



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



December 3, 2008

Executing the Maritime Strategy

"The ships of Military Sealift Command deliver supplies and equipment to America's war fighters, wherever and whenever needed, enabling execution of the maritime strategy quickly and efficiently; whether it involves building partnerships, providing deterrence or delivering humanitarian aid."

– Rear Adm. Robert D. Reilly Jr., Commander, Military Sealift Command

Around the world, the Navy is executing the six core capabilities of the Maritime Strategy – forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security and humanitarian assistance/disaster response.

Forward Presence

- Nineteen U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command cargo ships are prepositioned in strategic forward locations at sea, carrying more than 2.4 million square feet of Navy, Marine Corps and Army combat equipment, ammunition and supplies.
- Forward deployed amphibious ships USS Denver (LPD 9), USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49), USS Essex (LHD 2) and Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit participated with the Republic of Korea in Korean Incremental Training Program, an amphibious landing exercise, in city of Pohang, Republic of Korea.
- The U.S. Navy and the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) practiced anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, ballistic missile defense, amphibious operations and anti-air warfare during the 20th Annual Exercise. ANNUALEX enhances military-to-military relationships and improves capability for coordinated and bilateral operations in the defense of Japan.

Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response

- USS Kearsarge (LHD 3) returned to Norfolk, Va., Dec. 2 following the conclusion of their four-month humanitarian civic assistance mission to the Caribbean, Central and South American region in support of Continuing Promise 2008 (CP08) Caribbean Phase. The CP08 team, with partner militaries, host nations, non-governmental organizations and partner-nation support organizations conducted medical, dental, ophthalmological, veterinary and civic action programs ashore and afloat to six partner nations in the region.

Building Maritime Partnerships

- USS Iwo Jima (LHD 7) and its embarked Marine Expeditionary Unit conducted a training exercise in the Arabian Gulf and ashore with Bahrain military forces. The exercise helped strengthen ties and enhance the strong relationship between the U.S. and Bahrain.
- High Speed Vessel (HSV) 2 Swift deployed Nov. 25 to the Caribbean, Central and South American region in support of HSV-Southern Partnership Station (HSV-SPS). HSV-SPS focuses on enhancing cooperative partnerships with regional maritime services and allows U.S. and partner nation forces to improve interoperability and operational readiness for all participating services.
- Sailors from Mobile Diving and Salvage Unit 2 and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 2 participated in Theater Security Cooperation engagements, Edged Response in Kenya and Eagle Response in Egypt. Both exercises allowed participating nations to develop Diving and Explosive Ordnance Disposal skills.

Status of the Navy (as of 3 December)

Navy Personnel		Ground Forces in NAVCENT AOR			Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component	332,375	<u>Countries ≥400</u>			NAVCENT/C5F	9,637
Total Reserve Component	122,394	Iraq	AC	RC	PACFLT	14,514
DoN Civilians	184,897	Bahrain	4,993	1,191	NAVSOUTH/C4F	910
<u>Ships, Submarines & Aircraft</u>		Kuwait	2,659	54	C2F	2,637
Total deployable ships/subs	283	Afghanistan	1,160	938	CNE-C6F	1,548
Ship underway	120 (42%)	Qatar	1,709	267	For more information on the current status of the Navy, visit: www.navy.mil .	
Subs underway	26 (48%)		552	9		
Ships deployed	84 (30%)	Total on ground, all countries		13,875		
Subs deployed	19 (35%)					
Total Operational Aircraft	3,700+					