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COMDTNOTE 1710

SUBJ: VETERAN'S DAY – PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I
A. COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC 250937 SEP 18/ALCOAST 327/18 - 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOSS OF USS TAMPA

B. SECNAV WASHINGTON DC 021840Z OCT 18, ALNAV 072/18 100TH - ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I PLANNING ORDER

1. All Unit Commanders, Commanding Officers (CO) and Officers in Charge (OIC) are requested to pay appropriate tribute to the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I (WWI), otherwise known as Armistice Day.
2. On 6 April 1917, the United States declared War on Imperial Germany. For the USCG, this war was the first time the entire Service was transferred to the Department of the Navy, augmenting the US Navy with 223 commissioned officers, approximately 4,500 enlisted personnel, 47 vessels, and 279 stations. Six cutters, based in Gibraltar, were assigned escort and patrol duties. The USCG suffered heavy losses, including all onboard TAMPA and 11 from SENECA. MCCULLOCH and MOHAWK sank due to collisions with the loss of one life while our sister service the U.S. Light House Service lost the DIAMOND SHOALS LIGHTSHIP LV-71 to U-Boat attack and the CROSS RIP LIGHTSHIP LV-6 and all six onboard to severe weather.
3. One hundred years ago, at precisely the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, the “war to end all wars” was concluded via the Armistice. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed the name of the commemoration to Veterans Day as a way to commemorate all those who have served our nation in uniform throughout our history. To mark this anniversary, the United States WWI Centennial Commission (WWICC) is calling on Americans across the nation to toll bells at 1100 on 11 November 2018 in remembrance of those who served in WWI. The tolling of bells is a traditional expression of honor and remembrance, and "Bells of Peace" is a national event to honor the 116,516 Americans who died and over 200,000 who were wounded in the Great War. Within the past 100 years, we have seen the two deadliest wars in the history of the human race, lethality made possible through components of globalization and the firepower of the industrial age; an estimated 30 million lives were lost in WWI, followed by a baseline estimate of 60 million in WWII. Together with our brethren in the Department of Defense, we must never forget the unprecedented lethality of modern warfare, and the highest of prices that those before us in the Long Blue Line have paid for peace. Coast Guard men and women have served to defend our nation since 1790, and will continue to do so with pride and distinction, even unto the last full measure of devotion.
4. On Sunday, 11 November at 1100 units are encouraged to toll their bells 21 times – the highest honor that can be afforded by U.S. Naval tradition. A reading of the previous paragraphs via 1MC, quarters, or all hands is appropriate. Commands that do not have bells can render the salute by other available means. The WWICC is encouraging all Services and civilian partners to use #KnowYourMil for military tributes during November.
5. Kirstjen M. Nielsen, Secretary of Homeland Security, sends.
6. Internet release is authorized.