

BRAVO ZULU NAVAL MESSAGE:

FROM: US NAVAL TASK FORCE 53 COMMANDER - US 5TH FLEET - OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF)
TO: US NAVAL UNDERWAY REPLINISHMENT TANKER/SUPPLY SHIP USNS PATUXENT (T-AO 201)

R 131526Z JUN 10 PSN 544217K23

FM CTF 53

TO RHBVHGQ/USNS PATUXENT

INFO RUCBCLF/COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA

RHBVPAB/CTF 20

ZEN/COMUSNAVCENT

ZEN/COMFIFTHFLT

ZEN/COMSC WASHINGTON DC

ZEN/MSFSC NORFOLK VA

ZEN/COMSEALOGLANT NORFOLK VA

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SUBJ: BRAVO ZULU AND FAREWELL TO THE CREW OF USNS PATUXENT

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SUBJ/BRAVO ZULU AND FAREWELL TO THE CREW OF USNS PATUXENT//

RMKS/1. I AM PROUD TO CONVEY OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO CAPTAIN SEAN TORTORA AND THE CREW OF USNS PATUXENT (T-AO 201) FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT TO FIFTH FLEET LOGISTICS. PATUXENT'S EXPERTISE IN LOGISTIC OPERATIONS AT SEA PROVIDED A SUPERB EXAMPLE OF INITIATIVE AND TEAMWORK. EXERCISING STEADY LEADERSHIP AND PERSISTENCE, YOU KEPT PATUXENT ON SCHEDULE AND READY FOR TASKING DESPITE A POTENTIALLY DEBILITATING ENGINEERING CASUALTY, DEMONSTRATING TECHNICAL ACUMEN, EXPERT SEAMANSHIP, AND AN ADVANCED APPLICATION OF ORM PROCEDURES. YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THIS EXTREMELY HIGH OPTEMPO ENVIRONMENT WAS CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF FIFTH FLEET OPERATIONS.

2. PATUXENT'S CONTRIBUTIONS WHILE ASSIGNED TO CTF 53 INCLUDE UNMATCHED SUPPORT FOR THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER CARRIER STRIKE GROUP AND THE BONHOMME RICHARD AND NASSAU AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUPS, AS WELL AS COALITION NAVAL FORCES FROM CANADA, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, INDIA,

ITALY, THE NETHERLANDS, SOUTH KOREA, SPAIN, TURKEY, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. YOUR DEDICATION TO THE LOGISTICS MISSION WAS VITAL IN KEEPING FIFTH FLEET NAVAL FORCES COMBAT READY. PATUXENT SAFELY AND PAGE 03 RUCOMFB6366 UNCLAS

EFFICIENTLY CONDUCTED 76 INCIDENT-FREE UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENTS, TRANSFERRED 10.5 MILLION GALLONS OF F76 FUEL AND 592,000 GALLONS OF F44 FUEL. PATUXENT DELIVERED 3,396 PALLETS OF CARGO AND PROVISIONS IN SUPPORT OF PARTNERSHIP-STRENGTH-PRESENCE, MARITIME SECURITY OPERATIONS, THE STRUGGLE AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISTS, AND OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM AND IRAQI FREEDOM.

3. AS YOU CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY AND STEAM TOWARD NEW CHALLENGES, PLEASE TAKE WITH YOU OUR BEST WISHES AND SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR RETURN. UNTIL THEN, FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS.

4. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DID. COMMODORE DON HODGE SENDS.//

BT

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