

Exercise Solid Curtain/Citadel Shield '11 set for Feb. 21-25

NORFOLK, Va. – Navy shore installations and activities in the continental United States, Hawaii and Guam, will participate in Exercise SOLID CURTAIN-CITADEL SHIELD '11 (SC-CS-11), an annual security training exercise coordinated by Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF) and Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), Feb. 21-25.

The two exercises, each with a distinct focus, occur simultaneously and will stress different areas of the Navy's anti-terrorism program.

"This exercise will enhance the training and readiness of our security personnel and first responders," said Rear Adm. Tim Alexander, Commander, Navy Region Southeast.

"It will also create a learning environment for installation personnel to exercise functional plans and operational capabilities."

Alexander also stressed the importance of the training. "This is the time to prepare and learn how to adapt to diverse and fast-moving situations. The more opportunities we have to train, the more proficient we'll be in dealing with real-world events."

Local communities may also experi-

ence traffic delays on roadways leading to or in proximity to the installations. Area residents may also notice increased military activity associated with the exercise. Elevation of force protection conditions and increased security measures can be anticipated for the duration of the exercise.

"Installations will be engaging and coordinating closely with their local law enforcement as the scenarios play out and increase coordination and cooperation among the necessary players involved," said Navy Capt. Sam McCormick, USFF director for Fleet Anti-Terrorism.

"You must take a realistic look at yourself or you'll never get better. Our enemy constantly changes, they never stand still. Of the more than 250 events planned in this exercise, we will have up to four independent groups assessing every single event," said McCormick. During the exercise, these assessors will be collecting information, looking for inconsistencies in the reporting processes and tactical procedures, and relaying that data to decision makers in order to improve our future force protection posture.

-- From U.S. Fleet Forces Public Affairs & Navy Region Southeast

What to expect on board

NAS Meridian

SOLID CURTAIN-CITADEL SHIELD is an annual exercise and is NOT in response to any specific threat.

What You Can Expect:

- Possible increased traffic or delays in base access
- Increased activity at all gates
- Increased patrols on and around the installation
- Increased security levels

What You Can Do:

- Carry proper ID at all times
- Arrive early
- Plan accordingly
- Be patient
- Follow all orders