

# A Day in the Navy

## March 24, 2009

(LINKS ARE TO ASSOCIATED PHOTOS)

- On March 24th, 332,039 Active Duty Officers, Sailors and Midshipmen; 119,735 Reserve Component Sailors, with 6,547 Reserves mobilized, and 185,658 civilians are serving in the Department of the Navy.
- 284 active ships are in service. 110 (39%) including five carriers and three large-deck, amphibious [ships are underway](#).
- 9,734 Individual Augmentees, 4,975 of which are mobilized Reserves, are deployed on the ground around the world in support of the War on Terrorism.
- Carrier Air Wing 7 embarked on aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) flies 66 sorties in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and coalition forces on the ground in Afghanistan.
- USS Boxer (LHD 4) serves as the flagship for Combined Task Force 151 in the Gulf of Aden. CTF 151 is a multinational task force that conducts counter-piracy operations in and around the Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Indian Ocean and the Red Sea and was established to create a lawful maritime order and develop security in the maritime environment.
- [USS Chinook \(PC 9\) arrives in port Umm Qasr, Iraq](#), marking the first-ever overnight port visit to Iraq by a U.S. ship. The ship's crew participates in friendship-building activities with several senior Iraqi officers as well as conducts a logistics replenishment.
- USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) and USS Milius (DDG 69) conduct Maritime Security Operations as part of Coalition Task Force 152 in the Arabian Gulf and are deterring destabilizing activities while ensuring a lawful maritime order in the Arabian Gulf.
- The Navy's first unmanned Broad Area Maritime Surveillance Demonstrator "Global Hawk" Unmanned Aerial Vehicle lands in the Fifth Fleet's Area of Responsibility, completing it's 17th successful operational mission. The UAV was flown by Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing FIVE and other P-3 aviators via a satellite link from a mission control station located at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md.
- Joint service Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams led by EOD Mobile Unit ONE in Iraq render safe six improvised explosive devices, destroy 300 explosive hazards with a total explosive weight of 380 lbs., process 116 pieces of evidence through the Combined Explosives Exploitation Cell lab, and train 21 soldiers in IED recognition.

- USS Nashville (LPD 13) is in Lagos, Nigeria, as part of Africa Partnership Station. The APS staff and crew of Nashville conduct a vast array of maritime safety and [security training activities](#). Participants include members of the Nigerian Navy and other Africa countries.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8 personnel train Albanian Armed Forces to increase their capacity to dispose of unexploded ordinance. This training supports the Albanian Ministry of Defense directive to begin EOD operations in April and helps the Albanians address the problem of unstable munitions depots in their country.
- Sailors and Marines of the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group and 22 Marine Expeditionary Unit conduct the final certification exercise prior to deployment this spring.
- USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) loads approximately 500 pallets of donated humanitarian materials through the Navy's Project Handclasp Program. Comfort continues preparations to depart Naval Station Norfolk April 1 for a four-month deployment for Continuing Promise 2009 in the U.S. Southern Command area of focus.
- A seven-member detachment from the Navy's Fleet Survey Team along with surveyors from El Salvador conduct a joint hydrographic survey in La Union, El Salvador, for navigation chart updates to support the upcoming visit of USNS Comfort as part of Continuing Promise 09 and to help improve El Salvador's nautical charts for safe navigation.
- High Speed Vessel (HSV 2) Swift is in port Cartagena, Colombia, conducting operations in support of U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command and U.S. 4<sup>th</sup> Fleet's Southern Partnership Stations, providing training in areas such as small boat repair, small boat driving, and physical and port security to Nicaraguan nationals.
- Forward Operating Location Comalapa, El Salvador, is supporting U.S. Navy and U.S. Customs and Border Protection fixed and rotary wing assets that fly counter illicit trafficking missions in the Eastern Pacific.
- USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) is in the Caribbean. USS Underwood (FFG 36) and USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG 60) are in the Eastern Pacific. They are deployed conducting Counter Illicit Trafficking Operations which consists of intercepting Human and Drug Traffickers within the 4th Fleet Area of Focus.
- Los Angeles fast attack submarines USS Helena (SSN 725) and USS Annapolis (SSN 760) conduct submarine operability and war fighting capabilities in the Arctic Sea during Ice Exercise 2009.
- USS Nimitz (CVN 68) is underway in the U.S. 3rd Fleet Area of Responsibility conducting Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualification, which is designed to train pilots how to safely operate in and around an aircraft carrier at sea.
- USS Jacksonville (SSN 699) transits the Pacific Ocean en route to her new homeport in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

- The [Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group](#) is underway in the Southern California operating area conducting a Sustainment Exercise, which is designed to ensure warfare and combat competencies are met for future operations.
- USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) conducts a Unit Level Training Assessment Sustainment exercise in Southern California waters. ULTRA-S assesses a ship's ability to defend against an enemy attack and to control the spread of damage.
- USS Benfold (DDG 65) conducts event one of two scheduled events during Stellar Daggers, a previously planned ballistic missile exercise. Stellar Daggers tests the Aegis system's ability to defend a ship from two simultaneous incoming threats by destroying the targets with standard missiles and evaluating the standard missile's effectiveness.
- Military Sealift Command ocean surveillance ship USNS Effective (T-AGOS 21), accompanied by USS Kidd (DDG 100), conducts undersea surveillance operations to detect and track undersea threats in the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet Area of Responsibility.
- Special Agents from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service's Singapore Field Office provide seminars on crime scene management and evidence collection to members of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency.
- Personnel onboard Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Calif., conduct an ordnance onload with USS Jarrett (FFG 33), moving more than 10 tons of munitions in preparation for the ship's deployment later this year.
- Navy Reserve Forces Command holds a [ribbon cutting ceremony](#) at their new facility at Naval Support Activity Norfolk, Va. Approximately 450 military and civilian personnel are relocating from Naval Support Activity New Orleans to Norfolk as a result of Base Realignment and Closure.
- A Naval Supply Systems Command's team in Bahrain develops the Transportation Logistics Concept for mine counter measure mission packages for the Littoral Combat Ship at select foreign locations.
- Coso Geothermal at the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake produced 232 megawatts of power, a renewable resource, protecting the environment and making the Navy less dependent on purchased energy, saving taxpayer dollars.
- Three Snowy Plover chicks hatch at Naval Base Coronado. There are 14 active Snowy Plover nests on Naval Base Coronado. Listed as a threatened species, they are one of 28 federally listed species that Naval Base Coronado Natural Resources team tracks, manages and improves. In 2008, their nesting increased 116 percent.