

# Biography

*Defense Threat Reduction Agency*



## Rear Admiral John D. Spencer



Rear Admiral John D. Spencer serves as the Director, Nuclear Enterprise Directorate (NE), Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). In this capacity he is responsible for the execution of multiple programs providing capabilities to the Warfighter related to the safety, security, and reliability of the U.S. nuclear deterrent and Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD).

Rear Admiral Spencer was born and raised in Fairborn, Ohio. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1991 with a degree in Systems Engineering. He earned a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College where he was a Halsey Research Scholar. He also completed a National Security Fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

His sea tours include division officer assignment on USS Maryland (SSBN 738), weapons officer on USS Billfish (SSN 676), navigator on USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) and executive officer on USS San Juan (SSN 751). He commanded USS Philadelphia (SSN 690) in Groton, Connecticut and was commodore of Submarine Squadron Sixteen in Kings Bay, Georgia.

Staff assignments include instructor duty at the Naval Nuclear Power School, operations officer at Submarine Squadron Eleven, deputy commander of Submarine Squadron Eight, in the Policy section of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Executive Assistant to the Commander of U.S. Strategic Command.

His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various unit and service awards.

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