

## Supply Chain Risks and Solutions Conference Sept 30 - Oct 2: Hyatt Regency St. Louis at The Arch, St. Louis, Missouri

**Guest Speaker:** Rear Admiral John Palmer U.S. Navy (Ret) author of *From Bluegrass to Blue Water - Lessons in Farm Philosophy and Navy Leadership* 

John Palmer is a native of Lexington, Kentucky and a graduate of The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina (B.S. Business Administration), the Naval Postgraduate School (M.S. Systems Management), and the Columbia University Graduate School of Business (Senior Executive Program). He is owner of JT Palmer Enterprises, LLC—a South Carolina corporation where he serves as an independent consultant, advisory board member, college guest lecturer, and author. Mr. Palmer performs as a public speaker to an array of civic groups throughout the southeast and commentator for various media including Fox News as a subject matter expert. He is a frequent guest lecturer at Columbia University's Graduate School of Business, U.S. Naval Academy, University of Virginia, and The Citadel. He also participates in managing two family farms in Kentucky. From 2020-2023, Mr. Palmer was the inaugural Chief Executive Officer of Sheltron, Inc. in Pontiac, Michigan The Palmers served over 32 years as a Navy family with the author retiring at the rank of rear admiral. Admiral Palmer served on board four ships for nearly nine years. He was entrusted with command on three occasions culminating with his final tour as Commander, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Land & Maritime—a \$6 billion per year procurement activity supporting Army/Marine Corps wheeled & tracked vehicles and Navy surface vessels & submarines. His initial Flag tour was in Pearl Harbor as U.S. Pacific Fleet's Director of Logistics, Fleet Support, and Ordnance (N4). During his naval career, Admiral Palmer earned several warfare and professional qualifications and is entitled to wear various personal, unit, and service awards including the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.

"From Bluegrass to Blue Water – Lessons in Farm Philosophy and Navy Leadership" - The philosophy found in this book is the product of a childhood on a tobacco and cattle farm in central Kentucky, education at various schools, and a three-decade career in the U.S. Navy while simultaneously contributing as a husband, father, and grandfather. The book is separated into phases reflective of the major changes in the author's life: the farm, schooling, and a navy career continuum from junior officer through flag officer. The lessons learned in earlier phases were often exported and applied later. The ever-increasing levels of responsibility served to teach new lessons.







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