



INSS Senior Staff Biography

James Murtha,
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Colonel James T. Murtha is a Senior Military Fellow in the INSS Research Directorate. He is a member of the Research Directorate's Global Defense Strategy, Planning and Requirements Team and Europe & Eurasia Team. He assumed these duties in August 2005.

Colonel Murtha is a Joint Specialty Officer with extensive operational, staff and command experience in joint and combined operations and training, expeditionary and aviation operations, acquisition, and recruiting fields. His most recent duties prior to joining INSS were as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations for U.S. Marine Forces Europe and with the Operations Directorate of the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, GE. He was also a student at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and served as Squadron Commander and Marine air Group executive officer at MCB Kaneohe Bay, HI. Other operational tours as a squadron pilot were served at MCAS New River, NC and MCAS Tustin, CA. Colonel Murtha also served as Deputy Program Manager for the CH-53 helicopter at Naval Air Systems Command, Arlington VA, and completed a recruiting tour as an Officer Selection Officer in Hyattsville MD.

Colonel Murtha has served "in every clime and place" with assignments in each of the major USMC operational commands. He has also completed numerous operational deployments throughout his career, in both the Pacific and European theaters, and participated in combat operations in Southwest Asia during operations Desert Shield/Storm.

Colonel Murtha graduated with a BS in Business Administration from Wilkes College in 1980 and received a MS degree in National Resource Strategy from National Defense University in 2001.

Colonel Murtha's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and Navy and Marine Corps Commendation and Achievement Medals.