



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

USS Michael Murphy Supports Maritime Interdiction Operations



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From U.S. 4th Fleet Public Affairs

PACIFIC OCEAN (NNS) -- While conducting routine operations in the U.S. 4th Fleet area of operations an MH-60R Sea Hawk helicopter, embarked aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer **USS Michael Murphy (DDG 112)**, sighted a low profile vessel on July 25.

As the helicopter approached the craft, a hatch opened on the top of the vessel and three passengers were seen jettisoning objects from the boat. Assisted by vectoring from helicopter, Michael Murphy's interceptor boat collected the jettisoned items and approached alongside the low-profile vessel. The ship was able to communicate with the vessel informing them to remain in sight.

Michael Murphy remained alongside the suspicious vessel until U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Midgett (WMSL 757) arrived on scene.



The Coast Guard boarding team determined the jettisoned material tested positive for cocaine. Approximately 2,100 pounds of cocaine – some that was jettisoned and retrieved by Michael Murphy's crew and some found aboard the vessel by the Coast Guard – was seized. Three suspected smugglers were taken into custody by the Coast Guard.

For more news from U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command & U.S. 4th Fleet, visit www.navy.mil/local/cusns/.

Webmaster's Note: On 18 June 2010, Mrs. Maureen Murphy and Edwin Bard inscribed the signatures of Murphy's family on an iron plate during a dedication ceremony for *Michael Murphy*. The plate was affixed to the ship's hull during construction.

Lt. Murphy was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during Operation Red Wings in Afghanistan in June 2005. Lt. Michael Murphy was the first sailor awarded the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War.

