



Navy League of the United States Siam Council, Thailand

Annual Report 2010

Executive Summary:

In 2010, Navy League Siam was proud to host 24 ships for a total of 29 visits, while coordinating over 50 Community Relations projects to benefit US-Thai relations. Navy League Siam also helped these sailors and marines enjoy their liberty in Pattaya a little more by providing free SIM cards, receptions, and unique events like the Black Box cooking competition. Seeking to foster good will between the US and Thailand, the Royal Thai Marine Corps received some financial support from Navy League Siam to conduct humanitarian operations for the troubled provinces in the deep south of Thailand. For 2011, Navy League Siam will partner with the Thai and international business community to increase membership, and they will take a more active role in sponsoring both US and Thai ships and their crew.

Ship Visits and Community Outreach:

Navy League Siam was honored to host 24 United States ships for a total of 29 visits in 2010 on the Eastern Seaboard of Thailand. The complete roster of ships is as follows:

1. USS PRINCETON (CG 59)
2. USNS ALAN SHEPARDT-AKE-3
3. USNS BYRD T-AKE-4 (2 times)
4. USNS TIPPECANOE T-AO 199 (3 times)
5. USNS WALTER S DIEHL T-AO 193 (2 times)
6. USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC 19)
7. USCGC MELLON
8. USS LASSEN (DDG 82)
9. USS TORTUGA (LSD 46)
10. USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 48)
11. USS CHOSIN (CG 65)
12. USS COWPENS (CG 63)
13. USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)
14. USS CURTIS WILBUR (DDG 54)
15. USS DENVER (LPD-9)
16. USS CHOSIN (CG 65)
17. USS ESSEX (LHD 2)
18. USS HARPERS FERRY (LSD-49) (2 times)
19. USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)
20. USS MCCAMPBELL (DDG 65)
21. USS PATRIOT (MCM 7)
22. USS SAMPSON (DDG102)
23. USS SHILOH (CG 67)
24. USNS PECOS (T-AO-197)



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Navy League Siam hosted the sailors and coordinated more than 50 Community Relations (COMRELS) projects for the sailors to have the opportunity to learn more about Thai culture and to boost diplomatic ties between the United States and Thailand. These events benefited the health, welfare, and education of the Thai community, and included visits to local schools, refurbishing temples and orphanages, as well as donating supplies to needy children.

Morale and Recreation for Visiting Sailors and Marines:

During the visit from the George Washington carrier group in October 2010, a Black Box Cooking Competition was held at the Marriott Spa & Resort in Pattaya. The hotel's Food & Beverage Director, Mr. Phuwanart, set up four cooking stations and prepared the Black Boxes with identical ingredients for the participants. The rules were that each team had 2.5 hours to complete a 3-course meal. CS2(SW) Johnnie Fulmore CS3 Christopher Johnson from the USS Cowpens were the winners, and they won the usage of a 9-seater van (with driver) for one day in Pattaya.



Through the generous donation of True, a large telecommunication company in Thailand, visiting sailors each received free SIM cards so that they could call home for approximately 1THB (\$US0.04) per minute. The amount of free SIM cards donated to the sailors reached close to 20,000.

Navy League Siam's President, Mr. Peter Thorand, has presented to the last 10 visiting ships a legal 3THB Thai Stamp with the ships crest. The stamps include the pictures of the Commanding Officer, the Executive Officer, and the Command Master Chief.

Support to the Royal Thai Military:

\$US10,000 was raised and donated to the Royal Thai Marine Corps operating in the deep south region of Thailand, which has been suffering under a long-running insurgency. These funds will help the Royal Thai Marine Corps conduct counter-insurgency operations by constructing three libraries at area schools. The schools which will benefit are as follows:

- Bankoksoomoo School - Moo.2, Tambon Bangpor, Amphur Muang, Narathiwat Province - comprising 12 teachers (2 males, 10 females) and 138 students (67 boys, 71 girls)
- Buejoh School - Moo.1, Tambon Bacho, Amphur Bacho, Narathiwat Province - comprising 13 teachers (5 males, 8 females) and 114 students (84 boys, 60 girls)
- Watchotirot School - Moo 1, Tambon Talokritong, Amphur Maikaen, Pattani Province - comprising 6 teachers (2 males, 4 females) and 114 students (63 boys, 51 girls).

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Changes at Navy League Siam:

The council changed its name to “*Navy League of the United States – Siam Council, Thailand*” to attract more support from throughout the entire country of Thailand rather than just the Eastern Seaboard. Rear Admiral (Ret.) James Grunewald joined the Navy League as a Director, and a former submarine officer, Paul Salvette, joined as Vice President. Navy League Siam launched a new website (<http://NLThailand.org>) and began a social media campaign on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/NavyLeagueSiam>) to recruit more members and generate interest within the Thai and international community.



The Way Ahead:

Navy League Siam intends on adopting Royal Thai Navy Ships as well as more US Navy ships. Also, Navy League Siam will formally recognize Sailors of the year.

In order that visiting sailors have an easier time finding their way around while on liberty, Navy League Siam is developing a Pattaya Pocket Map to be distributed to the ships free of charge. 25,000 of these maps will be printed over the course of 2011.

Navy League Siam will work with the American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand to increase its membership by at least 25%. Individuals and corporate sponsors will be approached to ensure financial sustainability of Navy League Siam’s activities.

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