



Thomas H. Moorer, Admiral, USN (Ret.)
 “Tom”

Date of Designation: July 1936 NA # 4255

Dates of Active Duty: 1 June 1933 - 1 July 1974

Combat Tours:

WW II: Patrol Squadron 22 and 101, 1941-1943, patrols and scouting in Southwest Pacific, Dutch East Indies. Shot down in PBY.

Aviation Commands:

CO, Bombing Squadron 132, Feb. 1943 - Jan. 1944
 CO, USS *Salisbury Sound* (AV-13), Aug. 1956 - Sep. 1957
 COMCARDIV SIX, Jul. 1959 - Nov. 1960
 COMSEVENTHFLT, Oct. 1962 - Jun. 1964
 CINCPACFLT, Jun. 1964 - Apr. 1965
 CINCLANT/CINCLANTFLT/SACLANT, Apr. 1965 - Aug. 1967
 Chief of Naval Operations, Aug. 1967 - Jul. 1970

Combat Awards:

Silver Star
 Legion of Merit
 Distinguished Flying Cross
 Purple Heart
 Presidential Unit Citation (awarded Patrol Squadron 22)

Duty Assignment Chronology

6/33-12/33 USS *Salt Lake City* (CA-25).
 12/33-6/35 USS *New Orleans* (CA-32).
 6/35-7/36 NAS, Pensacola, FL. (Instruction).
 7/36-7/37 Fighter Squadron ONE-B.
 7/37-6/39 Fighter Squadron SIX.
 6/39-3/42 Patrol Squadron 22.
 3/42-6/42 Patrol Squadron 101.
 6/42-2/43 Transition Training Squadron, Atlantic Fleet
 2/43-1/44 CO, Bombing Squadron 132.

1/44-9/45 Staff, Commander Air Force, Atlantic Fleet (Gunnery and Tactical Off.).
 9/45-5/46 Staff, Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet (Member, Strategic Bombing Survey).
 5/46-8/48 XO, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, VA.
 8/48-12/49 USS *Midway* (CVB-41) (Operations Officer).
 12/49-7/50 Operations Officer, Commander Carrier Division FOUR.
 7/50-8/52 Experimental Officer, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Inyokern, CA.
 8/52-6/53 Naval War College (Student).
 6/53-5/55 Staff, Commander Air Force, Atlantic Fleet (Plans Officer).
 5/55-8/56 Office of Assistant SECNAV for Air (Aide to Ass't SECNAV (Air)).
 8/56-9/57 CO, USS *Salisbury Sound* (AV-13).
 9/57-3/58 Office of CNO (Ass't to Director, Strategic Plans Division).
 3/58-6/58 Joint Operations Analysis Group -1958 (Team Chief).
 6/58-7/59 Office of CNO (Assistant for War Gaming Matters).
 7/59-11/60 Commander, Carrier Division SIX.
 11/60-10/62 Office of CNO (Director, Long Range Objectives Group).
 10/62-6/64 Commander, SEVENTH Fleet.
 6/64-4/65 Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.
 4/65-8/67 Commander in Chief, Atlantic and Atlantic Fleet/Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic.
 8/67-7/70 Chief of Naval Operations.
 7/70-7/74 Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Wash., D. C.
 7/1/74 Retired from active duty.

Summary of Significant Career Events

Thomas Hinman Moorer was born in Mount Willing, Alabama, February 9, 1912, son of the late Dr. R. R. Moorer and the late Mrs. (Hulda Hill Hinson) Moorer. He was graduated from Cloverdale High School in Montgomery, AL.,

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Summary of Significant Career Event continued

Valedictorian of the Class of 1927, and on June 10, 1929, he entered the U. S. Naval Academy. As a midshipman he played football for three years. He was graduated and commissioned ensign on June 1, 1933, and through subsequent promotions attained the rank of rear admiral to date from August 1, 1958; vice admiral, to date from October 5, 1962 and admiral, to date from June 26, 1964.

After graduation in June 1933, he served six months on board the USS *Salt Lake City* as a junior officer in the gunnery department. He assisted in fitting out the USS *New Orleans* at the Navy Yard, New York, and served in that cruiser's gunnery and engineering departments from her commissioning, February 15, 1934, until detached in June 1935. During the next year he was a student at the NAS Pensacola, Florida. After completing flight training in July 1936 he was designated a Naval Aviator.

In August 1936 he was assigned to Fighting Squadron ONE-B, based briefly on the USS *Langley* and later on the USS *Lexington*. He was transferred in July 1937 to Fighting Squadron SIX, based on the USS *Enterprise*, and continued duty with that squadron until August 1939. He then joined Patrol Squadron 22, a unit of Fleet Air Wing TWO, and later Fleet Air Wing 10, and was with that squadron at Pearl Harbor, when the Japanese attacked the Fleet there on December 7, 1941. His squadron was sent to the Southwest Pacific and during the Dutch East Indies Campaign, he was shot down in a PBY on February 19, 1942, north of Darwin, Australia. He was rescued by a ship which was sunk by enemy action the same day.

He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received on February 19, 1942, and the Silver Star Medal for "extremely gallant and intrepid conduct as Pilot of a Patrol Plane during and following an attack by enemy Japanese aircraft in the vicinity of Cape Diemen, February 19, 1942.

Between March and June 1942, he served with Patrol Squadron 101 and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The citation follows: "For extraordinary achievement and heroic conduct as commander of a patrol plane on a hazardous round-trip flight from Darwin, Australia to Beco, Island of Timor, on the afternoon and night of May 24, 1942. In an undefended, comparatively slow flying boat, Lieutenant Moorer braved an area dominated by enemy air superiority, effected a precarious landing in the open sea at dusk and took off at night in the midst of threatening swells, with a heavily loaded airplane. His superb skill and courageous determination in organizing and executing this perilous mission resulted in the delivery of urgently needed supplies to a beleaguered garrison and the evacuation of eight seriously wounded men who otherwise might have perished."

After his return to the U. S. in July 1942, he had temporary duty from August of that year to March of the next in the United Kingdom, as a mining observer for the Commander in Chief, U. S. Fleet. He then fitted out and assumed command of Bombing Squadron 132, operating in

Cuba and Africa from its base at Key West, Florida, Boco Chica Air Base. Detached from that command, he served as gunnery and tactical officer on the staff of Commander Air Force, Atlantic, from March 1944 to July 1945.

He was awarded the Legion of Merit: "For meritorious conduct...as Force Gunnery and Tactical Officer on the staff of Commander Air Force, Atlantic Fleet. From August 1945 until May 1946, he was assigned to the Strategic Bombing Survey - Japan, and the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, engaged in the interrogation of Japanese Officials. For two years thereafter, he served as executive officer of the Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia. He next had duty afloat as operations officer of the USS *Midway* (July 1948-November 1949), and as operations officer on the staff of Commander Carrier Division FOUR, Atlantic Fleet (December 1949-July 1950).

Reporting in August 1950 to Inyokern, California, he served for a year as experimental officer of the Naval Ordnance Test Station. During the year following, he was a student at the Naval War College, Newport, RI., and in August 1953, again reported for duty on the staff of Commander Air Force, Atlantic Fleet. In May 1955 he was ordered to the Navy Department to serve as aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Air) and in July 1956 was detached to sea duty as CO of USS *Salisbury Sound* (AV-13).

On July 26, 1957 his selection for the rank of Rear Admiral was approved by the President and in October, the same year, he reported as Special Assistant, Strategic Plans Division, Office of the CNO. From January 1, 1958 until July 1959, he was Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (War Gaming Matters), after which he commanded Carrier Division SIX. He returned to the Office of the CNO in November 1960 and served as Director of the Long Range Objectives Group until October 1962 when he assumed command of the SEVENTH Fleet. In June 1964 he became Commander in Chief of the Pacific Fleet. Admiral Moorer assumed command of NATO's Allied Command, Atlantic, the U. S. unified Atlantic Command, and the U. S. Atlantic Fleet on April 30, 1965.

On June 3, 1967, he was named by President Johnson to succeed Admiral David L. McDonald, USN, as Chief of Naval Operations. Admiral Moorer became the eighteenth Chief of Naval Operations on August 1, 1967.

He was reappointed Chief of Naval Operations by President Nixon on June 12, 1969. He was then nominated by President Nixon on April 14, 1970, to serve as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Senate confirmed the appointment on June 17, 1970.

On July 2, 1970, Admiral Moorer assumed the office of Chairman. He was reappointed by President Nixon for a second two- year term as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on June 20, 1972. The reappointment was confirmed by the Senate on June 30, 1972. On 1 July 1974 he retired from active duty.