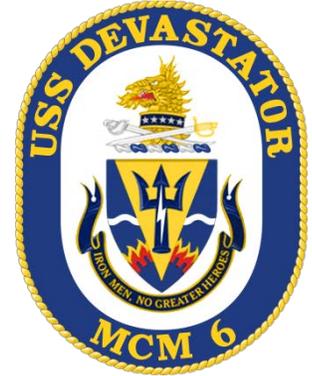




Another example of a mission ready ship because of a U.S. Navy Port Engineer

N95 Holds All-Hands Call on USS Devastator (MCM 6)



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By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Samantha P. Montenegro,

MANAMA, Bahrain (NNS) -- Maj. Gen. David Coffman, director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (N95), hosted an all-hands call aboard the Avenger-class mine countermeasures ship USS Devastator (MCM 6) during a trip to Naval Support Activity Bahrain, Aug. 5. Coffman's trip aimed to strengthen his relationship with U.S. 5th Fleet naval leadership and align critical investment resources that execute Department of Defense Secretary James Mattis' National Defense Strategy.



Coffman spoke to Sailors aboard Devastator about their role in today's Navy and the next generation of warfighting. "Our naval expeditionary and amphibious forces are a unique and vital part of our Nation's defense," said Coffman. Coffman also focused on mine warfare, and emphasized his goal as a resource and requirements sponsor is to resource warfighters to do the nation's work.

Devastator, one of four MCM ships forward deployed to Bahrain and attached to U.S. Naval Forces Central Command's Task Force (TF) 52, is a mine sweeper/hunter-killer capable of finding, classifying and destroying moored and bottom mines in U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.

TF 52 is the mine countermeasures force of U.S. 5th Fleet. It operates regularly to ensure freedom of navigation and the free flow of commerce in the Arabian Gulf, one of the world's most critical bodies of water for international maritime traffic.

U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations encompasses about 2.5 million square miles of water area and includes the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea and parts of the Indian Ocean. The expanse comprises 20 countries and includes three critical choke points at the Strait of Hormuz, the Suez Canal and the Strait of Bab al Mandeb at the southern tip of Yemen.

For more news from Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/5th Fleet, visit www.navy.mil/local/cusnc/.

Webmaster's Note:

USS *Devastator* (MCM-6) is an *Avenger*-class mine countermeasures ship of the United States Navy.

Construction of *Devastator* began on 9 February 1987 when her keel was laid at Peterson Shipbuilders in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin. Construction was finished and the vessel was launched on 11 June 1988. *Devastator* received her commission in the US Navy on 6 October 1990.

