

Deploying to MidEast - Gives Bush Historic 4-Carrier Arsenal to Confront Syrian Iranian Terror War

Contributed by Administrator
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Big-E joins the USS Stennis and the USS Nimitz carriers, building up the largest sea, air, marine concentration the United States has ever deployed opposite Iran & Syria.

More than 6,000 sailors are headed to the Mediterranean. Saturday, the USS Enterprise deployed from Naval Station Norfolk as thousands of family members waved goodbye to their sailors.

The regular scheduled deployment comes just 8 months after the carrier returned from deployment in November.

It's one of seven ships a part of the enterprise carrier strike group. The ship will be performing maritime security operations and humanitarian operations if necessary.

The Rear Admiral of the Enterprise Strike Group, Daniel Holloway says, "We will be working with the 6th and 5th fleet commander and as you know with the war on terrorism will rely on this air wing to provide support to the troops when called upon."

The four guided missile destroyers a part of the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group will leave Monday. They include the Arleigh Burke, Stout, James E. Williams, and Forrest Sherman.

The guided missile cruiser, Gettysburg will leave Mayport, FL on Monday as well. At the end July the nuclear powered sub, Philadelphia out of Groton, CT will join the Strike Group. WTKR Hampton Roads.

Fact File:

The USS Enterprise CVN 65-Big E Strike Group, the US Navy's largest air carrier, will join the USS Stennis and the USS Nimitz carriers, building up the largest sea, air, marine concentration the United States has ever deployed opposite Iran. This goes towards making good on the assurances of four carriers US Vice President Dick Cheney offered the Gulf and Middle East nations during his May tour of the region.

The "Big E" leads a strike group consisting of the guided-missile destroyers USS Arleigh Burke DDG 51, USS Stout DDG 55, Forrest Sherman DDG 98 and USS James E. Williams DDG 95, as well as the guided missile cruiser USS Gettysburg CG 64, the SS Philadelphia SSN 690 nuclear submarine and the USNS Supply T-AOE 6>

On its decks are the Carrier Air Wing CVW 1, whose pilots fought combat missions in the Gulf and Arabian Sea during 2006. The Air Wing is made up of F/A-18E/F Super Hornet Strike Fighter/Attack Aircraft, the Sidewinders Strike Fighter Squadron VFA-86, the 251st Marine Fighter Attack Squadron MFA, and the Electronic Attack Squadron VAQ 137.

The 32nd Sea Control Squadron VS consists of S-3B Vikings. The Airborne Early Warning Squadron VAQ 3 flies E-2C Hawkeye craft. The Fleet Logistics Support Squadron VRC is based on C-2A Greyhounds.

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3 Carriers - the USS Nimitz, the USS Stennis and the USS Bonhomme Richard LHD 6 Group, the world's biggest amphibious strike force are currently deployed in the Persian Gulf Region.

From the US Navy

Big E" Deploys
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By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class James H. Green, USS Enterprise Public Affairs

ABOARD USS ENTERPRISE, At sea (NNS) -- The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 1 departed Naval Station Norfolk for a regularly scheduled deployment July 7 in support of the global war on terrorism.

This is Enterprise's second deployment within the past 14 months. Big E returned from its most recent deployment Nov. 18.

Enterprise is the flagship for Carrier Strike Group 12, which include the guided-missile destroyers USS Forrest Sherman (DDG 98), USS James E. Williams (DDG 95), USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) and USS Stout (DDG 55); the guided-missile cruiser USS Gettysburg (CG 64); and the fast-attack submarine USS Philadelphia (SSN 690) all based in Norfolk, and also the fast combat support ship USNS Supply (T-AOE 6) based in Earle, N.J. There are nearly 7,500 Sailors and Marines in the strike group.

Months after their November homecoming, Big E Sailors kept busy with a rigorous training schedule which included numerous carrier qualifications as well as a Board and Inspection Survey in April. Enterprise also hosted Commander, Fleet Forces change of command ceremony as well as its own change of command ceremony May 18.

"This has been a very eventful year so far for our crew," said Capt. Ron Horton, Enterprise commanding officer. "Big E Sailors have been focused on maintaining combat readiness since the ship returned in November. In between all the training however, we were able to spend some valuable time at home with our families and friends. Now it's time to answer our nation's call again. There is no doubt in my mind that this crew will perform with honor, courage and commitment as it did last year. I'm very proud to be serving with this crew, at this time, to represent this country."

In addition to being the flagship of the strike group, Enterprise is also home to CVW 1. The air wing is comprised of the "Checkmates" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 211 flying the F/A-18 Super Hornet and the "Knighthawks" of VFA-136; the "Sidewinders" of VFA-86; the "Thunderbolts" of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 251 all flying the F/A-18 Hornet. Also joining CVW 1 are the "Dragonslayers" of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 11 flying the SH-60 Seahawk; the "Rooks" of Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 137 flying the EA-6B Prowler; the "Screwtops" of VAW-123 flying the E-2C Hawkeye; the "Maulers" of Sea Control Squadron (VS) 32 flying the S-3B Viking; and the "Rawhides" of Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 40 flying the C-2A Greyhound.

{youtube}2cXS4bz3Qz4{/youtube}

The US Navy provides the West 4 Carriers at its disposal to send a strong and clear message to Iran and Syria.

The Conflict in the Middle East has by far passed the point of extremist terrorist attacks upon the Cedars Revolution. Over 180 killed in a War of Assassinations and a War of Intimidations (Rafik Hariri and 22 others, Samir Kassir, George Hawi, Gibran Tueni, Pierre Gemayel, Walid Eido, Over 76 LAF fighters). The United Nations and the United Kingdom, Russia, France, the EU, the US, and the Western deployed nations of the UNIFIL continue to support the Freedom of Lebanon.

The International community must deliver a clear and strong message to Iran and Syria - a message that once delivered conveys - an enormous disincentive to continue the destabilization of the Cedars Revolution in Lebanon. The US Naval Coalition force gives the West that Power. There is a limit to the patience of the West.

There is a limit to the Extremist Terror that Iran and Syria is Imposing on the Cedars Revolution, against all UN Resolutions (1559/1701/1680), on Lebanon's Freedom, on the Iraqi War of Freedom, on the Palestinian fight for a 2-state solution. This war that Syria and Iran has imposed on all freedom seekers in the Middle East MUST COME TO A FACEOFF.