



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Navy Increases Security at Bases Nationwide For Exercises Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield 2012

From U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. – Security levels were significantly increased at naval bases and installations throughout the continental United States today for the Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces (USFF) and Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) led Force Protection and Anti-Terrorism (FP/AT) exercises Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC/CS) 2012.

The annual exercises, which occur simultaneously, began March 19 and test Navy security forces' ability to respond to threats to installations and units, and to deter potential terrorist attacks by increasing awareness.

“The goal is to prepare our security forces to be ready for any potential threat,” said Adm. John C. Harvey Jr., commander of USFF. “As we’ve seen with the tragic attacks in France, threats are constantly evolving and are often presented in places and circumstances where we feel safe. These exercises provide us the opportunity to train together with our joint and inter-agency partners to maintain a high level of readiness to respond to any potential threats right here at home.”

Because of the exercise-led increase in security around the country, USFF and CNIC anticipated potential impacts to local traffic patterns and worked closely leading up to and throughout the exercise with state and local officials to communicate the potential impact to local-area residents.

“We’re committed to keeping the public informed about any likely impacts this exercise may cause,” said Rear Adm. Phil Davidson, USFF’s director for operations and intelligence. “Our installation commanders will continue to coordinate with school districts, police departments, city officials and others to help spread the word to local commuters. That said, there may still be some times when the exercises cause increased traffic around our bases or delays accessing a base.”

Because of potential delays, Davidson encouraged installation personnel, contractors, base visitors, and retirees to remain flexible as increased security measures are anticipated at all Navy installations for the duration of the exercise, which ends March 24. Exercise SC/CS 2012 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled exercise.

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For more information about Exercise SOLID CURTAIN-CITADEL SHIELD 2012, please contact your local, regional Navy public affairs office.