About $500,000 will be injected into the Top End economy in the next week as Darwin plays host to four Defence ships, Minister for Defence Support Paul Henderson announced today.

**USS Cowpens** will arrive in Darwin tomorrow with 350 personnel on board, and three Royal Australian Navy ships arrive in Darwin on Tuesday with 400 sailors on board.

"Your average sailor spends $150 a day, so it is anticipated that the crew from **USS Cowpens** will inject a quarter of a million dollars into the NT economy during their stay alone," Mr Henderson said.

**USS Cowpens** will be in Port until Wednesday.

Mr Henderson said **HMAS Sydney, HMAS Warramunga and HMAS Success** will stay in Darwin for three days on a routine operational visit.

"The 400 crew from the RAN ships will provide important support for the NT economy during their stay.

"This is a great result for Darwin’s business community who always receive a boost when there are Navy ships in the harbour.

"Darwin has a very strong Australian defence community and we have forged over a long time a strong relationship with Australia’s allies, especially the United States.

"This is a clear example of the benefits that Darwin as a working harbour continues to have for the economy."
