

Title: The Carrier Strike Group 8 Deployment in the Mediterranean Sea, 2022:  
Experiences, Insights, and Lessons  
Speaker: RADM Paul C. Spedero, Jr.  
Date: 8 December 2022  
Time: 1300-1430  
Where: McCarty Little Hall (MLH) Auditorium (**SECRET**)  
POC: Dr. Michael Petersen

Only blue-badged faculty, staff, and students with an active **SECRET** clearance may attend

### **Synopsis:**

In September 2022, the Harry S. Truman Carrier Strike Group returned from a 9-month deployment to the EUCOM AOR. During the deployment, Russia embarked on its war in Ukraine. Under the watchful eyes of Russian warships from the Northern, Pacific, and Black Sea Fleets, whose orders were to deter NATO involvement in the war, the strike group conducted multiple operations, including enhanced air policing missions, dual- and tri-carrier operations, and NATO-led vigilance activities Neptune Shield 22 and Neptune Strike 22. Strike Group Commander RADM Paul Spedero will provide a post-deployment brief, including observations, insights, and lessons.

### **Bio:**



Rear Adm. Paul C. Spedero, Jr. is a native of Springfield, Massachusetts and a 1990 graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. He was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps and was designated a naval aviator in 1992. He graduated with distinction and earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and a Master of Science in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University. He is also a graduate of the Defense Language Institute with a degree in French.

Spedero commanded the “Sidewinders” of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA)-86, USS Peleliu (LHA 5), and USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69). His other operational tours include a division officer tour with the “Bounty Hunters” of Fighter Squadron (VF)-2, a department head tour with the “Swordsmen” of VF-32, and an executive officer tour on USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). He has deployed and participated in combat operations in support of Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Inherent Resolve.

Ashore, he served as a TOPGUN instructor at the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center and as an action officer in the Joint Operations Division, Global Force Management, Joint Operations Directorate (J3), Joint Staff. Following aircraft carrier command, he served as the executive

assistant to the Director, Navy Staff; Director, Fleet and Joint Training, N7, U.S. Fleet Forces Command; and most recently, as Commander, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command. He assumed command of Carrier Strike Group EIGHT (CSG-8) in May 2022.

Spedero has flown 3,800 hours in the F-14, the F/A-18, and other Navy aircraft and has logged 870 carrier arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (three awards); Bronze Star; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (two awards); Air Medal (nine awards: three individual, six Strike/Flight, and the combat distinguishing device); Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards and the combat distinguishing device); and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards).