

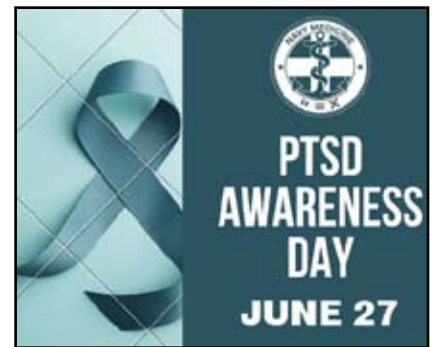
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San Diego Navy/Marine Corps Dispatch

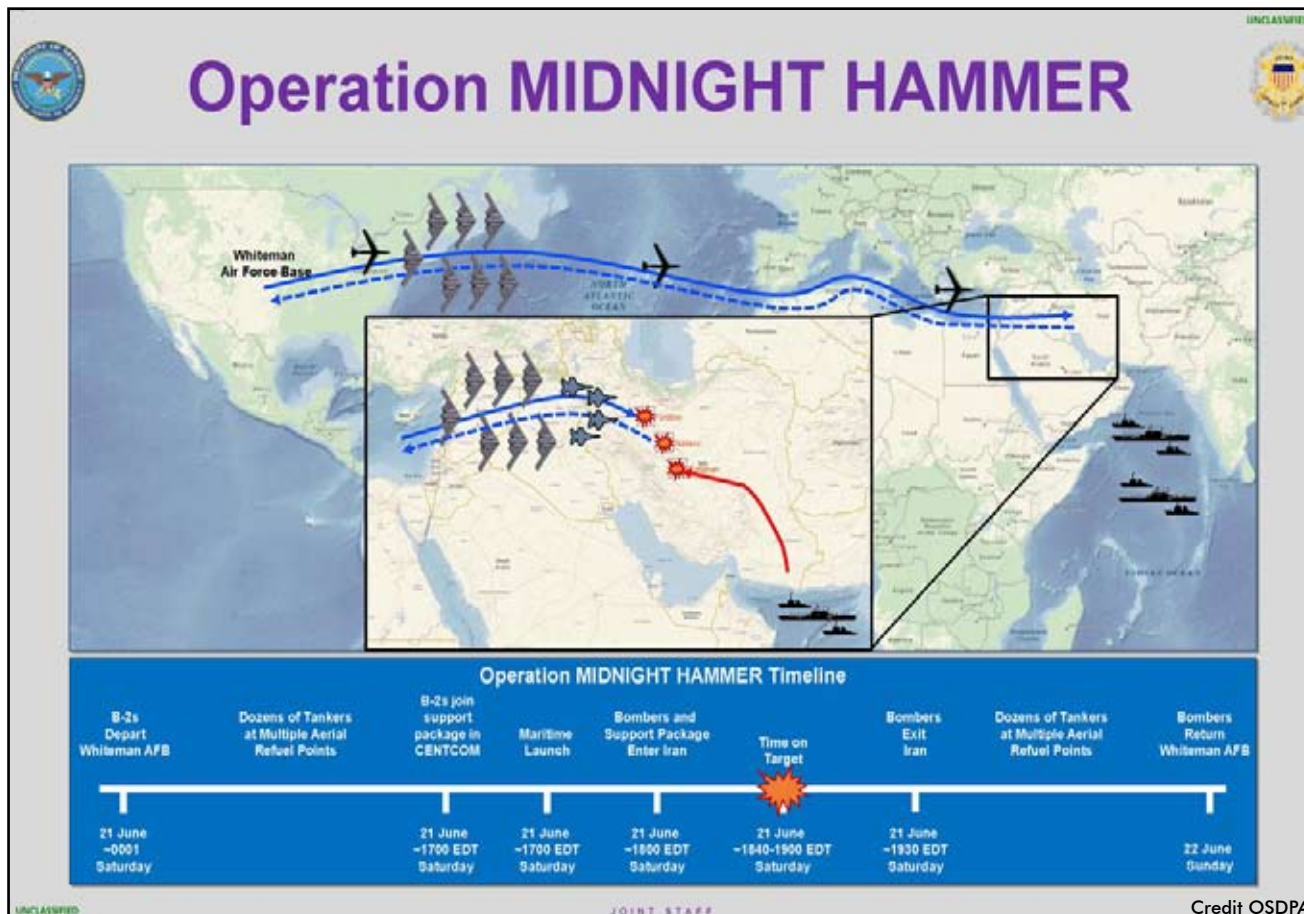
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## Hegseth, Caine laud success of U.S. strike on Iran nuke sites

June 22, 2025

by Matthew Olay, DOD News

During a press conference at the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and Air Force Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, lauded the success of the U.S. Central Command's overnight strike on three Iranian nuclear facilities.

Dubbed "Operation Midnight Hammer," Centcom deployed multiple combined assets to inflict significant damage at the sites of Fordo, Natanz and Isfahan.

"The order we received from our commander in chief was focused, it was powerful and it was clear. We devastated the Iranian nuclear program," Hegseth said at the outset of his remarks, also noting that the operation did not target Iranian troops or citizens.

"Initial battle damage assessments indicate that all three sites

sustained extremely severe damage and destruction," Caine told the media.

After proceeding quietly and with minimal communication for 18 hours from the U.S. to the target area, the first of seven B-2 Spirit stealth bombers dropped two 30,000-pound GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator "bunker buster" bombs at the Fordo site yesterday at approximately 6:40 p.m. EDT, Caine said.

The initial mission package also included several decoy aircraft that flew west over the Pacific Ocean as "a deception effort known only to an extremely small number of planners and key leaders here in Washington and [Centcom headquarters]," Caine said.

Such tactics were also used in support of the main strike package of aircraft.

**See PACKAGE page 7**

## USO CENTER OPENS ABOARD THEODORE ROOSEVELT

from USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)

SAN DIEGO – Command leadership aboard aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* and United Service Organizations (USO) representatives held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the newest USO center, June 11.

*Theodore Roosevelt's* Commanding Officer Capt. Brian Schrum, Executive Officer Capt. Kyle Aduskevich and Command Master Chief Terrance Wright were joined in the ship's chapel by USO's Chief Operating Officer, Christopher Plamp, and USO donors John and Melinda Baum to mark the grand opening

of the center aboard the carrier.

"As *Theodore Roosevelt* looks ahead to concluding our planned maintenance phase and preparing for upcoming workups and future deployments, we remain focused on mission readiness," said Schrum. "This new USO center will provide further support to our Sailors who are charged with the responsibility of upholding our nation's values and the American way of life."

The new *Theodore Roosevelt* USO center features amenities such as TVs, gaming consoles, board games, privacy phone booths and snacks in a comfortable space for Sailors to recharge and connect with loved ones.

"The USO Afloat Centers are the perfect way to give back to the Navy exactly as we have been able to give back to the other branches," said Plamp. "We want to provide for the most at-need Sailors, those who are

on deployment. Being able to do that makes all the time and money worth it."

The USO previously opened centers aboard nine aircraft carriers, and Blue Ridge-class amphibious command ship USS *Mount Whitney* (LCC 20).

Additionally, the USO recently began installing centers aboard Navy destroyers. In May, they opened a center aboard USS *Bainbridge*. Other destroyers receiving the USO centers include USS *Forrest Sherman*, USS *Winston S. Churchill*, USS *Mahan* and USS *Mitscher*.

*Theodore Roosevelt*, the flagship of *Theodore Roosevelt* Carrier Strike Group, recently returned from a nine-month deployment to the U.S. 3rd, 5th and 7th fleet areas of operation. The ship is currently pierside at NAS North Island undergoing routine maintenance and equipment upgrades.



**Capt. Brian Schrum, commanding officer of USS *Theodore Roosevelt* and USO leadership and donors, participate in a USO center ribbon cutting ceremony June 11 on the aircraft carrier. U.S. Navy photo by MCSN Gary Buckles**

## Nimitz strike group in South China Sea

by Lt. Cmdr. Tim Pietrack, USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68)

SOUTH CHINA SEA - The Nimitz Carrier Strike Group began maritime operations while underway in the South China Sea June 11.

"We are here in the South China Sea to build proficiency while showcasing the carrier strike group's ability to maintain warfighting advantage and execute flight operations supporting the full spectrum of operations," said Rear Adm. Fred Goldhammer, commander, Carrier Strike Group 11. "We are doing more than ever to strengthen peace, stability, and deterrence across the Indo-Pacific, and the Nimitz Strike group will continue to fly, sail, and operate wherever international law allows."

NIMCSG is operating in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations. U.S. 7th Fleet is the Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners in preserving a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

The *Nimitz* strike group deployed amid continuing strikes between Israel and Iran that threaten to evolve into broader conflict, according to a U.S. defense official. The aircraft carrier and its strike group left Bremerton, Wash., in March for the Indo-Pacific region for what is expected to be the ship's final deployment.

The *Nimitz* strike group includes destroyers USS *Curtis Wilbur*, USS *Gridley*, USS *Wayne E. Meyer* and USS *Lenah Sutcliffe Higbee*.

The strike group's operations include both day and night flight evolutions. These activities support maritime security, enhance interoperability with regional partners, and maintain the U.S. Navy's ability to project power across the theater.

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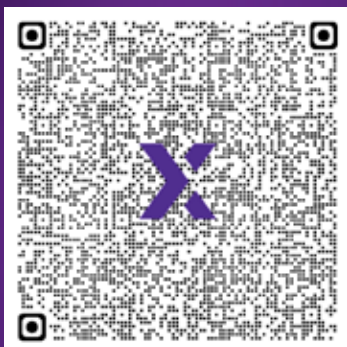
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## Navy secretary advocates for Sailors' 'right to repair' equipment

by C. Todd Lopez

Navy Secretary John Phelan told senators during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Capitol Hill June 11 that he believes Sailors should be able to repair the hardware they are trained to operate without having to wait for contractors to do the work.

The issue concerns contract agreements that often contain language preventing service members from performing repairs themselves because of intellectual property rights.

In the private sector, the movement to allow owners of equipment to repair it themselves, rather than being forced to have the manufacturer perform the work, is known as the "right to repair."

"I am a huge supporter of 'right to repair,'" Phelan said, explaining his support comes after observing the issue in the fleet.

"I went on the [USS Gerald R. Ford] carrier; they had eight ovens — this is a ship that serves 15,300 meals a day," Phelan said. "Only two were working. Six

were out [for repair]."

The secretary said he was surprised that on a ship with so many people and with so many mouths to feed, there wasn't someone on board with the ability to repair the broken ovens. It turns out, he said, the sailors could fix the ovens but weren't allowed to do so; instead, they had to wait for the contractor to do the work.

Similarly, Phelan told lawmakers that when elevators stopped working aboard the ship, the manufacturer had to be called in.

"They have to come out and diagnose the problem, and then they'll fix it," he said. "It is crazy. We should be able to fix this."

Phelan said intellectual property issues related to military hardware are a concern.

"We end up paying for a lot of things that we don't control, and we need to change that," he said. "And, so, contracting, in general, is something we're looking at very hard, and we need to really try to ensure going forward we control our IP, and we have the ability to fix things because if

we're in a fight, how do we ... fix it then?"

In April 2025, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth issued guidance regarding the transformation of the Army. Part of that guidance included direction for the Army to attempt to include "right to repair" provisions in existing and future contracts, creating a potential roadmap for the Navy.

On Capitol Hill, June 4, before the House Armed Services Committee, Army Secretary Daniel Driscoll said how the Army is

addressing this challenge.

"On a go-forward basis, we have been directed to not sign any contracts that don't give us a right to repair," Driscoll said. "On a go-back basis, we have been directed to go and do what we can to go get that right to repair. ... We hope that anyone listening to us who hopes to pitch us a contract going forward will look back at their previous agreements they've signed with us, and if they're unwilling to give us that right to repair, I think we're going to have a hard time negotiating with them."



**FACE TO FACE** Children interact with a Quad-legged Unmanned Ground Vehicle during the Army's 250th birthday celebration at Fort Bragg, N.C., June 10, 2025. U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Alexis Fischer

## Marines guarding federal property, personnel in L.A. as Guard troops transition to protecting law enforcement

by Matthew Olay, DOD News

Roughly 200 Marines began protecting federal property and personnel in Los Angeles recently after relieving the California National Guard, which was mobilized amidst a breakout of civil unrest in the city, June 7, 5, a senior military official said.

Once the soldiers of the 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team are relieved from protecting the Wilshire Federal Building in L.A.'s Westwood neighborhood by personnel from the 2nd

Battalion, 7th Marines, they will transition to protecting federal law enforcement officers in the area, said Army Maj. Gen. Scott Sherman, commander of Task Force 51.

Task Force 51 is the Army's command and control organization for the Title 10 forces supporting federal law enforcement in the greater Los Angeles area.

Sherman emphasized that the soldiers are not participating in law enforcement activities. Instead, they'll be focused on

protecting federal law enforcement personnel.

"Right now, as of today, we have had no soldier or Marine detain anyone," Sherman said, adding that — in the course of their protection duties — the service members have only been observing federal law enforcement make arrests of agitators.

A total of 700 Marines have now joined approximately 2,000 Guard members and an additional 2,000 personnel assigned

to the 49th Military Police Brigade in the city, bringing the total number of military service members providing support to approximately 4,700.

Sherman said the Marines arrived at the Wilshire property and began conducting "left seat, right seat" leadership familiarization with the Guard on procedures for protecting people and property.

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New U.S. Army Korea Rotational Force arrives on peninsula

by Kenji Thuloweit  
Eighth Army Public Affairs Office  
Soldiers and equipment of the incoming U.S. Army Korea Rotational Force have begun to arrive on the Korean peninsula.

In January, the U.S. Army announced that 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, will replace 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division, as part of a regular rotation of forces to support the United States' commitment to the Republic of Korea.

Soldiers from 1-SBCT, 4-ID,

began arriving in late May with their combat equipment arriving in Pyeongtaek, South Korea, early June.

The "Raider Brigade" is based out of Fort Carson, Colorado, and will continue to offer the mobility and flexibility necessary to meet various contingency requirements as an expeditionary, combined arms force organized around mounted infantry.

"Our presence in Korea is a clear demonstration of U.S. resolve, and the Raider Brigade is honored to enhance our long-standing alliance," said Col. J. Clint Tisserand, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4-ID commander. "This deployment is more than a rotation; it's a chance to sharpen our edge and uphold the commitment we share with the Republic of Korea."

U.S. Army Pacific routinely schedules and deploys forces on a rotational basis to the Republic of Korea. These deployments support U.S. strategic commitments to the ROK, regional partners and U.S. security obligations. The purpose for these deployments is to maintain a rotational process

that cultivates Eighth Army's readiness, supports U.S. long-term strategic objectives in the ROK and the region, and assures tailored flexibility for the future force structure in Korea. Exposing different units to the Korean theater of operations increase familiarity with the region and builds upon the partnerships between the two forces.

The outgoing Stryker brigade combat team successfully completed a nine-month rotation to the Republic of Korea as part of Korean Rotational Force 15, conducting extensive combined training with Republic of Korea Army units and strengthening the ironclad ROK-U.S. alliance.

Last year, 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division, deployed from its home at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, and immediately began a rigorous training cycle, which included progressive live-fire exercises from the squad to company level, and integrated combined training with U.S. Marines and ROKA forces. The brigade's companies demonstrated tactical proficiency and professionalism throughout each phase.



Republic of Korea Army Soldiers greet 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Soldiers as they come off the plane at Osan Air Base, South Korea, May 30. The BCT is the new U.S. Army Rotational Force, which will continue to offer the mobility and flexibility necessary to meet various contingency requirements as an expeditionary, combined arms force organized around mounted infantry. U.S. Army photo by Spc. Cheyenne Mayer

"1-2 SBCT's KRF 15 rotation has been exceptional with the combined training we were able to do with the ROK Army," said Col. Christopher Nunn, brigade commander. "We maintained deterrence and demonstrated the ironclad commitment to the ROK-U.S. Alliance."

The "Ghost Brigade" also participated in Freedom Shield and other major joint exercises such as a 10-day Korean Combat Training Center rotation

alongside ROKA's 17th Infantry Division and 16th Mechanized Brigade. The exercise tested battalion-level offense and defense operations in unfamiliar terrain and emphasized joint mission execution. The brigade also hosted the Expert Infantryman, Soldier, and Field Medical Badge, with over 1,300 participants from across Korea. Approximately 400 Soldiers earned their respective expert badges after completing a demanding two-week train-up and testing week.

The new rotational brigade will continue the success of the KRF mission and will work with our ROK counterparts at an unprecedented level, training side-by-side, sharing lessons learned, and combining formations to maintain a truly lethal partnership in defense of two homelands.



Army

- Dead on arrival: Army pulls plug on M10 Booker light tank
- Ranges on Fort Benning aren't long enough for Army's new sniper rifle
- Army officials pushed back on pop-up MAGA shop ahead of Fort Bragg Trump speech

Navy

- Choice of C-130 for new Navy 'doomsday plane' questioned in watchdog report
- Despite proposed cuts, Navy requirements for F/A-XX next-gen fighter 'still valid,' Joint Chiefs chairman says
- Helicopter pilot assumes command of strategic Navy base in Spain
- Hegseth says chief of naval operations nomination is coming 'in due time'
- Navy searches for Sailor who walked away from carrier nearly two weeks ago

Air Force

- Air Force moves ahead with military's first microreactor
- Sentinel ICBM first flight date now in flux, Air Force says
- Air Force reveals first image of LRSO nuclear cruise missile
- Local leaders slam delayed disclosure of PFAS leak at Air Force base in Tokyo

Coast Guard

- Canadian shipbuilder Davie set to buy Texas shipyard for potential U.S. icebreaker work

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- Fear of reprisal contributes to 'scourge' of military sexual trauma, veterans groups warn

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## NCIS Major Case Response Team Basic Training Program earns FLETA Accreditation



NCIS personnel conduct a forensic dig. NCIS photo by Ed Buice

**C**AMP PENDLETON - The NCIS Major Case Response Team Basic Training Program, hosted by the Office of Forensic Support's Pacific Forensic Training Center, has officially earned accreditation from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board.

The 24-hour program, conducted over three days here, combined classroom instruction with hands-on crime scene scenarios, including mock death scenes and simulated evidence.

The training was designed to standardize crime scene response practices and equip NCIS personnel with foundational skills in notetaking, sketching, photography, human remains documentation, and crime scene report writing - each guided by NCIS policy and forensic procedures.

The program filled an increasingly critical opportunity for agents to gain field-ready investigative skills early in their careers. The program was strongly recommended for agents cur-

rently serving or seeking to serve on an MCRT. Completion of the program prepares agents to apply for certification through the International Association for Identification, a nationally recognized professional organization that certifies forensic professionals in crime scene analysis.

"Accreditation validates the rigor and professionalism of this program," said Assistant Special Agent in Charge Erin Michaels of the NCIS Office of Forensic Support. "It reflects the detailed

## Air Force DASH pioneers human-machine teaming for faster battle management decisions

by Deb Henley

**LAS VEGAS** - The Department of the Air Force took a bold step toward future command and control capabilities with the successful completion of its first Decision Advantage Sprint for Human-Machine Teaming, or DASH, experiment, recently held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"The DASH experiment showed how machine support can dramatically reduce decision time and improve decision quality for air battle managers working in complex operational environments," said Col. Christopher Cannon, Advanced Battle Management Cross-Functional Team lead. "Battle manage-

ment teams were exercising command and control decision advantage."

This event brought together operational U.S. and Canadian warfighters, industry and Shadow Operations Center-Nellis software developers, to prototype microservices aimed at accelerating and improving decision-making in high-tempo battle management scenarios framed by the Transformational Model for Decision Advantage developed by the ABMS CFT.

"To deliver meaningful capability to the joint force, we must co-develop with industry partners who can iterate rapidly and help us operationalize

software to meet urgent warfighter needs for today's challenges and tomorrow's fights. DASH experiments accelerate delivery of C2 and intelligence microservices that go beyond user interfaces and dashboards to directly address the (Combined Joint All-Domain Command and Control) imperative for decision advantage," said Col. Jonathan Zall, ABMS Capability Integration chief.

Led by the ABMS CFT in partnership with the 711th Human Performance Wing, the Air Force Research Laboratory, the Integrated Capabilities Command and the 805th Combat Training Squadron, also known as the ShOC-N, the event focused on a critical subfunction of the Transformational Model - Battle Management: Perceive Actionable Entity.

"This is not just about accelerating data," Cannon said. "It's about accelerating decisions. DASH lets us move beyond buzzwords and into real-world prototyping, software built around the actual decisions our warfighters must make under pressure."

<https://www.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/4218100/air-force-dash-pioneers-human-machine-teaming-for-faster-battle-management-deci/>

curriculum design, the realism of our mock scenes, and the dedication of our instructors to ensure agents are prepared for the complex scenes they encounter in the field."

FLETA accreditation is a voluntary peer review process renewed every five years. The accreditation board evaluates programs on instructional design, policy compliance, staff qualifications, and overall program administration.

two dedicated forensic instructor positions, the Office of Forensic Support plans to continue expanding NCIS training offerings—ensuring best practices, science-based methodologies, and standardized instruction remain central to the agency's readiness.

"We are grateful for the continued support from the NCIS Criminal Investigations and Operations Directorate and leadership across the agency," said Michaels.

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# Local Military

## USS San Diego, USS Rushmore join USS America in Sydney

by Lt. Carolina Fernandez  
Amphibious Squadron 11

SYDNEY - Amphibious transport dock ship USS *San Diego*, amphibious dock landing ship USS *Rushmore*, and embarked elements from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit arrived in Sydney, Australia, for a routine port visit while conducting operations in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations June 15.

The ships join their flagship, amphibious assault ship USS *America* in a visit centered on strengthening the U.S.-Austra-

lia alliance and deepening the two nations' bilateral defense ties.

"I want to thank the city of Sydney for their hospitality and the warm welcome of the *America* Amphibious Ready Group (ARG)," said Capt. John Baggett, commodore of Amphibious Squadron 11, which oversees the *America* Amphibious Ready Group.



"Our port visit allows us to deepen friendships with our Australian allies, which is instrumental to our two nations' forces operating together to maintain regional peace and stability."

This marks the first time *America*, *San Diego*, and *Rushmore* are moored in Sydney at the same time, bringing roughly 4,500 Sailors and Marines to experience the capital city's unique sights, culture and cuisine.

"The U.S.-Australia alliance is a cornerstone of peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific. The arrival of USS *San Diego* and USS *Rushmore* into Sydney marks the first time that the three-ship America Strike Group are together," said Erika Olson, Chargé d'Affaires, U.S.

### Local flag officer announcements

Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth announced June 13 that the President has made the following nominations:

Navy Capt. Frank J. Brajevic for appointment to the grade of rear admiral (lower half). Brajevic is currently serving as chief of staff, Naval Medical

Mission to Australia.

"We are excited to have Sailors and Marines here, and warmly welcome them to Sydney."

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7th Fleet is the Navy's largest forward-deployed numbered fleet and routinely interacts and operates with allies and partners to preserve a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

Forces Pacific Navy Reserve, San Diego.

Navy Capt. Christopher A. Carter for appointment to the grade of rear admiral (lower half). Carter is currently serving as commander, Navy Reserve Naval Special Warfare Task Force Eighteen, San Diego.

### Navy elementary school rebuilt 6 years after earthquakes

The Sierra Sands Unified School District cut the ribbon earlier this month on a new 77,000-square-foot Richmond Elementary School at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, restoring an essential academic anchor after the 2019 Ridgecrest earthquakes. A \$78 million grant from the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation's Public Schools on Military Installations program, along with a \$19 million state and local match, funded the replacement of the original 55,000-square-foot building, which opened in 1953. The magnitude 6.4 and 7.1 earthquakes that struck July 4, 2019, damaged scores of structures across the high-desert installation.

### Austal USA completes sea trials on USNS Point Loma

MOBILE, Ala. - Austal USA and the Navy's Expeditionary Fast Transport program team recently completed acceptance trials on future USNS Point Loma (EPF 15). Completion of acceptance trials means the ship is now ready for delivery to the Navy. "I'm excited for the hard-working Austal USA shipbuilding team who are responsible for the successful achievement of these trials," said Austal USA Vice President of Surface Ship Programs Dave Growden. "With the help of our EPF program suppliers, Navy partners, and the Port of Mobile representatives involved in these trials, Point Loma is headed toward her final milestone, delivery."

### USS Sampson deploys to Southern Border

Destroyer USS *Sampson* joined the effort to secure the southern border in early June. "USS *Sampson* deployed to the U.S. Northern Command area of responsibility to support the [Defense Department's] national security objectives along the U.S. southern border," said Pentagon Press Secretary Kingsley Wilson during the Weekly Sitrep video. "Border security is national security. We are not going to stop until we have 100 percent operational control of our border." The destroyer departed Naval Base San Diego, June 3, and is conducting operations in direct support of Northcom's mission to protect the homeland by enhancing maritime domain awareness and deterring illicit activities with U.S. interagency and law enforcement coordination.

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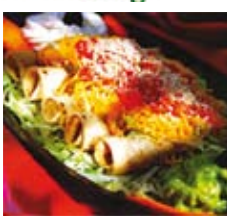


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New Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach pier meets fleet demands

by Gregg Smith  
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach  
SEAL BEACH, Calif. — In a major milestone more than a decade in the making, Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach (NWSSB) recently completed expanded operations at a new ammunition pier, which enables larger vessels to moor and meet fleet demands.

“Some of our base personnel have been working on this effort since 2011,” said Capt. Jessica O’Brien, commander, NWSSB. “We are all incredibly excited to see the fleet take advantage of these new capabilities.”

America-class amphibious assault ship USS Tripoli (LHA 7) was the first “big deck” to complete an ammunition onload at NWSSB in late May.

“I’m proud that Tripoli was able to take part in this historic visit, and I know my team has been working incredibly hard to make it happen,” said Capt. Eddie Park, commanding officer, USS Tripoli. “This opens up a whole new era in logistics support to our amphibious fleet.”

Prior to completion of the new pier, larger amphibious assault ships were loaded with



Amphibious assault ship USS Tripoli (LHA 7) arrives at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach May 20, , becoming the first “big deck” amphibious ship to visit the base following construction of a new ammunition pier. The new pier allows for safer, more secure and efficient operations while supporting larger Navy vessels. U.S. Navy photo by Gregg Smith

ammunition via helicopter off the coast of southern California in a process known as vertical replenishment, or VERTREP.

“Our new, expanded port complex began operations in April 2024,” said O’Brien. “It has already shown its value by allowing for the simultaneous support of two destroyer-sized vessels, with significantly improved efficiency, safety and security.”

The previous base wharf, built in 1954, could only accommodate one medium-sized ship at a time.

“Loading ships at the pier, instead of using helicopters, is estimated to save the Navy over \$10 million per year,” said Jazmin Atencia, Plans, Programs & Readiness integrator. “When added with other savings, the pier project should pay for itself within five years.”

NWSSB is the key conventional munitions installation for the Navy’s Pacific Fleet surface ships. Its primary role is to store and maintain Navy and Marine Corps munitions, and load and unload Navy ships and larger Coast Guard vessels with the weapons they need to conduct their missions.

PACKAGE

Continued from page 1  
“The U.S. employed several deception tactics — including decoys — as the fourth and fifth generation aircraft pushed out in front of the strike package at high altitude and high speed, sweeping in front of the package for enemy fighters and surface-to-air missile threats,” Caine said.

Following the initial strike on Fordo, the remaining B-2s went on to deploy their ordnance, eventually totaling 14 MOPs hitting the targeted areas.

This was the first operational use of the GBU-57 MOP, Caine noted.

In addition to the MOPs, Caine said a U.S. submarine operating in Centcom’s area of responsibility launched more than two dozen Tomahawk land attack cruise missiles at key infrastructure targets at the Isfahan site, bringing the overall total of precision-guided weapons employed during the operation to approximately 75.

Caine stated there was no detectable retaliation to the strikes.

“We are unaware of any shots fired at the package on the way out. Iran’s fighters did not fly, and it appears that Iran’s surface-to-air missile systems did not see us,” he said, adding, “Throughout the mission, we maintained the element of surprise.”



Air Force Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks during a press briefing at the Pentagon, June 22, 2025. Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Alexander Kubitza, DOD.

Both Hegseth and Caine shared praise for the military personnel who worked to execute the mission.

“I want to recognize the pilots who flew those bombers, who flew those fighters, who flew those refuelers; [they’re] warriors. I want to recognize the sailors on those destroyers, in those subs, on those carriers; [they’re] warriors, all of them,” Hegseth said, also recognizing soldiers who conducted air and base defense.

“Every American involved in this operation performed flawlessly,” he added, also giving recognition to the Israeli government for its contribution to the positioning and preparation of the effort.

“This was a complex and high-

risk mission, carried out with exceptional skill and discipline by our joint force,” Caine said, also noting that the mission demonstrated the “unmatched reach, coordination and capability of the United States military.”

“In just a matter of weeks, this went from strategic planning to global execution,” he said, adding that he concurs with President Donald J. Trump’s assessment that “no other military in the world could have done this.”

When asked about the overall intent of the strikes, Hegseth said the mission was specifically focused on preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapon.

“This mission was not, and has not been, about regime change. The president authorized a precision operation to neutralize the threats to our national interests posed by the Iranian nuclear program and [in support of] the collective self-defense of our troops and our ally, Israel,” Hegseth said.

As to the potential for Iran attempting retaliation for the U.S. strikes, Caine said Centcom is operating under elevated force protection measures throughout the Middle East region and that any retaliation by Iran or its proxies would be “an incredibly poor choice.”

“We will defend ourselves. The safety of our service members and civilians remains our highest priority,” he said.

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Corpsman up: Hospital corps marks 127 years

by Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Sasha Ambrose  
Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery  
FALLS CHURCH, Va. – The 127th birthday of the Navy Hospital Corps was recently celebrated with honor and pride at the Defense Health Headquarters. The ceremony brought together Navy Medicine leadership and corpsmen to reflect on the enduring legacy of the Hospital Corps and their continuing impact across the fleet and around the world.

“The many selfless acts performed by hospital corpsmen over the last 127 years has defined the legacy of the Hospital Corps,” said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Erica Coleman, “earning the respect and admiration of those we serve alongside. We will no doubt continue to uphold and press forward with our legacy.”

While the hospital corps was established in 1898 by President William McKinley, enlisted Sailors have been serving in

medical roles since the first days of the Navy, as loblolly boys, apothecaries, medical attendants and surgical stewards. To date, hospital corpsmen are the most decorated rate in the Navy, with 23 Medal of Honor recipients, 946 Silver Stars and 1,582 Bronze Stars with the combat “V” for valor.

Rear Adm. Rick Freedman, Navy deputy Surgeon General and deputy chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery said during the event, “In moments when my faith and confidence were shaken, I looked to my left and to my right – and there was always a corpsman standing beside me, ready to answer the call.”

During the ceremony, all past

and current hospital corpsmen present recited the hospital corpsmen’s pledge to affirm the commitment they made to the sacred trust of their profession, and

for your future corpsmen. If the training manual doesn’t exist yet, write it.”

The 127th Hospital Corpsman birthday celebration served as a powerful reminder of the essential role corpsmen play in supporting the health and readiness of our Navy and Marine Corps team. As they continue to serve on ships, submarines, aircraft carriers, clinics and the battlefield, their commitment and courage remains as the cornerstone of Navy Medicine and an inspiration to all who answered the call: “Corpsman Up!”

The hospital corps is comprised of more than 26,000 active duty and reserve or training in 40 technical specialties. Corpsmen are enlisted medical sailors who serve on the frontlines with our operators - whether embedded in Marine units, serving at MTFs, or aboard submarines and surface ships as Independent Duty Corpsmen.

Navy Medicine – represented by more than 44,000 highly-trained military and civilian health care professionals – provides enduring expeditionary medical support to the warfighter on, below, and above the sea and ashore.



Naval Medical Center San Diego observes the hospital corps birthday. Facebook

as a tribute to the generations who served before them.

Master Chief Hospital Corpsman Hansen Lafoucade, deputy director of the hospital corps, issued a challenge to every corpsman.

“Honor the legacy of the corps and tell the stories of those who came before you,” said Lafoucade. “Excel in the present – never walk past a deficiency you can fix. Lastly, innovate

LOCAL MILITARY



SAN DIEGO (June 12, 2025) – Civilian employer Gina Henderson sits in the pilot seat of an SH-60 Seahawk attached to Naval Reserve Force Squadron 57 (VR-57) during an aircraft display during the Navy Employer Recognition Event here. NERE is an annual event highlighting civilian employers who go above and beyond in supporting reserve Sailors who work for them. U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Malcolm Kelley



LOS ANGELES (June 14, 2025) - U.S. Soldiers, assigned to 1st Battalion, 185th Infantry Regiment, 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team under Title 10 authority and Marines assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division, provide protection to federal functions, property, and law enforcement personnel here. U.S. Northern Command is supporting federal agencies by providing military forces to protect federal functions, personnel, and property in the greater Los Angeles area. U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Chase Murray



LA JOLLA (June 14, 2025) The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Active (WMEC-618) interdicts 11 aliens aboard a 20-foot cabin cruiser boat, approximately 22 miles west of here. All aliens aboard were apprehended and transferred to the custody of the U.S. Border Patrol at Ballast Point. U.S. Coast Guard courtesy photo

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## The Meat & Potatoes of Life



by  
Lisa  
Smith  
Molinari

One benefit of being stationed overseas as a military family has been appreciating things that Americans take for granted. I'm not talking about ethereal concepts like democracy and freedom. I'm talking about really important things that make a tangible difference in our every day lives as Americans.

I'm talking about Corn on the Cob.

Yes, that sweet vegetarian delicacy indigenous to this great land of ours. With tasty rows of snappy kernels that sweeten in summer under silky strands and crepey husks. A seasonal supper *bonne bouche* that barefoot kids are ordered to shuck on the porch on lazy summer afternoons.

Ancient people indigenous to the American continents began eating corn thousands of years ago. Native Americans called it maize and ground it into their staple food — cornmeal. Unlike Native Americans and early settlers who embraced indigenous foods, Europeans have generally been reluctant to eat corn straight off the cob because it was considered to be nothing more than hog feed.

So, for six years while stationed in England and Germany, our American family went without. It wasn't easy, because, as far as vegetables go, corn on the cob has always been kinda special to our family.

## Corny American pride

My Navy husband first laid eyes on me when I was sitting rather unladylike on the deck of my family's beach house, shucking corn. Unfortunately, I was covered in sand and my wet bangs had fallen into an unflattering middle part. Worse yet, the four thick rolls of my belly protruded between the top and bottom of my bathing suit. It took a shower and considerable work with my curling iron, but I was able to win him over at dinner that evening, not without help from a heaping plate of delicious Silver Queen corn on the cob.

Even my children have fallen under the sweet corn spell. Our middle child, Anna, has always been a worrier. One night when she was about five years old, I tucked her into bed, placing her tiny hands together under mine to say our prayers.

"Now I lay me . . ." I began.

"Mommy?" Anna interrupted. "Yes, Honey?"

"What happens when you die?" she said, her big eyes staring up into mine.

"Uh," my mind raced, unprepared. "Well, you go to Heaven, Sweetie. Now where were we?"

"Yeah, but, what will happen to my body," she specified.

As I looked into the worried eyes of my precious little girl, I could not reveal the reality of death and bodily decomposition. Panicked, I blurted, "Heaven is beautiful!" Her eyes still fretted, "And you can have anything you want!" Her brows still furrowed, "And, and, YOU CAN FLY!"

"Can I have purple wings, Mommy?"

"Yes! Yes! You can have purple wings!" I exclaimed, relieved to at long last please my relentless little interrogator. Her eyes fluttered with visions of purple feathers.

"Can I really have anything I want in Heaven?" Anna asked as I kissed her forehead.

"Yep, anything," I replied, and turned to leave the room. As I flipped the light switch, I heard Anna whisper one last question: "Mommy, can I have corn on the cob in Heaven?"

"Yes, Sweetie," I answered with a smile, "you can have all the corn on the cob you want."

To this day, we can't get enough of freshly boiled cobs rolled in butter, sprinkled with a pinch of salt and cracked black pepper. My husband haphazardly chomps at the cob, leaving tufts of missed kernels. I munch methodically from right to left like an old typewriter, occasionally stopping to chew and swallow. Due to expensive orthodontics as a child, Anna trims the kernels off with a knife. Lilly takes spiral bites around the cob like an apple peeler. Hayden, who despises all vegetables, seems disgusted by our shameless display of gluttony.

When every cob has been stripped of its golden pearls, we sit swollen, with buttered cheeks, giggling about the stuff stuck between our teeth.

We, the People of this great Nation, possess the unalienable right to enjoy distinctly American Corn on the Cob, a liberty which one should never take for granted. Give me hot buttered ears or give me death, I say! Let freedom and the dinner bell ring!

## Review of 'Ballerina'

A word of WARNING: Do not even think of bringing little kids or even sensitive adults to see "Ballerina." It is not remotely a family-friendly movie about ballet. Rather, it is an extremely violent John Wick spin-off movie that happens to partially set in a ballet studio.

That said, the heroine of "Ballerina" is a ballerina turned highly trained assassin, seeking vengeance. Her name is Eve Macarro. She works for the same organization, and in a similar professional capacity, as John Wick.

The studio tells us that it is set during the events of "John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum." Returning characters from the John Wick world are: The Director of the ballet school (Anjelica Huston) of the ballet school, which is a front for the training ground, the Ruska Roma; Winston (Ian McShane) and Charon (Lance Reddick) as, respectively, the head and concierge of The Continental New York — a hotel for assassins.

New characters are the mysterious Daniel Pine (Norman Reedus), with whom Eve has a fateful encounter at The Continental Prague (another hotel for assassins); and The Chancellor (Gabriel Byrne), the domineering head of a cult-like army of killers that live in an isolated, picturesque little old-world village (Hallstatt, an idyllic village perched on a glacial lake. Since it is a popular tourist destination, the actual village was likely not destroyed in the making of "Ballerina").

The many action sequences were under the direction of Len Wiseman ("Live Free or Die Hard" and the "Underworld" films). There are numerous

thrilling chase scenes, over-the-top explosions and mayhem, picturesque international locations, intricate fight choreography and a wide array of weaponry, including the expected array of guns, and the less expected, including ice skates, katana swords, ice axes and powerful, deadly flamethrowers.

It is different from a typical movie in the John Wick franchise in that John Wick is trying to get out of his life as an assassin.

**AutoMatters™ & More**



by Jan Wagner

sin, whereas as Eve wants in to that world, to fulfill her consuming desire for vengeance.

It is similar to John Wick films in that the Eve character is supremely athletic, like John Wick. Ana de Armas — the Cuban-born actress who plays Eve — was all-in for the fighting sequences, and ended up with plenty of bruises in the process of making this film. She insisted on receiving intensive, rigorous combat and stunt training in preparation for her role.

Previously she had action roles opposite Keanu Reeves in "Knock Knock" (2015), "Blade Runner 2049" (2017), "Knives Out" (2019, for which she earned her first Golden Globe nomination) and the James Bond film "No Time to Die" (2021).

"Ballerina" introduces something new to the John Wick franchise: a distinct style of combat shaped by Eve's physicality. Instead of overpowering her adversaries with brute strength, Eve is taught to get creative and utilize whatever is around her—including ice skates, pots and pans — as weapons to defend herself. Nothing is off limits.

"Ballerina's" location base is Prague and surrounding areas in the Czech Republic, with visits to Hallstatt, Austria and Budapest Hungary.

While part of the John Wick franchise, "Ballerina" can also stand on its own.

"Ballerina" will keep you on the edge of your seat and breathless from start to finish. It is best enjoyed in a theater. Its violence is non-stop. I feel somewhat guilty to admit that I thoroughly enjoyed "Ballerina," but I did. The violence is so over the top that I could not possibly take it seriously, just like sequences in violent video games. It is a fun, exciting entertainment.

"Ballerina" is in theaters now. To see the official movie trailer and for more information, visit <https://johnwick.movie/film/ballerina>.

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## Veterans News

# Medal of Honor spotlight: Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Joseph Sarnoski

by Katie Lange, DOD News

Over the skies of the South Pacific, Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Joseph Raymond Sarnoski gave his life to keep his aircrew safe during a dangerous World War II reconnaissance mission. That aircrew became one of the most decorated in history, and Sarnoski posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his actions.

Sarnoski was born Jan. 30, 1915, in Simpson, Pennsylvania, to Josephine and John Sarnoski, who left coal mining behind to become a farmer. As the second of 17 children, Sarnoski had to help his father on the farm, but he also enjoyed baseball, hunting, fishing, singing and playing the accordion.

On March 9, 1936, Sarnoski enlisted in the Army. His first duty station was in Langley, Virginia, where he met and married his wife, Marie Maddox. After training in bomb sight maintenance, Sarnoski became a B-17 Flying Fortress bombardier.

In 1941, he was assigned to the

43rd Bombardment Group's 65th Bombardment Squadron to serve as a bombardier and bombing instructor. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor catapulted the U.S. into World War II, his unit deployed for two years to Australia and New Guinea. During that time, Sarnoski earned a Silver Star.

In May 1943, Sarnoski received a battlefield commission before volunteering as a bombardier for an aircrew called the "Eager Beavers." Led by Army Air Corps Capt. Jay Zeamer, the unit was known for volunteering for the most dangerous of missions.

On June 16, 1943, Sarnoski's crew volunteered for an unscheduled mission to map the Buka area of Bougainville in the Solomon Islands archipelago, which was heavily defended by the Japanese. The team flew in "Old 666," a B-17 they had salvaged and fitted with 19 machine guns, according to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

The dangerous mission required the crew to fly unescorted about 1,200 miles roundtrip to photo-



**Army Air Corps 2nd Lt Joseph R. Sarnoski, World War II Medal of Honor recipient. Courtesy photo**

graph Japanese installations on the island in preparation for Allied landings in the fall.

The Eager Beavers were nearly finished with their mission when they saw about 20 enemy fighters take off to intercept them. They could have turned around and immediately fled the area, but they chose to finish the mission instead.

Positioned at the machine guns in the front of the aircraft, Sarnoski fought off the first of the attackers, making it possible for Zeamer to finish their plotted course. Soon after, Japanese gunfire cut the bomber's oxygen line. So, Zeamer dropped the plane to 18,000 feet so the gunners could breathe while continuing to fire back.

Army records show that when a coordinated frontal attack by five enemy fighters extensively damaged the bomber and seriously injured five crew members, a wounded Sarnoski still managed to shoot down two enemy aircraft. Zeamer destroyed another one using a front gun fired remotely by a switch on the flight control column.

When a 20mm shell burst in the nose of the bomber, Sarnoski was knocked into the catwalk under the cockpit. He suffered a devastating wound to his stomach, but through the pain, he crawled back to his post. Air Force historians reported that he shouted, "I'm OK. Don't worry about me," before continuing to fire until he collapsed on his guns and died.

Without his relentless fighting spirit, the team may not have been able to return from their vitally important mission, his Medal of Honor citation read.

Meanwhile, the crew still had to get out of the crosshairs and find somewhere safe to land.

Zeamer — who also suffered serious injuries, including wounds that paralyzed his legs — managed to evade other enemy aircraft until the Japanese finally broke off the engagement after approximately 40 minutes. The pilot lost a lot of blood and was in and out of consciousness, but his fellow crewmates helped keep the ship afloat. Zeamer's co-pilot, Army Air Corps 1st Lt. Johnny Britton, managed to make an emergency landing at an Allied airstrip in New Guinea.

According to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, the embattled B-17 had nearly 200 machine gun holes and five ruptures from cannons. Its flaps and brakes were also inoperable.

Sarnoski and Zeamer, who

survived the ordeal, received Medals of Honor for their heroics that day. The rest of the aircrew received Distinguished Service Crosses.

Sarnoski's Medal of Honor was presented to his widow, Jan. 7, 1944, during a ceremony at Richmond Army Air Base in Richmond, Virginia, according to a 1943 article in the *Scranton Times-Tribune*.

Sarnoski was initially buried in New Guinea, but his remains were reburied in 1949 at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

Sarnoski is a well-known name in military circles. There's a Sarnoski Avenue on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska, as well as a street named for him on Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.

*This article is part of a weekly series called "Medal of Honor Monday," in which we highlight one of the more than 3,500 Medal of Honor recipients who have received the U.S. military's highest medal for valor.*



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**OCEANSIDE** – 2BR/2BA. Water & trash paid, parking, laundry on-site. Military discount deposit. \$2600/mo. 760-681-1631. <sup>6/16</sup>

### RENTALS COTTAGE

**CORONADO** – 2BR/1BA unfurnished cottage, nice backyd, storage shed, \$3650/mo. includes utilities & gardener. 1 dog ok. Contact via email: Laustin310@aol.com <sup>6/16</sup>

### RENTALS CONDO

**CORONADO** – 3BR/2.5BA, 2 story, 2 off st prking spaces, gated patio, hrdwd flrs, in-unit w/d. No pets/no smoking. Water, trash incld. Min 1 yr lease. Avail now. 805-469-6106 or contact maureenmm3@yahoo.com <sup>6/1</sup>

### RENTALS DUPLEX

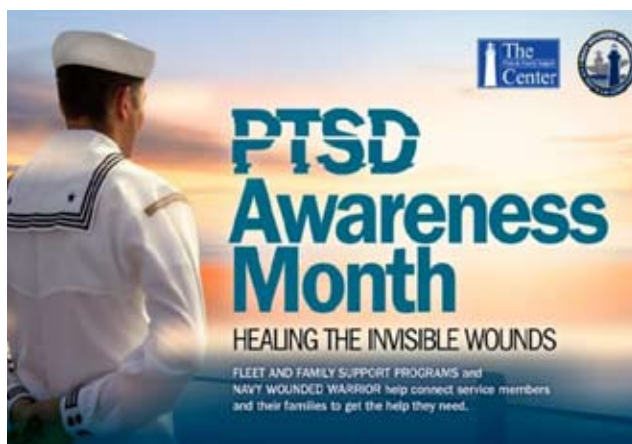
**IMPERIAL BEACH** – 2BR/1BA 600 sq ft. \$2500/mo. Washer/dryer hookups. Off street prkg. All new inside. Tenant pays gas, electric, trash disposal. 912 Florence. 619-575-1855. <sup>8/1</sup>

### RENTALS ROOM

**SO SAN DIEGO** – Fully furnished 2-bedroom suite in 3BR/2BA family home w/private bath, queen + bunk rooms. Shared kitchen, dining, living, Indry, bcklyrd, wi-fi, driveway prking. All utils incld. Pet-friendly. Ideal for long-term stay. 3 miles to beach/fwy. Avail July 15. Call or text Laura Twitchell at (816) 824-1902. <sup>9/1</sup>

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Pitchers Association (SCHPA)  
Welcomes all levels of pitchers!  
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#### MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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Veterans Association of North County  
1617 Mission Ave. Oceanside 92058

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## SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

### Should I wait until age 70 to claim Social Security?

*Dear Rusty: I am a married woman, at my full retirement age, and the primary earner in my marriage. How do I know if I should take my Social Security now or wait till 70? I will lose quite a bit if I take it now. How will it affect my taxes if I take it now while still working a full-time job?*  
Signed: Undecided

**Dear Undecided:** As you apparently already know, waiting until you are 70 to claim Social Security will result in you getting your maximum possible monthly SS retirement benefit. After your full retirement age, you get about 8% more each year you delay claiming up to age 70. But deciding exactly when to claim should consider both your financial needs and, importantly, your life expectancy. If you don't urgently need the money now and your life expectancy is at least "average," then waiting until age 70 to claim is usually the right choice. But if you urgently need the money, or your life expectancy is less than average (mid-80s for a woman your current age), then claiming before age 70 is usually prudent.

Regarding taxation, Social Security benefits may be taxable if your combined income from all sources exceeds the threshold for your IRS filing status. If you file taxes as "married/jointly" and your combined income (including your work income) exceeds \$32,000, then half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. But if your combined income is over \$44,000, then up to 85% of your SS benefits becomes taxable income (the thresholds are lower for those who file as a single). So, your full-time work income will likely affect how much of your Social Security benefits are subject to income tax by the IRS.

In the end, only you can decide when you should claim Social Security. Taxation of benefits may be a factor to consider since you are still working full time (thus more of your SS benefits will be taxable). But waiting longer to claim results in a higher benefit for the rest of your life (your SS retirement benefit will be .667% more for each month you delay, up to age 70). If the "rest of your life" is a long time and you don't urgently need the money, waiting is often the right choice. If not, claiming earlier may be wiser.

If you want to get a more personalized estimate of your life expectancy, I suggest you use the tool we use here at the AMAC Foundation: [www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/](http://www.socialsecurityreport.org/tools/life-expectancy-calculator/).

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website ([amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory)) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).*

### About AMAC

The 2.4 million member Association of Mature American Citizens [AMAC] [www.amac.us](http://www.amac.us) is a vibrant, vital senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. AMAC Action is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing the membership in our nation's capital and in local Congressional Districts throughout the country. And the AMAC Foundation ([www.AmacFoundation.org](http://www.AmacFoundation.org)) is the Association's non-profit organization, dedicated to supporting and educating America's Seniors. Together, we act and speak on the Association members' behalf, protecting their interests and offering a practical insight on how to best solve the problems they face today. Live long and make a difference by joining us today at [www.amac.us/join-amac](http://www.amac.us/join-amac).

## MOVIES AT THE BASES

**MOVIE SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE SO  
PLEASE CHECK THE WEB SITE DAY-OF TO MAKE SURE  
THE TITLE AND TIME ARE STILL CORRECT...**

<https://sandiego.navylifefsw.com/> select movies at dropdown menu on left

<https://miramar.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/movies>

<https://pendleton.usmc-mccs.org/dining-entertainment/theater>

### NBSD and Lowry Theater Policy

- Outside food and beverage are NOT permitted: Sales from the snack bar support the movie program.
- These Theaters are cashless facilities. Debit and credit cards accepted only.

### Premium Offerings

- Audiovisual assistive equipment available to customers at the front counter.
- Handicap seats and child booster seats are available.

### Movie Rating System

G – General audiences ALL ages admitted.



PG – Parental guidance suggested some material may not be suitable for children.

PG-13 – Parents strongly cautioned some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

R – Restricted under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

NC-17 – No one 17 or under admitted.



**WEATHER AUTHORITY**

AIR TEMP	CONCRETE	ASPHALT
80°	95°	115°
85°	105°	130°
90°	125°	140°
95°	140°	155°

7 SECOND RULE - PLACE HAND ON THE SURFACE  
TOO HOT FOR YOUR HAND, TOO HOT FOR YOUR HOUND



# Things to do & Fourth of July Celebrations

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

### FOR AUTHORIZED BASE PATRONS AND GUESTS

**Naval Base Point Loma presents Freedom Fest 2025**, Friday July 4th, Harbor Drive Annex, 3-9pm. Open to authorized base patrons and their guests. Bayfront fun and fireworks. Celebrate the spirit of freedom and pay tribute to those who have served our nation. Family Fun Zone • Kids' Activities • Reserved Seating • VIP Experience • Food and Beverages For Purchase • Bags Tournament • Doubles Pickleball Tournament • Fireworks. Access is limited to pedestrians only unless you purchase the VIP Experience with parking. Parking will be available at NTC Branch Clinic and public parking lots in the area. Shade structures must be weighted. Pets, glass containers, bicycles, scooters, and fireworks (including sparklers) are not permitted. **Looking to Tailgate? Call 619-524-6498 to register.** Bring your own BBQ grill and enjoy the day with your family and friends in the comfort of your own designated area. Arrival time: 11am. Must be checked in and parked by 2pm. Departure time: 9:30pm. Three different sizes available: Standard: \$80 | Premium: \$100 | Elite: \$125. Spaces are limited and registration is first come, first served.

**Camp Pendleton Annual Fourth of July Beach Bash**, Friday, July 4, beach hours 6am-10pm. Concessions / Vendors 10am-7pm. Family Fun Zone 10am-3pm. Fireworks 9pm. MCCS hosts family fun at the beach including food trucks, carnival games vendors, more. No glass bottles, kegs, pets (except service animals), tailgating, drones, and large or charcoal grills are permitted. Small gas grills are permitted. Only small tents with open walls are allowed. Tents will not be allowed east of the blue umbrellas. Lifeguards/first aid will be available. Parking available in designated areas only. Parking attendants onsite to assist and direct. NO loading/unloading zones or tram service available. Use of wagons or similar equipment is strongly encouraged. Do not leave your belongings unattended or set up belongings in the high tide zone. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat. Swim near a lifeguard. Civilians are allowed with authorized patrons. Please check for base access requirements

### EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Dates & times subject to change. Please check venue websites/verify!

#### Saturday, June 28

Oceanside Independence Day Parade on Coast Highway 101 between Wisconsin Street and Civic Center Drive, begins 10am, Oceanside [www.mainstreetoceanside.com](http://www.mainstreetoceanside.com)

Perris Auto Speedway, June 28, Night of Destruction w/fireworks \$12-\$33

#### Thursday, July 3

Oceanside Independence Day Fireworks Show 9pm. SoCal Soccer Complex at El Corazon. Gates open at 4pm with family-friendly activities, food trucks, and live entertainment. [www.oceansiderec.com](http://www.oceansiderec.com)

Mira Mesa Independence Day Celebration. Community picnic at Hourglass Park from 4-9:30pm Food trucks. Fireworks set off from Wangenheim Middle School 9pm. [www.miramessatowncouncil.org/fourth-of-july/](http://www.miramessatowncouncil.org/fourth-of-july/) 4th of July Fireworks Celebration at SeaWorld, San Diego. 9pm Fireworks Spectacular at Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base. Gates open at 4pm. Fireworks at 9pm. Food court, vendors, music, beer garden. Adults must have state/federal issued ID to enter (drivers must show valid drivers license at gate. Vehicles may be subject to random inspections. Minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. No pets. No outside alcohol. No pedestrians, walkers or bicycles at the gate. Enter through Lexington or Orangewood Gates.

#### Friday, July 4

Big Bay Boom on San Diego Bay at 9pm. About 18 minutes of some of the most technically advanced fireworks. 4 barge locations of pyrotechnics choreographed to music broadcast on 101.5 KGB radio. Largest annual event in the western U.S. with over 500,000 people viewing the show from Point Loma to Shelter Island to Harbor Island to Liberty Station to Little Italy to the North Embarcadero to Seaport Village and the South Embarcadero to Coronado Ferry Landing. [www.bigbayboom.com](http://www.bigbayboom.com) Chula Vista 4th Fest fireworks celebration at Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center. Bring your own blankets, chairs. Food available for purchase. Gates open 7pm-Fireworks 9pm. No alcohol, smoking, drones, animals, tents, umbrellas, or skateboards allowed.

Fourth of July Fireworks at San Diego County Fair in Del Mar, 9pm. [www.sdfair.com](http://www.sdfair.com)

Coronado Fourth of July, 75th Annual Independence Day Parade on Orange Avenue at 10am bring your chairs!; patriotic concert at Spreckels Park, 4pm; and fireworks at Coronado Golf Course, 9pm. Coronado Island [www.coronadofourthofjuly.com](http://www.coronadofourthofjuly.com)

Fourth of July Fireworks at Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, Carlsbad, 9pm, view from golf course. \$ [www.parkhyattaviara.com](http://www.parkhyattaviara.com) Red, White, and Boom at Legoland California Resort in Carlsbad. Fireworks 8:30pm \$ [www.legoland.com](http://www.legoland.com)

Coronado Fourth of July – 75th Annual Independence Day Parade on Orange Avenue at 10am; patriotic concert at Spreckels Park, 4pm; and fireworks at Coronado Golf Course, 9pm. Coronado Island [www.coronadofourthofjuly.com](http://www.coronadofourthofjuly.com)

Del Mar Community Fourth of July Parade along Coast Boulevard near Powerhouse Park. [www.delmarfoundation.org](http://www.delmarfoundation.org)

Escondido's 59th Annual Independence Day Festival at Grape Day Park, 4-10pm . Live music, food trucks, vendors, games. Fireworks 9:05pm

Imperial Beach Independence Day Fireworks at Pier Plaza, 9pm.

National City Fourth of July Carnival at Kimball Park, July 1-6. Games, rides, food/drink for sale, music, contests. Jul 2&3: 5-11pm; July 4-6, 1-11pm This event has **Fireworks on JULY 5**, 9pm. South Bay's only inland fireworks display.

Old Town 4th of July, 11am-3pm, Old Town State Historic Park. No fireworks.

Old Fashioned Fourth of July at Old Poway Park, 10am-4pm. [poway.org](http://poway.org)

Poway Fourth of July Ceremony at Veterans Park, 11am. Join VFW Post 7907 and the Poway Veterans Park Committee for a ceremony to honor those who are and have selflessly served our country. [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org) Poway High School Fourth of July Celebration & Fireworks, games, activities, and a DJ. Arrive early for HS parking which is free for residents & active duty military w/ID, \$10 for non-residents. 6pm. Fireworks at 9pm. [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org) Fireworks will also be set off over Poway Sportsplex (12349 McIvers Court). It will not be open to view the fireworks.

Rancho Bernardo The Spirit of the Fourth Independence Day Celebration. Starts 9am at RB High School. 56th Annual Fair, parade, concert, fireworks [www.spiritofthefourth.org](http://www.spiritofthefourth.org)

San Diego: Fireworks Viewing aboard USS Midway 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego. \$ (Free viewing is available around the bay.)

4th of July Fireworks Celebration at SeaWorld, San Diego. 9pm

Santee Salutes Fourth of July Celebration at 550 Park Center Drive, Santee, 2-10pm. Food trucks, vendors, music, etc. Fireworks at 9pm. [www.cityofsanteeca.gov](http://www.cityofsanteeca.gov)

Scripps Ranch Old Pros Fourth of July Run and Ride at Miramar Lake. [www.srop.org](http://www.srop.org) Red, White, and Boom Celebration at Bradley Park, 6pm. San Marcos Fireworks at 9pm. [www.san-marcos.net](http://www.san-marcos.net)

Vista Independence Day Celebration, Brengle Terrace Park opens at 7 am, or Moonlight Amphitheatre, 5-10pm, Fireworks 9pm.

### SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY

San Clemente Independence Day Fireworks Show 12pm-12am 622 Avenida Del Mar, San Clemente Celebration and Carnival, live music all day at San Juan Capistrano Sports Park, Capistrano Fireworks at Doheny State Beach at 25300 Dana Point Harbor Drive, Dana Point

Fireworks Show at Ronald Reagan Sports Park, Temecula

Fireworks Spectacular at Pechanga Casino, Temecula

Fireworks at Disneyland in Anaheim (nightly) \$

Knott's Berry Farm 4th of July Celebration \$ 9:30, Buena Park



## Armed Forces Dispatch

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2024 photo by Jason Ragucci or Brian Bird Fort Liberty Garrison Public Affairs Office

### Thursday, July 3, 2025

## 4:00 p.m. Gates Open

Gates close at 8:45 p.m. or when event reaches capacity

**Fireworks Show begins approximately 9:00 p.m.**

**Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base**  
Enter through Lexington or Orangewood Gates

- Seating and shade are not provided. Bring lawn chairs, blankets & weighted canopies (max 10'x10' in size and must be taken down by dusk).
- No pedestrians, walk-ins, or bicycles at the gate.
- No pets (service dogs are allowed on post).
- Minors without an I.D. must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- All vehicles may be subject to random vehicle inspections.
- No outside alcohol permitted.

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Rising Star Sponsors

Food Court • Vendor Booths • Musical Entertainment • Beer Garden

**Free to attend • Adults must have state/federal issued I.D. to enter (drivers must show valid Driver's License at gate).**

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## CAMP PENDLETON HOSTING FESTIVITIES!

MCCS invites you to a day of family fun at the beach including food trucks, carnival games vendors and more.

# 4TH of JULY

## At Del Mar Beach

Friday, July 4

Beach hours 6am-10pm. Concessions/Vendors 10am-7pm. Family Fun Zone 10am-3pm. Fireworks 9pm!

## NAVAL BASE POINT LOMA

# FREEDOM FEST

presented by **FLOOR & DECOR**

## 2025

### Friday, July 4 • 3-9 PM

## HARBOR DRIVE ANNEX

USAA WM Budweiser

### Celebrate freedom with bayfront fireworks & fun!

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