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Ms. Cynthia Holland is the Office of Naval Research (ONR) Global Science Advisor to the Commander, US Pacific Command (USPACOM). Ms. Holland reviews and evaluates existing and emerging Science and Technology products applicable to USPACOM warfighting gaps and makes recommendations to the USPACOM staff.

Prior to her assignment as S&T Advisor, Ms. Holland served as the Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) Assessment Analyst at Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center (SMWDC-IAMD) in Dahlgren, VA. She contributed to the Navy's IAMD Warfighting Capability Assessment, including generation of the top ten prioritized list for capabilities in IAMD. She also led the warfighter feedback and training aspects of Navy Laser Weapons Systems Simulation Exercises (SIMEX).



Ms. Holland served at the Navy Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division from 2009-2016. For most of that time, she was the Lead Instrumentation Engineer and then Test Systems Integrator for the Navy Electromagnetic Railgun Program, a high visibility and high tempo S&T weapons development program. For a year she was the lead for the development of a unique 57mm gun projectile catch system, a test asset still in use on the NSWC test range today. Most recently, she was the Deputy Assistant Program Manager for Railgun in the Directed Energy and Electric Weapons Programs Office, Navy Sea Systems Command.

Ms. Holland is both a Department of Navy civilian and a commissioned Navy officer. In her first active duty tour, she was competitively selected to train enlisted personnel, officers, and prospective Aircraft Carrier Commanding Officers on the technical aspects of Navy Nuclear Power. In her next tour, she was the Department Head of Officer Programs at the Navy Recruiting District, Philadelphia. She also served as the Officer in Charge of Navy Officer Recruiting Station, Hanover. In 2009, she affiliated with the US Navy Reserve and took the oath to serve as a Navy Civilian. She served as a Science and Technology Liaison officer with the Navy Research Lab Headquarters Unit, where she focused on the Navy Electromagnetic Railgun. Then, as a member of the Navy Space Cadre, she served at the Navy Network Warfare Command Space Cell in Suffolk, VA. She mobilized as an Individual Augmentee in support of the Global War on Terrorism. She is currently the N8 Director for the SPAWAR Reserve Program, headquartered in San Diego, CA.

In addition to her chemical engineering undergraduate degree, Ms. Holland holds two master's degrees, one Applied Physics from Johns Hopkins University and one in Aeronautical Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. She is certified at Level III in Defense Acquisition Systems Planning, Research, Development and Engineering, Level I in Test Evaluation and Level I in Program Management. She is currently earning her graduate certificate in Chief Information Officer Studies at the National Defense University. Her awards include the Dr. Delores M. Etter Department of Defense Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year – 2011, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, and various other personal, unit, and service awards.