

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Iranian Frigate Points Weapons at US helo

USNI News 8-5-15



U S Navy Photo of Iranian Frigate IRS Alvand F-71

The crew of an Iranian frigate briefly trained crew served weapons on a U.S. Navy helicopter and a coalition auxiliary ship during a July 25 incident in the Gulf of Aden, an U.S. Navy official told USNI News on Wednesday. Iranian Navy frigate IRS *Alvand* (F 71) engaged the MH-60R Seahawk and the auxiliary during a training operation with the USS *Farragut* (DDG-99). The Navy did neither disclose the nationality of the auxiliary nor provide details of the type of ship. Though the Navy didn't specify, the auxiliary was likely in the Gulf of Aden to support the long-standing international Combined Taskforce 151 (CTF-151) anti-piracy patrols. *Farragut* is deployed as part of the Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group (CSG).

France, Russia End Squabble Over Two Minstrel Class Ships



A contract to build two Minstrel-class amphibious ships for Russia has finally ended. France had refused to transfer the newly built ships to Russia and a dispute ensued with Russia demanding the ships or a refund of monies forwarded for the contract. France and Russia have reached a deal and the monies will be returned and any Russian equipment installed on the two ships will be returned. The vessels were to carry the names of

Sevastopol and *Vladivostok*. A statement was read that in effect said "The matter is over". The next chapter will be the sale of these two new ships. French president François Hollande told reporters that France will have little trouble finding new buyers for two Mistral-class amphibious warships. Perhaps something the U S Navy should look into? Some pundits say Canada and India have interest in the helo carriers.

PCU ILLINOIS SSN-786 Float-out (Launching)



EB Photo of "roll-out"

Illinois SSN-786 was launched on July 29. The chapter will sponsor a Launch cover for this event in the life of the submarine. Covers are in Groton for postmarking.

Pentagon Orders Shock Test for Carrier Gerald Ford, Could Delay First Deployment

USNI News by Sam LaGrone 8-11-15



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Second Class Aidan P. Campbell/Released

The Navy has been ordered by the Office of Secretary Defense to conduct shock tests on first-in-class carrier *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN-78) in a move that could delay the initial deployment of the ship. A spokeswoman for the service confirmed to USNI News on Tuesday the Navy had received direction for shock tests for the Ford-class from OSD but didn't provide additional details. The direction from OSD came in an Aug. 7 memo from Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (AT&L) Frank Kendall to Navy Secretary Ray Mabus. The service had planned to conduct the shock trails — which use live explosives to test the survivability of a ship's system under extreme conditions — with second carrier *John F. Kennedy* (CVN-79) to preserve the deployment schedule of the delayed *Ford*.

Check out the naval items on eBay. Proceeds go to Decatur Chapter. Seller: **CGCOVERGUY**

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