

**COMMANDING OFFICER  
CDR Alphonso L. Woods  
Feb 7, 2003-Jul 19, 2004**

Commander Alphonso Woods, born in Danville, Va., attended Tunstall High School in Dry Fork, Va. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy following graduation and attended the Electronics Technician "A" school and the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training program. He attended Prairie View A & M University and subsequently graduated in December 1984, where he earned a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics and a commissioning as an ensign.

Following graduation, he attended the Surface Warfare Officer School's Division Officer course and other specialty training courses in Coronado, Calif., prior to reporting to USS ROANOKE (AOR 7), homeported in Long Beach, Calif. During this tour of duty, he served as the combat systems officer, administration officer and navigator. Operational accomplishments included deployments to the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf as part of the USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) Battle Group. In October 1988, Cmdr. Woods earned a Master's of Science Degree in Computer Science at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif.

Following his shore assignment, he reported to USS WABASH (AOR 5) as the operations officer.

His next assignment was as commissioning operations officer of USS SUPPLY (AOE 6). In May 1995, he attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in Newport, R.I., where he completed his professional military education requirements. From August 1996 to March 1998, he served on the staff of Commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic Fleet as the local area network administrator. He then reported to the Prospective Commanding Officers course at the Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, R.I.

He assumed command of USS GUARDIAN (MCM 5) in September 1998, homeported in Sasebo, Japan. Operational accomplishments during this time include making the longest deployment to date for an MCM-class ship without assistance from a dedicated support ship, participation in trilateral MCMEX in Southeast Asia and participation in US/ROK exercise Foal Eagle 98/Mirem 5.

Cmdr. Woods transferred to the Joint Staff J-4 Logistics Directorate in May 2000. While assigned to the J-4, he managed Strategic Sealift Programmatic Planning, defining sealift requirements in the Department-of-Defense-directed Mobility Requirements Study 2005 (MRS-05). He also served on the Chairman's Joint Vision 2020 JWCA.

