



Chief of Naval Operations' Monthly Update

"We're absolutely clear-headed about our responsibilities and the investments we must make to meet those responsibilities....every Sailor on watch tonight knows that he or she carries a special responsibility for this nation, and they carry that responsibility with the greatest pride and professionalism that you can possibly imagine."

– Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations

In the beginning of April, the CNO attended the Egyptian Fast Missile Craft (FMC) keel laying ceremony in Pascagoula, Miss., and in New York City, he visited the New York Yacht Club, spoke with the New York City Navy League, was a guest on the public radio show "The Brian Lehrer Show," and spoke to Foxnews.com and with students and faculty at Polytechnical Institute of New York University. He attended the 95th Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Ball in Washington, D.C., and visited India to strengthen maritime partnerships and meet with his Indian counterpart. He received the National Maritime Historical Society Distinguished Service Award in Washington, D.C., and visited the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command and spoke at the Hampton Roads Navy League annual dinner in Norfolk, Va. The CNO wrapped up the month by commissioning 10 Navy and Marine Corps officers from Florida A&M University NROTC unit in Tallahassee, Fla., and delivering remarks at the [Port Everglades Fleet Week Celebration Dignitary Reception aboard USS Iwo Jima \(LHD 7\)](http://Port Everglades Fleet Week Celebration Dignitary Reception aboard USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7)).

Current Readiness – Egyptian Keel Laying Ceremony

CNO attended the Egyptian FMC keel laying ceremony to show the United States Navy's continued commitment to its global maritime partnerships. CNO said the day was a good milestone for the Egyptian Navy, and he recognized its contribution to regional peace and stability for the global waterways. He thanked the Mississippi shipbuilders for their expertise and work ethic, and said today's navies could not execute operational missions without their vital role in the shipbuilding process.

"With this ship, the Egyptian navy adds to its fleet the great capacity to provide for its maritime security. It also adds, however, to a greater capacity, to ensure global maritime security and safety, which is to the benefit of all maritime nations."

Future Readiness – Florida A&M NROTC Graduates

CNO was the keynote speaker at the Florida A&M University NROTC commissioning ceremony and commissioned 10 new Navy and Marine Corps Officers from the university's NROTC unit. During his remarks, CNO gave the new officers advice on how to reach their full potential as Navy and Marine Corps leaders. He emphasized the importance of listening well, respecting co-workers and shipmates, and maintaining a high standard of character and integrity. He said seeing the group of graduates made him feel confident about the country's future.

"Today, you become a leader in the service to your nation, and you have the potential to be a leader of great consequence."

People – Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Ball

CNO attended the annual [Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society \(NMCRS\) Ball](http://Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) Ball) which helps raise money for the efforts which NMCRS offers to Sailors and Marines. CNO attended the event to show the Navy's gratitude to NMCRS for all the aid and support they provide. He thanked the staff of NMCRS, recognizing their dedication, and told a few stories of how they have impacted the lives of Sailors and Marines in an extraordinarily positive way.

"We get up everyday, put this uniform on and go do absolutely what we love to do, and there is a group behind us at home, our families, who provide the support, the love, the understanding, the motivation that allows us to do this...those families that also benefit so much from the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society."