

“Experimental Explosion” by the US Navy: 3.9 Magnitude Earthquake Measured Off Florida’s East Coast

The United States Geological Survey measured the seismic event roughly 100 miles off the coast of Ponce Inlet

By [Action News Jax](#)

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A reported 3.9 magnitude earthquake off the Florida’s east coast Friday was actually an “experimental explosion,” the U.S. Navy confirmed.

A spokesperson with the Navy told Action News Jax that what was measured were a result of military “shock trials” and they are not unusual, nor is it unusual for them to register as earthquakes.

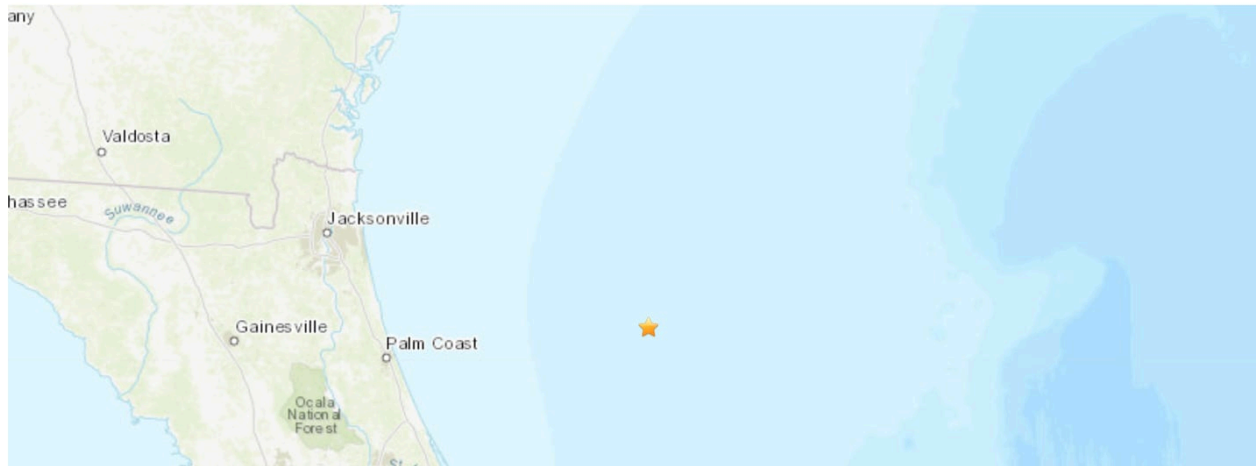
Shock trials test a ship to see how it holds up in an undersea explosion. This is to test strength of the ship’s hull, making sure it can perform in battle.

[The United States Geological Survey](#) measured the seismic event roughly 100 miles off the coast of Ponce Inlet.

Action News Jax has reached out to the Coast Guard for more information.

M 3.9 Experimental Explosion – 170 km ENE of Ponce Inlet, Florida

2021-06-18 19:48:39 (UTC) | 29.742°N 79.347°W | 0.0 km depth



3.9 Experimental Explosion (USGS)

BREAKING UPDATE: NS Mayport spokesman [@AustinBill13](#) tells [@ActionNewsjax](#) it was the result of a Navy Shock Trial off Daytona Beach. Says it's not usual for a shock trial to register as an earthquake & that it happened before in 2016. Interesting stuff. Let us know if you felt it! <https://t.co/J0XY8iXrzS>

— Tenikka Smith Hughes (@TenikkaANjax) [June 18, 2021](#)

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