## Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

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## US Navy issues RFP for TH-XX helicopter trainer



US Navy photo of a TH-57 training helicopter making a landing aboard the Navy Helicopter Landing Trainer (HLT) BAYLANDER IX-514

The US Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) on January 28 issued a request for proposals (RFP) for the procurement of new TH-XX helicopter training aircraft. The new TH-XX aircraft will replace the TH-57B/C aircraft currently used by the US Navy for advanced helicopter training for undergraduate pilots. NAVAIR said it intends to award a single firm fixed price contract for the acquisition of a total of 130 commercial aircraft through a base and up to four options.

## China keeps eye on PH-US Coast Guard drills in South China Sea



Center and right, Philippine Coast Guard vessels BRP Batangas and BRP Kalanggaman sail with the USCGC Bertholf (left) on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, some 50 nautical miles from Subic Bay. PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD PHOTO

ABOARD BRP BATANGAS, West Philippine Sea — With Chinese government ships watching from a distance, one of the US Coast Guard's biggest and most advanced vessels conducted drills with Philippine counterparts near the Scarborough Shoal in the West Philippine Sea (WPS). BRP Batangas and BRP Kalanggaman joined the USCGC Bertholf on Tuesday for capacity-building exercises 50

nautical miles from Subic Bay. It was the first Philippine-US engagement of its kind in the disputed waters and likely a preview of the US Coast Guard's bigger role in the WPS, known also as the South China Sea.

Israeli Navy corvette named at German shipyard



From NavalToday.com

*INS Magen,* the first of four Israeli Navy Sa'ar 6 corvettes, has been officially named in Germany. The ceremony took place at the Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems yard in Kiel on May 23. The ship was named by Eti Sharvit, wife of Vice Admiral Eli Sharvit, Chief of the Israeli Navy, in presence of high-level representatives from the Israeli government and Navy as well as high-ranking German Navy officials. The three other units will be named *Oz*, *Independence* and *Victory*. Construction of the new class of ships started with a keel-laying ceremony in February this year. The first ship is set for delivery in spring 2020 while all four ships are expected to be delivered by 2021.

US Navy Zumwalt destroyers now part of new experimental squadron



The new squadron has been re-designated from Zumwalt Squadron ONE (ZRON ONE) to Surface Development Squadron ONE (SURFDEVRON ONE), which means that the navy's Zumwalt-class destroyers will now be part of the experimental and developmental squadron.

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