CHRIS CARSON

APPLIED AI DEPLOYMENT | GOVERNMENT & NATIONAL SECURITY | AI WORKFLOW & SYSTEMS STRATEGY

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> **ACTIVE TS/SCI —** continuously held since 2022, no polygraph. Prior Secret since 2008. U.S. Citizen.

PROFILE

Seventeen years embedding into high-consequence operational environments — intelligence production floors, forward-deployed construction battalions, and warships underway — then rebuilding how those organizations work. Applies that same discipline to artificial intelligence: designs and ships production retrieval, agent, and workflow systems into settings where a wrong answer has real cost, including fully offline and disconnected environments. Led a 15-analyst team at the Office of Naval Intelligence and rebuilt the unit's analytic production flow. Currently flies vertical replenishment under U.S. Navy contract in the Indo-Pacific and NAVCENT theaters. Fluent translating between flag-level decision makers and the technicians who live with the system.

CORE COMPETENCIES

AI Deployment: Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) · Hybrid retrieval (keyword + vector) · Model Context Protocol (MCP) · Agentic workflow design · Prompt engineering · Evaluation & grounding design · Offline / air-gapped inference · Citation provenance enforcement

Delivery & Strategy: Workflow decomposition and redesign · Requirements elicitation · Stakeholder discovery · User adoption & enablement · Training program design · Technical writing & documentation · Change management · Product ownership

Mission Domain: All-source intelligence analysis · Analytic production management · OSINT tradecraft · Operational risk & safety management · Joint and coalition operations · Indo-PACOM and NAVCENT theaters · Executive-to-deckplate briefing

APPLIED AI PORTFOLIO — SYSTEMS DESIGNED, BUILT, AND DEPLOYED

Independent builds under Nomad Productions LLC. Systems below are live or in operational beta; architecture and delivery owned end to end.

FleetTrack OS — Unit Task Management Platform — Live beta

Founder and Product Owner | fleettrackos.com | Deployed with a U.S. Navy Reserve unit

- Ran the full deployment cycle inside a live military organization: workflow interviews, requirements definition, build, security hardening, and a capability brief to Navy Reserve command leadership.
- Designed a role-stratified PHP/MySQL application replacing a manual tracking process, rebuilt from prototype into a production system hardened to an A+ Qualys SSL rating with tightened CSP and CORP/COOP headers.
- Scoping a commercial pivot to field-service management for the trades sector.

225 Underground — Offline Citation-First RAG System for Aircrew — In build

Founder and Architect | ec225ai.com

- Architected a fully offline, CPU-only retrieval system over roughly 3,000 pages of EC225 technical manuals, running Llama 3.1 8B locally via Ollama — the disconnected-deployment pattern that governs shipboard and classified enclaves.
- Hybrid retrieval combining SQLite FTS5 keyword search with vector embeddings; answers constrained to cited manual sections against a stated zero-hallucination requirement, since an incorrect answer carries flight-safety consequences.
- Delivered supporting interactive systems labs and an FMS procedures trainer through a single hub.

Drift AI — Provenance-Enforced Retrieval Platform — Gate 3

Founder and Architect | TheRoamist.com

- Built a federated retrieval assistant drawing on National Weather Service and U.S. State Department sources through a cached ingestion layer, with enforced citation provenance so no uncited assertion reaches the user.
- Stood up a second retrieval spine on LanceDB embeddings with a licensed-content ingest pipeline, attribution handling, and a lifecycle CLI; Next.js interface. Parent platform holds a Mozilla Observatory A+ grade across 264 pages.

Channel Intelligence Dashboard — Competitive Monitoring System — Operational

Founder and Architect

- Built a 234-entity competitive intelligence system on the YouTube Data API using a two-lane architecture separating human-curated records from disposable API pulls, with an immutability rule ensuring tooling can never overwrite a prior collection.
- Python service layer exposing add, refresh, delete, dedupe, and link endpoints, with a companion Chrome MV3 extension for one-click entity capture; API quota instrumented per operation to keep full sweeps inside budget.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Contract VERTREP Pilot — U.S. Navy Vertical Replenishment
2023 – Present

AHI / DoD Aviation Contract | Indo-PACOM and NAVCENT theaters

- Fly vertical replenishment delivering cargo and ordnance to forward-deployed U.S. Navy warships underway: 40-plus missions moving 4 million pounds of cargo and 2 million pounds of ammunition at sea.
- Operate under DoD contract across the Indo-Pacific and Central Command areas of responsibility, including sustained operations in the NAVCENT theater during active hostilities.
- Coordinate daily across ship's company, air departments, Military Sealift Command mariners, and contract leadership — a multi-stakeholder delivery environment with no margin for a missed handoff.

Intelligence Specialist First Class (IS1) — Senior Analyst / Operations LPO / Training LPO
2021 – Present

U.S. Navy Reserve | Office of Naval Intelligence (NWAC); prior Kennedy Irregular Warfare Command

- Served two years as Senior Intelligence Analyst leading a team of 15 junior analysts producing finished all-source intelligence.
- Reorganized the unit's analytic production flow, restructuring how product moved from tasking through review to release — a workflow redesign executed inside a functioning organization without pausing production.
- As Training LPO, own the unit training program: authored a 19-page unclassified field guide now in unit use and delivered instruction on OSINT tradecraft and PLAN capabilities.
- Also served as Flight Operations Officer. Graduate, Defense Information School — Operational Intelligence NEC.

VFR Captain, Oil and Gas Operations
2020 – 2021

ERA Helicopters / Bristow Group | Gulf Coast

- AW109 Power and AW119 captain assigned across five bases in three states; flew the Murphy Oil contract and transported BSEE federal inspectors to offshore installations.

Tour Pilot — Grand Canyon; Marine Operations Pilot — Western Pacific
2018 – 2019

Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters (2019) | Hansen Helicopters (2018)

- Papillon: EC130 and Bell 206 across 450-plus tour flights carrying more than 3,000 passengers under FAA special flight rules in high-density-altitude terrain.
- Hansen: MD500 marine spotting operations from a Taiwanese vessel in the Western Pacific — 300-plus landings on a moving deck at sea across 500-plus operational hours, self-taught on shipboard deck landing without formal training.

Mass Communication Specialist — Navy Combat Camera
2012 – 2018

U.S. Navy Reserve | Bahrain, Italy

- Selected to the Navy's Combat Camera unit; documented special operations forces and international joint commands on deployment.
- One of six Combat Camera sailors selected nationally for Quick Shot, the SOCOM tactics and procedures course for combat documentation. Qualified SERE Level C, Expeditionary Combat Skills, and Aggressive VBSS.

Mass Communication Specialist; Construction Mechanic
2006 – 2012

U.S. Navy, Active Duty | Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3, Port Hueneme, CA

- Deployed as a solo documentarian covering NMCB-3 construction projects at dispersed sites across Afghanistan and Djibouti, operating independently with no on-site supervision. First Secret clearance 2008.
- Certified diesel mechanic on heavy machinery; qualified operator on multiple heavy equipment platforms.
- Deployments: Iraq, Afghanistan, Djibouti, Guantanamo Bay, Spain.

TECHNICAL ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, AND CREDENTIALS

AI & Retrieval	RAG architecture, hybrid retrieval (SQLite FTS5 + vector embeddings), LanceDB, grounding and citation enforcement, MCP, agentic workflows, prompt engineering, local inference via Ollama / Llama 3.1 8B. Anthropic Claude, OpenAI, and Google Gemini APIs in production application code.
Build Stack	PHP/MySQL, Python, Node/Express, Next.js, SQLite, REST APIs, Chrome MV3 extensions — delivered through AI-assisted development. Geospatial: QGIS, MapLibre GL, ArcGIS services, LiDAR and DEM processing (built a 3D commercial intelligence basemap from 1m DEM and 8,995 LiDAR-derived building footprints).
Security	CSP, HSTS, CORP/COOP header hardening; A+ Qualys SSL; Mozilla Observatory A+
Clearance	Active TS/SCI, continuously held since 2022, no polygraph. Prior Secret, 2008.
Education	B.S., General Studies (Professional Pilot), Southern Utah University — final course in progress. Military schools: Defense Information School (Operational Intelligence NEC), SERE Level C, Quick Shot (SOCOM combat documentation), Expeditionary Combat Skills, Aggressive VBSS.
Aviation	Commercial Rotorcraft-Helicopter. 2,300 hours, 8 helicopter types (6 turbine, one type-rated). Shipboard deck-landing qualified.
Certifications	In progress — Azure AI Fundamentals (AI-901); Claude Certified Architect – Foundations (Anthropic); SC-900.