's consent. If someone isn't sure where to start, chaplains can also help someone figure out where they need to go for help.

- www.militaryonesource.mil. Referrals are made to local community providers. Services are not connected to service record.

- www.suicide.navy.mil
- www.suicideoutreach.org

Or call the National Crisis hotline at 800- 273-TALK to get in touch with trained counselors 24/7.

Remediation at Radford to begin soon

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work to establish a temporary access road behind Navy Hale Keiki School next to the H-1 Freeway that will exit onto Bougainville Boulevard.

This temporary road will provide a safe path for trucks that will leave the track and field area, avoiding the main entrance road into Radford High School and Makalapa Elementary School off Salt Lake Boulevard. The access road will also be protective of students at Navy Hale Keiki School.

Excavation efforts at the track and field will begin in early September and continue into October. During this time, contaminated soil and debris will be screened and properly disposed of at an appropriate permitted disposal facility.

The track area will be excavated to a depth of approximately one foot beyond where the DOE construction project intended to excavate. A geo-

fabric barrier will be placed followed by clean soil. This action will protect construction workers from exposure while the track resurfacing is completed.

Although the football field surface is free from contamination, the Navy will remove approximately one foot of clean soil and one to three feet of contaminated soil to a depth that irrigation or utilities may be placed. Then a geo-fabric barrier will be placed, followed by clean soil to prevent exposure to buried debris during future maintenance or renovations. In November the Navy will work with DOE to shape the football field with their design.

All track and field debris will be screened for any possible munitions type debris. This action results from two items that were found on the excavated track site. One was seen in January (a small projectile fuze) and another in April (a few empty small arms ammunition cartridge casings).

In addition to these two items, a photograph of an empty and cut five-inch projectile cartridge base was provided by the DOE construction contractor. Certified personnel will ensure any potential explosive hazards are safely addressed.

"During remediation, the site will be secured with established safety exclusion zones, and we have plans in place to ensure all students may continue to attend classes at Radford High School, Makalapa Elementary School and Navy Hale Keiki School," Poentis said.

The Navy expects to complete remediation of the track and field by the end of November, so that the DOE's construction contractor will be able to install a new irrigation system for the football field and complete the resurfacing of the track. The last action for the Navy will be to place new sod on the field in late spring, following DOE grassing requirements, in time to meet the 2015 football schedule.