

Vice Admiral Ted Branch



Vice Admiral Ted Branch, a native of Long Beach, Mississippi, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and earned a master's degree in international relations from the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

A naval aviator, his operational assignments include Light Attack Squadrons (VA) 15 "Valions" and 37 "Bulls", USS *Forrestal* (CV 59), and Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 37. He served as executive and commanding officer of VFA-15, executive officer in USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), commanding officer in USS *Coronado* (AGF 11) and USS *Nimitz* (CVN 68), and commander of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 1/*Carl Vinson* Strike Group. During those tours, Branch deployed with both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets and has logged combat time in A-7 *Corsairs* and F/A-18 *Hornets* over Grenada, Lebanon, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Iraq. He participated in Operations *Urgent Fury*, *Earnest Will*, *Southern Watch*, *Deliberate Force*, *Iraqi Freedom* and led the initial Navy efforts for Haiti earthquake relief in Operation *Unified Response*.

Ashore, Branch has served as an instructor in the A-7 and F/A-18 Fleet Replacement Squadrons (FRS), the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C., completed Navy Nuclear Power Training, served as executive assistant to the Commander U.S. Pacific Fleet, director of Operations and Plans (N31) on the chief of naval operations staff in Washington and commander of Naval Air Force Atlantic. He was appointed to the rank of vice admiral in July 2013 as he assumed office as deputy chief of naval operations for information warfare, and the 65th director of naval intelligence.

Branch's decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Strike Flight Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V," Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various unit and campaign awards.

Last updated: 4 January 2022