

Air Wing Commander

Commander Joseph E. Potosnak, USN

Commander Joseph E. Potosnak joined the Navy as an enlisted man in April 1951, and was accepted for pilot training under the Naval Aviation Cadet Program. He received his commission and wings in 1954.

As a naval aviator, Commander Potosnak has served with VF-62, VA-106, VA-12, CVW-1, VA-122. He served as executive officer and commanding officer of VA-56.

Commander Potosnak has seen duty aboard the carrier USS Coral Sea (with VF-62), USS Forrestal (with VA-12), USS

Franklin D. Roosevelt (with CVW-1), USS Shangri-La and USS Saratoga (with VA-106), and USS Ranger (with VA-56).

In January 1967, Commander Potosnak entered the Armed Forces Staff College. He went to the Naval Postgraduate School in October 1970, and graduated two years later with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations.

Commander Potosnak assumed command of Air Wing Nineteen in June 1973.

