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"On the Forefront of Force Protection"

The Association Voice of the Naval Reserve

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Contents

NRA NEWS May 2005, Volume 52, No. 5

FEATURE

13 **"ON THE FOREFRONT OF FORCE PROTECTION"**

"The Navy, like other branches of the armed forces, has looked at the impact of the increasing terrorist threats on operational forces; and because of that increased threat, we have put more focus on force protection."

— CAPT Mark E. Kosnik, USN
Commander Maritime Force Protection Command

DEPARTMENTS

4 **From the Editor**
6 **President's Message**
8 **Retirees' Corner**
10 **Professional Development**
11 **Junior Officer Country**
12 **Legislative Update**
23 **District News Briefs**
24 **Health Affairs**
26 **Info That You Can Use**
27 **Letters**
28 **Reservists in Action**

OTHERS

5 **Corporate Associates Program**
21 **Redesign of the Naval Reserve**
25 **News Notes**

ON THE COVER

IBU member on harbor patrol in the Middle East. Protecting high value assets including merchant and military vessels is a twenty-four-hour-a-day mission. (Official U.S. Navy photo)

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From the *Editor*

Spring is such an uplifting time. I just returned from a sunrise walk around the Tidal Basin where the cherry blossoms were in full bloom. The gloom of winter is past and it's an absolutely gorgeous day in Washington. These past few weeks have been particularly uplifting with the release of the Reserve O-8, O-7, and O-6 Line promotion lists – sincere congratulations to all. DoD reversed its much criticized position on campaign medals and announced the creation of two new ones for Afghanistan and Iraq. A year-long exhibit "U. S. Naval Reserve: 90 Years of Answering the Call" opened at the U. S. Navy Memorial.

Our Reservists in the Naval Coastal Warfare community are doing an absolutely phenomenal job in every respect. Since 9/11, they have been mobilized and deployed continuously at the forefront of this Global War on Terrorism. They are a model of dedication and sacrifice by any measure. The feature exposes us to individuals in the community and gives you an overview of the Force Protection Command, their efforts with active/reserve integration, NCW unit structure, and locations. It is very much a PR piece that will hopefully attract new members to the community. I am grateful to CAPT John Kittler for suggesting we do this feature.

If you read just one article in this magazine it should be LCDR Phan's entitled Sea Power. He starts with a quote from Mahan and uses it to make a case for Naval Reservists and their equipment to sustain our Navy on two levels. It is a remarkable piece by any measure. The brilliance and intellect of this officer should not be lost on his seniors. The article is on page 11. Many other articles address the many changes that are taking place in the Naval Reserve. They are meant not only to inform, but also to stimulate debate on active/reserve integration. Let us know what you think.

Recruiting and retention issues are moving to center stage for all services and their reserve components. In all likelihood, the Navy will not meet its target for 13,000 new Naval Reservists and the Naval Reserve will be challenged to slow appreciably the departure of 17,000 experienced personnel this fiscal year. A message has been released that approves affiliation bonus for officers and another went out as a "Personal For" to all COs and CMCs on "Stemming the Tide of Losses."

We believe that Congress should give the services the following tools targeted to mid-career personnel: (1) authorize critical skills bonuses for Guardsmen and Reservists (G&R) that would provide $100,000 over an entire career. (No authorization exists for G&R personnel while one with a $200,000 limit exists for active duty personnel; (2) increase affiliation bonuses to $15,000 to attract veterans; (3) restore the Reserve MGIB to the 50 percent of the active (presently at 28 percent!) and make it available throughout a career; and, (4) an earlier than age 60 retirement that is very popular with those serving today. DoD is dead set against an earlier than age 60 retirement and the Reserve Chiefs are in agreement, expressing concern that senior personnel will leave in droves. Sure sounds like conscript thinking to me. The solution might very well be an earlier than age 60 retirement modeled after Social Security – if you take it as early as age 55 you get a greatly reduced annuity for life. This NRA-conceived proposal would significantly reduce the costs to the government while providing a disincentive to early retirement for the senior leaders who truly have upwardly mobile careers.

Base realignment and closure recommendations (BRAC) will be made public on 16 May. We fully expect that it will be announced that: (1) Commander, Naval Reserve Force will leave New Orleans and move to Washington; (2) Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command will relocate to Little Creek, VA; (3) Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve will relocate to San Diego, CA, and Norfolk, VA; and, (4) that NAS JRB Willow Grove, PA, will be closed and units realigned to McGuire AFB.

On Memorial Day, we will be at Arlington National Cemetery representing you as we remember those who gave their lives in defense of this country. Over that holiday weekend, as you enjoy the freedom and way of life that they fought to protect, please take time to remember.

Best regards,

Steve Keith

Looking Ahead

June 2005. Our feature will be highlights from the NRA's Spring Conference held in Kansas City, MO.
July 2005. Our feature will be U. S. Public Health Service.
August 2005. We will feature the New Naval Reserve Flag Officers.

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CAPT Benjamin B. Liipfert, Jr., USNR (Ret)
LCDR Mitchell C. Liska, SC, USNR (Ret)
CDR James S. Little, USNR
CDR Robert G. Littlejohn, USNR
MAJ Willard Fiske Lochridge IV, NYNM
CDR Benjamin D. Lollar, USNR
CDR Frank H. Lyons, USNR (Ret)
LCDR John R. Madril, USNR
CDR Michael H. Magee, USNR
LCDR Gregory A. Mani, SC, USNR (Ret)
CDR John W. Marlowe, USNR (Ret)
CDR Marshall L. Martin, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT William B. Martin, SC, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Rene Martinez, USNR
CDR Eric Martinuzzi, USNR
CAPT Richard F. Maruszewski, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CDR Richard L. Mason, USNR (Ret)
CDR Richard E. Matlock, USNR (Ret)
LTJG Anthony G. Matt, USNR
CAPT Allan L. Mattern, MC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Jefferson H. Mattox, USNR
CDR Maurya M. McCall, USNR
CDR Donald W. McCambridge, USNR (Ret)
LT Donald R. McCann, USNR (Ret)
CAPT William E. McCann, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT Terrence F. McCarthy, DC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Kirk A. McClanahan, USNR
LCDR Warren H. McConnell, USNR (Ret)
LT Matthew K. McLaughlin, USNR
CAPT Dana C. McLendon, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CDR Thomas M. McManus, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Kenneth J. McNamara, USNR (Ret)
CAPT J. William McRoberts, MC, USNR (Ret)
RADM Samuel E. McWilliams, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Thomas H. Mealey, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT Richard T. Meehan, MC, USNR
CDR Maria Helen Melbourne, MC, USNR
CDR Robert J. Melucci, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Daniel G. Merkel, USNR (Ret)
RADM G. Robert Merrilees, USCG (Ret)
LCDR Donald E. Meserve, USNR
CAPT Charles M. Micken, USNR (Ret)
LCDR T. Richard Mihan, MC, USNR (Ret)
LCDR William Todd Mills, USNR
CDR Andrew H. Milstead, USNR
CDR Thomas Mischke, USNR (Ret)
LT Karl E. Mitchell, NC, USNR
CAPT Louise R. Mnich, JAGC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Edward J. Monahan, Jr., USNR (Ret)
LCDR George Alfred Monroe, MC, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Daniel L. Moody, USNR
CAPT James R. Moody, USNR (Ret)
CDR E. Earl Moore, DC, USNR (Ret)
LT Richard T. Moore, Jr., USN (Ret)
LCDR Daniel J. Moravec, USNR
LCDR James D. Morgan, Jr., USNR
ENS Stephen T. Morgan, USNR
LCDR James Allen Morrissey, Jr., USNR
CDR A. Herbert Morton, USNR (Ret)
SKCM John Joseph Mulhall, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Martin W. Mullan, USNR
CAPT Rick W. Munsell, USNR
CDR George J. Munson, USNR (Ret)
CDR Kevin L. Murray, USNR
CAPT Hans K. Mussler, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Timothy Patrick Naill, USNR
CAPT Robert M. Newburn, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Khanh Nguyen, DC, USNR
CDR Robert L. Nicolai, USNR (Ret)
LT Eric R. Nitschke, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Stephen D. Nordel, USNR
CDR Judy R. Ochsner, NC, USNR
LCDR John W. Otis, USNR (Ret)
CDR Glen Otis, USNR
CAPT Anthony J. Palazzo, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT Donald J. Patterson, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT Gladstone A. Payton, MC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Debra K. Pendergast, NC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Peter L. Perdue, USNR (Ret)
LT Darin Eugene Perrine, USNR

Cont'd. on page 31

Retirement Lifestyle

CDR Sharon K. Kleinschmidt, USNR (Ret)
National VP for Retired Personnel

Overwhelming! Confusing! Depressing! Exciting! Can't wait! Ready or Not! Yes, this is where I am, the retirement age! Decisions . . . .

It wasn't long ago that retirement was looked at as a blank slate: endless days to be filled with . . . not much. Maybe a luncheon, watching a soap opera, puttering around the house, tackling a crossword puzzle, or perhaps tee-time on the greens.

These days, retirement is seen as an opportunity for personal growth; but the lifestyle changes can seem overwhelming. How do you get the most out of those years? Pursuing meaningful activities is a key part of successful aging. How we age has more to do with choices than it does with our genes. Seventy percent of who we are is attributed to our lifestyle choices.

We need to challenge ourselves both mentally and physically in addition to taking steps to avoid medical crises.

Many retirees from the World War II generation had preconceived notions about retirement. Their main concerns were security and comfort. Retirees nowadays want to challenge themselves to be more involved in life.

Retirees want to enjoy life more, with the opportunity for growth, rather than to scale back. Our social values and choices will allow us to choose a totally different retirement lifestyle than our parents or grandparents.

The prospect of retirement can be overwhelming! How do we fill our days? Where is the best place to make that happen? Answering these questions will take a lot of soul-searching and prioritizing of your values relating to retirement lifestyles.

You should start planning your retirement five years before you retire. You need to prepare plans, define objectives, and set goals; and, usually, this is with your spouse. Start by making a list of at least 50 things you would like to do (learn Spanish, learn to play the guitar, plant a garden). Then, take the top five and put a time limit on them. Having a time frame determines what you need to do to accomplish this, including a budget plan. Don't let preconceived notions of what constitutes age or appropriate behavior hinder your wildest dreams. You can run marathons or volunteer with the Red Cross to work with victims of disaster in foreign countries. Make your choice meaningful for yourself.

Before you sell your home and move toward the sun in Arizona, make sure you have done some serious homework. Most people who move end up moving back within a year or more. The major reason is that retirees choose to live near at least one of their children and grandchildren.

Medical concerns sometimes dictate moving to a warmer climate to ease aches and pains. Warmer climates will promote year-round outdoor recreational activities such as golfing, fishing, and gardening.

Financial concerns must be planned to your choice of lifestyles retirement budget. So before you retire, practice living on your projected income. About 95 percent of retirees plan to work full or part time because it adds to personal satisfaction.

When you retire with your prioritized list, you may find you'll have to change your list due to physical limitation or the choice was not really what you enjoyed pursuing. Just remember that retiring can mean an exciting restart.

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) Waiting Period Waived

The 12-month waiting period for the full scope of services under TRDP has been waived for those Reservists who enroll in the program within 120 days after retirement. The retirement date for this waiver is the date you request for transfer to the Retired Reserve. Therefore, for almost all Reservists, this date is the date you are transferred to the Retired Reserve (without pay) – Gray Area Retiree, not the date you turn age 60. Information about TRDP can be found at <www.trdp.org>.

TAP INTO A VALUABLE MEMBER SERVICE:

SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE

Unfortunately, not a month goes by without the Association being informed of the passing of several members. Although addressing the loss of a loved one is not an easy or light subject, the Association has prepared itself to assist surviving family members. We are proud of the assistance we provide. In such difficult times, the last thing a family member needs is confusing or conflicting information about benefits or entitlements.

THE AQUILA℠ GROUP OF FUNDS

As many of you know, the Aquila℠ Group of Funds provides the Naval Reserve Association and its members with a cash benefit service - The Cash Management Service for NRA Members, a money-market mutual fund. However, this is just one of the ways that the Aquila℠ Group of Funds can be of service to NRA members.

Aquila also specializes in single-state tax-free municipal bond funds. These funds are excellent investment vehicles for those members who seek stability for their overall investment portfolio or who are near or at retirement age.

If you are a resident of Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Kentucky, Oregon, Rhode Island or Utah or if you have a permanent active duty station outside the United States and are interested in finding out more about a stable investment choice, **call your financial adviser or Aquila at 1-800-437-1020** or visit our website at **www.aquilafunds.com** for a free prospectus. Read it carefully before you invest or send money.

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YOUR STATE,
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- **High-quality, locally-managed portfolio**
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Shares of the Aquila-sponsored tax-free municipal bond funds are not deposits, obligations of or guaranteed by any bank; are not insured by the FDIC and are subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of principal invested.
*For certain investors, some income may be subject to federal and state taxes, including the alternative minimum tax.
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APPLY Yourself

CAPT G. Mark Hardy III, USNR
National VP for Professional Development

If you're between the paygrades of CWO2 and O-9 and still active in the Navy Reserve, learn all you can about APPLY. If you're between CWO2 and O-4, APPLY is the way to get command. If you're O-5 or O-6, APPLY is how you get a pay billet. If you're O-6 through O-9, it's knowledge for mentoring your Sailors.

Although it may be hard to believe, we didn't always assign officers to command and pay billets through a formal national board. We used to use a system that was often described as the "good ol' boy network." If you knew someone who knew someone, you were in. That worked pretty well when we had authorized end strength approaching 150,000. Now that we're on a glide slope to 73,100 for FY-06, things are a lot tighter.

The first board resembling today's APPLY was in 1995. Applicants sent in paper copies of the last five FITREPs plus an application letter. As the process became more advanced, applicants mailed information on 3-1/2'' floppy disks. Today, the process is quite sophisticated, pulling FITREP and career information from EMPRES, billet information from RHS (Reserve Headquarters System), and cross-referencing a whole alphabet soup of databases to ensure accuracy.

Navy Reserve leadership requests that all officers register for APPLY, even if you're comfortable in your job. There are some important benefits for doing so. It provides each Sailor an opportunity to validate RHS billet information and identify errors in our manpower database. It provides a "record scrub" whereby officers are notified of missing FITREPs or other irregularities. It provides current exposure to senior officers who may be mentoring JOs in the APPLY system. Lastly, it is the one approved way to earn a command assignment at any paygrade or a pay billet at the O5-O6 level.

You must register by 30 April. Access APPLY from <https://reserves.navy.mil> by clicking on the link for APPLY FY-06 at the bottom of the page. Complete all screens of career and educational information, and fill out a "dream sheet" of 35 billets by 20 May. The board meets 13-24 June, with results due by 11 July. Selectees confirm their billets by 31 July. Billets not accepted will be filled from an alternate candidate list.

Reread my April 2004 Professional Development article entitled, "Stupid APPLY Tricks" to reduce the probability you'll become an object lesson for others. I suggest reading COMNAVRES-FORCOM NOTICE 5400 of 12 JAN 05 in its entirety to understand precisely what happens at the board. Most importantly, get on CAPT Larry Weill's APPLY mailing list by sending an e-mail request to <CaptWeill@aol.com>. Larry sends out frequent e-mail updates and has prepared an APPLY "first aid" CD. It includes an APPLY registration guide, the complete text of the 5400 notice, a list of NOBCs, RFAS codes, and AQDs, a sample letter to the board, and answers to over 100 questions regarding APPLY. Download a copy today from <http://www.navy-reserve.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=2129>.

When filling out your dream sheet, put in as many choices (up to 35) as you are willing to perform. The board does routinely assign choices past #30, so be careful what you use as "ballast" in your list. If you live in Seattle, don't list Roosevelt Roads, PR, as your last choice; you just might get it! In general, list command billets before non-command assignments, but be realistic. If you've been in the VTU for years, don't waste your #1 choice on a fleet command; it's not going to happen. Stay in your "lane" by selecting billets that are coded for your designator, or have RFAS (reserve functional and sequence) codes that allow you to substitute for the specified paygrade and NOBC. Say "yes" to other billets, and provide a reasonable commuting radius based on your motivation and access to cheap airfare. Don't forget to include comments – these are the only remarks that are viewed by the board during the billet slating process.

To prepare for the APPLY board, do the following things now. Apply for NOBCs that are required for the jobs you wish to hold. They're not automatic, but a well-written application is important. Order your service record on CD-ROM (see my February 2005 column entitled, "Cleaning Up Your Official Service Record") and verify all FITREPs and awards are legible. Review your OSR/PSR for completeness and ensure awards are listed correctly. Submit missing medals and awards to COMNAVRESFORCOM and include a copy with a letter to the APPLY board. This letter should be brief, to the point, and address missing or confusing record information. It is appropriate to include the most recent FITREP, a missing award, or explain a gap in service. Do not whine or include superfluous material. Ensure your letter is postmarked by 1 June.

This is your once-a-year swing at the plate. Prepare, research, and meet all deadlines. Master the system, and mentor others in the process. Ask a senior officer in your community to review and critique your billet choices while there is still time to change them. Manage your expectations – about 7 percent of commanders and 10 percent of captains get command; about one third get pay billets. Whatever the result, take pride in the fact that you have an opportunity to serve your Navy and your nation during this time of armed conflict. Good luck!

Sea Power

LCDR Phan Phan, USNR
National VP for Junior Officers

". . . More important even than the size of the navy is the question of its institutions, favoring a healthful spirit and activity, and providing for rapid development in time of war by an adequate reserve of men and of ships and by measures for drawing out that general reserve power . . . ." – CAPT A. T. Mahan, USN, *The Influence Of Seapower Upon History*, 1889.

When reading to prepare for my upcoming Strategy & Policy course at the U.S. Naval War College, I could not help but become captivated by these intriguing words, written more than a quarter of a century ago, even before the official establishment of our Naval Reserve. CAPT Mahan was discussing the character of a government, as one of the elements of a nation's sea power, which influenced the sea career of its people. *Naval Power 21 . . . A Naval Vision*, as signed by the Secretary of the Navy, the CNO, and the Commandant of the Marine Corps in October 2002, further stated, *". . . Ready, rapidly responsive Reserve forces will continue to be a vital part of the Navy-Marine Corps Team and provide unique capabilities, depth, flexibility, and sustainment . . . ."*

Both classical strategic thought and contemporary doctrinal guidance agree on the need to maintain a reserve force, healthy, responsive, and capable, both in men and materials, to protect our nation's maritime interests and security. Nevertheless, we've witnessed a continuing drawdown of the end strength of our Naval Reserve Force to roughly half of what it used to be a decade and a half ago, taking into account the current round of ZBR. The Reserve's organic assets, such as ships and aircraft, have also come under a similar cut. Those of us who remain actively engaged in the Naval Reserve have been ever more in frequent demand to support our Navy's missions. The old business model of one-weekend-a-month and two-weeks-a-year has long been in the past. I, myself, cannot remember the last fiscal year in which I did just 48 drills and 12 days of AT.

Of course, more than just simple end strength and hardware, CAPT Mahan eloquently articulated the strategic importance of the institutions in promoting a nation's sea power. A Naval Reservist is much more than an able body plugged into a mobilization billet to augment the active component in time of war or national crisis. We, as citizen sailors, even in time of peace or inactivation, represent a homeland presence and promotion among our people of our Navy. CAPT Mahan developed such an enterprising concept as the aptitude of a people toward the sea, a very essential and integral part of a nation's sea power. Our families know when we're away for our drill weekends, giving up on birthdays or little league games; many of us traveling at our own expense. Our civilian employers, and employees, know when we're away on AT or recall; most of us may take a pay cut or a career setback, putting aside our businesses or private practices.

As such, might we dare say that the model citizen sailors are charged, perhaps quietly and unknowingly to some, with the virtual mission of mobilization of the will of the people in this protracted war called the Global War on Terrorism? Strategic enough of a mission? We'd like to think so. Throughout history, few nations have been able to win protracted wars without the people's support. Unique enough of a capability? We'd like to think so. For the few fleet concentration areas whose constituency and local economy benefit largely from the Navy's presence, the people's *aptitude toward the sea* will always be self-evident. But what about the many landlocked states, especially without any naval activity except for that little Naval Reserve Center perhaps hosting a Sea Cadets detachment or a recruiting office? I'd heard a fellow JO call it *doing God's work*.

How do we help our Navy recruiters, faced with the daily challenge of speaking with the young men and women and their parents, sustain the Navy's institutions, and thus, our nation's sea power? It takes many years to grow Sailors, and even many generations to develop a seafaring people. We can hardly afford to wait until a national or international crisis hits us in the face and then reactively recruit, hoping to meet and to maintain the required end strength . . . just ask any Army Reserve or Army National Guard recruiter nowadays.

When our leaders spoke of *depth* and *sustainment* in *Naval Power 21 . . .*, we'd hope to think beyond the tactical or operational levels, but further, at a strategic level. How do we sustain the will of the people, their support and industry? How do we sustain awareness with the present and future generations of young Americans of our value and status as a maritime power and of what it takes to ensure success of our nation's sea enterprises, in terms of a sustaining flow of manpower with the appropriate aptitude and bent? In our humble estimation, the Naval Reservists are in a unique position to be the executing agents of this long-term mission. During times of manpower cutback, especially that of the active component, it should make strategic and even fiscal, dare we say, sense to maintain a robust reserve component, as a relatively inexpensive and immediate pool from which the active force can be readily and rapidly reconstituted in time of crisis. We have to implement swiftly and continuously better business processes to be a more efficient fighting force. We have to modernize our fleet with ever more effective capabilities to maintain our decisiveness and dominance in battle. But neither any process nor technology can ever replace the heart and soul of a people toward the sea.

CAPT Ike Puzon, USNR (Ret)
Director of Legislation

What Price for Service?

Many National Security experts have been warning of impending short falls in the right number of service members to man the military, including the Navy's Naval Reserve Force. They also warned, and I totally agree, that the ability to win this Global War on Terrorism, and the "other contingencies," depends more on the people than it does on technology. Our historical American way of war has proven that people are our best weapon system.

What can be done about it depends on several cultural changes that we all need to address. Are we willing to make the people and their families a priority? Are we willing to address the fact that instead of complaining about not enough money, we address the need for more money to spend towards making sure our service members and their families do have all the assets needed? Are we willing to recognize that the Guard and Reserve components are fighting and dying in this war, just as they have in any other war, but are doing so at increased rates? Are we willing to say – stop the madness of a drawdown during a wartime, stop the madness of ignoring that people are overextended and are overused at this time?

Not many in leadership were willing to admit that five years ago, that we would be using the Guard and Reserve members at the rates we are using them today. However, since 1991, all the indications were that we would be using our Guard and Reserve forces at increased rates. Categorically, it appears that leadership missed the predictions, or did not pay attention to the indicators. For the record:

By the Numbers, the Price of Service by the Guard and Reserve:

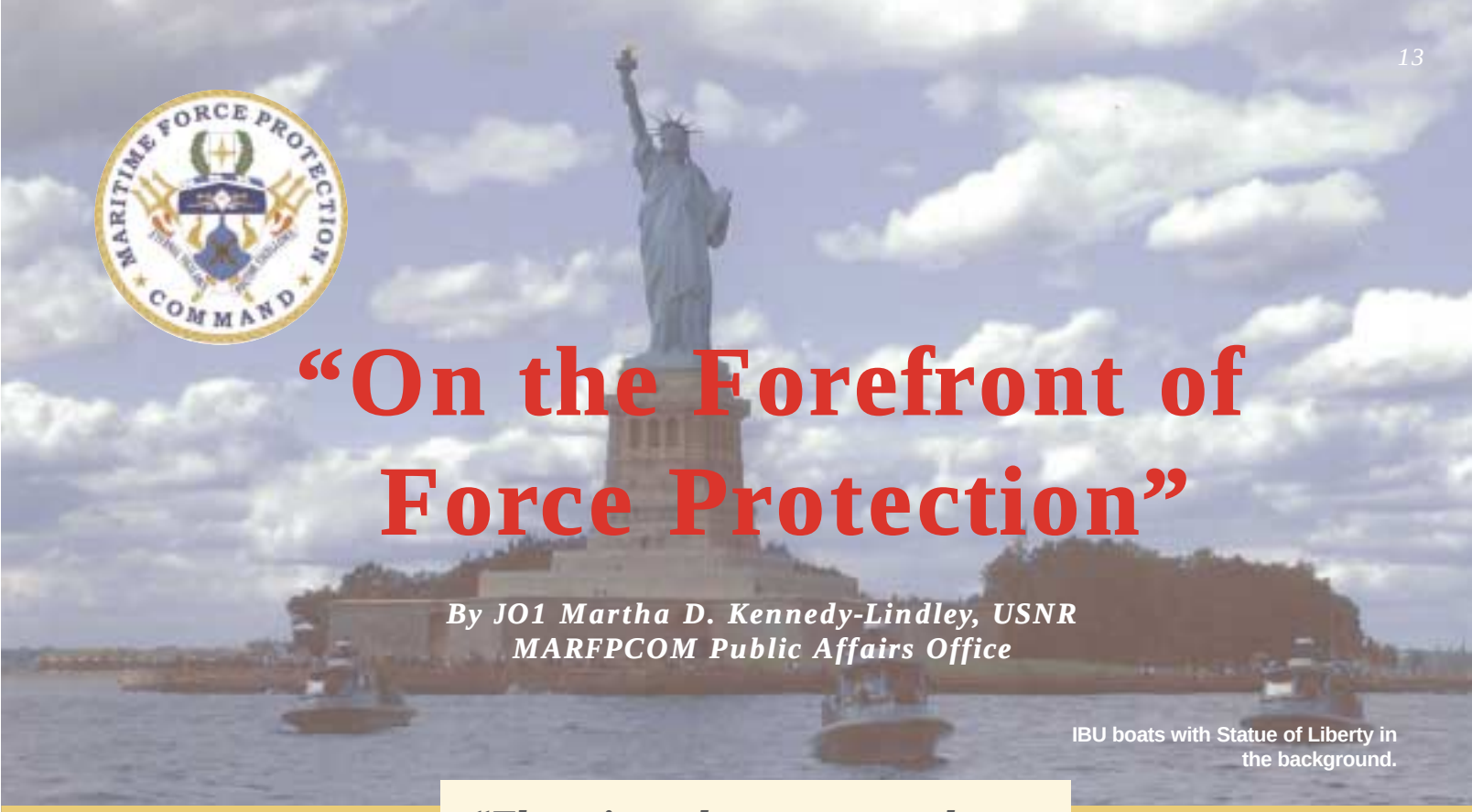
- Total number of National Guard members and Reserve Component reservists on active duty, as of 2 March 2005: **183,366**
- Total number of National Guard members and Reserve Component reservists activated at some point since the 11 Sept. attacks: **430,000**
- Percentage of American troops in Iraq who are National Guard or Reserve forces: **40 percent**
- Percentage of married Guard members and Reserve Component reservists who report a loss of income over civilian jobs, as of May 2004: **55 percent**
- Percentage of married Guard members and Reserve Component reservists who report a decrease in pay of $30,000 a year or more, as of May 2004: **15 percent**
- Percentage of National Guard members and Reserve Component reservists who cite loss of income as a reason to leave the military, as of May 2004: **51 percent**
- Percentage of National Guard members and Reserve Component reservists who cite family burdens as a reason to leave the military, as of May 2004: **71 percent**

The new environment we find ourselves in today, although not prepared for, is here. What we do now is critical. Do we sink all our energies into holding the line on people and personnel cost while investing in the next technologies that will keep us ahead of the next phase of asymmetric warfare? Or, do we go to the American people and say that we spent all the necessary and unpredictable resources for the Cold War, and past wars, to win them and that this one is different? We have to increase spending for the people and the technologies to win and prepare for the future phases of asymmetric warfare.

I suggest we have to increase spending to above the levels normally spent on defense to secure our economy and way of life. If we do not, then people are going to leave at even more alarming rates than they are today. Today we are having enormous problems in recruiting and retention. The one true advantage that America does have over any adversary is the people. It seems to me that it is time to get off the dime and spend a dime. Spending on high tech has not won the current war nor any past war. It is the ingenious adaptability of the American military people and their families that has allowed the services to fight and win.

We also have to size the AC and RC equal to the new missions and duties they face. They both have to be large enough to meet current and *anticipated* needs and threats. The anticipated piece is the part that we seldom get right. Trying to find the requisite skills to wage wars, fight terrorism, win a peace, conduct stabilization, and conduct nation-building operations is very difficult. There is no adjustable formula to get this all correctly done. It does cost the American tax payer to have freedom and our way of life.

The Reserve Component is a vital part of the equation to be successful in any military mission. The Reserve Component is a great value for the American taxpayer. This Congress needs our help in making sure we properly address the personnel issues as well as the technology issues needed to maintain our fighting capabilities. It is my belief that the Navy is making a mistake by cutting personnel for the sake of high tech, but it is done. Those who remain – although not at the proper levels for the Navy Reserve – deserve to be treated with care and respect. The only way to do that is to emphasize the spending levels needed for changes in the personnel benefits. Consider letting Congress know your stand on this; it will make a difference. If you do not, then the cuts and overuse will continue. Write your Congressman: <www.house.gov/writerep>. To write your Senator: <www.senate.gov>.



"On the Forefront of Force Protection"

By JO1 Martha D. Kennedy-Lindley, USNR
MARFPCOM Public Affairs Office

IBU boats with Statue of Liberty in the background.

> ***"There is no better reserve home than with a NCW unit. You can contribute to real-world action. You may have more work than reserve center units, three-day drill weekends, and hours of off-duty work; but the satisfaction and rewards are worth it."***
>
> Master Chief Boatswainmate Edward F. Gallagher
> Member MIUW 205, Charleston, SC

"We train on the beaches, in the woods and in the water," said CAPT Donald McMackin, Commanding Officer of Naval Coastal Warfare Squadron 33 and a member of the NCW community since 1992. "We are about one-third through our predeployment training, and things are going well."

His squadron staff, Inshore Boat Unit 16 and Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 102 will deploy this spring to the 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

NCW units, in different forms, have been around since World War II. Previously, the units were comprised solely of Reservists and exclusively supplied the manpower for the Inshore Boat Units and Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units. NCW has played a major role in every conflict since the 1940s.

Members of this community have noticed significant changes since the ***USS Cole*** bombing in October 2000. "We went from a surveillance group to a real antiterrorism/force protection mission," said Master Chief Boatswainmate Edward F. Gallagher, a member of MIUW 205 in Charleston, SC.

With the Global War on Terrorism and increased mission tasking combined with the community's evolving role into an Expeditionary Antiterrorism/Force Protection Force, Naval Coastal Warfare is taking a leading role in real-world operations while helping with the establishment of fully active duty units through active/reserve integration.

The job: worldwide waterside force protection

LT Eileen Kane, the vehicle maintenance officer for MIUW 205, recently left active duty and affiliated with the Navy's Reserve. She was a nuclear officer on active duty. "The closest I came to NCW and its mission was when I served as a collateral duty force protection officer as an ensign."

The mission of NCW is to provide force protection for strategic shipping and naval vessels operating in the inshore areas, anchorages, harbors, and harbor facilities through surface and subsurface surveillance. In addition, units provide support to deployed Special Operations Forces, counterdrug operations, maritime prepositioning forces, and law enforcement officials.

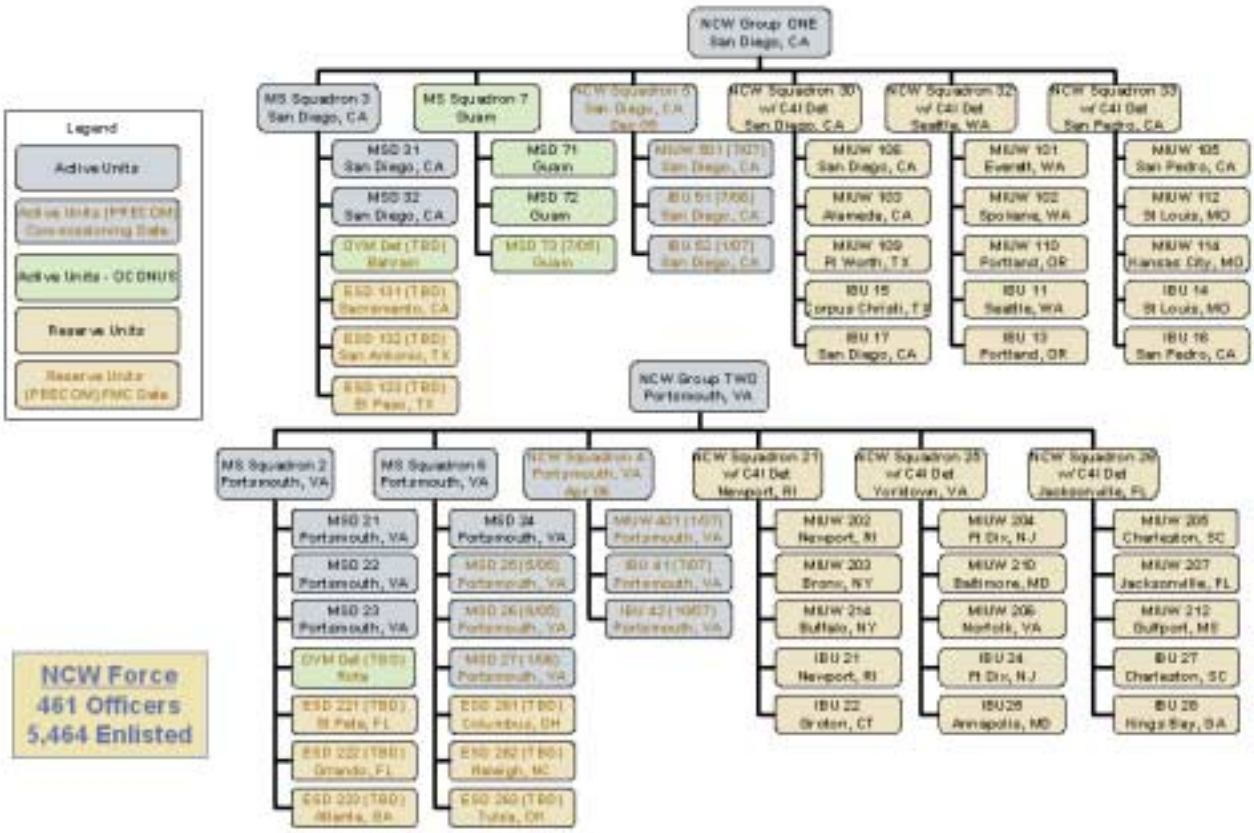
LT Eileen Kane, vehicle maintenance officer for MIUW 205, Charleston, SC, and Damage Controlman Second Class Paul Ahrens complete vehicle maintenance check. (U.S. Navy photo by Journalist First Class Martha D. Kennedy-Lindley)

Two Naval Coastal Warfare Groups oversee all aspects of the NCW mission – Naval Coastal Warfare Group One (NCWGRU1) in San Diego, CA, and Naval Coastal Warfare Group Two (NCW-GRU2) in Portsmouth, VA. The group level commanders are responsible for centralized planning, training, and the equipping of coastal warfare assets. The groups exercise administrative and operational control over NCW assets assigned within the unified and/or allied command structure. The groups transitioned from reserve to active duty in February 2004.

Reporting directly to the groups are eight NCW squadrons (NCWRON) responsible for twenty Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units (MIUW), sixteen Inshore Boat Units (IBU), and four Mobile Security (MSRON) Squadrons.

Naval Coastal Warfare Squadrons – As support staffs, squadrons provide operational and administrative oversight to their MIUWs and IBUs. A squadron may be called to deploy with their units but often remain stateside while individual units deploy. Squadrons are equipped with Mobile Ashore Support Terminals (MAST). They may also support U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Units by adding command and control capability; harbor management; intelligence analysis; and inshore, armed transportable port security boats providing quick-reacting surveillance, interdiction support, and point defense.

NCW Organization



Electronics Technician First Class David C. Thompson, MIUW 205, Charleston, SC, performs routine maintenance on the unit's equipment during a drill weekend. (U.S. Navy photo by Journalist First Class Martha D. Kennedy-Lindley)

Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units – MIUWUs, capable of self-contained coastal warfare support, add surveillance, command and control, and reconnaissance capabilities to the NCW force package. MIUWUs are commissioned, deployable operating units equipped with AN/TSQ-108A(V3) or (V4) Radar Sonar Surveillance Center (RSSC) systems and associated support equipment. They may be asked to provide command, control, communication, and surveillance support to force protection officers or a harbor defense commander. In addition, the commanding officer of the MIUW may serve as a seaward security officer during expeditionary warfare operations with tactical control of assigned coastal warfare operations to ensure uninterrupted flow of strategic cargo and units to the combatant commander.

Inshore Boat Units – IBUs bring armed small boats to provide quick reacting interdiction support for coastal warfare. IBUs are deployable units equipped with 27- or 34-foot patrol crafts and associated support equipment. They routinely operate with other NCW assets to provide an enhanced package for conducting small craft security and support for naval operations in the littoral environment.

Members of MIUW 101, Everett, WA, on a patrol training mission. (U.S. Navy photo by Journalist First Class Ralph Radford)

Master Chief Gallagher has completed two Middle East deployments since 2000 and calls the MIUWU's missions "real-world." LT Kane, a 1999 Naval Academy graduate, has not yet deployed but is ready to go when the unit mobilizes. "We have the skills and training plus great leadership starting with the LPOs right up the chain."

Weekend and annual training is used for continual practice and refining of skills that are put to work during deployment. NCW units have access to their equipment at their drill site and all members are responsible for maintenance and equipment upkeep. This provides the opportunity for personnel to have hands-on training each drill weekend. This ongoing training prepares the units to meet short-notice deployment requests. Unit members appreciate the active, hands-on training in an environment away from a desk.

When deployed, the unit goes to their assigned location and sets up camp. Living conditions can range from hotel rooms, to barracks, to tents; but they are always near the harbor. The units may be required to provide their own security and force protection in addition to regular mission requirements, and their training reflects the added responsibility.

NCWRON 33 members watch as the proper hand position for 9mm pistol usage is demonstrated. Prior to deploying, they receive training on 9mm pistol, M-16A3 service rifle, and 12-gauge shotgun. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Ron Trevino)

Mobile Security Squadrons – The squadrons are an exclusively active duty component of Naval Coastal Warfare. The first squadron was commissioned in January 2003. Mobile Security Detachments provide fleet and component commanders with a rapidly deployable active duty force ready to perform physical security to high value assets, ships, and aircraft on the water, land, or in the air.

The reserve NCW squadrons and associated units are located in California, Texas, Washington, Oregon, Missouri, Rhode Island, New York, Connecticut, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, South Carolina, Florida, and Georgia.

The active NCW Squadrons and Mobile Security Squadrons and their associated units are located in Portsmouth, VA; San Diego, CA; and Guam.

NCW: currently reserve driven

"Every person in uniform today is a minuteman. Every one of us needs to respond quickly to crisis. Whether it's here at home or whether it is abroad," said VADM John Cotton, Chief of Navy Reserve, in a February interview with the Naval Media Center. He pointed to NCW as an example. "We have small boats. We can do New York Harbor security, Charleston security, Jacksonville, San Diego, Seattle, whatever it might be. We can do the home game and train to deploy and go overseas to the Gulf like the NCW Squadron in Kuwait right now."

New 34-foot high-speed crafts in New York Harbor. (Official U.S. Navy photo)

Reservists were the backbone of Naval Coastal Warfare for over sixty years. Currently, there are 390 drilling reserve officers; 4,100 enlisted; 380 active duty officers; and 3,837 enlisted personnel in NCW units worldwide. There is a 5 to 95 percent mix of full-time support to Selected Reserve personnel. Of the 4,490 Reservists currently on active duty, approximately 660 are deployed with NCW units.

All NCW reserve units are Priority 1-A (PRI 1-A) for manning purposes, and all assignments are guaranteed for two years. Presently, cross-assigned personnel are guaranteed a minimum of one trip to the gaining command per quarter; and flexible scheduling is possible. Personnel are required to perform annual training with NCW.

"We have aviators, submariners, civil engineers, and intelligence officers in our units. NCW Squadrons (NCWRONs) offer leadership opportunities at all levels. You can be a true commodore at the O-6 level," McMackin said.

Units are open to all unrestricted line officers and most enlisted rates.

CAPT Robert L. Greene, Commanding Officer, NCW Squadron 26, said, "You can't expect to be a weekend warrior in a NCW unit. Every SELRES must have a deliverable every weekend. They must have a sense of accountability."

For Storekeeper Second Class Tabitha Nuner, IBU 16, "The predeployment training is great, and each week is more intense." She joined the Navy's Reserve three years ago through the nonprior service program. "I chose to go to the IBU. I wanted to go out in the field. I wanted to be active." Her upcoming deployment will be her first, but she is not the first in her family to deploy to the AOR. Her son serves in the Marine Corps and received a Purple Heart for injuries sustained in Iraq.

LT Kane enjoys her assignment – "There is always something different to do. We are an operational unit." She also finds the uniforms a visual change. "I wore coveralls on active duty, now I am in a green unit."

New TYCOM: meeting the need

In October 2004, a new Type Commander (TYCOM) was commissioned under Commander Fleet Forces Command. Commander, Maritime Force Protection Command (MARFPCOM) headquartered at the Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base, Norfolk, VA, is responsible for the training, equipping, and administration of active and reserve Expeditionary Antiterrorism/Force Protection Forces.

"This is the first time the Navy has stood up a single entity to focus solely on the Navy's Expeditionary Antiterrorism/Force Protection Force," said CAPT Mark Kosnik, Commander Maritime Force Protection Command.

MARFPCOM aligned the existing components: Naval Coastal Warfare, Mobile Security Forces, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, and Expeditionary Mobile Diving and Salvage into one unified command with the capability to be at the forefront of AT/FP missions.

"The Navy, like other branches of the armed forces, has looked at the impact of the increasing terrorist threats on operational forces; and because of that increased threat, we have put more focus on force protection," said CAPT Kosnik.

One of the changes after MARFPCOM's stand-up was the consolidation of previous training methods into one standardized system. The new system creates unity and provides consistent performance and capability. Master Chief Gallagher points out that his MIUW's gear is upgraded and modernized, including weapons and an extensive training program.

The increased focus on force protection and NCW's role has taken a toll on the community as well. The Navy Reserve Force provided NCW units for more and more tasking resulting in many Reservists being mobilized for the maximum allowed 24 months since the GWOT began in 2001.

The benchmark was established by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfield. He announced a new policy that envisions a more balanced military force with active and reserve components sharing in a one-year in six-year mobilization.

"The merger of the active and reserve components of NCW, integration with the active duty force, and creation of Maritime Force Protection Command has given our Reservists not only a leading role in the Global War on Terrorism but also the resources to accomplish the mission," said CAPT John Kittler, Deputy Commander of Naval Coastal Warfare Group TWO.

The active Navy, spurred by MARFPCOM, is quickly responding to this increased demand on a predominantly reserve force. Two active component NCW squadrons are standing up and are expected to be fully operational in FY-06/07. The new squadrons, one from each coast, are replacing reserve component forces and will relieve the burden of mobilization on existing forces.

"Presently, the Reservists provide a capability not available in the active Navy," said CAPT Kosnik. More experienced Reservists are supplying much of the training for the active components. "Their execution of the mission is the model for the stand-up of the new active units," said CAPT Kosnik.

SK2 Mary Frescas, MIUWU-102, hits center ring while qualifying with the 9mm Beretta pistol on range 111 at Camp Pendleton. (U.S. Navy photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Ron Trevino)

Member of IBU 27, Charleston, SC, qualifies with M-16 prior to deployment. (U.S. Navy Photo by Chief Electronics Technician (SS/SC) Ronald V.A. Marcell)

In addition to his deployments to the Persian Gulf, Master Chief Gallagher was also involved in exercises and training in Portugal and at the Navy's former bombing range in Puerto Rico. He has helped with weapons and range training for the new Mobile Security Detachments. "The training went well. There was no problem." With the stand-up of eight new Mobile Security Detachments, two active duty Naval Coastal Warfare Squadrons, four active Inshore Boat Units, and two active MIUWs, the Reservists are sharing their wisdom and expertise by training their active duty counterparts.

Reserve Senior Chief Quartermaster John F. Mulvey, a 9-year veteran of the NCW community, is currently serving on the staff at MARFPCOM. "After I returned from mobilization to Kuwait, MARFPCOM was looking for subject matter experts for the training department. They offered me a job, and I have been here for over a year."

VADM Cotton said that the Navy's active/reserve integration has been a success and that the Reservists are providing operational support worldwide.

"We're much more integrated at every single command so now the command can turn to their reserve counterpart and say, 'Listen, I need some people for a couple of weeks to go help with whatever it might be' . . . and the Reservists surge to meet that . . . and do a great job. That's really what active/reserve integration means . . . ," VADM Cotton said.

"The active/reserve integration in NCW is going along seamlessly. It is a beautiful merge," Senior Chief Mulvey said.

Naval Coastal Warfare is finding the balance in the active/reserve integration. Active duty components are standing up to relieve the pressure from the reserve force, while drawing on the many years of experience and training resident in the reserve components.

Coast Guard: part of the team

NCW components often include Coast Guard members as fully integrated members of port security teams. There are 15 USCG members assigned to NCW Squadron 25 currently deployed to Kuwait. "They are just like any other part of the staff," said CAPT Edward McAnaney, Commanding Officer of NCW Squadron 25. "Everyone here is a professional."

Port Security Specialist Second Class Arturo Hernandez, USCGR, is a member of NCW Squadron 25. "Every day is something different. I work with port security and stand different security watches."

Petty Officer Hernandez, a law enforcement officer in southern Georgia, has been in the Coast Guard just over a year and was recently promoted to second class. "I talked to other port security specialists and learned the ups and downs, the inside and outside of the rate and the mission before joining." He sees many benefits to going overseas which include working with the Navy and Army as well as foreign military. "You learn so much that way," said Petty Officer Hernandez.

CAPT McMackin will also have Coast Guard members deploying with his squadron this spring. "One Coast Guardsman is active and received permission to deploy with us, and the rest are Reservists," he said.

"We try to draw the best from both the Navy and the Coast Guard," said McMackin. The USCG port security specialists are the experts in security boardings, environmental issues, search and rescue. The Navy has just recently started specializing in these areas. The two services are training, learning, and accomplishing missions together.

Chief Port Security Specialist David Larkin will serve as the Force Protection Chief for NCW Squadron 33 on their upcoming deployment. "This is a fantastic experience." This will be his first deployment to the Middle East and his second Title 10 recall. "I was expecting this recall. The first time I was recalled was about fifteen minutes after the second World Trade Center building fell," said Larkin. He spent his first recall in the Pacific Northwest.

Left: LCDR Scott Tetrick, IBU 27, mans the radio during underway live fire exercises off the coast of Crete. (U.S. Navy Photo by Chief Electronics Technician (SS/SC) Ronald V.A. Marcell)

Mission: real-world

"This is a very challenging mission and the reserve forces are doing an impressive job," said CAPT Kosnik after a February visit to NCW Squadron 25 in Kuwait. "Those young Sailors are doing great work. No matter what the challenge, they find a way to meet it with success."

CAPT Kosnik pointed to CAPT McAnaney and his forces as an example of the impressive job being done in theatre. "Commodore McAnaney has overall command of the security of the Port of Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait. He runs an impressive and efficient organization."

CAPT McAnaney leads over 350 Navy and Coast Guard Reservists in port security operations. NCW Squadron 25, Yorktown, VA, is deployed with MIUW Unit 204 and IBU 24 from Fort Dix, NJ, as well as IBU 22 from Groton, CT.

"Things are going really well. We've been here over six months working 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said McAnaney. "No days off, including the holidays. There is always something to do. We have periods of increased activity, and all our missions are armed."

Port security watchstander with M-60 close at hand. (Official U.S. Navy photo)

CAPT McAnaney spent two years with a MIUW in the 1990s and then five years with the squadron. He became the commanding officer in 2002. "There is a much greater demand for force protection missions around the globe," said CAPT McAnaney.

Speaking on behalf of his squadron he said, "Every one of us is proud to be here serving his/her country and doing our best with the good tools we have available to make sure that our mission is finished safely and that we all go home to our families soon."

CAPT Greene also feels the pressure to bring his squadron home safely. While they have not received their deployment date, they are in the rotation schedule. "Our vision is that 100 percent of our deployed squadron personnel return safely home to their loved ones with an unparalleled sense of accomplishment and pride to be remembered for a lifetime."

It will be CAPT McMackin's squadron that relieves CAPT McAnaney's squadron. As his squadron continues with intensive training, McMackin says, "Folks in NCW are really outstanding. I will be going forward with ten people I have served with before. It is a continuum of experience." He expects to be deployed for a year.

The Naval Coastal Warfare community is fast-paced and leading edge. Directly responsible for the Navy's overseas force protection, this community is in the spotlight.

A mobile security detachment 25-foot safe boat during a combat tactical turn. (Official U.S. Navy photo)

On watch with a 50-caliber machine gun nearby. (Official U.S. Navy photo)

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"NCW is the premier place to be in the Navy's Reserve. You have an opportunity to serve the country and be involved, deeply involved, in operational issues." – **CAPT McAnaney**

The Navy is recognizing the growing responsibility for this primarily reserve community and responding with the manpower and equipment needed. Units are located throughout the country and are listed in the organization chart on page 14.

For more information on how you can join this elite group of professionals, contact:
CWO2 Debra Neubecker, NCWGRU1, (619) 437-9434, <debra.neubecker@navy.mil>
CWO3 Rod Smith, NCWGRU2, (757) 396-0602, <rodney.smith3@navy.mil>
Or, contact your local reserve activity

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REDESIGN OF THE NAVAL AIR RESERVE

By RADM Steve Keith, USNR (Ret)

The Zero Based Review (ZBR) conducted by Fleet Forces Command did not review the aviation squadrons and wings that comprise the Naval Air Force Reserve Force. Why? Because the analysis and review took place in OPNAV and the decisions that would determine the size and structure of this relevant force had already been made in 2003. Unlike the ZBR which looked at capability and was unconstrained by costs, the reserve aviation review was primarily driven by it.

The goal of the Naval Aviation Reserve Integration study was to provide an assessment of reasonably executable options to provide reserve and fleet integration. In developing the plan, N-78 looked at the capabilities and contributions (during FY-02) of each reserve squadron and used that as a baseline against which to measure alternatives. None of the options considered reverse integration – bringing active duty personnel to reserve squadrons. Making CVWR-20 a complete deployable air wing was considered and priced out, but savings associated with standing down of an active air wing was not factored in. The bias is obvious and fits the culture – integration was a one-way street. The leadership of the Naval Reserve did what they could at the time and, sadly, a few careers suffered. Then RADM Cotton headed up the maritime patrol portion that will fundamentally change the size and structure of the reserve portion of that community. The outcomes appear to be those that preserved active structure and saved the money in the N-78 budget.

Integral to the Naval Aviation Reserve Integration plan is a decision that some existing reserve squadrons no longer had a role to play in future wars. It was recognized that there was a need for experienced personnel to augment fleet squadrons in time of war, so FRUs – fleet replacement units – were created. A number of existing commissioned squadrons will be converted to FRUs for that stated purpose and located at or relocated to fleet concentration sites. Most likely, they will have aircraft on loan when available from the active component – an iffy proposition at best. They do not have a ROC/POE which would provide them a recognized mission and, thus, a real purpose in the budgeting process. There is serious doubt about the longevity of these units in the tough budget environment ahead. It does provide a story line and rationale for deconstructing the Naval Air Reserve.

There will be squadron augment units – SAUs – at nine fleet replacement squadrons. According to an article by CDR Cable, VP-30 SAU OINC, in the Winter 2004 *Wings of Gold*: "The SAU represents the revitalization of a previously employed concept which takes advantage of the experience Drilling Reservists have without the cost of hardware required of an autonomous reserve squadron. Moreover, these reserve personnel can be mobilized to augment when active personnel have been deployed." If these SAUs can benchmark the successful integration being realized in the Naval Air Training Command, the plan may very well prove successful for both active duty and reserve personnel involved.

We have not been briefed on the Naval Aviation Reserve Integration plan and have only seen unofficial bits and pieces of it. When combined with aircraft inventory projections, this is how we see the implementation playing out:

Carrier Air Wing Twenty (CVWR-20)

- Staff – reduced in size and manpower savings used to establish SAUs at fleet replacement squadrons
- VFA-201 remain in Fort Worth with a reduction in aircraft from 12 to 10
- VFA-203 was decommissioned last year
- VFA-204 becomes a FRU in New Orleans and in FY-06/07 relocates to NAS Lemoore
- VFC-12 becomes a FRU – VFA-12 FRU East - in FY-05
- VFC-13 remains in Fallon and transitions to the F-5N.
  A permanent detachment (VFC-13 DET) is created in Key West in FY-05. [The Navy could save real money by closing Key West and conducting such training at NAS JRB New Orleans which has many live firing ranges.]
- VAW-78 was decommissioned this year
- VAW-77 received some aircraft and personnel from VAW-78 and retains a primary mission of counter narcotics
- VAQ-209 – no change in location or expeditionary mission.

Helicopter Wing Reserve (CHWR)

- HC-85 will decommission in FY-06/07
- HCS-4 will become HCS FRU EAST in FY-11 and transition to the MH-60S
- HCS-5 will become HCS FRU WEST FY-06/07 and transition to the MH-60S
- HSL-60 remains in place flying the SH-60B
- HS-75 decommissions in FY-09
- HSM FRU is created at Mayport in FY-14 flying the MH-60R.

Fleet Logistic Support Wing (CFLSW)

- VP-64 transitioned to C-130s last year and was redesignated VR-64
- The entire community remains in existence with C-9 squadrons transitioning to C-40A as they are procured.

Patrol Wing Reserve (CPWR)

- VP-62 becomes VP FRU SE in FY-06 with a PAA of six aircraft
- VP-65 is decommissioned in FY-05/06
- VP-66 is decommissioned in FY-05/06
- VP-69 becomes VP FRU NW in FY-06 with PAA of six aircraft
- VP-92 becomes VP FRU NE in FY-06 with PAA of six aircraft
- VP-94 will be decommissioned in FY-06/07

Shortly after the Naval Aviation Reserve Integration plan was approved by the CNO, it immediately met Congressional resistance. With the successes of VFA-201, HCS-4, HCS-5, and all fleet logistic support (VR) squadrons deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Congress questioned the Navy's logic and intentions to deconstruct something that they deemed efficient and effective. Congressional offices asked why a fully resourced CVWR 20 could not meet the surge requirements of the 7th or 8th aircraft carrier in CNOs Fleet Response Plan more cost effectively than maintaining an active duty air wing. Congress also questioned the Navy after the Government Accounting Office had looked at this and found very little supporting analysis to justify some of the decisions. Unyielding Congressional pressure and lack of convincing arguments to key elected officials on Capitol Hill caused SECNAV and CNO to delay implementation of the plan last year. That, in itself, is telling.

BRAC provided the Navy the perfect screen to hide behind to avoid Congressional and other outside pressure. When the BRAC curtain is lifted, some of the changes will be obvious and some may not be. With all the consternation surrounding BRAC announcements, some of the changes to this plan might seemingly slip by unnoticed. For instance, VFA-204 in New Orleans will become a fleet response unit and in two years will be relocated to NAS Lemoore. Why VFA-204 and not VFA-201? This is where the Government Accounting Office found no real analysis to support the decision. So the decisions were made based on political considerations or hedging the bet that NAS JRB New Orleans would be closed under BRAC. That closure is unlikely because NAS JRB New Orleans military value is #2 in a ranking of all Naval Air Stations in the Navy. If that is so, then, the Navy will again be confronted with those same questions.

Although not part of the plan, but likely under BRAC, is the relocation of Commander Naval Air Force Reserve staff to San Diego (AIRPAC) where the present Commander has his flag. The maintenance portion of that staff will either go to Norfolk (AIRLANT) or to San Diego.

Aviation Command Screen Boards Combined

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TO NAVAIRES
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SUBJ: FY-06 RESERVE AVIATION COMMANDER COMMAND SELECTION BOARD

1. THE FY-06 RESERVE AVIATION COMMANDER COMMAND BOARD WILL BE COMBINED WITH THE FY-06 AVIATION COMMANDER COMMAND BOARD THAT CONVENES ON 7 MAR 2005. THE FOLLOWING RESERVE AVIATORS (1315/1317/1325/1327) WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR RESERVE AVIATION COMMAND:
   A. AVIATORS WHO ARE IN ZONE FOR THE FY-06 RESERVE O-5 PROMOTION BOARD.
   B. AVIATORS WHO WERE SELECTED FOR PROMOTION BY THE FY-05 RESERVE O-5 PROMOTION BOARD.
   C. AVIATORS WHO WERE SELECTED FOR PROMOTION BY THE FY-04 RESERVE O-5 PROMOTION BOARD (PROMOTED TO CDR SINCE OCTOBER 2003).

2. CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: PRESIDENT, AVIATION COMMANDER COMMAND BOARD (#435) NAVY PERSONNEL COMMAND (NPC) CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER PERS-00R)

The FY-06 Active Duty Aviation Command Screen Board (#435) and the Reserve Aviation Command Screen Board (#390) were combined into one board and convened at the Naval Personnel Command in Millington, TN, on 7 Mar 05.

President of the Board was RADM Denby Starling, Commander, Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. RDML Jeff Lemmons, Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve/Deputy Commander, Naval Air Force was the senior reserve member on the board.

We believe that there was an active panel and a reserve panel; and, like statutory boards, the President and a certain number of other members sat in on the deliberations of both panels. If so, that provides the right dialog for active-reserve integration.

The list of reserve officers screened for aviation command are listed on our Web site <http://www.navy-reserve.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=2134>.

Active-Reserve Integration (ARI) Community Update

Active ownership of its reserve component is clearly evident within the security group community. The Naval Reserve Security Group name was officially changed on 25 May 2004 with the release of OPNAVNOTE 5450. The new name is Naval Security Group Reserve. As stated in the notice, "The revised name more correctly identifies this activity as a security group command rather than a reserve command and reflects the increased security group functions performed by the command." The command remained in place onboard NAS JRB Fort Worth, TX.

In March 2005, Commander Fleet Force Command announced the integration of Naval Security Group Command and subordinate commands with Naval Network Warfare Command (NNWC). Effective 1 June 2005, Naval Security Group Command (NSG) and Naval Security Group Reserve (NSGR) integrate into NNWC as the Information Operations (IO) Directorate, retaining service cryptologic element responsibilities for Navy. All NSG/NSGR subordinate commands (active and reserve) will be provisionally renamed from Naval Security Group Activity (NSGA) to Naval Information Operations Activity (NIOA). Some NIOAs will be integrated with Fleet Information Warfare Center (FIWC) activities (San Diego, Norfolk, Whidbey Island) to provide information and command and control warfare (IW/C2W) to the fleet. NIOAs on the west coast will report ADDU to NIOA Hawaii for cryptologic mission/program responsibilities. NIOA Norfolk will report ADDU to NIOA Fort Gordon for those same purposes. NIOA Pensacola will be realigned as a key service provider to Naval Computer Information Response Team (NAVCIRT) and will retain Title 50 (War and National Defense) authorities via service cryptologic element.

Although the details of how this realignment will affect Naval Reservists is not known, we are confident that, given the manpower plus-up in the ZBR, it will most likely mean expanded missions and additional locations for those dedicated professionals in this program. As those details become available, we will inform you. ⚓

SIXTH DISTRICT NRA UPDATE

President: LT Louise M. Anderson, USNR
<louise.anderson@flhosp.org>
Executive Vice President: CAPT Charles "Daisy" Wilhoit, USNR (Ret)
<likelytn@aol.com>

What's Happening:

Admiral David Farragut Chapter of the Naval Reserve Association

The chapter continues a long tradition of supporting both the Naval Sea Cadet division that drills at the local reserve center and east Tennessee high school NJROTC programs.

Providing ongoing quarterly support to the Naval Sea Cadets has enabled the program to continue. Additionally, chapter members have individually answered the call for monetary support of cadet summer camp costs. Chapter members truly believe in investing in our future Sailors.

Each spring our chapter provides a NRA Commendation Medal and Certificate to the outstanding NJROTC cadet at 14 area schools in east Tennessee. Whenever possible, we have a chapter member attend the presentation at the school. These medals are highly sought after, and it is a great feeling to award these in person. These programs seek to encourage our young people to consider a career in the Navy.

If you live within driving distance of the Knoxville, Tennessee area and would like to be added to our chapter e-mail listing, please contact CDR Bill Graf <wdgraf@earthlink.net>.

Atlanta Chapter of the Naval Reserve Association

The Chapter hosted its annual NRA Atlanta Dining Out in conjunction with the Navy League on 5 March 2005. All reserve, active, and retired military personnel and their civilian friends were invited. The keynote speaker was the Naval Reserve Association President, CAPT John E. Lindell, USNR (Ret).

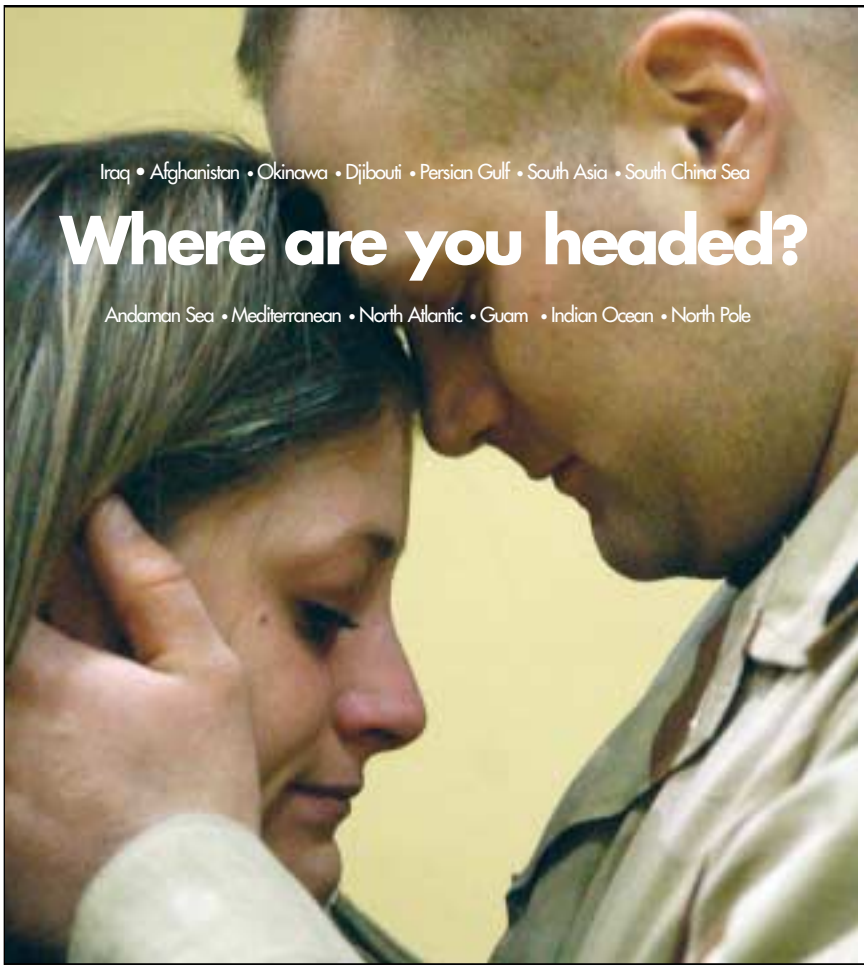
If you are interested in joining the Atlanta Chapter or becoming a member of their e-mail listing, please contact CDR Joel Huey <jwhuey@msn.com>.

What's New:

CAPT Charles "Daisy" Wilhoit has accepted the position of District Executive Vice President. He is helping lead the charge to revitalize chapters within the 6th District, starting with his home state of Tennessee. To date, here are the newest **Chapter Presidents and Contacts**:

Sidney Fields (060/Miami):
LCDR Pete Barcelo <barcelop@bellsouth.net>
CDR Garrett Moynihan <garrett_cdr@hotmail.com>
Mississippi Valley (066/Memphis):
LCDR Bill Brickhill <wbrickhill@aol.com>
Middle Tennessee (140/Nashville):
CDR Andrea Gaume <akgaume@edatn.com>
Carolina (013/Charleston):
CDR Pat Flynn <rpf@roblaw.net>
Northern (Little River) South Carolina:
CDR Liz Crotty <lizcrotty@earthlink.net>

We still need your help to get additional chapters up and running! Contact LT Louise Anderson <louise.anderson@flhosp.org>, (407) 399-4994 or CAPT Daisy Wilhoit <likelytn@aol.com> to get onboard!



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Surgeon General's Vision and "Top Five" for 2005

RADM Peter L. Andrus, MC, USNR
National VP for Health Programs

VADM Don Arthur succeeded VADM Michael Cowan and became the Navy's 35th Surgeon General last fall. Since that time, he has articulated his vision for Navy Medicine and his top five priorities to Navy Medicine's flag and senior leader communities as well as disseminating them to the field. It is pertinent for those of us who are the providers of care as well as the recipients of that care to know and understand his thinking as he directs the Navy's health enterprise.

The SG's **Vision** is that "Navy Medicine will: Keep Sailors and Marines fit to fight; serve as a defensive weapon system protecting the warfighter and deterring threats; provide flexible medical support in combat overseas and emergency response at home; and, provide incomparable health services economically to all whom we are honored to serve."

As such, Navy Medicine is a vital part of the Navy-Marine Corps Team with the dual missions of supporting our operational forces as well as providing health care to their families and our retirees. These dual missions are met through the efforts of the 60,000 military (active and reserve) and civilian health workers of Navy Medicine.

The first of the SG's Top Five is "**Readiness – Aligned and Agile**." Recent operations have emphasized the importance of improvements, such as the Forward Resuscitative Surgery System, and innovations in preventive medicine and mental health to support our warfighters. Navy Medicine is well aligned with CNO's Sea Power 21 to become a smaller, more agile, and technologically advanced defensive weapon system. Integral to this is the need to measure accurately the "cost of readiness" as a distinct component of the overall cost of the military health system. Relevant efforts in medical research and development, as well as medical intelligence, are also key components. Current operational commitments also demonstrate the necessity for sustainment: Navy Medicine will require "bench strength" going forward in the Global War on Terrorism, with equitable load sharing of operational assignments across the broad base of both active and reserve personnel. In addition, we must focus on multiple areas of operational activity including homeland security/defense, GWOT, humanitarian assistance, and stabilization operations.

Second of the Top Five is "**Quality, Economical Health Services**." Navy Medicine's focus is on the preservation of health and the prevention of disease and injury, not merely on episodic, symptomatic disease-oriented care. To those ends, the emphasis is on clinical productivity, evidence-based medicine, pharmacy management, and easy access and referrals in order to maximize the benefit to be gained from the considerable, but limited, financial resources that are available to provide care to our eligible active duty personnel, their dependents, and our retirees. Noteworthy initiatives in population health, including a Population Health Navigator to monitor system performance are advancing. While at the same time, Navy Medicine has been confronted with the challenge of providing care to returning casualties from OEF and OIF in numbers and complexity that are the greatest our system has addressed for the past 30 years.

This leads us to the third major bullet in the Top Five: "**Shaping Tomorrow's Force**." In concert with CNO's human capital strategy for the entire Navy, Navy Medicine's efforts in the arena are directed toward assuring that we shape the medical force of tomorrow by recruiting, training, and retaining the best Sailors for the health enterprise. The challenges of supporting the wide variety of current operational missions as well as preparing for emerging missions such as homeland defense, humanitarian operations, and detainee care require a fresh approach to manning the Navy Medical department. Our personnel must be proficient and productive as we as agile in moving from fixed facilities to afloat and ashore operational settings and increasingly capable in functioning in joint, combined, and inter-agency settings.

Fourth, the SG emphasizes "**One Navy Medicine-Active, Reserve, and Civilian**." While lip service has been given in the past to the slogan "One Navy," an expanded and realized understanding of this must exist in the future for Navy Medicine to accomplish successfully its various missions. Agility in using the reserve force, such as was accomplished when reserve personnel quickly and seamlessly backed up the active component personnel who deployed to *USNS COMFORT* after 9/11, and the integration of active and reserve personnel in the fleet hospital system, will be essential. Reserve personnel are 20 percent of Navy Medicine's manpower resources. While there have been over 2400 Reservists mobilized in support of Navy Medicine in recent years, the process is not always smooth and seamless. We cannot afford stumbling blocks and inefficiencies in this regard. In addition, as force shaping occurs, more effective partnering of military personnel with civilian GS employees and contractors will be necessary to achieve the potential of Navy Medicine in providing robust benefits to our patient beneficiaries.

Finally, "**Joint Medical Capabilities**" round out the SG's Top Five priorities. Increasingly, the ability to work side by side with Army and Air Force colleagues in an interoperable environment with common gear, medical equipment and supplies, and communications systems is essential. Our patients all deserve the same excellent level of care, regardless of service affiliation. A critical challenge is to provide timely and superior care from initial resuscitative efforts through en route care and at each stage of subsequent evacuation to definitive care stateside. This will demand refinement of training processes and standardization of joint operating procedures and doctrine. Furthermore, we must forge effective working links with civilian governmental and private counterparts as well as coalition military partners in support of this goal.

In closing, it is clear that the Surgeon General has defined a challenging and broad-reaching agenda for Navy Medicine. Achieving it will demand the very best efforts of all of Navy Medicine's personnel. Achieve it we must-our patients deserve no less!

HIGH YEAR TENURE ADJUSTED DOWNWARD FOR ACTIVE DUTY AND FULL-TIME SUPPORT E-5'S

Effective 1 July 2005, active duty and FTS E-5 personnel with less than ten years active service will fall under the new HYT rule of 14 years. Those affected personnel with over ten years of active service on 12 July 2005 will fall under the previous HYT rule of 20 years. Certain waiver provisions apply. The full Navy policy on E-5 HYT adjustment may be reviewed in NAVADMIN 056/05.

USS SPRUANCE IS DECOMISSIONED

After 30 years of service to the fleet, the *USS SPRUANCE* was decommissioned during a ceremony at Mayport Naval Station.

Assigned to Destroyer Squadron 24, the *USS SPRUANCE* was the lead ship of 31 *SPRUANCE* class destroyers. The ship was built by Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, MS, and was commissioned on 20 Sept. 1975. The ship is named after ADM Raymond A. Spruance who had a long and distinguished Naval career that culminated in his appointment as Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, in 1945. ADM Spruance later became president of the Naval War College and held that post until his retirement on 1 July 1948.

Called to the colors once again in 1952, ADM Spruance served as U.S. ambassador to the Philippines until the spring of 1955. He then returned home to Pebble Beach, CA, where he lived until his death on 13 Dec. 1969. For nearly three decades, the *USS SPRUANCE* played a major role in operations in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean and Mediterranean seas, the Arabian Gulf, and European waters.

Operation Restore Democracy in Haiti, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom are among the many actions in which the ship participated.

BUSH NAMES BASE-CLOSING PANEL MEMBERS

President Bush has launched the politically accented process of deciding which military bases around the country soon might be closed to save money.

Bush formally nominated the nine members of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission, including former Veterans Affairs Secretary and San Diegan Anthony J. Principi, whom Bush has nominated to serve as chairman. When it appeared that these nominations might get stalled in the Senate, he made the recess appointments during Congress' Easter break. The nine commissioners will include four retired senior military officers; two former members of Congress; two former cabinet secretaries; and a former weapons research and testing official.

California has suffered the most from the previous four closure rounds and still has many bases at risk. Bush appointed a second Californian to the commission, Philip Coyle, of Los Angeles, the former director of Operational Test and Evaluation in the Defense Department and now a senior advisor to the Center for Defense Information.

Also appointed were: Former Rep. James H. Bilbray, D-Nevada, who served on the House Armed Services and Intelligence Committees and in the Army Reserve; Retired ADM Harold W. Gehman, Jr., of Virginia, whose last duty was as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic and as the Commander of the U.S. Joint Forces Command; Former Rep. James V. Hansen, R-Utah, who had served on the Armed Services Committee and in the Navy; Retired Army Gen. James T. Hill, of Florida, whose last duty was as Commander of the U.S. Southern Command; Retired Army LT General Claude M. Kicklighter, of Georgia, who was an assistant secretary at VA after leaving the Army; Samuel Knox Skinner of Illinois, who was White House Chief of Staff and then Secretary of Transportation for former President George H. W. Bush; and, Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner, of Texas, whose last post was as director of nursing services for the Air Force.

NAVY TO SINK RETIRED CARRIER *AMERICA*

The Navy plans to sink the retired carrier *AMERICA* to the bottom of the Atlantic in explosive tests this spring, an end that is difficult to swallow for some who served onboard the ship which was based in Norfolk during its 31-year career.

The Navy says the effort, which will cost $22 million, will provide valuable data for the next generation of aircraft carriers, which are now in development. Since no warship of this size has ever been sunk, no hard information on how well a supercarrier can survive battle damage exists. Since its decommissioning in 1996, the *AMERICA* has been moored with dozens of other inactive warships at a Navy yard in Philadelphia.

NAVY PLANS TO RETIRE CARRIER EARLY

The Navy announced that it plans to retire the *JOHN F. KENNEDY* aircraft carrier as early as June 2005, leaving Congress little time if it wants to block a plan that would reduce the U.S. carrier fleet to its smallest size in at least a half-century.

The 37-year-old *KENNEDY*, based in Mayport, FL, would leave the fleet as early as June to begin the lengthy process of dcommissioning. The early retirement, which comes 13 years ahead of schedule, would leave the fleet with 11 carriers, its smallest number since at least 1951.

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LIVING WILLS

So far, about 25 percent of American adults have one. A living will usually authorizes providing, withholding, or withdrawing procedures that would prolong the life of someone in a terminal condition. Physicians and their patients should address such issues when a patient is healthy. People who avoid the topic because they fear a loss of control should be aware they can change their minds at any time and revise their wills. The crucial element is discussing the contents of a will with relatives, close friends, and one's physician. Let the world know what your desires would be if you should ever be in a persistent vegetative state. It is especially important to provide copies of the will to one's physician, relatives, and anyone having health-care power of attorney. It is normally the policy to honor the directions in a patient's living will unless such requests are judged illegal or immoral.

Charitable Giving Is for Everyone

By LT Marc J. Soss, SC, USNR

Charitable giving is a fundamental part of our society today. Both philanthropic goals and tax benefits can be derived from a properly planned charitable giving program. There are many kinds of property you can incorporate into your giving program: cash, securities (stocks and bonds), retirement accounts, automobiles, real estate, or antiques. The property can be transferred outright or through a planned giving arrangement (allowing you or family members to retain an interest in the gift) and take effect during your lifetime or upon your death.

Tax Implications

The U. S. Tax Code ("Code") impacts charitable giving by effecting both the cost and amount of resources available for donation. Taxpayers, who itemize their income tax deductions, are able to reduce their taxable income by the amount of their annual charitable gifts. An added benefit is that the gift will also remove the asset from the taxpayer's estate and lessen, to the extent applicable, any estate taxes that may be due upon death.

In order for a charitable gift to be income tax deductible, it requires the contributed asset be given to a charity that can use it for its exempt purposes. Once this standard is met, the donor will be entitled to a charitable income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the gifted asset. This deduction will especially be valuable if a substantial capital gains tax would be due if the donor had personally sold the asset. Alternatively, when the taxpayer or his/her family retains a present or future interest in the gift, they will receive an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of the gift less the present value of the retained interest.

Factors to Consider in Charitable Giving

When creating a charitable plan, the personal factors that must be considered include the following: (1) recipient of the gift [organization(s) or institution(s)]; (2) amount of the gift; (3) whether the gift will be made during lifetime or upon death; (4) an outright gift or one with a retained interest in your or your family; and (5) current and future financial needs of you and your dependents. The following tax factors include: (1) income tax issues (capital gains tax) and savings; and (2) potential estate tax savings.

Outright Gift:

An outright charitable gift will provide the donor with an immediate sense of gratification and an income tax deduction equal to the fair market value of gifted asset. The charity will have the immediate benefit of the gift, subject to any restrictions placed upon it (scholarship or educational purposes). No part of the gift will be later available to the donor or his or her family.

Charitable Trusts:

A charitable trust can provide a donor with both an income tax deduction and a present or future payout stream (income or principal). The tax deduction is based upon the fair market value of the gift, less the present value of the present or future payout stream. The benefits to a donor of using a trust, when establishing a charitable plan, include the following: (1) creation during their lifetime or upon death; (2) determine the term of the trust (lifetime or a fixed term); (3) the level of annual trust payouts; and (4) power to change the charitable beneficiary. In addition, if a donor has been holding onto appreciated assets for fear of paying high capital gains, he or she could transfer the assets to a charitable trust and avoid the capital gains taxes associated with its sale.

The two most widely used types of charitable trusts are the following:

Remainder Trusts:

A charitable remainder trust (CRT) is a tax-exempt trust that enables a donor to donate diversified assets to charitable organizations and receive the benefits of an annual payout (annuity or unitrust amount). The payout rate will depend upon the following: (1) length of the trust; and (2) life expectancies of the payment recipients. At the end of the payment term, the balance of trust assets will be distributed to the charitable beneficiary(s). Upon creation of the trust, the donor receives an income tax deduction equal to the charitable gift, less the present value of the lifetime payouts.

Lead Trusts:

A charitable lead trust (CLT), unlike a remainder trust, is not tax-exempt. The trust provides the charitable organization an up front annual payment for a period of years with the balance, after the expiration of the term, paid to the beneficiary of the donor's selection. Upon creation of the trust, the donor receives an income tax deduction equal to the charitable gift, less the value of the remainder interest.

A CLT is a very attractive option during periods of low interest rates because the value of the donor's initial gift to the trust is determined by a government-set rate, the term of the trust, and the payout to charity. When the government-set rate is low, the value of the donor's gift is reduced for gift tax purposes.

Other Charitable Planning Options

Foundation:

A foundation (private or family) is a tax-exempt charitable entity (nonprofit corporation or trust). It derives its support from one or a small group of individuals and is typically operated by the donor's family or a for-profit corporation. It is a proven method to create a long-term charitable giving strategy

Cont'd. next page

Dear Captain McAtee,

Re: Petition to Board for Correction of Naval Records

Just to let you know that the petition you helped me to prepare was approved and I have received confirmation that my records have been corrected to reflect my 20 years of service and that I have been transferred to the Retired Reserve and am entitled to retirement pay and benefits.

Saying "helped me to prepare" is of course an enormous understatement. Although all of the information in the petition was provided and verified by me, I was totally at sea as to how to structure it and what to emphasize. Your help in the revision of my first effort was indispensable.

As a lawyer, I realized as soon as I saw your suggested revisions the value – indeed, the absolute need – to have the assistance of a skilled and experienced professional in such a matter.

I also have to thank you for your incredible sleuthing which resulted in the location of my record – something I had not been able to accomplish on my own in over three years – and the identification of retirement points I would not have had without your assistance.

BRAVO ZULU, and many, many thanks.

John Stotsenburg
Lieutenant Commander, USNR (Ret)

Dear Admiral Keith,

I found it ironic that you criticize the Navy for "lower(ing) the opportunity for selection to URL CAPT and CDR to the lowest levels in five years without providing a compelling reason," when just a year ago ADM Cotton unilaterally imposed lower selection rates for O-5/6s by not selection to authorized levels. What did we think would happen when we sent the Navy the signal that we don't need to promote so many? We act surprised when they take opportunity away? But who am I to question the logic of ADM Cotton, after all, his justification was quoted to be something about teaching fitrep writers (read: those that have already been promoted) to do a better job. Silly me, I had thought he did it because he had inside information about the draw down and wanted to react quicker than the bureaucratic cycle of drafting and releasing the promotion zone message.

John Scott
Lieutenant Commander, USNR

Dear Admiral Keith,

I am proud to be a new member of your Association. I am very impressed with the ease of joining and the level of attention you provide. It has made me feel very welcome and excited about the NRA.

Andy Wegman,
Lieutenant Commander, USNR

Info That You Can Use - Cont'd from page 26

(annual distributions instead of a one-time gift) with the benefits of an income and estate tax deduction.

A foundation may be utilized for family giving and recognition for involvement in charitable endeavors. Family members may also be employed by or serve on the board of directors or as a trustee of the foundation. The foundation will annually determine how its funds will be distributed to other charitable organizations.

Conclusion

Everyone, regardless of whether you recognize it as a charitable gift, in some form or fashion makes an annual charitable gift. This article was designed to make you aware of your gifting options, the techniques available to you, and the hope you will make the Naval Reserve Association one of your annual charitable benefactors.

LT Soss is a tax, estate planning, guardianship, and corporate attorney in Sarasota, FL. He can be reached at <SMSOSS@aol.com>.

IRR Muster Duty Allowance (MDA)

Those members of the Individual Ready Reserve who are ordered to muster will be paid a MDA for a minimum of two hours of muster duty. The 2005 MDA rate, regardless of pay grade, is $161.94 and payable only once per calendar year. No other payments are payable in connection with travel to the muster duty location. Payment will normally be made within 30 days following muster.

Navy Reserve 2005 Sailor of the Year Announced

By Journalist 1st Class Mike Miller
Commander, Navy Reserve Force Public Affairs

NEW ORLEANS – Chief of Navy Reserve, VADM John G. Cotton, announced the selection of Utilitiesman 1st Class(SS) Tom Mock as the 2005 Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year (NRSOY) during a ceremony at Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command in New Orleans, 30 March.

Petty Officer Mock is a Selected Reservist (SELRES) attached to Navy Supply Support Battalion One at Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center (NMCRC) Phoenix. He was chosen from among 50,000 SELRES.

The group of five finalists who reported to Navy Reserve Command headquarters in New Orleans also included:

Yeoman 1st Class Tina Grogg, *USS EMORY S. LAND* (AS-39), Detachment 313, NMCRC Cincinnati;

Engineering Aide 1st Class(SS) Stephen Harmon, Fleet Support Training 1610, NMCRC Houston;

Interior Communications Electrician 1st Class Wayne Lien, Commander, Destroyer Squadron Two, Detachment D, NMCRC Denver; and,

Aviation Ordnanceman 2nd Class Shawna Moore, Commander, Forces Western Pacific, Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department, Navy Reserve Center Whidbey Island, WA.

Chief of the Navy Reserve, VADM John G. Cotton, congratulates Utilitiesman 1st Class (SS) Thomas Mock from Avondale, AZ, the 2005 Navy Reserve Sailor of the Year named at a ceremony held today in New Orleans. Mock was selected from five finalists drawn from 50,000 Selected Reservists. Mock will be meritoriously advanced to chief petty officer and awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal for meritorious service in Washington, DC, in July.

"Five finalists are chosen by a selection board. Those five are brought to New Orleans for interviews, evaluation, and selection. A second board, comprised of five master chief petty officers, then makes a recommendation to the Chief of Navy Reserve, who, in turn, makes the actual Reserve Force Sailor of the Year selection," said Navy Reserve Force Master Chief (AW/NAC) Thomas W. Mobley.

VADM Cotton praised Mock's achievements over the last year, including his deployment to Iraq. "Mock is the type of Sailor that gives me confidence in the future of our Navy," said VADM Cotton. "He is the type of Sailor I brag about when I am touring our great nation."

Petty Officer Mock was visibly humbled by his selection.

"I am a United States Sailor and a Navy Seabee," said Petty Officer Mock. "I have had the privilege of serving on a ballistic missile submarine, the *USS LAFAYETTE*, as well as in Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and many other places. But as I stand here today, I am serving with some of the finest Sailors I have ever known. We are one force and ours is one fight. It is very humbling to receive this award, and I will continue to lead and serve in the United States Navy."

Petty Officer Mock is heavily involved in his unit's mobilization readiness. He said, "The junior Sailors are looking for help with their mobilization jobs, so whether their civilian career is a match or not, they're looking for skills and knowledge and abilities to help them with the job they're going to do when they mobilize.

"We make sure that they're trained, that their initial training programs are done, that they are medically, physically qualified to mobilize; and then, as much as possible, we try to find what the mobilization job is going to be.

"We did mobilize last year; and months prior to the mobilization, we made sure that everyone had a living will up-to-date. They were briefed on Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, on talking to their employers about potential mobilizations; and then, when we got their orders, we told them that they were, in fact, mobilized. Not all employers support their troops the same. Some employers offer benefits when a Sailor deploys, as far as making up pay differential, paying 401Ks, medical benefits; but some Sailors don't have any of that. Those are the ones who need the most counseling."

"These candidates for Sailor of the Year are the best of the best," said VADM Cotton. "When I show their résumés to the master chiefs at the Pentagon and tell them who they are and what they do, they shake their heads in amazement and say, 'Where do you get these people?' I tell them, 'America.'"

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Collaborate with a Little Help from Their Friends

By CAPT Paige Saunders, USN (RC)

LCDR Mark Boese and LCDR Ted Ferrazano, Naval Reservists from Albuquerque, New Mexico, have been helping all kinds of unmanned aerial vehicles talk to each other. The vehicles are all part of a joint program to enable them to work together in providing commanders as well as troops in the field the ability to know what's going on around them in a theater of battle.

This program, the "Joint Operational Test Bed System," was initiated by the U.S. Joint Forces Command. The objective is to improve the warfighting capabilities of unmanned aerial vehicles by using a communications network between the vehicles and base stations.

The exercises that Boese and Ferrazano took part in came in a series: Forward Look I held this past February at Fort Huachuca, AZ, was a technical demonstration of the capability for the different unmanned vehicles to communicate with each other and share information; the second, Forward Look II in March (also at Fort Huachuca), took it to the higher level of operational demonstrations; in June, Forward Look III evaluated the unmanned aerial vehicles' ability to provide a mission commander with complete situational awareness in a joint exercise at the Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, NC. Specific vehicles used were Navy Predators, an Advanced Ceramics Research/ONR Silver Fox, a Boeing/Insitu Scan Eagle, and an AAI Shadow 600.

A specific example of the capability and potential of unmanned aerial vehicles working together took place during the Forward Look III experiment. During the exercise, all players were networked together, receiving video feeds from each unmanned aerial vehicle as well as data on its position. All players achieved total situational awareness. They knew where all the unmanned vehicles were, where their sensors were looking, and what their sensors were seeing. Players were able to hand off missions from one vehicle to another because they were networked together. "The experiment was a resounding success," according to LCDR Ferrazano. "The increase in battle space awareness available from the collaboration of multiple unmanned aerial vehicles, in conjunction with the Joint Operational Test Bed System network, cannot be overstated."

Forward Look III took place within the larger framework of Combined Joint Task Force Exercise 04-2, an annual Joint Forces Command-sponsored training for forces before they deploy to hot spots. The training involves U.S. forces, the United Kingdom, and other coalition partners.

LCDR Ferrazano is currently recalled to active duty to manage the test and evaluation of the Forward Look experiments with these unmanned aerial vehicles. Both he and Boese are Naval Reservists in the Office of Naval Research/ Naval Research Lab Science and Technology Unit 112, a unit that specializes in test and evaluation. Both he and Ferrazano will continue their work with unmanned vehicles this January in the next of a series of test and evaluation experiments with unmanned aerial vehicles.

LCDR Mark Boese (ONR NRL S&T 112) preflights the Predator prior to flight during Forward Look III experiment held 10-20 June 2004 at MCAS Cherry Point, North Carolina, in conjunction with Combined Joint Task Force Exercise (CJTFEX) 04-2.

LCDR Ted Ferrazano is pictured with a U.S. Navy Predator unmanned aerial vehicle prior to launch in support of Forward Look III.

Volunteer Reservist Tapped for Needed Skills at GTMO

By LT Ivy Kupec, USNR

With the military reported to be downsizing, right-sizing, or civilianizing, one might conclude that all service members with the most valued skills are holding paid jobs, whether full-time or part-time.

However, when it came time to help coordinate the habeas corpus proceedings for the detainees in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO), the Navy's choice for the most qualified officer to tackle the challenge came from neither active duty ranks nor drilling reserve ranks. Nor was a contractor selected for his well-reimbursed skills . . . .

CDR Paul Anderson is one of the eight Navy Reservists handpicked to be assigned additional duty (ADDU) from the VTU to NR U.S. Southern Command HQ Staff.

This time, the Navy found the best-trained person for the job from the often underrated or forgotten Volunteer Training Unit (VTU).

The VTU is generally made up of senior officers who are unable to get a paid reserve billet but still want to serve their country and are compensated not only by accruing retirement points but also through the satisfaction of service. (They do get paid if called to active duty.) Equally surprising, this legal challenge was given not to a member of the Navy's Staff Judge Advocate General, but to a surface warfare officer.

Quick to say his level of expertise is not unique in the VTU, CDR Paul Anderson was asked to augment the active component earlier this year because, quite simply, he could bring something to the table that few could. He'd worked as a Navy Reservist in GTMO for more than a year as the task force information operations officer from March 2002 to 2003, and he'd honed exactly the needed legal skills as a civilian lawyer with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

"This is a good demonstration of how the Navy Reserve is evolving," CDR Anderson said. "By having Reservists whose skills are identified clearly, to include even those that were developed outside of the Navy, helps the service find the right person for the job every time – sometimes in unexpected places."

The habeas corpus proceedings are one of four legal and administrative processes that the detainees undergo. In addition to combatant status review tribunals, commission proceedings, and administrative review boards, the habeas corpus proceedings play an important role in determining whether the detainees are unjustly imprisoned through a legal process that dates back to King Edward I in England around 1305. The process achieved significant publicity when Abraham Lincoln suspended the Writ of Habeas Corpus on 25 September 1862 during the Civil War. It is essentially a court order that is designed to determine whether a person's imprisonment is illegal.

Not surprisingly, the biggest challenge CDR Anderson faced was the balancing act of ensuring that detainees had access and exchanged correspondence with their counsel without compromising JTF-GTMO's intelligence gathering mission and sacrificing U.S. national security interests.

"Every detainee at GTMO is entitled to his day in court," he said. "I spent the large part of my time coordinating with people in Washington, DC, to ensure that the rights of the detainees were upheld without interfering with GTMO security issues."

So, from 1 Aug. to 30 Sept., CDR Anderson coordinated all the details to set up these proceedings, even filling in for the JTF-GTMO Command Staff Judge Advocate General for nine days in GTMO. CDR Anderson worked with military and numerous civilian attorneys who represented the detainees to address procedural issues and ensure a smooth and fair process.

He frequently responded to inquiries from around the Department of Defense as he simultaneously planned and then established an effective process. CDR Anderson is one of eight Navy Reservists handpicked to be assigned additional duty (ADDU) from the VTU to NR U.S. Southern Command HQ Staff.

"Our ADDU VTU is truly a group of talented individuals who are able to augment the SOUTHCOM staff in a variety of roles," CDR Anderson said.

"It was a good experience for me at GTMO," he said. "I was extremely fortunate to work for COL Kathryn Stone, the SOUTHCOM Staff Judge Advocate, and her outstanding staff at the SJA office at SOUTHCOM. COL Stone gave me an incredible opportunity to contribute to her office, and I took the lead and ran with it – a truly fascinating and rewarding experience.

"For three weeks at JTF-GTMO, I got to work with the task force lawyers who were a solid team from day one. The continued professionalism from everyone was impossible to ignore. From the guys working the cell blocks all the way up the chain of command, the quality of people performing this vital mission for the military and for our country – it just makes you proud of everyone there."

CAPT Bernard Pezzopane, DC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT H. Arthur Pfeifer, Jr., USNR (Ret)
LT Mickey Lynn Phillips, Sr., MSC, USNR
CAPT Cyril M. Pipkin, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Theodore R. Pitts, USNR (Ret)
LCDR John S. Polechetti, NC, USNR
LCDR Earl M. Pollock, USNR (Ret)
RADM Bradley C. Poole, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Neal R. Popham, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Harriett E. Porch, USNR (Ret)
CDR Justin C. Powers, USNR
CDR Philip W. Prawl, Sr., SC, USNR (Ret)
CDR D. Clinton Prescott, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT David C. Prickett, Jr., MC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Kieran James Purcell, USNR
CDR Gregory James Ralstin, USNR
CAPT Hal S. Raper, Jr., DC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Warren T. Rayder, USNR (Ret)
CAPT John S. Reever, DC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Louis A. Reid, USNR
CAPT Edward T. Reidy III, DC, USNR
CAPT Laurent C. G. Reinhardt, USNR
CAPT Anthony C. Richards, USNR (Ret)
CAPT John T. Riley, USNR (Ret)
LCDR Brant F. Robinson, USNR
CDR Edward C. Robison, CEC, USNR
CAPT Richard H. Robinson, USNR (Ret)
CDR David D. Roby, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Melvyn A. Rodelli, USNR (Ret)
CDR Gabriel D. Rosanelli, DC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT David Alan Rosenberg, USNR
LT Bernard B. Rothschild, USNR (Ret)
CAPT William H. Russell, CEC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT James A. Ryan, SC, USNR (Ret)
CAPT John Sahaida, USNR (Ret)
CDR Thomas Sako, DC, USNR
CDR Dennis L. Sawyer, MSC, USNR (Ret)
LT Anthony Rocco Sbiroli, NC, USNR
LCDR Robert M. Scanlon, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Aaron R. Scharff, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CDR Robert C. Schaumann, USNR
CAPT Roger E. Schlichting, USNR (Ret)
CAPT Karen A. Schmidt, USNR
CDR Walter A. Schmidt, USNR (Ret)
CAPT William J. Schneider, USNR (Ret)
CDR Terrence Michael Schoenborn, USNR (Ret)
CDR Robert J. Schutte, SC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Henry C. Schwemm, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CDR Walter J. Scott, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CAPT John D. Sentz, Jr., USNR (Ret)
CDR William K. Shaughnessy, USNR (Ret)
CDR David S. Shay, USNR
CDR John A. Sicklick, USNR
CDR John T. Skolfield, Jr., USNR (Ret)
LCDR Robert H. Slay, USNR (Ret)
CDR Brian Tillman Smith, USNR
CAPT Gerald Smith, CEC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Harriet Lee Smith, NC, USNR
CDR M. Dennis Smith, MSC, USNR
CAPT Sandra Howes Smith, USNR
CAPT Kenton O. Smitherman, MC, USNR
LT Macon St. Clair Snowden III, USNR
CDR Larry M. Sommer, USNR
CAPT Samuel O. Southern, JAGC, USNR (Ret)
CDR Eric L. Stallworth, USNR
CAPT Betty W. Starr, MSC, USNR (Ret)
LT Peggy T. Stolyaroba, USNR
CAPT Richard H. Stough, CHC, USNR (Ret)
CWO2 Michael F. Strobel, USNR
LCDR Ruth M. Sullivan, USNR (Ret)
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