



Rear Admiral Michael C. Manazir Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV N98)

Rear Admiral Michael Manazir currently serves as the Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV N98) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). In this capacity, he is responsible for the development, programming, and budgeting of all U.S. Naval Aviation warfighting requirements, resourcing and manpower.

Manazir entered the U.S. Naval Academy from Mission Viejo, California, and graduated in 1981. He earned his Naval Aviation wings in April 1983, and deployed in the F-14A in July 1984.

Manazir commanded the Tomcatters of Fighter Squadron (VF) 31 (June 97 – Sept. 98), USS Sacramento (AOE1) (Jan. 03 – July 04), USS Nimitz (CVN 68) (March 07 – Aug. 09) and Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 8 embarked on USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (Sept. 11 – June 13).

Prior to squadron command, his afloat tours included service as a fighter pilot and Landing Signal Officer aboard various aircraft carriers on the west coast. Following Navy Nuclear Power Training, Manazir served as the Executive Officer of the USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) (July 01 – Dec. 02). In 2007, Manazir was recognized as the Tailhooker of the Year by the Tailhook Association.

Ashore, Manazir served as an action officer in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, on the Chief of Naval Operations staff as F-14 requirements officer, and for the commander, Naval Air Forces, as the assistant chief of staff for Readiness.

As a flag officer, Manazir served as Director, Strike Aircraft, Weapons and Carrier programs on the Chief of Naval Operations Staff (N880) from Aug. 2009 to Sept. 2011.

Manazir qualified in the F-14A/D and F/A-18E/F aircraft and has flown more than 3750 hours and 1200 arrested landings during 15 deployments aboard aircraft carriers on both coasts.

Manazir is the recipient of various personal and campaign awards including the Legion of Merit (six), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (two), and the Strike/Flight Air Medal (two). Manazir has been married for 31 years and has two grown children.