



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



March 4, 2011

## Executing the Maritime Strategy

*"The free and unfettered access to the 'global commons'- the oceans and seas of this region - is vital to the continued growth and prosperity of all nations. It is incumbent on all who have interests in the Middle East to work together towards maintaining a safe and secure maritime environment."*

**- Vice Adm. Mark Fox, commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. 5th Fleet**

Around the world, the Navy is executing the core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – some examples from throughout the fleet in February 2011 were:

### Forward Presence

- The [Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group](#) (CSG) [flew 1,436 sorties](#) for [3,416 hours](#) amounting to a 99 percent sortie completion rate supporting U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan.
- [USS Frank Cable \(AS 40\)](#) and [USS Houston \(SSN 713\)](#) conducted a port visit to Sepangar, Malaysia.

### Power Projection

- The [Boxer Amphibious Ready Group \(ARG\)](#) and the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) [departed San Diego](#) for a seven-month deployment.

### Maritime Security

- [USS Momsen \(DDG 92\)](#) and USS Bunker Hill (CG 52) [disrupted](#) a [pirate attack](#) of the Panamanian-flagged merchant vessel Duqm in the Gulf of Oman.
- The [Enterprise](#) CSG [transited into the U.S. 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet](#) area of responsibility, while [USS Kearsarge \(LHD 3\)](#) conducted 2,475 sorties in support of maritime security operations within the region.
- Marines from the 31st MEU's Force Reconnaissance Platoon [fast roped](#) from a CH-46E Sea Knight for a [visit, board, search and seizure](#) drill aboard USNS 1st Lt. Jack Lummus (T-AK 3011) as part of Cobra Gold 2011.
- The [Abraham Lincoln](#) CSG and embarked Carrier Air Wing 2 participated in a [joint aerial combat training](#) exercise with the Royal Malaysian air force.

### Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- High Speed Vessel (HSV) 2 Swift's [medical team](#) visited Zacatillo Island, El Salvador, to assess public health needs and [assist medical experts](#) as part of Southern Partnership Station 2011.
- The [Essex ARG](#) and the 31st MEU participated in medical, dental and civic action projects in [Sihanoukville](#), Cambodia, as a part of [Maritime Exercise 2011](#).
- [USS Shoup](#) (DDG 86) Sailors, while in port Fremantle, Australia, helped clear roads following bushfires.
- Seabees assigned to [Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 74's](#) Horn of Africa detachment [drilled a well](#) in the village of Jedane, Ethiopia.

### Building Maritime Partnerships

- [USS Robert G. Bradley](#) (FFG 49) and Naval Forces Africa trainers completed the first Africa Partnership Station [training event](#) of 2011 with more than 130 students from Benin, Ghana and Togo in [Lome, Togo](#).
- [USS Memphis](#) (SSN 691) and maritime patrol aircraft from Commander, Task Force 67 participated in [Proud Manta](#), NATO's largest anti-submarine warfare exercise, near Sicily, Italy.

## Status of the Navy (as of March 1)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	327,682	Total deployable ships/subs	288	NAVCENT/C5F	14,937
Total Reserve Component	64,677	Ships underway	147 (51%)	PACFLT	24,071
DoN Civilians	200,886	Attack subs underway	32 (59%)	NAVSO/C4F	826
		Ships deployed	118 (41%)	C2F	2,956
		Subs deployed	23 (42%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	2,576
Navy Forces on the Ground in NAVCENT AOR	14,956	Expeditionary forces on mission	70 (39%)	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+		