



United States Navy Biography



Captain Henry "Hank" S. Kim Prospective Commodore, Amphibious Squadron FIVE

CAPT Kim is a native of Los Angeles, California and was commissioned in 1996 from UCLA NROTC program with a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations. Specializing in East Asia, he gained fluency in Korean and Japanese.

His first assignment was onboard USS PORT ROYAL (CG 73), taking part in one of the Navy's first Ballistic Missile Defense capability upgrades and conducting Maritime Interdiction Operations in the Arabian Gulf. He next served onboard USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63), enforcing the No Fly Zone and supporting UN Sanctions against the Saddam regime. He was then selected as Flag Aide to Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific, assisting in six bi-lateral naval exercises with Southeast Asian nations. CAPT Kim was then accepted into the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) where he earned a dual Master's degree in Operations Research from NPS and a Master's Degree in Defense Systems & Technology from the National University of Singapore.

CAPT Kim returned to sea as Chief Engineer onboard USS VANDERGRIFT (FFG 48), forward deployed to SEVENTH Fleet participating in regional maritime defense operations with the Korean & Japanese navies. He was then assigned as Executive Officer of MCM CREW CONSTANT, completing two deployments to the Arabian Gulf and supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. His follow-on assignment was to the staff of the Commander, Naval Forces Central Command and FIFTH Fleet as part of the Theater Security Cooperation effort coordinating anti-piracy operations with over 20 nations to include Pakistan, India, China, and Russia.

CAPT Kim was next assigned to Commander, U.S. Forces Central Command (CENTCOM) as part of the J8 Resources & Analysis Branch before being selected as the Assistant Executive Officer for the Deputy Commander supporting anti-terrorism efforts in Iran, Afghanistan, and Yemen as well as anti-piracy efforts in the Horn of Africa.

CAPT Kim then served as Commanding Officer of USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3) where he hosted the Chief of Naval Operations of the Peoples Liberation Army Navy, ADM Wu Sheng Li, and developed tactics for the Surface Warfare Mission Module. He then became the first N8/9 Branch Head for the Naval Surface & Mine Warfighting Development Center, or SWO "Top Gun," responsible for all Surface Warfare Tactics and Doctrine development. He then went to serve as the Chief of Staff for US Naval Forces Korea, overseeing the first co-location of US and ROK Naval Headquarters in Busan, South Korea. CAPT Kim was then selected for the Federal Executive Fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge, MA where he focused on Great Power Competition.

He then went to serve as Commander, LCS Mine Division TWELVE, overseeing 4 LCSs, 3 MCMs, and the development of the first fully autonomous mine warfare system. He continued to Commander, Amphibious Squadron THREE, in charge of the USS MAKIN ISLAND & USS TRIPOLI Amphibious Ready Groups as well as Mission Commander for PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP 22, the largest HADR mission in INDO-PACOM. CAPT Kim then served as the Executive Assistant and Acting Deputy to Director, Expeditionary Warfare (OPNAV N95) at OPNAV N95.

He is currently the Prospective Commodore for Amphibious Squadron FIVE.

His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense and Navy Meritorious Service Medals, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation and Achievement Medals, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal.