

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STRATEGIC THEORY

A VIEW ON GOOD ORDER AT SEA: SOUTH AFRICAN NAVY



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SCOPE

- An UNCLOS Introduction
- Theoretical / Strategic Considerations
- Practical Considerations



But first ...





AN UNCLOS INTRODUCTION

"Recognising the desirability of establishing through this Convention ... <u>a legal order for the seas</u> and oceans which will facilitate international communication, and <u>will promote</u> <u>the peaceful uses of the seas and oceans</u>, ... the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment.

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Believing that the codification and progressive development of the law of the seas achieved in this Convention will *contribute to the strengthening of peace*, security, cooperation and friendly relations

among all nations ..."

(Preamble to UNCLOS, 1982)



THEORETICAL / STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

- Strategic theory / issues fairly constant, timeless, irrespective of cultural or geo-political differences
- The oceans "the great highway" (Mahan)
- The sea has always been, will always be, the great equaliser, unforgiving, to be treated with the utmost respect – deceptively simple environment
- Indian Ocean playing a central role in the future of 21st
 Century balance-of-power theories (Kaplan) interconnectivity of the sea / East African coast
- Lessons of history "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" (Santayana) – Barbary Coast and Somalia



THEORETICAL / STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS (cont)

- Concept of "good order at sea" definition?
- Three important multilateral African forums where maritime security and associated challenges for the region, continent discussed
 - Standing Maritime Committee of SADC (1995 onwards)
 - Sea Power for Africa Symposium (2005 onwards)
 - Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (2008 onwards)



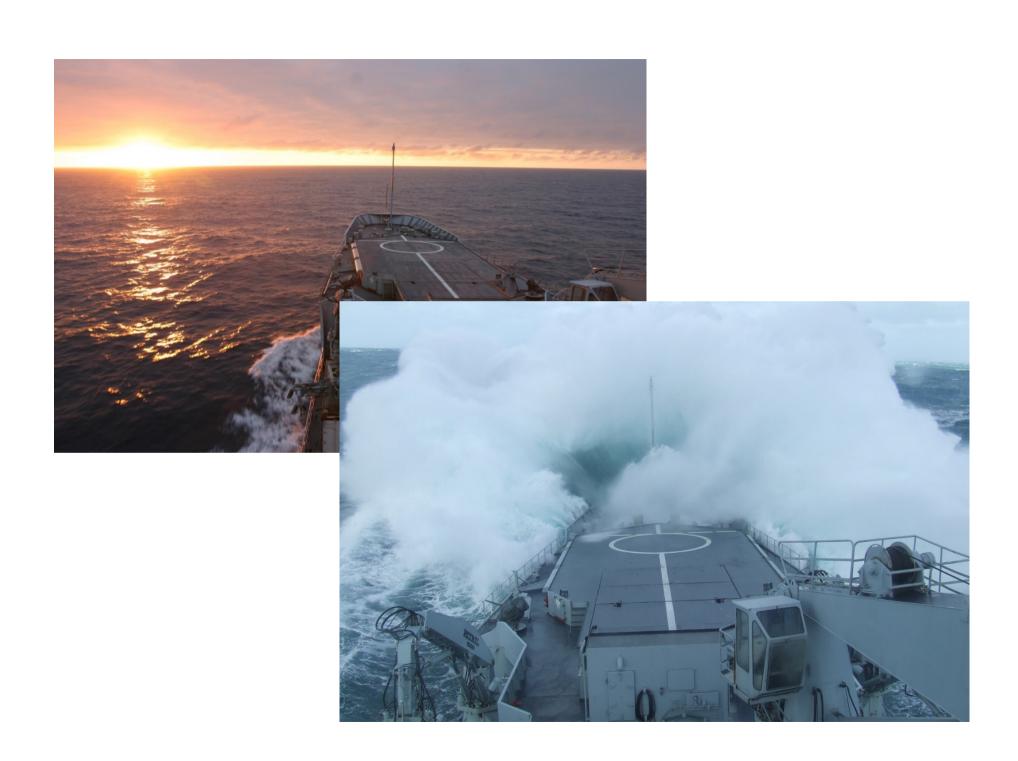
PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

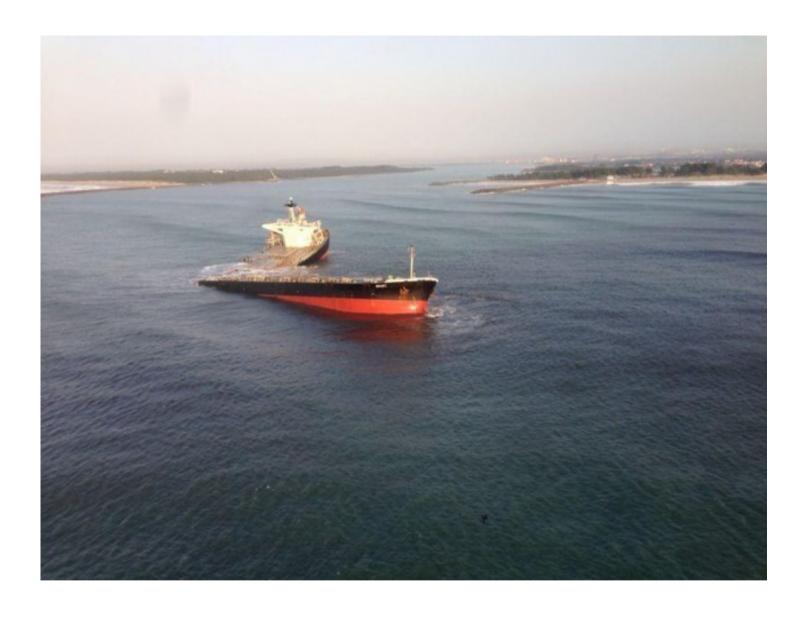
- Firstly, <u>education</u> of utmost importance of the sea, of maritime policies, of conventions, of legalities for all participants, at all levels possibly time to consider compulsory courses in maritime education?
- Secondly, <u>levels of interoperability</u> one of the great strengths in deploying naval assets is the relative ease of navies to do this important policy signals of international co-operation, good intent and trust
- Thirdly, <u>sustained presence at sea</u> form of "sea denial" to criminals concept of "thousand-ship navy" (Adm Mike Mullen)



To be continued ...







20 August 2013, off Richards Bay, South Africa

