



United States Navy  
Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group

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## News Release

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### **BHR Amphibious Ready Group Deploys to Execute Maritime Strategy**

*From Bonhomme Richard ARG Public Affairs*

SAN DIEGO – Thousands of Sailors and Marines of the Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) are scheduled to depart Naval Base San Diego Friday, Sept. 18 for a deployment to the Western Pacific and Middle East.

Nearly 4,500 Sailors and Marines will deploy overseas aboard the ready group's three ships, amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6), the ARG flagship; the amphibious transport dock ship USS Cleveland (LPD 7); and the amphibious dock landing ship USS Rushmore (LSD 47).

Capt. Rodney Clark commands the ARG – the Navy component of a multi-capable team that includes 2,100 embarked troops from the 11<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) based in Camp Pendleton.

Maintaining peace and stability, preserving freedom of the seas, and fostering cooperative relationships with international partners are key focal points of the deployment as the ARG/MEU executes the Navy and Marine Corps' maritime strategy.

The Bonhomme Richard ARG/11<sup>th</sup> MEU team employs a full range of operational capabilities. With the ability to reach 70 percent of the world's coastline, the ARG/MEU can rapidly respond to crises if called upon to project combat power ashore or provide humanitarian assistance.

In addition to its ships, the ARG consists of the command element, Commander, Amphibious Squadron 7; Tactical Air Control Squadron 12, Detachment 1; the "Wild Cards" of Helicopter Sea Combat 23, Det. 3; Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 1, Det. B; ACU 5, Det. F; Beachmaster Unit 1, Det. B; and Fleet Surgical Team 9.