



Another example of a mission ready ship because of a U.S. Navy Port Engineer

USS Milius (DDG 69) to Depart San Diego, Forward Deployed to 7th Fleet



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SAN DIEGO (NNS) -- USS Milius (DDG 69), a ballistic missile defense (BMD) capable guided-missile destroyer, will leave its homeport of San Diego, April 20, to join the Forward Deployed Naval Forces-Japan.

Milius will be forward deployed to Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, and is scheduled to arrive at the end of May.



Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers perform key roles in support of carrier strike groups, expeditionary strike groups or surface action groups. Destroyers are capable of sustained combat operations supporting forward presence, maritime security, sea control and deterrence.

These combatants operate in a network-centric warfare environment and execute multi-mission tasking to include air, surface, undersea, space and cyber warfare. Destroyers coordinate with units of a task group to conduct naval operations and execute the Maritime Strategy under a naval component commander.

Maintaining the most technologically advanced ships is vital to support the United States' commitment to the security, stability and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region.

Webmaster's Note:

The Arleigh Burke class destroyer, USS *Milius* (DDG-69) is named for Commander Paul L. Milius, USN, who received the Navy Cross for saving his seven-man crew while serving with VO-67. Commander Milius was lost in combat over the Ho Chi Minh Trail when his OP-2E aircraft, callsign *Sophomore 50*, was hit by anti-aircraft fire over Laos on 27 February 1968 and he ordered his crew to bail out. Seven of the nine men aboard were rescued. The remains of the eighth crewmember, ATN2 John Hartzheim, were identified on 19 February 1999. Although he exited his aircraft, Commander Milius was never seen again. He was listed as Missing in Action, presumed Killed in Action, and his remains never recovered.

Observation Squadron 67 (VO-67) was a clandestine United States Navy military intelligence aircraft squadron based in Thailand during the Vietnam War.