



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



August 14, 2009

U.S. 2nd Fleet Contributing to Global Operations

“Our people are doing a remarkable job in execution of the Maritime Strategy. That said we must remain vigilant as we assess our performance, and we must be adaptive in our training, readiness, and mission execution as conditions change across the range of military operations for Maritime Forces.”

– Vice Adm. Mel Williams Jr., Commander, U.S. Second Fleet

More than 90,000 Sailors and Marines operate, defend and train within [2nd Fleet’s](#) area of responsibility. 2nd Fleet’s three focus areas are: safe and effective fleet operations to achieve mission; providing ready maritime forces for global assignment; and teaming with allies and partners in execution of the Maritime Strategy.

Power Projection and Forward Presence

- As a force provider, 2nd Fleet trains and certifies carrier strike groups and amphibious ready groups (ARG), and independent deployers for power projection and presence missions in Central, European, Africa and Southern Commands.
- 2nd Fleet is leveraging the benefits of Fleet Synthetic Training to maintain readiness while conserving energy.

Sea Control

- 2nd Fleet prepares maritime forces for anti-submarine, surface, and mine warfare missions. Improvements in anti-submarine warfare (ASW) knowledge, experience and proficiency have been instituted to include a semi-annual ASW exercise series and an ASW continuum which transcends type commander and fleet commander boundaries.

Maritime Security

- 2nd Fleet supports NATO transformation as director of the [Combined Joint Operations From the Sea Centre of Excellence](#), a multi-national military body which provides a focus for 13 sponsoring nations and NATO to improve allied joint maritime operations. Thirty-five foreign nation officers work within the 2nd Fleet maritime headquarters.
- The Maritime Operations Center (MOC) at 2nd Fleet supports naval and joint operations and provides commanders with people and processes which are flexible, scalable, and can be tailored to enhance global maritime capabilities.
- Through realistic, repeatable, and adaptive fleet training focused at the unit commander level, 2nd Fleet is working to enhance [fleet irregular warfare training](#) to better prepare forces to operate in irregular warfare environments.

Deterrence

- To better execute maritime homeland defense responsibilities in support of U.S. Joint Forces Command and U.S. Northern Command, in December 2008, 2nd Fleet established flexible deterrent options aligned to U.S. Northern Command’s Maritime Homeland Defense Maritime Activity Postures (MAP).

Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response

- In September 2008, [USS Nassau \(LHA 4\)](#) supported disaster response for local, state, and federal authorities in [Galveston, Texas, after the devastation left by Hurricane Ike](#). Additionally, USS Kearsarge (LHD 3) conducted [Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response in Haiti](#) following devastating hurricanes.

Key Messages

- Fleet operations must be safe and effective as we defend the homeland, and prepare our people and forces for global assignment.
- 2nd Fleet will accomplish its mission with excellence as the standard, today and in the future, in the Atlantic and globally as directed, because our nation requires this from us, as we continually improve all that we do.

Facts & Figures

2nd Fleet’s constituency includes:

- More than 90,000 Sailors and Marines
 - 4 Carrier Strike Groups, and 1 CVN in maintenance
 - 5 ARG /3 Marine Expeditionary Units
- In July 2007, 2nd Fleet became the first military service three-star headquarters to be certified as a Standing Joint Task Force Capable Headquarters.