

## Robert A. Tolhurst

Executive Director

Joint Warfare Analysis Center

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Mr. Robert Tolhurst is the Executive Director of the Joint Warfare Analysis Center (JWAC). He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He earned a Master of Arts in Management from Webster College in 1975.

VA for training in the A-6 Intruder. He joined VA-75 in January 1972 and deployed to Vietnam where he flew 188 combat missions. Following a tour as a flight instructor in Kingsville, Texas, Mr. Tolhurst served as the Flight Deck Officer on the USS John F. Kennedy. Mr. Tolhurst subsequently served in several A-6 squadrons through 1985, when he became the Commanding Officer of VA-85. During this tour he was involved in Freedom of Navigation operations off of Libya. On one of these missions he attacked and sank a Libyan missile patrol boat that was attempting to attack U.S. ships. He was also closely involved in the Achille Lauro terrorist incident and the subsequent forcing down of an airliner carrying the terrorists.

Mr. Tolhurst reported to Commander Carrier Group Four staff in October 1988 as the Air Operations Officer. In this capacity he was responsible for the coordination of all Carrier Battlegroup air operations evaluations. He also served as the staff expert on Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC) operations during several Joint and NATO exercises.

Mr. Tolhurst screened for follow-on command and reported to Dahlgren, VA in August of 1990 as the Program Director. He was the Commander of the Naval Warfare Analysis Center (NAVWAC) and then the first Commander of the Joint Warfare Analysis Center (JWAC). During his tenure at Dahlgren the command grew from a 38 person Program Office to a 322 person Joint Command reporting to the Joint Staff J-3. Mr. Tolhurst accumulated more than 5,000 flight hours and 994 carrier landings during his career.

Mr. Tolhurst retired from the Navy in October of 1995. He worked for Electrospace Systems, Inc. as a Program Manager. When ESI was acquired by Raytheon in 1997, Mr. Tolhurst became a Senior Manager overseeing seven different contracts with Operations Research and Engineering focus.

In May 2004, Mr. Tolhurst was selected as the Executive Director of JWAC. He reported to JWAC in August 2004.