

# Admiral Stephen T. Koehler



Admiral Steve T. “Web” Koehler grew up in a Navy family and is a 1986 graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder with a Bachelor of Science in Physics, where he was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC). He was designated a naval aviator in March 1989 and has flown over 3,900 hours in the F-14 *Tomcat* and F/A-18E/F/G *Super Hornet/Growler* with 600 carrier landings. He holds a master’s degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and is a graduate of the Joint Staff College and the Navy Nuclear Power Program.

At sea, he served with Fighter Squadron (VF) 211 “Fighting Checkmates” and VF-41 “Black Aces;” was executive officer aboard USS [\*Carl Vinson\*](#) (CVN 70), and commanded Fighter Squadron (VF) 143 “Pukin’ Dogs;” USS [\*Bataan\*](#) (LHD 5); USS [\*Dwight D. Eisenhower\*](#) (CVN 69); and as a flag officer, Carrier Strike Group Nine. During these operational tours he supported Operations *Desert Storm*, *Southern Watch*, *Iraqi Freedom*, *Inherent Resolve* and *Freedom’s Sentinel* in support of contingency operations in the Middle East; Operation *Deliberate Guard* in support of stabilization efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina; Operation *Unified Protector* in support of contingency operations Libya; Operation *Unified Response* providing emergency disaster relief to Haiti; and peer competition operations in the East and South China Seas.

Ashore, Koehler has served multiple tours as an instructor pilot with VF-101 “Grim Reapers,” placement officer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel, and chief of staff to Commander, Joint Task Force Horn

of Africa in Djibouti. As a flag officer, he served as director of Fleet Training at U.S. Fleet Forces Command; director for Operations (J3), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command; deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet; commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet; and director for Strategy, Plans and Policy, J5, Joint Staff. He assumed command of U.S. Pacific Fleet on 4 April 2024.

His personal decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Strike/Flight Air Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

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