

# VADM Paul Grosklags, USN

BIO

SYMPOSIUM FLAG PANELIST

## VICE ADMIRAL PAUL A. GROSKLAGS COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND (NAVAIR)

Vice Adm. Paul Grosklags is a native of DeKalb, Illinois. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1982, is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School Class '99, and holds a Master of Science in Aeronautical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School.

After being designated a naval aviator in October 1983, he immediately reported to Training Squadron (VT) 3 at North Whiting Field in Milton, Florida, as a T-34C flight instructor.

Grosklags served operational tours with Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadrons (HS) 34 and 42, where he flew the SH-2F and SH-60B, respectively. Grosklags made multiple deployments with the USS John Hancock (DD 981), USS Donald B. Beary (FF 1085), USS Comte de Grasse (DD 974) and USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55). He later served as both executive and commanding officer of Helicopter Training Squadron (HT) 18.



Grosklags' acquisition tours include engineering test pilot and assignments as MH-60R assistant program manager for systems engineering, H-60 assistant program manager for test and evaluation, MH-60R deputy program manager and ultimately as program manager for Multi-Mission Helicopters (PMA-299), during which time the MH-60R was successfully introduced to the fleet. Grosklags also served as operations officer and subsequently as deputy program executive officer for Air Anti-Submarine Warfare, Assault and Special Mission Programs (PEO(A)).

Grosklags has served flag tours as commander, Fleet Readiness Centers and Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR); assistant commander for Logistics and Industrial Operation, NAVAIR, vice commander, PEO(A) and principal military deputy for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development & Acquisition). In October 2015, he assumed responsibilities as Commander, Naval Air Systems Command.

He has more than 5,000 military flight hours in numerous types of rotary and fixed-wing aircraft. Grosklags is a proud but humble co-owner of the Green Bay Packers and works weekends providing free labor on his wife's farm.

# VADM Thomas Rowden, USN

BIO

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## VICE ADMIRAL THOMAS S. ROWDEN

### COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE FORCES

A native of Washington, D.C. and a 1982 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Vice Admiral Thomas Rowden has served in a diverse range of sea and shore assignments.

Rowden's sea duty assignments include duty in cruisers, destroyers and aircraft carriers in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. During these tours, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf, Western Pacific, Sea of Japan, South China Sea, East China Sea, Philippine Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Indian Ocean, Black Sea and Gulf of Guinea/ West Africa areas of operation. He commanded USS Milius (DDG 69), served as reactor officer on USS George Washington (CVN 73); commander, Destroyer Squadron 60; commander, Carrier Strike Group 7; commander, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) Strike Group; commander Carrier Strike Group 11, and commander, USS Nimitz (CVN 68) Strike Group.



Ashore, he has served on the Joint Staff as an action officer in the Defense and Space Operations Division (J38); on the chief of naval operations staff as the theater missile and air defense branch head for the director, Navy Missile Defense (N71), and as the executive assistant to the director of Surface Warfare (N76). He completed a tour as Surface Warfare Officer (nuclear) assignment officer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel Command, and served as commanding officer of Surface Warfare Officers School Command, Newport, Rhode Island, where he oversaw the training of every officer en route to duty on ships at sea.

His first flag assignment was commander, U.S. Naval Forces Korea. His most recent assignment was on the Chief of Naval Operations Staff as director, Surface Warfare Division. Rowden earned his Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

His current assignment is Commander Naval Surface Forces/Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Rowden's decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and other personal, unit and campaign awards.

# VADM Mike Shoemaker, USN

**BIO**

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**VICE ADMIRAL MIKE SHOEMAKER  
COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR FORCES**

**COMMANDER, NAVAL AIR FORCE, US PACIFIC FLEET**

Vice Adm. Mike Shoemaker, a native of St. Petersburg, Florida, graduated with honors from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1982 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Systems Engineering and was designated a Naval aviator in July 1984.

Shoemaker's operational assignments include tours with Light Attack Squadron (VA) 105, USS Forrestal (CV 59); Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3, USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67); Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 105, USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CV 69), USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and USS Harry S. Truman CVN 75); CVW-17, USS George Washington (CVN 73); Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 9, USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) and CSG 3, USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). Shoemaker commanded VFA-105, VFA-106 (F/A-18 Fleet Replacement Squadron), CVW 17, CSG 9 and CSG 3.

His shore assignments include VA-174 and instructor duty with VA-122 and VFA-106. He also served as aide to the vice chief of Naval Operations and commander, U.S. Pacific Command; was assigned to Navy Personnel Command (head of Aviation Officer Placement - PERS-433); and, was the executive assistant to Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet. As a flag officer, he served as assistant commander, Navy Personnel Command for Career Management (PERS-4) and later as commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic from June 2013 to January 2015. He has completed the Naval War College Non-Resident Program and is a graduate of the Joint Forces Staff College.

Shoemaker has accumulated over 4,400 flight hours, primarily in the A-7E Corsair and the F/A-18C Hornet and has 1,066 carrier-arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (6), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3), Air Medal (3) (one individual award with combat "V" and two strike/flight awards) and other personal, campaign and service ribbons.

Shoemaker became Naval Aviation's 7th "Air Boss" in January 2015.



# RADM DeWolfe Miller III, USN

BIO

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## REAR ADMIRAL DEWOLFE MILLER, III DIRECTOR, AIR WARFARE (OPNAV N98)

Rear Adm. DeWolfe Miller hails from York, Pennsylvania, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1981. He holds a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University, is a national security management fellow of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University and is a graduate of the Navy's Nuclear Power Program.

Miller's command tours include Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 34, USS Nashville (LPD 13), USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) and as a flag officer, Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 2 providing support to maritime security operations and combat operations for Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Resolve.

Miller's operational tours began after earning his wings of gold in 1983 as a flight instructor with Training Squadron (VT) 19 in Meridian, Mississippi, followed by his first fleet assignment with Attack Squadron (VA) 56, flying the A-7E aboard USS Midway (CV 41) in Yokosuka, Japan. After transitioning to the FA-18 in 1986, subsequent fleet tours included Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 25 on USS Constellation (CV 64), department head tour with VFA-131 aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) and executive officer of USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70).

Miller's shore tours include FA-18 test director at Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 5 in China Lake, California; special aviation programs analyst on the staff of the chief of naval operations (N80); executive officer of Strike Fighter Weapons School Atlantic; deputy director of naval operations at the Combined Air Operations Center during Operation Allied Force; special assistant for Research and Development, Science and Technology and Operational Testing in the Office of Legislative Affairs for the Secretary of Defense; Aircraft Carrier Requirements officer for Commander, Naval Air Forces; and flag officer tours as director, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities division and assistant deputy chief of naval operations for warfare systems, both in the Office of Chief of Naval Operations.

His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various campaign, unit and service awards. He has accumulated more than 4,000 mishap-free flight hours and 877 carrier-arrested landings.



# RADM (Sel) Daniel Fillion, USN

**BIO**

**FLAG PANEL MODERATOR**

## **REAR ADMIRAL DANIEL H. FILLION**

### **J3, DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL OPERATIONS, U.S. STRATEGIC COMMAND**

Rear Adm. Daniel Fillion is a 1984 graduate of the College of Charleston, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business. He also earned a Master of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University and is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College, Joint Forces Staff College and the Navy Corporate Business Course.

Fillion's afloat assignments include service aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68) as navigator and the USS Wasp (LHD 1) as executive officer and commanding officer. His aviation assignments in the SH-3 and SH-60B/R involved tours with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 1, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadrons Light (HSL) 40, 44 and 46, and Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (HC) 2. He served as commanding officer of HSL-51 and of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 41.

Ashore and staff assignments have included duty in the Politico-Military Affairs Directorate in Joint Staff J5; director of the President's Emergency Operations Center in the White House; Air Warfare Research, Senior Development, Test and Evaluation Budget Analyst in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; fellow on the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group (SSG XXIX); executive assistant to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller); and J5, director of Strategy, Policy, & Plans, U.S. Southern Command.

He currently serves as J3, director of Global Operations, U.S. Strategic Command. His immediate previous assignment was commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 3.

Fillion's military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (three awards), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), and various service and unit awards.



# RDML Shoshana Chatfield, USN

BIO

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**REAR ADMIRAL SHOSHANA CHATFIELD**  
**COMMANDER, JOINT REGION MARIANAS**  
**COMMANDER, U.S. NAVAL FORCES MARIANAS**

A native of Garden Grove, California, Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield graduated from Boston University in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French Language and Literature. She received her commission through Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) in 1988 and earned her wings of gold in 1989.

Chatfield was awarded the Navy's Political/Military (Pol-Mil) Scholarship and attended the Kennedy School of Government, receiving a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University in 1997. In 2009, the University of San Diego conferred upon her the degree of Doctor of Education.



She was assigned to west coast Helicopter Combat Support Squadrons (HC), serving in HC-1, HC-3, HC-5 and twice in HC-11 before making the move to the Helicopter Sea Combat (HSC) community. Operationally, she flew the SH-3, CH-46D & MH-60S and deployed in helicopter detachments to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf supporting Carrier Strike Group and Amphibious Ready Group Operations.

Ashore, she participated in the Joint Staff/OSD Internship Program, augmenting the Joint Staff, Plans and Policy (J-5) Directorate, Central & Eastern European Branch; was assigned as deputy executive assistant to the chief of Naval Operations; was senior military assistant to the supreme allied commander Europe; and was the United States deputy military representative to the NATO Military Committee. She served as assistant professor of political science at the United States Air Force Academy from 2001-2004.

Chatfield was the 20th commanding officer of HC-5 and, upon its disestablishment, the first commanding officer of HSC-25, the Island Knights. She subsequently commanded a joint provincial reconstruction team in Farah Province, Afghanistan, in 2008 and was type wing commander of HSC Wing, U.S. Pacific Fleet from 2011-2013. Chatfield assumed command of Joint Region Marianas in January 2017.

Her personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy

Commendation Medal (three awards), Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal and various unit awards.

## **RDML Dell Bull, USN**

### **BIO**

### **SYMPOSIUM FLAG PANELIST**

#### **REAR ADMIRAL DELL BULL CHIEF OF NAVAL AIR TRAINING (CNATRA)**

Rear Admiral Dell Bull is a native of Oak Harbor, Washington. He is a 1988 graduate of the University of Idaho, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.

Designated a naval flight officer in September 1989, Bull's early flying assignments as a bombardier navigator include Attack Squadron (VA) 128 at NAS Whidbey Island and VA-196 aboard USS Independence (CV 62) during Operation Desert Shield. He was assigned to Fighter Squadron (VF) 101 as one of the first NFOs selected for transition to the F-14 Tomcat community and again as an instructor, later reporting to VF-24 aboard the USS Nimitz (CVN 68), flying missions in support of Operation Southern Watch, and VF-14 aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), where he was selected as the NFO of the Year for his combat performance and tactical expertise.

Shore tours include a legislative fellow tour with Senator John McCain, Senior Policy officer on the Joint Staff (J-34 Anti-Terrorism Office), Aviation Program Manager in the Office of Legislative Affairs, and most recently the chief of staff for commander, Naval Air Forces (CNAF).

Command operational assignments include the Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 41 Black Aces aboard USS Nimitz (CVN 68), VFA-122 Flying Eagles, the west coast F/A-18A-F Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS), and Carrier Air Wing 9 aboard USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74). Bull assumed command of Chief of Naval Air Training in July 2015.

His decorations include the Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Air Medal (3 awards with Combat "V"), Strike/Flight Medal (6 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with a Gold Star, Navy Achievement Medal (2 awards) and various campaign, unit, and service awards. He has accumulated more than 4,800 flight hours and more than 950 arrested landings.

# RDML John Wade, USN

## BIO SYMPOSIUM FLAG PANELIST

### REAR ADMIRAL JOHN WADE

#### COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE AND MINE WARFIGHTING DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Rear Adm. John Wade, a native of Port Washington, New York, earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1990. He holds a master's degree in information systems technology from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and a master's in National Security Strategy from the National War College in Washington, D.C.

His assignments at sea include tours aboard USS Arthur W. Radford (DD 968), USS Benfold (DDG 65) and executive officer of USS Cape St. George (CG 71). He commanded USS Firebolt (PC 10), USS Preble (DDG 88) and Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 28.



Over the course of his career, he completed multiple deployments supporting overseas operations to include Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Ashore, Wade served on the personal staff of the chief of naval operations; executive assistant to the director of the Quadrennial Defense Review Team; deputy executive assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and, chief of staff to Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Pacific. He also served with the Army's 10th Mountain and 82nd Airborne Divisions as commanding officer of Joint/Interagency Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) - Khost, Afghanistan.

Wade is the second commander of the Naval Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center.

Personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Army Combat Action Badge and various meritorious, service and campaign awards. He is also the recipient of the Vice Adm. E.C. Waller and Vice Adm. John D. Bulkeley leadership awards.

# RDML Matthew P. O’Keefe, USN

**BIO**

**SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEE**

## **REAR ADMIRAL MATTHEW O’KEEFE DEPUTY COMMANDER, NAVY INSTALLATIONS COMMAND**

Rear Adm. Matthew P. O’Keefe is a native of the Washington, D.C., area. He graduated from Jacksonville University in 1988 and received his commission through the Navy ROTC program. He was designated a naval aviator in July 1989.

His career as an active duty SH-60B helicopter pilot includes assignments at Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 42 and HSL-40. He served in Operation Desert Storm and was selected as HSL-40’s Pilot of the Year in 1995.

Transitioning to the Reserve Force, O’Keefe was assigned to Naval Station Mayport 0174 and was chosen as the Naval Air Reserve (NAR) Jacksonville Junior Officer of the Year for 1996. In April 2001, he received orders to HSL-60 and his tour culminated when he took command of the "World Famous Jaguars" in April 2005. While serving as commanding officer, he was awarded the Air Medal for his service in the rescue efforts in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

O’Keefe has also served as commanding officer of NR U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command/U.S. 4th Fleet (COMUSNAVSO/C4F), U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/U.S. 6th Fleet Det. 130, and NR Navy Warfare Development Command Det. 101. Notable active duty includes serving as the COMUSNAVSO/C4F liaison officer to U.S. Southern Command for the Haitian earthquake relief efforts and his role as current operations (N33) director for Operation Unified Protector in support of Libyan combat operations. He was selected for Aviation Major Command and served as commanding officer of Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, Africa, from December 2014 until October 2015.

Prior to being selected for flag, he served as the Navy emergency preparedness liaison officer for South Florida, serving as the U.S. Navy’s liaison to support civilian authorities during periods of domestic crisis.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal and other personal and unit awards.

O’Keefe graduated from the University of Florida College Of Law in 1998 and currently serves as an assistant state attorney for the Fourth Judicial Circuit in Jacksonville, Florida.



# RDML Murray Joe “JT” Tynch III, USN

**BIO**

**SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEE**

## **REAR ADMIRAL MURRAY JOE TYNCH, IIII ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR OPERATIONS (J3) AT HEADQUARTERS, JOINT FORCE COMMAND NAPLES, ITALY**

Rear Adm. Joey Tynch is a native of North Carolina and graduate of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He was commissioned through Aviation Officer Candidate School in July of 1988.

Tynch has over 4,300 flight hours in the H-60. His aviation assignments include quality assurance officer (QAO) at Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (HS) 2; Fleet Replacement Squadron Instructor Pilot and QAO at HS-10; Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 11 combat search and rescue officer; officer in charge and Sea Hawk Weapons and Tactics Instructor (SWTI) at Pacific Fleet HS Weapons and Tactics Unit and SWTI and maintenance officer at HS-6.



Shore tours include National War College and Secretary of the Joint Staff (SJS) where he also played a key role in the inter-agency training for the civilian surge in Afghanistan during 2009-2010 and in the fall of 2011, he returned to Afghanistan to assess and report on the security, stability and governance of the eastern border provinces to assist the Headquarters International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) campaign plan. While on the Office of Chief of Naval Operations staff, he served as executive assistant to the director of the Navy Staff and Deputy Director of the Navy Staff.

He has completed three tours as commanding officer starting with HS-8, 2006-2007, in Afghanistan as commander of Provincial Reconstruction Team, Kunar Province, 2008-2009 and as captain of USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD-6) in Sasebo, Japan, 2013-2015.

In August 2016, he reported to Allied Joint Force Command, Naples, Italy, where he currently serves as assistant chief of staff for Operations (J3).

His awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medals, Navy Commendation, and Achievement Medals, the Combat Action Ribbon, Army Combat Action Badge, and various unit and campaign decorations. He was selected as the Naval Helicopter Association's (NHA) Instructor Pilot of the Year in 1998 and the NHA's Pilot of the Year in 2005.