

Captain Chris Hill



Captain Chris Hill is a native of Quincy, Massachusetts. He is a 1996 graduate of Tufts University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, magna cum laude; a 2006 graduate of Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service with a Master of Arts in Security Studies, with honors; and a 2016 graduate of the Naval Nuclear Power Training program.

Hill was commissioned through the Navy ROTC program and received his wings of gold as a naval flight officer in 1997. Operational tours include Airborne Command & Control Squadron (VAW) 126 "Seahawks," 1998-2001, participating in Operations *Southern Watch*, *Desert Fox*, And *Deliberate Forge*; VAW-124 "Bear Aces" in 2004 as a weapons and tactics instructor; VAW-115 "Liberty Bells," 2007-2009 as a department head, participating in patrols in the Western Pacific; VAW-124, 2012-2014 as the executive officer and commanding officer, participating in Operations *Enduring Freedom* and *Inherent Resolve*; USS [*George H.W. Bush*](#) (CVN 77), 2017-2019 as the executive officer, participating again in Operation *Inherent Resolve*; and USS [*Arlington*](#) (LPD 24) as the commanding officer.

Shore assignments include Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN), 2001-2003 as a command and control instructor and editor of the NSAWC Journal; the Joint Staff, 2009-2011 as a threat analyst and editor of the Guardian Antiterrorism Journal; and the staff of the Chief of Naval Operation in 2015 as

the special programs requirements officer for the Director, Air Warfare. He received the MacArthur Foundation Award for writing as a student at the Joint Forces Staff College in 2014.

Hill was in command of USS [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) (CVN 69), 23 March 2023-4 March 2025, participating in combat operations in the Red Sea to include Operations *Prosperity Guardian*, *Yukon Lightning*, and *Inherent Resolve*. His team earned the Combat Action Ribbon and a Navy Unit Commendation. He was also in command of USS [Harry S. Truman](#) (CVN 75), 20 February-3 July 2025, and participated in combat in the Red Sea in support of Operation *Rough Rider*.

Unit awards include the 2014 and 2017 Battle “E” Award, the 2014 Frank Akers AEW Excellence Award, and the 2014, 2017 and 2020 CNO Safety “S” Award. He was selected as the E-2C *Hawkeye* Naval Flight Officer of the Year in 2001.

Hill has more than 2,900 hours of flight time primarily in the E-2C *Hawkeye*. His awards include two Legion of Merit medals (one with Combat “C” device), a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, four Air Medals, and various other individual and unit citations.

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