

Following US-India War Games: India Purchases USS Trenton

Indian Navy crew to train in US

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Indian Navy crew to train in United States

London, Nov 03: The Indian Navy has sent some 300 personnel to the US to train up and sail back with the 35-year-old Austin-class platform landing dock, USS Trenton acquired by India, a leading defence weekly reported today.

Crew are now undergoing training at the US Navy base in Norfolk, Virginia, before taking over the 17,000-tonne ship once it is decommissioned from the US Navy next January. The crew will then aim to return to India by May 2007, the Jane's Defence Weekly said, quoting a spokesman of the Indian Navy.

At 174 m long, Trenton will be the Indian Navy's second largest warship after the Hermes-class aircraft carrier INS Viraat and the first military purchase from the US after the two countries entered into a strategic partnership in 2005.

Trenton Cost India Rs 2.18 billion (USD 48.44 million) under the US government's foreign military sales programme and includes the provision of four LCM8 landing craft.

Bureau Report

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