



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



May 6, 2010

Executing the Maritime Strategy

"We live in a world that increasingly relies on the sea for many elements of our daily lives, and, as a result, the U.S. Navy must remain forward and engaged to protect vital security interests. U.S. Pacific Fleet remains committed to providing security assistance to our allies and partners in one of the more rapidly growing economic areas of the world."

– Adm. Patrick M. Walsh, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Around the world, the Navy is executing the six core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

Forward Presence

- Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 6 Platoon 621 provided mission-essential EOD skills to enable combat success for U.S. Army Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan. Since their arrival in theater, they have rendered safe 27 improvised explosive devices, disposed of more than 1,500 pounds of high explosives, and have been involved in nine combat engagements with the enemy.
- USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) completed 92 days on station in the North Arabian Sea, launching 502 [combat sorties](#) and [flying](#) 4,147 cumulative hours in the month of April in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), providing [aerial support](#) for U.S. and Coalition forces on the ground in Afghanistan.

Deterrence

- USS John S. McCain (DDG 56), [USS Fitzgerald \(DDG 62\)](#), [USS McCampbell \(DDG 85\)](#), USS Stethem (DDG 63) and Hawaii-based frigate USS Reuben James (FFG 57) improved their war-fighting readiness in multiple warfare areas during semi-annual Exercise *Multi-Sail*.

Maritime Security

- USS Nicholas (FFG 47) exchanged fire with three suspected pirates in the Western Indian Ocean, took them into custody, sank their skiff, and later pursued and sank a suspected pirate mother ship, taking two more suspected pirates into custody. In another incident, after being fired upon, [USS Ashland \(LSD 48\)](#) returned fire and disabled a skiff with [suspected pirates](#), who were then rescued them off the coast of Djibouti. In a third incident, Omani warship Al Sharquiyah (B 11) and USS McFaul (DDG 74) captured 10 suspected pirates and rescued eight crewmembers from the pirated Indian cargo dhow Faize Osamani near Oman after the dhow and three skiffs attempted to attack the Motor Vessel Rising Sun.

Power Projection

- Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB) [5](#), 22, 74 and [133](#), deployed to U.S. Central Command in support of OEF, provided full-range engineer capabilities including increasing bed down locations, constructing command and control facilities, and opening lines of communication.

Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- Naval Station Rota, Spain, received a large number of U.S. military flights diverted from Northern European routes due to the ash from the mid-April volcanic eruption in Iceland. Rota typically averages eight to 13 flights a day but surged its capability to serve double that amount during the airspace closure.
- Working with locals and NGOs to plan and execute the Haitian cash-for-work program, Seabees from NMCB 7 employed 90 laborers to complete 750 meters of water trenches and 250 meters of sand bag walls, improving the Pétionville Individual Displaced Persons Camp.

Status of the Navy (as of 3 May)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	330,423	Total deployable ships/subs	286	NAVCENT/C5F	9,902
Total Reserve Component	65,671	Ships underway	139 (49%)	PACFLT	16,240
DoN Civilians	192,652	Attack Subs underway	33 (61%)	NAVSOUTH/C4F	1,401
		Ships deployed	109 (38%)	C2F	8,487
		Subs deployed	20 (37%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	2,174
Navy Forces on the Ground in NAVCENT AOR	14, 491	Expeditionary units deployed	71 (38.1%)	For more information on the current status of the Navy, visit: www.navy.mil .	
		Total Operational Aircraft	3,700+		