

Admiral Bruce DeMars, USN (Ret)

Admiral Bruce DeMars was born in Chicago, Illinois, on June 3, 1935, and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1957. Following commissioning, he served in the attack transports USS TELFAIR and USS OKANOGAN and, after Submarine School, the diesel-electric submarine USS CAPITAINE. Following nuclear power training, he served in the nuclear-powered submarines USS GEORGE WASHINGTON, USS SNOOK, and USS STURGEON before reporting for duty as Commanding Officer of USS CAVALLA.

Shore duty tours included instructor duty at Nuclear Power School and Submarine School and attendance at the Armed Forces Staff College. Following staff duty with Squadron TEN, Admiral DeMars served as Senior Member of the Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. He commanded Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE in New London, Connecticut and then served as Deputy Director, Attack Submarine Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, until selected for promotion to Rear Admiral in 1981.

As a flag officer, Admiral DeMars served as Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas/Commander, U.S. Naval Base Guam; as Commander in Chief, Pacific Representative for Guam and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; and as Deputy Assistant Chief and then Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Submarine Warfare.

On September 30, 1988, he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate for promotion to four-star rank. On October 22, 1988, he relieved Admiral McKee as Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion.

Admiral DeMars retired on October 1, 1996, after 43 years of service to his country.

Admiral DeMars' decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, four awards of the Legion of Merit, two awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, two awards of the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, and the Navy Unit Commendation.

Call to Order

ADM Bruce DeMars, USN (Ret)



Welcome to everybody, and particularly George Street for honoring us with his presence here—CO TIRANTE and a World War II Medal of Honor winner. You always add a lot of luster to us.

I've also been asked by VADM Joe Williams to put in a plug for the efforts at the Submarine Force museum to tell the story of the Cold War and submarines. That's a wonderful effort underway, and we certainly all should support that.

If I seem a little rushed today, it's because we have too much content in too little time, but let me say this affair was produced by a very small group of people, and I'll mention some of them when I introduce them. I think it's pretty much evident all the speakers—Squadron TWELVE, Group TWO, the SUBASE,

SUBLANT, SUBSCHOOL and so on and so forth. So I thank you all right now and will be thanking some individuals as we move on through.

We have three goals today: first, to celebrate the admirable history of Submarine Development Group TWO, Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE; second, to discuss the future of both the Squadron and the Submarine Force; and, finally to have a good time. You'll all be moderately relieved that I've attempted to put the emphasis on the last point. Then you can certainly score me and report the results to somebody else if they're unfavorable.

In order to get underway properly, we'll first hear from our area host, Rear Admiral John Padgett. Admiral Padgett is a Naval Academy graduate, has a master's degree from Georgia Tech. He commanded PUFFER during Cold War special operations, Submarine Squadron ELEVEN, and was a Commandant of the Naval Academy. I want to take this opportunity to thank him personally for his very valuable and continuing assistance in putting on this 50th anniversary celebration.