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## Mark E. Kosnik



### **Deputy Commander, Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR)**



Mr. Kosnik has served as Deputy Commander at Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR), the Navy's Information Warfare Type Commander, since the command's establishment on 1 October 2014 after a major realignment of functions previously performed at five other commands. Prior to this major reorganization, he had been dual-hatted as both the Deputy Commander, Navy Cyber Forces (NCF) and United States Fleet Forces Command (USFF) Deputy ACOS for Communications and Networks (N6A)/and Fleet Chief Information Officer (CIO) since September 2012.

As the NAVIFOR Deputy, Mr. Kosnik serves as the senior civilian for the TYCOM Staff responsible for the direct man, train and equip functions for Navy Information Warfare (IW) and Fleet C5ISR capabilities assigned to 62 subordinate Operational Shore Commands and manned by over 21,000 IW personnel operating across the globe. NAVIFOR also supports the readiness of IW and C5ISR capabilities and personnel assigned to ships, submarines, aircraft, and expeditionary units reporting to the Navy's five other TYCOMS. In the execution of his duties he leads a Staff of 500+ Military and Civilian professionals and directly manages an annual budget of ~\$1.2B in generating IW forces ready for operations.

Entering the Senior Executive Service in March 2009, Mr. Kosnik served as Executive Director at Navy Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) until his assignment to NCF/USFF in 2012. During this tour, he was the senior civilian for the Expeditionary TYCOM staff responsible for man, train and equip functions for the Navy's 30,000+ Expeditionary Sailors and managed an assigned annual \$700 million budget.

Between May of 1978 and August of 2006, Mr. Kosnik served on active duty as a Navy Surface Warfare Officer (SWO), retiring as a Captain after 28 years of service. He then worked for just under three years at Booz Allen Hamilton as a Senior Associate supporting Navy and Joint

Commands in the Hampton Roads area before returning to government service as a Senior Executive.

Mr. Kosnik a native of Honolulu, Hawaii. He graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and received his commission through the Naval ROTC program in May 1978. He earned a Master's of Science in Oceanography and Meteorology from the Naval Postgraduate School in June 1985 and completed a Federal Executive Fellowship at the Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFA) from 1998 to 1999.

While on active duty Mr. Kosnik served at all levels of responsibility afloat including SWO Division Officer, Department Head, Executive Officer, Commanding Officer and Major Command, and ashore in Post Major Command. As the Commanding Officer, *USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51)* from 1996 to 1998, he completed a two-month deployment to Northern Europe and led the ship to Battle Efficiency Awards in 1996 and 1998. He served as *Commander, Destroyer Squadron Two* and *Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group* Sea Combat Commander from 2002 through 2003, completing a surge deployment to the Mediterranean in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom*. Ashore from 2004 until 2006, he served as Commander, Maritime Force Protection Command (MARFPCOM); a command that was later realigned to serve as the foundation of today's NECC.

Mr. Kosnik's other sea tours included Executive Officer, *USS Antietam (CG 54)*; Combat Systems Officer, *Destroyer Squadron Nine*; Weapons Officer, *USS Albert David (FF 1050)*; Combat Information Center (CIC) Officer/First Lieutenant, *USS Jouett (CG 29)*; and Operations Officer, *USS Conserver (ARS 39)*.

Ashore, Mr. Kosnik also served as the first Chief of Staff at NECC, Executive Assistant to the Director for Surface Warfare (OPNAV N86A), Head Combat Systems Section/Theater Air Warfare Branch (OPNAV N865E), Tomahawk Strike Planner for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Joint Operations Directorate (J3)/Joint Operations Division (JOD), and instructor at Tactical Training Group Pacific.

While on active duty Mr. Kosnik was named the Atlantic Fleet winner of the Admiral James Stockdale Award for leadership in 1998. His other military awards included the Legion of Merit (two gold stars), the Navy Marine Corps Medal, the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (two gold stars), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (gold star and Combat "V"), the Joint Service Achievement Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.