



**Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet
Commander, U.S. Third Fleet Change of Command
San Diego, California
Admiral Cecil D. Haney
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As Prepared for Delivery**

Thank you Admiral Winnefeld for your remarks. I certainly echo your praise for the great job Steamer has done here and throughout his career.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, friends and especially the Beaman and Floyd families, good afternoon. Today we witness a change of Third Fleet leadership from Vice Admiral Beaman to Vice Admiral Floyd. Outstanding Americans who have brilliantly served our Navy and our Nation. Ken and Debbie, I welcome you to the Pacific Fleet team and I look forward to working with you in the future.

You know, as the Commander of the United States Pacific Fleet, I could not be more thankful for the great work Steamer has accomplished here. He is well known for his innovative approaches to the challenges we face, such as “clean slate,” the Carrier Strike Group training approach where he worked to ready the Nimitz Strike Group on a very compressed timeline.

His passionate leadership of the Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC), has become legendary. He even expanded it to include the Russians and now, in 2014, we’ll include the Chinese.

He showed us a glimpse of the future with the use of biofuels through the Great Green Fleet demonstration in RIMPAC 2012. One day during the exercise, we flew the Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations, myself, Steamer and other distinguished visitors on helicopters powered by biofuel. We survived, so clearly it works!

Steamer has also worked to enhance our relationships with our allies, partners and friends, not just for RIMPAC, but during other exercises as well. He has traveled to engage the leadership in Japan, Mexico and Canada.

One of Steamer’s greatest accomplishments as the commander of the Third Fleet has been to certify for deployment five carrier strike groups, three amphibious ready groups and 109 independent deployers. He has ensured that our forces are fully ready to meet the demands of this uncertain world not just to the Indo-Asia-Pacific, but to places of consequence around the world. He is keen on warfighting and he values his people.

Steamer, I have often sought your counsel on a wide range of topics and I’ve always respected and valued your thoughts and your opinions. I congratulate you on your stellar career and your achievements as the Commander of Third Fleet. Your leadership will certainly be missed by all of us in the Navy, especially here in the Pacific. Your achievements will have a lasting affect that will benefit our Navy for decades.

Bonny and I will miss you and Yvonne immensely. Yvonne, thank you also for your dedication to our Navy, I know this is a big day for you too. Thanks for allowing not just your husband to serve, but your son. By the way, AWR1 Rick Beaman, congratulations on your selection to Limited Duty Officer. I know you have made your family proud. Steamer, Yvonne, I wish you fair winds and following seas

Steamer, will you please join me for an awards presentation?