Colonel Gary Anderson USMC (ret)

Gary Anderson retired from the Marine Corps in 2000. He commanded at every level from Lieutenant to Colonel. During his career, he served as a UN Observer in Lebanon, and as the Military Advisor to the United States Liaison Office to the UN Mission in Somalia, the the J-3 (Director of Plans and Operations) for Operation Sea Angel in Bangladesh, He was the Director of Marine Corps Wargaming and founded the Experimental Unit which evolved into the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab. Colonel Anderson retired as the Chief of Staff of the Warfighting Lab.

Upon retirement, Mr. Anderson became the first Director of the Marine Corps Center for Emerging Threats and Opportunities (CETO). He moved into the private sector in 2002 and became a Vice President with Hicks and Associates (a subsidiary of SAIC). From 2003-5, he served as a pro-bono Special Advisor to the Deputy Secretary of Defense traveling to Iraq and Afghanistan in that capacity.

In 2010, Mr. Anderson joined the State Department and served tours as a civilian field advisor in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Academically, Mr. Anderson served as an Assistant Professor of Naval Science at Vanderbilt University's NROTC unit. He also served a tour as the Marine Representative at the Naval War College Center for Advanced Naval Studies where he wrote two of its Newport Papers. He is currently an Adjunct Professor at the George Washington University's Elliott school of International Affairs.

Mr. Anderson was a contributing columnist for the WASHINGTON TIMES for forty years and also contributed OPEDS for the WASHINGTON POST, and WALL STREET JOURNAL. He has been a commentator for NPR, PBS, CNN and FOX NEWS.

He has been married to his wife Anne for fifty-four years. They have two children and five grandchildren.