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NEWS RELEASE

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Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise

YONGSAN GARRISON, SEOUL – Republic of Korea and the United States forces will conduct an Anti-Submarine Warfare Exercise in the waters west of the Korean Peninsula beginning Sept. 27 and continuing until October 1, 2010.

This exercise is part of a series of combined naval training events that are defensive in nature, enhance interoperability, and designed to send a clear message of deterrence to North Korea, while improving overall ROK-U.S. Alliance ASW capabilities.

Participating units from the U.S. Navy include the guided missile destroyers USS John S. McCain (DDG 56) and USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62); and the ocean surveillance ship USNS Victorious (T-AGOS 19). Assets also include a fast attack submarine and P-3C Orion aircraft from Patrol Squadron NINE (VP-9). The USS John S. McCain and USS Fitzgerald are forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan and VP-9 is home-ported at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base in Hawaii.

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Exercise/2/2/2

Participating units from the Republic of Korea Navy include two destroyers, a fast frigate, a patrol craft, P-3C aircraft from Carrier Air Wing-Six. (CAW-6) and a ROK submarine.

The ASW exercise will focus on anti-submarine warfare tactics, techniques, and procedures. The first exercise in this series, Combined Naval and Air Readiness Exercise "Invincible Spirit," was conducted in the seas east of the Korean Peninsula from July 25-28, 2010.

This exercise was originally scheduled to occur Sept. 5-9 but was delayed for safety reasons related to Typhoon Malou arriving in Korean waters during the exercise period.