



NAVY LEAGUE

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Navy League Leg. Affairs Weekly Round-Up – June 1

Recess Notice

As this week is a district work period there isn't much in the way of hearings or events on Capitol Hill. In the future we'll give you a heads up keep on upcoming recess weeks so that you can schedule your meetings for that time, though you may know members set their district schedules several weeks in advance so keep that in mind! The next district work period will be the **first week of July**, you can view the House schedule for yourself at <https://www.majorityleader.gov/2018-calendar>.

Coast Guard Commandant Zukunft retires

In a Friday morning [Change of Command ceremony keynoted by the President](#), Paul F. Zukunft was relieved as Commandant of the Coast Guard by Admiral Karl Schultz. Adm. Schultz was previously the Coast Guard's Atlantic Area Commander, and a liaison to the House of Representatives, meaning that he is very familiar to the Navy League. Adm. Schultz released his Commandant's Guiding Principles highlighted by the three R's: Relevant, Ready, and Responsive. The full principles can be viewed here at <https://www.uscg.mil/alwaysready>.

The Navy League was fortunate enough to have an [excellent op-ed by our National President Alan Kaplan](#) placed in the Capitol Hill newspaper The Hill this Wednesday. The opinion piece highlights the incredible work of the 25th Commandant of the Coast Guard, Admiral Paul Zukunft, over the past four years as he worked to prepare the service for the future. As you may know Zukunft means future in German, but as Alan Kaplan noted his leadership also translated into a tremendous record for the present. Under "Admiral Z's" leadership the Coast Guard saved thousands of lives in search and rescue, but also prioritized the security of the Coasties themselves, and their families.



Adm. Paul Zukunft (left), President Donald Trump, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen and Adm. Karl Schultz render honors during a change of command ceremony at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C., June 1, 2018. US Coast Guard Photo.

Other stories of interest:

Top Stories

[Navy's New Ad Campaign Wants To Overcome Misconceptions About Serving – KPBS/May 28](#)

The Navy's new multimillion ad campaign is designed to counter the negative images young people have about service.

[US admiral says China is Asia's biggest long-term threat – CNN/May 31](#)

(CNN)The US admiral expected to become the country's next ambassador to South Korea says North Korea remains the most imminent threat to peace in the Pacific but China's "dream of hegemony" is Washington's biggest long-term challenge.

Seapower

[Two U.S. Warships Conduct South China Sea Freedom Of Navigation Operation – USNI News/May 29](#)

Over the weekend, a Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Antietam (CG-54) and Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, USS Higgins (DDG-76) sailed in a two-ship freedom of navigation operation past islands claimed by China, according to media reports first reported by Reuters.

[China vows to boost 'combat readiness' after U.S. sails two warships near South China Sea islands – Japan Times/May 28](#)

China's Defense Ministry has vowed to bolster its "combat readiness" to defend against what it said was a "serious infringement" of the country's sovereignty after the U.S. Navy dispatched two warships for an apparent "freedom of navigation" operation (FONOP) in disputed South China Sea waters.

[Navy: China out, Vietnam and Israel in for RIMPAC 2018 – Stars and Stripes/May 30](#)

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii – China is out, but Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Brazil and Israel are in for this summer's Rim of the Pacific naval exercise in Hawaii.

The Navy announced on Wednesday that 26 nations, 47 surface ships, five submarines, 18 national land forces, and more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel will participate in the biennial RIMPAC being held June 27 to Aug. 2.

[New Tech to Improve Comms, Remote Sensing in the Arctic – National Defense/May 29](#)

The United States and partner nations are exploring new remote sensing and communication technologies to improve situational awareness and connectivity in the Arctic region.

[Chinese fighter jets complete night landings on carrier, live-fire drills – Reuters/May 26](#)

SHANGHAI (Reuters) - Chinese fighter pilots have carried out night landings on the country's first aircraft carrier, the official China Daily reported on Saturday, the latest demonstration of military muscle as Beijing's pushes to modernize its armed forces.

[Why the Age of the Aircraft Carrier Isn't Over \(Yet\) – National Interest/May 27](#)

The biggest threat to the future of the aircraft carrier lies not in missiles or torpedoes, but in the enormous combined cost of the ships, their escorts, and their air wings. This is a problem that has not improved over the past century; carriers have grown ever more expensive, increasing the strain on defense budgets and national governments.

[Davidson Takes Charge of Newly Renamed U.S. Indo-Pacific Command – USNI News/May 30](#)

While in Hawaii celebrating a change of U.S. military leadership in the Pacific, top Pentagon officials stood in the spotlight told other regional powers that U.S. focus on this part of the world hasn't wavered but sharpened.

Homeland

[A New Navigation Lock for the Upper Great Lakes – Maritime Exec/May 30](#)

U.S. President Donald Trump recently announced his support to build a new navigation lock between Lakes Superior and Huron, presently the location of a largest navigation lock between the North Atlantic and the Great Lakes. Any malfunction of the lock could halt ship transportation between these two lakes and inflict a serious setback to the American economy.

Expeditionary Warfare

[Shrinking the infantry squad: Why the Corps wants to fight with fewer Marines – Marine Times/May 21](#)

The Marine Corps is setting in motion plans to shrink the size of the traditional rifle squad, cutting manpower for the Corps' most basic building block of combat power from 13 Marines down to 12 — a risky move that the Corps admits could fail.

Surface Warfare

[We spent 3 days on a top contender for the Navy's future frigate. Here's what you need to know. – Defense News/May 30](#)

ABOARD THE ITALIAN FREMM ALPINO, Atlantic Ocean — The Italian Navy's anti-submarine warfare FREMM Alpino is in the United States on a tour of the East Coast.

Submarine Warfare

[Navy Seeks Acceleration of First Nuclear-Armed Columbia Ballistic Missile Sub – Warrior Maven/May 30](#)

The Navy and industry may be speeding up full production plans for its first Columbia-Class nuclear armed ballistic missile submarine as part of a broader move to increase the size of the service's submarine fleet more quickly.

[UConn Researchers Advance Submarine Power – UConn Today/May 30](#)

A team of engineers led by UConn engineering professors Yang Cao and Ali Bazzi is conducting groundbreaking research on electric propulsion, moving the U.S. Navy closer to a shift in how submarines are powered.

Jones Act discussion – *As you read these articles remember the Navy and Coast Guard leaders have said the Jones Act is critical for the military, oppose repeal now at our [Voice to Congress website](#) if you haven't taken action already!*

[Column | Jones Act keeps America prepared for war in times of peace – Daily Miner/May 31](#)

Though it's cliché, Memorial Day reminds us that freedom isn't free. It costs us, sometimes dearly.

This is especially true when we find ourselves unprepared for a conflict we probably should have expected to be drawn into. America was not ready for World War I, for World War II, or for Korea. We weren't even ready for the Iraq War, despite the fact it was initiated by the United States after all efforts at a negotiated settlement failed. As former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld said, we were forced to go to war with the forces we had rather than the forces we might have wanted.



180531-N-SM577-0136 BOSTON (May 31, 2018) Ship's riggers assigned to Naval History and Heritage Command, Detachment Boston, raise USS Constitution's main mainmast yard back into place. The square-rigged frigate is America's Ship of State and the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Casey Scoular/Released)