CNO’s Navigation Plan
2014 - 2018

Sailing Directions assist mariners in planning a long voyage by describing the destination, providing guidance on which routes to take, and identifying the conditions, cautions, and aids to navigation along the way. CNO’s Sailing Directions likewise provide a vision, tenets, and principles to guide our Navy as we chart a course to remain ready to meet current challenges, build a relevant and capable future force, and enable and support our Sailors, Civilians, and their families.

A Navigation Plan draws from Sailing Directions to describe in greater detail how a ship will use its resources to safely and effectively sail to a new destination. Similarly, CNO’s Navigation Plan describes how Navy’s budget submission for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 - 2018 pursues the vision of the CNO’s Sailing Directions. It highlights our investments that support the missions outlined in our defense strategic guidance (DSG), Sustaining U.S. Leadership: Priorities for 21st Century Defense, viewed through the lens of my three tenets: Warfighting First, Operate Forward, and Be Ready. This Navigation Plan defines the course and speed we will follow to organize, train, and equip our Navy over the next several years.

We are evaluating adjustments to our FY2014 budget due to the potential for a Continuing Resolution and the onset of Sequestration. This will challenge our ability to sustain some of the warfighting investments, forward presence and readiness described below. Regardless of reductions, we will continue to operate forward with ready forces, where it matters, when it matters. I will update this Navigation Plan if our course changes substantially and will issue a Position Report based on a “fix” later this year.

Our first consideration is the ability to fight and win today, while building the ability to win tomorrow; it is why we have a Navy. Our budget continues efforts to invest in capabilities to address near-term challenges and develop future capabilities needed to conduct DSG missions in the most likely scenarios. Navy focuses in particular on deterring and defeating aggression and assuring access by implementing the Air-Sea Battle (ASB) concept.

Future reductions to Navy’s budget will impact our ability to maintain the overall size of our fleet, but we will ensure the force we deploy is proficient and ready. With our FY 2014 - 2018 budget submission, we will:
The Navy and Marine Corps are our nation’s “away team” and history demonstrates the Navy is at its best when we are forward and ready to respond where it matters, when it matters. Our FY 2014 - 2018 budget submission delivers the fleet size and readiness to provide the overseas presence directed in the Secretary of Defense-approved Global Force Management Allocation Plan (GFMAP) and rebalances our effort toward the Asia-Pacific region, while sustaining support to our partners in the Middle East. Continued pressure on Navy’s budget will compel the Navy to add ships to the Forward Deployed Naval Force, and increase the number of ships which are Forward Stationed or Forward Operating. With our FY 2014 - 2018 budget submission, we:

♦ Maintain a Carrier Strike Group (CSG) and Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) in both the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions, even under sequestration. In the event of sequestration, the Navy will have

♦ Deliver USS GERALD R. FORD in FY 2015; maintain and modernize our carrier air wings by fielding more F/A-18 Super Hornets, E/A-18 Growlers and E-2D Hawkeyes.
♦ Deliver USS AMERICA in 2014 and extend the service lives of our Air Cushion Landing Craft (LCAC) while recapitalizing them with the Ship to Shore Connector (SSC).
♦ Ensure an uninterrupted, survivable nuclear deterrent by sustaining investment in Ohio Replacement SSBN development, while maintaining current SSBN inventory.
♦ Field new and improved “kill chains” that defeat adversary radar jamming by using advanced infra-red sensors and weapons and integrated fire control networks that link ships, tactical aircraft and command and control aircraft.
♦ Fully exploit cyberspace and the electromagnetic spectrum as a warfighting domain by fielding 20 additional E/A-18G Growler aircraft, developing the Next-Generation Jammer for airborne electronic warfare, and delivering Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program upgrades to improve the ability of DDGs to detect and defeat adversary radars and anti-ship missiles. Significantly expand the capacity of our offensive cyber capability and active defense by adding 976 cyber operators to stand up 40 cyber warfighting teams over the next three years.
♦ Maintain our undersea dominance by building ten Virginia-class submarines, fielding more MH-60R Seahawk helicopters and P-8A Poseidon patrol aircraft, and completing a proven torpedo defense system that will deploy on USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH in 2014. Our budget submission improves our fixed undersea sensors around the world, fields new Multi-Function Towed Arrays for surface ships, and develops Large Displacement Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (UUV) to enhance our ability to deny adversaries effective use of the undersea domain.
♦ Improve our platforms’ reach through new payloads of more capable weapons, sensors, and unmanned vehicles to include the SM-6 missile, long-range anti-surface weapon, Air and Missile Defense Radar, Unmanned Carrier-Launched Air Surveillance and Strike vehicle and MQ-8C Fire Scouts.
Ready Sailors and Civilians remain the source of the Navy’s warfighting capability; our people will be personally prepared, confident and proficient. We will sustain our forces’ warfighting capability and ability to operate forward through effective maintenance and timely modernization. Budget constraints will compel Navy to put a premium on readiness; Navy will continue to deploy proficient and ready forces. To reduce costs, we will explore options to adjust the readiness of non-deployed forces.

With our FY 2014 - 2018 budget submission, we:

♦ Fund and prioritize programs that address sexual assault prevention and response, suicide prevention, and operational stress control. Improve the resourcing, management, and oversight of programs that support our Sailors and their Families by establishing a 21st Century Sailor.

♦ Sustain enhancements in practical Fleet training by providing more targets, ammunition, decoys, sonobuoys, and torpedoes for live training.

♦ Enhance our public shipyard capacity by renovating and replacing facilities and hiring about 1,600 additional workers over the next several years.

♦ Improve Sailor technical expertise and increase the capacity and responsiveness of our Regional Maintenance Centers and Afloat Training Groups by increasing Sailor manning; continue improvements to at-sea manning by adding 900 Sailors to the Fleet.

♦ Improve the proficiency of our Sailors and interoperability with our allies by conducting exercises including Rim of the Pacific, Valiant Shield, and Bold Alligator which also test elements of the Air-Sea Battle concept.

♦ Expand our presence in the Asia-Pacific; by 2020 our budget submission will increase the number of ships deployed to the Asia-Pacific by 10 to an average of about 60 ships. By 2020 we will base 60 percent of our ships and aircraft on the West Coast and in the Pacific, adding a submarine in Guam and maintaining one CSG and one ARG based in Japan.

♦ Increase our forward presence and better align ships with missions by fielding two Mobile Landing Platforms (MLP), two Afloat Forward Staging Bases (AFSB), 10 Joint High Speed Vessels (JHSV) and eight Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) over the next five years. These ships use rotational military or civilian crews to remain forward longer and will free up DDG and amphibious ships for other regions.

♦ Base two DDGs in Rota, Spain in 2014 and two more in 2015 to provide ballistic missile defense to our allies and free up rotationally-deployed DDG for other regions; permanently base our Patrol Craft and Mine Counter Measure crews in Bahrain to improve their proficiency and our partnerships in the region.

♦ Provide amphibious lift for U.S. Marines operating out of Australia by establishing a fifth ARG in the Pacific by FY2018; develop concepts to deploy Marines on vessels including JHSV, High Speed Transports and MLPs.

♦ one additional CSG and ARG certified for all operations and available to “surge.” In a nominal budget environment surge capacity of the fleet would be about three CSGs and three ARGs.