

A Day in the Navy

19 February 2009

(Links are to associated photographs)

- On February 19th, 331,676 Active Duty Officers, Sailors and Midshipmen; 120,567 Reserve Component Sailors, with 5,113 Reserves mobilized; and 185,478 civilians are serving in the Department of the Navy.
- 283 active ships are in service. 113 (40%) including 3 carriers and 1 large-deck, amphibious ship are underway.
- 5,755 Individual Augmentees, 1,998 of which are mobilized Reserves, are deployed on the ground around the world in support of the War on Terrorism.
- The [1000th Trident patrol ceremony](#) is held in Kings Bay, Ga., marking the milestone of the ballistic missile submarine conducting 1,000 successful patrol periods since the first patrol of the USS Ohio (SSBN 726) in 1982. The [Secretary of the Navy](#) and [Chief of Naval Operations are in attendance](#).
- USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) with embarked Carrier Air Wing 8 flies missions in support of coalition forces as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. To date, CVN 71 and CVW-8 have flown more than 2,500 sorties, dropped 37,500 lbs. of munitions, and provided support for more than 330 incidents of troops in contact with enemy forces.
- USNS Lewis and Clark (T-AKE 1) holds 16 suspected pirates aboard the ship. The suspected pirates were apprehended Feb. 11 and 12 by [USS Vella Gulf \(CG 72\)](#). They will remain aboard Lewis and Clark until a decision is made regarding their further transfer.
- Naval Mobile Construction Battalions 4, 7 and 27 are constructing Southwest Asia Huts and Hesco Barriers to improve security for coalition and special operations forces in Afghanistan. They are also performing camp maintenance, quality of life, and camp expansion projects at forward operating bases throughout Afghanistan.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company 31, deployed to U.S. Army Contingency Operating Base Speicher in support Operation Iraqi Freedom, locates a buried weapons cache consisting of 41 127mm rocket motors and 45 127mm Brazilian rocket warheads. Prosecution of the cache is conducted jointly with Iraqi Security Forces. The EOD teams conduct a controlled detonation of the items disposing of 3,000 pounds of explosives.
- U.S. Navy ships are part of Combined Task Force Iraqi Maritime and are providing maritime infrastructure protection, security and training on and around the Al Basrah and Khawr Al Amaya Oil Terminals while strengthening the Navy's partnership with Iraq.
- USS Springfield (SSN 761) is in Souda Bay after conducting maritime security operations in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of responsibility.

- USS Robert G. Bradley (FFG 49) heads to Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, to conduct the first-ever Africa Partnership Station visit to the country.
- Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 is in Douala, Cameroon, working a pier capacity improvement project and roadwork as part of Africa Partnership Station.
- Naval Special Warfare Group Four teaches a Maritime Operations Course in Manda Bay, Kenya, to 20 Kenyan students from various organizations including Kenyan wildlife service, revenue service and military and administrative police units.
- Expeditionary Training Command Sailors along with subject matter experts from Naval Expeditionary Combat Command embarked on High Speed Vessel 2 Swift, conduct five foreign military training courses in Nicaragua as part of Southern Partnership Station.
- Patrol Squadron Five (VP-5) is forward deployed to Comalapa, El Salvador; Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron Seventy Seven (VAW-77) is forward deployed to Borinquen, Puerto Rico; and Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron Two (VQ-2) is forward deployed to Curacao, Netherland Antilles. Their mission is to support surface units deployed for Counter Illicit Trafficking Operations within the U.S. Southern Command area of focus, which encompasses the Caribbean, Central and South America and surrounding waters.
- The Bataan Expeditionary Strike Group is engaged in a Composite Unit Training Exercise off the coast of North Carolina from Feb. 3-27. This is the third of three at-sea evolutions designed to prepare the strike group for its upcoming deployment.
- USS Underwood (FFG 36) and USS Rodney M. Davis (FFG 60) are in the Eastern Pacific and USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG 58) is in the Caribbean conducting counter illicit trafficking operations in support of Joint Interagency Task Force South.
- USS Nimitz (CVN 68) conducts [Tailored Ships Training Availability](#) in the southern California operating area in preparation for an upcoming deployment. TSTA helps build a solid foundation of unit-level operating proficiency for the crew and develops and enhances a ship's ability to self-train.
- USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) conducts Fleet Replacement Squadron Carrier Qualifications in the southern California operating area. Carrier qualifications train the ship for day and night landing and launch operations at sea.
- USS Essex (LHD 2), USS Tortuga (LSD 46) and USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49) are backloading the 31st MEU in Laem Chabang, Thailand, following the multinational exercise Cobra Gold 2009.
- [USS Blue Ridge \(LCC 19\) arrives in Manila, Republic of the Philippines](#). Members of the 7th Fleet staff participate in staff talks with members of the Philippine navy while the crew [delivers Project Handclasp pallets of hygienic supplies and books](#), conducts community service projects, participates in sporting events with the Philippine navy and attends cultural and historical tours hosted by Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

- USS New Orleans (LPD 18), USS Comstock (LSD 45) and elements of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit, are in the Republic of Maldives as part of Exercise Coconut Grove. The five-day exercise is intended to build collaborative relationships by providing engineering, medical and dental assistance to the region as well as military training to the Maldives National Defense Force.
- Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka's Port Operations and Safety Departments perform full ammunition on-loading for USS Shiloh (CG 67) in Yokosuka, Japan.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Five, Detachment Japan, conducts an annual mine warfare exercise off the coast of Shimonoseki, Japan.
- Fifteen Reserve Sailors from U.S. Forces Korea Detachment 102, along with 17 augmentees from various Navy Reserve units, are preparing for deployment to the Korean Theater of Operations to support Exercise Key Resolve 2009.
- Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla. hosts [His Majesty Juan Carlos, King of Spain, and Queen Sofia](#) in support of their visit to Pensacola for its 450th anniversary celebration of the founding of the first Spanish settlement.
- Vice Admiral Georgios Karamalakis, Chief of Hellenic Navy General Staff, departs Newport, R.I., following a visit to the Naval War College, Surface Warfare Officer School, and the Naval Undersea Warfare Command Division Newport.
- The Naval War College facilitates a Combined Force Maritime Component Commander Flag Course, a weeklong series of seminars and discussions attended by international and U.S. flag and general officers, in Honolulu, Hawaii. The course develops a network of leaders in support of maritime security in the theater.
- Naval Air Training Command trains 134 foreign aviators from Brazil, France, Italy, Germany, Singapore, India, Denmark, Spain and Saudi Arabia.
- The Navy's Child Development Center, Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, Va., is in operation as the first U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, Silver level, child development center in the Department of Defense.
- The Office of Naval Research is awarded the inaugural Global Congress of Diversity Executives Award at the 23rd Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards conference in Baltimore, Md. The conference is held from Feb. 18-22 and recognizes the outstanding achievements of African Americans in companies across the country.