



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



May 8, 2012

Executing the Maritime Strategy

"Every day our Sailors around the globe demonstrate their commitment to our Maritime Strategy through vigilance, exercises with allied partners, and ability to respond whenever and wherever they are needed. Our Sailors truly are the backbone of our Navy, and we are committed to equipping them with the tools they need to maintain maritime superiority and execute our nation's tasking, both now and in the future."

- Vice Adm. William R. Burke, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems

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

Forward Presence

- [The Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group](#) anchored off the coast of [Chennai, India](#), for a port visit as part of Exercise Malabar 2012.
- [The Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group](#), with embarked elements of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, transited the Mediterranean Sea while supporting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR).

Maritime Security

- [USS Elrod \(FFG 55\)](#), along with embarked U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment 407, [recovered 89 bales](#) of cocaine in support of [Operation Martillo](#) in the western Caribbean Sea.
- Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadron 4 teams completed 160 escort missions in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR protecting USNS vessels and other high-value targets in Kuwait; the Horn of Africa; and Rota, Spain.

Deterrence

- [USS Michigan \(SSGN 727\)](#) arrived at Stirling, Australia, as part of its deployment to the western Pacific.
- [USS Porter \(DDG 78\)](#) arrived in the [Gulf of Aden](#) to join with Combined Maritime Forces, Combined Task Force 151, to disrupt and prevent piracy along the shipping lanes, enhancing security and stability in the region.

Power Projection

- [The Enterprise Carrier Strike Group](#) flew 1,420 sorties, totaling 2,376 hours, in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR.
- [The Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group](#) flew 709 sorties, totaling more than 4,181 hours, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and counter-piracy efforts.

Building Maritime Partnerships

- [USS Blue Ridge \(LCC 19\)](#), [USS Chafee \(DDG 90\)](#) and [USNS Safeguard \(T-ARS 50\)](#) conducted [exchange activities](#) with the Vietnamese People's navy in Da Nang, Vietnam.
- [USS Simpson \(FFG 56\)](#) and 10 vessels from 12 West African and European nations successfully completed the 2nd annual [Exercise Saharan Express 2012](#), a regional maritime exercise focused on improving the communications and interoperability of West African countries.

Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- [A P-3 Orion from Patrol Squadron \(VP\) 1](#), in conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam, assisted in the [rescue of nine Taiwanese fishermen](#), 700 miles off the west coast of Guam.
- Sailors from [USS Emory S. Land \(AS 39\)](#) volunteered in community service projects, interacted with children and repaired facilities at Bukit Harapan Therapeutic Community Orphanage in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

Status of the Navy (May 3)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	323,773	Total deployable ships/subs	285	NAVCENT/C5F	16,109
Total Reserve Component	63,988	Ships/subs deployed/underway	157 (55%)	CPF/C3F/C7F	12,241
DoN Civilians	203,609	Ships/subs deployed	107 (38%)	NAVSO/C4	1,581
Navy Forces on the Ground in NAVCENT AOR	10,298	Ships/subs underway	112 (39%)	USFF	17,328
		Exped. forces on mission	86 (46%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	3,520
		Total operational aircraft	3,700+	For more information on the current status of the Navy , visit: www.navy.mil .	