## HII Hosts Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday at Newport News Shipbuilding



Release from HII

\*\*\*\*\*

HII Hosts Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday at Newport News Shipbuilding

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 03, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) - HII (NYSE: HII) hosted Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday for a visit to the company's Newport News Shipbuilding division on Thursday during a scheduled visit to Hampton Roads. While in Newport News, Gilday met with NNS leadership and toured the shipyard.

"We are always grateful to have Adm. Gilday spend time at the shipyard," NNS President Jennifer Boykin said. "We understand

the Navy's national security mission starts right here, in our dry docks, at our piers and on the design tools. We value each opportunity to showcase our commitment to safety, innovation and continuous improvement by the thousands of dedicated shipbuilders and suppliers who are working hard to deliver the highest-quality aircraft carriers and submarines to our Navy partner."

Photos accompanying this release are available at: <a href="https://hii.com/news/hii-hosts-chief-of-naval-operations-adm-michael-gilday-at-newport-news-shipbuilding/">https://hii.com/news/hii-hosts-chief-of-naval-operations-adm-michael-gilday-at-newport-news-shipbuilding/</a>.

During the visit, Gilday toured construction progress on *Columbia*— and *Virginia*-class submarines and received updates on the three *Gerald R. Ford*-class aircraft carriers under construction at NNS: John F. Kennedy (CVN 79), Enterprise (CVN 80) and Doris Miller (CVN 81). Additionally, he received briefings on the latest advances in the shipyard's infusion of digital technology to improve efficiencies and the investments HII is making at NNS, including the recent groundbreaking on the <u>Multi-Class Submarine Production Facility</u>.

With a workforce of 25,000 people, NNS is the largest industrial employer in Virginia. The shipyard is the nation's sole designer, builder and refueler of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and one of only two shipyards capable of designing and building nuclear- powered submarines for the U.S. Navy.

#### HII AND OCEAN AERO TO PARTNER

#### ON ADVANCED UNMANNED MARITIME CAPABILITIES



\*\*\*\*\*

HII and Ocean Aero to Partner on Advanced Unmanned Maritime Capabilities

MCLEAN, Va. and GULFPORT, Miss., March 02, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – HII (NYSE: HII) and Ocean Aero initiated a strategic agreement to advance the combined capabilities of their respective unmanned maritime platforms and autonomy software solutions. The unmanned solution providers recently commenced multiple, simultaneous efforts to enhance the operational reach and duration of the platforms, collaborative autonomy behaviors, shared sensor fusion and perception capabilities, and accelerated seabed-to-shore data transmission methods.

"We are pleased to partner with Ocean Aero to further expand the operational capabilities of the U.S. Armed Forces, partner nations and other maritime-focused commercial institutions," said Duane Fotheringham, president of the Unmanned Systems business group at HII's Mission Technologies division. "We are excited to combine the best of our individual products to deliver an exceptional suite of solutions to our customers."

Kevin Decker, Ocean Aero chief executive officer, added: "This is the perfect time for us to partner with HII. With rising maritime challenges increasing worldwide, we need new capabilities to meet them. Incorporating our two firms' autonomous vehicle value propositions will unlock new tools for our customers at home and abroad."

HII and Ocean Aero are involved in several unmanned maritime systems initiatives and exercises across the globe. Ocean Aero recently completed Digital Horizon, the U.S. Fifth Fleet Maritime Domain Awareness exercise in the Arabian Gulf, where HII's REMUS vehicles (MK18 Mod 1 and MK18 Mod 2) have been deployed continuously since 2013. The HII-Ocean Aero team is already planning to demonstrate their combined capabilities at an upcoming event in the region, in addition to other planned events and exercises for U.S. and international partners.

HII is the preeminent unmanned underwater vehicle manufacturer and a pioneer in the UUV industry, continuously producing REMUS vehicles since the early 2000s. HII manufactures a full range of REMUS UUVs, from small to extra-large, with endurance ranging from several hours to months at depths down to 6,000 meters. More than 600 REMUS UUVs have been sold across the globe, with a majority of those still in operational use today. Additionally, HII's Odyssey autonomy software solution offers scalable autonomy aligned with open architecture standards, including Unmanned Maritime Autonomy Architecture.

Ocean Aero pioneered the world's first and only environmentally powered Autonomous Underwater and Surface Vehicle, the TRITON, which collects data both above and below the ocean's surface and relays it to users from anywhere at any time. Dual modalities allow users to integrate a variety of sensor payloads and communications capabilities, expanding the ocean data collection possibilities and breaking paradigms created by manned platforms. Persistent collections and realtime data transmissions are feeding the most complex models for weather, climate and ocean health and creating transformational change in the maritime space.

#### Admiral: Navy Reserve Needs 32 C-130J Transports by 2030



MISAWA, Japan (July 12, 2021) A C-130T Hercules, assigned to the Condors of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VR) 64, recovers at Naval Air Facility (NAF) Misawa. NAF Misawa provides aviation and ground logistic support and services to all permanent and transient U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps forces in Northern Japan. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Benjamin Ringers)

WASHINGTON – The recapitalization of the Navy Air Reserve's fleet of C-130 Hercules transport aircraft with modern C-130J Super Hercules aircraft remains the top procurement priority of the Navy Reserve, the Chief of Navy Reserve said, pointing out the challenge of sustaining high mission-capable rates for the existing fleet of C-130s.

The Navy Air Reserve's C-130T and KC-130T Hercules, "are in every theater around the globe right now and they are the most responsive intra-theater lift capability of any service," said Vice Adm. John B. Mustin, speaking March 1, 2023, in an online conversation with retired Rear Adm. Frank Thorp IV, president and CEO of the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington in one of the memorial's SITREP Speaker Series events.

"And that's a Reserve-only mission," Mustin said. "There are no active-duty [fleet logistics] C-130s. Mine are on average over three decades old, which means the mission-capable rates are low [and] the pressure on the supply chain is challenging. Lockheed doesn't make them anymore because they've transitioned to C-130J/KC-130J; I'm flying [C-130T] 'Tangoes.' Every other service that flies Hercs – active and reserve – has transitioned to Juliets. I'm the only one flying Tangoes."

Five Navy Air Reserve fleet logistics squadrons operate a total of 16 C-130Ts and 11 KC-130Ts. Five other KC-130Ts are operated by the two Navy test wings to support test and evaluation activities. The KC-130Ts were transferred from the Marine Corps Reserve when its two reserve Marine aerial refueler/transport squadrons upgraded to the KC-130J, a process completed in April 2021.

"We are in the process now - and the CNO [chief of naval

operations] has identified this as a priority in his Navigation Plan — to recapitalize the Navy Reserve Herc fleet by 2030. So, I need 32 of these by 2030," he said. "But they're not cheap. So, we're pursuing the first on the Navy's Unfunded Priority List to kick-start in [fiscal 2024] the procurement of those new airplanes."

Last June, Mustin testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee's Defense subcommittee Congress that a fleet of "[m]odern KC-130Js will realize an additional \$200 million in annual transportation cost savings."

# Navy Accepts Delivery of USNS John L. Canley



Release from Naval Sea Systems Command

\*\*\*\*

March 1, 2023

By Team Ships Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO – The Navy accepted delivery of USNS John L. Canley (ESB 6), March 1.

ESB-class ships are highly flexible platforms that support various military operations such as Airborne Mine Counter Measures (AMCM), Special Operations Force (SOF) operations, Crisis Response Sea-basing (e.g., Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force), Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Unmanned Aviation Systems (UAS) operations. The ships are part of the critical access infrastructure that supports the deployment of forces. "Today's delivery highlights the strengths of the Navy and our industry partners, working together to bring ESB 6 and its range of capabilities to the fleet," said Tim Roberts, Strategic and Theater Sealift program manager, Program Executive Office, Ships. "Sergeant Major Canley nobly served his country, and his namesake ship will help provide the warfighter with capability and access."

The ESB ship class has a flight deck with four aviation operating spots capable of supporting MH-53E helicopters; accommodations; workspaces; and ordnance storage for embarked forces, enhanced command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence. These ships also feature a reconfigurable mission deck area to store equipment, including mine sleds and Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats.

Construction of the future USS Robert E. Simanek (ESB 7) is ongoing at General Dynamics NASSCO shipyard in San Diego.

As one of the Defense Department's largest acquisition organizations, Program Executive Office, Ships is responsible for executing the development and procurement of all destroyers, amphibious ships, special mission and support ships, and boats and craft.

### International Maritime Exercise 2023 Kicks Off Operational Phase



Release from U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs

\*\*\*\*

02 March 2023

From U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs

MANAMA, Bahrain – The Middle East region's largest maritime exercise, International Maritime Exercise (IMX) 2023, kicked off its operational phase March 2 during an opening ceremony at U.S. 5th Fleet's headquarters in Bahrain.

The ceremony capped a week of academic discussions covering a series of topics including the naval planning process, maritime operations center procedures, and disaster response coordination.

IMX 2023 is an 18-day naval training event hosted by U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (NAVCENT). This year's iteration

is combined with exercise Cutlass Express, which is led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa.

The combined exercises include 7,000 personnel, 35 ships, and 30 unmanned and artificial intelligence systems from more than 50 nations and international organizations.

IMX and Cutlass Express are designed to demonstrate global resolve in preserving the rules-based international order, offering a unique opportunity for participants to collaborate and showcase regional maritime security cooperation.

"The incredible level of international representation is truly remarkable," said Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, commander of NAVCENT, U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces. "Maritime forces are always at our best when we work and lead together."

Cooper is the IMX 2023 exercise commander. Senior officers from United Arab Emirates and France are serving as the deputy commander and vice commander, respectively. Additionally, IMX's chief of staff is from Pakistan and the maritime operations center director is from Egypt.

International naval forces participating in the exercise are divided into five operational task forces led by Bahrain, Jordan, Kenya, Saudi Arabia and the United States. Training evolutions will span across the Arabian Gulf, Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, Red Sea, Indian Ocean and East African coastal regions.

The operational phase will include partner exchanges on mine countermeasures; visit, board, search and seizure; unmanned systems and artificial intelligence integration; explosive ordnance disposal; vessel defense; search and rescue; and mass casualty response, among other focus areas.

This is the eighth iteration of IMX since its establishment in 2012.

IMX and Cutlass Express are scheduled to conclude March 16 and 17, respectively. A full list of nations and international organizations participating is available at: <a href="https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/IMX23">https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/IMX23</a>.

#### U.S. Forces Assist UK Seizure of Missiles Shipped from Iran



Photo By <u>Sgt. Brandon Murphy</u> | U.S. 5TH FLEET AREA OF OPERATIONS (Feb. 26, 2023) Anti-tank guided missiles and medium-range ballistic missile components seized by the United Kingdom Royal Navy sit pierside during inventory at a military facility in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations, Feb. 26, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Brandon Murphy) Release from U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs MANAMA, Bahrain – U.S. forces provided airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance support for an interdiction in the Gulf of Oman conducted by the United Kingdom Royal Navy, Feb. 23, that resulted in the discovery of an illegal weapons shipment from Iran.

Coordinated efforts among U.S. and UK maritime forces led to Royal Navy frigate HMS Lancaster (F229) confiscating anti-tank guided missiles and missile components from a small boat that originated from Iran. UK forces discovered packages that included Iranian versions of Russian 9M133 Kornet anti-tank guided missiles, known in Iran as "Dehlavieh," and mediumrange ballistic missile components.

"This is the seventh illegal weapon or drug interdiction in the last three months and yet another example of Iran's increasing malign maritime activity across the region," said Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces. "We will continue to work with our partners in pursuing any destabilizing activity that threatens regional maritime security and stability."

The interdiction occurred along a route historically used to traffic weapons unlawfully to Yemen. The direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of weapons to the Houthis in Yemen violates U.N. Security Council Resolution 2216 and international law.

U.S. and UK naval forces regularly conduct combined maritime security operations to disrupt the flow of illicit cargo in Middle East waters. Last year, U.S. Navy guided-missile destroyer USS Gridley (DDG 101), Royal Navy frigate HMS Montrose (F236) and combined air assets led to Royal Navy forces seizing surface-to-air missiles and land-attack cruisemissile engines. In the past three months, seven major interdictions have resulted in U.S. and partner maritime forces seizing more than 5,000 weapons, 1.6 million rounds of ammunition, 7,000 proximity fuses for rockets, 2,100 kilograms of propellant used to launch rocket propelled grenades, 30 anti-tank guided missiles, medium-range ballistic missile components and \$80 million worth of illegal drugs.

U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and United Kingdom Maritime Component Command are headquartered in Manama, Bahrain.

# U.S. Navy Ship Supports UAE Pilot Training in Arabian Gulf



ARABIAN GULF (Feb. 23, 2023) A United Arab Emirates Armed Forces Bell 407 conducts deck landing qualifications aboard expeditionary sea base USS Lewis B. Puller (ESB 3) in the Arabian Gulf, Feb. 23, 2023. Puller is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to help ensure maritime security and stability in the Middle East region. (Photo by Lt. Cmdr. Jason Clark)

<u>Release from U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs</u>

\*\*\*\*

U.S. Navy Ship Supports UAE Pilot Training in Arabian Gulf

By U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs | February 28, 2023

MANAMA, Bahrain —

A U.S. Navy ship served as a training platform for helicopter pilots from the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces, Feb.

22-24.

Emirati pilots conducted deck landing qualifications aboard U.S. Navy expeditionary sea base USS Lewis B. Puller (ESB 3) as the ship operated in the Arabian Gulf, enhancing interoperability among regional maritime partners.

"The pilots and aircrew integrated seamlessly with the deck crew of Lewis B. Puller," said Capt. Jon Bradford, commanding officer of Lewis B. Puller. "It was a great experience for my team and we look forward to working with our Emirati partners in the future."

The deck landing qualifications helped 25 Emirati military pilots maintain proficiency in landing on the flight deck of a ship at sea.

During the three-day training opportunity, UH-60M Black Hawk, Bell 407, AS332 Super Puma, and AH-64D Apache helicopters conducted 158 landings. Emirati personnel also practiced repelling from a fast-rope on Lewis B. Puller's flight deck.

Lewis B. Puller is forward-deployed to U.S. 5th Fleet and is capable of supporting a wide variety of missions including counter-piracy, maritime security, disaster relief and crisis response operations.

The U.S. 5th Fleet operating area includes 21 countries, the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea, parts of the Indian Ocean and three critical choke points at the Strait of Hormuz, Bab al-Mandeb and Suez Canal.

## Navy delivers first pilot trainer to deployed carrier airborne early warning squadron



The Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205) recently delivered the first Aircrew Procedures Trainer (APT) device to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 125 at Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Iwakuni, Japan. Pictured is a cockpit view of an APT device. (U.S. Navy Photo)

Release from Naval Air Systems Command

\*\*\*\*\*

Navy delivers first pilot trainer to deployed carrier airborne early warning squadron

Published: Feb 28, 2023

NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, PATUXENT RIVER, Md. -

The Naval Aviation Training Systems and Ranges program office (PMA-205) recently delivered the first Aircrew Procedures Trainer (APT) device to Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 125 at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Iwakuni, Japan.

This delivery is the first pilot trainer that will be embedded with a forward deployed unit within the VAW community, completing the Navy's planned platform training system deliveries for deployed aircrew.

"The delivery of this training device to VAW-125 will revolutionize the way Navy forward-deployed forces train and enable them to win the high-end fight," said Capt. Kevin McGee, PMA-205 program manager. "The team put in significant effort to deliver this capability and ensure our forwarddeployed forces are well equipped to maintain and improve their skills, even when deployed."

The APT device provides deployed pilots realistic, highfidelity simulator training in basic flight operations, navigation, emergency procedures, crew resource management, tactics, instrument procedures, carrier familiarization, and other capabilities. Training time in the simulator minimizes risk by providing a safe environment in which pilots can both practice for muscle memory and learn new skills that can be applied in an operational environment.

The program office originally procured a trainer for Norfolk, Virginia. One month after contract award, Airborne Command and Control and Logistics Wing signed and approved a requirement for a new device to be delivered to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Recognizing the urgent need, the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division team, along with industry partners, developed a creative solution to quickly meet both this new requirement and the current needs of the Fleet. Within two months of the announcement, the PMA-205 E-2 training systems team negotiated the new delivery location.

"As with many contracting actions, there were complications and challenges that had to be overcome for this device to be delivered, but with strong partnerships among all stakeholders this new high-fidelity trainer will help maintain the highest standards of readiness to meet Carrier Air Wing goals," said Dave Adams, PMA-205 E-2 training systems team lead.

About PMA-205

PMA-205 provides full life-cycle acquisition of naval aviation training platforms, general training systems, training range instrumentation systems, and distributed mission training centers to provide U.S. Navy and Marine Corps pilots, naval flight officers, aircrew, and maintainers with the training equipment required to provide lethal capability and operational readiness.

## SECNAV Renames Ticonderogaclass Guided Missile Cruiser USS Chancellorsville after Robert Smalls



PHILIPPINE SEA (Oct. 30, 2022) The Ticonderoga-class guidedmissile cruiser USS Chancellorsville (CG 62) sails alongside Royal Canadian Navy ships HMCS Vancouver (FFH 331) and HMCS Winnipeg (FFH 338) in the Philippine Sea. Chancellorsville is forward-deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet in support of security and stability in the Indo-Pacific and is assigned to Commander, Task Force 70, a combat-ready force that protects and defends the collective maritime interest of its allies and partners in the region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Justin Stack)

Release from the Secretary of the Navy Public Affairs

\*\*\*\*

27 February 2023

WASHINGTON —Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Carlos Del Toro announced today that the Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser formerly named USS Chancellorsville (CG 62) will be renamed USS Robert Smalls (CG 62).

This renaming honors Robert Smalls, a skilled sailor and

statesman born into slavery in South Carolina.

The decision arrived after a congressionally mandated Naming Commission outlined several military assets across all branches of service that required renaming due to confederate ties. In September 2022, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin accepted all recommendations from the naming commission and gave each service until the end of 2023 to rename their assets.

"I am proud to rename CG 62 after Robert Smalls. He was an extraordinary American and I had the pleasure of learning more about him last year when I visited his home in South Carolina," said Del Toro. "The renaming of these assets is not about rewriting history, but to remove the focus on the parts of our history that don't align with the tenets of this country, and instead allows us to highlight the events and people in history who may have been overlooked. Robert Smalls is a man who deserves a namesake ship and with this renaming, his story will continue to be retold and highlighted."

Robert Smalls (1839-1915) was born into slavery in South Carolina. He became a skilled sailor and was an expert navigator of southern coasts. Smalls was conscripted in 1862 to serve as pilot of the Confederate steamer Planter at Charleston. On 13 May 1862, he executed a daring escape out of the heavily fortified Charleston harbor with his family, other enslaved people, and valuable military cargo onboard, and successfully surrendered *Planter* to the U.S. Navy. Smalls continued as pilot of the ship, but also piloted ironclad Keokuk and other vessels. He ultimately became captain of *Planter*. An ardent advocate for African Americans, Smalls led one of the first boycotts of segregated public transportation in 1864. This movement led to the city of Philadelphia integrating streetcars in 1867. After the Civil War, Smalls was appointed a brigadier general of the South Carolina militia, and from 1868 to 1874 he served in the South Carolina legislature. In 1874, he was elected to the U.S.

House of Representatives and served for five terms, advocating for greater integration. After his time in Congress, Smalls was twice appointed collector of the Port of Beaufort, South Carolina. He died at Beaufort in 1915.

The logistical aspects associated with renaming the ship will begin henceforth and will continue until completion with minimal impact on operations and the crew. CG-62 was commissioned in 1989 and named USS Chancellorsville (CG 62) to honor the Battle of Chancellorsville, a Confederate victory during the Civil War. CG-62 is currently assigned to Carrier Strike Group Five and is forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

## BAE Systems to provide Maritime Indirect Fires System for UK Royal Navy



#### Release from BAE Systems

#### \*\*\*\*

New automated Ammunition Handling System combined with Mk 45 gun to give UK Royal Navy critical advantage at sea

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – Feb. 28, 2023 – BAE Systems, Inc. has received a \$219 million (GBP181 million) contract to equip the Royal Navy's Type 26 frigates with five Mk 45 Maritime Indirect Fire Systems (MIFS). The system combines the 5-inch, 62-caliber Mk 45 Mod 4A naval gun system with a fully automated Ammunition Handling System (AHS).

"We have innovated and customized the Mk 45 system to provide a critical and reliable fully automatic ammunition handling solution that revolutionizes medium and large caliber naval gunnery," said Brent Butcher, vice president of the weapon systems product line at BAE Systems, Inc. "The customized, lightweight and compact Mk 45 gun system with AHS provides our customers commonality with the U.S. Navy, a highly-reliable system with security of lifecycle support, and access to future technology upgrades. We look forward to continuing to build these critical partnerships and delivering the MIFS system to our U.K. customer."

The Type 26 frigates, the first of which is due to be delivered to the Royal Navy in the mid-2020s, will be one of the world's most advanced classes of warships, with the primary purpose of anti-submarine warfare. In addition to its range of advanced weapons and sensors, it will also be capable of countering piracy, delivering humanitarian aid and disaster relief. As part of the ships' world-class capabilities, this innovative, automated naval gun solution will help the Royal Navy increase crew productivity, reduce sailor safety hazards, and improve the operational capability of these advanced warships as they deliver protection to the Royal Navy's Continuous At Sea Deterrent and Carrier Strike Group. Engineering and program support for the new contract will be performed at BAE Systems' Minneapolis and Louisville, Kentucky production facilities. BAE Systems shipped the main equipment for the first MIFS system at the end of 2022 with installation to follow in 2023.