

# SECDEF Announces Flag Officer Nominations

ARLINGTON, Va. – Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced March 9 the president has made the following nominations:

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Jeffrey T. Anderson for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Anderson is currently serving as commander, Carrier Strike Group Three, Bremerton, Washington.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Anthony C. Carullo for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Carullo is currently serving as director, plans and operations, U.S. Naval Forces Europe Sixth Fleet; deputy commander, Sixth Fleet; and commander, Submarine Group Eight, Naples, Italy.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Richard J. Cheeseman Jr., for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Cheeseman is currently serving as commander, Carrier Strike Group Ten, Norfolk, Virginia.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Craig A. Clapperton for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Clapperton is currently serving as commander, Combined Joint Task Force, Cyber, Tenth Fleet, Fort Meade, Maryland.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Christopher M. Engdahl for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Engdahl is currently serving as commander, Expeditionary Strike Group Seven; commander, Task Force 76; and commander, Amphibious Force, Seventh Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Robert M. Gaucher for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Gaucher is currently serving as commander, Submarine Group Nine, Silverdale, Washington.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Nicholas M. Homan for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Homan is currently serving as director of intelligence, J-2, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Carl A. Lahti for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Lahti is currently serving as commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan/commander, Navy Region Japan, Yokosuka, Japan.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) John S. Lemmon for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Lemmon is currently serving as commander, Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division; and assistant commander for research and engineering, Naval Air Systems Command (AIR-4.0), Patuxent River, Maryland.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) John V. Menoni for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Menoni is currently serving as commander, Expeditionary Strike Group Two, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Thomas J. Moreau for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Moreau is currently serving as director, Supply, Ordnance and Logistics Operations Division, N41, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) William P. Pennington for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Pennington is currently serving as deputy commander, Tenth Fleet, Fort Meade, Maryland.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Curt A. Renshaw for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Renshaw is currently serving as commander, Carrier Strike Group Eight, Norfolk, Virginia.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Scott F. Robertson for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Robertson is currently serving as commander, Carrier Strike Group Two, Norfolk, Virginia.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Milton J. Sands III for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Sands is currently serving as commander, Special Operations Command Africa, U.S. Special Operations Command, Stuttgart, Germany.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Christopher J. Sweeney for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Sweeney is currently serving as commander, Carrier Strike Group Eleven, Everett, Washington.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Douglas C. Verissimo for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Verissimo is currently serving as director, Assessment Division, N81, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Michael J. Vernazza for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. Vernazza is currently serving as commander, Naval Information Warfighting Development Center, Norfolk, Virginia.

The Navy made the accompanying statement:

“These nominations will ensure the Navy is equipped with capable senior leaders to employ, generate, and design the fleet for combat operations, recognizing that the continued preeminence of U.S. naval power is inextricably linked to the ability to successfully change. To do so, officers with proven sustained superior performance in command leadership positions in difficult and challenging assignments, including those in the diplomatic/foreign service arena were chosen.

“The board sought innovative and bold leaders who are their own toughest critic, who think creatively, challenge assumptions, and take well-calculated risks to maximize effectiveness. The board selected those officers with superior leadership skills that may be further developed in a variety of assignments across the Navy without regard to community, platform, or career paths to serve as the future leaders of the Navy.”