

A Day in the Navy
May 8, 2011

(LINKS ARE TO ASSOCIATED PHOTOS OR ARTICLES)

- On May 8, 328,530 active duty officers, Sailors and midshipmen; 65,117 selected Reserve Sailors, with 5,540 mobilized Reserves; and 203,632 civilians are serving in the Department of the Navy.
- There are 286 active ships in service; 165 (58 percent) ships, including four aircraft carriers and six large-deck amphibious ships, and 29 (53 percent) submarines are underway away from homeport.
- There are 9,156 individual augmentees, 4,361 of whom are mobilized Reserves, [deployed on the ground around the world](#) in support of overseas contingency operations.
- In commemoration of May 8, 1911, the official beginning of naval aviation, when Capt. Washington Irving Chambers requisitioned the Navy's first aircraft, Naval Air Station (NAS) Joint Reserve Base (JRB) New Orleans hosts an open house and Centennial of Naval Aviation tribute at the [N'awlins Air Show](#). Rear Adm. Earl L. Gay, commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3, Capt. Thomas Luscher, NAS JRB New Orleans' commanding officer, and other dignitaries celebrate the anniversary with a ceremonial cake cutting during the show.
- Naval Air Training Command students and instructors greet visitors and showcase training aircraft at the N'awlins Air Show aboard NAS JRB New Orleans.
- The [Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group](#) (CSG) steams west through the Indian Ocean following a deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR), where they provided humanitarian assistance in support of Operation Tomodachi, participated in exercise Malabar 2011 and conducted port visits to Sasebo, Japan, and Phuket, Thailand.
- The [Carl Vinson CSG](#) steams east through the Indian Ocean conducting maritime domain awareness operations.
- [USS Cleveland \(LPD 7\)](#), the command ship for [Pacific Partnership 2011](#), is in [Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu](#), strengthening regional relationships between the United States and nations in the Western Pacific.
- USS Tortuga (LSD 46), USS Howard (DDG 83) and USS Reuben James (FFG 57) are en route Thailand to conduct Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, a series of bilateral exercises held annually in the Southeast Asia region.
- The John C. Stennis CSG conducts carrier qualifications for Carrier Air Wing 9 as part of Composite Training Unit Exercise, a three-week evolution required of each CSG before departing for a deployment overseas.
- USS Nitze (DDG 94), USS Boone (FFG 28), USS Thach (FFG 43) and USCGC Escanaba (WMEC 907) arrive in Rio Grande, Brazil, for the closing ceremonies of [UNITAS Atlantic \(LANT\) 52](#). Six aircraft, 11 ships and one submarine from the United States, Brazil, Mexico and Argentina participated in the exercise.

- USS Enterprise's (CVN 65) embarked Carrier Air Wing 1 flies 66 sorties in support of Operation Enduring Freedom while deployed in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR, also completing the 5,272nd trap of the deployment and the 399,086th trap in Enterprise history.
- Avoiding warm mid-day temperatures, Seabees from [Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3](#) work through the night at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, to build a modular building that will be used as a tool warehouse.
- Seabees from Mobile Utilities Support Equipment out of Port Hueneme, Calif., completed an annual inspection of a 7.2-megawatt electromotive division power plant at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti. The power plant, which is comprised of six 1,200-kilowatt power plants and two 5,000 kilo-volt amp substations, is primarily used for expeditionary support and supplements the main generators at Camp Lemonnier.
- [USS Kearsarge \(LHD 3\)](#), USS Ponce (LPD 15) and [USS Carter Hall \(LSD 50\)](#) leave U.S. 6th Fleet and enter the U.S. 2nd Fleet AOR, ending more than eight months of operations in the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet AORs, including their participation in Operation Odyssey Dawn.
- Sailors and Marines deployed aboard [USS Mesa Verde \(LPD 19\)](#) paid homage to mothers by attending a special Mothers' Day brunch on the forward mess decks of the ship.
- Los Angeles-class fast attack submarines USS Boise (SSN 764), USS Toledo (SSN 769), USS Hartford (SSN 768) and USS Montpelier (SSN 765) are conducting operations in the Western Atlantic.
- [USS Bataan \(LHD 5\)](#), USS Mesa Verde (LPD 19) and USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41) conduct flight operations and maritime patrols in the U.S. 6th Fleet AOR.
- The Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center provides Optimum Path Aircraft Routing System flight routes for 268 U.S. Navy and joint aircraft flights, saving the Navy \$41,480 in fuel cost avoidance by using weather conditions to determine flight path to maximize fuel efficiency.
- Sailors from Mobile Security Squadron 6 maintain the security of USNS Comfort (T-AH-20) in port in Paita, Peru. Comfort is deployed in Continuing Promise 2011, a five-month humanitarian assistance mission to the Caribbean, Central and South America.
- [Seabees](#) from [Naval Mobile Construction Battalion \(NMCB\) 28](#) finish construction on Escuela Cruz Maria Minan Quesada in [La Huaca, Peru](#). The NMCB 28 detachment is deployed aboard USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) in support of Continuing Promise 2011. Another detachment of Seabees from NMCB 28 build an auditorium in Tepetitán, El Salvador, as part of Beyond the Horizons 2011.
- USS Frank Cable (AS 40) transits the Philippine Sea in preparation for a port visit to Hong Kong. The forward-deployed submarine tender reduces transit time for fast-attack and guided-missile submarines that require intermediate level maintenance, emergent repair or logistics support.
- Forty-seven Sailors from Naval Cargo Handling Battalion 1 move cargo off the coast of Morocco for exercise African Lion, an annual exercise held to increase cooperation between the United States and Morocco.

- The junior petty officers association aboard USS Comstock (LSD 45), underway in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR, holds a "Pie in the Face" fundraiser to support American Red Cross disaster relief efforts for those affected by the earthquake in Japan and tsunami throughout the Pacific.
- Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 in the southern Philippines execute humanitarian assistance and civil assistance construction projects in support of operations, to include military-to-military partnering and capacity building with the Republic of the Philippines military engineers.
- U.S. 7th Fleet Band's Far East Edition performs in Woollongabba, Australia, to lift the spirits of the community after the January floods and to also commemorate the 69th anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea.
- The chapel aboard Naval Station Norfolk provides a marriage enrichment class, holds Catholic Mass and Protestant Devine Worship Service, as well as honors mothers for Mother's Day.
- Sailors from [Navy Operational Support Center Wilmington, N.C.](#), [collect trash](#) in conjunction with the Keep N.C. Clean and Green Adopt a Highway program.
- Fans respond to the [U.S. Navy's Facebook page](#) post requesting photos. The U.S. Navy posts, "Today as we celebrate our moms, the birthday of naval aviation and the newly christened [USS Michael Murphy \(DDG 112\)](#), we'll be noting things that are happening around the Navy. We need your help! Please upload a photo of what you are doing today." Maureen Bricker posts, "[We finished installing a flagpole for Old Glory and our Navy flag!! My daughter is on the USS Essex \(LHD2\). She is thrilled we finally got this done!! So am I!!](#)" Amber K. Tennebaum posts, "[Logan age 5 watching the blue angels.](#)"
- Recruiters help 283 people join America's Navy.