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RELEASED BY THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

STATEMENT OF

VICE ADMIRAL BRUCE CLINGAN

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS FOR OPERATIONS, PLANS
AND STRATEGY**

BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

ON

**ARE WE READY? THE PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2012 BUDGET
REQUEST AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES TO READINESS**

10 MARCH 2011

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Chairman Forbes, Ranking Member Bordallo, and members of the Committee, it is my honor and pleasure to appear before you. Today, as we have done for more than 235 years, our Navy is forward-deployed around the world protecting our nation. Our dedicated Navy men and women are operating globally at sea, on land, in the air, and in the space and cyberspace domains. I appreciate your continued support for our Sailors, our civilians, and their families.

The Navy remains committed to the vision presented in our Maritime Strategy—*A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower*—and developed further in the Naval Operations Concept 2010. Its strategic imperatives and central tenets are enduring and our Navy is exercising daily our six Core Capabilities: forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security, and humanitarian assistance and disaster response.

Global trends in an uncertain world underpin an increasing demand for seapower. As a maritime nation, the United States is dependent upon the sea for both national security and economic prosperity. The safety and economic interests of the United States, its allies and partners depend upon the unimpeded trade and commerce that traverse the world's oceans. U.S. vital national interests are tied, therefore, to a secure maritime environment, which places global responsibilities on our naval forces.

My role as the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy is to advise the Chief of Naval Operations on how we can effectively posture, disperse and deploy naval forces across the globe to conduct an array of steady state activities designed to prevent war, and when required, to effectively respond to crises or prevail in combat operations. Fleet Commanders employ naval forces in daily operational activities that are the ways in which the Sea Services achieve the ends articulated in our Maritime Strategy. Persistently present forward

naval forces are continuously engaged with global partners in cooperative security activities aimed at reducing instability, enhancing maritime security, and providing another element of national diplomacy. Their expeditionary capabilities enable and support joint force efforts to combat both conventional and irregular challenges in Iraq and Afghanistan; in states throughout Africa, and elsewhere throughout the world.

As U.S. ground forces remain engaged in overseas contingency operations, and eventually reconstitute and reset; naval forces will remain the nation's strategic reserve and immediate response force. The sustained presence and engagement of forward stationed and rotational naval forces will take on even greater importance as the future security environment promises to be characterized by multiple, concurrent, diverse challenges that demand immediate responses that cannot always wait for diplomatic access to be negotiated. U.S. seapower allows our nation to maintain presence and influence from the maritime commons, and when necessary, to use the sea as maneuver space to project power when and where it is needed. The Navy also provides our nation multi-purpose capabilities that are inherently flexible and uniquely able to facilitate the integration and application of all elements of national power.

The President's Fiscal Year 2012 Budget submission continues to maintain a Navy that is forward postured and present to prevent conflict, deter aggression, enhance cooperative relationships, build the maritime security capacity of our partners, provide humanitarian assistance, and prevail in combat at and from the sea when necessary.

Again thank you for your unwavering commitment to our Sailors, Navy civilians, and their families, and for all you do to make our United States Navy an effective and enduring global force for good.