Littoral Operations in a Contested Environment

The developing Navy and Marine Corps concept for *Littoral Operations in a Contested Environment* will describe how the Navy and Marine Corps will retain the initiative, as an integrated naval force operating from dispersed locations both ashore and afloat, to achieve local sea control and power projection into contested littoral areas against advanced A2AD capabilities. The idea is to use littoral maneuver to: gain entry as well as enable persistent operations; provide freedom of action within the littorals; and/or to seize, secure, and maintain a lodgment. The concept will address the differences between "rolling back" an A2AD threat versus creating gaps/seams by location and/or time that can be exploited through a maneuver warfare approach. In accord with having this concept serve as a baseline for the further naval integration envisioned by the MOC, we must:

- Experiment as a littoral maneuver force. In this sense, the term "littoral maneuver forces" implies a greater capability than that provided by traditional amphibious forces alone, embracing the full power of the whole of naval, Joint, and Combined forces operating in a given littoral area. The developing *Littoral Operations in a Contested Environment* concept is amplifying and refining this idea.
- Embrace a holistic approach to protecting the naval force in a contested environment, striking a balance between point/area defense and offensive action.
- Conduct pre-deployment training with all forces in the littoral fight to cultivate mission command, integrate warfighting skills, create agility, and foster aggressiveness.