

Charles (Chester) Nimitz

Admiral of the Navy



Background



- Born in Fredericksburg, Texas on 24 Feb 1885
- Attended the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis and graduated in 1905

Early Military Career

- Served in the Navy in the Philippines
- Assigned to the underwater service; did not like it at first, but eventually became a leading expert



His Career Takes Off



- In 1912 given command of the Atlantic Submarine Flotilla
- Studied German Navy vessels and diesel engines; brought diesel to the U.S. Navy ships
- Chief of Staff of Atlantic Submarine Force in World War One

Admiral Nimitz

- Promoted to Rear Admiral (one star) in 1938 and named commander of the Cruiser and Battleship Divisions
- After bombing of Pearl Harbor, became commander of the Pacific Fleet



World War 2 Strategist

- Worked with Admiral Ernest King and General Douglas MacArthur to develop a strategy to protect a line of communications from the South Pacific to Australia



Five Star Admiral



- Promoted to Five Star Admiral (Fleet Admiral) in December of 1944
- Commander in Chief of the U.S.Fleet in November of 1945

Later Life



- Retired from the Navy in 1947
- In 1949 became a Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations
- Died on 20 Feb 1966
