

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER



Team of Teams,

It seems like only a week ago we returned from Patrol 25.1 – it was said those 70 days in port would fly by, and here we are, mere days to go until we bid farewell to our most wonderful Sasebo homeport, bound for sea to execute the nation's tasking and ultimately land in a new homeport.

In those 70 days, we welcomed aboard more than 4,000 locals for an open base day, hosted numerous admirals, completed the 5A1 Maintenance Period, a Total Ships Readiness Assessment, the Fleet Synthetic Training-Joint exercise, two ship flips to maximize our topside preservation efforts, and accomplished multiple certifications.

I want to call out AMERICA's numerous accomplishments over the period to include Weapons Department for completing the Shipboard Explosive Safety inspection, AIMD for crushing the AMI, OPS Dept for certifying Cryptologic certification early, and multiple other events which resulted in success due to our Team of Teams approach. I also want to commend and thank the Team that worked to preserve and beautiful our topside areas – a major accomplishment that was done the right way.

Looking beyond our countless achievements aboard AMERICA, we also must acknowledge all that was accomplished while the vast majority of us were also dealing with the stress of conducting PCS moves and preparing our families for new lives in San Diego. The fact we were able to achieve both these lines and effort – professional and personal – to make a graceful exit from Sasebo speaks volumes about the caliber and resilience of Team AMERICA.

As bittersweet as our departure is, there is much to look forward to on Patrol 25.2! We look forward to bringing aboard our 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Marines aboard AMERICA, bringing the whole family together for one last time. At times we will have multiple other guests aboard from different commands and services, and I expect you will give them the warm AMERICA welcome we always extend. We have several exercises, certifications, and opportunities on the immediate horizon, as well as amazing port visits lined up. I want to encourage you to take advantage of all this patrol will have to offer.

As always, my main focus is ensuring SAFE execution of operations – we cannot afford to have personnel or equipment damaged. Let's continue to KEEP THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING! See you on the deckplates.

Thank you for making AMERICA the Best Warship!

With utmost respect and admiration,



CAPT Ethan Rule
Commanding Officer, USS AMERICA

May 03, 2025