



MARITIME PATROL AND RECONNAISSANCE FORCE HALL OF HONOR

Admiral Harry B. Harris Jr.

United States Navy

Admiral Harris was born at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan and grew up in Tennessee and Florida. He graduated from the Naval Academy in 1978 and was designated as a naval flight officer (NFO) in 1979. His first squadron was Patrol Squadron (VP) 44 at NAS Brunswick, where he deployed to the Atlantic and Mediterranean. After a tour as the aide to US Naval Forces Japan, he reported to the USS Saratoga serving as a Tactical Action Officer during President Reagan's strikes against Libya. As the operations officer in VP-4, he participated in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He subsequently served as Commanding Officer of VP-46, taking command during a deployment to Diego Garcia. He also completed tours as the operations officer and subsequently as Commodore with Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing One, where he directed our overland support to Operation Enduring Freedom.

Following a tour as Director of Operations for U.S. 5th Fleet during the initial phases of Operation Iraqi Freedom, he was selected for flag rank and assigned as the Commander, Joint Task-Force-Guantanamo Bay and subsequently as Director of Operations for U.S. Southern Command during Operation Willing Spirit. After a brief tour as the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Communications, he was promoted to Vice Admiral and assigned as Commander of the US 6th Fleet and Striking and Support Forces NATO, where he led the US and coalition efforts in Operation Odyssey Dawn during the Libyan Civil War. He then served as the principle military representative to the US Secretary of State which saw him designated a monitor of the Middle East Peace Process.

In 2013, he was promoted to Admiral, becoming the MPRA community's first four star Admiral, and assumed command of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, where he directed responses to the Chinese build up in the South China Sea. He subsequently took command of U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) as the 24th commander since USPACOM was established in 1947. In recognition of his leadership, he was named an honorary Chief Petty Officer by the MCPON in 2017. Upon retirement, he served as the US Ambassador to the Republic of South Korea.

Harris served in a major position in every geographic combatant command and logged 4,400 flight hours, including over 400 combat hours in maritime aircraft. Admiral Harris is married to Bruni Bradley, who is a 1984 Naval Academy graduate and herself retired from the Navy after 25 years of service.