

Major General David W. Coffman

Director Expeditionary Warfare (N95)



Major General Coffman assumed duties as Director, Expeditionary Warfare (N95) in July 2017. As N95, he serves as the sole Marine General Officer on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV), where he provides oversight of CNO staff responsibilities pertaining to amphibious lift, mine warfare, naval fire support, and other missions essential to Expeditionary Warfare, and leads the planning, programming and budgeting for acquisition, operational readiness, and modernization of the Navy's broad portfolio of Expeditionary Warfare capabilities.

He was born and raised in Eustis, Florida, graduated cum laude from Duke University, and was commissioned a Marine Second Lieutenant through the NROTC Program in May 1985. He completed flight school and was designated a Naval Aviator in May 1987.

As a CH-46 helicopter pilot, his operational flying tours include multiple deployments across PACOM and CENTCOM AORs with HMM-262 out of Hawaii, HMM-163 out of El Toro, California, and as Commanding Officer of HMM-161 stationed at MCAS Miramar California. Then LtCol Coffman commanded HMM-161 during their 2004 Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment to Iraq, where the squadron served as the primary Casualty Evacuation squadron for I MEF and was recognized by the Marine Corps Aviation Association as the Edward C. Dyer Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron of the Year for 2004. As a Colonel, he commanded the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (13th MEU) at Camp Pendleton from January 2008 to October 2011. He led the "fighting thirteenth" through two full deployment cycles, culminating in seven month deployments aboard BOXER Amphibious Ready Group in 2009 and again in 2011.

Additionally, Major General Coffman has served on staff at multiple levels of command, including MEU, MAG, MEF, JTF, and Combatant Command. At USCENTCOM from 1999 to 2002, he supported the development and execution of combined exercise programs with friendly nations on the Arabian Peninsula and supervised the USCENTCOM ARG-MEU Exercise Program. In 2003, he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom I as MAG-16 Operations Officer.

Major General Coffman's previous assignments as a General Officer include Deputy Director of Operations for the National Military Command Center on the Joint Staff, Commander U.S. Marine Corps Forces South, Deputy Commander U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command, Deputy Commanding General I Marine Expeditionary Force, and Commanding General 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

Major General Coffman graduated with honors from both The Basic School and the Amphibious Warfare School, earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies with highest distinction while attending the College of Naval Command and Staff at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, and completed a Top-Level-School-equivalent fellowship with the Rand Corporation in Santa Monica, California where he served as Commandant of the Marine Corps Fellow providing Marine expertise to the ongoing national defense related research conducted at Rand.

Major General Coffman's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars for service in OIF, the Purple Heart for wounds received while flying a Casualty Evacuation mission in Iraq in 2004, multiple single mission and strike flight Air Medals, other personal decorations for meritorious service, and numerous campaign and service medals.