

A Day in the Navy

October 24, 2009

(LINKS ARE TO ASSOCIATED PHOTOS)

- On Oct. 24, 329,390 active duty officers, Sailors and midshipmen; 109,222 ready reserve Sailors, with 6,427 reserves mobilized, and 193,875 civilians are serving in the Department of the Navy.
- 285 active ships are in service. 138 (48%) including three carriers and five large-deck, amphibious ships are underway.
- 10,556 Individual Augmentees, 5,299 of which are mobilized reserves, are deployed on the ground around the world in support of overseas contingency operations.
- [Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations](#), gives the keynote address at the 234th Navy Birthday Ball held in Alexandria, Va.
- [USS Makin Island \(LHD 8\)](#) is commissioned at a ceremony at [Naval Air Station North Island](#), Calif. Dubbed the "Prius of Navy warships," Makin Island is the final amphibious assault ship built in the Wasp class, yet is the first built with gas turbine engines and electric drive. The Navy projects that this advance will save nearly \$250 million dollars in fuel costs over the ship's lifetime.
- Maritime Prepositioning Ship USNS PFC Dewayne T. Williams (T-AK 3009) completes operations in support of Pacific Horizon 2010, an exercise held off the coast of Camp Pendleton, Calif., in which the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and Naval Beach Group One practiced loading and offloading cargo.
- USS George Washington (CVN-73) and Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 5, along with USS Cowpens (CG 63), USS Mustin (DDG 89), USS Shiloh (CG 67) and USS O'Kane (DDG 77) conduct strike training in the vicinity of Okinawa, Japan.
- USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) completes the Timor Leste portion of Marine Exercise 2009. During the ten-day exercise, they conducted a series of military to military training with Timor Leste's armed forces and International Stabilization Force personnel to enhance interoperability and communication between the U.S. Navy and Timor Leste forces.
- The crews of [USS Cleveland \(LPD 7\)](#) and USS Rushmore (LSD 47) complete the Indonesian portion of Marine Exercise 2009, training with the Indonesian Marines in jungle operations, platoon live-fire and maneuvers, bilateral reconnaissance, the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, military operations in urban terrain and the Amphibious Assault Vehicle.

- USS Tortuga (LSD 46) is en route to Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, for a port visit after just completing Amphibious Landing Exercise, training with Sailors from the Republic of the Philippines.
- The City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705) arrives in Laem Chabang, Thailand. The crew will be participating in theater security cooperation events during their port visit by hosting ship tours and conducting community service projects.
- USS Russell (DDG 59) departs the 7th Fleet area of responsibility and enters the 5th Fleet area of operation, after spending three months in the Western Pacific participating in exercises and making port calls in Korea, Guam and Singapore.
- The [USS Nimitz \(CVN 68\)](#) and embarked Carrier Air Wing 11 arrive for a scheduled port visit, marking the third time that a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier has docked pierside in Bahrain. The Nimitz Strike Group is deployed to U.S. 5th Fleet in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as regional maritime security operations.
- USS Anzio (CG 68), the Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 flagship, and the Turkish ship TCG Gokova (F 496) conduct anti-piracy patrols along the internationally recognized transit corridor north of Somalia. Meanwhile, other task force vessels USS Pinckney (DDG 91) and HMS Cumberland (F 85), monitor pirate activities along the eastern coastline of Somalia.
- USS Hopper (DDG 70) patrols the northern Arabian Gulf in support of Combined Task Force – Iraqi Maritime. Hopper is providing security and maritime domain awareness in the vicinity of Al Basra Oil Terminal, which is the main source of Iraq’s oil exportation program.
- Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron Detachment 823, currently deployed to 5th Fleet to protect and defend oil platforms, trains with Iraqi Marines focusing on small boat attacks and swimmers attempting to gain unauthorized access.
- [Navy Individual Augmentees \(IA\) at Camp Buering, Kuwait](#), prepare for duties in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. After their initial reception and gear issue, IAs receive training in areas like small arms and vehicle egress. All of these lessons help transform them from sea-going to boots on ground Sailors.
- 30th Naval Construction Regiment is deployed to Afghanistan, providing command and control of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 22 and NMCB 74, an Air Force Expeditionary Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer Group, and two Army engineer battalions. NMCB 74 is also providing a large detail of Seabees to support multiple special operations units operating throughout Afghanistan.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 1 Platoon 1-0-1, operating in the vicinity of Al Asad, Iraq, assists U.S. Marines in the disposal by detonation of unserviceable ordnance, destroying more than 28,000 munitions.

- Fleet replenishment oiler USNS Kanawha (T-AO 196) is off the coast of Egypt providing logistics support to ships participating in the amphibious exercise Bright Star 2009, a biennial combined exercise that includes 11 countries and 70,000 personnel.
- Three U.S. Navy ships conduct multiple theater security cooperation port visits in the Baltic region following exercise Joint Warrior. These visits included the USS Cole (DDG 67) in Helsinki, Finland; the USS Ramage (DDG 61) in Riga, Latvia; and the USS John L Hall (FFG 32) in Klaipeda, Lithuania.
- The current [Africa Partnership Station \(APS\) platform, HMNLS Johan De Witt \(L 801\)](#), a Royal Dutch ship with U.S. Navy Sailors embarked is in port Tema, Ghana, conducting training.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8 Platoon 801 participates in Exercise Northern Coast, a multinational exercise with the German and Swedish navies. The training is focused on mine countermeasures as well as counter improvised explosive device defeat.
- A seven-member detachment from the Navy's Fleet Survey Team conducts a safety of navigation hydrographic survey of Port Gentil, Gabon, to update nautical charts for future visits by U. S. assets and commercial shipping.
- USS Wasp (LHD 1) is deployed to the 4th Fleet area of focus on Southern Partnership Station-Amphib with Destroyer Squadron 40 and a Security Cooperation Marine Air-Ground Task Force embarked. Southern Partnership Station is part of the Partnership of the Americas Maritime Strategy that focuses on building interoperability and cooperation in the region to meet common challenges.
- USS McClusky (FFG 41), a Navy Reserve frigate, conducts counter illicit trafficking operations in the Eastern Pacific, which consists of intercepting human and drug traffickers within the 4th Fleet area of focus. McClusky deployed from San Diego on October 2nd, and has already made one successful interdiction, recovering approximately 560 kilos of cocaine on Oct. 7.
- The attack submarine USS Virginia (SSN 774) is underway in the Atlantic Ocean for the first scheduled full-length deployment for a Virginia-class submarine.
- Two Returning Warrior Workshops are being held in Palm Desert, Calif., and Baltimore, Md., to assist some 400 Sailors returning from Iraq and Afghanistan as well as their families.
- Naval Base Point Loma in San Diego, Calif., continues good stewardship of the environment by saving more than 60 kW of energy with newly installed photovoltaic cells.
- Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Fla., celebrates its 66th anniversary of providing base support to naval aircraft, their squadrons, maintenance and support staffs and the Sailor and their families.