USS Enterprise (CVN 65) Returned to the Fleet
From: Program Executive Office Aircraft Carriers

WASHINGTON -- The Navy accepted re-delivery of USS Enterprise (CVN 65) April 19, after completing an Extended Drydocking Selected Restricted Availability (EDSRA) at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding in Newport News, Va.

Enterprise received necessary ship maintenance, including upgrades to all subsystems that affect combat capability and safety, in order to maintain performance standards. These upgrades will allow the carrier to handle operations until a congressionally authorized inactivation in fiscal year 2013.

Enterprise is the oldest in-service aircraft carrier and the oldest commissioned warship in the U.S. Navy. At 48 years, the carrier has a rich history and has served in almost every major international crisis since its commissioning, including being dispatched to act as a part of a naval blockade during the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. The ship also provided direct support during Operation Enduring Freedom following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, expending more than 800,000 pounds of ordnance during the operation.

“The successful re-delivery is a testament to the dedicated crew, personnel from Program Executive Office Aircraft Carriers, Naval Sea Systems Command and the shipbuilder,” said Capt. Frank Simei, Program Manager for In-Service Carriers. “Together they have returned USS Enterprise to the fleet where she will remain in operation until her inactivation.”

USS Enterprise was built in Newport News, Va., by what is now known as Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding. Commissioned in 1961, Enterprise is the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, first U.S. nuclear-powered surface ship, and eighth U.S. ship to bear the name.

- NAVSEA -