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Rear Admiral Michael McDevitt, U.S. Navy (ret) is a Senior Fellow at the CNA Corporation; a not-for-profit federally funded research center in Washington DC. He has been involved in the formulation and analysis of U.S. security policy and strategy in the Asia-Pacific for the last 25 years, in both government policy positions and, following his retirement from the U.S. Navy, for the last decade as an analyst and commentator.

His most recent research focus has been the maritime security issues along the Indo-Pacific littoral and the maritime dimension of China's national strategy. During his navy career Rear Admiral McDevitt held four at-sea commands; including an aircraft carrier battle-group. He was the Director of the East Asia Policy office for the Secretary of Defense during the George H.W. Bush Administration. He also served for two years as the Director for Strategy, War Plans and Policy (J-5) for U.S. Pacific Command. Rear Admiral McDevitt concluded his 34 year active duty career as the Commandant of the National War College in Washington DC. He has a BA in history from the University of Southern California and an MA in U.S. diplomatic history from Georgetown University. He also spent a year as a Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group Fellow at the U.S. Naval War College.