



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ADVISORY

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The U.S. Navy's 237th Birthday to be Celebrated at Battleship Wisconsin

By U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. – U.S. Fleet Forces Command will host a ceremony commemorating the 237th birthday of the U.S. Navy on Friday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. aboard the Battleship Wisconsin.

The guest speaker for the event will be Adm. Bill Gortney, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces.

This ceremony is one of many being held around the country to recognize the proud service and heritage of the U.S. Navy since its founding. The ceremony will include the ringing of nine bells to mark the celebration like similar events across the Navy. Prior to the ceremony Adm. Gortney will conduct a short media availability beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The U.S. Navy was born in 1775, when George Washington took command of three armed schooners under Continental authority to intercept British supply ships. Congress adopted a resolution establishing the Continental Navy on Oct. 13, which later became known as the U.S. Navy's official birthday.

In 1972 Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt authorized recognition of Oct. 13 as the Navy's birthday. In contrast to Navy Day, the Navy Birthday is intended as an internal activity for members of the active forces and reserves, as well as retirees, and dependents.

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NOTE:

Media wishing to cover the U.S. Navy's 237th Birthday Celebration should contact U.S. Fleet Forces Command Public Affairs at (757) 836-3626 no later than 3 p.m., Oct. 11.