



## Commander

### Vice Admiral Eugene "Gene" H. Black III

Vice Adm. Eugene "Gene" Black assumed duties as Commander U.S. Sixth Fleet; Commander Naval Striking and Support Forces NATO; Deputy Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe /Africa in June 2020.

As a flag officer, he most recently served as the director, Surface Warfare Division, N96, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington, D.C. Previous flag officer assignments include, commander, Carrier Strike Group Eight; and deputy commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. Fifth Fleet, Manama, Bahrain.

At sea, Black served as commanding officer of USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) and USS Mason (DDG 87). While in command, Leyte Gulf and Mason deployed to the Arabian Gulf, and the North Arabian Sea.

His other sea assignments include executive officer in USS Ramage (DDG 61); weapons officer and combat systems officer in USS Normandy (CG 60); fire control officer in USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55); combat information center officer and damage control assistant in USS Gallery (FFG 26); and the staff of commander, South Atlantic Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Black's shore assignments include director, Surface Warfare Officer Distribution (PERS-41), Navy Personnel Command, Millington, Tennessee; Future Ships branch head, Surface Warfare Division (N86) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations; and Afghanistan/Pakistan Politico-Military Policy branch head, Joint Staff, Strategic Plans and Policy (J5), Washington, D.C. His other assignments include Commander Detailer, Navy Personnel Command and Surface Warfare Officer School department head instructor, Newport, Rhode Island.

He is a native of New Jersey and 1986 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science in Political Science, and later a Master of Science in Management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

His decorations include the Legion of Merit (seven awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (bronze star), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (six awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various unit, service and campaign awards.