

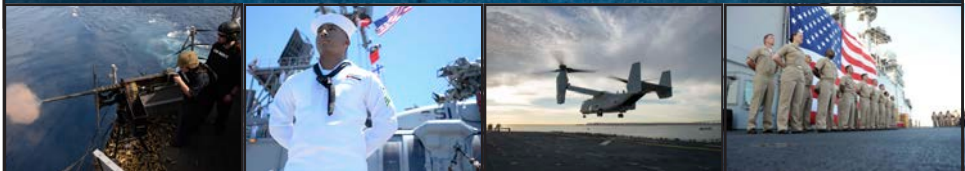


USS BOXER (LHD 4) FPO AP 96661-1663

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Welcome aboard USS BOXER (LHD 4), the sixth ship to bear the name “BOXER” and the fourth Wasp-class amphibious assault ship. BOXER is capable of performing both air and amphibious operations in support of national interests and objectives. Amphibious warships must be capable of sailing in harm’s way and enable rapid combat power buildup ashore in the face of opposition. Because of its inherent capabilities, BOXER has been and will continue to be called upon to support humanitarian and other contingency missions on short notice.

BOXER is a six-time recipient of the Chief of Naval Operation’s Safety Award and a 12-time recipient of the Battle Effectiveness (Battle “E”) award. The Battle “E” is awarded annually to ships and crews that best demonstrate the capability to perform wartime tasks and exhibit the highest degree of departmental readiness in their group. Battle “E” recipients must demonstrate mission excellence in six categories of battle efficiency: maritime warfare, engineering/survivability, command and control, logistics, safety and efficiency excellence.

The great men and women of BOXER make this command a success. The BOXER team is focused on war fighting readiness, procedural compliance, and doing things right the first time every time.

It is with a deep sense of pride that I welcome you aboard our fine ship – America’s “Golden Gator!”



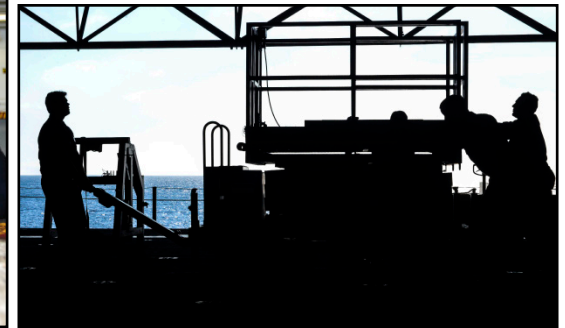
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CAPT BRIAN HOLMES

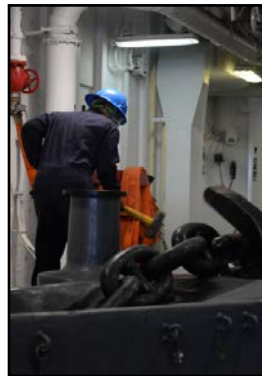
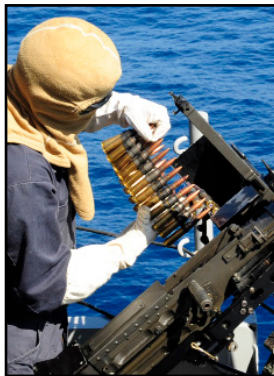


COMMANDING OFFICER
CAPT MATTHEW W. CIESLUKOWSKI



COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
CMDCM AVINASH RAMSINGH





HISTORY OF THE BOXER

The first ship to bear the name HMS Boxer was a 12-gun bold-class gun-brig built and launched in July 1812. The ship had a short service history with the Royal Navy before the 16-gun USS Enterprise captured her near Portland, Maine in September 1813. She then went to have at least a decade-long commercial career.

HMS Boxer served with Commodore William Bainbridge's Mediterranean Squadron before returning to the United States in late 1815. In 1816, Boxer sailed for New Orleans where she spent the remainder of her career in the Gulf of Mexico and the West Indies protecting American trade from pirates. She was lost at sea off Belize, British Honduras, on October 25th, 1817, but her crew was saved.

The second Boxer, a 10-gun schooner, was launched in 1831 by the Boston Navy Yard. Her years were spent sailing the Brazil, West Indies and Pacific Stations as well as with the Home Squadron. In 1846, the schooner was posted to the African Squadron, the primary mission of which was the suppression of the slave trade, until 1848 when she returned to the United States to be sold.

The third ship to bear the name was originally named Tristram Shandy, a schooner-rigged, iron-hulled, side-wheel steamer caught on May 15th, 1864 trying to run the Union blockade off Wilmington, N.C., and was renamed Boxer on June 21st, 1865.

In 1904, an unarmed, brigantine-rigged, training ship, was launched at the Portsmouth Navy Yard and became the fourth ship named Boxer. From commissioning to October 1912, Boxer was stationed at the Naval Training Station, Newport, Rhode Island, training boot bluejackets. In 1912, she reported to Annapolis, Maryland, as a training vessel for Naval Academy midshipmen. In 1914, she headed back to Newport to resume duties with the Naval Training Station for the next six years. In 1920, she was transferred to the Bureau of Education in Alaska.

The fifth Boxer (CV 21) was launched December 14th, 1944 by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Newport News, Virginia, Boxer joined the Pacific Fleet and served several meritorious tours in the Korean conflict. She was reclassified CVA 21 in October 1952, CVS 21 in November of 1955 and finally LPH 4 in January of 1959. Boxer was decommissioned on December 1st, 1969 after nearly 15 years of service.

The sixth and current Boxer (LHD 4) was launched August 13, 1993 by Ingalls Shipbuilding Division of Litton Industries, Pascagoula, Mississippi, and commissioned on February 11th, 1995.

COMMAND MISSION

Amphibious assault ship USS BOXER (LHD 4) is the fourth of eight ships in the Wasp-class of large deck multi-purpose amphibious assault ships built by Ingalls Shipbuilding Division of Litton Industries in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

The primary mission of the Wasp-class is to serve as the centerpiece of an Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG). A multi-mission ESG is fully capable of amphibious assault, special forces operations, as well as non-combatant evacuation and humanitarian missions.

BOXER and her sister ships are the first to be specifically designed to accommodate landing craft, air cushions (LCAC) for fast troop movement over the beach and Harrier II (AV-8B) V/STOL (Vertical/Short Take-off and Landing) jets, which provide close-in air support for assault forces.

The ship can also accommodate a full range of Navy and Marine Corps helicopters, conventional landing craft and amphibious vehicles.

BOXER'S CREST

SHIELD The United States is symbolized by the bald eagle, whose wings are out-spread beyond the shield to denote the scope beyond her own shores and of the U.S. influence for stability in affairs world-wide. The border signifies unity and cooperation. The gold has been chosen for its universal symbol of excellence.

SWORDS The Naval Officer's Sword and Marine Mameluke are crossed diagonally to represent strength and cooperation.

CREST The star of six points represents all ships to bear the name Boxer. The octagon charged with a gold star recalls the eight battle stars won by USS BOXER (CV 21) for action during the Korean war, here symbolized by the taeguk (symbol from the Republic of Korea's flag) that bears the star. The wreath of Laurel stands for honor as well as the maintenance and pursuit of peace.

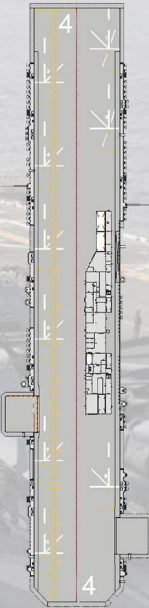


BOXER SPECS

Fabrication work for USS BOXER (LHD 4) began at Ingalls shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Mississippi on July 9, 1990. The ship's keel was authenticated April 8, 1991. The ship was launched on August 13, 1993. After post-launch outfitting and testing, Ingalls delivered the ship to the U.S. Navy on November 21, 1994, in preparation for commissioning U.S. Pacific Fleet Duty February 11, 1995.

BOXER was built using more than 21,000 tons of steel, 400 tons of aluminum, 400 miles of electronic cables, 80 miles of piping and tubing of various sizes, 10 miles of ventilation ducting, and more than 16,200 gallons of paint applied to the exterior hull.

Beam:	106 Feet
Speed:	20+ Knots
Length:	844 Feet
Displacement	40,500 Tons
Accommodations:	1,174 Crew, 2,070 Troops



AIRCRAFT

CH-53E Super Stallion

Primarily used to transport supplies and equipment. Carries 24 fully equipped troops, 24 litter patients and four attendants or 18,000 lbs of cargo internal or 30,000 external.

MV-22 Osprey

A multi-mission tilt-rotor aircraft with both vertical takeoff and Landing (VTOL) and short take off and landing (STOL) capability.

F-35B Joint Strike Fighters (JSF)

JSFs are a single-seat, single-engine, all-weather stealth multi-role combat aircraft that is intended to perform both air superiority and strike missions. It is also able to provide electronic warfare and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities.

MH-60S SEAHAWK

The MH-60S Seahawk missions are anti-surface warfare, combat support, humanitarian disaster relief and more. It holds a crew of five and 6,000 lbs of cargo.

AV-8B Harrier II

Are equipped with single-engine single seat that have a range of 1700nm un-refueled. 25mm cannon, sidewinder and maverick missiles and cluster and laser guided bombs.

AH-1Z Viper

Vipers are a twin engine gun ship. Equipped with tandem seating for a gunner and pilot, nose turret with a 20mm three-barrel cannon, stub wings carry rocket packs.

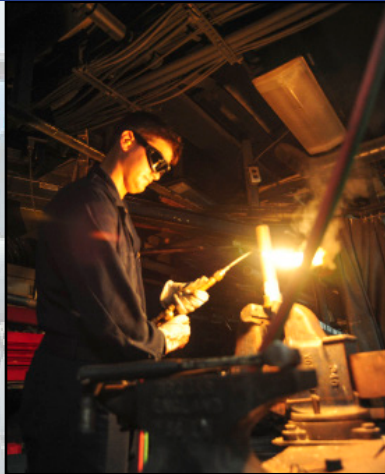
C5I COMBAT SYSTEMS



Combat Systems (C5I) department maintains all systems related to command, control, communications, computers, combat and intelligence onboard. C5I's responsibilities include but are not limited to: detecting and analyzing relevant military or civil activity, disseminating the analysis to friendly forces, providing engagement orders to friendly units with the ability to neutralize hostile forces and to capture and analyze battle damage assessment information.

ENGINEERING

Engineering Department operates and maintains the ship's electrical power distribution system. Engineers also ensure the availability of steam used for cooking, producing potable water and powering the main engines, as well as manage shipboard firefighting equipment and train the crew in fire fighting and emergency response procedures. The department provides welding services and metal fabrication capability that supports all ship requirements, along with maintaining a vast technical library and administering the ship's 3M Preventive Maintenance System.



AIMD

Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department (AIMD), is responsible for the maintenance and repair of all of Boxer's aircraft and support equipment, including a large aircraft crash crane named "Tilley". AIMD has a jet engine repair facility, aircrew survival equipment shop, calibration laboratory, oil analysis, hydraulic repair shop, airframe and composite fabrication centers and extensive electronics repair shops.

COMBAT CARGO

Combat Cargo keeps track of and expedites items transported through the flight deck and/or well deck operations. They are a vital part of transporting cargo and personnel to and from the ship.



BOXER DEPARTMENTS



To keep the ship running smoothly and safely, the crew is grouped into departments. Each has specific areas of responsibility and expertise. These departments are further divided into divisions and work centers.

AIR

Air Department manages, coordinates and executes all aircraft operations on the ship. The department consists of the optical landing system, aircraft refueling crews, primary flight control, the crash and salvage team, and aircraft handlers for the flight deck and hangar bay.



NAVIGATION

Navigation Department plots the ship's position, plans travel routes, and visually passes signals to other warships and vessels. While new electronic and satellite navigation systems increase the precise measurement of the ship's position, the navigation team also utilizes traditional navigation methods to provide reliable alternatives.



DECK

Deck Department employs a mix of traditional seamanship and technical expertise when operating the ship's small boats, cranes, mooring lines, anchors, refueling evolutions and rigs for taking on supplies at sea.



SECURITY

Security Department acts similar to a police force onboard the ship. They are responsible for enforcing the Uniform Code of Military Justice, providing physical security, training the crew in anti-terrorism measures, and maintaining the ship's brig.



SUPPLY

Supply Department manages more than 60,000 items in support of the ship and its crew. The department prepares and serves nearly 20,000 meals per day, manages the ship's financial budget, ship's laundry, disbursing the ship's currency, operating the Ship's Store and Post Office, maintaining vending services, and operating four plastic recycling and one solid waste processing centers.



EXECUTIVE

Executive Department is primarily responsible for the ship's administrative functions, including preparing official correspondence, managing advancement and payroll, handling reenlistments and separations/transfers, providing legal counsel services, and running the ship's 3M maintenance program. The department also handles the ship's public affairs, visual information products and social media presence.



MEDICAL/DENTAL

Boxer's Medical Department provides medical services to more than 3,000 Sailors and Marines. The department consists of a fully-staffed medical ward with most of the facilities found in modern hospitals and can accommodate hundreds of patients. The ship's doctors, corpsmen and nurses provide emergency and combat medical support both on the ship and throughout the amphibious ready group as well as train the crew on how to respond to medical emergencies. Dental Division provides services for the crew's dental well-being by offering general dentistry and oral surgery services.



WEAPONS

Weapons Department provides the ship and embarked squadrons with all weapons and operational ammunition. "Weps" personnel requisition, receive, stow, inventory, break out, assemble and transport all ammunition used throughout the ship. Boxer's weapon and ammunition inventory includes rifles, handguns, bombs, mines, cartridges, bullets, missiles, grenades, and demolition charges.



OPERATIONS

Operations Department plans and analyzes ship functions and systems, and coordinates the various components of air, sea and land operations to ensure mission success. Boxer's Combat Information Center (often referred to as the "nerve center" of the ship) controls the employment of all the ship's weapons systems.



RELIGIOUS MINISTRIES

Religious Ministries Department attends to the spiritual needs of the Sailors and Marines onboard. Chaplains conduct religious services while religious program specialists and lay leaders assist all faiths in coordinating worship services and other activities. The department also runs the ship's library, improving the quality of life of the crew.

