The Importance of Maritime Interdiction Operations

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What is MIO?

- Traditional: Activities by naval forces to divert, disrupt, delay, or destroy the enemy's surface military potential before it can be used effectively against friendly forces.

- Long history associated with blockades, embargoes, and commerce raiding.

- Non-wartime examples include anti-piracy and anti-slavery campaigns.

Growing Importance of MIO post Cold War

- Protection of U.S. homeland
  - Migrants
  - Drugs

- Post-Cold War role of MIO in support of U.N. sanctions regimes
  - Haiti
  - Balkans
  - Iraq

MIOs Have Become Large, Extended Activities

– Iraq Sanctions Enforcement – 12 years
- 42,000 ships queried
- 3,000 boarded
- 2,200 diverted

– OIF MIO
- 5,000 ships queried
- 2,600 boarded
- 400 diverted

MIOs and GWOT

- Deny terrorists use of the maritime environment
- Deny use of the maritime environment for proliferation
- Enable partner nations to counter terrorists and their infrastructure in the maritime environment
- Counter state and non-state support to terrorism

GWOT is a Long War

- Use of sea lanes by terrorists for movement of people and material is inevitable

- Reality of Extended MIO imbedded in Fleet Ops

- Requirement is for interdiction without delay

Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)

- So San Case – DPRK freighter with a cargo of Scuds for Yemen
- PSI is a voluntary association of some 12 nations organized for the purpose of halting traffic in WMD
- Expanded training activities

Requirements for MIO

- Flexible force packages
- MDA
- Networks
- Sensors and data management systems
- Vessel Boarding, Search and Seizure Capabilities

Maritime Domain Awareness

- MDA is he effective understanding of anything associated with the global maritime environment that could impact the security, safety, economy or environment of the United States
- Vital to E-MIO
- Supports HLS
- Enables PSI

The Key is Actionable Intelligence

Requirements for Effective MDA

- The ability to collect, fuse, analyze, display, and disseminate actionable information and intelligence to operational commanders and decision makers.

- "cue, surveil, identify, engage and assess potential threats in <u>real time</u>." (NSHD/CS)

Requirements for Effective MDA (Continued)

- All-source information
- Comprehensive Common Operating Picture (COP)
- High speed, high bandwidth communications
- Distributed, networked operations
- National Plan to Achieve Maritime Domain Awareness.

Additional Capabilities for MIO

- Sensors
- Platforms
- Computational analysis, modeling and simulation
- Offensive and defense support to VBSS