



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



February 7, 2011

## Executing the Maritime Strategy

*"Amphibious-Southern Partnership Station 2011 and operations like it serve as an opportunity to strengthen cooperative maritime partnerships. Through multinational subject matter expert exchanges, participating countries are able to improve capability with specific mission areas, as well as interoperability with partner nations,"*

**- Capt. Brian Nickerson, mission commander, Amphibious-Southern Partnership Station 2011**

Around the world, the Navy is executing the core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – some examples from throughout the fleet in January 2011 were:

### Forward Presence

- The [Abraham Lincoln](#) Carrier Strike Group (CSG) flew [1,712 sorties](#) totaling 5,616.6 hours of flight time supporting U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan, and the [Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group](#) delivered 1,400 Marines and Sailors from the embarked 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) into Afghanistan.
- [USS Essex \(LHD 2\) embarked](#) more than 1,200 Marines assigned to the [31st MEU](#) before beginning a Western Pacific patrol, which will include participation in [exercise Cobra Gold 2011](#) with Thailand.

### Deterrence

- [USS Higgins \(DDG 76\)](#) departed San Diego for a [six-month, independent deployment](#) to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR) to provide ballistic missile defense to U.S. and allied forces in the Middle East.

### Power Projection

- The [Ronald Reagan CSG](#) completed a two-day joint fleet synthetic training exercise. The pierside exercise facilitates U.S. and coalition forces' ability to work, learn and prepare together for theater operations without having to operate at sea.

### Maritime Security

- [USS Sterett's \(DDG 104\)](#) embarked [Helicopter Strike Maritime Squadron 77 "Saberhawks"](#) flew 155.1 hours in the U.S. 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet AOR patrolling to ensure safe passage among the seas and provide humanitarian assistance when required.

### Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- [USS Carter Hall \(LSD 50\)](#) provided medical assistance to an [Indian crew member](#) of a fishing vessel in the Arabian Gulf while supporting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts.
- Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 28 Sailors and 8th Marine Engineering Support Battalion Marines embarked aboard Military Sealift Command (MSC) [High Speed Vessel 2 Swift](#) in support of [Southern Partnership Station 2011](#) provided emergency [medical assistance](#) to a Swiss tourist on Pacava Volcano, near San Juan, Guatemala.

### Building Maritime Partnerships

- The Carl Vinson CSG participated in evolutions designed to improve bilateral interoperability with the Republic of Singapore navy in the South China Sea.
- MSC [USNS Safeguard \(T-ARS 50\)](#); U.S. Navy divers from [Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 1](#); Company 1-6; Commander, Task Force 73 and divers from the Indian navy participated in exercise [Salvage Exchange 2011](#) in Port Blair, India.

## Status of the Navy (as of 1 February)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	328,516	Total deployable ships/subs	286	NAVCENT/C5F	10,095
Total Reserve Component	64,710	Ships underway	157 (55%)	PACFLT	20,018
DoN Civilians	200,486	Attack subs underway	22 (39%)	NAVSO/C4F	1,140
		Ships deployed	110 (38%)	C2F	18,454
		Subs deployed	21 (38%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	8,040
Navy Forces on the Ground in NAVCENT AOR	9,221	Expeditionary forces on mission	87 (46.5%)	For more information on the <a href="#">current status of the Navy</a> , visit: <a href="http://www.navy.mil">www.navy.mil</a> .	
		Total operational aircraft	3,700+		