



Press Release

Public Affairs Office
Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command
1562 Mitscher Avenue,
Suite 250
Norfolk, Va. 23551-2487
(757) 836-3600
Fax: (757) 836-3601

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PRESS RELEASE

Press Release – 36-13
Jul. 22, 2013

Seven Injured During Small Boat Training Exercise

From U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. – Four Sailors from USS Bataan (LHD 5) and three civilian instructors from the Center for Security Forces were injured today aboard a rigid hull inflatable boat when it collided with USNS Big Horn (T-AO 198) during a small boat training exercise near Thimble Shoals Channel, off the coast of Hampton Roads, Va.

The exercise was being conducted in support of the Amphibious Ready Group/Marine Expeditionary Unit (ARG/MEU) Visit, Board, Search & Seizure (VBSS) Boat Crew Course.

Six injured personnel were transported by ambulance to Sentara Virginia Beach General Hospital. One Sailor was treated at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek, Va. Two of the Sailors have been released from the hospital. One Sailor remains in the hospital for observation. The status of the three civilians is not available at this time. All injuries are considered non-life threatening. All next-of-kin have been notified.

A safety investigation into the incident has been initiated.

Big Horn is underway conducting training operations.

ARG/MEU Boat Crew Course covers small boat operations and tactics for small boat crewmembers.

– USFF –