

Rear Admiral Dee L. Mewbourne, Commander Naval Service Training Command visited with top officials of the Port of Milwaukee's Board of Harbor Commissioners on Tuesday, June 25, 2013. The U.S. Navy is one of the Port's tenants and good neighbor.



Rear Admiral Dee L. Mewbourne, Commander Naval Service Training Command (left) and Tim Holter, President, Milwaukee Board of Harbor Commissioners

“The U.S. Navy has a significant impact in many cities and towns across the U.S. with its day to day operations and missions, which many Americans are unaware of, including its relationship with the Port of Milwaukee,” said President Hoelter. Informing Civic leaders and members of civic groups about what the Navy is doing and how it impacts local area residents is an important goal of the Navy. It helps citizens understand the investment they make in their U.S. Navy.

Board members talked to the Rear Admiral of the importance for the Navy to protect shipping lanes and keeping them open for trade to the Port of Milwaukee and the local area in general.

Rear Adm. Mewbourne's visit was an honor for the Port as his biography is nothing short of impressive. He graduated in 1982 from the United States Naval Academy and was designated a naval flight officer in December 1983. He later earned his master's degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University. He is an honor graduate of the United States Naval Test Pilot School and completed the Navy's Nuclear Power Program, Air Command and Staff College, and Joint Forces Staff College.

In December 2012, Mewbourne assumed command of Naval Service Training Command, which is responsible for enlisted accession training, Officer Training Command, and the nationwide Navy Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) and Junior ROTC programs. Mewbourne's other command tours include: Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 139 embarked in USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), USS *Nashville* (LPD 13), USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69), USS *Enterprise* (CVN 65) and USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75).

At sea, Mewbourne completed sea assignments flying the A-6E Intruder aircraft in Attack Squadron (VA) 34 embarked in USS *America* (CV 66); VA-75 embarked in USS *John F. Kennedy* (CV 67); Carrier Air Wing (CVW) Three embarked in *Eisenhower*; and as the executive officer of

VA-196 embarked in USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70). After transitioning to the EA-6B Prowler aircraft, he served as the executive officer of VAQ-139 embarked in *Lincoln*. He also served as the executive officer in USS *George Washington* (CVN 73).

Ashore, Mewbourne served as a flight instructor in VA-42, the East Coast A-6E Fleet Replacement Squadron, and project officer at the Strike Aircraft Test Directorate. Later, he served as military assistant and trip coordinator for the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense; chief of staff for Navy Cyber Forces; and, on the staff of Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic.

Mewbourne's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (four awards), Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), Air Medal with Combat "V", Strike/Flight Air Medal (two awards), and various other personal and unit awards and campaign medals. While at the Naval Academy, he received the Carl Vinson Leadership Award. Upon completion of initial flight training in the A-6E Intruder aircraft at VA-42 in 1985, he was selected as the Replacement Bombardier/Navigator of the Year. Two years later, he was selected as the East Coast A-6 community's Junior Intruder of the Year. In August 2012, he was awarded the Truman Foundation Leadership Award for inspirational leadership.

Mewbourne has deployed supporting Operations *El Dorado Canyon*, *Provide Comfort*, *Deny Flight*, *Southern Watch*, *Iraqi Freedom*, *New Dawn*, *Enduring Freedom*, and the 2006 Lebanon War. He has accumulated over 3,500 total flight hours in 47 various type aircraft and over 1,000 arrested landings on 13 carrier decks.



We thank Rear Admiral Mewbourne for honoring us with his visit.