



MISSION: READINESS
MILITARY LEADERS FOR KIDS



Admiral Thomas B. Hayward

United States Navy (Ret.)

Thomas B. Hayward, Admiral, US Navy (Ret.) serves on the Executive Advisory Council of Mission Readiness: Military Leaders for Kids, a nonprofit of generals, admirals, and other senior military leaders founded in 2008 to ensure continued American security and prosperity into the 21st century by calling for smart investments in the upcoming generation of American children.

A native Californian, Admiral Hayward attended Glendale Junior College and Occidental College at Los Angeles and in 1943 was appointed a Naval Aviation Cadet in the V-5 Program of the U.S. Naval Reserve. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1944 on appointment from the State of California and upon graduation was commissioned Ensign in the U.S. Navy on June 6, 1947.

Admiral Hayward became a Naval Aviator on July 26, 1950, participating in combat operations in Korea. In January 1954, he reported for test pilot training at the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent river, Maryland and upon completion of training remained there as a test pilot and project coordinator. From August 1966 to August 1967, he was a student at the National War College in Washington, D.C. and in 1967 he received a Master of Science degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. On June 14, 1975, he assumed command of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific and was embarked aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Oklahoma City. Promoted to the rank of Admiral, he assumed duties as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet on August 12, 1976. Admiral Thomas B. Hayward became the 21st Chief of Naval Operations on July 1, 1978 and retired in 1982.