

USS John S. McCain Returns to Warfighting Readiness



The Arleigh Burke-class destroyer USS John S. McCain, at sea again after completing repairs and upgrades following an August 2017 collision with a tanker that killed several crew members and injured others. U.S. Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Sarah Villegas

YOKOSUKA, Japan – The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS John S. McCain completed its necessary repairs and is underway to conduct comprehensive at-sea testing, according to a U.S. Pacific Fleet release.

The ship underwent repairs and extensive and accelerated upgrades over the last two years following an August 2017 collision with a tanker ship off the coast of Singapore that left 10 of the McCain's crew dead and another five injured.

During the at-sea testing, the ship and her crew will perform a series of demonstrations to evaluate the ship's onboard systems. Among the systems that will be tested are navigation, damage control, mechanical and electrical systems, combat systems, communications and propulsion application.

USS John S. McCain, assigned to Destroyer Squadron 15 (DS 15) and forward-deployed to Yokosuka, completed her in-port phase of training and will continue at-sea training in the upcoming months to certify in every mission area the ship is required to perform and prepare for return to normal operations.

"The USS John S. McCain embodies the absolute fighting spirit

of her namesakes and shows the resiliency of our Sailors. She has completed her maintenance period with the most up-to-date multimission offensive and defensive capabilities, preparing her to successfully execute a multitude of high-end operations," said Capt. Steven DeMoss, commander of DS 15.

"This whole crew is eager to get back to sea, and that's evident in the efforts they've made over the last two years to bring the ship back to fighting shape and the energy they've put into preparing themselves for the rigors of at-sea operations," said Cmdr. Ryan T. Easterday, USS John S. McCain's commanding officer.