

LIMA CO TAC Officer

LIEUTENANT ORLANDO GARCIA

United States Navy

LT Garcia is native of Rio Grande, P.R. He enlisted in December 1989 and received recruit training at Orlando, FL., followed by Aviation Machinist Mate (AD) training at Millington, TN. His first duty assignment was onboard the USS FORRESTAL (CV 59) where he deployed in support of Operation PROVIDE COMFORT. He then joined the "Sidewinders" of VFA 86 where he deployed onboard USS AMERICA (CV 66) for Operation SOUTHERN WATCH. Additional duty stations and assignments include, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department, NAS Cecil Field, FL; Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department, NAS Sigonella, Italy; and the "Redtales" of VC 8, in Roosevelt Roads, PR. During his time as a Jet Engine Mechanic he achieved the rank of Petty Officer First Class, he served as Power Plant Supervisor and Phase/Corrosion Control Leading Petty Officer. He performed scheduled and unscheduled maintenance in seven aircraft engines types and was qualified as Power Plants Quality Assurance Inspector on the F/A-18C, TA-4J and UH-3H aircrafts.



LT Garcia attended college during his off-duty time, he received a Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in 2000. He was selected to attend Officer Candidate School and was then commissioned in February 2003. He reported to NAS Pensacola, FL for aviation flight training completing primary and intermediate joint Naval Flight Officer and Navigator training with the "Warbucks" of VT 4. He then completed Advance Maritime Training at the 562nd Flying Training Squadron in Randolph AFB, TX earning his Naval Flight Officer Wings of Gold. He then reported to the "Pro's Nest" of VP 30 in NAS Jacksonville, FL to complete P-3 fleet replacement training. His first operational assignment as Naval Flight Officer was with the "Tridents" of VP 26. During his tour the squadron deployed twice to the 5th fleet area of responsibility in support of Operations ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM and served as Aviation Warfare Division Officer and as Aviation Life Support System Branch officer. He participated in detachments to Sicily, Crete, Iraq, Qatar and Djibouti. His final assignment was with the NROTC Unit The Citadel, where he served as Senior Naval Instructor.