



NPS IN THE NEWS

Weekly Media Report – Sept 13 - 26, 2022

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GRADUATION:

[Former Deputy Secretary of Defense Challenges NPS Students to Forge the Future of Warfare](#)

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STUDENTS:

[Keep MQ-9 Pilots Flying](#)

(War on the Rocks 26 Sept 22) ... Tyler Jackson

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FACULTY:

[Elections, the anniversary of Lausanne, Turkey's centennial, and Greek-Turkish relations \(Audio Interview\)](#)

(Ekathimerini 21 Sept 22)

Aside from key elections next year in both Turkey and Greece, 2023 also marks the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Lausanne, the treaty that established Turkey's modern borders and is at the heart of Greek-Turkish relations, and the centennial of the founding of the Turkish Republic...Ryan Gingeras, professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the **Naval Postgraduate School** and author of the upcoming book *The Last Days of the Ottoman Empire*, joins me to look into how elections coupled with the weight of history on display next year could impact Greek-Turkish relations.

[Leidos Taps Retired Vice Admiral David Lewis to Lead Maritime Portfolio](#)

(PR Newswire 22 Sept 22)

Lewis will be responsible for enhancing the company's maritime capabilities and advancing strategic initiatives that drive organic growth across Leidos' maritime divisions. The organization includes subsidiary Gibbs & Cox and provides critical support for a broad range of Navy activities, including ship design & engineering, autonomous underwater and surface vehicle technology programs, as well as advanced undersea sensors and integration, for domestic and international customers...Lewis graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1979 and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps program. He also holds a Master of Science in Computer Science from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

ALUMNI:

[Chris Costamagna Named New Sacramento Fire Chief](#)

(ABC 10 12 Sept 22)

The city of Sacramento has a new fire chief after the city manager announced the appointment Monday...Costamagna graduated from Waldorf University with a bachelor's degree in Fire Science Administration and Leadership and he studied Crisis Management at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Executive Education. He also attended the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey.

[Commander David A. Hooper United States Navy Biography](#)

(DVIDS 16 Sept 22) ... Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Garst

Commander David Hooper, a native of Woodbridge, VA, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2006, where he conferred a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and received a commission as a Surface Warfare Officer...He immediately joined the USS Whidbey Island (LSD-41) while on deployment after graduating and served as the Main Propulsion Division Officer; he earned his Surface Warfare designation in just 10 months. In November 2008, he was selected for transfer and re-designation into the Human Resources community. Shortly after re-designation, Commander Hooper reported to the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) in March 2009 where he subsequently earned a Master of Science degree in Operations Research and authored a thesis focused on optimizing manpower.

[City of Edmonds Welcomes Two New Department Directors](#)

(DVIDS 16 Sept 22) ... Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Garst

After an extensive search to fill both positions, the City of Edmonds is welcoming two new department directors: Todd Tatum, director of community services and economic development, and Oscar Antillon, director of public works and utilities. Both men were appointed by Mayor Mike Nelson and confirmed by the Edmonds City Council... In 1990, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving four years. He then returned to college using the GI Bill, graduating in 1998 with a bachelor of science in civil engineering. In 2000, he returned to the Navy as a commissioned officer with the Naval Civil Engineer Corps, spending six years at seven Naval and Marine Corps installations leading planning, environmental, engineering, contracting, construction and maintenance programs. He also completed his graduate studies at the **Naval Postgraduate School**, receiving a master of science in IT.



[Search To Commence For New Frisco Fire Chief Following Chief Mark Piland's Retirement](#)

(Frisco Texas 14 Sept 22)

(September 14, 2022) A search for the City of Frisco's next Fire Chief will begin promptly following the retirement of Chief Mark Piland. Today, Chief Piland submitted his retirement, sharing he's ready to pursue new career opportunities. The retirement follows Chief Piland's nine-plus years of service to the city after being hired in 2013. Wes Pierson, City Manager, accepted the retirement, adding he appreciates Chief Piland's commitment to the community. Chief Piland has been an asset during his time with the city and oversaw the tremendous growth of the Fire Department in the fastest-growing city in the U.S.

Chief Piland has a long history of notable service with the City of Frisco, as Fire Chief for Volusia County Fire Services in Volusia County Florida, and Shift Commander of Operations for the Virginia Beach Fire Department in Virginia Beach VA. Chief Piland has over 35 years in the Fire-Rescue service, with experience encompassing the areas of Fire Administration, Fire Prevention, Fire Operations, Emergency Management, and CERT, Training, Special Operations, Fire Accreditation, Fire Station and Training Facility Design, emergency response with local, state, and federal governments, and executive level management and budget. Chief Piland also has extensive experience in the areas of executive leadership and community disaster preparedness response and outreach programs. Chief Piland possesses a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Hospital Management and a minor in Epidemiology from Eastern Virginia Medical School, and a Bachelor of Psychology from Old Dominion University. Piland is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program, The Executive Leader Program at the **Naval Postgraduate School** Center for Homeland Defense and Security, and The Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the Kennedy School at Harvard.

[Secmation Adds Former Chief of Naval Research to Advisory Board](#)

(EIN 16 Sept 22)

Secmation is excited and honored to announce the addition of retired Vice Admiral Mat Winter to Secmation's Advisory Board. Mat currently is the President of Winter Strategic Solutions, LLC and is a trusted Board Director/Advisor for several for-profit companies and non-profit organizations. Prior to starting his LLC business, he completed a distinguished 35+ year Navy career with his final two marque leadership positions being the 24th Chief of Naval Research, where he led the Navy's Global Science and Technology Enterprise, and as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program Director, where he led a Global Enterprise with over \$30 billion annual budget and had significant responsibilities for both production and global sales of the world's most advanced 5th generation strike fighter. His formal technical and business education from the University of Notre Dame (BS ME), the **Naval Postgraduate School** (MS Computer Science) and the National Defense University (MS Natural Resource Strategy) underpins his extensive business and technology experiences at the highest levels of the public trust making him a perfect fit to help guide Secmation in achieving our near and long term profitability and strategic growth goals.

[Retired U.S. Navy Captain H. Thomas Workman Named Director of BLM National Operations Center](#)

(BLM 17 Sept 22)

Bureau of Land Management Director Tracy Stone-Manning announced today that H. Thomas Workman has been selected as the director of the National Operations Center in Lakewood, Colorado... Workman holds Master of Science degrees in national security strategy from the National Defense University and in operations research from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics from the United States Naval Academy.

[Welcome Aboard, Capt. Plew! NavalX has a New Director](#)

(Navy.mil 17 Sept 22)

On Tuesday, Sept. 13, the Office of Naval Research (ONR) held a change-of-office ceremony for NavalX, a partner organization within the command... Plew has a bachelor's in history from Oregon State University, a master's in national security and strategic studies from the U.S. Naval War College, and a master of business administration from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.



Raymond H. Dressler, Jr.'s newly released "Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey" Is a Fascinating Autobiographical Work

(Cision 26 Sept 22)

"Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey" from Christian Faith Publishing author Raymond H. Dressler, Jr. shares with readers a unique and engaging life story that will take them aboard the USS Constitution and so much more.

"Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey": an exciting celebration of life, family, and faith. "Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey" is the creation of published author Raymond H. Dressler, Jr., who was born in 1936 in Chicago, Illinois. In 1958, he graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and in 1962, he received a Master of Theology degree from Garrett Theological Institute/Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. While serving almost twenty-five years in the United States Navy as a chaplain, attaining the rank of captain, Dressler acquired his Doctor of Ministry degree from Claremont, California School of Theology/Monterey, California **Naval Postgraduate School** in 1980. Ordained an Elder in 1962, he maintains his membership (retired status) in the Minnesota Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. Married to his wife Nancy for sixty-five years, they have four children, fifteen grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren. Together, they reside in Savage, Minnesota.

Vice Admiral Karl Thomas, Commander, U.S. Navy Seventh Fleet

(Presidential Prayer Team 22 Sept 22)

Karl Owen Thomas was born in 1953 in Fairfax, Virginia. He earned an undergraduate degree in management systems from the Rochester Polytechnic Institute and earned a Master of Science in information technology from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

Military Sealift Command's Office in Korea has new Commander

(DVIDS 1 Sept 22) ... Leslie Hull-Ryde

Cmdr. Mike Borszich wrapped up his command of Military Sealift Command Office (MSCO) Korea when Cmdr. Patrick Moore relieved him during a change-of-command ceremony aboard USNS Charlton (T-AKR 314) Sept. 1, 2022...Originally from Rising Sun, Md., Moore graduated from North Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in criminology. He earned a master's degree in national security affairs, with a concentration in Pacific studies, from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

Sept 26: [National Defense Industrial Association Fall Undersea Warfare \(USW\) Conference](#)

Oct 10: Columbus Day (Federal Holiday)



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With encouragement from a former Deputy Secretary of Defense, the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) recognized the achievements of its Summer Quarter 2022 graduating class during a ceremony at King Auditorium, Sept. 23.

The Honorable Robert O. Work, NPS alumnus and 32nd Deputy Secretary of Defense, served as the guest speaker for a commencement ceremony honoring 270 graduates, including 29 international students from eight countries.

“This is a great time to be in the U.S. military. It’s a great time to be an NPS graduate,” said Work, who was honored earlier in the week as the 25th inductee into the prestigious NPS Hall of Fame. “Congratulations on all the hard work.”

NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ann E. Rondeau congratulated the assembled students on their efforts and achievements – while also reminding them that their journey is not over yet.

“Clearly, this is a reflection of your hard work and your collaboration with your faculty and each other, but let me tell you another thing – this gets harder on Monday,” Rondeau said. “There will be an expectation that you will bring to your next duty station what you have learned here. It will get more exciting, more challenging, and more fun. There’s no greater burden, there’s no greater privilege, and there’s no greater honor than what is in front of you right now.”

Rondeau also spoke of the increased expectations that the graduates will face to apply their knowledge and research solutions to solve key operational problems, think critically and lead successfully at their respective commands and organizations after leaving NPS.

“Our mission has been to prepare you,” Rondeau added. “It is your mission, now, to deliver. The NPS degree that you get today signals to everybody that you not only increased your knowledge, but that you have distinguished yourself and your ability to apply that knowledge to higher thought and higher results. You will be in demand.”

As an example, Rondeau pointed to the achievements of Work, who earned a Master of Science degree in Space Systems Operations from NPS in 1990.

During his tenure as Deputy Secretary of Defense from 2014 to 2017, Work led DOD efforts to focus on technological areas such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning.

“Our students have a wide range of outlets to pursue education and research in AI and machine learning, and it is Mr. Work who has led that,” said Rondeau. “In the cognitive era of strategic competition, both education and technology, as well as strategic thinking, are all important to the military’s education and our decision advantage.”

In his remarks, Work acknowledged the challenges faced by the United States, including never-before-seen technological advances by strategic competitors like China.

“You are joining the force in a time of unprecedented strategic and technological flux and turbulence,” said Work. “It’s going to require all hands on deck to try to figure out how we get through this.”

But Work also expressed confidence in the ability of NPS graduates and faculty members to help address these challenges and others which lie ahead.

He cited the example of previous innovators who have walked the halls of NPS, including the legendary late Navy Capt. Wayne Hughes, a iconic strategist and tactician who, according to Work, “wrote the book” on guided munitions warfare.

“Somebody at NPS is going to write the book on algorithmic warfare,” Work said, referring to autonomous systems powered with AI, a tool he believes will provide a competitive advantage for the U.S. in the years to come. “I don’t know who it is, but if I had to make a bet, I would put my money on NPS.”



As a former Marine Corps officer who also served as Undersecretary of the Navy from 2009 to 2013, Work has firsthand experience regarding the importance of NPS and the value that it adds to not only the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps, but to DOD as a whole.

“We’ve got smart people like you and a smart place like the Naval Postgraduate School to figure this out,” he said.

[Former Deputy Secretary of Defense Challenges NPS Students to Forge the Future of Warfare > United States Navy > News-Stories](#)

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RESEARCH:

Students Explore Use of Persistent Augmented Reality to Advance Decision Cycle

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Turner, now a graduate of the NPS Cyber Systems and Operations program with a master’s in computer science, was looking for a partner for her thesis. While combing through the research of other students, she found Cruz, a student in the computer science program through the Modeling Virtual Environments and Simulations (MOVES) Institute, who wanted to focus her research on augmented reality.

“Joanna had this brilliant idea of combining her expertise in virtual environments with my proficiency as an information professional officer,” said Turner. “Using my knowledge of communications networks, and her ability to create augmented realities, we could develop something that would drastically improve the decision-making capabilities of the senior decision makers in the field.”

A ‘persistent augmented environment’ is a concept the students’ thesis advisor Dr. Amela Sadagic has been working on for some time, and consists of two major components. ‘Persistent’ means that a diverse set of data are being collected and visualized in real-time, and the data sets are updated and corrected as quickly as possible, ensuring the most accurate information is available to operators who need it to support their decision making. An ‘augmented environment’ refers to superimposed, computer-generated visual elements over visual information that comes from the real-world environment. Cruz described it as “Pokémon Go on ships” or “tactical Pokémon Go.”

With their thesis, the two students wanted to use simulated data of communications systems and cyber network operations, reporting, and resource management decision-making to demonstrate their product. Using augmented reality displays allowed the operators to see each other and discern key non-verbal cues typically used in group discussions. At the same time, they could also see the elements of the simulated operational environment and interact with them.



When a carrier strike group goes on deployment, the ships' lines of communications are of critical importance. Between several forms of radio frequencies, types of satellites and the litany of other ways ships need to talk to one another, there is bound to be confusion. One ship might have a certain system down, and the other vessels need to be aware of that failure and in a timely manner.

"Imagine every ship has a system where they could input data automatically in real time, and every ship in the strike group would know immediately [through an augmented reality interface]," said Cruz. "With our program, the communications officer on every ship could have a headset with that data constantly updating, and all they would have to do to determine which systems are down and which systems are functional would be to look at the ship they are trying to reach."

Turner and Cruz designed and developed a straightforward 3D visualization prototype of how the augmented reality interface would look and then tested its usability with 27 Naval officers. They focused on users' performance and comprehension of the prototype that depicted augmented reality-enhanced Naval cyber battlespace onboard multiple ships. An additional objective was to acquire a better understanding of how that type of system could be used to assist in effective mission planning at the tactical level. And the results were very positive and encouraging, they said.

"[Users] found the interface easy to understand and operate, and the prototype was characterized as a valuable alternative to their current practices," said Turner.

Although the research just focused on communications, Cruz and Turner suggest the concept could be expanded to cover several systems onboard Navy vessels. From damage control conditions to weapons systems, key personnel on every ship could simply put on a headset and be instantly updated on the rest of the strike group.

"It can be used by different warfare areas, and it can go towards different readiness conditions," said Cruz. "We can input data regarding air warfare, surface warfare, submarine warfare, ballistic warfare, strike warfare, and the list goes on and on."

Both students were very satisfied with their final thesis, and its potential to support a key initiative in NAVPLAN 2020. The interdisciplinary approach, capitalizing on each student's unique area of expertise to advance a Navy-relevant topic of study, is a rare opportunity, except for students at NPS.

"The opportunity for two people in two different communities to combine efforts on a MOVES related thesis and to actually come up with a brand-new idea and start implementing it was a very rewarding and satisfying experience," said Cruz. "The world is changing, technology is improving at an incredible rate, and NPS is doing all it can to stay at the very tip of innovation."

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[Students Explore Use of Persistent Augmented Reality to Advance Decision Cycle - Naval Postgraduate School \(nps.edu\)](#)

[Students explore use of persistent augmented | EurekAlert!](#)

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STUDENTS:

Keep MQ-9 Pilots Flying

(War on the Rocks 26 Sept 22) ... Tyler Jackson

Imagine a 1st lieutenant with 3.5 years on active duty who has amassed over 1500 combat hours, executed multiple air-to-ground kinetic weapons strikes, supported special operations and conventional forces, and spurred innovation and positive change within their community. Now, with their platform set to begin retiring within the next decade, they have no clear guidance on where they will go and what they will do. This is the uncertain future facing MQ-9 pilots.

For sixteen years now, the U.S. Air Force has been lamenting its pilot shortage. The most recent reporting noted that the Air Force is 1,650 pilots short of its goal, with 1,100 of those positions in the



fighter community. Yet the service has no plans for what to do with over 2,000 highly skilled remote pilots as it transitions to a fleet of increasingly autonomous unmanned aircraft. Wise human capital management could solve both of these problems, enabling the people currently flying systems like the MQ-9 to step into the cockpit of the country's manned airplanes.

The Air Force has a strict categorization system for its rated personnel, which consists of pilots, remotely piloted aircraft pilots, combat system officers, and air battle managers. Since the creation of the 18X career field for remote pilots in 2010, this track has been completely separate from the manned pilot track. Initially, this was a sensible response to address severe personnel shortages for unmanned planes. But now, as the Air Force's needs are shifting, a more flexible model is needed.

Today, the only available option for remote pilots to transition to manned pilot crew positions is to start the process from scratch by attending traditional undergraduate pilot training. The Air Force should create a transition program to enable remote pilots to fly any aircraft in the fleet. Adopting a model that builds on the airmanship of the MQ-9 pilot community with tailorable training will save time, money, and effort. In this way, reforming the rated officer and career enlisted aviator enterprise can help to retain the combat aviation experience needed for strategic competition.

Background

Artificially intelligent, autonomous aircraft are within operational reach of the joint force. The Air Force has been dogged in its pursuit of these new-age weapons systems in order to maintain its global military advantage, opting to bypass next-generation remotely piloted aircraft and move straight to autonomous systems. Artificial intelligence and autonomy are critical to the Family of Systems concepts and the Air Force's broader plans for weapons acquisition. This can already be seen in the Loyal Wingman program, the Next Generation Air Dominance platform, the Advanced Battle Management System, and the recently announced Low Collateral Effects Interceptor program.

Meanwhile, the service's remotely piloted aircraft platforms are scheduled to be retired within the decade. MQ-9 pilots and sensor operators may have a role in supervising the development and use of new autonomous platforms as they come online, but this is only likely to require a small subset of the current community. As pilot and analyst Alex Biegalski noted in *War on the Rocks*, the growth of automation and artificial intelligence "will likely reduce the requirements for remote pilot manning." This leaves one of the largest communities of combat-experienced, tactically minded Air Force pilots with no path forward.

Human Capital

The Air Force has gone to great lengths to reimagine how its pilots are made without considering the potential already present within its existing rated force. In launching the Pilot Training Next experiment, meant to rapidly produce manned pilots via tailored training, the Air Force did not conduct dedicated trials to examine how remote pilots and combat system officers could transition to flying crewed aircraft. Despite the fact that every remote pilot's initial training occurred in a manned, single-engine plane, the Air Force has shunned any attempt to augment the ailing manned pilot force with remote pilots.

Unfortunately, this is not surprising. Many manned pilots have long harbored a disdain for remotely piloted aircraft and their operators. This stems, in part, from the Air Force's storied mismanagement of its pilot community. For years, manned pilots were yanked out of cockpits to fill non-voluntary, remote aircraft assignments at some of the least favorable bases in the continental United States. This took its toll on the manned pilot force. To make matters worse, the Air Force significantly reduced the training requirements for its remote pilots in order to reduce costs and mitigate the loss of manned pilots. Meanwhile, manned pilots assigned to fly MQ-1s and MQ-9s performed the exact same job as their remote pilot counterparts, even though their much longer training times incurred service commitments that were nearly twice as long. This combination of factors led to an unfavorable view of remote pilots by some of the same manned pilot officers that were charged to lead them.

To make matters worse, the Air Force does not have a great track record when it comes to adaptive training to help officers move between closely related areas of specialization. As Mike Byrnes has argued, the Air Force is "remarkably poor at recognizing experience overlaps and interchangeable skillsets." This



seems to be especially true for rated officer positions and is particularly ironic given the service's commitment to the multi-capable airmen concept.

If Pilot Training Next, a roughly six-month program with a focus on virtual reality simulation learning, can prepare airmen without any rated experience to fly the world's most technologically advanced fighter, bomber, and mobility aircraft as winged aviators, surely several already-trained, experienced, instrument-rated remote pilots can do so as well.

Beyond this, the service should consider revitalizing the now-defunct Multi-Domain Warfare Officer career field with MQ-9 airmen in mind. While making all airmen into multi-domain experts is appealing, it remains unrealistic. A dedicated cadre of multi-domain officers at the forefront of integrated, multi-domain operations would serve the joint force much more effectively. With some additional training, MQ-9 pilots could make a significant contribution to multi-domain operations. These aviators could fill critical positions and enhance the capabilities of air operations centers and joint multi-domain task forces across the globe.

One obstacle is the lack of current training capacity. But even if this continues 8 to 10 years into the future, the Air Force could execute a phased transition approach so as to not overwhelm the aircraft-specific pipelines. This phased approach, combined with fielding the T-7A Red Hawk advanced trainer, would enable the service to provide advanced tactical jet training and reduce the burden on fighter and bomber platforms. A phased transition program would also allow for commanders to ensure career milestones are met, without detrimental delays. Rated and non-rated career transitions in today's Air Force are not unique. With years to thoughtfully plan career field transitions for its remote pilots, the service should be able to mitigate negative impacts on school and staff timelines.

Finally, MQ-9 sensor operators have a valuable role to play as well. These career enlisted airmen bring substantial tactical acumen to the fight. They should have the opportunity to train for manned career enlisted aviation crew positions if they are medically qualified. Their skillsets are already on par with their manned counterparts, and many of them are directly transferable. Sensor operators who do not meet the medical qualifications should also be able to transition to another career field that allows their combat experience to be put to effective use. For example, sensor operators already have first-hand experience with target analysis from conducting strike planning and weapons engagement. In this role, they could provide the Air Force with an experienced cadre of multi-capable airmen.

Conclusion

The Air Force's future warfighting fleet will require the diverse backgrounds of the service's broader rated and career enlisted aviation force to be successful. The MQ-9 community is full of tactical experts that thrive in the innovation space. With legacy remotely piloted aircraft set to retire, the Air Force cannot afford to let this community wither with no feasible transition option. If it can overcome existing cultural impediments, the service has the opportunity to address its pilot shortage while retaining critical combat experience within its ranks. As the MQ-9 is phased out over the coming years, the Air Force should look inward and take advantage of the trained talent it already has.

Tyler Jackson is a U.S. Air Force officer. He is a graduate of Howard University and the University of Oklahoma, and is currently assigned to the **Naval Postgraduate School** as a graduate student. He is a senior remotely piloted aircraft pilot and former combat systems officer who has amassed over 1700 combat and combat support hours. The views expressed are those of the author alone and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Air Force, the Department of Defense, or any part of the U.S. Government.

[Keep MQ-9 Pilots Flying - War on the Rocks](#)

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FACULTY:

Elections, the anniversary of Lausanne, Turkey's centennial, and Greek-Turkish relations (Audio Interview)

(Ekathimerini 21 Sept 22)

Aside from key elections next year in both Turkey and Greece, 2023 also marks the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Lausanne, the treaty that established Turkey's modern borders and is at the heart of Greek-Turkish relations, and the centennial of the founding of the Turkish Republic.

While Turkish President Erdogan has been dangerously ramping up tensions with Greece in the Aegean in the build up to elections, these two historic anniversaries could add to those tensions.

Ryan Gingeras, professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the **Naval Postgraduate School** and author of the upcoming book *The Last Days of the Ottoman Empire*, joins me to look into how elections coupled with the weight of history on display next year could impact Greek-Turkish relations.

[Elections, the anniversary of Lausanne, Turkey's centennial, and Greek-Turkish relations | eKathimerini.com](https://www.ekathimerini.com/2022/09/21/elections-the-anniversary-of-lausanne-turkeys-centennial-and-greek-turkish-relations/)

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Leidos Taps Retired Vice Admiral David Lewis to Lead Maritime Portfolio

(PR Newswire 22 Sept 22)

(GovCon Wire 22 Sept 22)

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(Washington Tech 23 Sept 22)

Lewis will be responsible for enhancing the company's maritime capabilities and advancing strategic initiatives that drive organic growth across Leidos' maritime divisions. The organization includes subsidiary Gibbs & Cox and provides critical support for a broad range of Navy activities, including ship design & engineering, autonomous underwater and surface vehicle technology programs, as well as advanced undersea sensors and integration, for domestic and international customers.

"Admiral Lewis brings a wealth of military and technology expertise following a distinguished career in the Navy," said Gerry Fasano, Leidos Defense Group President. "His experience is a tremendous asset and will enable Leidos to deliver formidable operational advantages for the fleet."

Before joining Leidos, Lewis served as the Naval Postgraduate School Chair of Acquisition and in the United States Navy in operational, engineering, and acquisition related billets. Upon selection to flag rank in 2009, he served as vice commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command, followed by four years as Program Executive Officer (Ships), where he directed the delivery of 18 ships and procurement of an additional 51 ships. From 2014-2017, he served as commander of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, where he led a global workforce of 10,300 civilian and military personnel who designed, developed and deployed advanced communications and information capabilities for the Navy. His final assignment was Director for the Defense Contract Management Agency.

Lewis graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1979 and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps program. He also holds a Master of Science in Computer Science from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Leidos Taps Retired Vice Admiral David Lewis to Lead Maritime Portfolio \(prnewswire.com\)](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/leidos-taps-retired-vice-admiral-david-lewis-to-lead-maritime-portfolio-301488888.html)
[Navy Vet David Lewis Named Leidos SVP for Maritime Portfolio; Gerry Fasano Quoted - GovCon Wire](https://www.govcon.com/news/leidos-taps-retired-vice-admiral-david-lewis-to-lead-maritime-portfolio-gerry-fasano-quoted)

[Leidos names retired vice admiral to lead maritime group - Washington Technology](https://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/leidos-names-retired-vice-admiral-to-lead-maritime-group/)

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ALUMNI:

Chris Costamagna Named New Sacramento Fire Chief

(ABC 10 12 Sept 22)

The city of Sacramento has a new fire chief after the city manager announced the appointment Monday.

According to a news release, Chris Costamagna is now the city's 23rd fire chief. Costamagna, who most recently served as Deputy Fire Chief of Technical Services, is a 27-year veteran of the department.

He first joined the department on Sept. 11, 1995, and served several different positions prior to his appointment, including: Assistant Chief of Special Operations, Operations Shift Commander, Battalion Chief, In-Service Training Captain and Drill Instructor for the department's Training Academy.

Costamagna graduated from Waldorf University with a bachelor's degree in Fire Science Administration and Leadership and he studied Crisis Management at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Executive Education. He also attended the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey.

"I am incredibly proud and grateful for this opportunity to lead the Sacramento Fire Department and serve our residents in this important role," Costamagna said. "SFD is made up of brave, courageous people who do everything they can to keep our communities safe and protected, and under my watch, we will continue to build upon this legacy of excellence."

Covering 115 miles of service area, the Sacramento Fire Department operates 24 fire stations. In his new role, he will oversee the department's 700+ employees.

[Chris Costamagna named new City of Sacramento fire chief | abc10.com](https://www.abc10.com/story/news/local/sacramento/2022/09/12/city-of-sacramento-named-new-fire-chief/7011117001)

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Commander David A. Hooper United States Navy Biography

(DVIDS 16 Sept 22) ... Petty Officer 1st Class Eric Garst

Commander David Hooper, a native of Woodbridge, VA, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2006, where he conferred a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and received a commission as a Surface Warfare Officer.

He immediately joined the USS Whidbey Island (LSD-41) while on deployment after graduating and served as the Main Propulsion Division Officer; he earned his Surface Warfare designation in just 10 months. In November 2008, he was selected for transfer and re-designation into the Human Resources community. Shortly after re-designation, Commander Hooper reported to the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) in March 2009 where he subsequently earned a Master of Science degree in Operations Research and authored a thesis focused on optimizing manpower.

Upon graduating from NPS, he reported to Navy Recruiting District, Raleigh, NC in April 2011 and served as the Assistant Recruiting Operations Officer and Recruiting Operations Officer. In January 2014, he reported to Navy Recruiting Command (NRC) HQ and served in a highly visible Operations Research Analyst billet within the Operations Department (N37) where he was charged by Deputy Commander, Navy Recruiting Command to help NRC undergo an analytic transformation.

Commander Hooper reported to the Navy's nascent Office of Talent Optimization (OTO) in July 2016 as the Technical Advisor for Analytics. During his tenure with OTO, Commander Hooper completed his second Master of Science degree in Predictive Analytics from Northwestern University. In April 2018, he reported to OPNAV N100 where he served as the Deputy Section Head for Strength Planning & Analysis where the focus was on developing accurate Navy Officer, Enlisted, and Midshipmen end-strength forecasts for current and future years in support of the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) process.

Prior to reporting to U.S. European Command (EUCOM) J1 as the Navy Service Chief, Command Hooper graduated from the Joint and Combined Warfighting School – JPME Phase II in June 2020. As



After retirement from the Navy in 2015, Antillon served as public works director for the cities of Los Altos Hills and Soledad, California and Moab, Utah. He also worked with NASA, managing private construction activities on NASA-owned properties.

Antillon is a lifelong outdoors enthusiast who enjoys hiking, trail running, mountain biking, kayaking and skiing.

Oscar and his wife have three adult children. They will be moving to the Edmonds area from Carmel, California, where they have lived since 2010.

“I was immediately impressed by Oscar’s vast experience in a variety of fields related to civil engineering and public works — exactly the qualifications we need for the Edmonds Public Works and Utilities Department,” Nelson said. “Oscar will bring a fresh perspective and years of public service that I am confident will serve us well.”

[City of Edmonds welcomes two new department directors - My Edmonds News](#)

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Search To Commence For New Frisco Fire Chief Following Chief Mark Piland's Retirement

(Frisco Texas 14 Sept 22)

(September 14, 2022) A search for the City of Frisco’s next Fire Chief will begin promptly following the retirement of Chief Mark Piland. Today, Chief Piland submitted his retirement, sharing he’s ready to pursue new career opportunities. The retirement follows Chief Piland’s nine-plus years of service to the city after being hired in 2013. Wes Pierson, City Manager, accepted the retirement, adding he appreciates Chief Piland’s commitment to the community. Chief Piland has been an asset during his time with the city and oversaw the tremendous growth of the Fire Department in the fastest-growing city in the U.S.

Chief Piland has a long history of notable service with the City of Frisco, as Fire Chief for Volusia County Fire Services in Volusia County Florida, and Shift Commander of Operations for the Virginia Beach Fire Department in Virginia Beach VA. Chief Piland has over 35 years in the Fire-Rescue service, with experience encompassing the areas of Fire Administration, Fire Prevention, Fire Operations, Emergency Management, and CERT, Training, Special Operations, Fire Accreditation, Fire Station and Training Facility Design, emergency response with local, state, and federal governments, and executive level management and budget. Chief Piland also has extensive experience in the areas of executive leadership and community disaster preparedness response and outreach programs. Chief Piland possesses a Master of Public Health with a concentration in Hospital Management and a minor in Epidemiology from Eastern Virginia Medical School, and a Bachelor of Psychology from Old Dominion University. Piland is a graduate of the National Fire Academy’s Executive Fire Officer Program, The Executive Leader Program at the **Naval Postgraduate School** Center for Homeland Defense and Security, and The Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the Kennedy School at Harvard.

“We want to thank Chief Piland for his more than nine years of service to our residents, businesses, and visitors,” said Wes Pierson, City Manager. “During Chief Piland’s tenure, the men and women of the Frisco Fire Department remained dedicated to delivering a high level of service and committed to helping keep people and property safe. We wish Chief Piland and his family success as he moves into the next phase of his career.”

Chief Piland stated “I’d like to thank the City of Frisco for the opportunity to serve the community over the past nine-plus years. I am grateful for the ability to oversee such exponential growth and work with a dedicated group of firefighters and administration. I’m looking forward to this next chapter and wish the city well as it continues to strive for excellence for the community.”

Assistant Chief Lee Glover will serve as Interim Fire Chief. Chief Glover has been with the department for more than thirty years and has served as Assistant Chief since 2009.



“Public safety is a top priority for me and our City Council,” said Pierson. “I intend to be deliberate in the search for Frisco’s next Fire Chief to make sure we find the right person to lead our department to the next level of service, building upon the city’s reputation for excellence.”

[News Flash • Frisco, TX • CivicEngage \(friscotexas.gov\)](#)

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Secmation Adds Former Chief of Naval Research to Advisory Board

(EIN 16 Sept 22)

Secmation is excited and honored to announce the addition of retired Vice Admiral Mat Winter to Secmation’s Advisory Board. Mat currently is the President of Winter Strategic Solutions, LLC and is a trusted Board Director/Advisor for several for-profit companies and non-profit organizations. Prior to starting his LLC business, he completed a distinguished 35+ year Navy career with his final two marquee leadership positions being the 24th Chief of Naval Research, where he led the Navy’s Global Science and Technology Enterprise, and as the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program Director, where he led a Global Enterprise with over \$30 billion annual budget and had significant responsibilities for both production and global sales of the world’s most advanced 5th generation strike fighter. His formal technical and business education from the University of Notre Dame (BS ME), the **Naval Postgraduate School** (MS Computer Science) and the National Defense University (MS Natural Resource Strategy) underpins his extensive business and technology experiences at the highest levels of the public trust making him a perfect fit to help guide Secmation in achieving our near and long term profitability and strategic growth goals.

"Having Admiral Winter join Secmation's Advisory Board is an incredibly impactful and important step helping to ensure Secmation is continuously aligning itself to our customer's cybersecurity needs with Secmation's technology investment strategies, key partnerships, collaborations, and product development," said Secmation CEO Dr. Hal Aldridge. He continued, "Mat's vast and impressive Navy career, coupled with multiple senior leadership roles and technology development experiences, make his addition to our Advisory Board immediately impactful on our growth strategies."

Secmation is a rapidly growing business headquartered in Raleigh, North Carolina, with extensive experience in cybersecurity, advanced encryption, security product development, and embedded security for unmanned systems. Secmation brings together 'SECurity' and 'autoMATION' to develop advanced technology solutions for the defense and commercial sectors. Visit Secmation’s website to learn more or send a note to info@secmation.com.

Admiral Winter joins Secmation's other Advisory Board member, Mr. Bill Irby, who joined the board earlier this year.

Welcome aboard, sir!

[Secmation adds former Chief of Naval Research to Advisory Board - EIN Presswire \(einnews.com\)](#)

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Retired U.S. Navy Captain H. Thomas Workman Named Director of BLM National Operations Center

(BLM 17 Sept 22)

Bureau of Land Management Director Tracy Stone-Manning announced today that H. Thomas Workman has been selected as the director of the National Operations Center in Lakewood, Colorado.

As the director of the National Operations Center, Workman will oversee approximately 300 employees and contractors that provide operational and technical mission support to BLM staff and collaborators in the areas of financial management, human resources, geospatial services and land and natural resources management.



“As we continue to rebuild the BLM, having leadership posts filled is critical. That is why I am pleased to announce the appointment of H. Thomas Workman as the director of the National Operations Center,” Stone-Manning said. “As a leader, his principal job will be to foster an operating environment where others can do great things, and his background and leadership experience will ensure the National Operation Center’s continued success.”

Workman, who begins his new position in mid-October, has worked in both the public and private sectors and has decades of experience in leading people, leading change, driving results, building coalitions and overall organization success.

During 30 years of service in the U.S. Navy, he commanded three warships and a Destroyer Squadron at sea. He also developed, resourced and implemented critical policy, personnel and budget objectives across the U.S. Navy’s Surface Force ashore.

Workman holds Master of Science degrees in national security strategy from the National Defense University and in operations research from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics from the United States Naval Academy.

[Retired U.S. Navy Captain H. Thomas Workman Named Director of BLM National Operations Center | Bureau of Land Management](#)

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Welcome Aboard, Capt. Plew! NavalX has a New Director

(Navy.mil 17 Sept 22)

On Tuesday, Sept. 13, the Office of Naval Research (ONR) held a change-of-office ceremony for NavalX, a partner organization within the command.

The ceremony welcomed new NavalX Director Capt. Casey Plew, who took the reins from Capt. Benjamin Van Buskirk. Vice Adm. Frank Morley, principal military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN RDA), and Rear Adm. Lorin Selby, chief of naval research, attended the event.

“NavalX is a valuable component of ONR that inspires and empowers the naval workforce to rapidly deliver high-impact capabilities across the Department of Defense [DoD], by connecting them with stakeholders across the acquisition ecosystem and by leveraging the innovation pipeline,” said Selby.

“These stakeholders include the Naval Research and Development Establishment, the Department of the Navy [DoN] and partners in industry and academia.

“It is my pleasure to welcome Capt. Plew and to say thank you and well done to Capt. Van Buskirk,” he continued. “Capt. Van Buskirk has done an outstanding job in expanding the capabilities and growing the influence of NavalX, which has proven itself as a disruptive force for good within ONR and the DoN as a whole.”

NavalX serves the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps as an innovation and agility cell, supporting and connecting initiatives across the DoD. The organization enables collaboration; accelerates the pace of discovery, learning and experimentation; and fosters the naval workforce’s capacity for innovation and agility. It gives Sailors, Marines and DoN civilians valuable tools, training and resources for solving problems and translating ideas into actionable solutions.

This allows naval organizations like ONR to better serve warfighter needs by linking individuals who promote innovative ideas with experts who can experiment with those ideas, invest in them or help turn them into something tangible for the Navy and Marine Corps.

One of NavalX’s most important methods for doing this is its Tech Bridge network, which spans 18 national and international locations. The network is designed to bridge the gap between the DoN and emerging entities like startups, small businesses, academia, nonprofits and private capital that aren’t traditionally part of the military development and acquisition process.

“Capt. Van Buskirk has done an outstanding job of taking NavalX from a start-up environment to an established organization with codified processes and procedures for innovation,” said Plew. “I look



forward to building on the valuable work he's done by using those processes to bolster innovation partnerships, find game-changing ideas and technologies, get them into requirements for acquisition, and ultimately deliver them as capabilities to warfighters.”

Prior to assuming the role of director, Plew was at NavalX supporting the transition and combining of the ASN RDA agility cell efforts with the ONR technology-acceleration cell efforts. Before that, he served as commanding officer of Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division, in Virginia.

Plew has a bachelor's in history from Oregon State University, a master's in national security and strategic studies from the U.S. Naval War College, and a master of business administration from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

He succeeds Van Buskirk, a naval aviator with extensive experience in technology innovation.

During his tenure as NavalX director, Van Buskirk oversaw impressive growth, including expanding the Tech Bridge network to 18 locations. Most recently, the London Tech Bridge celebrated its grand opening in June.

Van Buskirk also led the transition of NavalX from a small, independent organization reporting to ASN RDA to an entity under ONR's command structure. Though still small and reporting to ASN RDA, Van Buskirk said being a part of ONR gives NavalX a budget, the ability to hire people, and access to ONR's legal and contracting departments.

“Capt. Plew is the ideal person to scale up NavalX and grow its capabilities within the acquisition world,” said Van Buskirk. “He has two decades of experience as an acquisition professional, has been a resource sponsor, has overseen large budgets and has served as commanding officer of a warfare center. He brings a valuable perspective that will help NavalX reach the next level.”

[Welcome Aboard, Capt. Plew! NavalX has a New Director > United States Navy > News-Stories](#)

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Raymond H. Dressler, Jr.'s newly released “Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey” Is a Fascinating Autobiographical Work

(Cision 26 Sept 22)

“Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey” from Christian Faith Publishing author Raymond H. Dressler, Jr. shares with readers a unique and engaging life story that will take them aboard the USS Constitution and so much more.

“Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey”: an exciting celebration of life, family, and faith. “Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man's Journey” is the creation of published author Raymond H. Dressler, Jr., who was born in 1936 in Chicago, Illinois. In 1958, he graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and in 1962, he received a Master of Theology degree from Garrett Theological Institute/Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. While serving almost twenty-five years in the United States Navy as a chaplain, attaining the rank of captain, Dressler acquired his Doctor of Ministry degree from Claremont, California School of Theology/Monterey, California **Naval Postgraduate School** in 1980. Ordained an Elder in 1962, he maintains his membership (retired status) in the Minnesota Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. Married to his wife Nancy for sixty-five years, they have four children, fifteen grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren. Together, they reside in Savage, Minnesota.

Dressler shares, “This book is about mysteries—the mysteries which confront and confound every one of us. They come into focus when we ponder how to respond successfully to the proverbial “speed bumps in the road” of our lives. There are no quick or certain answers. The challenge is in the process of dealing with them.

“The author asserts that we have essentially three choices. When encountering these mysteries, we can choose to (1) wrestle with them, (2) dance with them, or (3) wrestle with them while we dance.

“This is Ray Dressler's first and only book. New to this endeavor, and enthusiastically encouraged by his children to write it because they want their children and grandchildren to learn about his interesting career, he accepted the challenge. After seventeen years, his work is complete.



“He begins, where else, with his earliest childhood recollections. Having no idea whatsoever where his journey will take him, he invites his reader to walk along with him through his life’s adventures to the day when he retires from his naval career aboard the historic USS Constitution (‘Old Ironsides’) in Boston Harbor

“His career is unique because he begins his professional studies in electrical engineering and architectural design. In his second year of college, however, called by God, he switches to philosophy and theology and begins his studies for the pastoral ministry.

“His theme is, as the title declares, *Dancing With Mystery*. His conviction is, ‘Mysteries remain mysteries, until God is brought into the mix.’ As he pursues his dream, he becomes aware of an additional truth, that ‘coincidence is God’s way of remaining anonymous.’”

Published by Christian Faith Publishing, Raymond H. Dressler, Jr.’s new book brings readers a deeply personal examination of some of the author’s most cherished memories.

Dressler shares in hopes of offering future generations a clear look into a determined life of faith.

Consumers can purchase “*Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man’s Journey*” at traditional brick & mortar bookstores, or online at Amazon.com, Apple iTunes store, or Barnes and Noble.

[Raymond H. Dressler, Jr.’s newly released “Dancing with Mystery: Reflections on One Man’s Journey” is a fascinating autobiographical work. \(prweb.com\)](http://prweb.com)

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Vice Admiral Karl Thomas, Commander, U.S. Navy Seventh Fleet

(Presidential Prayer Team 22 Sept 22)

Karl Owen Thomas was born in 1953 in Fairfax, Virginia. He earned an undergraduate degree in management systems from the Rochester Polytechnic Institute and earned a Master of Science in information technology from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

He was a carrier aviator in the E-2C Hawkeye serving with a Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron.

He has held commands of the USS Mount Whitney, the USS Abraham Lincoln, the USS Carl Vinson, and Carrier Strike Group 5.

In April 2021, he was nominated to be vice admiral and assigned to the command of the U.S. Navy’s Seventh Fleet.

Vice Admiral Karl Thomas said China’s navy is capable of blocking Taiwan. Pointing to the size of the Chinese navy growing rapidly in the world, he has given this warning. Commander of the US Seventh Fleet, Vice Admiral Thomas said, “They have a huge navy and they can do a lot if they want to harass ships near Taiwan.” He added, “If they want to bully and put ships around Taiwan, they very much can do that.”

China showed an aggressive stance after U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s visit to Taiwan last month. China had conducted military exercises close to Taiwan. Military analysts believe that China can bring Taiwan to its knees only by encircling it with six zones. For decades, America has hidden its strategy regarding Taiwan. But in an interview broadcast on Sunday, President Joe Biden said that if China attacks Taiwan, the U.S. military will protect it.

Vice Admiral Thomas said he didn’t know if China would carry out an invasion or a blockade, but it was his job to be ready for whatever they do. He said he hoped China would resolve differences over the island peacefully. If China were to mount a blockade, Admiral Thomas said the international community could step in.

“Clearly if they do something that’s non-kinetic, which, you know, a blockade is less kinetic,” he said, meaning it isn’t an all-out attack involving lethal force, “then that allows the international community to weigh in and to work together on how we’re going to solve that challenge.”

[Vice Admiral Karl Thomas, Commander, U.S. Navy Seventh Fleet – The Presidential Prayer Team](#)

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Military Sealift Command's Office in Korea has new Commander

(DVIDS 1 Sept 22) ... Leslie Hull-Ryde

Cmdr. Mike Borszich wrapped up his command of Military Sealift Command Office (MSCO) Korea when Cmdr. Patrick Moore relieved him during a change-of-command ceremony aboard USNS Charlton (T-AKR 314) Sept. 1, 2022.

Borszich, a native of Glendale, Ariz., graduated from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, where he received a Bachelor of Science in marine systems engineering. He also earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Florida.

The naval aviator served in several operational roles, including Operation Iraqi Freedom with HSL-44 aboard USS James Williams (DDG 95) and counter-trafficking operations aboard USS Simpson (FFG 56). Other assignments included HSM-35, where he qualified in the MQ-8B Firescout, the Navy's first unmanned helicopter, and with HSM-48, deployed aboard USS Roosevelt (DDG 80) in support of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Ashore, Borszich was assigned as a fleet replacement pilot instructor at HSM-40. From Korea, he reports to the office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Moore takes the helm of MSCO Korea after a tour at the Missile Defense Agency.

Originally from Rising Sun, Md., Moore graduated from North Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in criminology. He earned a master's degree in national security affairs, with a concentration in Pacific studies, from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

His sea tours include USS Curtts (FFG 38); USS Sterett (DDG 104); USS Kidd (DDG 100) and Destroyer Squadron 23. He deployed to both 5th and 7th Fleets as part of the USS Abraham Lincoln and USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Groups.

Ashore, in addition to the Missile Defense Agency, Moore has served at Naval Forces Korea and in the Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy.

MSCO Korea provides direct support to Military Sealift Command ships and serves as a liaison with other local commands. The commander and his team coordinate logistics, husbanding services and port loading. Additional assistance may include coordinating maintenance, mail delivery, bunkering, administrative support and travel.

[DVIDS - News - Military Sealift Command's Office in Korea has new Commander \(dvidshub.net\)](#)

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