



# The Patroller

A Carrier Strike Group ONE Magazine

NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

## ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS STRONGER TOGETHER



### IN THIS EDITION

BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA:  
WPL SAILORS ENGAGE  
WITH THE COMMUNITY  
PAGE 8

VAQ-136  
CLOCKS 50  
PAGE 4

HOLIDAY GIFT  
GIVING: DO'S  
AND DON'TS  
PAGE 11

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

The Big Story 2-3

CVW 2 4-5

USS Carl Vinson 6

USS Sterett 7

USS William P.

Lawrence 8

USS Kidd 9

USS Hopper 10

Resources 11

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# ADM's Corner

Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello, Commander, CSG-1



## ALWAYS READY 365 DAYS

Let me start by saying hello and thank you for reading this very first edition of The Patroller, our strike group's monthly magazine that seeks to inform and educate our Sailors, civilians and families about what we do every day to keep our nation safe. In this maiden edition, we highlight our participation in multiple exercises and engagements with allies from Australia, Canada, Japan and the Republic of Korea. This is a testament to our combat ready force. Most importantly, it is our Sailors and crewmembers that I am most proud of for always being ready to fight and win. It is what we are built for. Always ready 365 days a year. It hasn't been all work though. This month, we celebrated Thanksgiving with special meals and our Sailors had the opportunity to be ambassadors during some port visits on liberty in various countries. They rested

and recharged. Engaged in several community projects with local populations and experienced different cultures. As we continue our deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operation in support of free and open seas, I am proud to say to every crewmember across the strike group that your professionalism and resolve are a beacon of inspiration and hope in these turbulent times around the globe. To our families and friends back home, thank you for being the foundation of our strength. We appreciate your support and you are in our thoughts. CSG-1, keep focused on precise execution, stay fit, and continue to take care of each other and yourselves every day. Happy holidays to the entire CSG-1 family!!!



# CAC's Corner

CMC Benjamin Bilyeu, CSG-1



## OUR FOCUS IS ALIGNED

Our deployment battle rhythm here at Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 1 is precisely in-step. A sophisticated and synchronized warfighting machine, that is prepared and ready for any challenges our adversaries may place before us. Our focus is directly aligned with the priorities of Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy: Warfighting Competency, Professional and Character Development, and Quality of Life. Our Sailors are proud of what they do. They are hardworking, resilient, and strive daily to raise yesterday's standard. During the Annual Exercise 2023 in mid-November, senior CMCs from CSG-1 to include Carl Vinson, Carrier Airwing 2, Destroyer Squadron 1 and myself met with the U.S. 7th Fleet CMC, CMDCM Dan Fields and two senior enlisted leaders from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and Royal Canadian Navy. Together, we discussed important topics that are critically relevant to our Sailors such as chief petty officer initiation needs,

retention issues within the U.S. Navy, including shared retention issues with allied navies, and effective ways we can ensure completion of Enlisted Leader Development. During our Thanksgiving celebration, I had the opportunity to join Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello, CSG-1 commander, and Rear Adm. Takahiro Nishiyama from the JMSDF to serve a special Thanksgiving meal to the crew. It was an absolute honor and privilege to engage with the Sailors and civilians who are protecting our nation's freedoms by selflessly standing the watch at the tip of the spear in the 7th Fleet area of operations. Finally, in late November, your CSG-1 team had the opportunity to participate in various port visits which allowed our Sailors to enjoy liberty, rest and recharge, and experience different cultures and places. Happy holidays to you, and your families!



# The Big Story

## Across Carrier Strike Group ONE

### ALLIANCES & PARTNERSHIPS: **STRONGER TOGETHER**

*Story by Ensign Valentine Mulango, Carrier Strike Group ONE Public Affairs*

November 2023 was full of engagements and exercises geared toward bolstering our relations with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region. It began with the Multi-Large Deck Event (MLDE) in the Philippine Sea involving Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 1, Carrier Strike Group 5 and our Allies from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). This bi-lateral event assembled three large-deck maritime ships; USS Carl Vinson, USS Ronald Reagan and JMSDF helicopter destroyer JS Hyuga; five guided-



Leadership from U.S. 7th Fleet, the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), the Royal Australian Navy, and the Royal Canadian Navy pose for a photo after the Annual Exercise (ANNUALEX) 2023 press conference. Photo by MC2 Ringers.

and resolve in contested environments," said Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello, commander, CSG 1. The strike group culminated the month with a port visit to Busan, Republic of South Korea (ROK), further demonstrating U.S. commitment to the region, ROK leaders and the local population. "The port visit to Busan provided the opportunity for CSG-1 sailors and civilians to rest and recharge while being able to experience the Republic of Korea," said Master Chief Bilyeu Benjamin, command master chief, CSG-1.

**...STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE 3**



Ships from U.S., JMSDF, the Royal Australian Navy and the Royal Canadian Navy sail in formation during ANNUALEX 2023. Photo by MC2 Goessl.

missile surface ships and a tremendous amount of air capability for coordinated and complex training to enhance our combined capabilities. Following MLDE, CSG 1 participated in the Japan-led Annual Exercise (ANNUALEX) 2023 alongside naval forces from the Royal Australian Navy, Royal Canadian Navy, and JMSDF. "ANNUALEX presented an opportunity to strategically collaborate with our allies and partners to meet shared challenges and interests such as strengthening existing relationships and sharpening our collective defense readiness, maritime security, and demonstrating unity



Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello monitors operations in the pilot house with JMSDF Rear Adm. Kazushi Yokota, commander, Escort Flotilla 3, aboard Vinson. Photo by MC1 Pielop.

# The Big Story

## Across Carrier Strike Group ONE

While in Busan, CSG-1 flagship, USS Carl Vinson hosted ship tours for several U.S. and ROK groups, key leader engagements (KLE) and the crew participated in multiple community outreach and sporting events. Notable KLE hosted aboard the Vinson included Shin Wonsik, ROK minister of national defense, Adm. Yongmo Yang, ROK chief of naval operations, Vice Adm. Sung-Hyuk Choi, commander, Republic of Korea fleet among others. Together, these ROK leaders held discussions with Adm. Lisa Franchetti, U.S. Navy chief of naval operations, senior officers from U.S. Naval Forces Korea as well as CSG-1 leadership including Sardiello. Carrier Strike Group is a multiplatform team of ships and aircraft, capable of carrying out a wide variety of missions around the globe from combat missions to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief response. CSG-1 is currently deployed to U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in support of a free and open Indo-Pacific.



Senior enlisted leaders from U.S., Canada, Japan, and Australia navies pose for a photo during ANNUALEX 2023. Photo by MC2 Ringers.



U.S., Japan and South Korea navy ships sail in formation during a trilateral maritime exercise. Photo by MC2 Williams.



Ensign Anna ten Hoopen, from Stanwood, Washington, left, talks with Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Ensign Yutaka Kanemoto during a tour aboard Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Kidd (DDG 100). Photo by MC2 Congleton.



Rear Adm. Carlos Sardiello, left, commander, Carrier Strike Group (CSG) ONE, meets with Shin Wonsik, Republic of Korea Minister of National Defense and Capt. Matthew Thomas, commanding officer of Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), on the flight deck aboard Vinson. Photo by MC2 Grubbs.

# Carrier Air Wing TWO



## VAQ-136 CLOCKS 50: **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

*Story by Lt. Nathan Goss, Carrier Strike Group ONE Public Affairs*

For many, this year maybe ordinary. But, for the "Gauntlets" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 136, the year 2023 is special. It is their 50th anniversary. Also known by the call sign "Ironclaw," VAQ-136 is based out of Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington State. The squadron is currently assigned to Carrier Air Wing TWO embarked aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). First established April 6, 1973 as the "Gauntlets," an EA-6B Prowler squadron that had a long and distinguished history of service in the U.S. Navy.



As part of their 50th anniversary, the Gauntlets take a moment each month to look back and recognize the successes and sacrifices of all those who have had the honor of being called a Gauntlet. For November, VAQ-136 is remembering the crew of NF-606. On Nov. 19, 1987, VAQ-136 aircraft number NF-606 launched from USS Midway (CA 41) during a routine night Emcon departure. The aircrew aboard included the pilot, Lt. John Carter, electronic countermeasures officers Lt. Doug Hora, Lt. David Gibson, and the 12th VAQ-136 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Justin "Noel" Greene. That night's recovery aboard Midway was to be Greene's 1,000th career trap. The Gauntlets were waiting with a cake in the Ready Room to celebrate his milestone achievement. Sadly, the Midway lost contact with NF-606 and the flight never returned. Search efforts continued throughout the next day and found no trace of the wreckage or the four crewmembers.

Over the next decade, the Gauntlets continued to deploy to various locations around the world, including to the Mediterranean Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Western Pacific; embarking aboard three different aircraft carriers. In early 2012, the Gauntlets began their homeport change from NAF Atsugi, Japan back to NAS Whidbey Island. It also started the transition to the EA-18G Growler that brought a marked upgrade to the electronic warfare platform. The Gauntlets have painted aircraft 507 with a special memorial scheme to honor the crew of NF-606, and can be seen aboard Vinson today. Although their careers were cut short when their EA-6B was lost at sea in November 1987, their inspirational leadership and tenacious adherence to the highest standards of excellence continues to live on in the Gauntlets today.

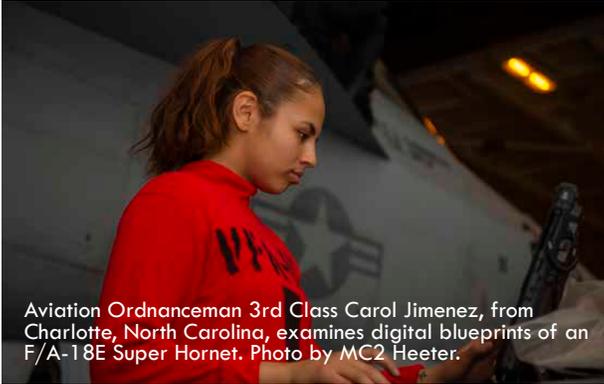


An EA-18G Growler from VAQ 136 on flight deck aboard USS Carl Vinson before takeoff. Photo by MC3 Goessl.



VAQ-136 Northrop Grumman EA-6B Prowler in 1982.

# Carrier Air Wing TWO



Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Carol Jimenez, from Charlotte, North Carolina, examines digital blueprints of an F/A-18E Super Hornet. Photo by MC2 Heeter.



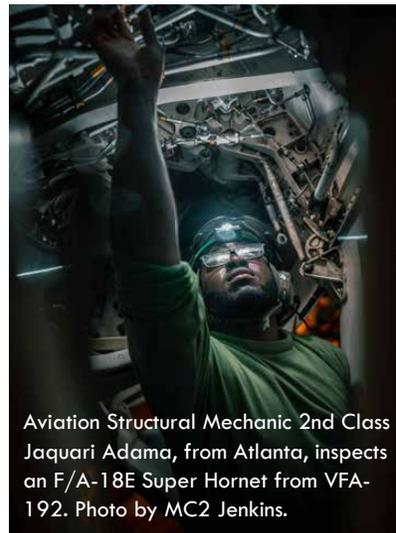
Sailors conduct maintenance on a fuel cell in the hangar bay aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). Photo by MC3 Sapien.



Sailors review notes during flight operations on the flight deck aboard USS Carl Vinson. Photo by MC2 Vonguyen.



An MH-60S Sea Hawk lands on the flight deck aboard USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). Photo by MC2 Vonguyen.



Aviation Structural Mechanic 2nd Class Jaquari Adama, from Atlanta, inspects an F/A-18E Super Hornet from VFA-192. Photo by MC2 Jenkins.

# USS Carl Vinson

CVN 70 Nimitz-class aircraft carrier



Newly promoted Sailors stand in formation during a frocking ceremony in the hangar bay aboard USS Carl Vinson. Photo by MC1 Fraser.



Sailors conduct a search and rescue training. Photo by MC2 Yonguyen.



Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Tanya Florestal, a native of Miami, Florida, spreads icing on baked goods in the bake shop. Photo by MC2 Jenkins.



Gunner's Mate 2nd Class Adolfo Sanchez, from Aberdeen, Washington, inspects an M2HB .50-caliber machine gun. Photo by MC2 Heeter.



Capt. Erik Kenny, executive officer of USS Carl Vinson, and CMDCM Chadrake Lavallais cut a cake during a Thanksgiving celebration. Photo by MC2 Kelley.

# USS Sterett DDG 104

Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer



Photo Story by MC1 Charles Scudella III



Sailors prepare a fuel hose during a fueling-at-sea.



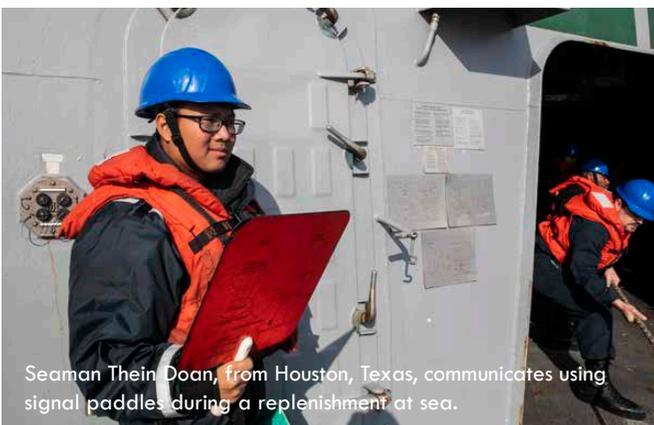
Lt. j.g. Armoney Berry, from Montgomery, Alabama, right, and Seaman Micaiah Seagojo, from Miami, Florida, monitor surface contacts on the bridge.



Sailors heave a line during a replenishment-at-sea.



Lt. j.g. Erin Ogden, from Rancho Cucamonga, California, uses binoculars to scan the horizon for contacts.



Seaman Thein Doan, from Houston, Texas, communicates using signal paddles during a replenishment at sea.



Lt. j.g. Destiny Wong, from Brooklyn, New York, scans the horizon for contacts while standing a bridge watch.



## BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA: WPL SAILORS ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY

*Story by Lt. j.g. Nafetalai Teauapa, CSG-1 Public Affairs*

Sailors from USS William P. Lawrence volunteered at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary in Brisbane, Australia, November 8, 2023.

The caretakers of the koala sanctuary split the Sailors into two groups, each with their own mission.

One group received a demonstration on how to plant native plants. Lawrence Sailors then proceeded to plant nearly 30 different varieties of native plants throughout the sanctuary.

The second group helped spread mulch throughout the sanctuary perimeter in preparation to plant gardens. The objective of the new gardens is to attract pollinators and other local wildlife.

After the planting finished, Sailors got the opportunity to pet a koala and take photos. Sailors then ate lunch and got to explore the rest of the sanctuary.

Several Sailors expressed joy and appreciation for the opportunity to give back to the community of Brisbane and experience a big part of the Australian culture. Many Sailors even called it the highlight of their deployment.



Quartermaster 2nd Class Jonathan Beck, from Columbus, Ohio, makes an entry in the deck log. Photo by MC2 Cookson.



Quartermaster 2nd Class Dalen Capehart, from Norfolk, Virginia, practices mouth-to-mouth resuscitation during a CPR certification class. Photo by MC2 Cookson.

# USS Kidd DDG 100



Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer

Photo Story by MC2 Mason Congleton



Boatswain's Mate Seaman Daelavin Turner, from Vacaville, California, transports life preservers in preparation for a replenishment-at-sea.



Chief Hospital Corpsman Hector Santillan, from Houston, Texas, instructs during a tactical combat casualty care training.



Sailors fight a simulated fire during a damage control drill.



Lt. j.g. Clint Tonini, from DeFuniak Springs, Florida, observes a vertical replenishment.



Sailors perform maintenance on a small boat crane.



Culinary Specialist Seaman Dylan Reule, from Tulare, California, simulates combatting a fire during a damage control drill.

# USS Hopper DDG 70

Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer



Sailors combat a simulated fire on the flight deck during a damage control drill. Photo by MC1 Mejicanos.



Sailors conduct a replenishment-at-sea. Photo by MC1 Mejicanos.



Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Kasey Norman, from Anson, Texas, facilitates a CPR certification class. Photo by MC2 Vonguyen.



Sailors combat a simulated fire on the flight deck. Photo by MC1 Mejicanos.

## OPSEC Reminders

- Minimize the risk of sharing information related to a current deployment, unless such information has been officially released to the public.
- Assume that anyone can see any information you post and share regarding your activities, whereabouts and personal or professional life.
- Posts about scheduled movements and current or future locations are not allowed.
- Generally, it's safer to talk about events that have happened - not that will happen - unless that information has been released to the media.

## Ready to be Riddled?

- 1) I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with the wind. What am I?
- 2) You measure my life in hours and I serve you by expiring. I'm quick when I'm thin and slow when I'm fat. The wind is my enemy. What am I?
- 3) I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish. What am I?
- 4) What is seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?
- 5) You see a boat filled with people. It has not sunk, but when you look again, you don't see a single person on the boat. Why?

Answers to these riddles will be revealed in the December edition.

FIND US AT THE LINKS BELOW!



@Carrier Strike Group 1 dvidshub.net/unit/CSG1 @Carrier Strike Group ONE



## Gift Giving Rules Between Employees

- An employee may not, directly or indirectly, give a gift, make a donation, or solicit contributions for a gift to a superior.
- An employee may not accept a gift from a subordinate or an employee who receives less pay.

## Exceptions to the General Rule

- Items, other than cash, less than \$10
- Food and refreshments to be shared
- Gifts based upon a personal relationship
- Group gifts given on special, infrequent occasions with a value of less than \$300. Solicitations for group gifts may not exceed \$10 per person, but the employee is free to donate more
- If any N-code or association would like to do a white elephant to boost morale, with a market value not exceeding \$10

Any questions, please contact Flag Legal at [CSG1JAG@cvn70.navy.mil](mailto:CSG1JAG@cvn70.navy.mil)

