

Vice Admiral Herman Shelanski



Vice Admiral Herman Shelanski holds a Bachelor of Science in Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology from the University of Colorado and a Master of Science in Electrical and Space Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College, the Navy Nuclear Power School and Prototype, the Naval Reactors Commanding Officer Nuclear Engineer Course, as well as the Naval War College.

At sea, he served as the assistant navigator aboard USS [*Independence*](#) (CV 62), and completed several deployments in the E-2C *Hawkeye*. His first squadron, Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 117 “Wallbangers,” won two consecutive Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Battle “E” Awards, Safety Awards and the Airborne Early Warning (AEW) Excellence Award, and he personally was selected as the 1985 *Hawkeye* of the Year. He commanded VAW-121, the “Bluetails”, aboard USS [*John C. Stennis*](#) (CVN 74) and was again awarded the CNO Battle “E” Award, Safety Award and the AEW Excellence Award. He commanded, then decommissioned the U.S. 6th Fleet’s flagship, USS [*La Salle*](#) (AGF 3), and served as the first executive officer aboard USS [*Ronald Reagan*](#) (CVN 76) before commanding USS [*Harry S. Truman*](#) (CVN 75) including a seven-month deployment to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom*. *Harry S. Truman* was awarded the 2008 CNO Safety Award, Battle “E” Award and the Secretary of Defense Large Category Maintenance Award. He also commanded Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 10, consisting of *Harry S. Truman* and Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3 Team comprised of 15 warships and more than 8,000 Sailors, including command of three international fleet exercises.

Ashore, he served as a NFO flight instructor; as an action officer on the Joint Staff, J6 Directorate for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers in Washington, D.C.; and as the air operations officer for the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/5th Fleet in Bahrain. He served as the executive assistant to the deputy commander at U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) and to the Commander USJFCOM/NATO Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation. He also served on the OPNAV staff as director of the Navy's Environmental Readiness Division. He also served as the senior military advisor to the deputy secretary of defense. He most recently served on the OPNAV staff as the division director for Assessments (N81), helping ensure the Navy delivered the most capable platforms to the fleet.

Shelanski assumed his duties as the 40th Naval Inspector General on 15 May 2015, and retired in 2018.

Shelanski's personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and additional individual, campaign and unit awards.

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