



the Almanac

"I have not yet begun to fight!" USS BONHOMME RICHARD LHD 6

February 15, 2012

BHR Leaves San Diego for Hull Swap

Story by MC2 Frank Andrews

The crew of USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) and more than 800 embarked Marines of the 2nd Battalion 1st Marines from Camp Pendleton are back at sea for a three month deployment that will include various exercises within the 7th Fleet area of responsibility. The ship will participate in a bilateral exercise with the South Korean navy and then perform a hull swap with USS Essex (LHD 2) as part of the Navy's long range plan to maintain a continuous, highly capable, amphibious ready group presence in the Pacific.



Lance Cpl. Derrek Nelson

The deployment will be a first for nearly 50 percent of the crew as well as many of the embarked Marines. "This is my first time out of the United

States," said Lance Corporal Derrek Nelson. "I'm looking forward to seeing different places and experiencing training with the Korean Marines. We have a lot of classes that are scheduled while underway, so when we get to Korea we'll be on top of our game."

The Asian Pacific tour will be a revisiting of the past for one of Air Department's V-3 division Sailor. "I'm looking forward to going across the

ocean and stopping in Guam." said Aviation Boatswain's Mate Airman Apprentice Rebecca Jones. "I lived in Guam when I was two years old. My dad was in the Navy but I don't remember a lot about Guam." The Navy announced Aug. 19, 2011, that USS Essex (LHD 2) will be relieved as the Navy's only permanently forward deployed amphibious assault ship in Sasebo, Japan. The crews of both ships will remain in their current geographic locations and simultaneously execute a hull swap and exchange ships.

Bonhomme Richard's Commanding Officer, Capt. Chuck Litchfield said the hull swap supports the Navy's overall readiness plan.

"We just finished bringing Bonhomme Richard through a year-long process of upgrades and scheduled maintenance, so the ship is prepared from a modernization and lifecycle perspective to support forward deployed operations for an extended period of time. We are looking forward to delivering her to Sasebo and turning over with Essex crew. Then we'll bring Essex back here to San Diego and take her through a similar maintenance availability," said Litchfield.



ABHAN Rebecca Jones

Essex, which has been forward deployed to Japan



Sailors and Marines aboard USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) man the rails as the ship deploys for a hull swap with USS Essex (LHD 2) in Sasebo Japan. (U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Marcus Stanley)

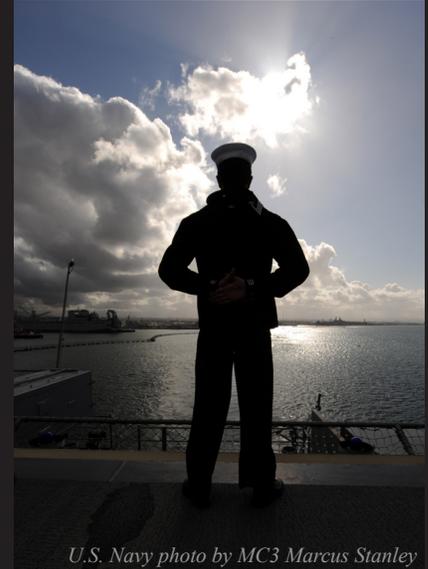
since 2000, will be reassigned to Expeditionary Strike Group Three within the U.S. Third Fleet and homeported in San Diego. Third Fleet leads naval forces in the eastern Pacific from the west coast of North America to the International Date Line.



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U.S. Navy photo by MCCS Joe Kane



U.S. Navy photo by MC3 Marcus Stanley

KBHR Movie Schedule for Wednesday Feb. 15, 2012

CHANNEL 3

0600
How Do you Know
0800
Twilight Eclipse
1015
500 Days Of Summer
1200
Eat Pray Love
1430
I Love You Beth Cooper
1630
Adjustment Bureau
1830
How Do You Know
2035
Twilight Eclipse
2235
500 Days Of Summer
0030
Eat Pray Love
0230
I Love..Beth Cooper

CHANNEL 4

0600
Sex & The City 2
0800
The Ugly Truth
1000
Valentines Day
1200
Red Riding Hood
1400
Love & Other Drugs
1600
Just Wright
1800
Sex & The City 2
2030
The Ugly Truth
2230
Valentines Day
0030
Red Riding Hood
0230
Love & Other Drugs

CHANNEL 8

0600
Social Network
0800
I don't know How She Does It
1000
Twilight New Moon
1200
Groundhog Day
1400
Footloose
1700
Avatar
1930
Social Network
2130
I Don't Know How She Does It
2300
Twilight New Moon
0100
Groundhog Day
0300
Footloose

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