



Leif H. Hendrickson
Brigadier General, United States Marine Corps

Brigadier General Leif H. Hendrickson graduated from the United States Naval Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Analysis and was commissioned in 1973. Upon graduating from The Basic School, he completed flight school and was designated a Naval Aviator in June 1975.

Following flight school, Brigadier General Hendrickson reported to HMT-301, MCAS (H) Santa Ana, California for CH-46 Sea Knight training and was subsequently reassigned to his first tactical squadron, HMM-163 where he served as the Squadron's Embarkation Officer and participated in the initial Operational Test and Evaluation of the USS Tarawa (LHA-1) as the Team Embarkation Officer. He later served as the Squadron's Flight Officer.

In December 1977, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to HMM-165, MCAS Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii where he deployed twice to the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf with the 31st Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU). First as the Squadron's Quality Assurance Officer aboard the USS Okinawa (LPH-3) in 1978 and again as the Squadron's Assistant Operations Officer aboard the USS Okinawa (LPH-3) in 1980.

In February 1981, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the Naval Air Training Command as a Naval Flight Instructor with VT-6 and later as the Standardization Officer and Operations Officer of the Instructor Training Unit for the Commander, Training Air Wing Five. During his tour, he received a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of West Florida.

In June 1984, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to HMT-301, MCAS Tustin, California for refresher training in the CH-46 and was subsequently assigned to HMM-164 where he deployed twice to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. First with the 13th Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) as the Squadron's Logistics' Officer aboard the USS Okinawa (LPH-3) in 1985 and again with the 11th Marine Expeditionary, Unit Special Operations Capable (MEU (SOC)) as the Squadron's Operations Officer aboard the USS Peleliu (LHA-5) in 1988.

In July 1988, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the Commander, Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California where he served as the Marine Amphibious Aviation Officer and project officer for the initiation, development and procurement of Night Vision Lighting for Amphibious Aviation and Air Capable class ships. He was also the project officer for the initiation, development, test and evaluation for enhanced flight deck markings aboard LPD class ships.

In July 1991, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the Third Marine Aircraft Wing where he served as the G-3 Operations Officer, completed refresher training in the CH-46 with HMT-301 and was later reassigned as Executive Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 16.

In August 1992, Brigadier General Hendrickson assumed command of HMM-268 and deployed aboard the USS New Orleans (LPH-11) as the Aviation Combat Element of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in support of Operations CONTINUE HOPE/UNISOM II in Somalia. HMM-268 was selected as Marine Helicopter Squadron of the Year for 1993.

In July 1994, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania as a student.

In July 1995, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff and served in the J-3 as the Division Chief, Joint Operations Division (Current Operations and Plans) for the Middle East and Africa.

After completing refresher training with HMX-1 in December 1998, Brigadier General Hendrickson was reassigned to the First Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa as the Assistant Chief of Staff / G-1 enroute to command Marine Aircraft Group 36. In March 1999, he was selected for Flag Rank and reassigned to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia.

As a General Officer, Brigadier General Hendrickson has served as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Quantico, President, Marine Corps University and Commanding General, Education Command. He was promoted to his current rank in November 2000.

Brigadier General Hendrickson has amassed over 5,000 flight hours. His personal decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, Air Medal and the Joint Staff Badge.

