



# ANCC FOUNDATION Did You Know?



## ANCC Pearl Harbor Shuffle

Note: The names of ANCC members are in bold.

This is a modified version of the December 2016 DYK.

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, Admiral **Husband E. Kimmel**, the Commander-In-Chief Pacific Fleet, and Lieutenant General **Walter C. Short**, Commanding General of the Hawaii Department of the United States Army<sup>1</sup>, arose early to prepare for their bi-weekly golf game. Obviously neither one made their tee-time. In the raid's aftermath, there were a number of flag/general officer reassignments involving ANCC members.

On December 17, 1941, ten days after the attack, Admiral Kimmel was relieved of command and Vice Admiral **William S. Pye**<sup>2</sup> (Commander, Battle Force, Pacific Fleet) became acting CINCPACFLT. Admiral **Chester W. Nimitz**<sup>3</sup> arrived in Hawaii on Christmas Day and assumed command of the Pacific Fleet on December 31, 1941.

Likewise, Lieutenant General Short was relieved of command of the Hawaii Department on December 17, 1941, and ordered back to Washington. He was succeeded by LGEN Delos C. Emmons and retired on February 28, 1942.

Back in Washington, Admiral **Harold R. "Betty" Stark**,<sup>4</sup> an ANCC Founding Member, was relieved as the Chief of Naval Operations and sent to London where he assumed the duties as the first Commander-In-Chief, United States Naval Forces, Europe.

Stark was replaced by **Admiral Earnest J. King**, who had been assigned to the General Board of the United States Navy<sup>5</sup> awaiting retirement. There is a story (which Admiral King denied) that upon being notified of his new assignment, he said, "When the going gets tough, they call in the son-of-a-bitches."

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<sup>1</sup> As the Commander of the Hawaii Department of the United States Army, General Short was responsible for the defense of all military installation in Hawaii.

<sup>2</sup> VADM Pye served as the ANCC President in 1937, resigning from the position on April 21, 1937.

<sup>3</sup> RADM Chester W. Nimitz served as the ANCC President 1940-1941, resigning when ordered to Pearl Harbor.

<sup>4</sup> Admiral Stark was an ANCC Founding Member.

<sup>5</sup> The General Board of the United States Navy was an advisory body of the United States Navy, somewhat akin to a naval general staff. It was established in 1900 and disbanded in 1951.



**ADM Husband E. Kimmel**



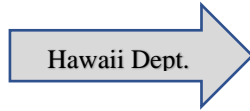
**VADM William S. Pye**



**ADM Chester W. Nimitz**



**Lt. Gen. Walter S. Short**



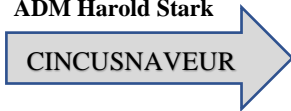
**Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons**



**ADM Harold Stark**



**ADM Ernest J. King**



Notes:

- 1) The title “Commander-In-Chief, United States Fleet” passed from ADM Kimmell to ADM King. Nimitz was titled “Commander-In-Chief, Pacific Fleet”.
- 2) Lt. Gen. Emmons became the Military Governor of Hawaii.