



RHUMB LINES

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Surface Warfare: Agile, Flexible and Balanced Across the Spectrum of Conflict

"The surface force is the heart of America's Navy, operating throughout the maritime domain, with capabilities that span the range of military operations. Surface warriors worldwide are expertly executing the maritime strategy daily as part of the global force for good."

– Vice Adm. D.C. Curtis, Commander, Naval Surface Forces

On any given day, more than half of the surface force is underway with 40 percent or more [deployed](#). Our people and platforms are extraordinarily flexible - capable of theater engagement cooperation operations one day, anti-piracy operations the next day, and full-scale combat operations when needed.

The Surface Navy is:

- **Assuring Maritime Dominance Across the Full Spectrum of Naval Operations** by deterring aggression, guarding against ballistic missiles, protecting critical infrastructure, [countering pirates](#), capturing illicit-traffickers, and serving in combat zones as individual augmentees, among many other vital missions.
- **Assuring Optimal Readiness.** The Surface Warfare Enterprise (SWE) spans all organizations involved in building, modernizing, training, and deploying Surface Forces, to provide warships ready for tasking. This collaboration with OPNAV/NAVSEA/NAVSUP/NPC and others has been the key to success.
- **Growing and Modernizing Our Fleet.** Key building programs include: [Littoral Combat Ship](#) (LCS), Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) and Zumwalt (DDG 1000)-class destroyers, America (LHA 6) and San Antonio (LPD 17)-class amphibious warfare ships, Mobile Landing Platform (MLP), and Joint High Speed Vessel. Key Modernization programs include: Ticonderoga (CG 47) cruisers, Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) destroyers, Whidbey Island/Harpers Ferry (LSD 41/49)-Class Mid-Life, and LHD 1 Class Mid-Life Program.
- **Innovating for the Future.** We are working with the Office of Naval Research, Naval Sea Systems Command, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, industry, and academia to increase our future combat effectiveness and operational efficiency.
- **Developing our People.** We are recruiting, training and retaining superb Sailors who are dedicated to serving our nation. We are committed to providing them and their families with meaningful service and high quality of life.

Addressing CNO Priorities:

Navy Ballistic Missile Defense Capability: Aegis [Ballistic Missile Defense](#) (BMD) provides a mobile missile defense capability that uses international waters to provide protection to both U.S. and allies. Aegis BMD is a vital part of Navy's future, providing defense of the homeland, allies, and forward deployed forces. Aegis with Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) provides effective BMD capability at sea and, soon, ashore.

Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW): We continue to improve ASW capability, a core Navy mission. We are investing in enhanced sonar processors and displays, advanced ASW weapons, manned and remotely operated air, surface and undersea vehicles, and improved torpedo defenses. Introduction of the SQQ-89A(V)15 system on DDGs is a significant improvement in our capacity to conduct open-ocean and littoral undersea warfare, especially against diesel-electric submarines.

Key Messages

- The surface force is in high demand, meeting 100 percent of Combatant Commander requirements every day.
- The Navy has delivered more manpower, more training and more maintenance/equipment funding to ensure the ship's meet expected service life.
- Surface BMD is meeting an increased deployment demand signal with deployments to U.S. 5th, 6th and 7th Fleets as ballistic missile threats proliferate.

Facts & Figures

- Of the current surface force of 170 ships, more than 40% are deployed.
- Aegis BMD capability is currently installed on 21 ships. It will rapidly expand by way of CG/DDG modernization as well as the addition of new DDGs to the fleet.
- The [2011 Surface Navy Association National Symposium](#) is being held in Arlington, Va., Jan. 11-13.