

# NATIONAL DAY OF THE DEPLOYED

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Every year on October the 26th, the United States recognizes our National Day of the Deployed. During this time, we honor and recognize all of our brave service members and the profound emotional and physical sacrifices they make when defending our country. Life away from home and family can be extremely difficult. Six-in-ten veterans from our armed forces have been deployed at least once from their permanent duty station while on Active Duty. Three-in-ten were deployed more than once. In the thirteen years since 9/11, the net increase of deployments has risen 61%, and those deployments are twice as likely to experience live combat than previous deployments. [Studies](#) suggest a concurrent rise in health issues among our veterans. One-in-four veterans say that deployment had a negative impact on their physical or mental health, with half of service members from the past fifteen years saying their mental health has deteriorated. Veterans today are experiencing Post Traumatic Stress in record amounts. Today, roughly 1,700 New Jersey National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are deployed. If you or someone you know has a loved one who is deployed, we encourage you to remain in communication with them as much as possible to ensure they feel supported and celebrated for their work and sacrifices.

## DEPLOYMENT DAY FACTS:



- The first deployment of military forces in US history is considered to be in 1798, during the 'Quasi-War', a two year conflict between the United States and the French First Republic.
- The longest military deployment in US history was during the War in Afghanistan, which lasted 19 years and 10 months. During this time frame, 775,000 US troops were deployed over the duration of the conflict.
- The largest single military deployment in the US History was in 1953, during the Korean War. 300,000 troops were deployed to assist South Korea in defense of invasion from North Korea.
- Deployment in the Army and the Marines typically lasts between nine and twelve months. Among branches of the military, the Air Force Guard has the highest average number of deployments in terms of frequency.

## WHERE ARE OUR TROOPS DEPLOYED?

Currently, there are 171,736 active-duty military troops deployed worldwide in 178 different countries.

- Europe is host to 63,886 active-duty troops.
- Japan & South Korea host 79,345 active duty troops.
- The Middle-East hosts 7,817 troops.
- The Americas host 1,776 troops.



### Send a deployed soldier a care package!

[Herobox.org](http://Herobox.org) makes a goal out of sending special care packages to our deployed service men and women. Click the image on the left to see what you can send to our troops!

PACK A HEROBX



Map of current international deployments

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# THE UNITED STATES NAVY DAY

OCTOBER 27TH, 2024



The modern submarine, USS New Jersey, was the first submersible in the Navy to be designed to accommodate a mixed gender crew

October 27th marks the 249th anniversary of a 1775 report from the then Continental Congress which favored the purchase of merchant ships, which would form the foundation of our first Navy. The Navy is the second oldest branch in the United States military. From the Battle of Lake Erie in 1812 to the Battle of Midway in 1942, the US Navy would shape America's journey in profound and broad ways, so too does Navy Day commemorate the service and sacrifice of those who serve. This selflessness is reflected by the US Navy's motto. The Latin phrase 'non sibi sed patriae' translates to 'Not Self, But Country'. Inscribed above the chapel doors at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, the phrase embodies the idea that a soldier puts their needs and desires aside for the benefit of their nation.

## 'Old Ironsides'

Launched in 1798, the USS Constitution is the oldest Naval ship in the US fleet still in operation today. This frigate has sailed around the world and is a veteran of 30 naval battles, from the War of 1812, to lesser-known conflicts such as the Quasi War with France and the Barbary Wars in North Africa. The nickname, 'Old Ironsides', comes from an engagement the ship had with the HMS Guerriere, a French ship privateered for the British Royal Navy. The captain was eager for a fight but was quick to discover that the hull of the Constitution was different. The Constitution had a 24-inch-thick hull, constructed of white and live oak, sheathed in copper forged by Paul Revere himself. The Guerriere's 18-pound cannonballs bounced ineffectually off the Constitution's hull when fired upon, prompting one British sailor to exclaim loudly in shock, 'Huzza! Her sides are made of iron!'. Still in operation today, the USS Constitution is docked at the historic Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston, MA. The ship is primarily used for education and outreach, but still has operational cannons that can perform on special occasions. The commanding officer of the ship is Commander Billie J. Farrell, who is the first female captain of the ship in its nearly 230 years of operation!



## US Navy Trivia

- The Navy's first submersible craft was invented by David Bushnell in 1776. The 'Turtle' was a single manned oval shaped craft, propelled by a hand crank and the first screw propeller used on a water craft. It could stay submerged for 30 minutes at a time!
- A Navy sailor is expected to learn a core set of between 10 and fifteen knots, dependent on the role or duty that they have been assigned. You can learn some of the knots yourself [here!](#)
- The iconic yellow 'Don't Tread on Me!' flag was adopted by the first Continental Navy. The rattlesnake design is known as the Gadsden Flag. The Continental Navy was a precursor to the US Navy before the United States were properly ratified. Made up of merchant ships converted to warships, their role was to harass British Ships and take their cargo.
- The United States Navy has 11 nuclear powered fleet carriers, more than any nation in the world. The platforms can carry around 80 fighters each. Our newest Aircraft Carrier, the USS Doris Miller, will launch in 2029. The namesake of the ship is Messman Second Class Doris Miller, an African-American sailor who went above and beyond defending his peers from Japanese pilots targeting Pearl Harbor in 1941.
- The first armed vessel for the Continental Congress was a schooner named Hannah. A schooner is a type of sailing vessel with two or more masts. George Washington used her during the siege of Boston, having her capture provision ships from British controlled ports.