



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



December 10, 2010

## **Bold Alligator 2011 - Amphibious Core Competencies**

*"Bold Alligator will strengthen and refine our basic expeditionary capability to project and sustain combat power ashore. This joint exercise will demonstrate that we are ready to successfully execute essential missions in support of the nation's Maritime Strategy."*

**– Rear Adm. Kevin Scott, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 2**

Commander, [Expeditionary Strike Group Two \(ESG 2\)](#), and Commander, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade (2d MEB), coordinating with ships from the U.S. 2nd Fleet, will conduct a joint, large-scale, fleet synthetic training amphibious exercise, stressing their fundamental roles as "fighters from the sea." [Bold Alligator 2011](#) is a command and control exercise that is a building block for Navy and Marine Corps afloat staffs and units who are a critical part of maritime power projection and influence a wide range of military operations.

### **Return to Core Competencies**

With the Navy's continued involvement in the primarily land-based conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, Bold Alligator 2011 centers on the shared goal of Chief of Naval Operations [Adm. Gary Roughead](#) and Commandant of the Marine Corps [Gen. James F. Amos](#), to return to amphibious core competencies.

### **Amphibious Readiness**

Bold Alligator 2011 focuses on some of the fundamental aspects and roles of amphibious operations, providing an opportunity to return to training for major amphibious operations at sea and ensuring the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps remain the world's premier amphibious force.

### **Joint Training**

Joint training develops proficiency and confidence in our Sailors and Marines and strengthens relationships between Navy and Marine Corps staffs. Bold Alligator 2011 allows the Navy-Marine Corps team to focus on cooperation and interoperability while refining current amphibious doctrine in regard to best practices and effectiveness.

### **Naval Readiness**

Bold Alligator 2011 provides a realistic training opportunity to improve Navy-Marine Corps readiness and proficiency in jointly executing the six core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

## **Key Messages**

- Bold Alligator 2011 emphasizes the fundamental role of amphibious operations in support of the nation's Maritime Strategy.
- The exercise strengthens and refines our basic expeditionary capability to project and sustain combat power ashore.
- Bold Alligator 2011 represents the Department of the Navy's ongoing effort to prepare for future conflicts, including overseas contingency operations and homeland defense.

## **Facts & Figures**

- Bold Alligator is a collaborative effort of 29 participating commands including: 8 ships, 14 reporting units from ESG 2 and 2d MEB, and 7 training centers.
- Bold Alligator will be the first ESG/Marine Expeditionary Brigade-level exercise held in almost 10 years that focuses on conducting major amphibious operations.
- Synthetic training allows training for real world scenarios while minimizing the cost of such training.