Vice Adm. Oliver Lewis Assumes Command of U.S. 2nd Fleet



NORFOLK, Va. — Vice Adm. Oliver Lewis assumed command of U.S. 2nd Fleet during an assumption of command ceremony conducted on th U.S. Fleet Forces Maritime Operations Center Watch Floor at Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads, Nov. 16, 2026.

Lewis assumed command after relieving Rear Adm. Mark Behning, who had served as the fleet's acting commander since Oct. 13, 2026.

Addressing assembled service members and civilian personnel on the watch floor, Lewis underscored the vital strategic mandate facing the Navy across the Atlantic and Arctic theaters, emphasizing the need to stay ahead of rapidly evolving operational challenges.

“The Atlantic and Arctic operational environments demand relentless vigilance, advanced tactical capability, and unwavering readiness – demands that are met every single day by the remarkable men and women of U.S. 2nd Fleet,” Lewis said. “I am deeply honored to stand alongside this exceptional team of Sailors and civilians. Together, we will continue to defend the homeland, safeguard critical undersea infrastructure, counter evolving asymmetric threats, and aggressively field robotic and autonomous systems to secure freedom of navigation during this pivotal chapter in our nation’s maritime history.”

A career submarine officer, Lewis brings extensive operational, joint, and coalition maritime experience to 2nd Fleet. Prior to assuming command, his flag assignments included serving as Deputy Commander of U.S. 6th Fleet and Director of Maritime Operations for U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa (NAVEUR/NAVAF), as well as Deputy Director for Political-Military Affairs (Europe, NATO, and Russia) on the Joint Staff (J-5). His operational tours include service aboard USS Montpelier (SSN 765), USS Pittsburgh (SSN 720), and USS Newport News (SSN 750). Lewis commanded USS San Juan (SSN 751) and served as the commodore of Submarine Squadron 12.

U.S. 2nd Fleet, reestablished in 2018 in response to the changing global security environment, develops and employs maritime ready forces across multiple domains in the Atlantic and Arctic in order to ensure access, deter aggression, and defend U.S., allied, and partner interests.

For more U.S. 2nd Fleet news and photos, visit facebook.com/US2ndFleet, https://www.c2f.usff.navy.mil/, X – @US2ndFleet, and https://www.linkedin.com/company/commander-u-s-2nd-fleet.

From Commander, U.S. 2nd Fleet Public Affairs, Nov. 16, 2016