



J03 Sunday Williams photo

USS Arizona Memorial Detachment's boat 24 crew heads back to the Arizona Visitor Center from the Arizona Memorial after the early morning reenlistments.

USS Arizona Detachment

Doing more than just driving boats

J03 Sunday Williams
 Staff Writer

Pearl Harbor Hawaii, "the best homeport in the Navy," is also home to the USS Arizona Memorial Detachment which is considered by some Sailors to be "the best orders in the Navy."

Detachment Sailors are responsible for transporting visitors from the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center to the Arizona Memorial on the detachment's six tour boats - seven days a week, 362 days a year.

"That has got to be the best job in the Navy. All you do is drive a boat all day," commented Jake Hanover, a tourist from San Jose, Calif., during a recent visit to Pearl Harbor.

Sailors attached to the detachment have heard it over and over throughout their time at the detachment, and according to Engineman 3rd Class Sean Reese, "The only thing you can do is reply with a smile and a 'yes sir.' But there is so much more to it than that," he said.

"These guys have to work really hard on and off the water, and it takes a lot not only to drive those boats, but also to maintain them," said Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Marvin Alvarez, leading petty officer in charge of the detachment.

Each tour boat measures 70 feet long and holds up to 150 passengers. For the detachment's Sailors, that means up to

150 people have to be safely transported to and from the Arizona Memorial.

"Between the sometimes very rough waters and excited tourists who want to stand and take photos, it can be quite the challenge," explained Engineman 2nd Class (EN2) Jeff Sampadian.

According to most of the detachment Sailors, the brief about safety procedures, announced by them before every tour boat departs, is not always welcome news to boat passengers. In the brief, passengers are told that they cannot walk around the boat to take photos.

"You try your best to understand and be sympathetic, but at the same time you have 150 people to keep safe. If one person jumps up to take a photo, then everyone else does too, and that can cause problems," said Reese.

On the other hand, many of the detachment's Sailors have received praise from passengers.

"I just think that it's wonderful that these Sailors are doing what they do," said Sydney Chaw a visitor from Charleston, S.C. "It's so important for people to be able to go out and see such an important part of history and learn about what these men went through to give us our freedom," stated Chaw.

"A lot of long hours and hard work go into those boats every day and it is a non-stop process," explained EN2 (SW) Travis Coleman.

"We not only have to make sure that

these boats are running properly, we do all of the maintenance for the appearance of the boats as well," said Coleman.

"These guys have to do all of the Planned Maintenance Systems (PMS) checks and ensure that the boats are up and running, fueled and cleaned every day," stated Chief Electrician's Mate (SW) Nathan Brooks, Leading Chief Petty Officer in charge at the detachment.

Brooks also stated that the crew's performance speaks for itself, because "when everyone else is off, they are still working."

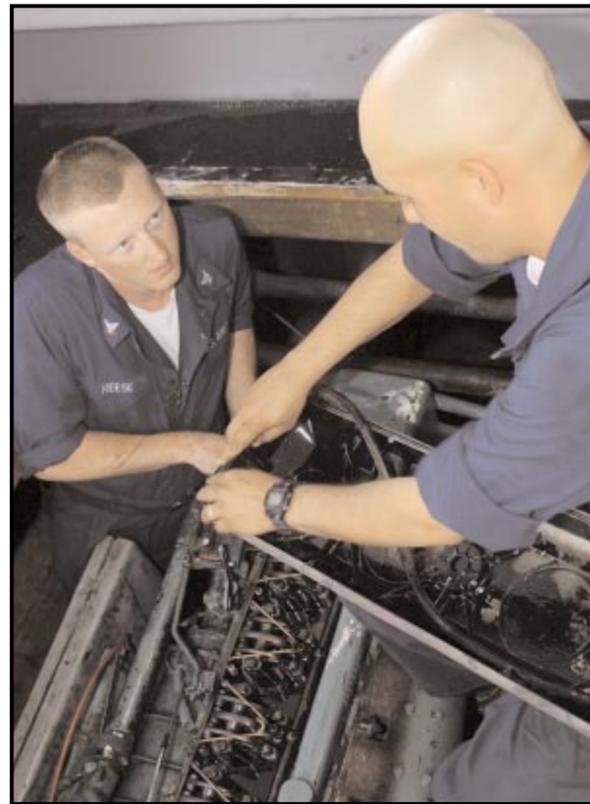
The Arizona Memorial is closed on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Tours to the Memorial may also be shut down due to weather conditions.

"The winds have to reach a certain speed before the boats will shut down. For the coxswain to be able to safely and gently land in high winds takes practice and skill," said Ens. Pablo Camarillo, division officer for the detachment.

But passengers can rest assured that each member of the detachment knows what they are doing. Every one of them must go through a series of qualifications in order to become a coxswain, or boat operator.

Each Sailor must first obtain bow hook qualifications, then proceed to

▼ See DRIVE, B-2



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Sailors from USS Arizona Detachment work to get Tour Boat 26 in proper working condition.

Be conservation conscious: Save resources and dollars

Karen S. Spangler
 Assistant Editor

Exterior lights that are left on during daytime hours waste electricity and unnecessarily use energy. While this is seemingly obvious, it is surprising how frequently exterior lights are left on during daylight hours in Navy family housing. This is just one example of how electricity is wasted. Each resident should make that extra commitment to ensure that all outside lights are turned off when it is daylight.

Conserving energy and using resources wisely is everyone's responsibility. By being conservation conscious, all of us can serve a vital role in saving these valuable resources. Electricity is just one of the resources that we need, but frequently abuse.

Here are some "common sense" energy-saving tips from the people at Hawaiian Electric Company that will enable you to do your part in conserving electricity. Cost estimates of energy consumption are based on average usage for a family of four.

Dishwashers use 37 percent less water than washing dishes by hand, as long as you are washing full loads and using the short cycle. It costs approximately \$3 per month if you operate your dishwasher one load per day.

Use a microwave if you are cooking or heating a small amount of food. Try to use tight-fitting pot lids and match the size of your pots and pans to the size of the cooking element you are using. Plan meals so that you use your oven to cook a vegetable dish or dessert with your main dish. Us-

ing your range/oven costs about \$5 per month compared to the monthly cost for microwave use, based on 20 minutes per day, of \$1.65.

User lower wattage bulbs wherever possible and be sure to turn off lights when not in use. Use fluorescent lights where possible. Compact fluorescents use 75 percent less energy and last 10 times longer. During the holidays, use "midget" lights for decorating.

When doing laundry, always use the cold water rinse cycle. Rinsing in warm water won't make clothes any cleaner. Dry full loads, but don't overload. Dry laundry loads in succession to use retained heat. Check and clean your dryer's lint filter often. Lint buildup not only restricts air circulation, but is also a fire hazard. Operating your clothes washer (without hot water) at the rate of eight loads per week costs about \$1 per month. Your clothes dryer, running on 40-minute intervals at an average of eight loads per week, will cost about \$11 a month.

When taking showers and baths, run the water as little as possible. Not only does this save valuable electricity that is used to heat the water, but it also conserves another vital resource - water. A conventional hot water heater uses about \$44 of electricity per month.

Take some time to talk with all of the members of your family about pitching in to manage wisely and conserve electrical use.

Remember that electric bills must be paid by someone - and for residents of Navy family housing, the bill is paid by the Navy using taxpayer dollars. Help the Navy to use those



Navy Housing photo

Navy family housing residents enjoy the benefits of living in such communities as the new Moanalua Terrace housing neighborhood. Residents should be energy conscious and follow common sense conservation guidelines.

taxpayer dollars - your dollars - more wisely and, at the same time, take an active role in energy conservation efforts.