



Captain John W.R. Pope III, USN

Commanding Officer, Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston

Captain John W.R. Pope III, USN, is the fifth commanding officer of Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Charleston. Previously, Captain Pope was the Deputy Program Manager for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command's Naval Satellite Communications Systems Programs Office where he was responsible for all naval satellite communication terminals in the frequency spectrum above 2 GHz. This included the Navy Extremely High Frequency Satellite Communication Program, the Super High Frequency terminals, the commercial C-band terminals, International Maritime Communications Satellite terminals, the Navy's portion of the Global Broadcast Service terminals, Iridium Hand-Held Satellite Terminals, and Television Direct-to-Sailor systems. Associated with this is management of both terrestrial infrastructure and commercial satellite transponder leasing.

Captain Pope was born at Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. He is a 1983 cum laude graduate with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania. Captain Pope received his Navy commission via NROTC in May 1983. He is the son of retired Navy Captain and Mrs. John W. R. Pope Jr., USN.

After completing Surface Warfare Officer, FFG-7 Engineering Officer, and Damage Control Assistant training, he reported to the *USS Gallery* (FFG-26) in June 1984. While serving aboard the *Gallery*, Captain Pope made an Eastern Pacific and a Persian Gulf deployment and qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer. During this tour, he served as Damage Control Assistant and Ordnance Officer. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, from May 1987 to September 1989, and earned a master of science degree with distinction in electrical engineering. He also earned an Electrical Engineer Degree at the Naval Postgraduate School and proceeded to the Engineering Duty Basic School in October 1989.

From January 1990 to July 1993, Captain Pope was assigned to Naval Sea Systems Command in Arlington, Virginia as the Test and Evaluation Officer for the joint U.S. - Australian NULKA Decoy Project. He completed his work there with a successful Development Test and Operational Test program and proceeded to the Bureau of Naval Personnel's Sea Duty Component in Arlington, Virginia. From August 1993 to August 1995, he served as Special Projects Officer and was a member of the technical direction staff for a Chief of Naval Operations-directed special program.

Captain Pope served as Force Combat Systems Officer, Naval Surface Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet in San Diego, California, from August 1995 to August 1998. From September 1998 to June 2000, he served as a Joint Task Group Manager and Afloat Installations Manager within the Installations and Logistics Directorate of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

Following this tour, he served as the Advanced Tactical Data Link Systems Engineer within the Tactical Data Link Programs Office, SPAWAR PMW-C159, from July 2000 to November 2000. He was selected Deputy Program Manager in SPAWAR PMW-176 in December 2000.

Captain Pope's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star in lieu of second award, Navy Unit Commendation, and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.