



Naval Operations Concept 2010 Fact Sheet

Purpose

Naval Operations Concept 2010 (NOC 10) describes when, where and how U.S. naval forces will contribute to preventing conflict and prevailing in war in order to guide Maritime Strategy implementation in a manner consistent with national strategy. NOC 10 describes the *ways* in which the sea services will achieve the *ends* articulated in *A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower* (CS-21), signed by the Chief of Naval Operations, Commandant of the Marine Corps and Commandant of the Coast Guard in October 2007. NOC 10 is a subordinate document to CS-21.

What's New in this Naval Operations Concept?

The Naval Service

- *Who We Are.* The Naval Service is comprised of the active and reserve components and the civilian personnel of the United States Navy, the United States Marine Corps and the United States Coast Guard.
- *What We Believe.* We believe that preventing war is as important as winning, and that prevention activities will constitute the most likely application of naval power.
- *Where We Operate.* We operate in the *maritime domain*, which consists of the “oceans, seas, bays, estuaries, islands, coastal areas, and the airspace above these, including the littorals.”
- *What We Provide the Nation.* The Naval Service provides the Nation a multi-purpose team whose capabilities are applicable across the range of military operations (ROMO). While most frequently employed to *prevent* conflict, we are manned, trained and equipped to *prevail* in combat.

The Sea as Maneuver Space

Naval forces use the sea as maneuver space—it is the overarching concept of NOC 10. The Naval Service provides a sea-based force free from reliance on local ports and airfields. Naval forces continuously operate forward—and additional forces surge when necessary—to influence adversaries and project power.

Forward Presence

The Naval Service employs *globally distributed, mission-tailored forces* to accomplish a wide range of missions that promote stability, prevent crises and combat terrorism; while maintaining the capability to *regionally concentrate credible combat power* to protect U.S. vital interests; assure friends; and deter, dissuade, and if necessary, defeat adversaries. Persistent forward presence, generated through a combination of forward stationed and rotationally deployed naval forces, provides American policymakers with an expansive range of options to shape and respond to the security challenges of the 21st century.

For more information and to read the Naval Operations Concept 2010, please visit
www.navy.mil/maritime/noc

Maritime Security

Global maritime security can only be achieved through the integration of national and regional maritime cooperation, awareness and response initiatives. To this end, unprecedented coordination among governments, the private sector, and multinational organizations; including naval and maritime security forces, is required. The Naval Service plays a critical role in facilitating this coordination, and is uniquely manned, trained and equipped to help allies and partners develop the maritime professionals, infrastructure, awareness and response capabilities that are a prerequisite for maritime security.

Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HA/DR)

Operating without reliance on local ports and airfields ashore, both *globally-distributed* and *regionally concentrated* naval forces are ideally suited for HA/DR missions, either in the lead or in support of an international effort. Given their forward presence, inherent mobility and flexible capabilities, U.S. naval forces are frequently the “force of choice” for such missions.

Sea Control

Sea control is the foundation of seapower—the ability of U.S. naval forces to establish local and regional sea control is fundamental to exploiting the maritime domain as maneuver space, protecting critical sea lines of communication, and projecting and sustaining combat power overseas. Naval forces achieve sea control by neutralizing or destroying threats in the maritime, space and cyberspace domains that constrain our freedom to maneuver, conduct follow-on missions, or restore maritime security.

Power Projection

Globally distributed, mission tailored naval forces and regionally concentrated naval forces both routinely project power. The character of a power projection operation reflects the mission and the operating environment – permissive, uncertain or hostile. Naval forces must accomplish three major, overlapping tasks to project power:

- *Gain and maintain operational access*
- *Conduct littoral maneuver*
- *Enable the arrival of Joint or multinational forces*

Deterrence

Effective deterrence requires a comprehensive effort that includes all elements of national power. The Naval Service employs a broad set of capabilities to assure partners, dissuade adversaries, and deter or limit hostile action. These include continued nuclear and conventional combat preeminence, as well as new capabilities to deter evolving threats posed by an array of current and potential adversaries.

Force Structure

The Naval Service is employed in a security environment characterized by an increasing number of concurrent, diverse nuclear, conventional and irregular challenges. To this end, the Naval Service is rebalancing its force structure to address the blue, green and brown water threats posed by very capable state adversaries, as well as the maritime security and irregular littoral challenges posed by both state and non-state adversaries. While armed conflicts between states occur infrequently, they are the greatest threat to the United States and demand sufficient numbers of technologically advanced “high-end” capabilities to ensure the United States can effectively deter, dissuade and if necessary defeat a peer competitor.