

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Grand Opening of USS Midway Museum’s High-Stakes Naval Intelligence Exhibit**

Ribbon-cutting ceremony will open the top-secret Carrier Intelligence Center where combat missions were planned during Operation Desert Storm

**WHAT:** The USS Midway Museum will hold a one-of-a-kind ribbon-cutting ceremony to publicly open one of the most intriguingly engaging and immersive exhibits in its history on Friday, June 27 at 10:30 a.m. on the flight deck. Midway will celebrate the unsung efforts of the naval intelligence community with the opening of the new exhibit **“Top Secret: Inside the High-Stakes World of Naval Intelligence”** that will take visitors into the classified and intense world of the Navy’s secret service.

This is the launch of the museum’s second major exhibit in the last two years. In 2024, Midway opened “Midway's Engineers: Service, Sacrifice and Everyday Life” honoring ship’s engineering crew.

The new exhibit will use Midway’s own critical involvement in Operation Desert Storm in 1991 to frame this carrier-intelligence experience. Through actual displays and various interactive activities, guests will not only learn about the important role played by the naval intelligence service, but get to test their own aptitude for collecting, analyzing and interpreting information critical for successfully planning a combat mission during the Gulf War.

By using a creative combination of sound, light and visual effects, guests will be taken back in time to when Midway was the flagship for all U.S. naval aviation combat operations in the Persian Gulf.

**WHERE:** USS Midway Museum (flight deck), 910 N. Harbor Dr., San Diego, CA

**WHEN:** Friday, June 27, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

 *Please RSVP to* *dkoontz@midway.org*

**DETAILS:** In the spirit of naval intelligence, Midway will officially open the new exhibit to the public with a top-secret, Men In Black-style ribbon cutting ceremony. The brief ceremony will be held near the entrance to the new exhibit on the flight deck.

 This once highly-classified space served as the nerve center for intelligence gathering and analysis, mission planning, and strategic decision-making aboard Midway. The new exhibit offers a rare glimpse into the life-and-death world of naval intelligence. Museum guests will go behind the curtain and discover the secrets that helped shape naval aviation combat operations during the liberation of Kuwait in 1991.

 By creating an interactive exhibit in this previously restricted area, the public will, for the first time, step inside Midway’s completely restored Carrier Intelligence Center where real air-combat missions were planned during the Gulf war.

**VISUALS:** Ribbon-cutting ceremony and the new exhibit.

**INTERVIEWS:** USS Midway Museum officials and former naval intelligence professionals.

**CONTACT:** David Koontz, USS Midway Museum – 619.571.6561/dkoontz@midway.org.

-USS Midway Museum-