

Admiral Robert F. Willard Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Admiral Robert F. Willard is a Los Angeles native and a 1973 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He possesses a Masters Degree in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University and is an Massachusetts Institute of Technology seminar XXI alumni.

An F-14 aviator, Adm. Willard served in a variety of fighter squadrons and aircraft carriers. He was operations officer and executive officer of Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) and commanded the Screaming Eagles of Fighter Squadron 51(VF-51).

Following nuclear power training, Adm. Willard commanded the amphibious flagship, USS *Tripoli* (LPH 10) and the aircraft carrier, USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72).

As a flag officer, Adm. Willard has twice served in the Joint Staff, was deputy and chief of staff of the Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and commanded Carrier Group Five aboard USS *Kitty Hawk* (CV 63) and the U.S. 7th Fleet in Yokosuka, Japan.

In March 2005, Adm. Willard became the 34th vice chief of naval operations. He assumed command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in May, 2007.

Adm. Willard's decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and other various awards.

