

“A carrier RCOH may be the most challenging engineering and industrial task undertaken anywhere by any organization.”

—RAND National Defense Research Institute Study, 2002

RCOH

All U.S. Navy Nimitz-class aircraft carriers must go through a refueling and complex overhaul (RCOH) near the midpoint of their 50-year life cycle. During this nearly four-year process, the two nuclear reactors that power an aircraft carrier are refueled. Most of the ship's services, systems, components and infrastructure are repaired or replaced, upgraded and modernized. This process produces a recapitalized carrier capable of supporting current and future warfare doctrine and continuing to operate as the centerpiece of our U.S. Navy fleet and as a vital part of our national defense for another 25 years.



VITAL TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY

Delaying any RCOH negatively impacts fleet readiness and creates inefficiencies in the program, including increased costs and prolonged learning curves. Delays also threaten an already fragile supplier base. Conducting RCOHs on schedule is necessary to return modernized carriers to active service for another 25 years of operational demands.

INVESTING LESS THAN **1 PERCENT**

of the defense budget in a RCOH means an aircraft carrier will have a

50 YEAR

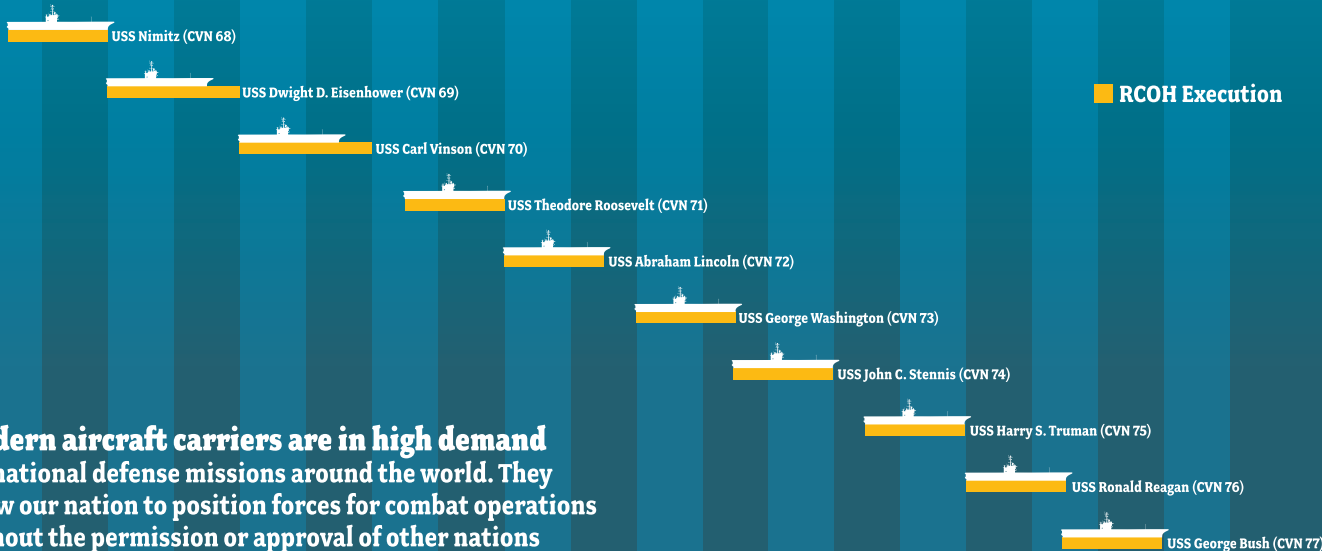
SERVICE LIFE and be available for another



25 YEARS

TO FIGHT TERRORISM, PROTECT NATIONAL SECURITY AND PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AID.

1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020 2022 2024 2026 2028 2030 2032 2034



Modern aircraft carriers are in high demand for national defense missions around the world. They allow our nation to position forces for combat operations without the permission or approval of other nations

39 STATES PROVIDE MATERIALS FOR RCOH

➤➤➤➤ RCOH increases the value and recapitalizes the carrier for another 25 years of service: After RCOH an aircraft carrier is the most modern and technologically advanced Nimitz-class aircraft carrier in the fleet and will be a vital part of our national defense.