



Expingo express

►090114-N-8273J-010
SUITLAND, Md. (Jan. 14, 2009) Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead attends the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Naval Maritime Intelligence Center in Suitland. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Tiffini M. Jones/Released)

The Expingo Express is a product from Navy Visual News Service aimed at providing editing tips to help write better Navy captions. Expingo is Latin for "to write or to describe." In each issue, we will discuss a different caption issue as described in the new DoD Style Guide for Captions. The new guide formally adopts most of the AP Stylebook requirements.

The forensics of a caption



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Dateline → 081211-N-7571S-107
 GULF OF OMAN (Dec. 11, 2008) Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai, left, and Vice Adm. Bill Gortney, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, pause for a on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71). Karzai visited Theodore Roosevelt to gain a better understanding of how the U.S. Navy conducts operations at sea. Theodore Roosevelt and embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 8 are deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility supporting maritime security operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jonathan Snyder/Released)

Indicate position in a caption using commas, not parentheses.

Type and name of ship

Spell out ship name on second reference.

lower case "maritime security operations"

Fleet name; no need for "Navy" in Fleet name

Battalion or squadron name in numerals

Byline - all in parentheses, rate spelled out, rank in numerals and no warfare designators

Navy Visual News Service

1200 Navy Pentagon Rm 4B514 Washington, DC 20350-1200
Phone: 703.614.9154 navyvisualnews@navy.mil