US 2nd Fleet to be established

It was reported from Norfolk, Virginia, on 4 May that Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral John Richardson, had announced that day the establishment of US 2nd Fleet during a change of command ceremony for US Fleet Forces Command (USFF) in Norfolk.

Second Fleet will exercise operational and administrative authorities over assigned ships, aircraft and landing forces on the East Coast and northern Atlantic Ocean. Additionally, it will plan and conduct maritime, joint and combined operations and will train, certify and provide maritime forces to respond to global contingencies. Commander, 2nd Fleet will report to USFF.

In the Admiral’s words: ‘Our National Defense Strategy makes clear that we are back in an era of great power competition as the security environment continues to grow more challenging and complex. That is why today, we are standing up Second Fleet to address these changes, particularly in the North Atlantic.’

Second Fleet was disestablished in 2011 and much of its personnel, assets and responsibilities were merged into USFF.

Picture caption

Official US Navy file photograph of the aircraft carrier USS Harry S Truman (CVN 75) and ships assigned to the Harry S Truman Carrier Strike Group (HSTCSG) transiting the Atlantic Ocean on 16 February while conducting composite training unit exercise (COMPTUEX).

This exercise evaluated the strike group’s ability as a whole to carry out sustained combat operations from the sea, ultimately certifying the Harry S Truman Carrier Strike Group for deployment.

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