



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



January 11, 2012

Executing the Maritime Strategy: 2011 in Review

"Operating forward our Navy will deter aggression, promptly respond to crises, and win our nation's wars. We will operate globally at the front line of our nation's efforts in war and peace, and the fleet will continue protecting the interconnected systems of trade, information, and security that underpin our own economy and that of our friends and allies."

– Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Chief of Naval Operations

With the arrival of 2012, we reflect upon the Navy's operations and accomplishments in 2011 -- operations that furthered maritime partnerships and spanned the core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy: forward presence, deterrence, power projection, sea control, maritime security and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

Building Partnerships Through Maritime Security Cooperation

- In February, [USS Robert G. Bradley \(FFG 49\)](#) and Naval Forces Africa trainers completed the first Africa Partnership Station [training event](#) of 2011, with more than 130 students from Benin, Ghana and Togo in [Lome, Togo](#).
- USS Enterprise (CVN 65), [USS Leyte Gulf \(CG 55\)](#) and USS Bainbridge (DDG 96) provided support to United Arab Emirates forces during the rescue of motor vessel Arrilah-I crew from suspected pirates in April.
- USS Anzio (CG 68), [USS Monterey \(CG 61\)](#) and MSC's USNS Grasp (T-ARS 51) participated in exercise [Sea Breeze 2011](#) with [12 countries](#) in June, while USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20), USS Philippine Sea (CG 58) and MSC's 2ND LT John P. Bobo (T-AK 3008) [participated](#) in [Baltic Operations 2011](#) with 10 countries.
- [USNS Richard E. Byrd \(T-AKE 4\)](#) became the first U.S. Navy ship in 38 years to visit Vietnam when it arrived in Cam Ranh Bay in August.
- [USS Thach \(FFG 43\)](#) Sailors trained with 3,500 personnel from 17 countries, and [Mobile Dive and Salvage Unit 2 Company 23](#) Sailors joined divers from various countries to exchange tactics during [PANAMAX 2011](#) in August.

Forward Presence

- Carrier air wings embarked aboard [USS Enterprise \(CVN 65\)](#), [USS Abraham Lincoln \(CVN 72\)](#), [USS Carl Vinson \(CVN 70\)](#), [USS George H.W. Bush \(CVN 73\)](#), [USS John C. Stennis \(CVN 74\)](#), and [USS Ronald Reagan \(CVN 76\)](#) flew nearly 15,500 sorties totaling more than 49,000 flight hours in support of coalition forces on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan and Operation New Dawn. [George H.W. Bush's](#) deployment was its first-ever combat deployment.
- [The Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group](#) and embarked Marines of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit entered the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in November as part of command ship [USS Makin Island's \(LHD 8\)](#) maiden deployment.

Deterrence

- [USS Higgins \(DDG 76\)](#) departed San Diego in January for a [six-month, independent deployment](#) to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to provide ballistic missile defense to U.S. and allied forces in the Middle East.
- In May, USS Michigan (SSGN 727) and USS Ohio (SSGN 726) operated in the U.S. 7th Fleet's area of operations.
- [USS Germantown \(LSD 42\)](#) and the [George Washington Carrier Strike Group](#) patrolled the western Pacific in June as they prepared to participate in exercise [Talisman Sabre 2011](#), a bilateral exercise designed to improve combat readiness and interoperability between Australia and the U.S. Seven U.S. ships, two submarines, 135 aircraft and approximately 14,000 service members participated.

Power Projection

- Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group flew nearly 3,000 hours in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.



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- Ohio-class guided-missile submarine [USS Florida \(SSGN 728\)](#) returned to its homeport of [Kings Bay, Ga.](#), in April following an historic [15-month deployment](#), which included participation in Operation Odyssey Dawn, during which the submarine launched 90 Tomahawk land attack missiles, including the operation's first.

Sea Control

- USS Boxer (LPD 4) and USS Green Bay (LPD 20) flew 750 hours in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.
- [USS Comstock \(LSD 45\)](#) completed more than 240 hours of intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance collection using [Scan Eagle unmanned aerial vehicles](#) in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations in April.
- Sailors from Riverine Squadron 2, Det. 2., deployed to Bahrain in support of Commander, Task Force 56 in November, marking the first operational deployment of the riverine command boat.

Maritime Security

- [USS Momsen \(DDG 92\)](#) and USS Bunker Hill (CG 52) [disrupted](#) a [pirate attack](#) of Panamanian-flagged merchant vessel Duqm in the Gulf of Oman in February.
- In October, [USS Carr \(FFG 52\)](#) and a U.S. Coast Guard law enforcement detachment boarding team recovered 16 bales of cocaine, weighing 402 kilograms and worth an estimated street value of \$8 million, in the U.S. Southern Command AOR.
- In November, guided-missile destroyer [USS Kidd \(DDG 100\)](#) continued to serve as flagship of Combined Task Force 151, led by Pakistan Rear Adm. Kaleem Shoukat.
- Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force ships attached to Commander, Task Force 53 conducted 74 replenishments-at-sea with 39 ships from eight countries while operating in U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response

- In March, [USS Essex \(LHD 2\)](#) and embarked [31st Marine Expeditionary Unit](#) continued humanitarian assistance and [disaster relief](#) efforts off the northeast coast of Honshu, Japan, in support of Operation Tomodachi. U.S. 7th Fleet forces, [22 ships](#), [140 aircraft](#) and more than [15,000 personnel](#) delivered more than 260 tons of [relief supplies](#) to survivors of the tsunami and earthquake in support of Japan Self Defense Force efforts.
- [USS Cleveland \(LPD 7\)](#) arrived in [Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu](#), in April to begin the second phase of [Pacific Partnership 2011](#). [Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133](#), from Gulfport, Miss., [constructed three schools](#) in the city.
- [USNS Comfort \(T-AH 20\)](#) returned to Baltimore in September after visiting nine countries in which military, civilian and non-government organization partners triaged nearly 68,000 patients and performed more than 1,100 shipboard surgeries during [Continuing Promise 2011](#).
- In November, [USS Tortuga \(LSD 46\)](#) relieved [USS Lassen \(DDG 82\)](#) in Laem Chabang, Thailand, to continue supporting U.S. Marine Corps Pacific [flood relief efforts](#).

Key Messages

- America's Navy is "A Global Force for Good," protecting this nation's vital interests even as it joins with others to promote security and prosperity across the globe.
- Although our forces can surge when necessary, trust and cooperation cannot be surged.
- Sailors demonstrate daily that our Navy is flexible, adaptable, and ready to respond globally.

Facts & Figures

- 3,571 Reservists were mobilized to fill more than 4,500 Reserve component individual or unit requirements.
- More than 19,513 Sailors served on IA orders throughout 2011.
- The Navy introduced six ships to the fleet in 2010 – 2 DDGs, 1 SSN, 2 T-AKE and 1 LPD.
- The Navy deployed 197 ships in 2011.