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International House Celebrates 65th Anniversary of Serving World War II Navy V-12 as Callaghan Hall

BERKELEY, CA  Seventeen World War II veterans who resided at UC Berkeley’s International House when the building was utilized by the Navy and renamed Callaghan Hall will gather July 31, 2008 in their former home from 3pm 4:30pm to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of their service and residency in the historic dome-topped building. The afternoon tea reception will include remarks from Dr. Karl Pister, former Callaghan Hall alumnus and Dean and Professor of Engineering Emeritus at UC Berkeley, former Chancellor of UC Santa Cruz.

From 1943-1945 International House served as Callaghan Hall housing nearly 1,000 members of the elite United States V-12 Navy College Training Program. The V-12 Program allowed students to complete baccalaureate degrees at civilian universities and earn commissions in the Navy and Marine Corps. This nation wide innovative program increased the Navy’s contingent of college-educated men, desegregated the Navy, and generated military leaders to the nation for the pivotal 40 years after WWII, including 38 admirals.

“We are delighted to honor the sacrifices and service of these men who helped forge a world where the spirit of brotherhood and the principles of I-House might be renewed”, says International House Executive Director, former Ambassador Martin Brennan. Since its opening in 1930 I-House has been dedicated to fostering cross-cultural respect, understanding, lifelong friendships and leadership skills to promote a more tolerant and peaceful world.

More details on the event can be found online at:
http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/a/events/callaghanhall/index.html

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International House is a residential program center at the University of California at Berkeley, dedicated to fostering understanding and friendship among the peoples of all nations, races and cultures. Its active program schedule, ranging from cultural festivals to discussions on world issues, enhances global understanding in the community and on the Berkeley campus. International House is a separate and self-supporting nonprofit organization.