



Another example of a mission ready ship because of a U.S. Navy Port Engineer

USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) Seizes Drugs in Gulf of Aden



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By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Logan C. Kellums, Carrier Strike Group 3, Public Affairs

GULF OF ADEN (NNS) -- The guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93) interdicted a shipment of narcotics aboard a stateless vessel while conducting maritime security operations in the international waters of the Gulf of Aden, Dec. 27. Chung-Hoon's visit, board, search and seizure (VBSS) team seized over 11,000 pounds of hashish while conducting a flag verification boarding. The vessel was determined to be stateless following a flag verification boarding, conducted in accordance with customary international law. The vessel and its crew were allowed to depart once the narcotics were seized.



Sailors from the guided-missile destroyer USS Chung-Hoon board a dhow that was discovered transporting 4,700 kilograms of hashish Jan. 24 in the Gulf of Aden. Chung-Hoon is deployed to the U of operations in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security.

(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Logan C. Kellums)

Chung-Hoon is one of the many ships currently conducting maritime security operations in the U.S. 5th Fleet. Maritime security operations as conducted by the U.S. Navy entail routine patrols to determine pattern of life in the maritime as well as enhance mariner-to-mariner relations. The relationships built as a result allow the U.S. Navy to disrupt the transport of illicit cargo that often funds terrorism and unlawful activities, and also reassures law-abiding mariners in the region.

Chung-Hoon is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in support of naval operations to ensure maritime stability and security in the Central Region, connecting the Mediterranean and the Pacific through the western Indian Ocean and three strategic choke points. The U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations encompasses nearly 2.5 million square miles of water area and includes the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and parts of the Indian Ocean. The region is comprised of 20 countries and includes three critical choke points at the Strait of Hormuz, the Suez Canal and the Strait of Bab-al-Mandeb at the southern tip of Yemen.



Webmaster's Note: **USS Chung-Hoon (DDG-93)** is an *Arleigh Burke*-class Aegis destroyer serving in the United States Navy (USN). *Chung-Hoon* was named in honor of Rear Admiral Gordon Pai'ea Chung-Hoon (1910–1979), recipient of the Navy Cross and the Silver Star.

Gordon Pai'ea Chung-Hoon^W (July 25, 1910 – July 24, 1979) He was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, he was an admiral in the United States Navy, who served during World War II and was the first Asian American flag officer.

Chung-Hoon served on the USS *Arizona* as a lieutenant, but was in Honolulu on a weekend pass during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Chung-Hoon heard the attack from Honolulu and attempted to return to his ship but was delayed by roadblocks and traffic jams. By the time he reached the *Arizona* the ship had already exploded and sunk.

He received the Navy Cross and Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and extraordinary heroism as commanding officer of USS *Sigsbee* from May 1944 to October 1945.

From May 1944 to October 1945 Chung-Hoon commanded the destroyer USS *Sigsbee*. In the spring of 1945, *Sigsbee* assisted in the destruction of 20 enemy planes while screening a carrier strike force off the Japanese island of Kyūshū. On April 14, 1945, while on radar picket station off Okinawa, a kamikaze crashed into *Sigsbee*, reducing her starboard engine to five knots and knocking out the ship's port engine and steering control.

Despite the damage, then Commander Chung-Hoon kept his antiaircraft batteries delivering "prolonged and effective fire" against the continuing Japanese air attack while simultaneously directing the damage control efforts that allowed *Sigsbee* to make port under her own power. The damage had been severe enough that Admiral William Halsey, Jr. told Chung-Hoon to scuttle the ship. However, Chung-Hoon declined to do so, telling the admiral "No, I have kids on here that can't swim and I'm not putting them in the water. I'll take her back."

The next day Chung-Hoon led a burial at sea for the dead. One crewmate said of Chung-Hoon during the burial, "I often remember that the only man tough enough not to duck, was also the only man tender enough to cry."

