



# 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. 5<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="#">current status of the Navy</a> , visit: <a href="http://www.navy.mil">www.navy.mil</a> .	
		Total operational aircraft	3,700+		