

## REAR ADMIRAL B N B WILLIAMS CBE BSc CCMi

Deputy Director General & Chief of Staff European Union Military Staff



**1980-1996:** Bruce Williams' formative years resulted in his graduation as a Navigator and Principal Warfare Officer, and from Staff College. On the staff of Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST), he was promoted to **Commander (OF4)** and appointed as the British Assistant Defence Adviser and RNLO Singapore (in command of Naval Party 1022).

**1996-2001:** Moving next to the UK's Permanent Joint HQ (PJHQ) Chief of Staff's outer office, activities included inauguration of the HQ, operations from the Western Balkans to West Africa and the 1998 Strategic Defence Review. Subsequently in command of HMS NORFOLK, operational exploits included Sierra Leone, Kosovo and NATO's Standing Force Naval Atlantic (SNFL). HMS NORFOLK was awarded the Wilkinson Sword of Peace for its humanitarian and peacekeeping operations in Sierra Leone in 1999.

**2001-2004:** From the Directorate of Policy Planning (UK Ministry of Defence), he was promoted to **Captain (OF5)** and appointed Assistant Director, Directorate of Naval Operations - concurrently he acted as Joint MOD Current Commitments Team Leader for the UK response post '911'. By 2003, in command of HMS CAMPBELTOWN, he focused on counter terrorism and maritime security in the eastern Mediterranean, as Flagship to Commander SNFL, and Persian Gulf, Horn of Africa and Indian Ocean, as part of CTF150 and 152. He was concurrently appointed as Captain Initial Sea Training, responsible for initial Fleet training for all RN junior officers.

**2005-2007:** Promoted to **Commodore (1\*)** whilst Deputy FOST he was posted as the UK's inaugural Commander Coalition Task Force (CTF) 58 (Southern Iraq and Northern Gulf) in 2005. From 2006, as Commander UK Task Group and Deputy Commander UK Maritime Force, he deployed again as Commander CTF150 (Red Sea, Horn of Africa to Gulf of Oman). In 2007 he stood-up, as Deputy Maritime Component Commander for NATO's High Readiness Force (Maritime) for NRF9.

**2008-2013:** As Deputy Commandant of the UK's Joint Services Command & Staff College, and as an ADC to Her Majesty the Queen, he was promoted, in 2009, **Rear Admiral (2\*)** on appointment as Chief of Staff to HQ Allied (NATO) Maritime Command Naples and Senior UK Military Representative in Italy. By Sep 2011 he had moved again to his current appointment as Deputy Director General and Chief of Staff of the European Union Military Staff in Brussels.

### **Operational Awards:**

1982 General Service Medal Northern Ireland  
1999 Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service (Sierra Leone)  
2002 Order of the British Empire (Post-911, Afghanistan & Iraq)  
2003 NATO Article V Medal (Op ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR)  
2004 Iraq Campaign Medal (CTF 58)  
2005 Operational Service Medal Afghanistan (CTF 150)  
2008 Commander of the British Empire (Collective Ops 2005-7)

### **Principal Operational Deployments:**

1981-2 Op BANNER (Northern Ireland)  
1999 Op BASILICA (Sierra Leone)  
1999 Op ALLIED FORCE (Kosovo)  
2003 Op ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR (NATO - E. Med.)  
2004 Op ENDURING FREEDOM/Op CALASH (Gulf, Indian Ocean and Horn of Africa)  
2005-6 Op IRAQI FREEDOM/Op TELIC (Iraq)  
2006-7 Op ENDURING FREEDOM/Op CALASH