



# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



Sept. 7, 2011

## Executing the Maritime Strategy

*"The United States is a maritime nation; sea power is critical to American security and economic well-being. Third Fleet focuses on training and deployment of combat-ready Navy and Marine Corps forces capable of executing all facets of the Maritime Strategy at a moment's notice."*

- **Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet, Vice Adm. Gerald R. Beaman**

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

### Forward Presence

- The [George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group \(CSG\)](#) flew 2,214 sorties for 6,400 hours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and maritime security operations (MSO) in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility (AOR).
- The Navy announced that [USS Bonhomme Richard \(LHD 6\)](#) will [relieve USS Essex \(LHD 2\)](#) as the Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious assault ship.
- [USNS Richard E. Byrd \(T-AKE 4\)](#) was the first U.S. Navy ship to visit Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam, in 38 years.
- [USS George Washington \(CVN 73\)](#) and [USS Blue Ridge \(LCC 19\)](#) returned to [Yokosuka, Japan](#), after [completing patrols](#) in the Pacific Ocean.
- [The Ronald Reagan CSG](#) visited [Hong Kong](#) and [Guam](#) following deployments in the U.S. 5th and 7th Fleets' AOR.
- [USS Lassen \(DDG 82\)](#) provided tours to more than 6,000 people at the [35th Friendship Day](#) in Yokosuka, Japan.
- [High Speed Vessel Swift \(HSV 2\)](#) Sailors conducted training engagements in [Nigeria](#), [Ghana](#) and Benin, and [USS Samuel B. Roberts \(FFG 58\) Sailors](#) hosted a damage control course in [Victoria, Seychelles](#), in support of [Africa Partnership Station](#).

### Maritime Security

- The [Bataan Amphibious Readiness Group](#) and the embarked [22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit](#) conducted MSO in the U.S. 5th Fleet AOR.
- [USS Carney \(DDG 64\)](#) Sailors commemorated the 69th anniversary of Operation Pedestal in Valletta, Malta.
- [Maritime Civil Affairs Team 103 Sailors](#) aboard [USS Cleveland \(LPD 7\)](#) finished a five-month deployment to Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste and Micronesia in support of Pacific Partnership 2011.
- [USS Anzio \(CG 68\)](#) assisted a [Somali skiff](#), and [USS Mitscher \(DDG 57\)](#) assisted a [distressed vessel](#) in the Gulf of Aden.

### Deterrence

- [USS Pennsylvania \(SSBN 735\)](#) departed the dry dock at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, completing a major step in its 27-month engineered refueling overhaul.
- USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53), USS Milius (DDG 69), USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) participated in ballistic missile defense exercises.

### Power Projection

- [USS Ohio \(SSGN 726\)](#) fired a Tomahawk Land Attack Missile near the Northern Mariana Islands during training.
- [USS Thach \(FFG 43\)](#) Sailors trained with 3,500 personnel from 17 countries, and [Mobile Dive and Salvage Unit 2 Company 23](#) joined divers from various countries to exchange tactics during [PANAMAX 2011](#).

### Humanitarian Assistance / Disaster Response

- Military Sealift Command hospital ship [USNS Comfort \(T-AH 20\)](#) departed Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Comfort's medical staff triaged 67,879 patients and performed 1,130 shipboard surgeries during [Continuing Promise 2011](#).
- More than 150 [Navy Expeditionary Combat Command](#) Sailors deployed with Amphibious Task Force 26 to support humanitarian assistance operations in response to Hurricane Irene.

## Status of the Navy (Sept. 1)

Navy Personnel		Ships, Submarines & Aircraft		Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	328,226	Total deployable ships/subs	284	NAVCENT/C5F	9,882
Total Reserve Component	64,704	Ships underway	149 (52%)	PACFLT	18,432
DoN Civilians	204,783	Attack subs underway	37 (69%)	NAVSO/C4F	884
Navy Forces on the Ground in NAVCENT AOR	12,178	Ships deployed	120 (42%)	C2F	5,981
		Subs deployed	14 (26%)	NAVEUR/NAVAF/C6F	3,261
		Expeditionary forces on mission	133 (60%)	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+		