

US SHIP PORT VISIT MAY 2010

Sailors aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Vicksburg (CG 69) visited Klaipeda, Lithuania, May 4-7 for a three-day theater security cooperation (TSC) port visit to the country. Various events included community relations (COMREL) projects, shipboard tours for local school children, crewmembers on Vicksburg's basketball and soccer teams participated in games against Lithuanian Navy teams, and multiple receptions were hosted both aboard the USS Vicksburg and by the LITNavy. 60 people from both Navies, the American Embassy, and teenagers from the Rytas orphanage participated in the beach clean-up. Trash was collected from the beach/dune area and sand was removed from stairs and paths along a 5 km stretch of Melnrage Beach. Another 20 Sailors from both Navies worked at the Klaipedos Kurdiliu Namai, an orphanage, in Giruliai. The Sailors provided manpower to remove 5 piles of broken concrete blocks from the playground area that completely filled a 20 cubic yard container. The highlight of this COMREL project was the interaction between the Sailors and the 2-5 year old children. Priceless. During the last day in port, USN and LITNavy Sailors participated in a wreath laying ceremony at the Macikai POW Camp from the Second World War, where three American Airmen are buried. The LITNavy CinC and the USS Vicksburg Commanding Officer each layed a wreath in memory of the Airmen. The ceremony was in conjunction with Lithuania celebrating V-E Day, 8 May, marking the end of WWII. All the events were part of a scheduled U.S. 6th Fleet TSC port visit, focused on promoting maritime safety and security through strengthened relationships with partner nations.



CMDCM Jay Powell, MCPON Gediminas Zabitis, CMDCM Rob Bostic exchanging gifts during their Office Call



05/04/2010 17:12

RDML Kestutis Macijauskas, LITNavy CinC, welcoming CAPT Tim Mahan, Commanding Officer, USS Vicksburg



COMREL Project at Klaipedos Kurdiliu Namai, an orphanage, in Giruliai



COMREL Project at Klaipedos Kurdiliu Namai, an orphanage, in Giruliai



RDML Kestutis Macijauskas participating in Wreath Laying ceremony at the Macikai POW Camp