



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

On behalf of the U.S. Navy, greetings and best wishes as you gather to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> annual USS BENNINGTON Association Reunion.

There is a tie that binds today's Sailors to those who have gone before them, and that is the fierce devotion to service - to our nation, our Navy and our Shipmates. It remains the underlying theme of military life, a belief that we are part of something much greater than any one person.

During World War II and the Vietnam War, the crews of BENNINGTON personified that theme. The distinguished performance of that fine ship was indicative of the sense of service, protection and loyalty that guided her crews and strengthened our forces. Your efforts have made a difference.

Thank you for all that you've done for your Navy and your nation. Congratulations and best wishes for a fantastic celebration!

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Sincerely,

VERN CLARK  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

USS BENNINGTON  
ASSOCIATION