



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



March 6, 2012

## Executing the Maritime Strategy

"We share the same interests and concerns as our Partners in the Caribbean, Central and South America. To help deal with the very real security threats posed by transnational criminal organizations, we send adaptive force packages to operate forward in our region, building enduring maritime partnerships able to secure our shared interests."

- Rear Adm. Kurt W. Tidd, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/ U.S. Fourth Fleet

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

### Forward Presence

- [The Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group](#) flew 1,235 sorties totaling more than 3,820 hours in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation (TSC) efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR).
- [USS Bonhomme Richard \(LHD 6\)](#) entered the [U.S. 7th Fleet AOR](#), joining forward-deployed naval forces in Sasebo, Japan, in preparation for a hull swap with USS Essex (LHD 2) later this spring.

### Maritime Security

- [U.S. 4th Fleet](#) supported Joint Interagency Task Force-South's [Operation Martillo](#), a U.S., European, and Western Hemisphere partner nation effort targeting illicit trafficking routes in coastal waters along Central America.
- [Royal Moroccan navy sailors](#) conducted visit, board, search and seizure training aboard [USS Simpson \(FFG 56\)](#) during a TSC port visit to Casablanca, Morocco.

### Deterrence

- Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 4 completed 170 escort missions protecting Military Sealift Command vessels and other high-value targets in Kuwait, the Horn of Africa, and Rota, Spain, in the U.S. 5th/6th Fleet AORs.
- More than 20,000 Marines, Sailors, Airmen, Soldiers and Coast Guardsmen on more than 25 ships participated in [Bold Alligator 2012](#), the largest East Coast naval [amphibious exercise](#) in the past 10 years.

### Power Projection

- [The Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group](#) flew 667 sorties in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, counter-piracy and TSC efforts in the [U.S. 5th Fleet AOR](#).
- [USS Louisiana \(SSBN 743\)](#) and USS Alabama (SSBN 731), homeported at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Wash., returned from strategic deterrent patrols of 39 and 72 days, respectively.

### Building Maritime Partnerships

- Navy personnel from U.S. Naval Forces Europe/Africa and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency met with the Sierra Leone Armed Forces and Maritime Administration in Freetown, Sierra Leone, to conduct an environmental workshop and discuss fisheries, maritime security, and port development during Africa Partnership Station 2012.
- [31st Marine Expeditionary Unit](#), embarked aboard [USS Germantown \(LSD 42\)](#), [USS Tortuga \(LSD 46\)](#), and [USS Chafee \(DDG 90\)](#), participated in [Exercise Cobra Gold 2012](#).

### Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- Seabees from [Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 23](#) and U.S. Marines embarked aboard [High Speed Vessel \(HSV 2\) Swift](#) partnered with an Indonesian National Armed Forces construction company to complete improvements on a school and dispensary in Caracol, Haiti.
- Sailors from [U.S. Naval Hospital Guam's](#) Dental Clinic held a dental health presentation for third-graders at Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School in Santa Rita, Guam.

## Status of the Navy (March 2)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	323,773	Total deployable ships/subs	283	NAVCENT/C5F	15,117
Total Reserve Component	63,983	Ships underway	85 (30%)	CPF/C3F/C7F	15,695
DoN Civilians	203,609	Attack subs underway	20 (38%)	NAVSO/C4	2,600
		Ships deployed	130 (46%)	USFF	3,606
Navy Forces on the Ground		Subs deployed	12 (23%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	2,852
in NAVCENT AOR	10,791	Exped. forces on mission	94 (51%)	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+		