

About the San Antonio



Named for the city of San Antonio, *USS San Antonio (LPD17)* incorporates advanced performance and war fighting technologies that will enhance the fleet's operational flexibility and ability to support emerging concepts such as Sea Power 21, Operational Maneuver from the Sea (OMFITS) and Ship-to-Objective Maneuver (STOM). Among the advanced features that distinguish San Antonio are composite-material Advanced Enclosed Mast/Sensor systems; state-of-the-art C4ISR and self-defense systems; a Shipboard wide Area Network (SWAN) "information superhighway;" and improved habitability for embarked Sailors and Marines. Northrop Grumman Ship Systems in Avondale, La., and Pascagoula, Miss., constructed LPD 17.

San Antonio is designed for 21st century expeditionary forces. Its improved aviation facilities include a hangar to accommodate a flexible mix of helicopters and the Marine Corps' new tilt-rotor MV-22 Osprey aircraft and an enlarged flight deck capable of supporting all Marine Corps rotary-wing operations. *San Antonio's* well deck is sized for the launch and recovery of two Landing Craft Air Cushions (LCAC) - each capable of high-speed transportation of 60 tons of cargo and vehicles (e.g. one M1A1 tank) at 40 knots or one conventional landing craft, the Landing Craft Utility (LCU).



With two fully loaded LCACs in *San Antonio's* well deck, the ship can also transport combat ready Marines to their land objectives while providing combat support with our 30mm guns. The ability of *San Antonio* to carry LCACs helps Sea Warriors execute expeditionary missions throughout the world.

USS San Antonio Crest



Shield: The colors of the shield and star are adapted from the Texas state flag. The star also commemorates the first ship to bear the name San Antonio. Red is the color for valor and sacrifice, blue is for loyalty and white is for purity of purpose. The Alamo honors the heroes who offered their lives to ensure the freedom of Texas. The bluebonnets refer to Texas and the olive branch high-lights the ship's peacekeeping mission.

Crest: The trident and cannon represent the old and new weaponry. The can- non balls and nineteenth century cannon were similar weapons used by the Alamo defenders. The trident, symbol of sea prowess, represents the "mobility triad" of Expeditionary Fighting Vehicles (EFV's), Air-Cushioned Landing Craft (LCAC) and MV-22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft that USS San Antonio is build around.

Motto: Refers to Alamo's commander, Lt. Col. William Barrett Travis writing to the People of Texas, "I shall never surrender or retreat... Victory or death!"



USS San Antonio (LPD 17)

Never Retreat...



Never Surrender

**Capt. Michael D. Patterson, United States Navy
Commanding Officer, USS San Antonio (LPD 17)**

Captain Michael D. Patterson was raised in Richmond, VA, and Lexington, NC. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University and earned his commission upon graduation in December 1989 through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program. Captain Patterson was designated an unrestricted naval aviator in July 1991.



Following initial training in the SH-60B Seahawk, Patterson served at Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL-42) as Det Operations Officer onboard USS Hayler (DD-997) and Squadron NATOPS Officer. Subsequent flying tours include duties as Maintenance Officer and Instructor Pilot at HSL-40, and Det Officer-in-Charge onboard USS Kauffman (FFG-59) and Maintenance Officer at HSL-48. In 2005, Patterson assumed duties as Executive Officer, then Commanding Officer of the HSL-44 "Swamp Foxes".

Capt. Patterson's additional operational tours include an assignment as Assistant Air Officer on USS Nassau (LHA-4) and Navigator/Senior Watch Officer onboard USS George H. W. Bush (CVN-77).

Ashore, Capt. Patterson earned a Master of Science Degree in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School, served as the Executive Assistant to the Director of Operations at United States Northern Command, and served as the Division Head, Training Assessments and the Director of the Expeditionary Warfare Collaborative Team at U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Capt. Patterson was named the HSL-40 Officer of the Year in 2001, and has twice received the HSL community's Commander Naval Air Forces Leadership Award. Patterson completed JPMcE Phase II at the Joint Forces Staff College and is a Joint Qualified Officer.

Capt. Patterson reported to USS San Antonio (LPD-17) as Executive Officer in October, 2013, and assumed duties as the USS San Antonio's eighth Commanding Officer in February, 2015.

Capt. Patterson's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (First Strike/Flight Award) and various other personal and unit awards.

LPD 17 Characteristics

Length, overall: 684 ft (208.5 m)
Beam, extreme: 105 ft (31.9 m)
Displacement: 25K Long Tons
Sustained speed: 22+ knots
Crew: 360 Sailors and 3 Marines
Troop Accommodations: 699 troops (800 surge)

Main Propulsion: 4 sequentially turbo-charged diesels
 2 Shafts
 2 Single main reduction gears
 2 Controllable pitch propellers

Ship Weapons: MK 46 Mod 1 30mm guns
 MK 26 Mod 18 .50 cal machine guns
 MK 31 Mod 1 Guided Missile Weapons Systems (RAM)

Pay Load (Lift): Cargo/Ammo Magazine - 34K cubic feet
 Vehicle - -24K square feet
 Bulk JP-5 Fuel (Gallons) - 315K
 MORGAS (Gallons) - 10K

Medical Capability: 24 Beds (Ward and ICU) and 2 Operating Rooms
 Dental - 2 Operating Rooms

Electronics: Ship Self Defense System MK 2
 AN/SPS-48E 3D Air Search Radar
 AN/SPQ-9B Surface Surveillance and Tracking Radar
 AN/SPS-73 Surface Search Radar



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2013 Deployment

As 2013 began, San Antonio (SAN) completed the Kearsarge ARG Composite Training Exercise (C2X) as final certification for deployment in January. After a brief leave period in February, the ship deployed on 11 March 2013. SAN was out fitted as if it were an independent Marine-Air-Ground-Task-Force (MAGTF) with a Marine command element, Ch-53s, a rifle company, an artillery battery and company of combat engineers. This compliment of forces would enable SAN to operate independently if needed.

SAN made her way to the 5th Fleet AOR with a brief stop in Rota, Spain as well as hosting a diplomatic reception in Souda Bay, Greece. On April 4th, SAN transited the Suez Canal and INCHOP'ed into 5th Fleet's AOR. Upon entrance into the Arabian Gulf, SAN was tasked to provide support off of the coast of Qatar for a Marine Exercise.

Soon after the Marine Exercise, SAN conducted a port visit in Manama, Bahrain to conduct a Mid-Voyage Repair (MDVR) availability. Upon leaving Bahrain, SAN was chosen as the flagship for International Mine Countermeasure Exercise (IMCMEX). This exercise consisted of 15 different nations and included participation from the US Army and US Coast Guard. SAN performed duties as SAG Commander and OGE for numerous events in the Central and Northern Arabian Gulf. SAN transited the Strait of Hormuz and travelled to Aqaba, Jordan to participate in ground exercises.

Once released from national tasking, SAN conducted an agricultural wash down of embarked vehicles in Rota, Spain and began the voyage home on 27 October. Due to being delayed by operational commitments, SAN was authorized an excess SOA to ensure an on time arrival in Morehead City, NC for the Marine off load and the embarked of 128 Tigers. SAN completed a very successful deployment when she arrived at Naval Station Norfolk on 7 November.

