

Vice Admiral Patrick J. Hannifin



Vice Admiral Pat J. “Fin” Hannifin is a native of San Diego, California. He was commissioned in 1991 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of San Diego. He is also a graduate of the Joint Advanced Warfighting School (JAWS) and the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School.

Operationally, he flew the F/A-18C *Hornet* with Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 27 “Royal Maces” from USS [*Independence*](#) (CV 62), and then again with VFA-81 “Sunliners” for both department head and executive officer/commanding officer tours from USS [*George Washington*](#) (CVN 73), flying combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan; the squadron later flew from USS [*Nimitz*](#) (CVN 68), transitioning to F/A-18E *Super Hornets* while Hannifin was in command. He served as executive officer of USS [*Harry S. Truman*](#) (CVN 75); commanding officer of USS [*Arlington*](#) (LPD 24) and commanding officer of USS [*Ronald Reagan*](#) (CVN-76).

Ashore, Hannifin served as legal officer for Fighter Squadron (VF) 126 “Bandits” of Naval Air Station Miramar and tested F/A-18A-Fs and T-45 *Goshawks* for the Naval Strike Aircraft Test Squadron in Patuxent River, Maryland. He served as the VFA readiness officer for Commander Naval Air Forces Atlantic Fleet, the Joint Force Coordinator (JFC) division chief for the Joint Staff J3, and the Carrier Requirements division chief for OPNAV N98.

As a flag officer, he served as Deputy Director for Political-Military Affairs – Asia, Joint Staff, J5, Washington, D.C. and Commander, Carrier Strike Group FIVE embarked aboard *Ronald Reagan*; and USINDOPACOM Director for Operations, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii. Hannifin assumed duties as Commander, U.S. SEVENTH Fleet in November 2025. He is the 55th commander of the U.S. Navy’s largest forward-deployed fleet.

His personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Air Medal and several other personal, unit and campaign awards. He has accumulated over 3000 flight hours in 33 different type aircraft.

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