

OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1  
Command Serial Number: 24-001  
Date Submitted: 15MAY2025

**Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED

## 2024 Command Operations Report

### 1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51), ARB

Unit Identification Code (UIC): 21487

Name, rank, and contact information of Commanding Officer:

Last: Reber

First: Ethan

M.I.: A

Rank: Commander

Email: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Phone: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Date Assumed Command: 2024-12-19

Mission: Anti-Air Warfare, Ballistic Missile Defense, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike Warfare, Maritime Interdiction, and Theater Security Cooperation

Permanent Location: Rota, Spain

Immediate Superior in Command:

Operational: Commander, Task Force SIX-FIVE

Administrative: Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX-ZERO

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 37      Enlisted: 269      Civilian: Zero

Command Point of Contact:

Name: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Job Title/Office Code: Navigator

E-mail: NIPR- (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6); SIPR- (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Phone number(s): (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Command Mailing Address: USS ARLEIGH BURKE, UNIT 100271, FPO AE 09565

## **2. Commander's Assessment**

ARLEIGH BURKE had a historic year in 2024, operating for ten months in the eastern Mediterranean Sea as the war between Israel and Hamas created new challenges and tested the ingenuity of my crew – a test we passed with flying colors.

From launching the first Standard Missile-3s (SM-3) in combat, to planning and executing operations with a special Joint force for humanitarian relief, America's lead destroyer was on station and primed for the mission. In 2024, we executed eight tactical control (TACON) shifts between four strike groups and task forces, further demonstrating our agility, readiness, and adaptability.

In addition to supporting our Department of Defense counterparts, we also enhanced our previously-established relationships with NATO and multinational partners. We conducted complex antisubmarine warfare, maneuvering, signaling, and air defense exercises that made us all more effective and broke down barriers that had previously challenged interoperability between us and our allies.

It is my privilege to command this ship and represent Admiral Arleigh Burke's legacy of warfighting excellence. I look forward to another year of bringing credible combat power to the waters of SIXTH Fleet and beyond.

## **3. Chronology and Narrative**

### **January**

01-04: TRAV

05: Underway Rota, Spain

11-20: Bataan Escort Operations

25-31: In port Limassol, Cyprus

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4152 nm

Total Days Underway: 15 days

To kick off the New Year, ARLEIGH BURKE finished a mid-patrol maintenance period before getting underway the first week of January. The ship and her crew headed eastbound through the Strait of Gibraltar to the eastern Mediterranean Sea and joined BATAAN Amphibious Ready Group (ARG). In late January, the ship detached from the ARG and headed north for a port visit in Limassol, Cyprus.

### **February**

01-04: In port Limassol, Cyprus

05-11: Bataan Escort Operations  
15-21: In port Souda Bay, Crete  
22-28: Bataan Escort Operations

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 3572 nm  
Total Days Underway: 14 days

After ARLEIGH BURKE left Limassol, Cyprus, she rejoined BATAAN ARG. During this underway, she visited Souda Bay, Greece for emergent repairs and left to rejoin the ARG.

### **March**

01-08: DYNAMIC MANTA  
09: In port Souda Bay, Crete  
10-13: In port Piraeus, Greece  
14-28: Eastern Mediterranean Operations  
29-31: In port Souda Bay, Crete

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 5396 nm  
Total Days Underway: 23 days

After completing escort duties with BATAAN ARG, ARLEIGH BURKE headed west to the Ionian Sea to participate in an annual NATO antisubmarine exercise with Greece, Turkey, Canada, Great Britain, and France. After successfully completing the exercise, she headed north for a port visit to Piraeus, Greece, where the crew enjoyed well-earned liberty ashore. Afterwards, ARLEIGH BURKE patrolled the eastern Mediterranean Sea until late March, she returned to Souda Bay, Greece to refuel.

### **April**

01-02: In port Souda Bay, Crete  
04-09: In port Larnaca, Cyprus  
10-20: Eastern Mediterranean Ops  
21-23: In port Souda Bay, Crete  
25-28: Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group Escort

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4622 nm  
Total Days Underway: 19 days

In April, ARLEIGH BURKE was extended on patrol to support foreign humanitarian assistance (FHA) efforts in Gaza. During a port call in Larnaca, Cyprus, the ship hosted senior leaders and dignitaries to include VADM Ishee, Commander, SIXTH Fleet; Ambassador Fisher; and the Head of the Cypriot Navy. During this port visit, the crew worked with our allies and partners to plan and execute the FHA mission. On April 14, 2024, ARLEIGH BURKE became the first ship in history to launch SM-3s in combat in defense of Israel. Afterwards, the ship returned to Souda Bay for weapons reload and fuel.

### **May**

02-04: Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group Escort  
05-17: FHA Escort  
18-22: In port Souda Bay, Greece  
23: Underway Souda Bay, Greece  
24-25: Eastern Mediterranean Ops  
26-31: Transit from Eastern Mediterranean Sea to Rota, Spain

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 6392 nm  
Total Days Underway: 24 days

From the end of April to early May, ARLEIGH BURKE joined DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER Strike Group for escort operations. After detaching, ARLEIGH BURKE transited to the southern coast of Cyprus and escorted ships carrying aid to Gaza in support of the FHA mission. The crew enjoyed one last liberty port call in Souda Bay, Greece before transiting west to Rota, Spain.

### **June**

01: Return to Homeport, Rota, Spain  
02-30: In port Rota, Spain Maintenance Availability

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 25 nm  
Total Days Underway: 1 day

ARLEIGH BURKE returned home and started a Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) to undergo repairs and critical maintenance.

### **July**

01-31: In port Rota, Spain CMAV

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 0 nm  
Total Days Underway: 0 days

ARLEIGH BURKE continued her CMAV. The crew enjoyed time in homeport and opportunities for leave.

### **August**

01-14: In port Rota, Spain  
15: Underway Rota, Spain  
16-20: Strait of Gibraltar, Eastbound to Mediterranean  
21-31: In port Souda Bay, Greece

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 1695 nm  
Total Days Underway: 6 days

ARLEIGH BURKE completed her CMAV mid-August and then departed Rota to begin Patrol 5. After a successful nighttime transit through the Strait of Gibraltar, the ship experienced a critical casualty to the starboard shaft seal and proceeded to Souda Bay, Greece for emergent repairs.

## **September**

01-08: In port Souda Bay, Greece  
09: Underway Souda Bay, Greece  
10-23: Eastern Mediterranean Ops  
24-30: In port Souda Bay, Greece

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 2378 nm  
Total Days Underway: 14 days

Repairs were completed in early September and ARLEIGH BURKE went back underway. After conducting operations in the eastern Mediterranean Sea, she returned to Souda Bay, Greece for repairs to her air defense radar and fire control system. During this time, ARLEIGH BURKE welcomed eight new Chief Petty Officers into the Chief's Mess.

## **October**

01: In port Souda Bay, Greece  
02: Underway Souda Bay, Greece  
03-31: Eastern Mediterranean Ops

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4009 nm  
Total Days Underway: 30 days

Back to full mission capability, ARLEIGH BURKE got underway and returned to station in the eastern Mediterranean Sea. While there, she conducted small boat operations and two underway replenishments.

## **November**

01-21: Eastern Mediterranean Ops  
22: PASSEX with ITS LUIGI RIZZO  
23-26: Eastern Mediterranean Ops  
27-28: In port Souda Bay, Greece  
29: Underway Souda Bay, Greece  
30: Eastern Mediterranean Ops

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 3761 nm  
Total Days Underway: 28 days

On November 22, the ship welcomed Italian Carlo Bergamini-class frigate ITS LUIGI RIZZO for a one-day PASSEX in the operational area. Italian RDML Andrea Petroni, Commander of Second Naval Division, along with cadre of his officers and crew, embarked ARLEIGH BURKE for lunch and tour of the ship. ARLEIGH BURKE Sailors had the opportunity to visit ITS RIZZO during this cross deck exchange as well. At the end of the month, the ship returned to Souda Bay, Greece after 52 consecutive days at sea.

## **December**

01-02: Eastern Mediterranean Operations

03-05: HST Strike Group Escort Operations

06: Transit Westbound for Rota, Spain

07: Return to Homeport Rota, Spain

08-31: In port Rota, Spain

23: Start of Selected Restricted Availability

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 1604 nm

Total Days Underway: 7 days

In early December, ARLEIGH BURKE was assigned to HARRY S TRUMAN Strike Group as Air and Missile Defense Commander (AMDC). Once relieved of duties, ARLEIGH BURKE transited the Strait of Gibraltar and returned home to Rota, Spain on 7 December.

On December 19, the crew, friends, and families gathered for a change of command ceremony, in which CDR Ethan A. Reber relieved CDR Tyrchra A. Bowman as the 24<sup>th</sup> Commanding Officer of USS ARLEIGH BURKE. On December 23, the ship began her Selected Restricted Availability, concluding the operational year with a focus on much needed repairs, upgrades, and maintenance.

## **4. Supporting Reports**

NTR

## **5. Published Documents**

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY  
**USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51)**



**19 DECEMBER 2024**  
NAVAL STATION ROTA

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

\*

PARADE THE COLORS

*Naval Station Rota Color Guard*

\*

NATIONAL ANTHEM

\*

INVOCATION

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

\*

GUEST SPEAKER

*Captain Mamikonian, USN*

\*

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REMARKS

*Commander Tyrchra Bowman, USN*

\*

PRESENTATION OF COMMISSIONING PENNANT

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

\*

READING OF ORDERS

\*

CHANGE OF COMMAND

\*

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REMARKS

*Commander Ethan Reber, USN*

\*

BENEDICTION

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

\*

DEPARTURE OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

\*

RECEPTION



## THE CHANGE OF COMMAND TRADITION

The Change of Command Ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally announces to the Sailors of the command the continuity of command authority. It is a transfer, in an instant, of total responsibility, authority, and accountability from one individual to another. The Change of Command of a ship of the line is unique in the world today.



## THE COMMISSIONING PENNANT

The Ship's Commissioning Pennant symbolizes the order to activate service. As such, it is flown continuously on each naval ship from the moment she is commissioned until that final moment, years later, when she is retired from active service. Traditionally, the commissioning pennant is replaced with a new one at each change of command. The relieved Commanding Officer is presented with the pennant flown during his/her time as commander of the ship.

It is said that when Dutch Admiral Van Tromp defeated the English fleet in 1652, he cruised with a broom at his masthead to signify that he had swept his enemies from the sea. When the positions were reversed the following year, the British Admiral hoisted a long streamer from his masthead to show he had whipped his adversary. Thus the narrow "coachwhip" pennant has been adopted by all nations as the distinctive mark of a ship of war.

## GUEST SPEAKER BIO



Captain Alexander Mamikonian attended Leysin American School in Switzerland, and later Purdue University where he was commissioned upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science in Management. Additionally, he earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College and is a graduate of the NATO Senior Officer Policy Course.

At sea, Captain Mamikonian has served on Cruisers, Destroyers, and Mine Counter Measures ships in the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. He commanded the Guided Missile Destroyer USS Wayne E. Meyer (DDG 108), operating extensively in the Pacific to include patrols in the South China Sea. Previous sea tours include USS Lake Champlain (CG 57) and USS Gladiator (MCM 11), as Chief Engineer; USS Fort Royal (CG 73) as Main Propulsion Assistant and USS John Young (DD 973) as 1st Lieutenant.

Shore assignments include Naval Armaments Cooperation Director and Defense Attache at the U.S. Mission to NATO; Deputy Director, Surface Warfare Assignments (PERS 41A) and Commander/Lieutenant Commander Assignments Branch Head (PERS 410/411) at the Navy Personnel Command; Naval Fires Section Head, Surface Warfare Division (N96), Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; Flag Aide to the Commander of Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Seamanship and Navigation Instructor at the United States Naval Academy and Individual Augmentation assignment as Branch Chief of Maritime Operations to the United Nations Mission in Haiti.

Captain Mamikonian was recognized as the 2003 Ship Handler of the Year for Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Additional awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various campaign, unit, and service medals.

## WARDROOM

(b)(3) - 10 U.S.C. § 1306, (b)(6)



Executive Officer  
Planning and Tactics Officer  
Combat Systems Officer  
Weapons Officer  
Supply Officer  
Operations Officer  
Chief Engineer  
Fire Control Officer  
Anti-Terrorism Officer  
Training Officer  
Chaplain  
Damage Control Assistant  
Anti-Sub Warfare Officer  
Information Warfare Officer  
Navigator  
Disbursing Officer  
Assistant Chief Engineer  
Communications Officer  
Navigation Division Officer  
CA Division Office  
Strike Officer  
CE Division Officer  
OI Division Officer  
Electrical Officer  
Electronic Materials Officer  
Gunnery Officer  
Auxiliary Engineer Officer  
Turbine Officer  
Electronic Warfare Officer  
First Lieutenant  
Assistant First Lieutenant  
Disbursing Officer  
Strike Officer  
Ordinance Officer  
Main Propulsion Assistant  
Systems Test Officer  
Assistant Operations Officer

## CHIEF'S MESS

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)



FIRST CLASS PETTY OFFICER AND JUNIOR

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)



(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)



(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)



(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)





## COMMANDING OFFICER

Commander Tyrchra A. Bowman



Ty is a native of (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 1306, (b) (6) and a 2007 graduate of the University of South Carolina with a B.S. in Entrepreneurial Management. He holds an Executive-MBA with a concentration in Financial Management from Naval Postgraduate School and a Master of Military Studies from Marine Corps University. He has completed Joint Professional Military Education Phase I.

At sea he completed his division officer tours as Electrical and Auxiliary Officer in USS Roosevelt (DDG 80) and Scheduling Officer in ESG2 and as a department head Chief Engineer in USS Truxtun (DDG 103) and Navigator in USS Essex (LHD 2). He has deployed to Fifth Fleet in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Inherent Resolve and to Sixth Fleet in support of Operations Active Endeavour and Noble Midas as part of Standing NATO Maritime Group TWO (SNMG-2) and BALTOPs.

Ashore, he served as an instructor for Cruise Missile Command Course and Deputy Executive Assistant to the Director, Navy Surface Warfare (N96) in the Pentagon.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3), and multiple unit, campaign, and service awards.

## PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER

Commander Ethan A. Reber



Commander Ethan Reber, a native of [REDACTED] enlisted in the Navy in 1997 as a Nuclear Machinist's Mate. In 2005 CDR Reber graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in Finance and was commissioned through the Seaman to Admiral-21 program. He graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2012 with a Master of Science in Modeling, Virtual Environments, and Simulation. He holds additional postgraduate certificates in Anti-Submarine Warfare, Space Systems, Nuclear Weapons Effects, and Systems Engineering.

CDR Reber's sea duty assignments include nuclear propulsion plant operator aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65) from 1999 to 2002; First Lieutenant, Engineering Auxiliaries Officer, and Boarding Officer aboard USS Hopper (DDG 70) from 2006 to 2008; Training Officer and Administrative Officer aboard USS Monterey (CG 61) from 2008 to 2010; Weapons Control Officer and Combat Systems Officer aboard USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) from 2014 to 2017; and, most recently, as Commanding Officer of USS Hue City (CG 66) from 2019 to 2022.

CDR Reber has served ashore as an Advanced Shiphandling and Tactics instructor and program manager at Surface Warfare Officers School Command in the Trainers and Simulation Directorate from 2012 to 2013, and as a Global Force Management analyst and planner at U.S. Fleet Forces Command from 2017 to 2019.

CDR Reber's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, and various unit, campaign, and service awards. He has been recognized with the Surface Navy Association's Award for Excellence in Surface Warfare Research; the George L. Phillips Award for Modeling, Virtual Environments, and Simulation; the Navy Marine Association Department Head Leadership Award; and is a Surface Warfare Officers School Vice Admiral John D. Bulkeley Distinguished Graduate Award recipient. He is a proven subspecialist in Modeling & Simulation with DAWIA Practitioner certification in the Acquisition Program Management career field.

## SHIP'S CREST



The Shield outlined in blue and gold represents Admiral Arleigh Burke's achievements against the naval power of Japan. The fist and mace symbolize the offensive and defensive power of the new destroyer. The mace, a symbol of authority, represents Admiral Burke's service as Chief of Naval Operations and refers to Admiral Marc Mitscher, an influential figure and mentor for whom Admiral Burke served as Chief of Staff. Admiral Burke's Destroyer Squadron 23, represented by the border of 23 circles, was the only Destroyer Squadron awarded a Presidential Unit Citation, signified by the canton of blue, yellow, and red. The 23 circles also refer to the year 1923, in which Midshipman Burke graduated from the United States Naval Academy.

The mounted figure of St. George recalls Admiral Burke's celebrated victory in the Battle of Cape St. George over Japanese naval forces. His mantle bears a gold cross for the Navy Cross awarded to the Admiral. The birch branch on the helmet represents Admiral Burke himself, a reference to his name, which is derived from Scandinavian heritage.

The red sea dragon symbolizes Japanese naval power assaulted by forces under Captain Burke's command. It is gorged with the two gold stars he was awarded for outstanding service. The lance impaling the dragon signifies ordnance on target. The capabilities of the new destroyer, the most powerful and survivable ever built, are signified by the full armor and equipment of the warrior St. George. The Admiral's nickname "31-Knot Burke" is recalled by the number 31 on the horse.



## ADMIRAL ARLEIGH BURKE



Admiral Arleigh "31-Knot" Burke was born in Boulder, Colorado on 19 October 1901. In 1923, he graduated from the United States Naval Academy, commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy, and married Miss Roberta Gorsuch of Washington D.C. Over the next 18 years, Burke served onboard battleships and destroyers and distinguished himself as an expert in naval

gunnery. Burke earned his first command onboard USS Mugford (DD 389) in 1939.

At the onset of World War II, Burke held an important shore billet at the Naval Gun Factory in Washington D.C. Eager to get in on the action, he volunteered for orders to the South Pacific and eventually took command of Destroyer Squadron 23 (DESRON 23). Under Burke's leadership, DESRON 23 achieved tremendous success against the Imperial Japanese Navy at the battles of Cape St. George and Empress Augusta Bay, and was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation.

During the Solomon Islands Campaign in 1943, DESRON 23 was credited with destroying one cruiser, one submarine, nine destroyers, several patrol craft, and over 30 aircraft throughout 22 engagements. Burke was known to push his ships to their maximum speed and fighting potential, a propensity which earned him the nickname, "31-knot" Burke.

---

For the remainder of the war, Burke served alongside Vice Admiral Marc Mitscher as the Chief of Staff for Task Force 58. Following World War II, Burke held various commands during the Korean War and was named the fifteenth Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) in 1955. As CNO, he served an unprecedented three terms and pioneered advanced technologies, including the development of the US Navy's nuclear submarine fleet and Polaris missile program.

Arleigh Burke retired from the Navy in 1961, leaving a lasting legacy of courage, innovation, and fighting spirit. These attributes made Arleigh Burke a natural choice as the namesake for the Arleigh Burke class guided missile destroyer. The lead ship of the class, USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51), was commissioned by Admiral Burke and his wife Bobbie on July 4th 1991. His legacy lives on today in the lead ship of the class, affectionately known as "The Admiral's Destroyer."

## COMMAND AT SEA



Many of the ceremonies, customs, and traditions of our modern Navy draw their origins from ancient customs and laws of the sea, begun in historic times by seafaring men. Most are rooted in necessity or function, and could be considered expendable, but all pay homage to our proud past, and as such, are invaluable to us. The Change of Command Ceremony you witness today is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy Regulations, but is rather an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It is a custom wholly naval, without an equivalent counterpart in the Army or Air Force. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal and impressive –designed to strengthen the respect for authority, which is vital to any military organization. This procedure was designed to ensure only duly authorized officers held command, and that all aboard were aware of its authenticity.

The heart of the ceremony is the formal reading of official orders by the relieving officer, and the officer being relieved. Command passes upon utterance by the relieving officer, "I relieve you, Sir." The officer being relieved responds, "I stand relieved!" This simple procedure is duplicated hundreds of times though out the navies of the world, as each watch officer passes responsibility to his relief in the conduct of each ship's routine.

Customs and traditions, such as this, serve to fortify our ties to the past and strengthen our esprit de corps as a ship and a Navy.

## THE CAPTAIN

*"Only a seaman realizes to what extent an entire ship reflects the personality and the ability of one individual, the Commanding Officer. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, - but it is so.*

*A ship at sea is a distant world in herself and in consideration of the protracted and distant operation of the fleet units, the Navy must place great power, responsibility, and trust in the hands of those leaders chosen for command.*

*In each ship, there is one man who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to no other man. There is one who alone is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gun firing, and morale of the ship. He is the Commanding Officer. He is the ship.*

*This is the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour of duty as Commanding Officer that he can escape the grasp of command responsibility. His privileges, in view of his obligation, are most ludicrously small; nevertheless command is the spur which has given the Navy its great leaders.*

*It is a duty which most richly deserves the highest, time-honored title of the seafaring world - CAPTAIN"*

-Joseph Conrad

## USS ARLEIGH BURKE COMMANDING OFFICERS

CDR John Morgan Jr.  
CDR Lyle Davidson  
CDR Jeffrey Weppeler  
CDR Mark Kosnik  
CDR Nevin Carr Jr.  
CDR Alan Eschbach  
CDR Robin Russell  
CDR William Harris  
CDR Charles Stuppard  
CDR Esther McClure  
LCDR Allen Hobbs  
CDR Daniel Voth  
CDR Brian Moun  
CDR Corey Keniston  
CDR Thomas Moringier  
CDR Camille Flaherty  
CDR Thomas Myers  
CDR Jason Stepp  
CDR Errol Robinson  
CDR John Gaines  
CAPT Christopher Follin  
CDR Patrick Chapman  
CDR Peter C. Flynn  
CDR Tyrcha A. Bowman





**THIS IS OUR SHIP!**



## 6. Photograph and Biography



**Commander Ethan Reber**  
Commanding Officer

Commander Ethan Reber, a native of (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 1306, (b) (6), enlisted in the Navy in 1997 as a Nuclear Machinist's Mate. In 2005 CDR Reber graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in Finance and was commissioned through the Seaman to Admiral-21 program. He graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2012 with a Master of Science in Modeling, Virtual Environments, and Simulation. He holds additional postgraduate certificates in AntiSubmarine Warfare, Space Systems, Nuclear Weapons Effects, and Systems Engineering. CDR Reber is a proven subspecialist in Modeling & Simulation, DAWIA Practitioner certified in the Acquisition Program Management career field, and has completed JPME 1 & 2.

CDR Reber's sea duty assignments include nuclear propulsion plant operator aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65); First Lieutenant, Engineering Auxiliaries Officer, and Boarding Officer aboard USS Hopper (DDG 70); Training Officer and Administrative Officer aboard USS Monterey (CG 61); Weapons Control Officer and Combat Systems Officer aboard USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51); 16th Commanding Officer of USS Hué City (CG 66); and Executive Officer of USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51). He assumed duties as Arleigh Burke's 25th Commanding Officer in December 2024.

CDR Reber has served ashore as an Advanced Shiphandling and Tactics instructor and program manager at Surface Warfare Officers School Command in the Trainers and Simulation Directorate, and as a Global Force Management analyst and planner at U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

CDR Reber's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various unit, campaign, and service awards. He has been recognized with the Surface Navy Association's Award for Excellence in Surface Warfare Research; the George L. Phillips Award for Modeling, Virtual Environments, and Simulation; the Navy Marine Association Department Head Leadership Award; and is a Surface Warfare Officers School Vice Admiral John D. Bulkeley Distinguished Graduate Award recipient.

(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)



(b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

