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# Biographies in Naval History

## Vice Admiral George W. Emery, US Navy (Retired)



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### Biography

Vice Admiral Emery was appointed 24th Commander of the Submarine Force US Atlantic Fleet, and Commander Submarine Allied Command Atlantic by President Clinton in August 1993.

Born in Sanford, Maine, on 28 December 1940, Vice Admiral Emery was appointed to the US Naval Academy by Senator Margaret Chase Smith and graduated with distinction with the Class of 1963. He



attended graduate programs at the University of Delaware and George Washington University, and served on five nuclear submarines, commanding USS *Groton* (SSN 694) and USS *Ohio* (SSBN 726) (Gold crew). Vice Admiral Emery surfaced at the North Pole while Engineer Officer aboard USS *Hammerhead* (SSN 663), and circumnavigated the globe submerged while commanding USS *Groton* (SSN 694).

Additional assignments included division officer in USS *Andrew Jackson* (SSBN 619) (Blue crew); instructor and division director at Naval Nuclear Power School, Bainbridge, Maryland; Naval Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, US Atlantic Fleet; Division of Naval Reactors, Department of Energy, Washington, DC; Executive Officer USS *Glenard P. Lipscomb* (SSN 685); Chief of Staff to Commander Carrier Group Seven (USS *Kitty Hawk* and USS *Constellation* Battle Groups); Deputy Director, Strike and Amphibious Warfare (OP-74); Executive Assistant and Naval Aide to the Undersecretary of the Navy, and subsequently to the Secretary of the Navy.

Following selection to flag rank, Vice Admiral Emery joined the office of the Chief of Naval Personnel first as Director Total Programming and Manpower Division, and subsequently as Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel for Military Personnel Policy and Career Progression. Prior to his appointment to command US and Allied submarine forces in the Atlantic, Vice Admiral Emery commanded West Coast Pacific Fleet attack submarines and facilities as Commander Submarine Group Five.

Retiring from Naval service in July 1996, Vice Admiral Emery joined Raytheon Company as Executive Vice President, then President, of Raytheon Technical Services Company. In 2000 Vice Admiral Emery and his wife Patricia returned to Maine, settling in Kennebunkport.

The Admiral is the General Chair of the annual Submarine Technology Symposium jointly sponsored by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory and the Naval Submarine League, and a member of the Board of Directors of Sauer USA of Stevensville, Maryland and First Support Services Inc. of Dallas, Texas. He is a Trustee of the USS *Constitution* Museum and a Director of the Naval Submarine League. From 2001 to 2006 Admiral Emery served on, and subsequently chaired, the Senior Advisory Group to the Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory. He was a member of the Secretary of the Navy's Advisory Subcommittee on Naval History from 1997 to 2006.

Vice Admiral Emery is the author of *Historical Manuscripts in the Navy Department Library*, Washington, DC: Naval Historical Center, 1994, which was subsequently expanded into the *List of Historical Manuscripts in the Navy Department Library*. He is a contributor to several published works related to the history of the US Navy including *America's Naval Heritage: A Catalog of Early Imprints From the Navy Department Library*, Washington, DC: Naval Historical Center, 2000; *U.S. Navy: A Complete History*, Washington, DC: Naval Historical Foundation, 2003; and *Leadership Embodied: The Secrets to Success of the Most Effective Navy and Marine Corps Leaders*, Annapolis, Maryland: Naval Institute Press, 2005. In 2006 he completed a finding aid titled *The George Henry Preble Collection at the Navy Department Library*.





**Chronology of Navy Service**

July 1959	Entered the US Naval Academy as a Midshipman.
June 1963	Graduated from the US Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science Science.
June-December 1963	Naval Nuclear Power School Naval Training Center Bainbridge, Ma
December 1963-July 1964	Nuclear Power Training Unit Windsor, Connecticut.
July 1964-February 1965	Naval Submarine School Groton, Connecticut.
February-June 1965	Naval Guided Missiles School Dam Neck Virginia Beach, Virginia.
June 1965-April 1967	USS <i>Andrew Jackson</i> (SSBN 619) (Blue crew).
April 1967-July 1969	Naval Nuclear Power School, Bainbridge Maryland. Instructor (Rea Division Director (Chemistry, Metallurgy & Radiological Controls).
July 1969-May 1973	USS <i>Hammerhead</i> (SSN 663) (Engineer Officer).
May 1973-July 1975	Member Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board (CINCLANTFLT).
July 1975-June 1977	USS <i>Glenard P. Lipscomb</i> (SSN 685) (Executive Officer).
June 1977-June 1979	Division of Naval Reactors, Department of Energy, Washington, DC Program Assistant, on Admiral Rickover's staff).
June-July 1979	Naval Amphibious School Little Creek, Virginia.
July-September 1979	Division of Naval Reactors, Department of Energy, Washington DC
October-December 1979	Commander Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet.
December 1979-December 1982	USS <i>Groton</i> (SSN 694) (Commanding Officer).
December 1982-March 1983	Trident Training Facility Bangor, Washington.
March 1983-April 1983	Nuclear Power Training Unit Balston Spa, New York.
April 1983-May 1985	USS <i>Ohio</i> (SSBN 726)(Gold crew Commanding Officer).
May 1985-August 1987	Commander Carrier Group Seven (Chief of Staff).
September 1987-June 1988	Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (Deputy Director Strike and Warfare) (OP-74).
June 1988-May 1989	Office of the Under Secretary of the Navy (Executive Assistant).
May 1989-July 1989	Office of Secretary of the Navy (Executive Assistant).
July 1989-May 1990	Office of Chief of Naval operations (Director Total Force Programs Division) (OP-12).
May 1990-August 1991	Bureau of Naval Personnel (Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel for Policy and Career Progression)(PERS-2).
October 1991-July 1993	Commander Submarine Group Five.
August 1993-June 1996	Commander Submarine Force US Atlantic Fleet/Commander Submarine Command Atlantic.
1 July 1996	retired from Navy.

**Dates of Rank:**

7 July 1959	Midshipman, US Naval Academy
5 June 1963	Ensign
5 December 1964	Lieutenant (junior grade)

1 December 1966	Lieutenant
1 March 1971	Lieutenant Commander
1 June 1978	Commander
1 July 1984	Captain
1 October 1990	Rear Admiral (Lower Half)
August 1992	Designated Rear Admiral (Upper Half) while serving in billets commensurate with that grade.
1 September 1993	Rear Admiral (Upper Half)
9 July 1993	Designated Vice Admiral while serving in billets commensurate with that grade.
6 August 1993	Vice Admiral

### Medals and Awards

Distinguished Service Medal  
Legion of Merit with four gold stars in lieu of subsequent awards  
Meritorious Service Medal with four gold stars in lieu of subsequent awards  
Navy Commendation Medal with one gold star in lieu of second award  
Navy Achievement Medal  
Navy Unit Commendation with two bronze stars  
Meritorious unit Commendation with four bronze stars  
Navy "E" Ribbon with three Es  
Navy Expeditionary Medal with two bronze stars  
National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star  
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal  
Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with four bronze stars

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**Source:** Biographical essay and data were provided by Vice Admiral George W. Emery. Photos are courtesy of the Naval Historical Foundation.

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*22 February 2007*