



SINGAPORE NAVY'S INAUGURAL PARTICIPATION IN RIM OF THE PACIFIC EXERCISE

1. RSS Steadfast, the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)'s Formidable-class frigate, is participating in the multilateral Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) naval exercise for the first time from 27 Jun to 31 Jul 08. Hosted by the United States Navy (USN), Exercise RIMPAC 08 consists of an onshore planning phase as well as a 22-day sea phase exercise conducted off the coast of Hawaii.
2. As part of Exercise RIMPAC 08, RSS Steadfast participated in combined anti-submarine and air defence exercises with maritime forces of nine other nations, and successfully carried out a Harpoon anti-ship missile live-firing off the coast of Hawaii on 14 Jul. The exercise also validated RSS Steadfast's ability to conduct sustained sea operations.
3. RSS Steadfast is exercising together with 34 ships, 6 submarines, 150 aircraft and 20,000 personnel from the maritime forces of Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Peru, the United Kingdom and the United States.
4. Exercise RIMPAC 08 aims to enhance the interoperability among the participating nations through high intensity and complex maritime operations.
5. "This is the first time the RSN is participating in Exercise RIMPAC," said LTC Seah Poh Yeen, Commanding Officer of RSS Steadfast. "This large and complex exercise, conducted thousands of miles from Singapore, is a true test of the endurance and sustainability of the ship and its crew to perform under demanding operational conditions over a prolonged period."
6. On the RSN's inaugural participation in the exercise, RIMPAC Sea Combat Commander, Commodore Nigel Green, said: "Exercise RIMPAC has been widely welcomed as showcasing the superb professional and technical competence of a key partner in South East Asia. RSS Steadfast has shown herself to be a ship which very ably inspires pride at home and admiration abroad."

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RSS Steadfast exercising alongside her US counterpart in Ex RIMPAC 08

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RSS Steadfast successfully fires off the Harpoon missile during Ex RIMPAC 08

