



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

## USS Gravely conducts PASSEX with Royal Danish Navy



Story Number: NNS190818-01 Release Date: 8/18/2019 8:47:00 PM

From Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs

Atlantic Ocean (NNS) -- U.S. Navy Arleigh Burke-Class guided-missile destroyer **USS Gravely (DDG 107)** and Royal Danish navy Absalon-class command and support ship HMDS Absalon (L 16) conducted a passing exercise (PASSEX) in the Arctic waters off the coast of Greenland, Aug 16th.

PASSEXs are unit exercises requiring cooperation, communication and interoperability between two or more navies, testing advanced ship maneuvering and tactics. It affords the opportunity to improve crews' knowledge and demonstrate shared tactics.

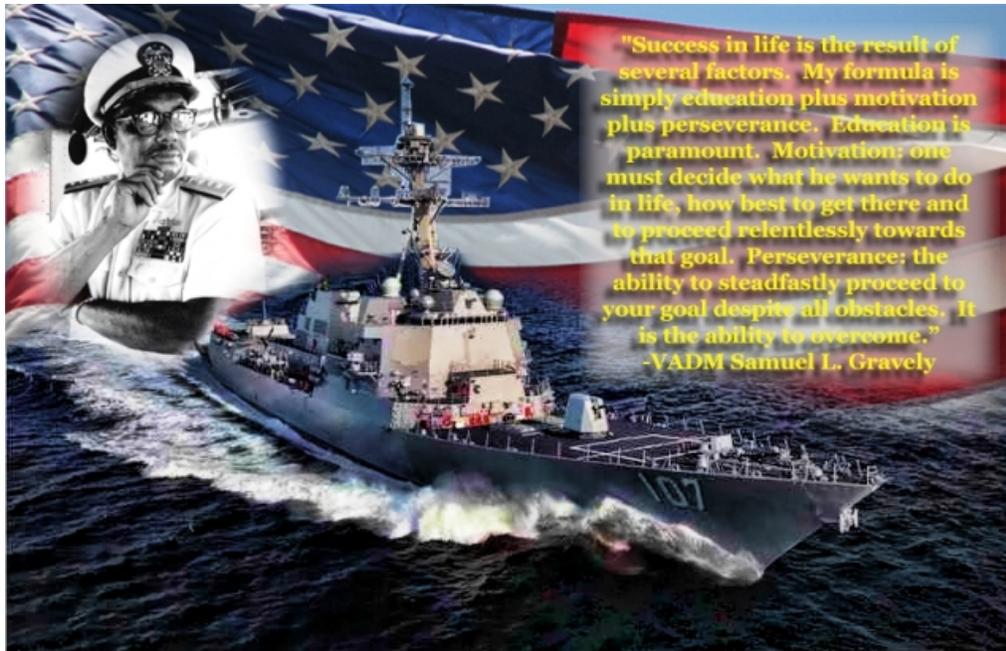


The PASSEX started with a rendezvous of the ships, followed by the landing of Absalon's MH-60R helicopter on the flight deck of the Gravely. The ships conducted four, pre-planned close maneuvers allowing the ships to safely come within 250 yards. The operations allowed Gravely Sailors to draw from the wealth of experience and knowledge our ally has in northern latitude

operations, and as highly skilled, technologically advanced, militarily interoperable neighbors.

USS Gravelly's operations in the Arctic are a step toward further enhancing our Navy's proficiencies operating in Arctic climates. GRAVELY is underway to conduct Arctic operations as part of an 8-month deployment.

**Webmaster's Note:** **USS Gravelly (DDG-107)** is an *Arleigh Burke*-class guided missile destroyer in the United States Navy. She is named after Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr.



**Samuel Lee Gravelly Jr.** (June 4, 1922 – October 22, 2004) was a United States Navy officer. He was the first African American in the U.S. Navy to serve aboard a fighting ship as an officer, the first to command a Navy ship, the first fleet commander, and the first to become a flag officer, retiring as a vice admiral.