

# CNO, Indonesian Navy Chief Meet; Discuss Maritime Security



Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday, shown speaking to the U.S. Naval Academy's Silent Drill Team at the christening ceremony for the future Jack H. Lucas (DDG 125) in Pascagoula, Mississippi, March 26. *U.S. NAVY / Cmdr. Courtney Hillson*

WASHINGTON – Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday met with Chief of the Indonesian Navy Adm. Yudo Margono, at the Pentagon, March 30, the CNO's public affairs office said in a release.

This was their first meeting, during which the two leaders discussed the importance of maritime security and exchanged views on regional and global security issues.

"Working alongside our Allies and partners has never been so important. Today's maritime challenges require interoperability and presence," said Gilday. "Together we will continue to keep the maritime commons open and free as we promote the security, stability, and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific."

The two leaders exchanged views about security issues in the Indo-Pacific, underscoring the importance of the U.S.-Indonesian bilateral relationship.

"The purpose of this visit is to enhance relationships and partnerships between the two navies that have been well established so far," said Margono.

Gilday emphasized a commitment to continuing dialogue and building upon our strong bilateral defense relationship.

"For more than 70 years, Indonesia has been a valued partner,"

said Gilday. "There is a strong strategic partnership between Indonesia and the U.S. and I am grateful for our long history of collaboration, cooperation, and training," said Gilday.

Gilday and Margono also reviewed progress made in recent years in military-to-military cooperation to increase exercises and training, as well as regular defense policy dialogues.

U.S. and Indonesia operate together around the globe regularly. Indonesia has been part of the CARAT exercise series since it began in 1995. After 27 years of annual training events between the armed forces, CARAT Indonesia remains a model for cooperation that has evolved in complexity and enables both navies to refine operations and tactics in response to both traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges.

The U.S.-Indonesian relationship is strengthened through training. For the first time, Indonesia has two midshipman attending the U.S. Naval Academy.