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#### **CAPT Thomas E. Clarity, USN**

Captain Thomas Clarity is the commanding officer of the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Newport, Rhode Island. Previously, he was a military professor in the Joint Military Operations Department at the Naval War College.

Captain Clarity has deployed in support of Operations Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, and Inherent Resolve and on multiple occasions to the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility. He previously served as operations officer on board the USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN-76) and commanding officer of Electronic Attack Squadron 131, an EA-18G Growler squadron based at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington.

He holds a bachelor's degree in English language and literature from Villanova University and a master's degree in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College. He is a frequent contributor to *Proceedings*.

#### CDR DeVere J. Crooks, USN

Commander DeVere Crooks is a surface warfare officer and director of the prospective commanding officers' course at Surface Warfare Schools Command in Newport, Rhode Island.

Commander Crooks previously served as commanding officer of the USS *Halsey* (DDG-97) and as special assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations and Navy liaison officer to the U.S. Senate. He is a *Proceedings* contributor.

# CDR Craig Allen, USCG

Commander Craig Allen is a career cutterman, commanding officer of the USCGC *Steadfast* (WMEC-623), regular *Proceedings* contributor, and coauthor of the 9th edition of *Farwell's Rules of the Nautical Road* (Naval Institute Press, 2020). He was a 2022–23 National Security Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is a frequent contributor to *Proceedings*.

# LtCol Brian A. Kerg, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Brian Kerg is a Marine Corps communications officer who began his career as an enlisted mortarman and SAW gunner. Currently, he is the Northeast Asia plans officer, III Marine Expeditionary Force, in Okinawa, Japan. He is a nonresident fellow with Marine Corps University's Brute Krulak Center for Creativity and Innovation and served as a military fellow with the College of William and Mary's Project for International Peace and Security.

A veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom, he has also held many teaching and course design roles. These include assistant professor of naval science at the University of Michigan, adjunct faculty for Marine Corps University's Continuing Education Program, and adjunct faculty for Expeditionary Warfare School on-site seminar.

Lieutenant Colonel Kerg holds a master's degree in military history from Norwich University, a master's of science in information from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in military operational art and science from Air University, and a master's degree in operational studies from the School of Advanced Warfighting. He is a frequent contributor to *Proceedings*.

# **CAPT Sharif Calfee, USN**

Captain Sharif Calfee is a surface warfare officer who has commanded the USS *McCampbell* (DDG-85) and the USS *Shiloh* (CG-67), both forward deployed in Yokosuka, Japan. He currently serves as the Deputy Director, Navy Plans & Policy (OPNAV N5B), and special assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans & Strategy (OPNAV N3/N5).

Captain Calfee holds a bachelor's of science degree in computer science from the U.S. Naval Academy, a master's degree in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a master's degree in public policy (international relations concentration) from Princeton University. He is a frequent contributor to *Proceedings*.

# LT Lucinda Ford, USN

LT Lucinda Ford commissioned from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in ocean engineering. As a Rhodes Scholar, LT Ford attended Oxford University studying for a master's degree in environmental change and management and a master's degree in public policy with focuses in energy, water, and national security policy. She completed nuclear power training in 2019 and served on board USS *Florida* (Blue) SSGN-728 as the chemistry and radiological controls assistant during a major maintenance period and the assistant operations officer while being forward deployed. LT Ford has deployed twice to Fifth Fleet and twice to Sixth Fleet.

LT Ford has published on optimizing freshwater infrastructure in Bangladesh, written on deep sea mining, and worked with the Air Force on creating a governance structure for appropriating operational energy saving incentives. LT Ford is currently serving as an Instructor in the Political Science Department at the U.S. Naval Academy.

#### LCDR Tiffany White, USN

Lieutenant Commander White enlisted in the Navy in January 1998 from Cheyenne, Wyoming, as a cryptologic technician collections. Twelve years later she transitioned into the Reserves and received a direct commission as a cryptologic warfare officer. LCDR White holds master's degrees from American Military University and Argosy University in intelligence studies with an emphasis in information warfare and forensic psychology, respectively.

White's operational tours include counterpiracy operations on board the USS *Porter* (DDG-78) and Operations Resolute Support and Freedom Sentinel in Kabul, Afghanistan, where she was the Airborne ISR Collection Management Chief for the CJOA-A.

White's shore assignments include Naval Security Group Activity (NSGA) Denver, Colorado; NSGA Kunia, Hawaii; Naval Information Warfare Activity Suitland, Maryland; U.S. Cyber Command; Navy Information Operations Command Maryland as the Reserve Operational Support Officer; and Commander, Tenth Fleet as the Deputy Reserve Program Director.

In 2023, LCDR White was indefinitely recalled back to active duty at Cryptologic Warfare Activity 67 in the Cybersecurity Directorate.

# SgtMaj Jacob M. Reiff, USMC

Sergeant Major Jacob M. Reiff is a native of Wisconsin and enlisted in the Marine Corps in May 1995. He has served in a wide array of duties over the course of his 27-year career, including company first sergeant for the Marine Security Company at the Presidential Retreat at Camp David. His assignments as a unit sergeant major include battalion sergeant major for 3d Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division and 2nd Marine Raider Battalion, Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command; regimental sergeant major for 10th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division; and wing sergeant major for 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, Il Marine Expeditionary Force. He is currently the sergeant major for Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps.

His deployments and operational experience include deployments with or in support of the 31st MEU, 26th MEU, and 24th MEU; Operation Iraqi Freedom I, II and III; Joint Task Force Liberia; Operation Enduring Freedom–Afghanistan; Operation Inherent Resolve–Iraq; and most recently as the Marine Rotational Forces Europe Aviation Task Force sergeant major in support of NATO's Eastern Flank Air Policing Mission. He is a contributor to *Proceedings*.

# LtCol Adam Yang, USMC

Lieutenant Colonel Adam Yang is a former enlisted Marine and 2005 U.S. Naval Academy graduate. A communications officer and veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, he currently is assigned to the strategy section within the Plans, Policy, and Operations Directorate at Headquarters Marine Corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Yang holds a PhD from American University, a master's degree in security studies from Georgetown University, a master's degree in information warfare systems engineering and a master's of business administration in information business management from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a master's degree in military studies from Marine Corps University.