



Lincoln returns to Everett homeport

By MC3 BRANDON WILSON
Penny Press Staff

After seven months away from their home port of Everett, Wash., USS Abraham Lincoln Strike Group's USS Momsen (DDG 92), USS Shoup (DDG 86), and USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) returned to be reunited with friends and family Oct 12.

Lincoln's Commanding Officer, Capt. Patrick Hall, said the returning Sailors have earned themselves some well-deserved time off from the 214 days at sea.

"It's tremendous coming home to all the friends and families. They're all so excited and looking forward to going home and relaxing."

The strike group, along with embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2, ventured into the Arabian Gulf and Gulf of Oman while participating in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

"We traveled over 60,000 miles, 2.3 times around the world," Hall said. "We flew over 7,000 sorties, 26,000 hours total, and supported Sailors, soldiers, airmen and Marines on the ground in both Afghanistan and Iraq."

Hall said that with all the miles traveled and missions flown, Lincoln's crew always had safety in mind.

"The good thing is that all the Sailors that left on deployment with

us are coming back off deployment."

The strike group enjoyed port visits in Singapore, United Arab Emirates, Thailand and Pearl Harbor.

The ship hosted two Tiger cruises for more than 1,500 guests, one from Pearl Harbor to San Diego and one from San Diego to Everett.

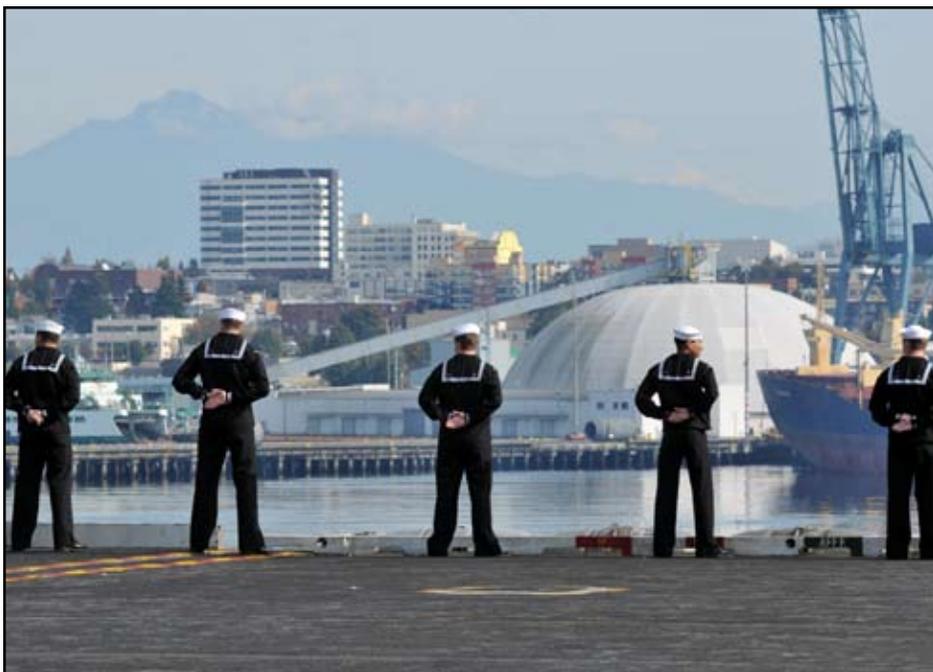


Photo by MC2 James Evans

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) returns to its homeport of Everett, Wa. after a scheduled seven-month deployment in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

"Those friends and family got to see what life was like for their Sailor underway," said Hall.

With family and friends on board, Lincoln Sailors had different events to show those family members life at sea. To help show off the ship, the tigers were given a Personal Qualification Standard (PQS) booklet. The PQS guided the tigers through the ship in search of information at various locations so they could learn about aircraft carrier daily operations.

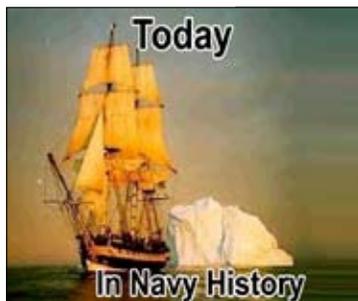
"It was a great experience," said Jonathan Cooper, of Salt Lake City, Utah, a tiger from Hawaii to San Diego. "I really learned a lot and met some really nice people. I was very impressed with the hospitality of all the Sailors."

"The community is really looking forward to Lincoln coming back, these 3,000 Sailors have been away for seven months and they've been saving lots of their money, and I know that they want to go out and spend some money."

Upcoming MWR Events

-High School Musical on Ice
Sat., Nov. 8th, 8:30 p.m. Everett Events/Comcast Theater
\$24 per person. Last day to purchase tickets is Oct. 24 by 2 p.m.

-Seahawks vs. Arizona Cardinals
Sunday, Nov. 16, 1:05 p.m.
\$52 per person, 2 tickets per household
Last day to purchase tickets is Oct. 31st at 2 p.m.



October 19

1843 - Capt. Robert Stockton in *Princeton*, the first screw propelled naval steamer, challenges British merchant ship *Great Western* to a race off, which *Princeton* won easily.



HOME COMING 2008!





Final Thoughts



Shipmates

The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew.



Photo by MC2 Geoffrey Lewis

Aviation Boatswain's Mate Equipment Airman Jeremy Dyess, of Mobile, Ala., mans the rails with his shipmates as USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) returns to its homeport of Everett, Wash.

Editor's Top 10

Reasons duty turn over is a good idea.

- 10. Oh gee, perhaps to know what is going on.
- 9. That whole responsibility thing.
- 8. Because the CMC said so.
- 7. Don't you want to know what you are doing all day while everone else is out playing?
- 6. So you know what to pretend to work on. Yes, we are talking to you!
- 5. Nothing like seeing the panic in your replacements eyes when you explain the night YOU had.
- 4. Just do it!
- 3. Because the CO said so.
- 2. So you know what you have to go fix that the previous section screwed up.
- 1. Because the Navy said so.



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