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AMERICA Visits the Americas

The ship's maiden transit, "AMERICA Visits the Americas," encompassed USS AMERICA's journey from Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Mississippi, to its homeport of San Diego. The ship's crew consisted of roughly 1,100 Sailors, plus 300 Marines from Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) South. During the transit, the crew visited Cartagena, Colombia; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Valparaiso, Chile; and Callao, Peru.

AMERICA also hosted distinguished visitors from Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and El Salvador. As the ship transited the southernmost point of South America, through the Strait of Magellan, the Secretary of the Navy embarked AMERICA and held an all-hands call in the ship's hangar deck. Throughout the transit, the USS AMERICA's military and civilian crew had the opportunity to experience each host nation and serve as goodwill ambassadors through community relations projects and sporting events. The transit focused on building partnerships through theater security cooperation engagements and several bilateral/multilateral exchanges.



Table of Contents

USS AMERICA Legacy	3
USS AMERICA Crest	8
USS AMERICA at a Glance	9
Ship's Sponsor	10
Leadership	11
Sailor Gallery	15
Expeditionary Strike Group 3	15
Tactical Air Control Squadron 11	18
Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department	19
Air Department	26
Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Collaboration, and Intelligence	35
Combat Cargo	42
Command Religious Ministries Department	44
Deck Department	45
Dental Department	51
Engineering Department	52
Executive Department	64
Legal Department	67
Media Department	68
Medical Department	70
Navigation Department	72
Operations Department	74
Safety Department	82
Supply Department	84
Weapons Department	93
Security	99
Morale, Welfare, and Recreation	101
Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 21	102
Marine Operational and Test Evaluation Squadron (VMX 22)	104
Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force South	106
The Voyage: AMERICA Visits the Americas	109
Cartagena, Colombia	110
Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	116
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	118
Strait of Magellan	124
Valparaiso, Chile	126
Callao, Peru	132
Homecoming	138
San Francisco, California – Fleet Week	140
Commissioning Ceremony	148
Tiger Cruise	152
Book Sponsors	154

USS AMERICA Legacy

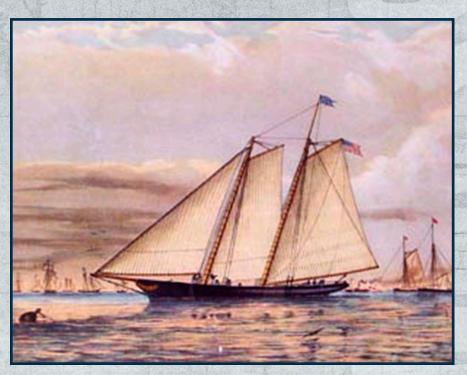
Named for the Country She was Built to Protect

There is a prevalent belief that the name America, above all others, should always be represented on a U.S. Navy ship. From the American Revolution through the first Gulf War, four ships have sailed with the name USS AMERICA.

The original AMERICA was completed in 1782. In November 1776, the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a 74-gun ship of the line to be named AMERICA. This specific class of warship was the state-of-the-art naval weapon of the late eighteenth century, and one of the most complex engineering constructions of its day. AMERICA was also the biggest ship built in North America at the time. She was constructed in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, overseen and launched by Capt. John Paul Jones. However, even before completion AMERICA fell victim to politics, and was given to France, America's ally, in a grand gesture. Although popularly believed to be the first USS AMERICA, she was never commissioned as a U.S. Naval Ship.

The First USS AMERICA

The first USS AMERICA was originally built as a schooner-rigged yacht in New York City and launched on 3 May 1851. The yacht was constructed for a syndicate headed by John Cox Stevens, the commodore of the New York Yacht Club, and included other prominent sportsmen who wished to win recognition for American shipbuilding and sailing skills. She established her fame when she won the "America's Cup" from the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes, England, on 22 August 1851, a triumph personally witnessed by Queen Victoria. Subsequently renamed Camilla, she



was acquired by the Confederate government for service as a blockade runner and dispatch boat and arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, in April 1861. Renamed *Memphis*, but apparently never employed in her intended role, the schooner was scuttled to prevent her use by the Federal Navy. Raised and reconditioned, she was recommissioned under her former name, AMERICA, and served with the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, taking part in two captures of Confederate supply ships. Withdrawn from blockading service in 1863, she served as a training ship, first at Newport, Rhode Island, then at Annapolis, Maryland. Among her commanding officers during the ensuing decade was Lt. Cmdr. George Dewey, future victor of Manila Bay. Sold to private ownership in 1873, AMERICA was ultimately returned to the Navy in 1921. Classified as a naval relic (IX 41) in 1941, AMERICA suffered irreparable damage in 1942 and was scrapped in 1945.

The Second USS AMERICA



The second USS AMERICA was launched in 1905 and started her life as SS Amerika, a German passenger liner. She sailed primarily between Hamburg and New York until the onset of World War I. She was eventually seized by the United States in Boston, and later transferred to the U.S. Navy to be commissioned as USS AMERICA (Id. No. 3006), a troop transport. She conducted nine round-trip voyages during World War I and an additional eight after the Armistice, transporting nearly 90,000 American troops to and from Europe. Transferred to the War Department in 1919, AMERICA served as a U.S. Army Transport until 1920. Reconditioned to return to service as a passenger liner, the ship operated in that capacity until 1932. Taken from the reserve fleet, AMERICA was renamed EDMUND B. ALEXANDER in 1940, and served again, first as a stationary barracks ship and then as a transport, until 1949. She was scrapped in 1957.

The Third USS AMERICA (CV 66)



The keel for the third USS AMERICA, a Kitty Hawk-class attack aircraft carrier, was laid on 9 January 1961 at Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Newport News, Virginia. She was named AMERICA, the third Navy ship so honored, on 10 January 1962. Christened by Catherine McDonald, wife of former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Admiral David McDonald, the ship was launched on 1 February 1964. Eleven months later, on 23 January 1965, she was commissioned USS AMERICA (CV 66).

AMERICA made her first deployment in November 1965 to the Mediterranean, and her second in January 1967, also to the Mediterranean. In April 1968, she sailed eastward, bound for Vietnam. She arrived on station 30 May 1968 via the Cape of Good Hope; at 0630 hours the following day, the first aircraft launched against an enemy left her decks. AMERICA also distinguished herself in action off the coasts of Libya, Iraq, Haiti, and Bosnia.

On 9 August 1996, after many years of faithful and dedicated service to her nation, a decommissioning ceremony was held for AMERICA. Her last official deck log entry occurred on 30 September 1996, putting an end to her active service. In 2005, however, after many years of inactive service, she was used as a live-fire and evaluation platform. Ultimately, she was sunk in a controlled scuttle on 14 May 2005 off the North Carolina coast. USS AMERICA (CV 66) received eight battle stars for service during the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars.

USS AMERICA (LHA 6)

The USS AMERICA (LHA 6) is the first ship of its class, replacing the Tarawa class of amphibious assault ships. As the next generation "big-deck" amphibious ship, LHA 6 is optimized for aviation support of U.S. Marine-based amphibious operations, capable of supporting current and future aircraft such as the tilt-rotor MV-22 Osprey and Joint Strike Fighter. USS AMERICA uses a gas turbine propulsion plant, zonal electrical distribution system, and electric auxiliary system. This unique auxiliary propulsion system is designed for fuel efficiency.



LHA 6 provides a flexible, multi-mission platform with capabilities that span the range of military operations—from forward-deployed crisis response to forcible entry operations. The ship also provides forward presence and power projection as an integral part of joint, interagency, and multinational maritime expeditionary forces. The AMERICA is designed to operate for sustained periods in transit to, and operations in, an amphibious objective area, including embarking, transporting, controlling, inserting, sustaining, and extracting elements of a Marine air-ground task force, and supporting forces by helicopters, MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, and eventually the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter.



USS AMERICA Crest



SHIELD: Dark blue and gold are the colors traditionally associated with the Navy, representing the sea and excellence. Red conveys patriotism. The red chevron edged in yellow further symbolizes the Marine Corps enlisted-rank insignia and signifies the loyalty, dedication, and fighting spirit the Marines bring in support of USS AMERICA's amphibious mission. The five stars represent the battle stars earned by USS AMERICA (CVA 66) during the Vietnam War. The hand and torch, adapted from the Statue of Liberty, symbolize enlightenment and America's role as the "Beacon of Liberty." The gold cantons indicate achievement and honor USS AMERICA's rich naval heritage. On the left, the coiled snake is reminiscent of the Gadsden flag, the first flag carried into battle by the Continental Marine Corps; on the right, the trident denotes sea power and symbolizes the three previous warships named AMERICA.

CREST: The eagle with red, white, and blue shield reflects the Coat of Arms of the United States of America, with its wings elevated to signify the aviation capability and heritage of USS AMERICA. The eagle further symbolizes the image of the Navy

enlisted-rank insignia and represents their service to USS AMERICA with honor, courage, and commitment. The olive branch and arrows symbolize USS AMERICA's readiness to conduct either wartime or peacetime operations. The six arrows indicate USS AMERICA's hull number, first in the America class.

SUPPORTERS: The crossed Navy officer sword and Marine Corps officer mameluke represent leadership and attest to the unity and teamwork between the two Sea Services, the foundation for success of USS AMERICA's amphibious warfare missions.

MOTTO: The phrase "BELLO VEL PACE PARATUS" (Prepared in War or in Peace) is derived from the Second Committee's recommendation for a motto for the Great Seal of the United States in 1780.

SEAL: The coat of arms as blazoned in full color on a white oval surmounting a red oval edged in white, superimposed by a white oval voided and bearing 50 dark blue stars representing the Military Service Flag, in tribute to the unwavering support and sacrifice of military families across the nation. The top star is gold, edged with a thin blue border in honor of those who have sacrificed all in defense of America's freedom, all within a dark blue designation band, edged with a gold roped border and bearing the name USS AMERICA at top and LHA 6 at base, in gold letters.

USS AMERICA at a Glance

Crew: 65 officers, 994 enlisted

Embarked: 1,687 Marines (plus 184 surge)

Displacement: Approximately 45,000 long tons full load

Length: 844 ft.

Beam at Waterline: 106 ft. **Beam at Flight Deck:** 118 ft.

Mean Draft at Projected Full Load: 28 ft.

Fuel: 1,300,000 gallons Land/Launch Spots: 9 Aircraft Elevators: 2

Maintenance: Organizational and Intermediate

Operating Rooms: 2

Bed-ICU: 3

Bed Ward and Bed Surge Capability: 23 Rolling Airframe Missile Launchers: 2 Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile Launchers: 2

20 mm Phalanx Close-in Weapons Systems (CIWS) Mounts: 2

.50 BMG Machine Guns: 2

AMERICA uses two modes of propulsion: the General Electric LM2500 + Gas Turbine engine (two shafts, 70,000 total brake hp), and the 5,000 hp Auxiliary Propulsion Motor (APM). The gas turbines can be used at all speeds to drive the ship in excess of 20 knots, but is least fuel efficient at speeds of 12 knots or less. The APM allows travel at speeds up to 12 knots using electrical power provided by the ship, which results in significant fuel savings.





LYNNE PACE SHIP'S SPONSOR

The former Lynne Ann Holden was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and later moved to Ellicott City, Maryland. Lynne met her future husband while he was a midshipman at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. After a tour in Vietnam, and an assignment at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., then-Captain Peter Pace and Lynne were married in Annapolis on April 24, 1971.

Lynne's service to the country as a Marine Corps spouse spans more than 40 years and two dozen household moves. Lynne has visited all over the world, including living in South Korea and Japan. At each duty station, she worked with a number of organizations designed to support service members and their families.

Lynne remains involved in volunteer work focused on improving the quality of life of military families. Lynne is on the Board of Trustees for the Fisher House Foundation, and is an honorary board member of the Semper Fi Fund. She is also an honorary board member for USO of Metropolitan Washington-Baltimore, which provides USO services to nearly 450,000 service members living in or traveling through Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Northern Virginia.

Lynne is on the board of the Sentinels of Freedom Foundation, an organization dedicated to providing life-changing opportunities for severely wounded service personnel. She is also on the advisory board for Our Military Kids, an organization that supports children of deployed Guard and Reserve personnel with tutoring and enrichment activities.

Lynne has visited military medical centers in the United States and in host nation medical facilities and orphanages abroad. She is a frequent visitor to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, where she visits with injured service members and their families.

For her continued dedication and support to military families everywhere, Lynne has received numerous awards, including the Department of Defense Public Service Award and the Marine Corps League's Dickey Chapelle Award. She has also been recognized by the American Red Cross during its Annual Women's Leadership Summit for her commitment to our nation and its citizens.

The Paces have a son, Peter, a daughter, Tiffany Marie, a daughter-in-law, Lynsey Olczak Pace, and three grandchildren, Linden, Hadley, and Holden Pace.

CAPT ROBERT A. HALL

COMMANDING OFFICER

A native of Billerica, Massachusetts, Captain Hall graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in marine transportation and a U.S. Coast Guard Unlimited Third Mate's License. As a merchant mariner, he shipped out commercially on a variety of vessels, including voyages in the Gulf of Mexico, North Sea, Arabian Gulf, and Indian Ocean. Captain Hall received his naval commissioning from Officer Candidate School in 1989.

Afloat, Captain Hall most recently served as commanding officer of USS PORTER (DDG 78) from December 2006 to June 2008. During his command, PORTER earned the prestigious Battle "E" award for exceptional battle readiness and completed a highly successful forward deployment to the Central Command (CENTCOM) Theater of Operation, conducting anti-piracy operations off the Horn of



Africa. Previous sea duties include executive officer of USS NICHOLAS (FFG 47) from December 2001 to May 2003; pre-commissioning chief engineer on board USS DONALD COOK (DDG 75) from November 1997 to February 2000; and chief engineer on board USS PETERSON (DD 969) from October 1995 to August 1997. Captain Hall began his Navy career as the damage control assistant and auxiliaries officer on board USS JOHN HANCOCK (DD 981) from October 1989 to December 1992.

Ashore, he last served as the executive assistant (EA) to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Global Force Management, Joint Operations, Plans, Policy and Training (N3N5N7) at U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFFC). Other shore tours include Lead Maritime Homeland Defense planner at USFFC; National Military Command Center (NMCC) Systems Operations Branch Chief in the Operations Directorate (J-3) on the Joint Staff; and naval weapons program analyst on the OPNAV Staff in Washington, D.C. Captain Hall has a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and a master's degree in national resource strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C.

Captain Hall is currently the commanding officer of USS AMERICA (LHA 6). His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), and various unit citations.



CAPT MICHAEL W. BAZE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Captain Baze, a San Antonio native, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Rice University. He commissioned through Aviation Officer Candidate School in 1990 and was designated a Naval Aviator in 1992.

While at HSL 45 in San Diego, California, from June 1992 to 1996, he deployed twice to the Arabian Gulf aboard USS ANTIETAM (CG 54) and USS HARRY W. HILL (DD 986). His first shore tour was at HSL 41 in San Diego from July 1996 to March 1998 as a flight instructor, and squadron operations and administrative officer. He served again with HSL 41 from September 2001 to June 2002.

He served as the Aide to the President, Board of Inspection and Survey in Norfolk from April 1998 to August 1999. He then earned a Master of Science in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, from 1999 to 2001, and also served as an Associate Fellow on the CNO's Strategic Studies Group in Newport, Rhode Island.

Captain Baze served at HSL 47 in San Diego from June 2002 to October 2004 as the Safety and Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization Officer, DET FIVE Officer in Charge on USS PRINCETON (CG 59), and the squadron maintenance officer.

From January 2005 to November 2006, he served on the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C., as an action officer in the J-3 Joint Operations Division, and then as Aide to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

During his tour as executive and commanding officer of HSL 45 in San Diego from August 2007 to February 2010, HSL 45 was awarded the Battle "E" twice, the Golden Wrench Award for Maintenance Excellence, and the Commander, Pacific Fleet Retention Excellence Award for three consecutive years.

From March 2010 to February 2012, Captain Baze served as the Deputy Director for Aviation Distribution and Head Air Combat Placement Officer at Naval Personnel Command in Millington, Tennessee.

Captain Baze currently serves as the USS AMERICA (LHA 6) executive officer, and is authorized to wear the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), and multiple joint, unit, and campaign awards.

CMDCM CHAD L. LUNSFORD

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

Command Master Chief (SW/AW/FMF) Chad Lunsford enlisted in the Navy in April 1992. After completing basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, he attended Fire Controlman (FC) A and C schools.

The Bloomington, California, native reported to his first command, USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47), in February 1994. During his tour, he completed two deployments to the Western Pacific.

In 1999, he transferred to Fleet Training Center, San Diego and earned his Master Training Specialist (MTS) certification while teaching all CIWS courses of instruction.



Command Master Chief Lunsford was promoted to chief petty officer in 2001 and reported to Pre-Commissioning Unit (PCU) PREBLE (DDG 88), serving as Guns Division Leading Chief Petty Officer (LCPO) and force protection officer. He completed the ship's maiden deployment to the Arabian Gulf and in 2004 was advanced to senior chief petty officer.

In 2005, he reported to Naval Medical Center, San Diego, serving as a certified Navy Drug and Alcohol Counselor and branch clinic senior enlisted leader (SEL). One year later, he was selected as SEL of the Directorate of Mental Health.

He graduated from the Senior Enlisted Academy in 2008 and reported to PCU DEWEY (DDG 105). He served as Weapons Department LCPO, acting command master chief, and the ATFP lead for the ship's security program, certification process, and commissioning ceremony. He was promoted to master chief petty officer in 2009.

After completing the Command Master Chief Course in 2010, he reported as command master chief of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 94 "Mighty Shrikes" and made two six-month Unit Deployed Program (UDP) deployments to Iwakuni, Japan, as part of Marine Amphibious Group 12.

Command Master Chief Lunsford is currently the command master chief of USS AMERICA (LHA 6). He holds a bachelor's degree in business management from National University and a master's degree in business administration from Trident University International. His personal awards include Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (five awards), and various unit, campaign, and service awards.



RDML FERNANDEZ L. PONDS

COMMANDER, EXPEDITIONARY STRIKE GROUP THREE

Rear Admiral Ponds, a native of Alabama, earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alabama in 1982 and received his commission from Officer Candidate School in June 1983.

Ponds commanded Amphibious Squadron Eight from November 2007 to May 2009 as commander of Kearsarge Expeditionary Strike Group, operating in four numbered fleet areas of operation in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, counter piracy operations, and Operation Sea Angel II-Bangladesh humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HA/DR). He also served as mission commander for Operation Continuing Promise 2008 and Haiti HA/DR operation 2008.

Ponds commanded USS FIFE (DD 991) from October 2001 to February 2003. Additional sea billets include damage control assistant and assistant first lieutenant in USS MAUNA KEA (AE 22); boilers material officer in USS MIDWAY (CV 41); engineering officer in USS BERKELEY (DDG 15); flag secretary for Commander Amphibious Group One (CTF 76); and executive officer, USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD 964).

His shore assignments include inspector for Pacific Fleet's Propulsion Examination Board; inspector in the Office of the Navy Inspector General; Assessment Division/Capability Analysis Group team lead for Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (N81/N00X), Resources, Requirements and Assessment; senior naval advisor in the Bureau of Political Military Affairs, Department of State, during 2005 Pakistan earthquake relief operations, 2006 Lebanon non-combatant evacuation operation, and Hurricane Katrina disaster relief; senior fellow on the 2010 Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group; and commander for Navy Region Hawaii, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (three), Meritorious Service Medal (five), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various service and campaign awards.

Ponds holds a Master of Science degree in Information Systems Technology from George Washington University, a Master of Science degree in Military Studies from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and a Master of Science degree in National Security Strategy from the National War College, National Defense University.

Ponds assumed his current duties as Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group Three on July 25, 2013.

Expeditionary Strike Group 3



CMDCM ROSA WILSON COMMAND MASTER CHIEF



Through aggressive training and readiness, Expeditionary Strike Group 3 provides regional and combatant commanders with an agile, tailorable, forward-postured and immediately employable force, capable of projecting expeditionary striking power in the maritime, littoral, and inland environs in support of U.S. national interests.

ESG 3's flexibility also allows it to be employed as a Joint Task Force

or Joint Task Force Maritime Component Commander (JFMCC) to conduct multinational operations. The diverse capability of ESG 3 is uniquely suited to meet the war-fighting demands of the modern geopolitical environment, such as fighting the Global War on Terrorism and future contingencies.



CDR PAUL SUMAGAYSAY



BRETT WISE



JANELLE BEAL



LCDR
JAMES MARTELLO



NOEMI APONTE



MICHAEL DIMMITT



LT JAMES GORMLEY



THOMAS MCGUIRE



KELLI ROESCH



CAPT CHRISTOPHER SKINNER



MICHAEL BIRDEN



VU HOANG



YNCS DERRICK LAW



YNC DANIEL W. EDWARDS



LSC VIRGIL OUTZS



ISC NATALIE WEAVER



CS1 JIARONG CHEN



CTN1 JOSHUA JARVIS



OS1 JOSE SHEPARD



CTT2 ERIKA BERRY



IT2 MATTHEW DARR



OS2 RUSSELL JOHNSON



YN3 MATTHEW FIELDS



ISSN FREDDY CORONEL



NCIS JENNIFER SURWILO

















Tactical Air Control Squadron 11



I CDR **ANDREW SYLVIA**



YNC **NICHOLAS ORTEGA**



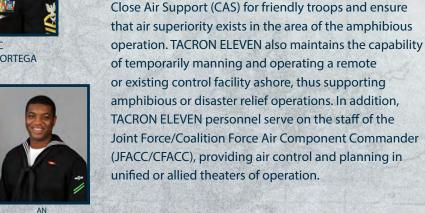
RICHARD GWINN



TRAVIS WYATT



BRANDT M. ALEXANDER





SOPHIA PECH



TRICEZETTE BISHOP



JOSEPH CANTU



BRYAN OGLESBY



DUNCAN VANCE



actical Air Control Squadron (TACRON) ELEVEN detachments deploy throughout the Pacific Fleet, providing centralized planning, control, and integration

of all air operations in support of amphibious operations, training, and transits. Helicopters move combat troops and supplies from ships to the assault objective area. Fixed and rotary-wind aircraft provide

Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department



LCDR
MARK KENNEDY
Maintenance Officer



AFCM
JOSEPH D. ATIVO
AIMD DLCPO



ATCS
DAVID A. BOVEE
AIMD DLCPO



ENS
NICHOLAS A. HAAN
Assistant Maintenance Officer



CWO3
CHRISTOPHER A. CONLEY
Maintenance Material Control Officer

Maintenance Department (AIMD) has been an integral part of the success of the ship during the maiden voyage. The 89 enlisted personnel and three officers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to support the intermediate maintenance and calibration requirements for nine departments, 12 aviation work centers, and three embarked USN/USMC aviation detachments, enabled them to complete the essential airlift and support missions that were absolutely vital to the success of our partnership efforts with our Latin American allies.

ATCS JEFFREY W. INGRAHAM

IM01 Division



JASON P. LECHOWICZ



AZC JOHN D. MANTANONA



TASHA C. MCCLURE



STEVEN C. ROBERTS JR.



ROBIN C. SANTOS



PRC CARL J. SMITH



ATC ALAIN P. WESCOTT



XERDAN L. CANLAS



AS1 RHODEL O. MANUEL



BLAKE P. PETERSON



DONALD M. PINERO



ANGELO GUTIERREZ



STEPHEN P. NALLEY



LOGAN THOMAS



JONATHAN M. WEBB



MIKHAILL D. STEWART



LARELL A. CONEY



MICHAEL C. FOLSOM



MICHAEL A. HERELD



JESSICA E. KELLY



ANJELICA G. WILKERSON



Cailors assigned to AIMD's Maintenance Administration/Quality Assurance (IM-1) Division are the nerve center of the department's daily operations. Seven Aviation Maintenance Administration personnel (AZ) and two Logistics Specialists (LS) spent countless hours during the ship's maiden voyage generating maintenance documentation and acceptance checklists for every single item of AIMD's vast support equipment inventory, which consisted of 3,210 pieces of equipment valued at \$12 million. Their efforts included researching to ensure that configurations were up to date and ensuring preventive maintenance requirements would allow maximum usability and service life. AIMD's most junior AZ, AZAA Anjelica Wilkerson, sums it up: "The most enjoyable part of being an AZ would have to be the constant challenges. No two items are the same, so figuring out how to build it up and maintain the records keeps you on your toes. There is always something new to learn and the answer to almost any question can be found with ease."

AMC JOSEPH M. TATUM

IM02 Division



SEAN H. BROADHURST



RODEL B. DELOSREYES



FRANKLIN D. ABRIL



EMMANUEL K ADJASU



AD1 ANDERSON CASTRILLON



AD1 ALEXANDER M. DELRIO



AM1 JOHN V. HEERING



AD1 HARRY V. LE



JUSTIN M. RODRIGUEZ



DANIEL P. USSERY



AD2 VICTOR A. BARONE



ALICIA V. MALDONADO



JOSHUA N. BRUN



PR3 KENJUAN D. GILL



MONSOURERNIE H. ESPINELI



ADAN **GUSTAVO HERNANDEZ**







JOSHUA A. SCHLUETER



DUSTIN J. MITCHELL

ircraft and Engine Mechanics (AM/AD), as well as three Aircrew Survival Equipment (PR) technicians assigned to the Airframes/ Power Plants (IM-2) Division, stayed constantly engaged with a wide variety of projects throughout the maiden voyage. Metalsmiths from the Structural Repair Work Center, led by AM1



Justin Rodriguez, applied their skills in a full range of aircraft and shipboard fabrications. These fabrications ranged from installing a Visual Display Board in the Primary Flight Control Center for smooth coordination of nighttime air operations to the fabrication and installation of computer tables in the Crew Recreation Room, allowing junior Sailors to have more access to off-ship computer services and enhancing their morale and quality of life. Aviation Oil Analysis Laboratory Sailors led by AD2 Victor Barone analyzed 23 oil and hydraulic samples for embarked MV-22, MH-60S, and CH-46 aircraft, ensuring their engines and hydraulic systems operated safely and efficiently.

ATCS KENNETH R. PRICE





IM03 Division

ATC MICHAEL E. FLAIG



BRIAN R. BUTLER



AT1 KEVIN W. EVICK



JACOB M. KUBAT



AT1 KEON D. LOGAN



AT2 CHRISTOPHER BILLINGS



AT2 TRAVIS C. GERARDI



AT2 ZOE C. NELSON



AT2 MONICA A. RIVERA



AZ3 JADE A. DOWDY



AT3 LYNDSI R. HAWKINS



AT3 BENJAMIN P. KEES



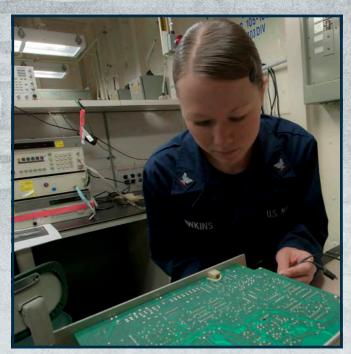
AO2 KOURTNEY S. POWELL



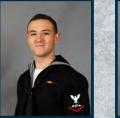
AT3 AARON D. SEARCY



AE3 LAVONNE D. STEWART



AT3 NICHOLAUS G. THOMPSON



AT3
PETER F. WALLACE





ATAN DONALD E. HINSHAW



ATAN ANDY J. WHITE



KENNETH W. MCTAGGART

he 22 technicians assigned to the Avionics/ Armament (IM-3) personnel provided a diverse range of services and support ship wide throughout the transit to homeport. Seven Field Calibration Laboratory technicians led by AT2 Zoe Nelson and AT2 Travis Gerardi completed 389 calibration actions on items ranging from electronic test equipment for Combat Systems components to critical propulsion and machinery components. Aviation Battery Technicians provided a full range of services for MV-22 and MH-60 Nickel Cadmium and Lead Acid aircraft batteries, as well as Optima marine batteries installed in the ship's Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats. AT2 Gerardi observed, "I feel like I have a great chance to support all of our ship's operations in an integral manner, and I have the fortune of having the best calibration team to work with to make that happen."









ASCS JAMES A. ALLCOCK

IM04 Division



ASCS RONALD L. RIMORIN



ASC ROBERT P. DELACRUZ



AS1 ROBERT J. BORJA



JACOB A. BROWN



JOSEPH L. DIAZ



AS1 SHIELA M. MANALON



DENNIS M. TADEO



AS1 WILLIAM R. TOMAROY JR.



AS2



ANDREW L. COCKCROFT



MARKLEIR C. GARCIA



MICHAEL J. HEWITT



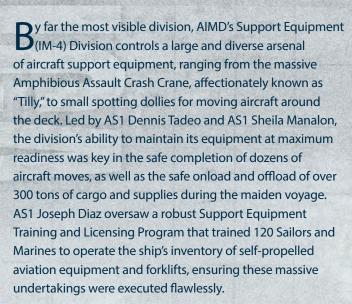
AS2 KELLI N. JOHN



AS2 RYAN L. JOHNSON



AS2 MICHAEL G. MANDAFE





TYANN M. MARSH



AS2 CHRISTINA H. SHAFFER



AZ2 HARRY VAZQUEZ JR.



AS3 RODEL A. ADVINCULA



AS3 BRITTNEY V. CRUZSMITH



AS3 JOSHUA S. DIPERT



AS3 JAIMEKA N. GARNER



AS3 JORGE G. GAROY



AS3 MARIANNE B. HUNTER



AS3 ZACHARY K. MCKINSTER



ASAN DAVID I. PEREZ



ASAN GARY D. BONE



ASAN JOSHUA J. HARMON



AZ3 KELLY M. NOLOT







ASAN RANDALL J. STAANA



ASAA MARQUIS L. STATION





ASAA DANIEL D. GREER



ASAA BOLORCHIMEG JAMIYANSHARAV





Air Department



CAPT
CHRISTOPHER MILLS
AIRBOSS



CDR BRIAN FITZPATRICK P-AIRBOSS



ABCM
MICHAEL ZARATE
AIR DLCPO

A ir Department is the interface between USS AMERICA and embarked aviation squadrons. The department has almost 200 skilled professionals in three divisions and is responsible for ensuring the ship is ready to launch, recover, and move aircraft around the clock.

The Air Boss and Mini Boss oversee all flight operations from the Primary Flight Control. V-1 Division handles all operations on the flight deck, including the handling and safe movement of all aircraft. V-3 Division is responsible for the movement of aircraft between the flight deck and hangar bay, as well as all aircraft movements in the hangar bay. V-4 Division handles all aviation fuel on the ship and provides refueling and defueling capabilities to all embarked aircraft and aviation ground support equipment.







LT SCOTT D. LIPPINCOTT



ENS DAMON K. LEOPOLDO



ABHCS MARCUS R. AGUIRRE



ARHCS RUSSELL C. JARVIS



ARHC NNAMDI U. EMENOGU



ABHC ANDRE L. LILLY



PHILLIP A. POSADA



ABH1 GERSON A. GONZALEZ



ABH1 RODERICK MCCARTY JR.



ABH1 IAN K. SHAFF



ABH1 KENNY H. VIDA



JARED L. BEASLEY



MAURICIO G. MOLINALOPEZ



CARLOS TEJASHUN



JUSTIN W. AVERY



ANTHONY M. KOLM





BRANDON A. LATIMER

ATAWULAI ALHASSAN





ARHAN FRANSES G. ALDE



VERNON R. PENNYWELL III



BRIAN D. ANDING



CHARLES E. AQUINO

he sailors of V-1 Division, wearing the distinctive yellow, blue, or red jerseys, routinely choreograph one of the most intricate operations on the ship. As aircraft directors, plane handlers, and crash and salvage crewmembers, their synchronized talents combine to produce the safe, precise, and expeditious launch, recovery, and movement of aircraft on the flight deck. The aviation boatswain's mates handling (ABHs) that comprise V-1 ensure AMERICA's flight deck safety and readiness are the best in the fleet. Primary Flight Control, known as "Pri-Fly," is home to the Air Boss and Mini Boss during all aircraft operations and is manned with a cadre of hand-selected Sailors from other Air divisions. Together, these Sailors track and record all aircraft launch and recovery information and operate flight deck lighting, radio systems, and firefighting equipment. AMERICA was able to conduct flight operations and achieve its Air Certification right out of the gates of the Pascagoula Shipbuilding Yard. During its maiden voyage through the Southern Command Area of Focus, AMERICA safely conducted over 600 aircraft launches and recoveries in support of bilateral exercises with Colombia, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and El Salvador.



ABHAN CAITLYN M. ARGERIS



ABHAN CARTER J. BASH



AN JOSE A. BELLO JR.



ABHAN DYLAN C. BENSON



AN KIELY D. BERNHARDT



AN JACOB A. BERNS



ABHAN KEENAN M. BERRY



AN ERIC C. BURGETT



ABHAN GRANT A. BUSTER



ABHAN ANDRES CARLON JR.



ABHAN AUBREY M. CARTER



ABHAN GINA M. CISNEROS



ABHAN CODY C. CLEMANS



ABHAN
COURTNEY V. DECAUL



ABHAN BRIAN DIAZSANCHEZ



ABHAN STEVEN A. ELLISHAUGEN



ABHAN SPENCER A. FENWICK



AN SEAN A. GILLSON



AN RHET A. GOODWIN



ABHAN ZACHARY J. GRABLE



AN DYLAN H. GRIDER



AN WILLIAM T. GROSS



AN NICOLE V. HALL



AN RUBEN B. HERRERA



ABHAN

ROBERT T. HOLLAND

ABHAN KIMBERLY MARTINEZ



ABHAN CODY B. HUGHES



ABHAN STEPHEN M. JACKSON II



AN
BENJAMIN M. MCCLINCY



ABHAN ADAM J. MONTOYA



ABHAN ISAAC R. MORELLI



ABHAN ERIC J. PEREZ



ABHAN TRAVIS K. PRICE



ABHAN ANDREW M. ROSEBERRY



AN COLLAN N. SMITH



AN JOSHUAN P. SOUTHERLAND



DEANDRE L. STRATTON JR.



GEORGIAANN M. VERTREES



ABHAN ALEX T. WILLIAMS



ASHLEY J. WOODS



ABHAN DOUGLAS G. YORK



ABHAA KIMBERLYAPRIL BANTUG



ABHAA JOHNKELVIN L. CHAVEZ



ABHAA SCHYLER C. CLINE



ABHAA JOSEPH E. CYR



AA BEO B. DELAROSA



ABHAA JOSHUA T. DIEFENDORF



AA ANTHONY S. EDMOND



ABHAA BLAIR R. GALLAGHER



AA MEGAN L. GALLOWAY



ABHAA TERRANCE D. HALE JR.



ABHAA SARAH L. HEATON



AA CHRISTIAN D. MUSSER



AA CODY R. PEMBERTON



ABHAN GUADALUPE R. REYES



AA JUVANIE B. ROBINSON



ABHAA DEREK D. VIRGILIO





PAUL T. CLARKE



ALEXANDER GARCIA JR.



ABHAR DYLON YOSHINAGA





LCDR SAMUEL PETERSON



ABHCS JOFFREY C. VILLACRUZ

V-3 Division

The hangar deck is one of the most critical spaces on the ship, as it provides an area where extensive aircraft maintenance is performed. V-3 is responsible for the safe and orderly movement and storage of all aircraft in the hangar bay, the largest in the amphibious fleet. The hangar bay is also the site for ship's ceremonies and receptions and is used extensively by AIMD, Deck, Engineering, Supply, and Weapons departments.

The Sailors of V-3 expertly maneuver aircraft in the hangar bay's tight quarters and coordinate the movement and storage of other equipment and supplies. During AMERICA's maiden voyage through the Southern Command Area of Focus, V-3 personnel safely conducted 136 aircraft movements in the hangar bay.



BRIAN E. ROBINSON



LEANDRO SUAREZ



ABHC TROY A. TRACY



ABH1 GENE F. MORGA



LAWRENCE T. SALALILA



JEFF A. ACEVEDO



JOSEPH D. GLASS



JORDAN L. WILKERSON



AN OTHA L. AKREA III



ABHAN
RAUL GARCIAVILLAVICENCIO



AN CHAD A. GIPSON JR.



ABHAN PHILIP S. HADDEN



ABHAN KYLE W. HALLMAN



SKYLAR T. HAWKINS



ABHAN OSCAR HERNANDEZ



ARHAN

ABHAN UZOMA R. HOJO



AN JOSHUA M. HUERTAS



AN ROBERT D. JOHNSON



ROBERT KOALLE



AN OLATUNDE C. LAMIDI



AN DELDRICK K. LEE



AN EVELYN LOPEZ



AN JOHN M. MILLER



TEKOVI A. MOGANOU



AN JHELEN D. TYLER



AN BRANDON T. VANDENBOS



ABHAN JASON A. WATTS



ABHAN LAANGELA D. WELLS



ABHAN MELISSAVET YANEZGUERRA



AN
JESSE E. ZARCONEKIBBEE



AA MARK L. BARTOLO



ABHAA JUSTIN C. CHANCE



AA WILLIAM G. GADAU



ABHAA AMANDA C. GARCIA



ABHAA KATHY J. GARCIA



AA DAVID A. GROVER



ABHAA JOSEPH C. HEATLEY



AA LANDON W. MOJEKWU



ROBERT T. MONTEFUSCO



NAHUM I. PEREZ



ABHAA NICOLE I. WOOD



AA JACOB N. ZUNIGA



ASHLEY N. BROCKMAN





AR ROSS A. VERNON



LT MARK GACKOWSKI



ABFCS ALLAN V. THOMAS JR.

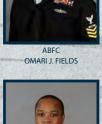




ABFC MICHAEL S. FOSTER



WILLIAM M. HARRISON



COLIN LOUIS



ULYSSES D. CRAIG



JOSE R. LOPEZ



V-4 Division

he V-4 Division consists of aviation boatswain's mates fuel (ABFs) who specialize in the safe and efficient delivery of clean, clear, and bright JP-5 aviation fuel to all aircraft. Referred to as "Grapes" because of their purple jerseys, these professionals provide continuous service by pumping fuel into aircraft,

ground support equipment, and the ship's boats.

than 600,000 gallons of JP-5 fuel.

AMERICA is capable of holding 1.3 million gallons of JP-5, the largest amount in the amphibious fleet. Fuel is stored in 29 tanks and pumped through two pump rooms before being piped to one of eight refueling stations. During AMERICA's maiden voyage through the Southern Command Area of Focus, V-4 handled more

JOSEPH C. MATHEWS



FLAVIO MENDOZA



ABF2 CARLOS A. CALDERON



ABF2 JESTON P. FRANCO



ABF2 LUIS F. GARCIA



ABF2 BENNY C. LIMAN



ABF2 SHANNON M. LOVATO



ABF2 JUAN A. RAGLIN



ABF2 NORBERTO L. RIEGODEDIOS







ABF3
MATTHEW W. COURTNEY



ABF3 BRYAN S. FREATMAN



ABF3 ANDRE C. PEARSON II



ABF3 AARON C. RIVERA



ABF3 KELEION D. SCOTT



ABF3 MICHAEL J. TOBER



AN MELISSA ABREU



ABFAN KATANA J. CURVEN



BRYAN C. ESCOBAR



AN AARON C. FELIX



ALLEN R. FREEMAN



AN GARRETT T. FRICK



DARIUS S. GONZALEZ



AN JACOB R. GOUGLER



AN SABIR F. GRIMES



ISMARA L. GUAYAMARES



JAMES I. HARRIMAN



AUSTIN L. HARRIS



JOSEPH C. JENKINS



ABFAN DEVON J. KENNEDY



AN JUNHO KIM



ABFAN SPENCER N. LAUGHLIN

ABFAN

RICHELLE N. PADRE

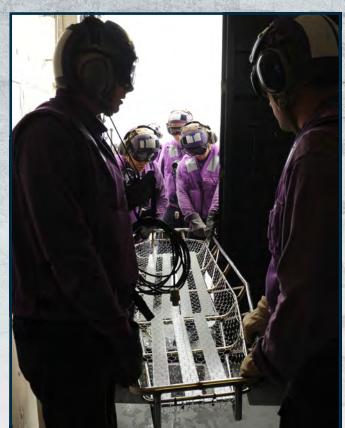


ABFAN COLLIN S. MCQUEEN





JEREMY S. POLLARD





JESSICA E MIRAZO



AN MARK A. SMITH JR. JOHN P. TAMAYO



ZY ZHANG



AA CODYT. CANADY



AA COLBY R. COLLINS



ABFAA CAMERON CURRY



ABFAA KYLE R. HAYESJACOBS



AA MICHAEL A. HOVEY



AA ASHTON S. KELLEY



AA JONATHON L. MATHIS



AA VICTOR A. MITCHELLCHIN



AA KRISTOPHER T. PENSATA



AA TIKA M. VEAKINS



AA ERICA M. WELCH



AR DEVIN I. MACKALL







B

Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Collaboration, and Intelligence



CDR
CHRISTOPHER PEPPEL
C5I OFFICER



ITCM
KURT JEFFERSON
C5I DLCPO

Is the Department of Command, Control, Computers, Communications, Combat Systems, and Information. C51 is directly responsible to the Commanding Officer for all non-propulsion-related electronic and combat systems equipment. This includes surface and air warfare areas, communications in and off the ship, message processing, automated information systems (tactical and non-tactical support), supply support equipment, closed-circuit television, surveillance and fire-control radar, navigational aids, precision approach landing systems, intelligence systems, meteorological and oceanographic systems, and ship's self-defense systems. C5I is directly responsible for the

preventive and corrective maintenance of the ship's air and surface search RADARs, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system, Amphibious Air Traffic Control radar and display systems, and electronic navigation systems, including Ship's Inertial Navigation System (SINS), Voyage Management System (VMS), and satellite navigation and communication systems. These systems are the eyes and ears of AMERICA far beyond the visible horizon for surface, over land, and in the air. During the South America sailaround, AMERICA's technicians shook off the dust from the shipyard by identifying and correcting numerous mission-degrading equipment casualties, while maintaining 100% service to the crew and embarked staffs of TASK FORCE 49.





LCDR JOSEPH HOUSER



ITCS MICHAEL J. BELL

CC Division



LOVMIKA LONG



ROBERT HAUSER



RYAN J. WARNER



DAVID M. CONWAY



BROOKE D. HEJL



MICHAEL F. JEFFERSON



ROBERT J. MURILLO



ROBERT STALCUP JR.



FRANSISCA M. VELAZQUEZ



WILLIAM C. BARRICK



RYAN A. BAUERSCHMIDT



ALYEENE R. FLEMING



LYDALE D. HYDE



GEORGE E. KRAYNAK



VANESSA C. LUBERS





SHAWN P. MCDONALD

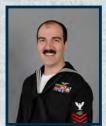


GENEVA H. MCLEAN





RODERICK M. REYES



ALEXANDER J. SMITH



JAROD A. WARRICK

n assembly of skilled information systems technicians $\mathbf{A}_{\text{(IT)}}$ comprises CC Division. They provide secure, reliable voice and data communications services to the ship, squadrons, and embarked staffs. They are directly responsible for maintaining the ship's local area network, Navy Tactical Command Support System, and all desktop computers for the ship, squadrons, and embarked staff, as well as protecting the ship's information systems against viruses and unauthorized uses. Using state-of-the-art technology, the technical control side of the house maintains more than 45 operational circuits. These talented technicians can restore downed circuits on a moment's notice, ensuring vital radio circuits and information systems are always available. On the other side of the house is the message center team, routing more than 150 messages a day through secure and non-secure local area networks. They accurately handle all incoming and outgoing messages. During the South America sail-around, CC Division provided network and communications support to over 1,800 personnel from ship's force, embarked staff, squadrons, and SPMAGTF.





IT1 EVAN A. WOODWORTH



IT2 MATTHEW J. BILODEAU



IT2 MELISSA A. BRICK



IT2 KIMBERLY A. DUKES



IT2 STEVEN C. GATES



PATRICK J. HERNANDEZ



IT2 DAVID KHULL



IT2 MARTHA Y. MARTINEZ



IT2 MARIE A. MIRANDAKING



JOSEPH A. MONTANO



IT2 WESLEY J. PAIGE



IT2 MATTHEW C. PATTERSON



IT2 RICHARD M. POTTS JR.



IT2 JEREMY J. ROSENBAUM



IT2
PATRICK M. SCHROEDER



IT2 SHAUNTE M. SCOTT



IT2 ALLAN SHIH



KATHERINE SOURIVONG



IT2 KATHLEEN M. WARGO



IT3 DAREK P. FURGESON



IT3 JOHN P. GRAHAM



IT3 JAMES J. GRIFFIN



IT3 KENDRICK S. MCPHERSON



IT3 JASON A. RECINTO



JAZMEN S. WILLIAMS



ITSN BRIANNA F. ANDERSON



ITSN GERALD M. FITTS



SETH T. MCGEE



ITSN RYAN M. MOROSINI



KEVIN C. RAMIREZ



ITSA BENJAMIN J. BOATRIGHT



ITSA JONAH U. IWUCHUKWU



ITSA ALEC A. MCCLAIN







LCDR **ROBERT JOHNSON**



ETCM JOSEPH P. COOPER

CE Division



ENS MICHAEL M. KARAFOTIS



VINCENT J. LOMBARDI



CLINT E. DAWSON



ETC ZACHARY A. MURILLO



ETC
JEFFREY A. WHITTINGTON



SEAN J. ARROYO



ET1 PATRICK G. BECKER



IC1 TIMOTHY R. EDLIN



JASON E. HARRIS





ET1 ET1
JOHN J. HIGHAM TIMOTHY J. KIPPHUT



ET1 SCOTT M. LAGRANGE



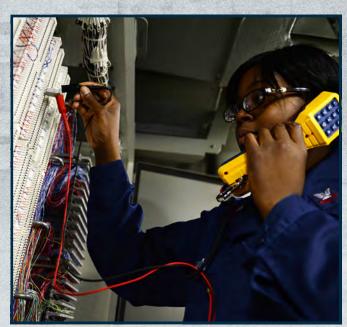
ET1 LEMANDA J. LOVELACE



ET2 TRAVIS M. GARDNER



TIFFANY D. HAMILTON



ET2 BENJAMIN A. HOLLADAY



IC1 ERIC L. KING II



ET2 ERIC SANTILLANO



ALLEN W. TRENT JR.



ET3 MATTHEW W. ARMSTRONG



ROBERT E. BROCKMANN



IC3 ASHLEE D. DRAIN



ET3
TYLER O. EUTSLER



ET3 CORY A. ILES



ET3
PATRICK J. JEZIORSKI



ET3 LOGAN T. JOHNSTON



IC3 KRISTINA M. PEHL



ET3 ABBY J. RADFORD



ET3 JUAN M. RESENDEZ JR.



ET3 ALEXANDRA E. KREILING



JAMES L. MCCONNELL



ET3 TYLER J. PARENT



JESSE R. SABLAN



ET3 JASON W. SANDALL



ET3
TASHA M. STOLIKER



ANTHONY VU



MALCOLM C. WOODRUFF



ICSN ADAM M. GOOTEE



ICSA JAMES P. MALLON



E Division consists of Sailors in the Electronics Technicians (ET) and Interior Communications (IC) ratings. These technicians are responsible for maintaining various electronic systems in their highest state of readiness. AMERICA's radar and navigation systems technicians maintain air search and navigation radars, advanced navigation and charting systems, automated bridge control systems, precision landing radar systems, and display equipment. CE Division's communications technicians maintain everything from advanced satellite communications to complex systems designed to allow AMERICA's Marines to stay connected while engaging in whatever tasking is required. Interior Communications technicians are responsible for smoke and fire sensors, cable TV and entertainment systems, internal telephone systems, and just about everything in between.



LTJG MOLLY G. CARRIGAN



FCCM IAN K. WELLER

CF Division



FCCS ROBERT D. CHURCH



FCCS ANGELINA M. LAMB



FCC EMILIANO A. MARTINEZ



FC1 IVAN T. GIBSON



FC1 JOSEPH A. TSICOURIS



FC1 SHAUN A. WELLS



FC2 PATRICK M. CALDWELL



FC2 JAMES M. CHANG



FC2 FRANK A. CONDON



FC2 ANDREW D. DANIEL



FC2 RACHEL M. ENGLAND



FC2 MISHA N. HARRIS



FC2 JOSHUA N. MARSHE



JASON M. MATHIAS



FC2 ANTHONY J. MCCORMACK



The state of the s

FC2 THOMAS MIRSKY JR.



FC3 MEGAN L. ANDERSON



FC3
JEANNELLE M. BALILO



FC3 JOHN P. COONCE



FC3 LOGAN M. DAVIS



FC3 PHILLIP J. FAIN



FC3 KENNETH A. HILTY



FC3 NICOLE L. PYLES



FC3 JESSICA M. TAITAGUE



FC3 VARINDA M. THONGPET



FC3 JESUS TREVINO JR.



FC3 JESSIE L. VIRGA



FC3
TRENTON A. CADWELL







The Ship's Self-Defense Systems (CF) Division consists of fire controlmen (FC) who operate and perform preventive and corrective maintenance on fire control computers, radar, guns, and missile systems. They are responsible for defending the ship against surface and air engagements through multiple computer systems and collaboration. The ship's NATO Sea Sparrow Surface Missile System, Rolling Air Frame Missile System, and Close-In Weapon System provide the ship with a potent self-defense capability.



Combat Cargo



CWO4 SHANE DUHE



MSgt JESSE RAMIREZ



GySgt TREVOR K. BATES



SGT RAYMOND SALVADOR



CPL NICHOLAS HARTMANN



CPL DALTON HOLDEN



DARREN JENSEN





CPL JESSICA MCGINNIS



CPL MIRANDA MEDINA



CPL DANIEL A. POSADA



CPL KATELYN TILLETT



he primary mission of the Combat Cargo Department is to facilitate the movement of cargo, equipment, vehicles, and personnel across the vehicle deck and the flight deck in support of amphibious operations. The department crew is

responsible for the safe loading and

unloading of all Marine Corps cargo, equipment, and personnel aboard AMERICA in order to land elements of a Marine Landing Force. Combat Cargo Departments are the last Marines in the Corps permanently

assigned to naval vessels.

PFC JOHN BROOKS



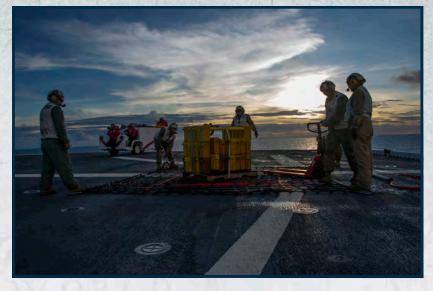


ombat Cargo uses the 15,124 square feet of AMERICA's Vehicle Deck to embark Marine cargo and equipment to conduct operations. The Vehicle Deck is not designed to carry the same equipment as other large amphibious ships in the fleet, since AMERICA does not possess a well deck that provides surface-shipto-shore connectors. All the vehicles, cargo, and equipment that are stored in the Vehicle Deck must be flown off by helicopter to support Marines projected ashore to conduct missions. A Marine Air Combat Element's MV-22 Osprey helicopter can lift about 12,000 lbs of equipment, and the CH-53 "Echo" helicopter can lift about 15,000 lbs.

uring AMERICA's initial sail-around deployment, Combat Cargo supported Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) South as they conducted Theater Security Cooperation exercises in various countries during the voyage from Pascagoula, Mississippi, to San Diego, California. It was a significant accomplishment to conduct logistics support operations immediately upon leaving the shipyards and prior to official commissioning, demonstrating the capabilities of the Navy's newest and first in her class of Amphibious Warships. Combat Cargo processed 873 passengers, 3,813 lbs of cargo, 2,421 lbs of ammunition, and conducted 42 lifts during helo vertical replenishment operations training.









Command Religious Ministries Department



CDR JOHN T. JOHNS



PATRICK MCPARTLAND



ANGEL P. PACHECO



ADAM W. SUMNER

Command Religious Ministries Department (CRMD) is comprised of two professional Navy Chaplains and two Religious Programs Specialists. Together, they are dedicated to caring for all men and women of USS AMERICA and embarked squadrons and staff. They offer a wide range of services and materials so that every member of the crew can enrich their moral and spiritual relationships. With the help of lay leaders, a wide variety of weekly divine services and study opportunities allows everyone to express their basic right of freedom of worship and conscience. They serve as advisors to the command on issues of morale and well-being. The chaplains are available any time for confidential counseling and guidance addressing all human needs.

Additionally, CRMD maintains and operates the crew's recreation room, computer lab, ship's library, and ship's chapel. These facilities offer the Sailors and Marines the opportunity to relax or connect with friends and family back home.

The department is dedicated to family support and communication and is an active supporter of the command ombudsmen, the America Family Readiness Group, the American Red Cross message service, and the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society.







Deck Department



LCDR
DAVID GARRETT
FIRST LIEUTENANT



BMCS LEONARD W. MILLER DECK DLCPO



CWO4
RAYMOND GAGARIN
SHIP'S BOATSWAIN

eck Department is comprised of three divisions, each tasked with a specific aspect of deck seamanship. As long as there have been ships in the Navy, there have been Boatswain's Mates standing by ready to care for them. The Sailors in this proud, tradition-laden rating form the backbone of every ship's crew. Their expertise and responsibilities—from maintaining the preservation of the ship to driving her through the water and handling mooring lines when the ship pulls into port—are as vast as the oceans they sail upon. During the maiden voyage, the department's Sailors took the first watch, becoming the first lookouts, helmsmen, and Boatswain's Mates of the Watch to qualify aboard AMERICA. Their Sailors moored the ship in three ports: Rio



de Janeiro, Brazil; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; and Valparaiso, Chile. At the anchorages off the coast of Cartagena, Colombia; Punta Arenas, Chile; and Callao, Peru, AMERICA's BMs safely embarked and disembarked over 2,600 service members, civilians, and distinguished visitors via 400 water taxis. Deck Department fully mans two repair lockers during General Quarters drills, building winning teams capable of saving the ship in the event of damage, no matter how great.



ENS TIMOTHY ROSE JR.



BMC ROBERT R. SAENZ

1st Division



BM1 NANCY J. ROMERO



BM1 CHRISTOPHER D. TUNAL



BM2 KAVAURIO S. HARRIS



BM2 LESLIE D. WALKER



JOHN R. HARDY JR.



BM3 RONALD E. LATIMER



BM3 BRITTANY R. WRIGHT



SN ALEXANDER APARICIO



SN MONICA R. BAKER



SN BRIAN N. DEVITO



SN MICHAEL K. FORREST



SN HUNTER R. GUERRA



SN MILTON A. GUEVARA



SN KYLE P. HAFER



SN TYLER H. HAYNES





SN WILLIAM A. PINCKNEY



SN MELISSA SAAVEDRA



SN COREY D. SILENCE



SN MARCOVICCI D. TURNER

irst Division maintains the ship's foc'sle, ground tackle, 11-meter RHIB, fixed overhead davit, 140 inflatable Mark 7 life rafts, FAS Station 3, port accommodation ladder, and Mooring Stations 2, 4, and 6. The pride of these Sailors shows in the immaculate state of preservation and cleanliness of the foc'sle. First Division executes flawless anchoring evolutions through superb seamanship capability. During the South America sail-around, First Division expertly anchored in Cartagena, Colombia; Punta Arenas, Chile; and Callao, Peru. Division Sailors tested and operated the 11-meter fixed overhead davit, the first of its type deployed with the U.S. Navy. While transiting the Strait of Magellan, they again demonstrated their incredible ability to adapt by transferring the Secretary of the Navy from ship to shore via RHIB with a speed and precision that left a lasting impression on the Secretary.



CHRISTOPHER ALVAREZBROWN



SHAVONTAY L. CONNOR



BMSA NATHAN M. CUNHA



DEBORAH GONZALEZTORRES



ROGELIO GUZMAN



BMSA ADAM KALOCSA



SA KENNETH T. LEE



SHAWN A. MAGILL



SA AMBER J. MORRIS











ISAAC J. SVEEN



GEORGE VEGA JR.







BMC PHUC Q. BUI

2nd Division



BM1 KELVIN K. HARVEY



BM1 MATTHEW B. LETEFF



BM2 ALFRED S. MARTINEZ



CHRISTOPHER I. VINCENT



SHEILA K. ANTHONY



JARRETT W. HALL



BM3 RANDY SHEPARD



WILLIAM C. BERKSTEINER



BMSN DESIREE L. DICKSON



JAKE L. DIEPENBROCK



SHAADIQAH M. FERGUSON



JOSHUA T. FRANKS



SN CONNAR S. GRADY



ANDREW GRAHAMBENNETT



DAVID J. KIEFER III



SN ABIGAIL M. LEOPOLD



SN PERRY A. MEYER



SN JONATHAN D. MOSS



SN SPENCER T. MYERS

cecond Division manages the canvas and bunting Shop, fantail, towing, Mooring Stations 1, 3, and 5, and replenishment-at-sea (RAS) equipment, including FAS 1, RAS 5, and FAS 7. These skilled craftsmen manufacture all types of protective covers, canopies, and skirting, and they also reupholster furniture. Their proficient maintenance of RAS equipment allows the safe transfer of fuel and cargo, enabling AMERICA to remain on station and continue her mission without having to pull into port for supplies. During the South America sail-around, Second Division maintained the ship's seven-meter lifeboat and conducted Search and Rescue evolutions, ensuring AMERICA's Sailors were safe while at sea. Their attention to detail in the preservation and maintenance of thousands of pieces of equipment paved the way for certification in underway replenishments and the ship's commissioning ceremony in October 2014. Throughout the sail-around, Second Division's Sailors worked tirelessly to pioneer and "reinvent" a new towing arrangement that works for AMERICA.



BMSN FREDDY SOTO



SN SOMERS T. STEELMAN



SEAN M. STEWART



SN DOMINICK TORRES



SA DONAVAN M. CASTRO



TIMOTHY M. CRUZ



SA HARLEY C. DEWITT



SA RICHARD J. FALK II



SA BISMARK W. GBEDE



JARRET MOOREPERRIN



SAMUEL PETITFRERE



SETH A. RAKES



JERON R. HANCOCK



JACOB D. HOLLOWAY



KIMBERLY M. WHITE



JOSE E. RIVERA



JESUS F. SANTILLANA



SA SA
THOMAS J. SASSETTI II MICHAEL J. SNIFFIN



PURE PROPERTY.



ENS NATHAN A. TAAG



BMC FRANCISCO J. DELGADO

3rd Division



BM1 TIAGO O. CAMPOS



BM1 ZACHARY A. HOBDAY



SN DANIEL R. ALTEMUS

Third Division is responsible for the ceremonial quarterdeck, Vehicle Stowage Area, port and starboard store cranes, and side port cranes. During the maiden voyage, they safely loaded and secured 125 tons of USMC equipment and over 50 tons of USMC vehicles. Third Division made certain AMERICA's crew was supplied with fresh food and stores, conducting 12 crane evolutions and loading 300 pallets of stores and supplies.



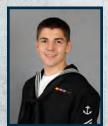
SN STEVEN J. BROWN



SN DARTAGNAN CARCANA



SN KYLE STEVEN GOLDBERG



SN JOSHUA L. MERCER



LESLIE B. ROBINSON



SN LINWOOD SMITH JR.



SN SHILONG ZHOU



SA KEITH A. BOLDEN



DYLLAN A. SCHWEND



SA CALEB D. WILKERSON



CYNTHIA B. EMMETT

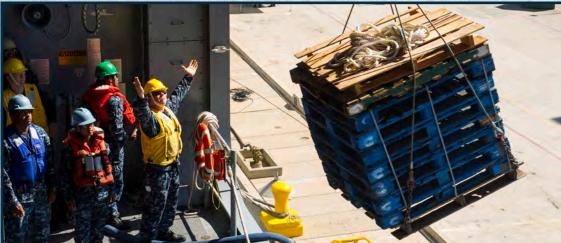


JONATHAN P. MORGAN





SR CLAUDIA L. ROSSEN



Dental Department



LT **KEVIN STEWART DENTAL OFFICER**



HMC GERALD W. LEE DENTAL DLCPO





HERMIE P. ARENAS JR. ADRIAN R. WILLIAMS



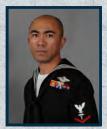
RICKY D. WILLIAMS

he mission of the Dental Department is to provide the highest standard of dental service to the ship's company, embarked squadrons, and staff. The department is manned by a dentist, a dental hygienist, and four hospital corpsmen, equipped with the latest equipment, technology, and techniques. Each dental operatory is supplied with an advanced dental delivery system, including fiber-optic hand pieces, ultrasonic scalers, and electric surgical hand pieces.

The Dental Department offers a comprehensive treatment model to AMERICA sailors, focusing on preventive dentistry, while also offering care in multiple dental subspecialties including restorative, endodontics, oral surgery, prosthodontics, and periodontics.



CHRISTOPHER R. PENA



ENRICO R. SANTOS





Engineering Department



CDR SCOTT NOE CHIEF ENGINEER



ENCM STEVEN KENNEDY ENGINEERING DLCPO

he snipes of the Engineering Department operate, maintain, and repair all major types of shipboard equipment that allows AMERICA to carry out her day-to-day routine. Each division in the department has responsibilities that are distinct and varied, but as one team they produce electricity, potable water, pressurized air, propulsion to the ship, air conditioning, and refrigeration for food stores; maintain the elevators for weapons, aircraft, and all galley and laundry equipment; and train the entire ship in damage control. The Department operates 24/7, whether in port or out to sea, and is comprised of electrician's mate (EM), engineman (EN), damage controlman (DC), gas turbine system technician electrical and mechanical (GSE and GSM), hull maintenance technician (HT), machinist's mate (MM), machinery repairman (MR), and even information technician (IT) and electronics technician (ET) ratings.







and the state of t

LT ROBERT EPHRAIM



MMCS RANDOLPH R. MALICDEM

Auxiliaries Division provides a variety of services to the ship and its mission, and is one of the most unique and diverse divisions on the ship. The Assault Shop maintains the ship's two aircraft elevators. These massive platforms allow the movement of aircraft between the hangar bay and flight deck for launch or maintenance. Assault Shop also maintains the six cargo weapons elevators which are used to transfer ammunition, supplies, and, in special cases, medical evacuees. Hydraulics Shop maintains the ship's anchor windlass, aft steering, and Replenishment-at-Sea (RAS) stations. Auxiliary Machinery Shop also supplies potable water for drinking fountains, showers, and the galley equipment. They also maintain the low- and high-pressure air compressors, nitrogen generator, and the ship's laundry.

The Diesel Engine Shop maintains the six massive
4-megawatt Ship's Service Diesel Generators (SSDG) and
the 7-meter and 11-meter Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats (RHIBs).
The Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (AC & R) Shop chills
our spaces and our drinking water, makes ice, preserves our
food, and keeps the very air we breathe cool and dry. The
Hotel Services Shop maintains all galley equipment and
waste management, ensuring we always have hot meals
and our biodegradable food waste is disposed responsibly.

During AMERICA's maiden voyage, the SSDGs, low- and high-pressure air compressors, air conditioning plants, and refrigeration units operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, maximizing crew comfort, morale, and mission readiness. Auxiliaries Division maintained the highest standard by maintaining all equipment in an operational status, including the 11-meter RHIB that transported the Secretary of the Navy in Chile. AMERICA's elevators were always ready to support flight operations as dignitaries from all over South America flew on board, ensuring we were able to extend our warm welcome and diplomacy.

EA Division



ENS LINDSEY S. BOYLE



ENS EDWARD SCHNEIDER



CWO4 EDWIN U. CARPIO



MMC RODNEY W. SANDERS JR.



ENC AARON R. SMITH



MARA BOULE



JOSE A. CORONADO



JOE D. MALDONADO



KEVIN A. NICHOLS





MM1 ADAM M. PRANGE



MM1 GRIFFITH E. RIENSCHE



EN1 CLARK STJEAN



MM1 SHADO G. TRACY



EN1 NICHOLAS L. WERINGA



MM2 MATHEUS AYERS



MM2 CIRILO R. CATALAN



CHARLES E. DOUGHTY



MM2 DEON D. FRANKLIN



DAVID A. GAMARRAFERIA



ADAN GONZALES



EN2 ROBERT S. HALE



EN2 MAYRA B. HERNANDEZ



EN2 KENNETH R. LAKE



EN2 JOSEPH A. LAWHORN



EN2 BRETT A. LIKES



EN2 DAVID G. POBLETE JR.



MM2 JOSHUA R. SUNDEEN



MM2 AMBER M. SWARTZ



EN2 LARRY D. WILLIAMS JR.



EN2 JACKIE M. WONG



LARITA A. EDWARDS



EN3 CHRISTOPHER C. KHABBAZ



EN3 ROBERT J. MCGUIRE





EN3 DYLAN J. MURPHY



EN3 CERVIN J. TALAVERA



ENFN GERRICK R. BOSE



ENFN GREGORY K. BROOKS



MMFN JESSE S. ENOS IV



MMFN JAMIR I. FLETCHER



MMFN JESSICA B. GALEMORE



MMFN KELSY HUERTASRODRIGUEZ



ENFN DUSTY L. KETNER



MMFN KATHERINE V. MARTINEZ



MMFN BRANDON D. MORGAN



MMFN NICOLE L. NORMAN



ENFN OTHON ROMERO



MMFN JAMES D. SOUZA



FN SAMANTHA J. WRIGHT



MMFA STEVEN E. CASTLE



MMFA DEREK C. FRAZIER JR.



MMFA JORDAN B. HAILEY



FA JEREMY T. KERLEY



WILLIAM. SCHORER



JAMES D. WHITE JR.



VIRGINIO N. FERNANDES

LT MATTHEW LAI



EMCS RUDY CHAIREZ



ENS ANDREALEE



ENS SHAUN W. STIRRAT



CWO3 WILLIAM L. HILLMAN



DAVID ESTRADA



EMC LAMAR S. MILTON



ALVIN H. ADDENBROOKE



EM1 JAMAAL C. BENJAMIN



TAMARA A. BRAXTON



GARNER A. EUGENIO



EM1 ABEL A. HURTADO



WILLIAM R. ISOM



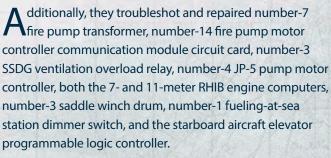
RONNIE MORGAN

EE Division

lectrical Division consists of four work centers, including Electrical Tool Issue, the Lighting Shop, Motor Rewind Shop, and the Electrical Distribution Shop. Electrical Tool Issue is responsible for the shipboard electrical safety program on the ship: managing the inventory and maintenance of 150 portable electrical tools and more than 5,000 pieces of mobile equipment. The Lighting Shop is in charge of the maintenance of all flight deck and navigation lights, 21 Aircraft Electrical Services Systems (AESS), six cargo weapons elevators, and the 7-meter/11-meter RHIB. Motor Rewind Shop is responsible for the maintenance of galley equipment, ventilation systems, and hotel services. The Electrical Distribution Shop is responsible for the maintenance of fourteen 4,160-volt switchboards, eight 450-volt switchboards, and 28 load centers. Electrical Division and Auxiliaries Division work hand in hand on a daily basis, especially in troubleshooting and repair of all major equipment throughout the ship.

Prior to and during the South America transit, some of Electrical Division's major accomplishments included the certification of AESS and the flight deck; troubleshooting and correcting over 150 grounds on the electrical distribution system; troubleshooting and replacing 50 heating elements on various booster heaters and number-2 central hot water heater; and the grooming of various ventilation and lighting systems. The division also corrected 26 electrical workbenches and conducted more than 3,500 electrical safety checks and 50 switchboard maintenance jobs.







THAO D. TRAN



CHESTER Z. VALDEZ



EM1 ESTEBAN R. VASQUEZ



EM1 JEAN W. REMPART

ROSHAD C. DEVAUGHN



EMMANUEL D. SABIO

SHADRACH O. OKOH



EM3 YONAH BAGUET



EM3 MICHAEL C. BERG



ALEXANDER P. CUMMINGS



ЕМЗ HUY S. HONG



JESUS A. MEDRANO



ЕМ3 JACOB L. SMITH



EM3 STEVEN S. MASON



GRANT C. SYSLO



CHRISTOPHER L. ACOSTA



JAZMEKA A. BUTLER



EMEN CHRISTOPHER J. GARMA



DANIELLE K. MORRIS



YSENIA E. VENCES



BRANDON J. GENSEMER



LORENA A. GONZALEZ



STEPHANIE M. HYNEK



EMFA



DANIEL QUINTERO JR.







EMFA SHEENA M. OLSON



EMFA JESSICALAUREN R. ORDES



CDR





DCC IAN T. HEADY

The Sailors of Repair Division are responsible for conducting shipboard repairs, providing limited fabrication services, and maintaining damage-control equipment for 10 repair lockers on board. The services ER Sailors offer include machining, piping repair, welding, metal fabrication, engraving, and locksmithing. They also operate and maintain the ship's sewage collection, holding and transfer (CHT) system, and various drainage piping systems. They maintain all the fire main piping on board, providing water to fire plugs, heads, and auxiliary systems. The division also maintains aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) and injection stations to ensure the proper ratio of AFFF concentrate is mixed with seawater to combat Class Bravo fires throughout the flight deck, hangar bay, and main machinery spaces.

pepair Division was involved in many areas of the maiden voyage and commissioning. Notable accomplishments include setting up various damage control (DC)-related exhibits for foreign nationals and dignitaries during USS AMERICA's sail-around. These exhibits added to the overall theater-cooperative engagements among partner nations in the DC realm. Additionally, the HT and MR shops created original products, including more than 80 engraved plaques for foreign dignitaries; 800 name tags for embarked staff, Marines, and crew; and the ship's first commemorative bell engraving, dedicated to the nephew of the CO, a plankowner. The HTs designed and built a stage, which has been used for major events, including the Secretary of the Navy's visit in South America and the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps' visit to the ship. The HT workshop also attended to over 80 trouble calls, providing various repair services for the ship.

ER Division



LT PATRICK LEE



KEVIN M. MCTIGHE



ENS CORBIN R. JUDSTRA



WAYNE N. JONES



HTC CODY J. TERRILL



HTC MARCUS D. WOMBLE



DEBORAH J. BENALLY

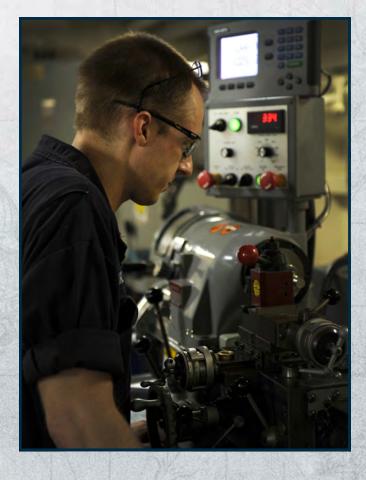


HT1 WILLIAM C. CAMP



DC1
RYANNE K. CLINGERSMITH







HT1 THOMAS A. DORAN



HT1 JASON P. HOFF



DC1 ALEXANDRA D. MCCARROLL



MR1 THOMAS W. NESS



HT1 TERRENCE J. PACA



MR1 ANDREW J. SCHROEDL



DC1
PATRICK W. TRANDEM



HT2 CODY L. BATSCHE



HT2 MISTY V. GARRISON



HT2 CARISSA L. HUMPHREY



DC2 CALUM B. JACOBS



HT2 COURTNEY J. LAVALLEE



HT2 KRISTIN E. WHITE



HT3 JONATHON S. BERRIDGE



DC3 MARCUS C. DAVIS JR.



MR3 SEAN T. LEWIS



IVAN A. RABTSEVICH



DC3 TERRENCE D. SCRAGGINS



DCFN THOMAS C. HARRISON





DCFN LORENZO T. ARIZA





FN HEATH E. MOSES



HTFN KIARA L. PYFER



MRFA KAYLA E. CURL



FA TYLER D. DARBEY



HTFA JESSE V. KOPENSKI



FA WYATT D. LOGAN



FA SHAUN R. RUCKER



DCFA TAO TIAN



MRFA
RAYMOND VASQUEZ III





DCFR JUAN J. ALVAREZ



DCFR DANA M. MCCORMICK



DCFR NICHOLAS M. VICTORIA





LCDR ANDREW GIANINO



GSCS MAURILIO A. BARRAZA JR.

MP Division



LT PATRICIA R. CUNANAN



ENS WESLEY A. LEWIS



ENS BENJAMIN B. TRAVERS



GSEC JOSE A. DIAZ



ENC CHRISTOPHER A. GADBAW



GSEC ERIN J. MCDONALD



GSEC VINCEINT D. PETTIGREW



JULIUS C. ADLAO



SABELLA A. BATEY

MERICA's oil lab is responsible for tracking, testing,

ain Propulsion Division operates and maintains the propulsion plant and is responsible for lube oil

and fuel oil quality management. MP Division ensures AMERICA is always ready to answer all bells and perform sustained operations at sea. Each of AMERICA's two engine rooms consists of one General Electric LM2500+

gas turbine engine, capable of delivering 35,000

horsepower per shaft, and one fuel-efficient electric

Auxiliary Propulsion Motor (APM), which receives power from the Ship's Service Diesel Generators. Each APM is rated at 5,000 horsepower and provides 80% fuel efficiency. This unique propulsion system allows AMERICA to arrive on station in a timely manner and remain on station twice as long as a steam-powered LHA before

And transferring an inventory of nearly two million gallons of fuel and lube oil. During the South America sail-around, AMERICA took on over three million gallons of fuel in several South American ports. In October 2014, the ship received initial qualification for underway replenishments at sea, a noteworthy achievement for a newly commissioned ship.

needing to refuel.



nother important function of MP Division is the Approduction of potable water. Using four reverse-osmosis units, the division is capable of providing up to 200,000 gallons of potable water a day for drinking, food preparation, laundry, showers, and medical services. The division also operates and maintains the 2,000-gallons-per-day High Purity Reverse Osmosis Unit, which provides water for the Water Mist System, gas turbine water washing, Combat Systems equipment cooling, and AV-8 Harrier engine cooling.

y ensuring the ship can meet all underway requirements, Dproviding for the health and comfort of the crew, and supporting Combat Systems and flight deck operations, the hard-working Sailors from Main Propulsion Division are always contributing to AMERICA's mission readiness.



GSM1 ORTIZ J. BONILLA



JOSHUA S. CHUN



HAUT. LE



FREDERICK A. MARCAIDA



CHARLES A. MUNOZ



GSM1 LAYOLA L. PAGE



EDGAR I. PERALTA



CRYSTAL F. CAMPBELL



AMANDA J. FLOYD









JARRETT A. MARSHALL



GREGOR R. MARTINEZ



ANTHONY J VU



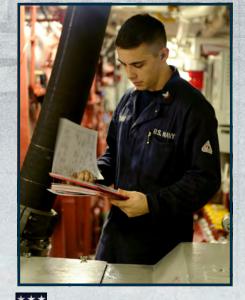
STEVEN P. COSENTINO JR.



GSM3 MIKHAIL D. MORAN



ADAM D. MULHERIN



GSM3 BRENT S. SCHENK



JACOB H. STEWART



CAMERON R. WEISENBURGER



GSEFN DAVID A. MORRISON



GSMFN CALVIN R. NECKEL



GSMFN JORDAN R. PANTALONE



GSEFN JOHN E. POTTER



FN MARK ROMANO



GSMFN ALEXANDER J. STANDARD



FN KHALLID R. YOUNG





FA MATTHEW J. HARVEY





GSMFA THOMAS F. ROMEO



MMFA MARANDA B. GAINEY



FA
ABIMAEL GONZALEZ



FA RUBEN GUERRERO JR.



FA CASSANDRA B. LAWSON



FR PATRICK L. HINTON



Executive Department



LT
LELANIE ARATEA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



KENNETH B. PAYNE
P-ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



NCCS
RYAN R. ROMES
COMMAND CAREER
COUNSELOR



MMCM
JOHN A. JOHNSON JR.
COMMAND
3M-COORDINATOR

USS AMERICA Executive Department includes Yeomen (YN), Personnel Specialists (PS), and Navy Counselors (NC) who provide pay, personnel, education, and administrative support services to more than 1,100 AMERICA Sailors and embarked Navy squadrons and staff. Under the guidance of the administrative officer, their overall mission is to improve the quality of life for Sailors aboard AMERICA.



EX01 Division

The Captain's Office is comprised of the Administrative Officer and the Ship's Secretary. Together, they are responsible for maintaining the commanding officer's schedule, the command's tickler, and oversight of the command's Administrative Office.

The Administrative Office is comprised of Yeomen, responsible for the processing of all command correspondence, instructions, notices, and evaluations for 1,187 enlisted and officer personnel, as well as the drafting and distribution of the Plan of the Day. The Administrative Office laid the foundation for our command's policies through the drafting of over 300 directives, ensuring a consolidated structure throughout the command, and greatly contributed to AMERICA's highly successful Crew Certification I and II, Light-Off Assessment, and Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Assessment.





YNC DIANA A. BRIONESRODRIGUEZ



YN1 LADONNA R. WILLIAMS



YN2 BRIAN J. FERRIN



YN2 BRIAN LEYVA



YNSA BRITTANY L. LAUGHLIN



YNSA KALEB L. SISSON





YNSR STEPHANIE P. CORTEZ

EX02 Division



PSCS DAVID A. LAZIO



PSC DANIEL J. PETERS



PS1 QUIANA R. MCGREW



PS1 MARLON D. RAMON



PS2 MONALISA ALOR



PS2 CLAYTON D. DAVIS



PS2 LEAH J. WOLFCALE



NATHANIEL J. PALSROK



PSSA JAMETRIC M. MACK

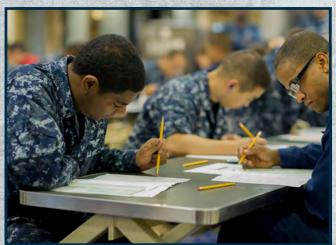


PSSR SHELLISE R. DONNERSON

The Educational Services Office (ESO) provides both traditional and non-traditional education training, including military and non-resident correspondence courses. Additionally, ESO is responsible for the preparations for and proctoring of Navy-wide advancement examinations. During our first

underway, the ESO team administered AMERICA's first E4 through E6 Navy-wide exams, providing 163 Sailors their advancement opportunity. The sail-around also launched our first Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE) semester, providing instructor-led courses in English, Math, and History that reached over 180 Sailors and Marines.

Personnel Specialists make up the Personnel Office.
They are responsible for the personnel Office. They are responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of 1,149 personnel records, providing pay, personnel, and transportation support services in connection with receipts, transfers, Fleet Reserve requests, and separations. Customer services include record of emergency data updates, Service Members Group Life Insurance, and pay/ personnel problem resolution. They are the manpower experts for the ship, responsible for tracking and monitoring manpower levels of all ratings throughout the ship to ensure AMERICA is sufficiently manned to accomplish the mission. They processed over 3,000 payaffecting documents, including hostile fire imminent danger pay, flight deck pay, family separation allowance, and career sea pay, and also arranged transportation for 30 personnel going on emergency leave.





EX03 Division



NCC MICHELL L. OLIVERIO



NC1 ROBERT A. WETZELL

The Command Career Counselors (CCC) serve as the critical link between an individual Sailor, his/her command, and supporting Navy organizations, including Navy Personnel Command (NPC). On behalf of the

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commanding officer, the CCCs are responsible for managing the Navy Enlisted Retention and Career Development Program within the command. Assigned to a position of great trust, CCCs report directly to the Executive Officer via the Command Master Chief. AMERICA has three Navy Counselors with 65 assigned collateral duty Department and Divisional Career Counselors. AMERICA's CCC team is the recipient of the Retention Excellence Award "Golden Anchor" two years in a row for outstanding career services and Sailor retention.

Training Division



LCDR COURTNEY RANK



JOSE O. GONZALEZ



GMC ANTHONY R. RUSSELL

The primary responsibility of the Training Division aboard USS AMERICA is to manage and execute every facet of training. This includes administration of the Command Indoctrination (INDOC) program, Division in the Spotlight (DITS) program, Personnel Qualification System (PQS) program, and the scheduling of all required schools and the travel associated with those schools.

The Legal Department is comprised of a Staff Judge Advocate and Command Legalman. The Legal Department advises the commanding officer and department heads on legal matters, including ethics, regulatory compliance, and international and operational law. The Legal Department also provides legal assistance to individual Sailors and Marines on a wide range of subjects, including powers of attorney, wills, private civil matters, tax, and family law. Legal also processes all crew disciplinary action such as courts-martial, non-judicial punishment, administrative separations, and various administrative investigations.

Legal Department



LT KYLE FRALICK STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE



LNC
ALICIA MARES
COMMAND LEGALMAN



DAWN M. STANKUS
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER



MCCS LAURA D. JAMES MEDIA DLCPO

SS AMERICA's Media Department consists of a Public

Affairs Officer and Mass Communication Specialists

Entertainment/Closed Circuit Television (SITE CCTV) Studio;

(MCs). The Media Team captures and releases stories, imagery, video, and graphic design products in support of Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, and Command communication priorities. Media manages the ship's social media sites; Fleet Hometown News (FHTN) Program; Shipboard Information, Training and



JASON M. GRAHAM



MC1 LEWIS S. HUNSAKER



MC1 DEMETRIUS A. KENNON



MC1 MICHAEL K. MCNABB



MC1 VLADIMIR RAMOS



MC1 JOHN R. SCORZA JR.



MC2 JONATHAN A. COLON



MC2 RYAN J. RILEY



MC3 HUEY YOUNGER JR.





Media is responsible for coordinating distinguished visitor embarks and visits, media embarks, ship tours, and public visiting events. The team organizes and facilitates media engagements, press conferences, and media queries. In addition, the department drafts media advisories and press releases in response to specific situations such as routine inquiry and emergency or contingency operations. Media assists the Operations Department with Ship's Nautical or Otherwise Photographic Exploitation (SNOOPIE) Team video and photography requirements.

During "AMERICA Visits the Americas," the Media Department was instrumental in the organization and execution of four high-visibility press conferences, media inquiries, numerous in-port and at-sea tours, and special events coverage. Their combined efforts with SOUTHCOM, C4F, MARFORSOUTH, and ESG-3 Public Affairs captured the story of myriad bilateral evolutions, framing the production of 100,000 images, 100 print stories, and 40 videos. The deployment's information campaign reached over 200 media outlets and millions of people throughout South America and the United States.







Medical Department



JIAN M. MEI
SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER

MERICA's Medical Department is comprised of two

medical officers, one medical administration officer, one independent duty corpsman, and 23 corpsmen. The medical spaces consist of a seven-bed triage area, 21-bed ward, and three-bed ICU. Two operating rooms can be used for a wide range of procedures, including endoscopic procedures using cameras. Medical has 250 additional beds in casualty overflow berthing if it needs to expand during Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

Every day, the Medical team is prepared to provide care to



HMCS
THOMAS W. HOLDER
MEDICAL DLCPO



WILLIAM BUTLER



NICOLE GONZALEZ



HMC MELCHOR M. LARUA



HMC JUDEN P. RAMOS



HMC MICHAEL B. ZINA



HM1 PAULMARLON BARNACHEA



HM1 HENRY A. BECOAT



HM1 ERIN E. CASTILLO



HM1 GENESIA N. SALGADO

the Sailors and Marines serving aboard AMERICA in the following complete diagnostic procedures: laboratory, blood blank, digital radiology, pharmacy, audiology, preventative medicine, and medical records. Medical administration plays a critical role when entering foreign ports, establishing liaison with local medical treatment facilities, and tracking all personnel off-ship requiring future medical evaluation. The Medical team is devoted to providing the best healthcare available to AMERICA's crew and embarked squadrons and staffs.





HM2 CARLOS A. AGUILAR



HM2 ADAM P. REYNOLDS



HM3 NICHOLE B. BROOKE



HM3 DAMIEN D. DINKINS



HM3 MATTHEW R. HESSAMFAR



HM3 TIFFANY R. PARSONS



HN BRYCE S. BOOTH



HN ELIZABETH K. BROOKS



HN NICOLE R. GORASENGHOR







HN RAYMOND SORIANO





Navigation Department



LCDR BRYAN G. CABLE NAVIGATOR



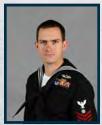
QMC
ADAM R. BOND
NAVIGATION DLCPO



PATRICK R. PIZZARO



ANDREW L. SANDERS



QM1 CHRISTOPHER W. WALLS



QM2 AMY M. BIRKHOLZ



QM2 CORTNEY R. BROWN



QM2 ARMANDO D. DIAZ



QM3 SAUSHA L. DOYLE



QM3 MARIA A. SMITH

To prepare for underway periods, Quartermasters organize and update charts in accordance with Notice to Mariners, Local Notice to Mariners, and area warnings distributed by the Coast Guard and national mapping

The primary job of the Quartermasters (QM) is to safely navigate the ship. Quartermasters keep an accurate plot and position of the ship by using charts, visual aids, electronic navigation equipment, and the stars. They ensure AMERICA transits safely and timely to support her missions.

he Navigation Department is comprised of Sailors who

specialize in navigation and visual communications.

authorities. Quartermasters use visual communications, including flashing lights and flags, to communicate with both military and civilian vessels of all nations.

Navigation is one of the smallest departments, but performs one of the ship's most crucial functions. AMERICA's incredibly successful and highly publicized maiden voyage was a deployment circumnavigating South America. The Quartermasters safely navigated the ship over 15,380 nautical miles, all in unfamiliar waters between Pascagoula, Mississippi, and San Diego, California, executing 20 restricted water transits within only 14 weeks, in and out of nine ports (including three anchorages), and a two-day transit through the Strait of Magellan.



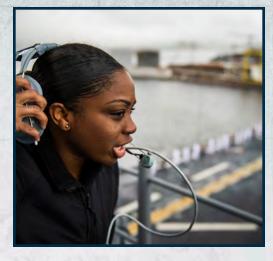














Operations Department



CDR
JASON B. SCHEFFER
OPERATIONS OFFICER



OSCS
ERIC D. COLEMAN
OPERATIONS DLCPO

Operations Department controls the functional and tactical operation of the ship, as well as the scheduling and execution of all tactical and routine operations.

The Combat Information Center controls all warfare and detection modules. The Ship's Signals Exploitation Spaces (SSES), as well as the Joint Information Center (JIC), provide continuous Indications and Warning (I & W) and special intelligence communication support.

Air Operations coordinates all flight operations and ensures the proper functioning of the Amphibious Air Traffic Control Center. The Meteorology Office continually monitors sea and weather conditions, providing valuable information for operational briefs.





Indiana and a second

LT KYLE B. FRANKLIN



AGC JEREMY D. DRUIETT

OA Division



AG1 ASHLEY L. BEACHAM



AG2 SYMONE ANTHONY



AG2 MADISON JONES



AG2 BARRETT C. VENABLE

The aerographer's mates (AG) and meteorologist assigned to OA Division continuously monitor atmospheric and oceanographic conditions for operational safety and tactical exploitation by airborne, surface, and sub-surface platforms. They provide meteorological and oceanographic (METOC) environmental forecasts, as well as tactical electromagnetic, electro-optic, and acoustic forecast products in support of battle group assets. OA also provides aviation and surface forecasts for avoidance of severe weather, tropical, and extra-tropical storms.

The 15,284-nautical-mile sail-around transit was conducted during the Southern Hemisphere winter and was characterized by harsh and challenging

environmental conditions. The ship was confronted with extreme weather, ranging from hurricanes in the tropics to high winds and currents in the Strait of Magellan. During this transit, OA Division's products supported CTF-49 planning, AMERICA's leadership decision-making, and embarked air wings' flight operations. This support included 134 routine en-route ship forecasts, 268 Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFS), 102 flight-weather briefings, and 1,608 Surface Weather observations/reports. OA Division also provided two divert recommendations to avoid hazardous weather that occurred along USS AMERICA's originally intended track.







ITIG

LTJG SCOTT R. POWELL



ACC RONESHA Q. NATION

OC Division



ACC FERNANDO MONTES



AC1
DERRICK SANTIAGO



AC2 ELISABETH A. ALBRECHT



SHAVON N. ARMSTRONG



AC2 LINDSEY M. DAVIS



AC2 MIGUEL O. HERNANDEZ



AC2 LESLIE R. LEWIS



AC3 RYAN M. FITZPATRICK



AC3 CHRISTOPHER A. NAVARRO



MARK R. VALENCOURT

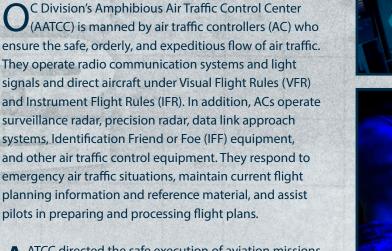


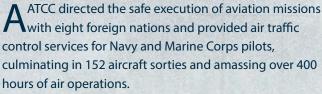
ERIC J. CULLUM



ACAN KEVIN I. KENNELLY









QUINCY SEAWRIGHT



OSC SHANNON R. PATRICELLI

OI Division



ENS COLIN M. BRUTON



STEVEN A. LOWE



TARENTA L. PAYNE

he operations specialists (OS) assigned to OI Division man the Combat Information Center. Their primary mission is to gather, process, display, evaluate, and disseminate all tactical information. They accomplish this through the use of radar consoles, radios, computers, data links, and electronic countermeasure equipment. Their secondary mission is to assist the bridge in radar plotting and navigation.



DANIEL S. FANO



JORGE GALLEGOS



KENNETH W. JENKERSON JR.



ISIS L. JONES



OS1

JASON C. ESCALANTE

JEREMY S. MURPHY



DANIEL E. OCONNELL



MARTINA D. STOVALL



BRANDON L. STURKEY



OS1 PARISHA C. WILSON



LAPAUL D. WORDLAW



LAREINA S. BOSWELL



RICHARD J. DERFLINGER





OS2 SCOTTY W. LANDRY



OS2 JONATHAN M. MARVICK



OS2 DEONDRA D. ROSE



OS2 KYLET. SMITH



OS2 STEPHANIE L. TRINKLE



OS3 COREY R. BRICE



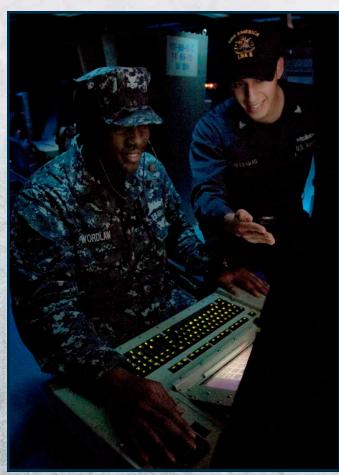
OSSN AUSTIN C. ENGLISH



OSSN JAMES REBURIANO



OSSA CRAIG A. WOOD





ESSENCE S. WRIGHT

OSSA

JUSTICE M. JOHNSON



DENNI H. ARROY



OSSA AVERY M. WRIGHT



LT JOSEPH L. HAKE



CTRC KENNON C. REINE

OT Division



CTRC
CAMERON G. CHADD



CTRC KENNETH R. COKER JR.



CTRC
DANIEL J. KRUPPENBACHER



CTMC MARY F. MOORE



KURT J. MYERS



CTRC
LAUREL SCHWINDENHAMMER



CTR1 STEPHEN E. BITTMAN



CTR1
DANIEL H. COE



JOSEPH E. TILBURY



CTM2 TRAVIS S. BECKWITH



CTR2 BRITTANY D. BOWEN



KENNETH J. MADDEN



ARIELLE M. STUTSMAN



DOMINIC D. CHIMIENTI



CTRSN BRYSON D. WILLIAMS

T Division mans the Ship's Signals Exploitation Space (SSES). Their responsibility is to provide timely cryptologic support and Indications and Warning (I & W) in support of sustained air operations. In addition, they also perform national tasking to satisfy requirements in defense of the U.S. and its allies. The Division is manned by cryptologic technician collection (CTR) and cryptologic technician maintenance (CTM). The CTRs' duties include analysis of state-of-the-art communication signals using sophisticated high-powered computers, specialized



computer-assisted communications equipment, video display terminals, and electronic/magnetic recorders. The CTMs' duties include the installation, configuration, diagnosis, and repair of state-of-the-art electronic, computer, and network hardware and software systems.

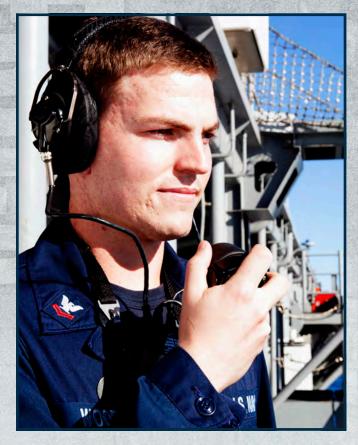
ENS





CTTC
JACOB C. WILSON

W Division is responsible for the operation of electronic intelligence-receiving and direction-finding systems, digital recording devices, analysis terminals, and associated computer equipment. The cryptologic technicians technical (CTT) assigned to the division perform a variety of specialized duties associated with the processing of airborne, shipborne, and land-based radar signals. The systems they operate also have radar-guided weapons systems and electronic countermeasures to defeat incoming missile threats.



OW Division



CTT1
VINCENT R. CANNON



CTT1
JAMES M. COUNCIL JR.



CTT1 MATTHEW F. NICHOLS



CTT2 TARYN B. SHANNON



CTT2
DANIEL S. WOOD



CTTSN TIMOTHY W. BARRETT



LT CYNTHIA R. DUKE



ISC JOSHUA D. LIVELY

OZ Division



IS1 JEFFREY A. JONES



IS1 TIFFANY N. RANDALL



ANTHONY Q. SEBASTIAN



JARED A. BORBON



TAYLOR N. ELLIS



IS2 EVAN T. LOMAX



IS2 AMBER N. MARCANTEL



JUSTIN R. MEISNER



AARON C. ONEILL



JOHNATHAN M. REED



ARMANDO G. RODRIGUEZ



STEPHANIE A. ANTKOWSKI



BRIAN R. ATKINSON



ROBERT D. GRAZIANO



ROBERT C. GREENE

The intelligence specialists (IS) assigned to OZ Division are responsible for supporting strike group operations. Most of these operations support the embarked air wing and provide hostile indications and warning to the commanding officer to defend the ship against enemy forces. To effectively accomplish the mission, OZ Division processes, analyzes, evaluates, and disseminates intelligence data in support of combat operations and national and strategic objectives.





IS3 NOELLE E. NICHOLS



JUSTIN M. STEWARD



ISSN TAMEEKA L. BURKS



ISSN SALVATORE E. POLIZZI

Safety Department



LCDR **CALEB BAUER SAFETY OFFICER**

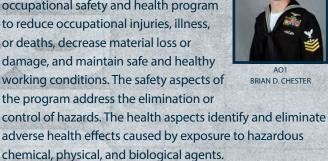


IT **ANDREW MOORE** P-SAFETY OFFICER



ADCS EMILIAN F. CALEAP SAFETY DLCPO

he Safety Department enhances operational readiness by administering an aggressive occupational safety and health program to reduce occupational injuries, illness, or deaths, decrease material loss or damage, and maintain safe and healthy working conditions. The safety aspects of the program address the elimination or



n important part of the Safety Department's mission is to Aprevent pollution, protect the environment, and protect natural, historic, and cultural resources. The Safety Team is committed to ensuring the ship operates responsibly within the environment. The Safety Team provides leadership to ensure all shipboard personnel develop and exhibit respect and vigilance toward environmental protection.

he Safety Department has spent countless hours identifying and addressing hazards, while providing the proper operational risk management controls to reduce them. Since the crew moved aboard, the Safety Team decreased onduty accidents and injuries by a remarkable 85%, and overall on- and off-duty accidents and injuries by 81%.





BRAD E. COOPER



EM1 VINCENT D. DUBOSE



DAVID C. OSWALT











Supply Department



CDR
EDMOND J. GAWARAN
SUPPLY OFFICER



CSCM
ALBERT B. PUYOT
SUPPLY DLCPO



LCDR
JONATHON W. COX
ASSISTANT SUPPLY OFFICER

The men and women of Supply Department are responsible for the procuring, receiving, handling, stowing, issuing, and accounting of general stores, aviation stores, electronic and ship's repair parts, mess provisions and supplies, ship's store merchandise, and hazardous materials. Supply is also responsible for the operation of the ship's post office and disbursements.

Just three months after taking delivery of the ship and moving the crew aboard, the Supply Department supported numerous dignitaries, embarked staff, squadrons, and ship's company. The team simultaneously coordinated port-services operations and logistically supported a major diplomatic reception for the SOUTHCOM Commander, Colombian Minister of Defense, U.S. Ambassador, and more than 400 distinguished guests, all within 12 hours of anchoring in the first port during the South America sail-around. The very next day, the logisticians transferred more than 60 pallets of humanitarian supplies and medical equipment to Colombian charity organizations in support of Operation Handclasp. In subsequent port visits to Brazil, Chile, and Peru, AMERICA's Logistics Team supported large and increasingly complex diplomatic events. After seven weeks, they had meticulously planned and successfully supported four 5-star receptions (400-700 guests each) and 12 diplomatic engagements for the Secretary of the Navy, Commanders of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and U.S. Southern Command, seven ambassadors and ministers of Defense, and countless dignitaries and flag officers.



MERICA's logisticians fostered a close working relationship with 4th Fleet's logistics experts. With no ability to replenish at sea, and thousands of miles from the nearest fleet concentration area, the Supply Team still managed to expedite 15 critical casualty reports (CASREP) part requisitions to keep AMERICA fully ready for sea. Between port visits while underway, they still found unconventional ways to resolve major logistics issues and exceed expectations every time. The Logistics Team successfully coordinated major events and operations throughout the maiden deployment, homecoming to San Diego on 15 September, and the phenomenal commissioning ceremony in San Francisco on 11 October 2014.

LT RANDAL E. BRADUM



LSCS VINCENT G. CULAS

S-1 Division



LT IVORY ERVIN



LSC LESLIE F. BLAIR



LS1 RICO P. ALONZO





LS1 MICHAEL D. BILL



LS1 JASON M. KING



LS1 RUPERTO M. SEDIEGO JR.



LS2 SCOTT F. BRUNZELL JR.



LS2 SATIMA T. DAVIS



LS2 JOSEPH A. THOMPSON

Stock Control Division performs all financial accounting for a \$3.5 million operating budget and 1.7 million-gallon aircraft fuel inventory. In addition, S-1 requisitions and accounts for 50,000 stock line items are valued in excess of \$41 million. S-1 is also responsible for coordinating services for the ship when visiting foreign ports and processing the payments in excess of \$2.5 million. S-1 provided the purchasing support required to perform every mission, from sending Marines ashore for training exchanges to hosting receptions aboard for dignitaries.





LS3 ZACHARY A. PUGH



CWO4
CESAR P. VALENCIA JR.



CSCS RANDALL L. CLIFT

S-2 Division



CSC SHERWIN W. CHILDERS



CS1 SHAMEKA D. HOOKER



CS1 CHRISTINA D. HUTCHINS



IAN C. LEAL



KRYSTLE N. MATTIA



CS1 LONNELL A. NEELY



CS1 TEOFILO C. PARDO



CS1
TED B. PARTOSAN



CS1 GIDEON K. COFIE



JOHN EPPERS



CS2 SUNNI J. GALLEGOS



KENNY Y. LEE



CS2 JOHNNIE L. MEWBORN JR.



CS2 CHRISTOPHER S. STEVENS



CS2 KLEYON A. WILLIAMS



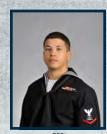
CS3 JOLIE A. BROCK



CS3
PATRICK O. DENNIS



CS3 VIRGINIA M. FISHER



CS3 CHRISTIAN A. MARIN



CS3 GERIKIVAN T. MATIAS



CSSN NOLAN C. BUCKNER



CSSN KAUSON T. FORBES



CSSN TELISHA T. PROCTOR

CSSN DONOVAN M. WILLIS

The Culinary Specialists get a chance to showcase their talents on a daily basis by preparing three meals daily for 1,000+ Sailors aboard the USS AMERICA, totaling about 3,240 meals per day. These meals include a 30-item salad bar, soup, side dishes, two entrées to choose from, and several dessert choices, providing healthy, quality meals for the crew. The CSs operate off the 21-Day Navy Standard Core Menu for "big decks." Even under these guidelines from big Navy, the CS Sailors manage to flex their culinary muscles, ensuring each meal is served hot, fresh, and on time. The team of Culinary Specialists uses progressive cookery to ensure the last crewmember in the chow line gets the same product as the first crewmember in line.

During the sail-around, the junior CSs prepared about 6,000 meals daily for Sailors and Marines, made almost

entirely from scratch. The Food Service Division also flawlessly pulled off four 5-star receptions in Colombia, Brazil, Peru, and Chile. The receptions allowed the Sailors to demonstrate their pride, patriotism, and professionalism, which had a positive effect on relations between the U.S. and host nations. The Culinary Specialists transformed AMERICA's hangar bay into a classy, floating banquet hall fit for the 4-star admirals and generals, along with ambassadors and various other military and civilian officials.



CSSN BRITTANY F. SCHNEIDER

BRITTNEY M. WILSON



CSSN DOMINIQUE A. WEAVER



JARED M. CAMPBELL



CHRISTOPHER BENNETT







LTJG DAVID KELTS



SHCS JUAN D. LANDIN

S-3 Division



SHC HELEN M. AYALA



SH1 ROBERTO CORIANO



SH1 GREGNITA T. FRANKS



SH1 JASON E. VALERO



SH2 TOMMIE DAVIS



SH2 MICHAEL J. GRAY



SH3 GILBERTO HERNANDEZ JR.



SH3 SHANNA M. POWELL



SHSN CHARLES B. ALLEN V



SHSN COREY A. LOVETT



SHSN JOHNNIE N. MACKEY III



GARRETT G. MORROW



SHSN ANA I. SAUCEDO



ADELINE D. SIMMS



SHSN DAVID A. WRIGHT



SHSA CRISTIAN W. ARZUAGA



SHSA KIARA L. BUCKSON

Sales and Service Division provides a source of low-cost, high-quality, daily-living merchandise and services, in addition to generating revenue for the ship's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund. S-3 administers and operates the Ship's Store, two barbershops, an industrial laundry facility, and 16 vending machines. The Sailors assigned are responsible for the procurement, receipt, stowage, and security of Ship's Store stock maintained in 10 storerooms. During AMERICA's maiden voyage, S-3 Division processed more than 54,869 lbs. of bulk laundry.



SHSA JOHNBENSON P. CALAZAN



SHSA YAN CHEN



Additionally, they processed 5,660 Officer/
CPO uniforms and knit bags. AMERICA's
barbers kept the crew looking great and
within standards, completing more than 3,051
quality haircuts. That's more than 1,000 hours
of cutting hair! The Ship's Store collected
\$172K in daily operations and five dignitary
receptions. The vending machines have
collected \$151K. The bulk storerooms haven't
been sitting idle! The ship's Bulk Storeroom
custodian has ensured the safe possession
and receipt of \$333,928 in Ship's Store stock.
These efforts resulted in the contribution of
over \$120K to AMERICA's MWR fund.





S-4 Division



LTJG JASMINE J. JORDAN



PSC DARIEN L. JOHNSON



PS2 DANIEL L. LIPSCOMB



The Disbursing Division is responsible for the disbursement and accountability of \$8 million in public funds. S-4 manages the ship's Navy Cash System, issues treasury checks to vendors, and maintains pay records for 1,200 personnel. During C4F deployment, the Disbursing Team effectively

enrolled 1,500 personnel into the Navy Cash program, significantly improving their quality of life by providing reliable access to their bank accounts while at sea. Throughout deployment, S-4 provided currency exchange services and processed withdrawals in excess of \$100K from personal Navy Cash accounts to provide Sailors and Marines access to cash while in foreign ports. Their services provided the crew with a safer alternative to spend their money recreationally, rather than using debit cards directly linked to their personal accounts. In just three short months, the Disbursing Team processed U.S. Treasury Checks totaling more than \$3.5 million, paying foreign vendors and husbanding agents in Cuba, Peru, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia. In addition to their accomplishments in foreign ports, Disbursing advanced over \$435K in travel entitlements and liquidated over 1,200 travel claims totaling over \$1M while at sea.



LTJG JUAN C. BENAVIDES

nations AMERICA visited.

The Wardroom Division provides mess and hotel services for over 80 officers, serving over 1,100 meals per day while underway and providing housekeeping services for 106 staterooms and all associated support spaces. The Wardroom Division is the first stop for all distinguished visitors and is responsible for catering all formal dinners and receptions. In addition to sharing the responsibility of the

four large receptions that AMERICA hosted in the hangar bay at each port visit, the Wardroom Team skillfully executed eight luncheons during the trip around South America. They entertained guests from Cuba, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Peru, and El Salvador. Their guests included U.S. ambassadors, foreign ministers of Defense and ministers of State, a former vice president, and multiple military leaders from the United States as well as all



CSC MICHAEL J. LOUISE

S-5 Division



CS1 MARCO F. GUEVARRA



CS1 ANGEL L. MELENDEZ



CS1 RHEDEN I. MONES



CSSN NOAH G. BYNUM



CSSN HENRY OKRAKU



CSSN LAURA OSORIO



CS1 ZIKIYA D. HOBSON



CSSN KADEDA A. JOHNSON



CSSN BLAKE A. BLACKWELDER



CSSN ASHA A. STEVENSON

LT JAMES WHITWORTH JR.



LSC RANDY A. FILLMORE JR.

S-6 Division



LS1 JALEKA D. MUSE



LS1 ANTHONY P. SOLIS



LS1 SARAH A. TRUJILLO

Aviation Support Division is responsible for managing 2,000 aviation and surface depot level repairable items in 10 storerooms valued at \$31 million. S-6 provides direct material support to aircraft such as the MV-22 Osprey, AV-8B Harrier II, CH-53D/E Sea Stallion helicopter, CH-46D/E Sea Knight helicopter, AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter, MH-60S helicopter, and, eventually, the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter. S-6 also supports shipboard repairs by maintaining a critical inventory of surface depot level repairable items for 35 work centers.





CHRISTOPHER M. ALPI



JEREMIAH C. LEBER



LS2 ESTEPHANIE ROMERO



JOHNNY BAE

and the second s

LCDR CANDICE LASTIE



LSCS ROBERTO G. BERNARDINO

S-8 Division



LS1 MELISSA M. POLANCO



LS2 KRISTOFFER A. GAFFUD



JULIUS C. GREEN

Material Division is responsible for the inventory management of all general stores in 15 storerooms throughout AMERICA. The division carries more than 9,700 line items in its storerooms. In an average month, S-8 issues over 600 repair parts, receives 1,500 pallets of cargo, processes over 1,600 receipts, and participates in all underway replenishments.



LS2 CASAUNDRA E. MONTGOMERY



LS2 ALEXANDRE P. SHAFER



LS2 ANYA C. WALLACE

Additionally, S-8 personnel manage and operate the ship's post office. These duties include processing and dispatching letter-mail and packages, stamp sales, and money-order sales. Each month, the ship's post office processes more than 375 pounds of incoming and outgoing mail.

espite a limited logistical support infrastructure during
USS AMERICA's maiden voyage around South America,
S-8 Division provided superb material support. It received and
processed more than 49 pallets of high-priority material valued at over \$5 million
and managed the receipt and stowage of over 400 pallets of initial COSAL material
upon the ship's arrival to its homeport, San Diego. Additionally, the ship's post office
processed over 5K pounds of incoming mail and 1K pounds of outgoing mail.







KAYLA M. WILLIAMSON



YUNHONG WEI



JOSEPH M. NASH III



LSSA TRACEY L. PREHN







LSC GARY L. BUCTON



JENNY MAGNO



GEORGE P. ORDANZA



VALERIE A. GRIGSBY



PAUL Y. ELANSA



azardous Material Division manages the ship's HAZMAT and Environmental Programs and provides customer service to the crew of AMERICA and embarked squadrons. S-9 made over 1,100 HAZMAT issues and collections for re-use on a monthly basis, which resulted in a savings of over \$5,000. Additionally, HAZMAT Division collected an average of six to eight tri-wall pallets of used HAZMAT and transferred to the military shore environmental facility for offload monthly. During the South America sail-around, the division issued over 2,500 of re-use HAZMAT, collected over 14 tri-wall pallets of used HAZMAT, and provided HAZMAT awareness training to over 1,200 personnel onboard.

Weapons Department

he men and women of Weapons Department are responsible for the stowage and movement of ammunition, ordnance, and ordnance components, including LFORM ammunition in 10 magazine spaces, to support embarked Aviation Combat Elements (ACE) and Ground Combat Elements (GCE), as well as AMERICA's selfdefense requirements. The department transports ammunition and explosive components via Weapons elevators to the hangar bay, and then to the flight deck for ACE and GCE use. The department uses elevators, forklifts, hoists, and Armament Weapons Support Equipment (AWSE) to support mission tasking. Additionally, Weapons Department provides an array of small arms and machine guns for self-defense.



LT
MATTHEW T. EATON
WEAPONS OFFICER



AOCM
LOUIS J. LADELIA
WEAPONS DLCPO





AOC

JULIO E. RODRIGUEZ



STEVEN R. ALMEROOD



AO2 AZURDEE M. SHELTON



AO2
JUSTIN S. WALTERS



AOAN JEROME T. BANAL

KATHLEEN D. MIRARCHI

G-1 Division



CHRISTINA V. BRODKORB



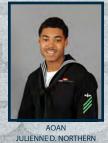
AO1 JASON R. LUTHGE



FABIOLA CESAR



AOAN CARL A. FLENOY JR.





AOAA MARJAHNÉ D. JOHNSON



AOAA JACOB P. LEE



AOAA AUSTON J. LOTTMAN



JUAN M. PRECIADO JR.





-1 Division is primarily responsible for supplying serviceable ammunition and explosive ordnance to embarked ACE and GCE. They are directly responsible for the safety, security, upkeep, inventory, monitoring, and movement of all explosive ordnance located on or above the main deck, including temporary staging areas and ready service lockers; monitoring Hazards of Electromagnetic Radiation to Ordnance (HERO) conditions; and maintenance of Armament Weapons Support Equipment Programs (AWSEP). During the maiden voyage, G-1 conducted vertical replenishment operations with AMERICA's Combat Cargo Department, and embarked and trained with Search and Rescue Detachments.

AARON RAPER



GMC TERENCE WILLIAMS

G-2 Division



JAIME QUINONES



ISAAC L. SCHMOKER



RAUL A. AFANADOR JR.



ERIK DAVILA



ANTHONY HENSON JR.



GM3 SHAKKAI E. ANDERS



CHRISTOPHER B. WOMACK



GMSA ARIANNA O. BARTHOLOMEW



AOAA CODY W. COREY



AOAA JACK R. GUNZELMAN

G-2 Division's primary

responsibilities















AOCS LAWRENCE J. GROVE

-3 Division, the largest in Weapons Department, is responsible for the safe receipt, handling, stowage, breakout, assembly/disassembly, and delivery of all ammunition, explosive ordnance, and airborne weapons to the hangar bay and flight deck.

G-3 Division



SHAUN M. CATES



AOC IVORY D. COACHMAN



AOC COURTNEY N. CRAIG



CIRENIA C. SANCHEZ



JAMMIE T. COOPER



JACOB J. JOHANCEN





AO1 PABLO R. PAREDES



AO1 SEFTON H. SEMPLE



AO1 MARCUS E. VAN



AO2 ALEX D. GEORGE



AO2 HUNG LEE



NORKITA A. MCDONALD



AO2 CHARLES D. PRESTRIDGE



AO2 BENJAMIN S. WALDEN



AO3 FRANCISCO J. MUNOZ



AOAN MATTHEW L. ALLANDE



AO2 STEPHEN J. WILIE



AO3 GUNNER M. KAZOL



AO3 CAMILA J. MARINIPRIETO





ANTHONY P. HASKELL

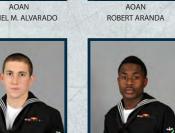


JOSHUA E. KITE



AOAN JOSEPH ORTA





AOAN CHARLES L. HILL



AOAN ROBERT B. DECATUR III

JOSHUA M. HOLLADAY



AOAN CHRISTOPHER R. SWANBERG

AOAN RIO D. FIELDS



AOAN MICHAEL A. TESCH



AOAN SHANNON E. TURNBULL



JOSEPH R. HETZLER

AOAN DANIEL J. REYNAGALETENDRE



DOMONIQUE REYNOLDS



AOAA CHRISTOPHER L. BUCHANNAN



AOAA COREY R. DEARMONT



AOAA CASSANDRA B. DELK



AOAA SUNNYI B. FRAZER



AOAN

AOAA ADRIAN G. GARTH



AOAA

DESMOND D. AYERS

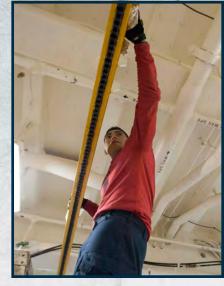
AOAA AUSTIN L. HAMMOND



JAKE A. HURLOCK



JOHEEN L. JONES



AOAA ZERRION M. MALLERY



AOAA KHALID R. MALLORY



AOAA JAMES R. MARTIN



AOAA NOAH K. MERCIER



AOAA ANDUJAR N. MOLINA



AOAA RYAN H. PFLEGER



AOAA RUNCHENG QI



AOAA CHANCE B. SPARKS



CHRISTOPHER C. STRICKLIN



KEANTAE L. TERRELL



DAVID E. TILLMAN



DANIEL W. BEASLEY II





ENS JOHNNY E. BREWER

G4 Division

-4 Division provides administrative support for the Weapons Department, Gincluding ammunition accounting, training, financial management, and correspondence management. These Sailors direct the aviation ordnance group in the efficient operations and maintenance of assigned stowage spaces, ready service magazines, sprinkler systems, weapons elevators, and associated handling equipment. Additional responsibilities include the requisition, receipt, inventory, issue, and safe movement of all ammunition and explosives.



CHRISTOPHER M. RIVERA



GERALD R. THORNLEY III



LT
TIMOTHY SHEPTOCK
SECURITY OFFICER

Security Division consists of 10 sworn law enforcement officers and eight temporarily assigned personnel. Their mission is to protect the ship and its occupants, preserve the peace, and uphold the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The division's services are those offered by a traditional police department, including crime-scene processing, counternarcotics, and law enforcement patrol; it also offers non-traditional services such as anti-terrorism and force protection.



MAC SCOTT E. JOHNSON CHIEF MASTER-AT-ARMS

Security



MAC MELODIE KOSIBA



MAC LEONARD SOLOMON



MA1 RAUL S. CABAN III



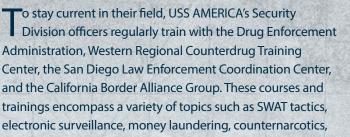
MA2 REBECCA S. CARPENTER



MA2 LEONARD J. GALLEGOS



MA2 JERALD W. HALLFORD





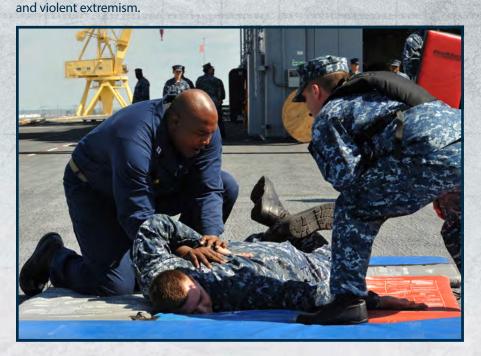
MA2 IVAN PELLECER



CHRISTOPHER D. SOMMA



AOAN BRANDON N. MUNOZ





Prior to AMERICA's commissioning, the Security Division worked jointly with NCIS in counter-intelligence investigations, sexual assault investigations, and counternarcotics operations.

During AMERICA's transit around South America, the Security Division protected the ship in foreign ports, worked security for numerous dignitary parties, and served as a liaison to foreign law enforcement.

The Security Division has conducted 14
Between the Lifeline courses, which include a
basic knowledge force-protection watchstanding
course that trains Sailors in reaction force
and sentry techniques. These courses trained
approximately 294 Sailor students to protect the
ship.

n addition, Security Division conducted more than 60 urinalysis tests, ensuring that approximately 7,200 personnel complied with the Navy's "Zero Tolerance" policy.





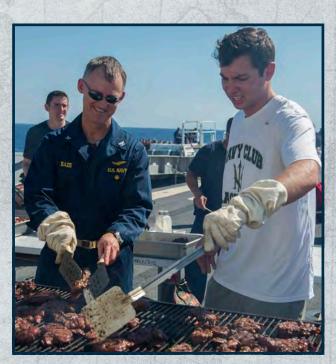




SHANNON SMITH FUN BOSS



PATRIOT PETE MASCOT



Morale, Welfare, and Recreation

Department is responsible for most of the leisure activities, aboard and ashore. Its mission is to develop and conduct programs and services designed to improve the overall morale of the ship's crew and contribute to their quality of life. MWR provides ship-sponsored tours in foreign ports, equipment checkout, recreational and sporting activities, and various ticket sales to events taking place in and around San Diego. In addition, MWR maintains and purchases equipment for the ship's gym. MWR recognizes that having an active lifestyle plays an essential role in the well-being of our Sailors. During AMERICA's maiden voyage around South America, MWR organized 43 tours in five countries, with 2,474 participants.







Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 21

"Blackjacks"









AD2
QUINTIN HOPKINS



AD2 DYLANT. JACOBY



JOSEPH LUNA



NICOLAS PUENTE



JASON RICO



AD2 LUKE SARRO



AO2 ECHO SUNDAY F. TUFU



AT3 ADRIAN HERRERA





AD3 RICHARD B. MILNER



AD3 JANNICEJOIE S. REYES



AT3
TREVOR VINDELOV



AMAN MYKEL C. SOLAS















Marine Operational and Test Evaluation Squadron (VMX 22)

"Argonauts"

























Special Purpose Marine AirGround Task Force South





LtCol
GEORGE HASSELTINE
COMMANDING OFFICER



SgtMaj WESLEY SCHAFFER SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER



























AMERICA Visits the Americas

11 July - 15 September

The ship's maiden transit, "AMERICA Visits the Americas," encompassed USS AMERICA's journey from Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Mississippi, on July 11, 2014, to its homeport of San Diego, California, on September 15. The crew visited and hosted distinguished visitors from Cartagena, Colombia; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Valparaiso, Chile; and Callao, Peru. While at sea, the crew also hosted distinguished visitors from Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and El Salvador. As the ship transited the southernmost point of South America through the Strait of Magellan, the Secretary of the Navy embarked USS AMERICA and held an all-hands call in the ship's hangar bay.

Throughout the transit, AMERICA's military and civilian crew had the opportunity to experience each host nation and serve as goodwill ambassadors through community relations projects and sporting events. The transit focused on building partnerships through theater security cooperation engagements and several bilateral/multilateral exchanges. Along with the 1,100 Sailors and Marines from ship's company, the embarked flag staff from Expeditionary Strike Group 3, roughly 300 Marines from Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) South, and pilots from both the "Argonauts" of Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron (VMX) 22 and the "Blackjacks" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 21 joined AMERICA's journey.



Cartagena, Colombia

17-19 July



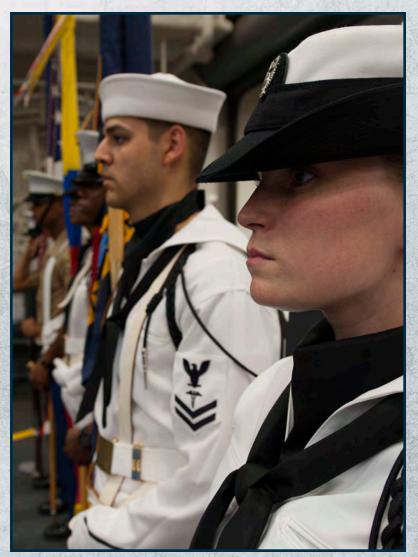
colombia was the crew's first stop on the ship's maiden voyage. While anchored off the coast of Cartagena, AMERICA hosted a welcome reception in the ship's hangar bay. Distinguished guests included Dr. Kevin Whitaker, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia; Gen. John F. Kelly, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; Juan Carlos Pinzon Bueno, Colombian Minister of National Defense; Gen. Juan Pablo Rodriguez Barragan, commanding officer, Colombia Military Forces; and local Colombian civilian dignitaries and military officials. A press conference was held on the ship's flight deck with 34 Colombian media outlets, resulting in extensive nationwide coverage in Colombia. AMERICA's soccer team also played a friendly match against the local Colombian naval team.

During the visit in Cartagena, the crew offloaded 52 pallets of medical supplies and toys to children suffering from terminal illnesses. The supplies were delivered as part of Project Handclasp, a Navy program that transports educational, humanitarian, and goodwill material donated by the U.S. private sector for distribution to recipients in foreign nations.

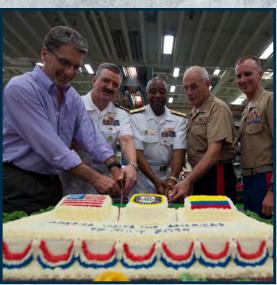
Press Conference































Ship Tours









Soccer Game









Liberty



























Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

21-22 July



Following the Colombia port visit, USS AMERICA transited to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The port's strategic position is essential to maritime strategy and serves as a cornerstone of U.S. military operations in the U.S. Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet Area of Responsibility. Located on the southeast corner of Cuba, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay is about 400 air miles from Miami, Florida.

During the visit, AMERICA took advantage of the port's location and capabilities by taking on fuel and stores to continue its transit around South America. The AMERICA crew also had an opportunity to enjoy base amenities, such as its nine restaurants, Navy Exchange, and recreation activities, and competed in a friendly soccer game between AMERICA Sailors and U.S. military personnel assigned to the base.

















Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

5-9 August

Prazil was the crew's third stop on the ship's maiden voyage. While in Brazil, the ship hosted a reception in the hangar bay for more than 450 guests. The distinguished guests included Liliana Ayalde, U.S. Ambassador to Brazil, and senior Brazilian, U.S. government, and military officials. During the visit, the ship's military and civilian crew had the opportunity to experience their host nation and to serve as goodwill ambassadors.

While moored at the Port of Rio de Janeiro, the crew participated in several community relations (COMREL) projects with local Brazilian military members. Some 25 Sailors teamed up with members of the Brazilian Navy at Albert Schweitzer Municipal School for a COMREL project. Together, they painted the gate and wall in front of the school and played soccer with the students. AMERICA's soccer team also played a friendly match against the local Brazilian naval team.

Arrival / Man the Rails





MERICA made a huge public affairs splash in Rio de Janeiro. More than 40 members of the Brazilian and international press went aboard for the ship's Media Day featuring a tour of the ship, remarks from Consul General Creamer, Rear Admiral Ponds, and an interview with Brazilian-American Boatswain's Mate First Class Tiago Campos. More than 22 different outlets published stories, reaching about two million Brazilians through print and radio. Many of their pieces highlighted USS AMERICA as the first ship of its kind, replete with Boeing MV-22 Ospreys. The media clamor reached the star of the popular Brazilian TV series Mais Voce, Ana Maria Braga (also known as the Brazilian Oprah), who featured a 16-minute exclusive on "a day in the life on the ship" for more than 20 million Brazilian television viewers.

Press Conference





Reception









Tours









Distinguished Visitors



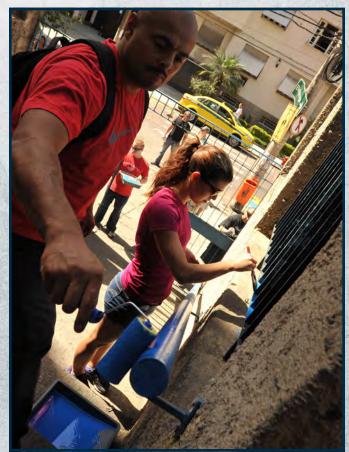








Community Relations







Soccer









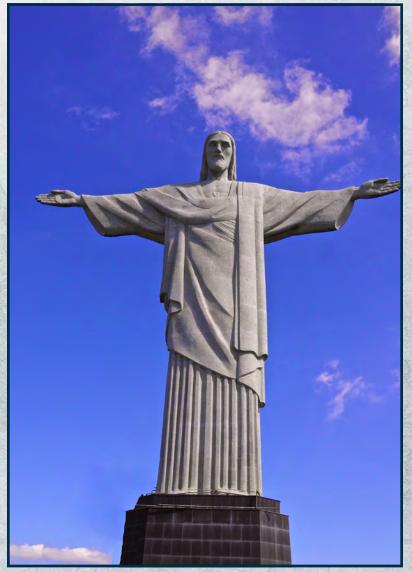
Liberty



















Strait of Magellan

19-20 August



This journey of 365 nautical miles at the southern tip of the hemisphere is rarely transited by U.S. Navy ships, as the majority of ships go through the Panama Canal. The Strait, known for its panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, can be both breathtaking and dangerous. As AMERICA made its way through the Strait, the cold weather and rough seas that frequent this region kept the crew on their toes.

Officers of the deck, and navigation team members on the bridge of AMERICA, had to pay particular attention throughout the transit to ensure the safety of the ship and its crew. In some instances, they collaborated with Chilean Navy sailors embarked aboard who were more familiar with maneuvering in the area.

Prior to entering the Strait, Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, and Michael Hammer, U.S. Ambassador to Chile, embarked AMERICA for a portion of the evolution. The ship anchored off the coast of Punta Arenas, Chile, for one night, where Secretary Mabus addressed the Sailors and Marines during an all-hands call in the ship's hangar bay.













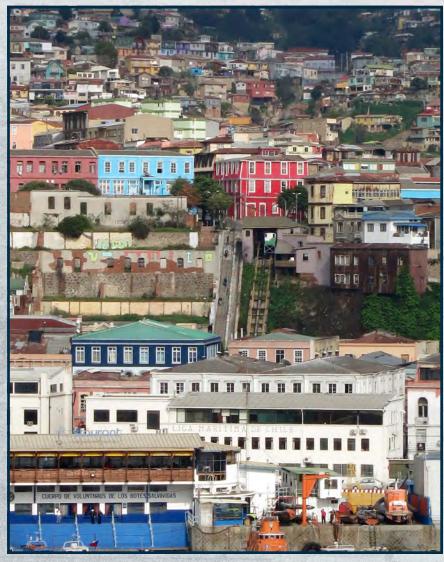
WH rec 30

Valparaiso, Chile

24-27 August

chile was the AMERICA crew's fourth stop on the ship's maiden voyage. While in Valparaiso, the ship hosted a reception in the hangar bay for more than 300 guests. Distinguished guests included Michael Hammer, U.S. Ambassador to Chile; Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; and numerous senior Chilean, U.S. government, and military officials.

During the three-day port visit, the crew provided guided tours of the ship to nearly 500 people from the local community, including U.S. Embassy families, members of the Chilean military, and students. The crew was also able to experience their host nation and serve as goodwill ambassadors through sporting events with Chilean soccer and rugby teams, and through participation in a community relations event at Arturo Prat Children's Home. A press conference on the ship's flight deck, hosting 20 Chilean press members, resulted in widespread national media coverage in Chile.



Man the Rails





Press Conference





Reception





Distinguished Visitors







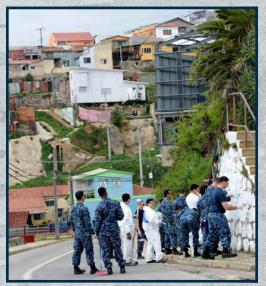


















Tours















PASSEX Exercise









Liberty

















Callao, Peru

31 August-3 September

Peru was the crew's final port visit on the ship's maiden transit, "AMERICA Visits the Americas." While in Callao, AMERICA hosted a reception in the ship's hangar bay for more than 300 guests. The distinguished guests included the Honorable Brian A. Nichols, U.S. Ambassador to Peru; Gen. John F. Kelly, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and senior Peruvian, U.S. government, and military officials.

While in port, 25 AMERICA Sailors participated in a community relations (COMREL) project with Peruvian Navy sailors at Immaculate Conception Municipal School. The volunteers teamed up with the Peruvian sailors to paint portions of the school and refurbish the lawn. AMERICA's soccer team also played a friendly match against the local Peruvian Navy

team. After the game, members from both teams exchanged mementos and enjoyed a barbecue prepared by the Peruvian Navy. Members of the AMERICA crew also participated in rugby and basketball games with Peruvian sailors. A press conference on the ship's flight deck, hosting 25 Peruvian press members, produced far-reaching media coverage in Callao. Following the ship's departure from anchorage, AMERICA conducted a series of formation drills with seven Peruvian naval ships.

Press Conference









Reception









Distinguished Visitors



















Tours





Rugby









PASSEX Exercise





Liberty























Homecoming

15 September



On 15 September 2014, Sailors and Marines aboard USS AMERICA were reunited with their families and friends at the conclusion of the ship's maiden voyage during a very memorable "Homecoming" event. Husbands, wives, children, parents, and friends lined up on Pier 13 with signs, American flags, and flowers to express their gratitude and happiness as AMERICA pulled pierside at Naval Base San Diego.



















San Francisco, California Fleet Week

6-12 October

The six-day-long event included nearly 25,000 guests from the San Francisco Bay Area who had the opportunity to tour Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS CHOSIN (CG 65), Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS KIDD (DDG 100), and the Navy's newest Amphibious Assault ship, USS AMERICA (LHA 6).

S FFW 14 also included performances by the Navy's Blue Angels flight demonstration team, multiple performances by the Navy Band Southwest, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief displays at Marina Green Park, and the traditional Italian Heritage Day parade, in which Sailors proudly marched down the street as they were cheered on by thousands of people.

SFFW 14 also included a Senior Leadership Symposium, which illustrated cooperation between the sea services and civil authorities. The two-day event brought together leaders from the military and the private sector, along with local, regional, state, and federal agencies, to discuss their capabilities to respond to a natural disaster in the Bay Area.

The highlight of SFFW 14 was the commissioning of USS AMERICA, during which an overwhelming turnout of guests attended to watch the fourth ship of its name become the newest addition to the fleet.

Arrival



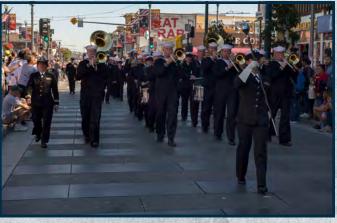






Fleet Week Parade









Reception











Mrs. Lynne Pace – Ship's Sponsor



















San Francisco 49ers Visit









USS America (CV 66) Veterans Association Visit











Ship Tours











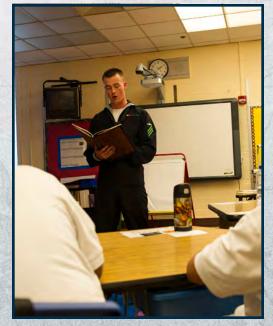




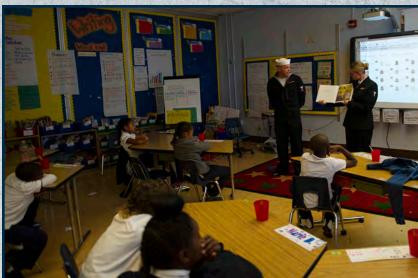


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Community Relations













Commissioning Ceremony

11 October

USS AMERICA (LHA 6), the Navy's newest and most technologically advanced amphibious assault ship, was commissioned during a formal ceremony at Pier 30/32 during San Francisco Fleet Week, Oct. 11, 2014. More than 8,000 friends, family members, and invited guests gathered in front of the ship to witness its introduction to the fleet. During the ceremony, Adm. Harry B. Harris, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet, commended the crew for their performance during acceptance trials and the transit around South America. He said that conflict and crisis can arise at any time, so warships like AMERICA will be needed as the nation conducts its strategic rebalance to the Pacific.

The Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, commissioned AMERICA and spoke on how important it truly is to have

a ship named AMERICA join the fleet. Mrs. Lynne Pace, ship's sponsor and wife of retired U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Peter Pace, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, gave the order, "Man the ship and bring her to life!"

The crew responded by exclaiming, "Aye, aye, ma'am!" All the Sailors began running toward the brow to man the ship as the Navy Band Southwest played "Anchors Aweigh." Crewmembers took their places, side by side, manning the rails as the ship's systems came online. Radars, weapon systems, and other parts of the ship began moving to symbolize the ship "coming to life."



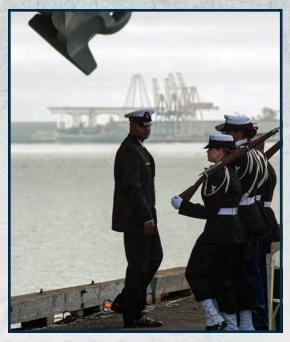








































Tiger Cruise San Francisco to San Diego

13-16 October

SS AMERICA's first Tiger Cruise commenced following the conclusion of Fleet Week 2014 on Monday, 13 October. Some 275 happy "Tigers" joined the crew as the ship transited from San Francisco back to San Diego. The three-day cruise provided a unique opportunity for AMERICA crewmembers to acquaint their families and friends with the ship and their shipboard duties. The Tiger Cruise helped strengthen family ties and increase awareness and appreciation of the Navy and its mission through personal interaction and experience.

Tigers were encouraged during their time aboard to fill out a Personal Qualification Standard (PQS), which basically consisted of a shipboard scavenger hunt. Families and friends searched AMERICA high and low to find everything from the ship's bridge to the library to the pulper room.



















All of us on USS AMERICA appreciate the support we receive from our nation so that we may better serve you.

We particularly thank the sponsors of this historical commemorative for helping us preserve our legacy.



To the Sailors and Crew of USS AMERICA,

We offer our heartfelt thanks for the dedicated service each of you performs every day. You all make us proud of our Navy and help us find comfort in knowing we are safer and protected because of your efforts. We are also grateful for your fine example to our children. As parents, we hope our children look to good influences throughout their lives—ours indeed look up to you and want to be more like you. May God be with you in your continued service and responsibilities.

Sincerely,

—The Bradleys Shawn, Annette, Cheyenne, Ciera, Chelsea, Charity, Chance, and Chase Dear Sailors on USS AMERICA,

We wish to express our sincerest gratitude for your dedicated, sacred service and your efforts to protect freedom around the world. We are honored to help in a small way with the creation of this book. Hopefully, this keepsake will be handed down for generations as a testament of your example of selfless service to our great nation and its citizens.

God Bless,

—Stephen Samuelian
The Perfect Moment Foundation

To the men and women of USS AMERICA:

My family and I take great pride in playing a role in making the first USS AMERICA book a reality! We hope it allows the dedicated crew who represent our country with such grace and distinction to appreciate and share with their families and friends the bravery, pride, professionalism, sacrifice, caring, and love of freedom memorialized in the pages of the book. They themselves shared these feelings with our entire nation and with many other countries during their first tour on the USS AMERICA. Thank you for your service and for your sacrifices to ensure that humanity, peace, and freedom will always have a safe harbor wherever the USS AMERICA and her crew venture!

Gratefully,

— Mike Anderer CEO, S2



To the men and women of USS AMERICA,

On behalf of my family and all our associates, I would like to sincerely express our gratitude and appreciation to the great men and women who serve aboard USS AMERICA. Because of your sacrifices, we are able to enjoy our freedoms—all of America is safer because of what you do. Your service and dedication teach us the importance of teamwork, tenacity, and integrity. I'm proud to say this is my Navy, and it's an honor to show my gratitude for all you do by helping to provide this record of your legacy. I hope you will always remember, as you fulfill your duty every day, how much your fellow Americans appreciate what you do.

Best wishes,

—Wade M. Mitchell CEO NuVenture Group To each Sailor on the USS AMERICA,

We are deeply honored to be a small part in making sure your service is remembered and respected. We pay tribute to each one of you for choosing to volunteer in defense of our nation and our liberties. We know your service aboard the AMERICA allows our family to feel protected. As we go about our daily lives, you train, leave your families, sacrifice the comforts of home, and perform with exceptional skill and professionalism. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to thank you for what you do to keep our country safe.

With sincerest gratitude,

—Scott and Karen Keller
President/CEO
Keller Investment Properties, LLC

To the crew of USS AMERICA (LHA 6):

In 1926, the Naval Historical Foundation took on the challenge of honoring the legacy of the thousands of Sailors who had served in the U.S. Navy from 1775 (the time of the first USS AMERICA) through World War I (the time of the second AMERICA). That legacy has grown as millions of Americans have donned the Navy uniform for active service during World War II, the Cold War, the Korean and Vietnam Wars, and combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some 239 years after the creation of the Navy, you and your ship have begun to build on that legacy as you embark on a vitally important mission to defend American interests. Decades from now, you will open this book and reflect back with fond memories and a sense of accomplishment that you proudly served your country, "Prepared in War or in Peace," aboard the latest Navy ship to bear the name AMERICA!

Fair winds and following seas,

— Bruce DeMars Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired) Chairman, Naval Historical Foundation

