



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



December 6, 2011

Executing the Maritime Strategy

"NAVCENT and coalition forces maintain a considerable and continuous presence in the Gulf region in order to promote a secure maritime environment, lower the vulnerability threshold of the Strategic Lines of Communication and the choke points, and ensure they remain free from threat of closure."

- Vice Adm. Mark Fox, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command / U.S. 5th Fleet

Around the world, the Navy is executing the core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy; examples from November include:

Forward Presence

- The [George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group](#) flew 133 sorties totaling 606 hours in support of operations New Dawn and Enduring Freedom and maritime security operations (MSO) in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR).
- Naval Fleet Auxiliary Force ships attached to Commander, Task Force 53 conducted 74 replenishments-at-sea with 39 different ships from eight countries while operating in support of U.S. 5th Fleet missions.

Maritime Security

- Guided missile destroyer [USS Kidd \(DDG 100\)](#) continued to serve as Combined Maritime Forces' Combined Task Force (CTF) 151 flagship. CTF 151 is led by Pakistani Rear Adm. Kaleem Shoukat.
- [High Speed Vessel \(HSV\) 2](#) Swift arrived in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as part of [Southern Partnership Station 2012](#).

Deterrence

- The [Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group \(ARG\)](#) and embarked Marines of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) entered the U.S. 7th Fleet AOR. Command ship [USS Makin Island \(LHD 8\)](#) is on its maiden deployment.
- [USS Texas \(SSN 775\)](#) made a port call at [Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka](#) during the Thanksgiving holiday as part of its Western Pacific deployment.

Power Projection

- [USNS Sacagawea \(T-AKE 2\)](#) conducted replenishments-at-sea with French, German and Australian naval ships while supporting counter-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden.
- Sailors from Riverine Squadron (RIVRON) 2, Det. 2, deployed to Bahrain in support of CTF 56, marking the first operational deployment of the riverine command boat (RCB).

Building Maritime Partnerships

- [U.S. Naval Forces Central Command \(NAVCENT\)](#) hosted the Naval War College's Combined Force Maritime Component Commander (CFMCC) Course for senior international military officers on board Naval Support Activity Bahrain.
- Military Sealift Command (MSC) oceanographic survey ship [USNS Henson \(T-AGS 63\)](#) completed a month-long, bilateral survey mission with the Indonesian navy.

Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- [USS Tortuga \(LSD 46\)](#) relieved [USS Lassen \(DDG 82\)](#) in Laem Chebang, Thailand, to continue support of Marine Corps Forces Pacific [flood relief efforts](#).
- Maritime Civil Affairs Team (MCAT) 205, in Kenya, helped evacuate a critically ill child from Faza to Lamu, 25 miles away, after Kisingitini villagers asked for help evacuating the child because of tidal flooding.

Status of the Navy (Dec. 2)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	324,466	Total deployable ships/subs	284	NAVCENT/C5F	11,455
Total Reserve Component	64,574	Ships underway	151 (53%)	CPF/C3F/C7F	14,631
DoN Civilians	203,952	Attack subs underway	19 (25%)	NAVSO/C4	1,810
		Ships deployed	109 (38%)	USFF	5,036
Navy Forces on the Ground		Subs deployed	17 (31%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	7,363
in NAVCENT AOR	11,391	Exped. forces on mission	90 (50.5%)	For more information on the current status of the Navy , visit: www.navy.mil .	
		Total operational aircraft	3,700+		