



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



November 2, 2009

## Chief of Naval Operations' Monthly Update

*"As I look at what our military does today, and in particular our Navy, around the world, whatever it takes, where ever it takes us, we are indeed a Global Force for Good."*

– Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations

In October, the Chief of Naval Operations spoke on the topic of information dominance at the [Center for Strategic and International Studies](#), hosted 102 nations and 91 Chiefs of Navies at the [19<sup>th</sup> biennial International Seapower Symposium](#) in Newport, R.I., spoke about the importance of energy at the [Naval Energy Forum](#) and placed [USS Wayne E. Meyer in commission](#) at Penns Landing in Philadelphia, Pa. He also celebrated the Navy's birthday at the [31<sup>st</sup> annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Salute to the military](#) in Biloxi, Miss., and [in Washington, D.C.](#), later in the month. CNO spoke at [Carnegie Mellon University](#) in Pittsburgh, Pa., about the current status of the Navy today and tomorrow. CNO wrapped up the month honoring the National Military Family Association's 2009 Navy Family of the Year and hosting the New Flag Officer and Executive Symposium in Washington, D.C.

### Current Readiness – Global Maritime Partnerships- partnerships are growing.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> biennial International Seapower Symposium, CNO addressed the largest assembly yet of naval leaders and nearly three times the number who came together for the first time in 1969. He challenged his counterparts that as maritime service chiefs they are on the cutting edge of international partnerships and symposiums like ISS enable leadership to think expansively about how mutual efforts can safeguard international peace and prosperity in the 21st century. CNO also welcomed delegations from six nations to their first ISS - Cambodia, Guyana, the Maldives, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Russia and Vietnam.

*"At this largest gathering of naval leaders in history, we here today represent our countries' efforts not only to defend our respective maritime interests and our shores, but also to secure the global maritime commons at a time of great challenge. The stakes are massive: our activities – individually and in partnership – are vital to the future generations. The trend is clear – partnerships are growing. They are growing because they work, and they will continue to grow because there is still more to do in our changing and uncertain world."*

### Future Readiness – Information Dominance and Cyber Warfare

CNO spoke at the Center for Strategic and International Studies to discuss information dominance and how to help maintain the Navy's competitive advantage in the information age both in the U.S. and globally. He said that the U.S. Navy has been no stranger to the world of networks and information, and the efforts for the last decade have positioned us to lead in cyber in a way that the nation would expect. CNO also mentioned that people are going to be the key as a new Information Dominance Corps is created that will constitute about 44,000 Sailors.

*"The goal in doing this is to ensure the commander gets the right information to the right place at the right time so that they can effectively perceive, understand, reason, decide and as is the culture of the Navy, command. That's what all of this is about. These are important changes that I believe we needed to make, that we now have made to realize a more effective operational environment for the Navy."*

### People – Contributing to the Front Lines

During CNO's remarks in Biloxi, Miss., CNO stressed that we are a very busy Navy: Fifty-two thousand Sailors are deployed, 35 percent of our ships are underway on our worlds' oceans and more Sailors are on the ground in the Middle East today than at sea. He said we are an everything force, the hybrid force: from irregular warfare to conventional warfare, we do whatever it takes wherever it takes us.

*"You are fortunate because you have the privilege to be Sailors in the United States Navy in defense of the United States of America. In the history of our nation, there have been only a few who have been able to lay that claim. And for that reason, you have a tremendous opportunity before you."*