

Rear Admiral Will Pennington



Rear Admiral William P. Pennington, a native of Wilton, Iowa, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. He is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College, Joint Forces Staff College and holds a master's degree in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University and completed both the Senior Executives in National and International Security and Cyber Security courses at Harvard Kennedy School.

Pennington was designated a naval aviator in 1991 and has deployed 10 times with operational tours in F-14 *Tomcat* and F/A-18 *Hornet* aircraft supporting Operations *Southern Watch*, *Allied Force*, *Enduring Freedom*, *Iraqi Freedom*, *New Dawn*, *Inherent Resolve*, and *Freedom Sentinel*. Early assignments include Fighter Squadron (VF) 154 "Black Knights," forward deployed to NAF Atsugi, Japan; the Carrier Air Wing (CVW) Eight Staff; and VF-14 "Tophatters." He later returned to command Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 14. Additional sea tours include executive officer, USS [*George H.W. Bush*](#) (CVN 77); commanding officer, USS [*Blue Ridge*](#) (LCC 19); commanding officer, *George H.W. Bush*; and commander, Carrier Strike Group FIVE and Task Force 70 homeported in Yokosuka, Japan.

Pennington's shore tours include instructor duty with VF-101 "Grim Reapers," executive assistant to the Director of Plans and Policy (J5) at USSTRATCOM, and special assistant to Commander USSTRATCOM. He has also served as an aviation detailer at Navy Personnel Command; aircraft carrier requirements officer at Naval Air Force Atlantic; chief of staff at Naval Air Force Atlantic; director

of Plans, Policy, and Integration (N5) on the Navy Staff, and deputy commander U.S. 10th Fleet and U.S. Navy Space.

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