

Teamwork, A Tradition



Mission Statement

Employ persistent, precise combat power from the sea to destroy or neutralize adversaries in all regions of the battle space.

Vision

USS NIMITZ is one of eleven capital warships in the United States Navy. As such, everything NIMITZ does is observed by others. NIMITZ achieves excellence in combat capability by relentlessly executing all tasks, both fundamental and advanced, with professionalism. This execution is enabled by a high degree of teamwork. The professionalism thus demonstrated is an indicator of combat capability that comforts friends and gives pause to potential adversaries.

Goals

Attain and maintain a high degree of professionalism and competent execution of all tasks, thereby achieving superior combat capability.

Provide for the professional and personal development of the crew through training and covenant leadership.

Promote the welfare of NIMITZ families using regular communication and facilitating the use of established support services.

While preparing for our core missions, retain the flexibility and capability of conducting humanitarian tasks as directed.

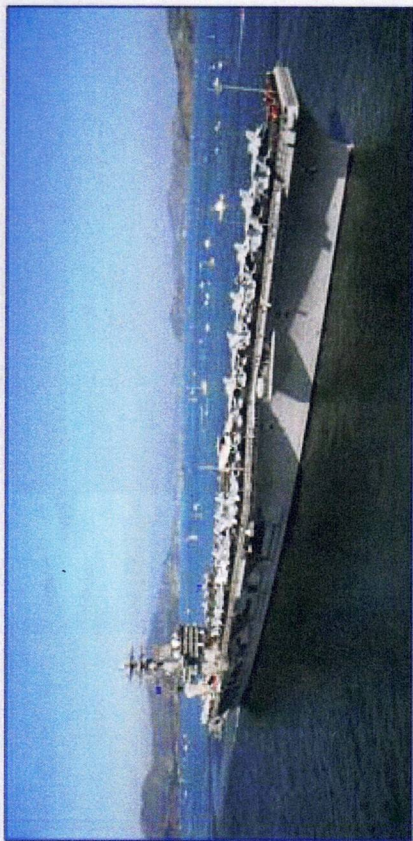
89 NAC CVN 68 USS NIMITZ SSG



WELCOME ABOARD



Welcome Aboard



It is a pleasure to have you aboard the lead ship of America's largest class of aircraft carriers. The crew of USS NIMITZ is proud to have you aboard and looks forward to introducing you to our team of professionals. The ship has a crew of nearly 3,000 men and women and when NIMITZ deploys, the air wing brings an additional 2,000 personnel. When aircraft operate from our flight deck, ship's company and air wing personnel function as a single team, providing our nation with an incredibly potent, flexible, and mobile force. Although we have a wide variety of our nation's most modern aircraft and weapons systems, the driving force of the ship/air wing team is the crew. These proud, talented, and dedicated Sailors reflect the heart of the great nation they represent—the United States of America. I hope you find your visit aboard the great ship NIMITZ both informative and enjoyable!



Sincerely,
Jeffrey S. Ruth
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Captain Jeffrey S. Ruth Commanding Officer USS NIMITZ (CVN 68)



Born in Key West, Florida, Captain Ruth grew up in San Diego, CA, and graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering. He reported to Flight School at NAS Pensacola later that year, and was designated a Naval Flight Officer in January of 1988.

Captain Ruth is currently serving as Commanding Officer USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) (February 2012 – Present). He also commanded the Rooks of VAQ-137 (OCT 2003– MAR 2004) and the U.S. Sixth Fleet's flagship, USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20) home ported in Gaeta Italy (AUG 2010 – SEP 2011).

Captain Ruth's other fleet assignments include a Division Officer tour with the Bounty/hunters of VF-2 (JUN 1989 – APR 1992) where he flew 43 combat missions in support of Operation Desert Storm, and a Department Head tour with the Patriots of VAQ-140 (JAN 1998 – AUG 2000) where he flew 40 combat missions in support of Operation Allied Force. Additionally, he served as Navigator onboard USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) (MAR 2005 – JUN 2006) and Executive Officer onboard USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) (MAR 2008 – DEC 2009).

Ashore, Captain Ruth attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA, and the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at NAS Patuxent River, MD, as part of the NPS/TPS Co-op program (JUN 1992 – DEC 1994). Upon completion of the course he was awarded a Masters Degree in Aeronautical Engineering. Captain Ruth's next assignment was as the F-14D Project Officer at Naval Air Warfare Center, Point Mugu, CA, (JAN 1995 – MAR 1997). He has also served as an operational planner on the staff of the Commander, Allied Forces North Europe in Brunssum, the Netherlands (AUG 2000 – AUG 2002), and attended Nuclear Power Training (JUL 2007 – FEB 2008).

Captain Ruth has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (3 Awards), The Air Medal (5 individual Awards with Combat "V" and 8 Strike/Flight), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3 Awards, 1 with Combat "V"), and other personal, unit and campaign awards. He also holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University.

THE ISLAND

Eyes on the Flight Deck

- The brain of flight deck operations.
- Where the aircraft handler controls the movement of planes on the flight and hangar decks.
- Where the Air Boss controls the planes taking off of the flight deck from Primary Flight Control.
- Where the ship's bridge and flag bridge are located.

ARRESTING GEAR

Aircraft Recovery

- Pilot lines up with flight deck center line.
- Pilots know they are on correct glide path if an amber light on the deck, known as the ball, is lined up with a horizontal row of green lights. If the ball is too high, so is the plane.
- Pilot immediately pushes engines to full power in case he misses the four arresting wires and needs to take off and try again, known as the bolter.
- When the plane's tail hook catches one of the arresting wires, the plane is brought to an abrupt stop within 350 ft.



CATAPULTS

Launching Aircraft

- Each of the four catapults can launch an FA-18 every 1 minute and 45 second for a total rate of about one plane every 30 seconds off the ship.
- The plane is armed and taxied into position and connected to the catapult.
- The fully loaded FA-18 weighs about 67,000 pounds and is launched from a dead stop to 165 mph in the space of 250 feet in just over 2 seconds.



HANGAR BAYS

While underway, Nimitz' three hangar bays are used to store and maintain aircraft.



ELEVATORS

During flight operations the ship's four elevators are used to raise and lower the aircraft between the hangar bays and the flight deck.



SEA SPARROW MISSILE SYSTEM

The Sea Sparrow can be employed against attacking aircraft at all tactical speeds and altitudes in all weather.



SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

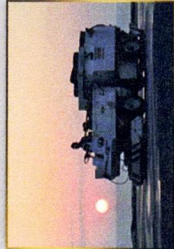
TRACTOR

The tractor taxis the aircraft into position from the hangar bay to the flight deck and vice versa.



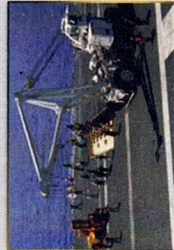
SCRUBBER

The scrubber is used to clean the flight deck.



TILTY

The tilly is a crane used to move aircraft and clear the landing area.



P-25

The P-25 is the fire truck of the flight deck.



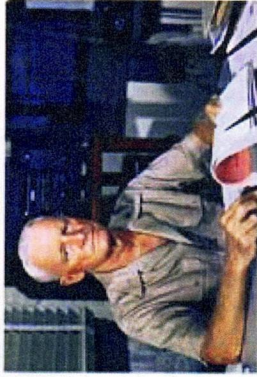
Ship Statistics

Keel Laid _____ June 22, 1968
 Launched _____ May 13, 1972
 Commissioned _____ May 3, 1975
 Propulsion System _____ Two Nuclear Power Plants
 Main Engines _____ Four
 Speed _____ 30+ Knots
 Propellers _____ Four
 Blades on each Propeller _____ Five
 Aircraft Elevators _____ Four
 Catapults _____ Four
 Arresting Gear Cables _____ Four
 Overall Length _____ 1,115 Feet
 Overall Width _____ 252 Feet
 Beam at Waterline _____ 134 Feet
 Area of Flight Deck _____ About 4.5 Acres
 Full Load Displacement _____ About 97,000 Tons
 Accommodations _____ About 5,000 Persons
 Meals Each Day _____ 12,000-14,000
 Mail Processed _____ Over 1 million lbs per year

Did you know...

- NIMITZ reaches more than 23 stories high from the keel to the top of the mast.
- The Hangar Bay extends for most of the ship's length. It is used for major repair and shelters aircraft not needed for that day's flight schedule.
- Four distilling units enable engineers to make more than 400,000 gallons of fresh water a day for use by the propulsion plant, catapults and crew.
- NIMITZ can stock at least 70 days of refrigerated and dry goods.
- Literally tons of wash are done every day by NIMITZ' laundry and tailoring services personnel.
- NIMITZ has a fully equipped dental facility, staffed by five dentists.
- NIMITZ' three chaplains conduct daily religious services in an interdenominational chapel.

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz Namesake of USS NIMITZ



"He was a keen strategist who never forgot that he was dealing with human beings, on both sides of the conflict"
 -E.B. Potter

Chester W. Nimitz was born in Fredericksburg, Texas on February 24, 1885. Nimitz' unparalleled career began in 1905 after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

As his career unfolded, Nimitz held many prominent positions within the hierarchy of the Navy chain of command. He built the submarine base at Pearl Harbor, founded one of the first Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps units, commanded the flagship of the Asiatic Fleet and was appointed Commander of Battleship Division One. At the outbreak of World War II, he was Chief of the Bureau of Navigation.

On December 31, 1941, shortly after the attack at Pearl Harbor, Admiral Nimitz was named Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet. His superb skill, leadership, strategy and the heroism of more than two million American fighting men culminated on the deck of the USS Missouri four years later as he signed the Japanese surrender. This victory earned Nimitz the nickname, "Thunder of the Pacific."

On December 15, 1945, Adm. Nimitz relieved Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King as Chief of Naval operations, the top military position. Fleet Admiral Chester William Nimitz served in the United States Navy for 40 years.

Nimitz died February 20, 1966. Integrity, courage, commitment to duty and a dedication to the Navy are among the principles that marked Nimitz' career. His greatest gift was his leadership ability.

On May 3, 1975, Nimitz' daughter, Catherine Nimitz-Lay, commissioned the most powerful ship in the world in his honor: USS Nimitz (CVN 68).