



**Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet  
Langkawi International Maritime & Aerospace Exhibition  
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Admiral Cecil D. Haney  
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As Prepared For Delivery**

Thank you, Admiral Aziz, for that kind introduction, and SALAMAT PETANG.

It's an honor to speak to fellow Navy leaders here at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA) and especially at this important roundtable. It is great to have this opportunity to engage you on the topic of "Maritime Security Cooperation in Southeast Asia and the role of the Navy." In the interest of time, I will dive right in to my presentation.

Today, we live in a globalized world where our economies are becoming more and more interconnected and interdependent. Consider the impact felt by the global economy due to recent events in far away Cyprus.

The economies of many of the nations represented here obtain needed resources directly from their exclusive economic zones. All of us are reliant on the sea for the transportation of energy, goods and commodities. Today the free and unfettered access to the sea has helped to facilitate the economic growth and prosperity shared by nations around the world.

The Strait of Malacca alone accounts for trillions of dollars in economic activity. Just consider the change we have seen in Asia over the last 40 years. Freedom of navigation; access to the maritime domain; and maritime security are key to our continued success in the future and our navies play a significant role in securing this future.

As representatives of maritime nations, we understand that any serious disruption to the flow of trade through these vital sea lanes can have a detrimental impact on the entire global economy. The United States understands this, as we are also a maritime nation.

Since the founding of our nation, we have maintained a Navy to ensure our security at sea. As the United States opened trade with Asia in the 1800's, it came with the requirement for a United States naval presence to ensure this security. The road that connects Asia and the United States is a long one. This requires forward naval presence to be ready and able to respond in a timely manner; especially considering the uncertainty that we face in the region.

Today we live in an uncertain world, where man-made friction points between nations create misunderstanding and an environment for potential miscalculation. These friction points are not limited to territorial disputes. For instance, it was just three years ago that the Republic of Korea Navy corvette Cheonan was sunk by a North Korean torpedo.

Environmental issues also cause strife as we react to reef destruction for the harvesting of food, illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing, and the affects of global warming and rising

sea levels. We can all appreciate Mother Nature's fury, as we periodically must respond to the chaos left in the wake of typhoons, earthquakes and tsunamis around the "Ring of Fire."

Consider this; it should be no surprise to you just how important maritime domain awareness (MDA) is today. It should also be no surprise that it is also important to have interoperable capability to quickly respond to common problems in this critical domain. Our collective maritime security is as important now as ever and the complexity and potential impact of these friction points exceeds the ability of any one nation to address them alone. Working together in adherence to existing norms and frameworks is key. That is why I am heartened to see the nations of Southeast Asia setting the example, by working together, as partners to address the challenges that we all face.

The United States understands the importance of this working relationship and how valuable multilateral approaches can be in sharing the effort and leveraging the capability of more than one nation. Solutions to these difficult challenges require our collective leadership, not any one nation stepping in and directing the effort. ASEAN provides a model for the region; a way to work together that does not interfere in the internal affairs of other nations and a way to work together to develop consensus on solutions to mutual problems.

Over the past decade we have seen significant decreases in incidents in the Strait of Malacca where the Malacca Strait Patrols have combined the efforts of Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to prove that, by working together, we can address any challenge. I am hopeful that we can translate these successes into combined efforts in other areas of concern.

The United States Navy presence in the Asia-Pacific remains an important part of our maritime strategy, as it has been for decades. Despite concerns you may have heard over our sequestration, we remain focused on executing the full range of military operations of our maritime strategy. That includes the ability to rapidly provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), deter conflicts, and to be ready, if deterrence fails. This requires the Pacific Fleet to work closely with allies, partners, and friends. A key component of our interoperability is being able to seamlessly integrate as a force and I am very glad to see Rear Admiral Joe Rixey from our International Programs Office here with us today.

Great examples of our combined efforts to increase our interoperability include exercises that many of your navies participated in, such as Pacific Partnership 2012, where we practiced in calm to respond in crisis. There was the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2012 exercise where many of our navies trained together in scenarios across the range of military operations with some 22 other nations. Already, I am excited to see the progress we are making toward Pacific Partnership 2013 and RIMPAC 2014.

As the commander of the United States Pacific Fleet, I focus on four priorities with regard to my decision making. I have been talking about two of them as I described the importance of our forward presence in the region and building and strengthening relationships with our allies and partners. But, these are underpinned by my two remaining priorities, which are sustaining credible combat capability, which I often refer to as warfighting readiness, and supporting the

Sailors and civilians who make up my Pacific Fleet. These priorities are in support of the United States strategy to rebalance to the Asia-Pacific.

Rebalance is not just a United States Navy endeavor, but is a whole-of-government initiative that starts with increasing our intellectual capital and leadership attention. We are increasing our intellectual understanding of the region by developing our people to serve in the Asia-Pacific. In addition, we are prioritizing doctrine and concept of operations development and increasing our experimentation and the validation of new tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) in operational concepts.

We are introducing and continuing to bring new capabilities in this valued theater. For example, today the new Littoral Combat Ship, USS *Freedom (LCS 1)* is crossing the Pacific conducting her maiden deployment.

But, what I value most about this rebalancing strategy is the increased interactions with you, our allies, partners, and friends in the region. I look forward to learning your thoughts and ideas as we work in this important domain together.

As I conclude, I would like to leave you with these thoughts. Last year I had an opportunity to visit with many of you at the Western Pacific Naval Symposium, where we were able to discuss matters of mutual concern and new opportunities. That event perfectly complements our discussions here today. Forums such as these are important because we are able to come together as equals, regardless of the size and capabilities of the navy we represent, and engage in meaningful dialog. By discussing common issues in a multilateral setting we are able to forge relationships that can provide a framework for common ground between us. I hope I will see many of you at the International Sea Power Symposium, ISS, in October.

While any navy can surge forces, none of us can surge trust and cooperation. We have to build that over time. Building strong relationships with each other is essential. I am excited to be here today because our collective leadership matters as our navies work together to promote peace and security at sea and preserve the bonds of our naval profession.

Maritime security remains important for economic viability. It can not be taken for granted given the uncertain world we live in. I encourage and look forward to the work we continue to do to address common issues and to continue to develop and execute interoperability in a straightforward manner while enhancing our professional excellence at sea.

Know that I value your leadership and I look forward to hearing your thoughts while here at the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition.

Thank you for being here and for your collective efforts. As we say in Hawaii, Mahalo.  
TERIMA KASIH