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# RHUMB LINES

*Straight Lines to Navigate By*



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## Monthly Update

*"Our maritime forces are engaged around the world as cohorts to improve the security of our seas and the stability in all oceans, and as a result the prosperity of all nations. The principles of our maritime partnerships embody longstanding, voluntary efforts that secure the seas from those who threaten that freedom and prosperity and from those who threaten the free movement of the world's commerce."*

**-- Adm. Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations**

In July the CNO traveled to Mayport, Florida, for the re-establishment of Fourth Fleet, where he emphasized the importance of partnerships and collaboration between the navies in the region. CNO also visited Colorado for the Aspen Institute 2008 Ideas Festival to talk about the Navy of today and tomorrow through a series of panel discussions.

### **Warfighting Readiness – Fourth Fleet is an enabler of maritime partnerships and regional security**

The original Fourth Fleet was established 65 years ago for the command and control of our forces that were engaged in a world war. It was a different time, and the world has changed dramatically since then. The re-establishment of Fourth Fleet last month occurs at a time when our Naval forces are engaged in unprecedented levels of partnership and collaboration. A range of these activities, such as our deployment of HSV2 Swift as a fleet station engaged in partnership training, the deployment of the hospital ship USNS Comfort and the many joint operations have vastly contributed to improved relations in the region. In the next six months, USS Kearsarge will deploy to the Fourth Fleet area of responsibility for Continuing Promise 2008. As a focused fleet headquarters, Fourth Fleet will improve our Navy's ability to affirm a consistent command and control structure in the area while collaborating with our regional partners.

*"Make no mistake that this Fleet will be ready for any operation, any place, any time."*

*"As a Navy, we are given the unique opportunity to interact with foreign nations and partners at sea, and, therefore, together as navies, we will lead the way in combating activities such as piracy, drug trafficking and human trafficking and arms trafficking that we have seen threaten our societies in recent years...we meet with our counterparts around the world to receive a collective view and a focus on how we can work together in a cooperative way to ensure the security that is so important in the globalized world in which we live".*

### **Future Force – We must ensure that the Navy of today is a fit and ready force for tomorrow**

Our Navy's global reach is powerful, operating on the ground, on and under the sea and in the air. We ensure the freedom and prosperity of our nation and promote maritime security against piracy and terrorism through cooperation with our global partners. It is imperative that we focus not only on current operations, but also on burgeoning regions of future interest.

*"Our ability to come from the sea with significant capability, I believe is something that will serve the nation and future coalitions very well. You'd expect me to say that because of the suit that I'm wearing, but it really does give us the opportunity to be there, but not be there; to be able to project power, but be able to hold that power in reserve if in fact that's what's required."*

### **People – Each and every Sailor counts**

Safety is paramount for every Sailor, Navy civilian and family member. The 2008 Critical Days of Summer Campaign is still running full force. So far this year 13 Sailors have died from recreational mishaps and motor vehicle accidents, eight of those from motorcycle accidents. These numbers are far too high and it's up to you to take the necessary precautions to stop accidents from happening. To hear more from the CNO, listen to his podcast at:  
<http://www.navy.mil/navydata/cnopList.asp>.