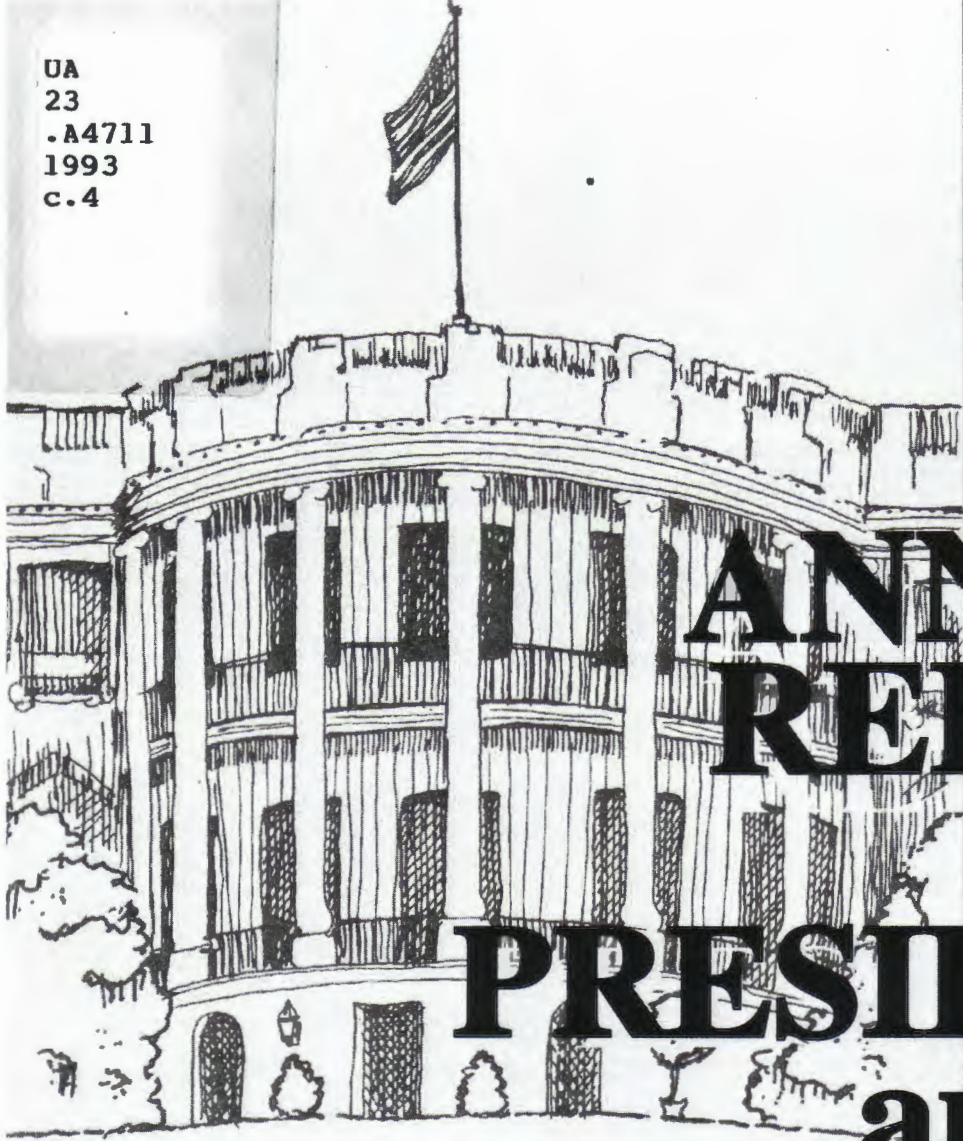


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**ANNUAL
REPORT**
to the
PRESIDENT
and the
CONGRESS



Dick Cheney
Secretary of Defense

ships to provide worldwide reach for its MCM vessels, which currently have limited open-ocean capability and therefore cannot transit rapidly to distant areas.

SURFACE COMBATANTS

The DDG-51 (Flight IIA) modification program is adding dual helicopter hangars to DDG-51s. Operation DESERT STORM corroborated the value of basing multipurpose helicopters on surface combatants in naval battle groups. Procurement of the first DDG-51 outfitted to support helicopters is funded in FY 1994. Ship self-defense systems are being emphasized to guard against the increasing threat posed by antiship cruise missiles.

COMBAT LOGISTIC FORCES

Combat logistic forces are being restructured to strengthen support for carrier battle groups in regional contingencies. AOE-6-class replenishment ships will provide improved ammunition and logistic support for the fleet.

ANTISUBMARINE WARFARE (ASW)

Although the pace of antisubmarine warfare (ASW) efforts has declined with the reduction in the deep-water submarine threat, the shallow littoral operating environment presents new challenges. Our ASW programs recognize this. The Low-Frequency Active sonar system is being readied for introduction on a new ship class designed around the Small Waterplane Area Twin Hull concept. This system enhances deep-water detection of submarines and is also being tested in shallow-water areas. Mark 48 advanced capability and Mark 50 torpedoes also are being evaluated for shallow-water employment. Full-spectrum signal processing and lightweight fiber optics are new technologies also being applied to ASW.

SUBMARINES

The Seawolf attack submarine program has been reduced to two ships, commensurate with the reduced threat, reduced resources, and the need to preserve an important element of the industrial base. We are in the early stages of exploring the configuration and potential acquisition requirements of a new, lower-cost attack submarine. Studies of the submarine industrial base are continuing, and concept definition

studies for a possible new submarine have begun. Specific plans await the results of these assessments.

AMPHIBIOUS FORCES

Amphibious forces play an essential role in expeditionary operations and forward presence. Amphibious ready groups (ARGs) often provide our first response in contingency operations. Lift capacity for at least 2.5 MEBs will be maintained through the replacement of retiring amphibious ships with deliveries of LHDs, LSD-41s, LSD-41(CV)s, and other amphibious vessels.

Freedom of Navigation

The United States remains committed to the principle that the world's seas must be open to all nations. The armed forces continue to be the instrument for the United States to exercise and assert its navigation and overflight rights and freedoms consistent with the 1982 Law of the Sea Convention. As a matter of policy, the United States will not acquiesce in unilateral acts of other states that unlawfully restrict the rights and freedoms of the international community in navigation and overflight and other related high seas uses. When these rights are not exercised by nations, claims constraining use of the seas may come to be accepted as binding. Accordingly, it is necessary for maritime nations, such as the United States, to protest excessive claims through diplomatic channels and to exercise their navigation and overflight rights in the disputed regions. Our Nation has accepted this responsibility as a tenet of national policy. Therefore, the Department maintains an active Freedom of Navigation program. From October 1, 1991, to September 30, 1992, Freedom of Navigation assertions were conducted against the following countries with maritime claims contrary to international law.

Country	Excessive Claim Challenged
Algeria	Prior permission for military-related vessels to enter 12 nautical mile (nm) territorial sea
Brazil	200 nm territorial sea
Burma*	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Cambodia	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea

Cape Verde	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
China	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Congo	200 nm territorial sea
Djibouti	Excessive straight baselines
Dominican Republic*	Excessive straight baselines
Ecuador*	200 nm territorial sea
India	Prior notification for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Iran	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Liberia*	200 nm territorial sea
Maldives	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Nicaragua*	200 nm territorial sea (and over flight clearance), 25 nm security zone

Nigeria	30 nm territorial sea
Oman	Excessive straight baselines
Pakistan	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea
Peru*	200 nm territorial sea
Sierra Leone*	200 nm territorial sea
Somalia	200 nm territorial sea
Sudan	Prior permission for warship to enter 12 nm territorial sea

*Denotes that Freedom of Navigation assertion was also conducted last year.

Conclusion

The FY 1994-95 defense program adapts our naval forces to the requirements of the regional defense strategy. It provides a lean, robust Navy and Marine Corps optimized for joint operations and capable of responding quickly to any challenges that arise.