

### **REDESIGNATION OF THE NAVAL RESERVE AS THE NAVY RESERVE**

*The Federal Register* of 22 December 2005 promulgated that effective 1 January, the term “Navy Reserve” replaces “Naval Reserve.”

### **NEW SECRETARY OF THE NAVY**

Donald C. Winter was sworn in 3 January as the 74<sup>th</sup> Secretary of the Navy by Acting Deputy Secretary of Defense Gordon England. In this position, Winter will lead the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps of almost 900,000 people and an annual budget in excess of \$125 billion. Before joining the Bush administration, Winter served as a corporate vice president and president of Northrop Grumman’s Mission Systems sector.

### **SAILORS GOING TO BROWN-WATER DUTIES**

The Navy plans to tackle terrorism and other unconventional threats via a massive reorganization. Between 40,000 and 50,000 Sailors will transition during the

next two years “from the blue water, all the way into the brown water” within the Naval Expeditionary Combat Command which has been in existence since October 2005. The command will oversee units ranging from the naval coastal warfare groups and the master-at-arms forces, to the Seabees, bomb-disposal crews, and expeditionary logistics specialists. It also will manage the Navy’s new riverine squadrons.

### **POETRY AND WIT JAZZ UP NEW YEAR LOGS**

In the first hours of every New Year, the nation’s seafaring officers of the Navy and Coast Guard take up an endearing naval tradition: writing wordplay, doggerel, and poetry in their log entries. With the turning of the calendar, officers get down to business and try to find ways to pull a ship’s location, ammunition, engine status, and speed into a poem that flows with rhyme and wit. The tradition of dispensing with the standard log entry goes back to at least before World War II, but its origins are unknown.

The custom is the midwatch officer’s way of getting revenge for having to pull the least desirable of watches – while everyone else is partying. NRA Deputy Executive Director, CAPT Tom McAtee, was a *Navy Times* Honorable Mention for his log entry on 1 January 1974 while assigned to Patrol Squadron Eleven.

### **MILITARY CHIEFS DEMOTED IN PENTAGON SUCCESSION**

The three military service chiefs have been dropped in the Bush administration’s doomsday line of Pentagon succession, pushed beneath three civilian undersecretaries in Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld’s inner circle. A little-noticed holiday week Executive Order from President Bush moved the Pentagon’s intelligence chief to the No. 3 spot in the succession hierarchy behind Rumsfeld. The second spot would be the deputy secretary of defense, but that position currently is vacant. The Army chief, which long held the No. 3 spot, was dropped to sixth. ↓