

A. Lincoln's

TWO

CENTS

THURSDAY APRIL 25, 2019



In The Mediterranean, U.S. Aircraft Carrier Operations Serve As Floating American Diplomacy

The Abraham Lincoln and John C. Stennis carrier strike groups conduct carrier strike force operations in the U.S. 6th Fleet. Photo by MC3 Jeremiah Bartelt.

Today in Naval History

1914 - In the first use of U.S. Navy aircraft in a combat situation, Lt. j.g. P.N.L. Bellingier made a flight from USS Mississippi's aviation unit at Vera Cruz, Mexico, to observe the city and make a preliminary search for mines in the harbor.

1944 - USS Crevalle (SS 291) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kashiwa Maru, north of Borneo and USS Guvania (SS 362) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Tetsuyo Maru, northwest of Chichi Jima.

1959 - USS Eversole (DD 789) rescues 14 Chinese Nationalist fisherman from their sinking fishing trawler in the Formosa Strait.

1998 - The destroyer USS McFaul (DDG 74) is commissioned at Garden City Terminal in Savannah, Ga. The destroyer is named after Chief Perry Officer Donald L. McFaul, a Navy SEAL who posthumously received the Navy Cross for attempting to save a platoon mate on Dec. 20, 1989, during Operation Just Cause.

Story by Frederik Pleitgen, CNN

With Russia increasingly deploying forces on NATO's doorstep, the United States has started its own show of force in the Mediterranean Sea.

For the first time since 2016, the United States is deploying two Nimitz-class aircraft carriers, the USS John C. Stennis and the USS Abraham Lincoln, showing Moscow that the United States will not in any way back down in this important geopolitical area.

"We're not going to be deterred by any potential adversary and we are going to support our interests as Americans and also those of our allies as we steam throughout the world," said Adm. James Foggo, the commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe and Africa, standing on the bridge of the Abraham Lincoln.

CNN was given exclusive access to the carrier operations, which serve to improve coordination between two carrier strike groups that consist of several ships and up to 120 aircraft each.

A typical carrier strike group includes an aircraft carrier, a guided-missile cruiser, two guided-missile destroyers, an attack submarine and a

supply ship for logistical support.

That coordination is extremely important as U.S. military dominance in the world is being increasingly challenged by resurgent powers like Russia and China, said Rear Adm. John Wade, the commander of Carrier Strike Group 12, which includes Abraham Lincoln. "Our senior leadership has mandated that our Navy become more lethal and more tactically proficient. It's very important in the era of competition that we are in."

The fact that Russia is one of the main recipients of the U.S. power play in the Mediterranean was driven home as Jon Huntsman, the U.S. ambassador to Russia, came aboard the carrier strike group.

Huntsman essentially called the aircraft carriers floating American diplomacy.

"When you have 200,000 tons of diplomacy that is cruising in the Mediterranean -- this is what I call diplomacy, this is forward operating diplomacy -- nothing else needs to be said," he said. "You have all the confidence you need to sit

down and try to find solutions to the problems that have divided us now for many, many years."

Russia is increasingly deploying its forces in many of the places where it has diplomatic conflicts with the United States. In Syria, Moscow maintains a large military presence and is close to signing a long-term lease for the port of Tartous, where its naval forces are already based.

In the Black Sea, the Russian navy has significantly upgraded the port of Sevastopol in annexed Crimea, and has deployed new ships and upgraded submarines there. The United States and its allies say Russia is becoming more bold and beefing up its presence in the Atlantic and Arctic.

President Trump has repeatedly called into question America's commitments to its NATO allies, lamenting that many European nations don't meet their spending commitments of 2% of GDP for defense. But Huntsman said the massive armada now deployed in the Mediterranean shows America remains as committed as ever.

Putin-Kim Summit Message To U.S.

Story by Josh Smith, Reuters

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is set to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin for the first time this week at a symbolic summit hoping to project himself as a serious world player but likely to come away without a relief from crushing sanctions he seeks.

After his second summit with U.S. President Donald Trump ended without an agreement two months ago, Kim's meeting with Putin serves as a reminder to Washington that he has other options in the region backing his leadership.

But while Kim is likely to seek more assistance from one of his country's two main backers, Russia will be limited in what it can provide and the summit will focus more on demonstrating camaraderie than new investment or aid, analysts said.

"When Kim meets Putin, he is going to ask for economic assistance and unilateral sanctions relaxation. Moscow is unlikely to grant his wishes," said Artyom Lukin, a professor at Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok.

That school's campus is seen to be the summit venue, according to South Korean media which reported the presence of Kim's top aides there making preparations for the event.

"Being a veto-holding U.N. Security Council member, Moscow can hardly afford to undermine its authority even for the sake of friendship with Kim," Lukin said.

While Russia says it fully enforces the sanctions that it voted to impose, it has joined China in calling for loosening punishment for North Korea in recognition of steps taken in limiting its weapons testing.

"Steps by the DPRK toward gradual disarmament should be followed by the easing of sanctions," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said at a Security Council meeting late last year, using the initials of the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Washington has accused Russia of "cheating" on sanctions and said it has evidence of "consistent and wide-ranging Rus-

sian violations".

In February, Reuters reported a Russian tanker violated international trade sanctions by transferring fuel to a North Korean vessel at sea at least four times between October 2017 and May 2018.

One Russian lawmaker told Interfax news agency last week that North Korea had asked Moscow to allow its laborers to continue to work in Russia despite sanctions requiring their expulsion by the end of this year.

"One particularly sore area for Kim is the issue of North Korean laborers working in Russia," said Anthony Rinna, a specialist in Korea-Russia relations at Sino-NK, a website that analyses the region.

"Kim will probably be seeking some wiggle-room from Russia, although Moscow will be hard-pressed to accommodate Kim given its desire to portray a responsible image in the world."

The United States has said it believed Pyongyang was earning more than \$500 million a year from nearly 100,000 workers abroad, including 30,000 in Russia.

According to unpublished reports by Moscow to the United Nations Security Council, Russia sent home nearly two-thirds of its North Korean workers during 2018.

The report, reviewed by Reuters, said in 2018 the number of North Koreans with work permits in Russia fell to about 11,500.

North Korea's state media said in March officials met in Moscow to sign an agreement "to boost high-level contact and exchange in the political field (and) actively promote cooperation in the fields of economy and humanitarianism."

While Moscow is unlikely to risk its authority at the United Nations by overtly breaching sanctions, Putin could promise not to support any additional sanctions, Lukin said.

"Kim can expect a friendly reception here and probably some chance of getting political and economic support from Putin."

Fire in Guam Contained by HSC-25

Story by Amphibious Force 7th Fleet

The Guam-based "Island Knights" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 provided aerial firefighting for southern Guam, along the northeastern edge of the Naval Magazine, when a brush fire quickly began to spread and threaten local homes of Santa Rita.

U.S. Navy Fire and Joint Regions Marianas notified HSC-25 the evening of April 21 that the fire was out of control and HSC-25's assistance was required.

The HSC-25 aerial firefighting was led by aircraft commander Lt. Nicklaus Gfeller and successfully contained the fire using 4200 gallons of water.

"The maintenance duty section did a fantastic job of quickly modifying the aircraft configuration to support fire bucket operations," said Gfeller. "The flight crew quickly found our rhythm to effectively drop water on the fire to contain it."

The incident was the 2nd firefighting request to HSC-25 in 2019 to date.

"Our Sailors work diligently day-in and day-out to ensure our aircraft are capable of 24/7 support anywhere in the CNML," said HSC-25 commanding officer, Cmdr. Frank Loforti. "Yesterday's aerial firefighting was one of the many examples of how rewarding their hard work can be. I could not be more proud of the Island Knight maintainers and flight crew this Easter evening."

HSC-25 provides a multi-mission rotary wing capability for units in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations and maintains a Guam-based 24-hour search and rescue and medical evacuation capability, directly supporting U.S. Coast Guard and Joint Region Marianas. HSC-25 is the Navy's only forward-deployed MH-60S expeditionary squadron.

Channel List				
2 MUSIC CHANNEL	5 AFN SPORTS	8 AFN SPORTS 2	12 MOVIES	15 COMMAND INFO
3 AFN PRIME ATLN	6 AFN PRIME PACF	9 AFN MOVIE	13 MOVIES	16 MOVIES
4 AFN NEWS	7 SPECTRUM	11 MOVIES	14 ILARTS	17 GBS

EVENTS
APRIL 27: CHECKERS TOURNAMENT APRIL 28: LIP SYNC BATTLE BINGO IS MOVED TO APRIL 30



"Shall Not Perish"



Abraham Lincoln and John C. Stennis carrier strike groups conduct carrier strike force operations. Photo by MC3 Amber Smalley.



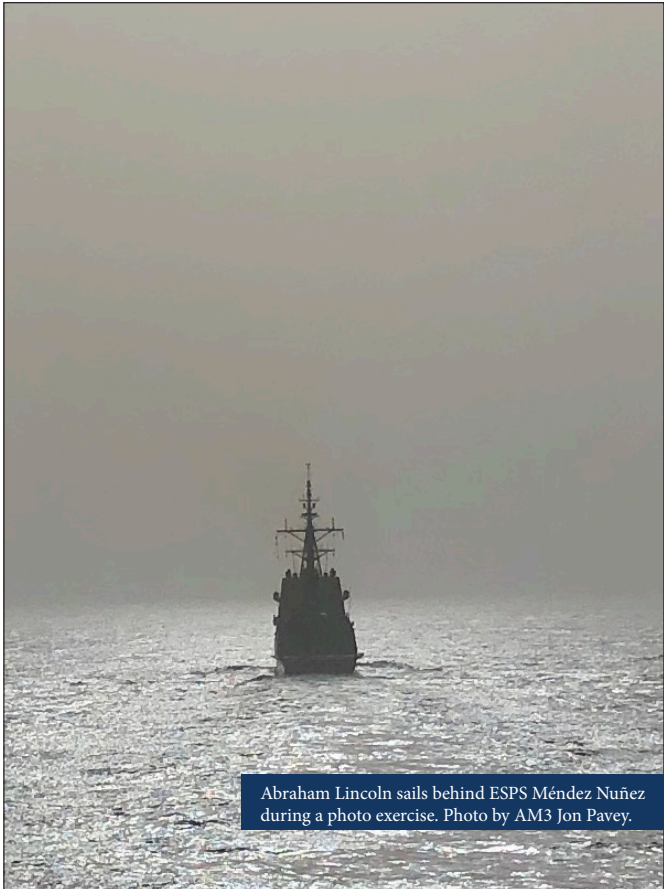
Sailors participate in an UNO tournament hosted by MWR. Photo by MC3 Darcy McAtee.



Navigation Department Sailors hoist the battle ensign during a photo exercise with Abraham Lincoln and John C. Stennis carrier strike groups. Photo by MC3 Amber Smalley.



An MH-60S Sea Hawk helicopter from the "Nightdippers" of HSC-5 prepares to land on the flight deck as Abraham Lincoln sails alongside John C. Stennis. Photo by MC2 Jessica Paulauskas.



Abraham Lincoln sails behind ESPS Méndez Nuñez during a photo exercise. Photo by AM3 Jon Pavey.

SAILOR OF THE DAY



AM3 Anthony Cruz

**"Sidewinders" of VFA-86
Guam
Onboard for 4 Years**

Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Anthony Cruz acquired a collateral duty inspector qualification for his work center, a position reserved for senior petty officers, making him a valuable asset to the command.

Additionally, he trained 17 Sailors, resulting in the qualification of 14 tire and wheel technicians, 12 hydraulic contamination and control technicians, 9 move directors, 4 brake riders, 5 support equipment licenses, and 5 Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist certifications.

Cruz exemplifies the Navy core values. His positive attitude and dedication sets the standard for his peers and junior Sailors to follow and deserves recognition as Abraham Lincoln's Sailor of the Day.

MWR Presents Lip Sync Battle!

Sunday at 2000 in the aft mess decks

Judging criteria includes knowing lyrics, costume, crowd reation and stage performance, working the room and choreography. Songs must be under 4 minutes.

Sign up in the MWR office until Friday evening.

FOUR SCORE BOARD

MARLINS 3, INDIANS 1
REDS 7, BRAVES 6
DIAMONDBACKS 2, PIRATES 1
ORIOLES 9, WHITE SOX 1
GIANTS 7, BLUE JAYS 6
RAYS 5, ROYALS 2
TIGERS 4, RED SOX 2
METS 9, PHILLIES 0
CARDINALS 4, BREWERS 3
CUBS 7, DODGERS 2
ASTROS 10, TWINS 4
NATIONALS 6, ROCKIES 3
YANKEES 7, ANGELS 5
AHTLETICS 11, RANGERS 5
PADRES 6, MARINERS 3

MOVIE SCHEDULE

CH 13	CH 12	CH 16
Iron Man 3 (130m)	Jason Bourne (123m)	The Hunger Games (142m)
The Darkness (92m)	Upgrade (100m)	The Post (115m)
Logan Lucky (118m)	The Gallows (81m)	The Purge: Election Year (105m)
Ocean's 8 (110m)	XXX The Return of Xander Cage (107m)	The Founder (115m)
Bridget Jones's Baby (125m)	Wonder (113m)	Tomorrowland (130m)
Burnt (100m)	The Commuter (105m)	Wilson (94m)
Valerian and the City of A Thousand Planets (138m)		
SECOND SHOWING		
Iron Man 3 (130m)	Jason Bourne (123m)	The Hunger Games (142m)
The Darkness (92m)	Upgrade (100m)	The Post (115m)
Logan Lucky (118m)	The Gallows (81m)	The Purge: Election Year (105m)
Ocean's 8 (110m)	XXX The Return of Xander Cage (107m)	The Founder (115m)
Bridget Jones's Baby (125m)	Wonder (113m)	Tomorrowland (130m)
Burnt (100m)	The Commuter (105m)	Wilson (94m)
Valerian and the City of A Thousand Planets (138m)		
Movies will begin playing at 0830		
*Movies will be paused as directed.		
Channel 15: Command Information Channel/ The Boat Show		

GAMES

4			3		6
	1		8		2
			2	4	1
					7
1	3				6
		8	1		8
					3
7	6		5	3	2
					1
				5	
		9	7	2	
		6		9	