

Pearl Harbor - December 7, 1941

Coming of Age - From Innocence to Valor

“Navigator”

HO'OKELE

PEARL HARBOR - HICKAM NEWS

December 7, 2012

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USS Nevada survivor helps unveil new wayside exhibit

USS Nevada (BB 36) survivor Woody Derby, age 94, looks at the new Nevada wayside exhibit unveiled yesterday at Hospital Point on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. The USS Arizona Memorial and Battleship Row can be seen in the distance from the exhibit, which includes an engraved plaque describing the actions of the battleship Nevada and its crew. (See next week's Hookele for complete coverage of Dec. 7 events)

Photo illustration | U.S. Navy photos by MC2 Sean Furey

PRESIDENT PROCLAIMS NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

American Forces Press Service
 WASHINGTON, D.C. – “Today, we pay solemn tribute to America’s sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice at Oahu. As we do, let us also reaffirm that their legacy will always burn bright—whether in the memory of those who knew them, the spirit of service that guides our men and women in uniform today, or the heart of the country they kept strong and free,” President Barack Obama said in his proclamation

issued today declaring Dec. 7 as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The proclamation reads: “On Dec. 7, 1941, our nation suffered one of the most devastating attacks ever to befall the American people. In less than two hours, the bombs that rained on Pearl Harbor robbed thousands of men, women, and children of their lives; in little more than a day, our country was thrust into the greatest conflict the world had ever known. We mark this anniversary by

honoring the patriots who perished more than seven decades ago, extending our thoughts and prayers to the loved ones they left behind, and showing our gratitude to a generation of service members who carried our nation through some of the 20th century’s darkest moments. In his address to the Congress, President Franklin D. Roosevelt affirmed that “with confidence in our armed forces—with the unbounding determination of our people—we will gain the inevitable

triumph.” Millions stood up and shipped out to meet that call to service, fighting heroically on Europe’s distant shores and pressing inland across the Pacific. Millions more carried out the fight in factories and shipyards here at home, building the arsenal of democracy that propelled America to the victory President Roosevelt foresaw. On every front, we faced down impossible odds—and out of the ashes of conflict, America rose more prepared than ever to meet the challenges of the day, sure

that there was no trial we could not overcome. Today, we pay solemn tribute to America’s sons and daughters who made the ultimate sacrifice at Oahu. As we do, let us also reaffirm that their legacy will always burn bright—whether in the memory of those who knew them, the spirit of service that guides our men and women in uniform today, or the heart of the country they kept strong and free. The Congress, by Public Law 103-308, as amended, has designated Dec. 7 of each year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Dec. 7, 2012, as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this solemn day of remembrance and to honor our military, past and present, with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I urge all federal agencies and interested organizations, groups and individuals to fly the flag of the United States at half-staff this Dec. 7 in honor of those American patriots who died as a result of their service at Pearl Harbor.”

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 Ray Emory: A legacy of service, honor, heroics **See page A-6**

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 Festival of lights to include ship/submarine holiday lighting contest **See page B-6**

Al Rodrigues: A story worth telling for posterity

Story and photo by
QMI Sean Vis

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs Office

Everyone has a story to tell, but not many are actually worth telling. Alfred "Al" Rodrigues has made it a mission to pass his story along.

Actually, it is not just his story he wants to pass along, but the story about the bombing of Pearl Harbor and all the brave souls who died defending our country and those who lived to fight another day. His biggest concern is not just that the story will be lost, but that the memory of those people will also be lost.

At 92 years old, he still remembers that "day of infamy," as President Roosevelt is so often quoted. Al loves to interact with the public that gathers around him to ask questions or pose for pictures.

Al's story begins just like everyone else's on Dec. 7. "When I woke up at 3:30 that morning, I was told by an officer that the USS Ward had sunk a two-man



Alfred "Al" Rodrigues

Japanese sub a few miles outside the entrance to Pearl Harbor."

"We had no idea we were going to be attacked, so I headed to work. I had the 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. watch as a third class storekeeper at the section base on Bishop's Point, when the planes attacked," Al explained.

Remembering back to that fateful day, Al said that the next few hours were the worst of his life, but he managed to make it through them virtually unscathed. Physically he was fine, but mentally, the memories never go away," he said.

After the bombing, the

base was on restriction. "All telephones were restricted, so I couldn't even call my sister. So the next day (Dec. 8) some bread man I knew was delivering bread and I asked him to call my family," Al said.

During the following weeks, he helped to create living spaces for the members of the military who lost berthing on the ships that were sunk or their quarters destroyed. That time on base gave him the chance to get back into a normal routine, even though nothing was really normal on the island, he said.

He remembered, "Honolulu was blacked out. You couldn't drive at night. All bars were closed at 4 p.m., before it got dark, so people could get out and go home."

The restriction lasted for two weeks and once it was finally lifted, he said that he did what every able-bodied Sailor does after being locked down for two weeks. He played a round of golf.

"I worked for a chief who was a golfer. The day they let us leave the base, three

of us went to play golf. It was one big relief," Al said.

After his tour was up at Pearl, he headed off on the USS Washington. He was aboard the battleship for 21 months as they bombarded many of the islands the Japanese held. He was involved in almost every main battle in the Pacific.

Some things turned out lucky for Al. "I was a storekeeper aboard the ship, so I had it made. We had to have a thousand cases of beer for liberty in different atolls. I was a big man," he shared.

Thinking back to all of those battles and attacks, he recalled, "The worst incident was when our ship was fueling. One of the other ships, the USS Indiana, instead of zigging, it zagged."

The Indiana lost 21 men and the Washington lost nine men. They also lost about 90 feet of their bow and had to go to the shipyard for repairs. Although it was a tragic accident, it gave them 31 days in Seattle, and the crew was definitely thankful for that. With a smile, Al said, "But it was a good 31 days!"

Once the ship was repaired, they headed back out to the Pacific. He finished his tour and then headed to the Brooklyn Shipyards to work in the redistribution section. "I stayed in New York City until the war ended. (on Aug. 14, 1945) I had taken my boss up to Times Square to a hotel for a meeting. When we got out of the meeting, Times Square was so full of people, we couldn't move the car. That was the day the Sailor was kissing the nurse," Al remembered.

He then spent four years in Japan and later rotated back to the states. Up until his retirement in from the Navy in 1964, he spent time aboard five more ships. When he came home to Hawaii, he landed a job at the former Hickam Air Force Base in the general services administration office. He worked there for 30 years and retired in 1994.

You would think that 54 years of government work would be enough for most people, but not for Al. Nowadays, you can find him sitting at the Pearl Harbor memorials talking

to anyone who comes up to his table. He is more than willing to let them take photos and ask questions.

At 92 years old, he said he has lived a blessed life. He survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, made it through many battles in the Pacific, and was in Times Square when the war ended.

He was married for 44 years and has nine children. His love of family and country is evidenced in his passion for what he does at the memorials. "We should remember what members of my generation did and pass it along to future generations what these brave men and women did to preserve our freedom," Al said.

Writer's note: Prior to leaving, I mentioned to Al that he and the other Pearl Harbor survivors that tell their story are the real stars at the memorial. He smiled and laughed it off, but in this age of 24-hour news, paparazzi and Internet, it is refreshing to meet celebrities who love the public and are not afraid to engage them. It is a story that is not only worth telling, but worth hearing.

Navy, Forest City and government leaders 'flip switch' for clean energy

QMI Sean Vis

Navy Region Hawaii Public
Affairs Office

Leaders from the Navy, Forest City Residential Management and businesses joined Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie on Dec. 3 to "flip the switch" for solar energy for the Forest City housing area at Pearl City Peninsula.

With more than 4,300 photovoltaic panels, the 1.23 megawatt solar farm will be able to provide electricity for 150 to 250 military homes.

"This is a big step forward and series of steps that are being taken inside the military to diversify its energy component," noted Abercrombie.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds, commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, added that the project is helping the Navy by reducing the reliance on fossil fuels.

"This commissioning ceremony here today represents our "hands on" approach to promoting renewable energy. We are taking action as part of this team and others toward greater energy security, force readiness and sustainability," he said.

"Our sons and daughters have fought and died in the desert for years over this issue about fossil fuels and our dependence on them. It is about time we release them from that obligation and look for alternatives. This is a force readiness issue. It is about independence," Ponds added.

The admiral discussed the similarities between America's current dependence on oil and the events leading up to the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

"As we approach the 71st



U.S. Navy photo by David D. Underwood Jr.

Rear Adm. Frank Ponds (second from left), commander of Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific, flips the power switch for the Pearl City Peninsula Photovoltaic Solar Farm along with Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie (middle right); Jennifer Sabas, chief of staff, office of the U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye; and Connie Lau, president and CEO, Hawaiian Electric Industries, Inc.; during a ceremony Dec. 3 in Pearl City. Jon Wallenstrom (left), president of Forest City Hawaii Residential, Inc.; and Pono Shim (far right), president and CEO, Enterprise Honolulu, are also present.

anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day this week, let us remember that the war in the Pacific was ignited, in part, by a U.S. oil embargo against Imperial Japan in the summer of 1941. When we become self-sustaining in energy, we reduce the risk to our Sailors, Airmen, Soldiers and Marines," Ponds said.

The Navy in Hawaii has made significant strides toward energy reduction and use of renewable energy, resulting in a number of awards and accomplishments dur-

ing the past year.

Earlier this year the Hawaii State Legislature presented the Navy installations in Hawaii with special recognition for environmental stewardship and energy conservation.

Navy Region Hawaii and its public-private venture partner, Forest City, partners served as the pilot program for the Renewable Energy Conservation Program, which is now being instituted worldwide.

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-

Hickam was also recently awarded the Navy's top prize for energy and water conservation for a large installation by the Secretary of the Navy.

"Working with other services and agencies, we are embracing renewable energy, including wind, wave, photovoltaic, biofuels and geothermal wherever we can. This is the right thing to do - for the aina and for our ohana - and we are grateful to have strong partners in this worthwhile endeavor," Ponds explained.

The admiral emphasized the importance of continuing to look at all available and acceptable sites for effective renewable energy options and said that everyone needs to work together to meet national, state and Secretary of the Navy renewable energy sustainability goals.

"As we flip the switch - and make the switch - to clean energy, let's remember: This is a force readiness issue. The reasons to act are clear. The time to act is now," Ponds said.

Chafee Sailors give 'Wicked' tour for cast

Story and photo by
Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

Members of the cast and crew of the touring company for "Wicked" toured the USS Chafee on Nov. 30.

"Wicked" is a successful Broadway musical based on the novel "Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West" by Gregory Maguire.

The tour came about as a result of Lt. j.g. Jamie Talbott's background in the theatrical community and her friendship with a member of the show's crew.

"I am friends and a former colleague of J. Jason Daunter, the production stage manager," she said. "He and I did "Cyrano de Bergerac" on Broadway in 2007 and "Up in the Air" at the Kennedy Center in 2008. I also know assistant stage manager Molly



CTT2 Steven Carlson and the "Wicked" cast and crew tour the bridge of the USS Chafee. See additional photo on page A-5.

Braverman. I met her when she and Jason were doing the Broadway production of "Wicked."

Cast and crew members of "Wicked" were intrigued by the idea of a

former stage manager going into the Navy.

"I went to see the show, and Jason introduced me to some of the cast and crew," said Talbott. "I told them what I did for a liv-

ing. Jason asked me if it would be possible for some of them to come see the ship and the base, so I asked the XO [executive officer] and CO [commanding officer] and coor-

minated it through OPS [operations] (and DESRON 31 [Destroyer Squadron 31], and through the MIDPAC PAO [Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs office]."

"Interest kept getting generated as more of the cast and crew heard that a tour was being offered, hence the nearly 30 personnel we hosted last Friday," Talbott said.

Throughout the tour of Chafee, the visitors from "Wicked" were curious and enthusiastic, asking questions ranging from the type of medical care available aboard the ship to emergency procedures to day-to-day life while at sea. Some of the questions had their origins in pop culture.

"A lot of what I'm asking comes from "Star Trek," said actress Renée Lawless-Orsini.

Talbott said she thought the tour went very well.

"The Sailors and artists, both professional experts, developed a deep respect and beginnings of friendships with each other," she said.

"For Sailors, it is always beneficial and a source of professional pride to show our citizens what we do and display our excellence, to allow them to take pride in the tax dollars they spend, ensuring we can do our job in defending our nation and being the global force for good," Talbott said.

The guests from "Wicked" were also happy with the experience.

"This was pretty incredible," said company manager Steve Quinn. "It's just amazing to see the dedication and commitment to our country."

"Wicked" is being performed live at the concert hall at Neal S. Blaisdell Center through Jan. 12. For more information, visit www.blaisdellcenter.com.

Commentary *Coming of Age: From Innocence to Valor*

Remembering history of USS Arizona's 'Last Band'

Molly Kent

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the USS Arizona was totally destroyed, along with 1,177 of her crew of 1,511.

And the families of those 1177 boys were immediately plunged into the deepest grief they would ever know.

Also killed in its entirety that day was Arizona's 21-piece U.S. Navy Band. My brother, Clyde Richard Williams, musician second class, was a member of that band.

Arizona's musicians were all young, having just graduated from the U.S. Navy School of Music in May 1941. Fifteen of her musicians were not yet 21 years old.

At that time, a person had to be 21 years old to vote. I have often thought, "They were not old enough to participate in their country's elections, but they were old enough to die for her."

Because of the nature of the Pearl Harbor attack and because we have so few photographs, we probably will never know the complete story of that event. We have had to rely on eyewitnesses, young men who were completely traumatized by the horrible sights and sounds of that day.

Most of the rage of the families back home was against Japan, of course, but also against our president, our U.S. Navy, our entire country - rage that they could have been caught so unprepared.

After all, we thought we

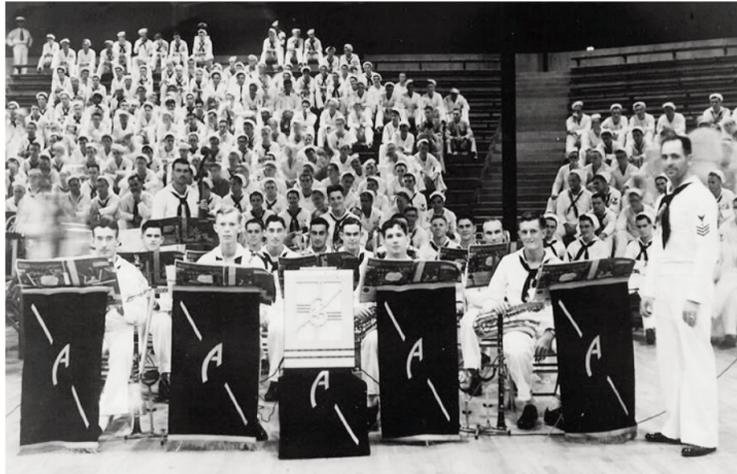


Photo courtesy of Molly Kent

had entrusted our boys to the strongest Navy in the world.

And we were angry about the length of time it took the Navy to notify us about our boys. We all received our "missing in action" telegrams on Dec. 19, 12 days after the attack.

Obviously, with television not yet invented, with no radio reports, and with our government maintaining total silence, we had no clue as to the actual conditions in Pearl Harbor at that time.

We finally heard the news on the radio. The USS Arizona had been sunk.

After four long years, the end of World War II came at last.

VJ Day was especially hard for those of us who had lost loved ones. We were grateful that our men

serving all over the world

could now come home, but our special person would not be among them.

I was only 17 months older than my brother, so every time I passed another milestone in my life, I would think of him with sadness.

Each time I would think, "Well, here is another thing my brother will never experience."

I always wondered where Clyde would have met his future wife and where they would have decided to live?

And, oh, I thought of how Clyde would have loved the benefits which our government extended to our returning service men and women. Now there was a chance to go to college - something we had never dreamed of doing when we were growing up.

And there was help to buy a house - imagine, being able to marry, find a good job, own your own home, and if you worked hard, have a chance to live comfortably without worrying where the next meal was coming from.

And he would have been able to buy a car. We were never allowed to drive our family car because after all, if we had wrecked it, how would our father have been able to buy another one? Many former Navy musicians have told me that I could rest assured the Arizona musicians would have done well and would have lived happy lives.

They have told me that some Navy musicians remained in the Navy as a career, some joined one of the Big Bands then so popular, and some returned to college (with financial help from our government). Many became music teachers at various colleges.

Each time one of my children was born, I thought, "They will know what a good man their Uncle Clyde was because I will tell them. But they will never actually see for themselves."

As we raised our children and made sure they had all the latest things, I thought of our childhood. We always had enough to eat

and a nice warm home, but certainly none of the luxuries we now heaped on our children.

Thanks to inventions made during the war, we now had telephones that required almost no effort to use.

We had nice record players in each of the children's rooms, along with a big stack of records.

And the really big one - our first television. What a difference that made in our lives.

How I wished Clyde could have seen all that.

We filled our homes with the latest electrical gadgets and bought all the labor-saving devices we could find. Gone was the pure drudgery of our lives before the war, allowing time and energy for outside interests.

Even as we enjoyed these conveniences, we knew they had come from all the research our country had done during the war, and we embraced them with mixed feelings.

As we went from the Big Band sound to what we call music today, I longed to discuss it with Clyde.

Never before, or since, have the people of the United States pulled together ... to fight our common enemy.

Boys formed long lines at the recruiting offices of our armed forces on the morning of Dec. 8, eager to enlist and help our country.

Girls and older people not able to join one of our armed forces soon left home to work for our government or in one of our defense plants.

Civilians gave up every comfort - meat, canned goods, new cars, tires, gasoline, nylon stockings - anything which "our boys"

needed was cheerfully given up.

As I think back to how we lived during the war years, I cannot help but compare our days to the present time. Now our citizens complain loudly and bitterly about any of our government's efforts to keep us safe from terrorists.

And all we hear is, "Imagine, they patted me down at the airport and embarrassed me in public." The people of the "Greatest Generation" would never have complained about such a small sacrifice.

Our country came of age on Dec. 7, 1941 as we realized we no longer sat isolated from greedy countries who wished to help themselves to whatever we had.

Our citizens came of age on Dec. 7, 1941 as we gradually realized our slow, easy way of life had ended forever.

Our world came of age on Aug. 6-9, 1945 when the United States dropped several atomic bombs onto Japanese cities. As we contemplated the horror of that destruction, people of the world realized we must never, ever, use such an instrument of destruction again.

(Molly Kent is the author of "USS Arizona's Last Band," which chronicles the history of the band through hundreds of interviews, letters, citations, news clippings and other sources. Kent's comprehensive research and commitment to the 21 members of Band 22 documents the facts and contemplates the loss of innocence during and after the Second World War. Her book is reviewed on the Navy Reads blog: <http://bit.ly/SOvtAW-ed>.)

Diverse Views

How do you think Dec. 7 changed America?



Staff Sgt. Suzanne Feely
65th Airlift Squadron

"I believe it was a wake-up call for the U.S. Made us realize we are not invincible and brought us together in pride and patriotism, much the way the 9/11 attacks did. Also, it cemented our role as

the 'big brother' of the world. With great power, comes great responsibility."

Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Austin Hartman
Navy Region Hawaii Operations Center



"Drastically. It did spark the war in the Pacific, which in turn brought about massive industrial advances that shaped the way Americans lived."



Airman 1st Class Joshua Mann
647th Force Support Squadron

"I believe Dec. 7 opened Americans' eyes to the war and made us face the fact sometimes we have to get involved despite our beliefs."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Matthew Sage
JBPHH Security



"It stunned us. No one saw it coming. This changed America's outlook from a defense standpoint. These events made America's military and civilians come together as a whole and as a family."



Lt. Col. Paul Greenlee
HQ PACAF

"It made us look outside our borders and reminded us of how important it is to defend the freedoms that make our country great."

Culinary Specialist 1st Class Jaime Velasco
JBPHH Fleet and Family Readiness Program



"It changed the country's outlook on security and information. It showed that anyone is vulnerable. It also showed how great a country could be when united."

(Contributed by David Underwood Jr. and Quartermaster 1st Class Sean Vis)

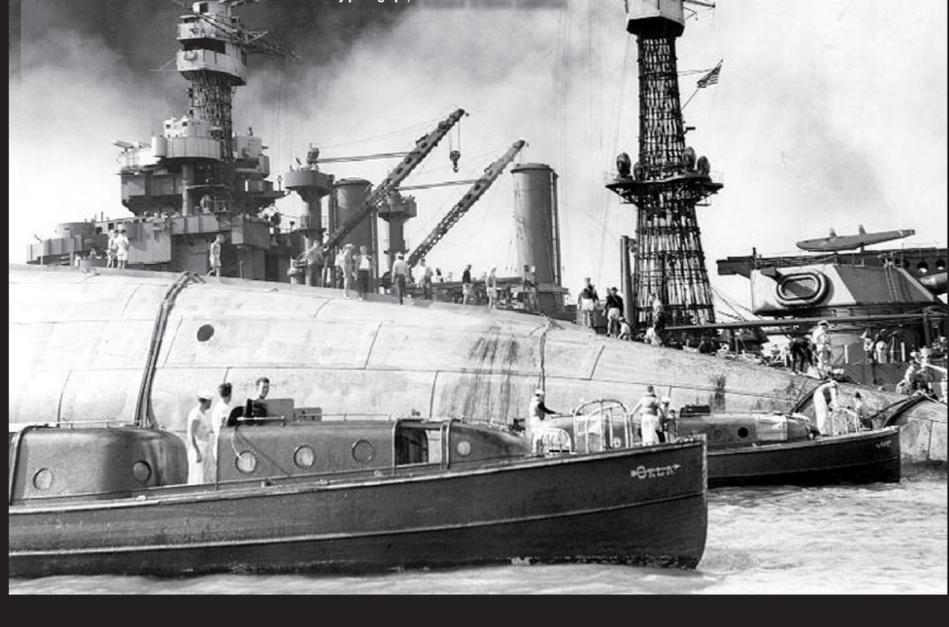
Want to see your command featured in Diverse Views? Got opinions to share?

Drop us a line at editor@hookelenews.com or karen.spangler@navy.mil

Rescue teams assist at USS Oklahoma

Rescue teams work on the capsized hull of USS Oklahoma (BB-37), seeking crew members trapped inside, on Dec. 7, 1941 after the Pearl Harbor attack. The starboard bilge keel is visible at the top of the upturned hull. Officers' motor boats from Oklahoma and USS Argonne (AG-31) are in the foreground. USS Maryland (BB-46) is in the background.

Official U.S. Navy photograph, National Archives Collection



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Ashes of Pearl Harbor survivor James McDavid scattered at USS Utah Memorial

Story and photos by
Brandon Bosworth

Staff Writer

The ashes of James H. McDavid, a survivor of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, were scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial on Ford Island during a ceremony held Dec. 4.

"James's wish was to have his remains returned to Pearl Harbor so he could join his shipmates killed that fateful day," said Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison, who spoke at the ceremony.

"Thanks to Metha, his loving wife of 67 years, his wish will come true immediately following full military honors, which he so richly deserves."

McDavid was born March 23, 1921 in Waco, Texas. His family had lost everything during the Great Depression, so he joined the Navy in hopes of getting an education.

He was stationed aboard the battleship USS Pennsylvania at Pearl Harbor. He initially was attached to the gunnery division, but requested to change position and was assigned to be a plane spotter. His battle station was on the upper mast of the ship.

The change of position was fortunate for McDavid. The Sailor who took his place at the guns was killed on Dec. 7.

In a similar stroke of luck, his ship Pennsylvania was also in a different position



Jim Taylor, Pearl Harbor survivor liaison, presides over the ceremony honoring James McDavid.



James McDavid's granddaughter Christine is given the American flag honoring her grandfather.



The ashes of James McDavid are scattered in the waters near the USS Utah Memorial.

than usual that day. It was in the shipyard. Taking Pennsylvania's place on

Battleship Row was the USS Arizona. McDavid is said to have felt a bit guilty about

this, especially since two of his best friends served aboard Arizona and were

killed during the attack. Pennsylvania was not spared, though, and was

struck by a 500-pound bomb. Still, McDavid kept to his battle station.

"He stood his watch bravely for three hours as Japanese fighter planes and bombers attacked," said Capt. Larry Scruggs, deputy commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, who also spoke at the ceremony. "He embodied the spirit of the U.S. Navy."

McDavid served in the Pacific for the remainder of the war, eventually achieving the rank of electronics technician first class petty officer.

"He was entrusted to repair some of the Navy's most complex and secret technologies," said Scruggs.

After his discharge from the Navy, McDavid settled in Pacifica, Calif. and worked at the San Francisco Naval Shipyard for 32 years. For the last 12 years of his life, he resided in Sacramento. He died in March of this year.

Also attending the ceremony last Tuesday were McDavid's widow Metha, his daughter Linda and granddaughter Christine. Chaplain Lt. James Ragain, Pearl Harbor Memorial Chapel, presided over the services.

"I just have so much appreciation for Capt. Scruggs, Chaplain Ragain and of course Jim Taylor, who was so helpful and reassuring," said Metha McDavid. "The ceremony was beyond what I expected ... I felt proud to be an American."

Heroes killed in action at former Hickam Field honored

Story and photo by
Staff Sgt. Mike Meares

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-
Hickam Public Affairs

Of the original 189 Army Air Forces Airmen killed at Hickam Field during the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks on military installations on Oahu, only 92 remained on the island after the war.

A group of Airmen, teenagers, spouses and a Sailor volunteered to render honors to these war heroes in a gesture of remembrance Dec. 2 at the National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl). The group placed an American flag and a handmade lei at each gravesite and gave a salute.

"To be amongst heroes is a great honor," said Jessie Higa, a volunteer Hickam historian and president of Hickam History Club. "This is something that we did to let them know we haven't forgotten."

"Though 189 died, where only 92 gravesites remain here might seem insignificant compared to the Navy numbers, these men still gave their lives," she said.

The project started last year when Higa and a group of teenagers from



Capt. Andy Stewart, 15th Wing commander's Action Group, salutes a gravesite after placing an American flag and handmade lei Dec. 2, at the National Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu.

joint base came up with a plan to start a community service project. Higa taught them how to make the lei, gathered all the flags, and set the day to mark the 70th anniversary. For the second year in a row, flags are now marking the gravesites of those fallen Airmen.

"When your heart is in the right place, you'll always be able to find people to partner with you to make it more impactful," Higa said.

"I never do it alone. It's contagious. People want to be a part of something that's bigger than themselves."

This experience for the teenagers, continuing what they started last year, has opened their eyes to the sacrifices of the men serving in Hawaii during WWII.

"This is an extra step of recognition for these men," said Chris Friedrichs, son of Col. Paul Friedrichs, Pacific Air Forces com-

mand surgeon. "Everyone knows what happened at Pearl Harbor, especially on the Arizona and the big ships. Nobody really realizes that it's so much more than just Pearl Harbor."

According to historical accounts, the Japanese attacking forces descended on the island of Oahu in two separate waves. At 7:55 a.m., the first wave began their bombardment on Hickam Field. En route to Hickam, they hit other installations around the

island, including Wheeler Field, Dillingham Field and Bellows Field, in an attempt to eliminate any aircraft, clearing the way for the heavy bombers to attack Battleship Row unimpeded.

"These men weren't trying to be heroes," said Emma McLeod, daughter of Brig. Gen. Mark McLeod, U.S. Pacific Command Headquarters.

Bombs fell on the flightline, barracks and hangars with a purpose that Sunday morning. Firearms and ammunition were locked away during the first wave.

Planes were lined up on the runway and most service members were still sleeping in the barracks or in their homes. Thirty minutes later, the second wave descended on the remainder of the airfields and concentrated on the ships moored in the harbor.

"When these young men enlisted, most in their early to mid-20s, they may not have known what they were signing up for but on that morning, they gave it everything they could to do what they knew was right for their country and fellowmen," Friedrichs said.

The first shots reportedly fired during the attack on Hickam were from a .45

caliber pistol as an Airman ran out of an aircraft hangar firing into the air at the attacking planes.

"That's what these guys did. They're laying here now because that is what they had. They picked up whatever they got and did the best they could and paid the price," said Navy Lt. Zach Simms of U.S. Pacific Fleet.

When the volunteers were finished with the project at Punchbowl, red, white and blue dotted the grassy fields of the cemetery. U.S. Air Force Maj. Jasmine Simms, Pacific Air Forces, stood at attention and saluted each of the markers they placed to honor the fallen.

"It is just a small gesture that we as Americans can do to take time for our fallen," said Master Sgt. Kevin Taggerty, 735th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "This was their 9/11, and I am sure they would be proud to know that our Americans and our military still honor them 71 years later, especially having our youth out there leading the charge."

"Officer or enlisted, at the end of the day, these were regular guys like you and me, minding their own business," Simms said.

Pearl Harbor-Hickam Highlights

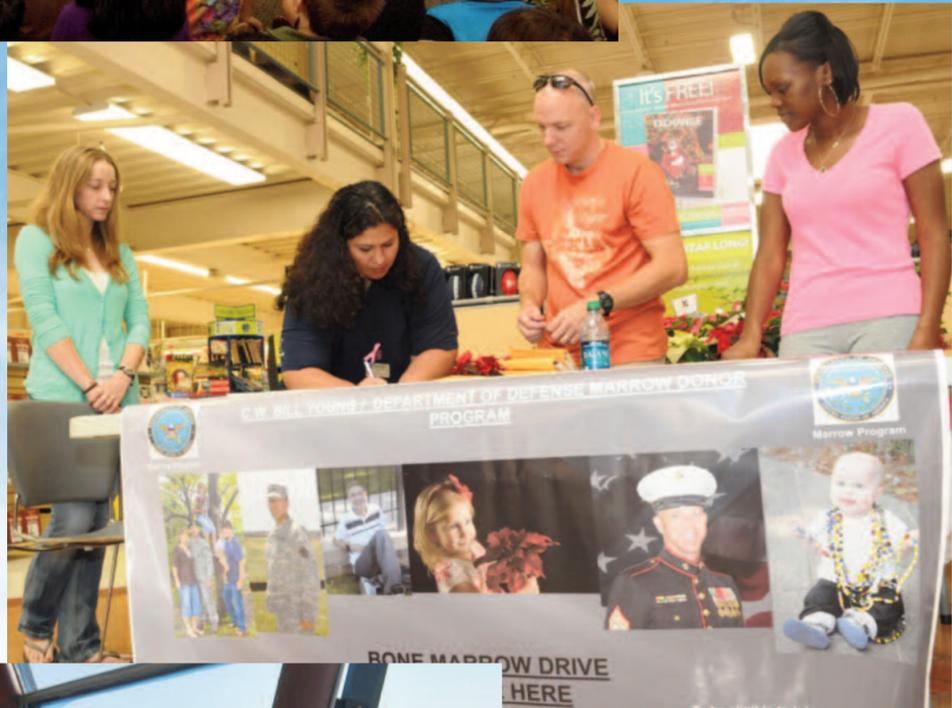


Lt. Patrick Magno (left) and Lt. j.g. David Indiveri (right) from the "Easyriders" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light recently visited Enchanted Lakes Elementary School to assist with a kindergarten lesson about naval helicopters for Veterans Day.

Photo by Kaitlin Indiveri

Maxine Suivaiaa (center left), inventory control associate with the Hickam Exchange, completes a registration form during a marrow donor program drive at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam on Nov. 29. Master Sgt. Michael Vonahnen (center right), First Sergeant, 15th Medical Group; Staff Sgt. Krystal Dittmer (left), 747th Communications Squadron; and Senior Airman Jaclyn Malbrough (right), 15th Aerospace Medicine Squadron assisted with the drive.

U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.



Col. Sean DeWitt (right), 51st Fighter Wing vice commander, and Lt. Col. Roland Secody (left), 51st Civil Engineer Squadron commander, explain the purpose of a newly constructed tower project to Gen. Herbert J. Carlisle, Pacific Air Forces commander, during his visit to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea on Nov. 29. The project is still in the construction stage with an estimated completion date of March 2013.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Craig Cisek

Nurjan Sakagawa and retired Air Force Master Sgt. Ryan Sakagawa hold the keys and title to their new car at the main entrance to the Hickam BXtra. Capt. Jeffrey James, commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, presented the keys Nov. 29. Nurjan won the Welch's Smart Car after entering a contest sponsored by Promotion in Motion Inc., Welch's Fruit Snacks at the exchange.

U.S. Air Force photo by David D. Underwood Jr.



Lt. j.g. Jami M. Talbott, assistant supply officer aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee (DDG 90), provides a tour of the ship to cast members of the touring Broadway musical "Wicked." The cast members met with Sailors and were shown areas of the ship including mess decks, medical, the bridge and combat operations.

U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Daniel Barker

Coming of Age: From Innocence to Valor

Ray Emory: A legacy of service, honor, heroics

Bill Doughty

Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

Ray Emory is a tough guy. Seventy-one years ago aboard USS Honolulu (CL 48) – without waiting for permission or orders – he responded to the attack of Dec. 7, 1941 by rushing to one of the ship's 50-calibre machine guns, helping break into a locked box of ammunition, and opening fire on attacking enemy planes.

Ray Emory is a tough guy who cares about former shipmates. He champions the full identification, where possible, of "unknowns" – service members killed on that "Day of Infamy" who were buried in unnamed graves. He's been described as tenacious, brusque, even intimidating. He's tough when it comes to historical accuracy, full accounting and helping military families.

But when talk turns to his childhood and life just before the Navy, his toughness cracks a bit.

Ray Emory was a child of the Great Depression. He grew up in a simpler time, a time of relative innocence, but a time in the early 1930s of general hunger and lack of work.

"No way can I describe the Depression," Emory said, speaking to his close friend Jim Taylor, Navy Region Hawaii's volunteer liaison for Pearl Harbor survivors. Ray's eyes cloud. His voice softens and deepens.

"When the Depression hit, my mother and dad didn't have a penny. There were seven of us and an eighth on the way," he remembered.

His dad lost his leg in a hunting accident.

At the age of 10, Ray got on his old bicycle and sold newspapers.

"Every penny I made went to supporting the family," he said.

The Depression slammed the United States after the stock market crashed in 1929. Unemployment rose from 3.2 percent in 1929 to 26.7 percent by 1934. The boom of the 1920s, when Peoria sparkled with new jazz, "flappers" and soda fountain parlors, turned to a bust along with the rest of the nation.

Exports shut down as markets and cash flow disappeared and the impact continued to spread. Worldwide depression planted seeds of fascism and ultra-nationalism in Germany and Japan, leading to social unrest, assassinations and acts of regional terrorism.

In Asia, Imperial Japan turned to Manchuria for raw materials and coal liquefaction facilities. By the end of the 30s, the emboldened Japanese military set its sights on Indochina for oil imports and colonization.

Back in Peoria in the early 1930s, Emory continued working throughout his early school years, including a stint at the A&P grocery store, before he considered the Navy.

Meanwhile, the effects of the Depression continued to transform the world.

The peace and prosperity of the 1920s after World War I had given way to open hate, fear and warfare in Europe and Asia in the 30s. Germany and Japan embraced militarism and territorial expansion.

"The war in Europe was getting hot," Emory remembered. "They were about to pass the draft law. I swung by the post office and talked to the Navy recruiter."

"When I got home – I can still see it. My dad was reading the newspaper, and my mother was darning socks. I told them, 'I joined the Navy today.' My dad put down his newspaper and said, 'You did what?'"

Ray first served aboard the light cruiser USS Savannah (CL 42). He still has an original menu from 1941 – beans and cornbread twice a week. It cost the Navy 46 cents per day to feed Sailors then.



U.S. Navy photo by Bill Doughty

Ray Emory discusses history with Jim Taylor, Navy Region Hawaii volunteer liaison for Pearl Harbor survivors, Nov. 6 at Emory's home.

Savannah headed through the Panama Canal and into the Pacific in 1939, arriving in Pearl Harbor. Emory knew how he wanted to serve.

"I asked young Ensign Burgan if I could become a gun striker," Ray reflected.

Burgan had a lasting effect on Ray.

"I told him once 'I can't do something.' He made me sit down," Emory said. "That ensign told me, 'The word can't – it's not in the dictionary.'"

Ray began two weeks of training at Fort Weaver, but USS Savannah left for the Atlantic without him, so he ended up aboard another light cruiser in Pearl Harbor, USS Honolulu (CL 48) – which is where he was on Dec. 7, 1941.

In the months leading up to Dec. 7, the United States enforced an embargo on Japan's importation of oil, leading to a total embargo on all goods except cotton and food. America joined other countries and took a strong stand against Japan for its incursions into China and Southeast Asia.

Ray Emory was aware of the storm clouds of war growing but was still caught completely by surprise when the attacks came on Dec. 7.

"I was sitting at my bunk reading the morning newspaper at the time General Quarters sounded," said Ray. "I thought, 'This was a hell of a time to be sounding GQ.' The 4 to 8 watch was still eating breakfast."

He hurriedly folded his

newspaper and stuck it under his bunk straps.

"I hit the ladder in about two steps," Ray remembered. "When topside, I heard machine gun fire. My thought was, 'This is a really good drill.'"

Ray raced to his battle station – the .50 caliber machine guns.

"I had pulled the canvas cover off of one of the machine guns and about halfway off the second machine gun when a torpedo plane passed our fantail. I stopped pulling the cover off and watched the track of the torpedo that hit one of the battleships. Again, in my mind, the torpedo was not supposed to explode like that (if it was a drill). In seconds, another torpedo plane passed our fantail and I saw the big red ball."

At that moment, Ray knew the attack was real. The attacking planes were Imperial Japanese.

"My thoughts were, 'Who declared war on whom and where did they come from to get here so fast.'"

He continued following his training and instincts.

"Upon breaking the ammo box open, the machine guns were manned," Emory said. "Anything that was close enough to fire at we fired, but who knows who hit who."

Ray continued to fight that day and in the months and years that followed.

He participated in engagements in the Aleutians, Solomons, Battle of Tassafaronga and consolida-



(Above) Ray Emory points out the location of the light cruiser USS Honolulu (CL 48) on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941.

U.S. Navy photo by Pedro Valdez

(Right) Chief Ray Emory at sea in 1945.

Photo courtesy of Ray Emory

tion of the Southern Solomons. He served in seven invasions across the Pacific: Tarawa, Kwajalein, Saipan, Guam, Leyte Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, Iwo Jima. He also participated in the atmospheric nuclear tests in Bikini Atoll in 1946.

Ray Emory left the Navy that same year as a chief boatswain's mate, though he'd earlier been recommended for a commission as an ensign. At the time, he declined because he didn't want to leave his ship.

After the war Ray went back to school, attending Bradley University and the University of Washington, where he received his degree in architecture. He worked in mechanical engineering and construction in the Pacific Northwest until he retired.

Emory returned to Hawaii in the mid 1980s and married his wife Virginia. Since then he has rededicated himself to accurate documentation of what happened at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and to the proper accounting of shipmates killed on that day.

Matching burial records with dental records and, where available, DNA, Emory has worked with JPAC (the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command) and others to identify or help identify former "unknowns." He has brought closure and



peace to families: Hembree, Lehman, Livingston, Vanderpool and others.

Ray Emory is a tough guy with a tender side, devoted to the memory of shipmates and innocence lost. He survived the Great Depression

and the attack on Pearl Harbor, and he helped win a lasting peace in the Pacific.

"There hasn't been a day gone by in my life that I haven't thought of Dec. 7, in one way or another, including today," he said.

Shipyards 'produces' first facility in modernization plan

David Tomiyama

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyards & Intermediate Maintenance Facility Public Affairs

Production took a step forward at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyards & Intermediate Maintenance Facility with the grand opening Nov. 28 of a newly completed, two-story production services support facility.

The \$15.8 million building is the first project to complete in the shipyard's 27-year facilities modernization plan. Numerous guests representing Hawaii's congressional delegation, the chamber of commerce, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Hawaii, Manson-Nan Hawaii Joint Venture and other organizations attended the traditional Hawaiian *maile lei* untying.

Walt Kaneakua, executive assistant for military affairs for U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, read a message addressed from the senator to the shipyard audience.

"America must have the best effort you can give, and this building will enhance your abilities to achieve and deliver that best effort," said Kaneakua, reading the note from Inouye.

"People, not buildings, make our nation great, but people with proper equipment and support take the United States to visionary distances."

The production services support facility in building 1916 provides approximately 36,685 square feet to the structural shop (with shop 11 shipfitting and shop 26 welding) and the structural community of prac-



U.S. Navy photo by Marshall Fukuki

Capt. Brian Osgood, commander of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyards & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, and Walt Kaneakua, executive assistant for military affairs for U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, untie a traditional Hawaiian *maile lei*.

Other occupants include structural engineering and quality assurance (non-destructive testing).

The ground-breaking took place July 6, 2011 with construction beginning five days later. The new facility centralizes structural trades personnel in a permanent building close to waterfront projects. It eliminates lengthy and time-consuming

travel between the dry docks and building 155, the previous home of the structural shop.

The temporary, costly work structures that were constantly being set up and removed are now a thing of the past with the new building. The modern facility gives engineers and workers a satellite tool shop, light shop work area, administrative offices, briefing and training

rooms, secure storage areas, information technology center, and lunch and break rooms.

"This building reduces costs, allows us to shed unnecessary infrastructure and gets us closer to the work, the dry docks," said Capt. Brian Osgood, PHNSY commander.

"This building was also designed with next generation Virginia-class submarines in mind as we become the Virginia-class submarine center of excellence."

In addition to improving work efficiency and productivity, the support facility incorporates energy and water conservation features. The building was constructed within Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) standards and is currently awaiting LEED silver certification.

LEED is an internationally-recognized "green" building certification system. It provides building owners and operators a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

Some of the environmentally friendly features of the building include a photovoltaic system to convert sunlight into energy, light wells to provide ambient lighting to second-floor interior spaces, and low-flow toilet and shower fixtures, said Stephen Sasaki, shipyard production facilities and equipment manager.

The production services support facility is the first project completion of the overall facilities modernization plan sched-

uled to finish in 2035. The shipyard's goals with modernization are to provide the right facilities to increase efficiency, improve safety and the quality of work life for shipyarders while performing the mission of ship repairs.

These goals can be achieved with execution of the \$600-\$800 million plan which includes: 10 new construction projects totaling 415,000 square feet, reducing 50 temporary or re-locatable structures totaling 760,000 square feet, consolidating and collocating numerous functions across the shipyard, increasing capacity for two wet berths, and installing an intermediate caisson to extend capacity in dry dock one.

According to Sasaki, design has already started on two military construction projects (MCON), P-320 (submarine production and training facility) and P-270 (dry dock two starboard waterfront facility). These projects, if included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Congressional budget, will award and start construction during FY14.

Major projects in progress include renovating building 9 for the nuclear engineering and planning department, overhauling window repairs on the structural shop in building 155, the dewatering and drain pumps in dry docks one and four, and the dry docks one and two ship support services project (MCON P-302) located at the head of dry dock two. A project that has been awarded but not yet started construction is the inside machine shop in building 67A window repairs.

PACAF announces change to 'Blues Monday' policy

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III asked his major command commanders on Nov. 29 to decide which uniform their Airmen will wear in order

to better perform their mission.

Upon receiving the CSAF guidance, Pacific Air Forces Commander Gen. Herbert "Hawk" Carlisle announced that blues are no longer mandated on Mondays and that uniform

wear in PACAF will be at the discretion of the wing and numbered Air Force commanders.

"The NAFs and other staffs may set the uniform policy for their respective headquarters," he said in an email to the PACAF

commanders.

"For the PACAF Headquarters, blues will not be mandated on Mondays. Uniform selection will be commensurate with the expected duty that day, or as directed by the workplace supervisors."

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