

Rear Admiral N S R Kilgour



Commander Operations (CINCFLEET)



Flag Officer Submarines



Commander Submarines East Atlantic

Commander Submarine Allied Naval Forces North

Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour joined the Royal Navy in 1968. He qualified as a submariner in 1972, subsequently serving in nuclear and diesel submarines; he commanded the submarines HMS PORPOISE from 1980 to 1982 and HMS COURAGEOUS from 1986 to 1988. Early shore appointments included the Naval Staff Course at Greenwich, the staff of Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth and Commander SM of the Third Submarine Squadron in Faslane. In 1990 he was appointed the Operations Officer for the Submarine Flotilla thus starting a subsequent career profile alternating between operational posts and further command at sea.

From submarine operations and the direction of operational patrols in the final stages of the Cold War, he served with COMNAVSOUTH in Naples with responsibility for the day to day NATO sanctions operations in the Adriatic at the start of the Bosnia Crisis. He returned to sea in 1994 as Captain of the Sixth Frigate Squadron and Commanding Officer of HMS NORFOLK and thence HMS MONTROSE. Back in the operational fold in 1996, he became the Assistant Chief of Staff (Operations) to the Commander-in-Chief Fleet and also dual hatted as Assistant Chief of Staff for Maritime Operations within the then newly formed Permanent Joint Headquarters. In an exhilarating period of activity he was involved in a wide variety of operations world wide including highly successful counter-drug operations closer to home. In 1998 he returned to sea again as Commander Amphibious Task Group/Commander United Kingdom/Netherlands Amphibious Group. Highlights included disaster relief operations in Central America post Hurricane Mitch (for which the Group was awarded the Wilkinson Sword of Peace), earthquake assistance to Turkey, Component Command for UK operations in Sierra Leone, several major deployments and continued readiness for contingent operations. Admiral Kilgour was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service for his command of maritime forces in Operation Palliser (Sierra Leone) in May/June 2000.

Promoted to Flag Rank in September 2001, Admiral Kilgour returns to the Fleet Headquarters at Northwood for the third time to continue his involvement with submarines and operations as both a national and NATO Commander.

Niall Kilgour is married and he and his wife Jane have three children, Claire 24, Marcus 23 and Nicola 19. His principal interests include country activities, history, sports and keeping the family content!