United States Navy Biography

Vice Admiral John M. Richardson
Commander, Submarine Forces
Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic
Commander, Allied Submarine Command

Vice Adm. Richardson assumed his current duties in November 2010. As commander, Submarine Forces, he focuses the efforts of the U.S. submarine force to ensure that the U.S. Navy maintains undersea superiority today and into the future. As commander, Submarine Force Atlantic, he has operational command of all U.S. submarines homeported on the Atlantic coast, as well as supporting shore activities. As commander, Allied Submarine Command, he acts as the principal advisor to the NATO on submarine plans, operations, and doctrine.

His operational assignments include service in both attack and ballistic missile submarines, including USS *Parche* (SSN 683), USS *George C. Marshall* (SSBN 654), and USS *Salt Lake City* (SSN 716).

Richardson commanded USS *Honolulu* (SSN 718) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and was commodore of Submarine Development Squadron 12 in Groton, Conn. He most recently served in Naples, Italy, as commander, Submarine Group Eight; commander, Submarines, Allied Naval Forces South; deputy commander, U.S. 6th Fleet, and chief of staff, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and U.S. Naval Forces Africa.

His staff assignments include duty in the Attack Submarine Division on the Chief of Naval Operations staff (OP-22); naval aide to the President; prospective commanding officer instructor for Commander, Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet; assistant deputy director for Regional Operations on the Joint Staff; and director of Strategy and Policy (J5) at U.S. Joint Forces Command.

Richardson graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1982 and has earned master's degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the National War College. He has served on teams that have been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Joint Meritorious Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Citation, and the Battle Efficiency E Awards.

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