

Poor Richard, 2016.

A N

Almanack



BHR SAILORS CONTINUE TRADITION
OF SUPPORTING CHILDREN IN NEED



Story and photos by MC3 William Sykes

BHR Sailors delivered presents to the children living at the Omura Children's Home during an Angel Tree community relation (COMREL) event.

The Angel Tree program's purpose is to give gifts to less fortunate children in the community who might not have the same opportunities during the holiday season as others.

More than 30 Sailors volunteered to deliver 50 gifts donated by their fellow shipmates.

While welcoming Sailors to Omura Children's Home, Koji Matsumoto, the assistant manager, said the home has been in operation for approximately 70 years. During that time, service men and women from Sasebo have consistently visited the children. He also shared photographs of Sailors from previous years visiting the orphanage.

The Sailors interacted with children, ranging in age from five to 18 years old. They shared stories, pictures and snacks as everyone became acquainted with one another prior to handing out presents to the children.

"The children were very grateful for the presents they received and we

had some time to spend together," said Lt. David Hammond, assistant command Chaplain. "They sang some Christmas songs and we sang a few songs ourselves. We also went outside for some time on the playground and then, all too soon, had to say 'Sayonara'."

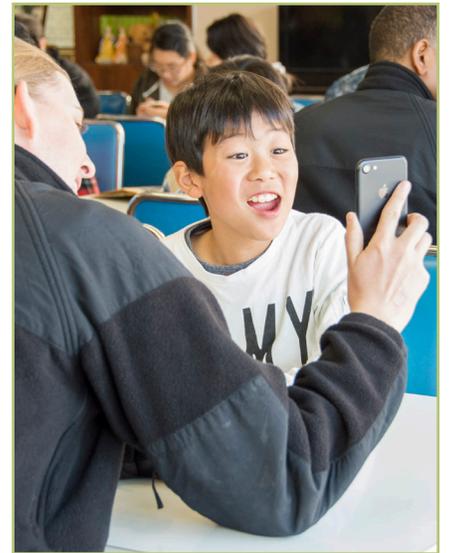


Matsumoto was grateful to have the support of Sailors in sharing the holiday spirit and cheering up the children.

"Thanks to your continuous support, the kids are encouraged by your visit," said Matsumoto. "Some kids are interested in U.S. culture and foreign countries and it creates a good impact on our kids. Thank you very much and I hope this friendship will continue as long as we can."

Angel Tree

Sharing Holiday Spirit





BHR Party

Holiday Season





Petty Officer 3rd Class Aaron Ellis, from Chicago, is the Sailor of the Week of December 7. Part of the medical team, petty officer Ellis has been with the BHR since May 2015. Ellis is the sole Aerospace Medical Technician on board. He is also the resident expert in aviation medicine policy and procedures and assisted the senior medical officer in physical exams, sick call and health record maintenance for 1,100 Sailors on board; coordinated all aero-medical screenings with embarked flight surgeons to be completed in a timely manner.

More of his achievements include: between the months of September to November Petty Officer Ellis performed 130 medical record reviews, administered 300 immunizations, drew 40 HIV blood samples and conducted 100 flight deck physicals for Air Department which increased command medical readiness from 88 percent to 93 percent.

“I am humbled to be selected as the Sailor of the Week,” said Ellis. “Being selected means a lot, especially amongst such a competitive bunch

like we have here in medical. For all of you in here, just remember to keep striving to be the best that you can be and make each day count.”

Ellis received a command coin from Capt. Ward and a few additional benefits as well. Bravo Zulu PO3 Ellis!



Sailor of the Week

No Change in U.S. Commitment to Asia-Pacific Under Trump, Admiral Says

Story by *New York Times*

SYDNEY, Australia — The commander of United States military operations in the Asia-Pacific region said on Wednesday that America's commitment to the region would continue after Donald J. Trump became president, as would its opposition to Chinese expansion in the South China Sea.

"You can count on America now and into the future," Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., head of the United States Pacific Command, said in a speech at the Lowy Institute, a research center in Sydney, Australia. He said that "reports of America's abandonment of the Indo-Asia-Pacific have been greatly exaggerated" and called the area "the most consequential region for America's future."

Officials and diplomats in the Asia-Pacific have wondered how Mr. Trump might change American policy toward China and the rest of the region, especially since his surprise phone call this month with President Tsai Ing-wen of Taiwan, which alarmed Beijing and broke with decades of United States diplomatic practice. Meanwhile, recent visits to Beijing by the leaders of Malaysia and the Philippines have underscored the possibility that countries in the region are drawing closer to China.

Admiral Harris declined to speculate on how United States policy might change after Mr. Trump takes office next month, saying he was "not in the business of giving advice to the president-elect." But he said America's interests in the region were "enduring" and called its 65-year alliance with Australia "more important than ever before."

Australia's prime minister, Malcolm Turnbull, has walked a fine line between the United States, the country's most important strategic ally, and China, its largest trading partner. Mr. Turnbull has urged China to abide by international laws governing freedom of navigation in the South China Sea, where it has built military installations on reclaimed islands and claimed much of the crucial waterway as its

Past, Present & Future

own.

But Australia has also resisted pressure to join the United States in naval patrols meant to demonstrate that the waters are open to international traffic. Admiral Harris said that deciding to participate in such efforts was up to each country in the region, but he reiterated that America "will not allow the shared domains to be closed down unilaterally, no matter how many bases are built on artificial features in the South China Sea."

During his Australia visit, Admiral Harris signed an agreement increasing the scope of the two countries' military cooperation. Besides increasing the number of joint exercises carried out with about 1,250 United States Marines based in the northern city of Darwin, it allows for American F-22 jets to be deployed in the area for those exercises in 2017, likely to be followed by F-35 jets the year after.

In his speech, Admiral Harris said the Islamic State posed a "clear threat" to the Asia-Pacific region, saying it was likely that extremists would return home "radicalized and weaponized" from the Middle East after fighting alongside the group there. "It is clear to me that ISIL is trying to rebalance to the Indo-Asia-Pacific," he said, using an alternative name for the militant group. "So we must stop them now."

He also cited North Korea, a "revanchist Russia and an increasingly assertive China" as significant challenges. "Both Moscow and Beijing have choices to make," he said. "They can choose to disregard the rules-based international order or they can contribute to it as responsible stakeholders." He said the United States would "cooperate where we can and be ready to confront where we must."

This Day in History

1821 - Lt. Robert F. Stockton and Dr. Eli Ayers, a naval surgeon and member of American Colonizing Society, persuade a local African king to sell territory for a colony that becomes the Republic of Liberia.

1907 - The Great White Fleet departs Hampton Roads, Va. to circumnavigate the world in 14 months, a journey of 43,000 miles that included 20 port calls across six continents. Fourteen thousand Sailors and Marines participated in the voyage, leaving a lasting legacy at home and abroad.

1922 - Lt. Cmdr. Walter A. Edwards, commanding USS Bainbridge (DD 246), leads the rescue of 482 passengers

from the burning French transport Vinh-Long by placing his destroyer in dangerous positions to ensure the passengers could disembark, despite a series of explosions. He later brings them to Constantinople. For his leadership and heroism, Edwards receives the Medal of Honor.

1944 - USS Swordfish (SS 193) attacks a Japanese convoy south of Hainan Island and sinks Japanese army transport *Atsutasan Maru*.

1998 - In Operation Desert Fox, Navy cruise missiles attack Iraq to degrade Saddam Hussein's ability to make and use weapons of mass destruction.

Brain Teasers

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6	1				8	3	9	
9				3				1
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4		3	6	7				8

Movie Schedule

Showboat Theater

- Dec. 16:** 1830 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
2130 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
2350 – Bad Santa 2
- Dec. 17:** 1400 – Moana
1830 – Office Christmas Party
2100 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
2350 – Keeping Up With the Joneses
- Dec. 18:** 1400 – Fantastic Beasts And Where to Find Them
1830 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
- Dec. 19:** 1830 – Moana
- Dec. 20:** 1300 – Trolls
1830 – Almost Christmas

Hario Village Theater

- Dec. 16:** 1830 – Arrival
2100 – Almost Christmas
- Dec. 17:** 1400 – Doctor Strange
1830 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
2100 – Bad Santa 2
- Dec. 18:** 1400 – Rogue One: A Star Wars Story
1830 – Almost Christmas

Upcoming Events (Sasebo)

- Dec. 16:** 1800 - Secret Santa Choosing - Time to see who you are Secret Santa-ing for!
- Dec. 17:** 1300-2230 - Driving Range, Hard Rock Cafe & Shopping in Fukuoka.
Seats \$10, LBJ: \$5
- Dec. 20:** 1800-2200 - Barracks Night
- Dec. 20-23:** 1800 each evening indulge in a holiday tradition of your choice. Each night will be something different.

Use of Personal Electronic Devices (PED)

- PEDs are **authorized**:
 - In berthing areas with earphones
 - Cleaning quarters with earphones (in one ear only)
 - Unclassified workcenters
 - Ship's gym
- PED are **not authorized**:
 - PEDs will not be used on watch. This includes use as clock or stopwatch
 - Earphones will be removed upon transiting through ECP onto the pier
 - Earphones are not authorized while transiting through the ship
- "Use" shall include carrying or possessing a PED. A device set on "vibrate" or "silent" shall be considered to be in use. A PED, even in the "off" position but visible to others shall be deemed in "use."
- At no time will personnel use their PED in the vicinity of the quarterdeck or the brow.

To sign up for events and make reservations, check out Showcase Magazine and the **MWR** Sasebo website: www.navymwrsasebo.com. For more information, please call 252-3756.

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