

# USSOUTHCOM United States Southern Command NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**U.S. Navy Carrier Strike Group to make Caribbean deployment**

**MIAMI, Fla.** – A U.S. Navy Carrier Strike Group will deploy from the U.S. east coast to the Caribbean Sea to conduct *Operation Partnership of the Americas* from early April through late May 2006. Carrier Strike Group Ten, which includes Norfolk, Va.-based Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington with embarked air wing, Cruiser USS Monterey, Destroyer USS Stout, and Frigate USS Underwood will deploy to the region in support of U.S. Southern Command objectives for enhanced maritime security. The deployment will focus on enhancing military-to-military relationships with regional partner nations, improving operational readiness, and fostering good will.

*Partnership of the Americas* is a U.S. Southern Command-directed operation to be implemented by U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command, based in Mayport, Florida. Elements of the Carrier Strike Group including roughly 6,500 Sailors will operate with various forces from Latin America and the Caribbean while focusing on unconventional threats such as narco-terrorism and human trafficking, and improving training levels in a variety of mission areas. Participating ships will make numerous port visits and conduct various community relations projects ashore designed to promote friendship with a variety of host nations. Periodic SOUTHCOM operations and exercises in the Caribbean and South Atlantic underscore U.S. commitment to regional stability and security.

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