



**ONE NAVY-MARINE CORPS TEAM
ADVANCING
DEPARTMENT OF THE
NAVY PRIORITIES**

October 2023

ONE NAVY-MARINE CORPS TEAM

Advancing Department of the Navy Priorities



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The enduring SECNAV priorities laid out just over two years ago remain the principal guidance for the U.S. Department of the Navy. To protect maritime supremacy, we will continue to advance our three enduring priorities, which are purpose-built to serve as an interconnected framework for ongoing evolution. Guided by our mission and vision, and remaining committed to our priorities, we will continue to field the world's most dominant maritime force.

The United States Navy and United States Marine Corps are in contact with our adversaries every day on the sea, undersea, land, air and in space. In order to build our competitive advantage we are moving with urgency to make the necessary investments for the fleet and force our country needs today and into the future. We stand ready in times of peace and when called upon, in conflict.

OUR MISSION

The Department of the Navy will recruit, train, equip, and organize to deliver combat-ready naval forces to deter, and if necessary, win conflicts and wars through sustained forward naval presence in support of the joint force.

OUR VISION

All Sailors, Marines, and Civilians in the Navy-Marine Corps Team, from the Pentagon to the front lines will operate as one to protect the American people and our interests in the most effective and efficient way possible. We will invest in force health, readiness, and capability, maintain forward maneuverability, build our maritime advantage and strengthen partnerships across the government and joint force, with industry, and around the world.



OUR PRIORITIES

We have made smart choices in strengthening our maritime dominance relative to the pacing threat. We are building a culture of warfighting excellence fostering talent and innovation, while taking care to improve the quality of our members' time in service. Moreover, we are enhancing our strategic partnerships throughout the world, and specifically in the Indo-Pacific.

Our objective is clear: we will continue to provide a Navy and Marine Corps that can deter high-end conflict with a rapidly improving peer competitor while simultaneously protecting and advancing the global maritime interests of the Nation.

Strengthening Maritime Dominance

- Industrial Base
- Climate
- Uncrewed Technology
- Rearm, Refuel, Repair, Revive, Resupply

Building a Culture of Warfighting Excellence

- Taking Care of People
- Education
- Research, Development, Science, and Technology

Enhancing Strategic Partnerships

- Naval Diplomacy
- Defense Ecosystem
- Congress
- National Call to Service



STRENGTHENING MARITIME DOMINANCE

*So that we can deter potential adversaries,
and if called upon, fight and decisively win our Nation's wars*

Strengthening
Industrial
Base

Combatting
Climate
Change

Innovating
Uncrewed
Technology

Rearm
Refuel
Repair
Revive
Resupply

As history has proven, seapower is cyclical, but it is not self-sustaining. To fight and decisively win our Nation's wars, we cannot rely simply on maintaining our seapower – we must **strengthen our maritime dominance**. Strengthening requires time under tension, challenging our shipbuilders, maintenance facilities, and the entire defense industrial base to expand production. Strengthening also requires enhancing our submarine capabilities, building a climate-ready force, innovating and adapting new uncrewed technology, and increasing our undersea advantage by enhancing our trilateral security partnership called “AUKUS.”

INDUSTRIAL BASE

SHIPBUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

- We delivered 21 battle force ships to the fleet and have 87 ships under contract with 23 in material ordering/pre-fabrication and 57 in construction, including our highest modernization priority, the Columbia-class SSBN.
- In partnership with Congress and industry, we are more efficiently and affordably procuring ships by leveraging the advantages of block buys and multi-year procurements that provide more predictable ship and submarine build schedules.

SUBMARINES

- The submarine industrial base faces an increase in demand as the Navy ramps up production of the Columbia-class while continuing to procure two Virginia-class submarines per year.
- We are committed to expanding our submarine industrial base, and the recent trilateral security pact between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States – better known as AUKUS – is a historic opportunity to do so with some of our closest allies.

MUNITIONS

- Thanks to bipartisan support in Congress, we have made significant investments in strengthening the munitions defense industrial base to enhance its resilience and responsiveness.
- We are prioritizing multi-year contracts for the procurement of critical munitions, including Standard Missile, Naval Strike Missile, and Long Range Anti-Ship Missile.
- Overall, funding for these and other weapons is increasing commensurate with this initiative.

CLIMATE

- Climate change is one of the most destabilizing forces of our time, exacerbating other national security concerns and posing serious readiness challenges. The Navy will continue to invest in critical infrastructure upgrades to combat this force.
- We released Climate Action 2030 as a strategy to achieve the Nation's commitment to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, while becoming a more capable, agile, and lethal fighting force.
- The Department of the Navy will continue to be good environmental stewards, enabling mission readiness.

UNCREWED TECHNOLOGY

- We have made profound progress by employing our unmanned systems on ranges and long-range deployments in the Pacific, and in actual contact with adversaries in 5th Fleet.
- We ensured Navy UAVs, USVs, and UUVs routinely participate in multinational exercises with partners and allies and are integrated into the joint force.
- We are prioritizing contract agreements to support maritime domain awareness using long-dwell unmanned surface vessels to aid in the fight against illegal fishing and drug trafficking.

REFUEL. RESUPPLY. REARM. REPAIR. REVIVE

- The ability to Refuel, Resupply, Rearm, Repair, and Revive our ships at sea, independent of any restrictions placed on it by a foreign country, is critical to our ability to project warfighting power from the sea.
- Being able to quickly rearm our warships' at sea will significantly increase forward, persistent combat power with the current force.



BUILDING A CULTURE OF WARFIGHTING EXCELLENCE

Founded on strong leadership that is rooted in treating each other with dignity and respect

Taking
Care
of People

Maximizing
Education
Opportunity

Cultivating
Research,
Development,
Science,
and
Technology

Our people provide the foundational strength for this Department, and provide us competitive warfighting advantage over our competitors. **Building a culture of warfighting excellence** is founded on strong leadership that is rooted in treating each other with dignity and respect. Taking care of our people is absolutely critical to our mission. We will continue our efforts to improve quality of service for our Sailors, Marines, civilians and their families. And we will leverage our naval education opportunities to build and sustain a strong, diverse, and healthy force. Imperative research, development, science, and technology enable us to innovate at the speed of relevancy – ensuring our competitive edge over our adversaries.

TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE

- Our people are our greatest strength and force readiness and resilience begins and ends with them.
- Every Sailor, Marine, and civilian deserves leadership at every level, from deckplate to D.C., which fosters supportive climates built on trust, respect, and inclusion.
- From the largest pay raise in 20 years to expanding funding for formal education opportunities and making significant investments in addressing quality of life issues, the Department of the Navy is working hard every day to recruit and retain the uniformed and civilian workforce our Navy and Marine Corps needs to be mission ready.

QUALITY OF SERVICE/QUALITY OF LIFE FOR SAILOR, MARINES, CIVILIANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

- We are committed to improving Quality of Service for all service members, civilians and families.
- We must ensure a Service Member's Quality of Life - their experience outside the workplace - and a Service Member's Quality of Work - their experience inside the workplace - are enriched.
- Quality of Service is directly connected to mission readiness by ensuring our Sailors, Marines, civilians, and their families have the best possible resources to use both in and out of the workplace.
- We are critically assessing where we are now and where we are going to identify the most pressing infrastructure problems, prioritizing facilities, barracks, water, energy, and internet.

TALENT MANAGEMENT

- The Department of the Navy must do everything possible to keep our people and recruit new talent.
- Our goal is to ensure effective Sailor and Marine development that retains the best and fully qualified warfighters to maximize the effectiveness of the force.

DIVERSITY

- At the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Summit in June 2023 we discussed opportunities and identified action items to promote DEI initiatives and establish a renewed focus on data and evidence-based decision-making.
- In order to maintain our strategic edge, the Navy and Marine Corps team must operationalize innovative and cohesive initiatives, rooted in DEI's goals.

EDUCATION

- We maintain several world-class institutions, including the U.S. Naval Academy, Naval Postgraduate School, Naval War College, Marine Corps University, and Naval Community College.
- We released the Naval Education Strategy to modernize our naval education to meet our Nation's security needs.
- It is imperative that our Sailors and Marines contribute to our Department's culture of continuous learning, embrace opportunities to develop professionally, and seek opportunities to improve our programs.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

- We established the DON Science and Technology Board (STB) federal advisory committee.
- The board will provide independent counsel on matters and policies relating to scientific, technical, manufacturing, acquisition, logistics, medicine, adoption, and business management functions.
- The core of warfighter development is preparing leaders to solve complex problems through innovation, leveraging new technologies, as well as the competencies, needed to deter, fight, and win.



ENHANCING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Across the Joint Force, industry, academia, and with our Allies and partners around the globe

Prioritizing
Naval
Diplomacy

Modernizing
Defense
Ecosystem

Partnering
With
Congress

National
Call to
Service

We will work to continue **enhancing strategic partnerships** across the Joint Force, industry, academia, and with our allies and partners around the globe. Internally we need to leverage those who make up our defense ecosystems - our contractors, academia and think tanks. At the same time, we must utilize a comprehensive, bipartisan engagement strategy focused on creative partnerships to overcome long standing procedural and structural impediments. Externally, we will strengthen military-to-military relationships with existing allies and partners.

NAVAL DIPLOMACY

- We continue to prioritize our greatest asymmetric strength: our network of security alliances and partnerships.
- We are fostering security ties among our allies and partners and finding new ways to link defense industrial bases, secure supply chains, and co-produce technologies to boost collective military advantages.
- Globally, we will strengthen our relationships with like-minded maritime democracies, deepening interoperability in order to enable mutual action to address shared challenges.

DEFENSE ECOSYSTEM

The Navy's top priorities of enhancing our partnerships with our Defense Industrial Base, creating an environment for lifelong learning, and bolstering our relationships with defense communities feed into solidifying our Navy's Defense Ecosystem.

CONTRACTORS

- The Navy has reaffirmed one of its top priorities, enhancing the Department of the Navy's partnerships with our Defense Industrial Base.
- With congressional support, Submarine Industrial Base investments have led to improved workforce hiring across our submarine shipbuilders and supply chain partners; the establishment of dedicated defense manufacturing trade centers and pipelines; and the training and placement of over 4,500 people within the industrial base since 2020.

ACADEMIA

- Lifelong learning is a strategic imperative for the Department of the Navy.
- Given the breakneck speed of technological innovation and the constantly evolving threat environment, it is critical we prioritize learning modernization, in addition to learning core competencies, so we can keep current with the changing landscape.

CONGRESS

- Comprehensive, bipartisan engagement focused on creative partnership to overcome long standing procedural and structural impediments is critical.
- The Department has worked effectively with Congress to make historic investments in our fleet and force, reflecting the centrality of the Navy and Marine Corps to our national security strategy in this era of competition.

AMERICAN PEOPLE – NATIONAL CALL TO SERVICE

- Our all-volunteer force succeeds because it has talented, determined, brave, and diverse members who blend their unique skills and experiences to solve tough challenges and protect our nation.
- Our Nation needs our Military to defeat tyranny, prevent war, and defend the freedom that allows democracy and prosperity to thrive.
- Since the dawn of the all-volunteer military, our Navy and Marine Corps has been manned by exceptional professionals armed with incredible talent, unwavering dedication, and an unmatched quality of life.



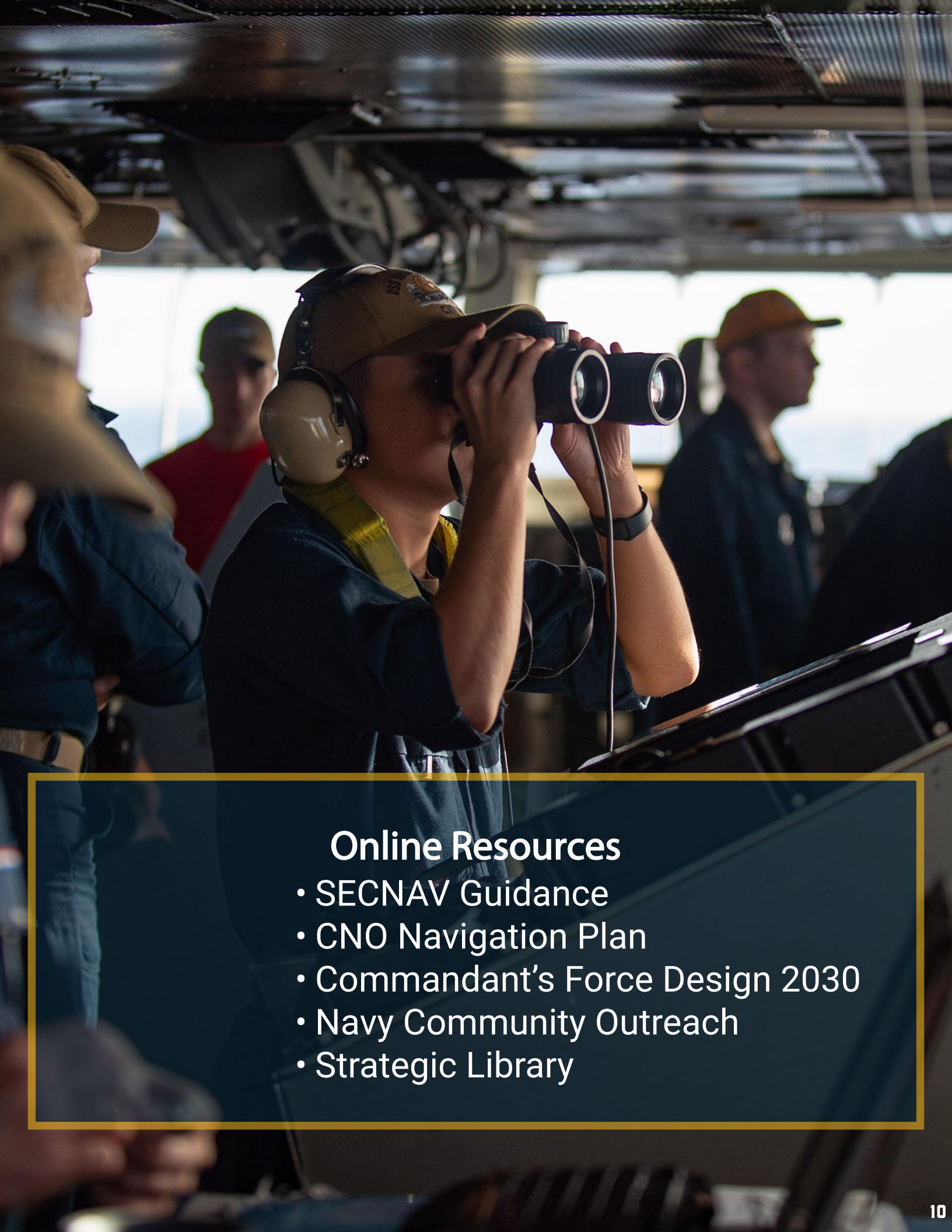
MOVING OUT

U.S. naval forces are unique, timely, flexible, and forward-deployed across the full spectrum of challenges – from naval diplomacy to strategic deterrence, crisis, and conflict. Unquestionably, we face a time of profound change. Yet, we have the benefit of hundreds of years of professionalism, resilience, and innovation in our corner. We will overcome uncertainty with vision and competition with perseverance.

The Chief of Naval Operations' Navigation Plan and the Commandant's Force Design 2030 are critical enablers and well nested within this strategy. Refer to them often, and ensure every member of our team understands how their work fits in to the broader mission of our Fleet and the Force.

We will move out together, decisively and rapidly to respond to the challenges. Our team is simply the best there is, and I remain humbled to be a part of it.

Carlos Del Toro
Secretary of the Navy



Online Resources

- SECNAV Guidance
- CNO Navigation Plan
- Commandant's Force Design 2030
- Navy Community Outreach
- Strategic Library

