

Navy

March/April 2007

Judge Advocate General's Corps

**Navy SJAs in
Combatant
Commands**

**Transformation
in Europe, Asia**

Sharing Judges

**IA Update: Task
Force 134**

**JAG Outreach: College
Campus and Courtrooms**

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The U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals heard arguments in the case of United States vs. Gallagher on Jan. 25 at George Washington University Law School. See more on Page 15.

JAG

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The Judge Advocate General

It has been a busy time since publication of the last JAG Magazine. We released hard copies of *JAG Corps 2020* and each of you should have your own copy by now. We also sent copies of the *JAG Magazine* to retired members of the JAG Corps community. Thank you to all who responded with words of appreciation. It is my goal to always have an open dialog with our entire community -- civilians, officers and enlisted, reserve and active duty, our retirees and family members.

In this edition of the *JAG Magazine*, we focus on the JAG Corps' role in current operations. Captain Nan DeRenzi, Captain Del Crandall and Captain Corky Malcom, were all recently selected for Combatant Command Staff Judge Advocate positions, which demonstrates the high caliber of people we have in our community.

We also start a series of first-hand accounts from JAG Corps Individual Augmentees (IA) with two stories from Task Force 134. This series will continue throughout the year with stories from IAs serving all over the world. We all have a duty to take care of the families our JAG Corps IAs leave behind. LN2 Debra Bazan writes about her daily life at TF 134 and describes how the JAG community came together to support her and her family after her home suffered a devastating fire while she was

deployed to Iraq. LN2 Veronica Ibarguen writes about what it was like to be a single parent and IA.

Regarding *JAG Corps 2020* and the JAG transformation effort, Captain Mark Lawton and Commander Steven Haycock explain the defense command pilot program being tested in Europe and Southwest Asia. Their assessment of how well the project has gone to date has lead us to start planning for a similar pilot project in the continental United States at the end of this year.

Another transformation effort is the recent interservice memorandum of agreement (MOA) to share military judges. The Army used this MOA to detail Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel Paul McConnell to one of the Army Abu Ghraib courts-martial. The article describing his experience is a fascinating look into our joint future.

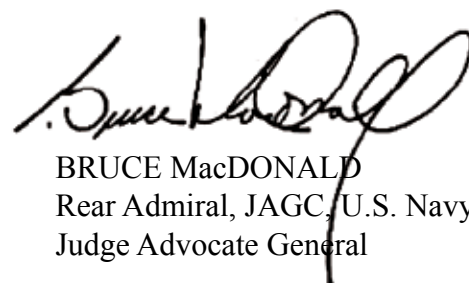
Excellent examples of Navy JAG Corps outreach are reflected in this month's articles. I encourage everyone to look for opportunities to share what you do for the United



States Navy and our Sailors.

I am interested in your feedback regarding the *JAG Magazine* and/or any of the articles here in. Please contribute by forwarding ideas about potential stories or even volunteering to write about something you are doing.

Thank you for all you do each day.



BRUCE MacDONALD
Rear Admiral, JAGC, U.S. Navy
Judge Advocate General

JAG Corps Reports: Individual Augmentee for Task Force 134

Editors note: The Chief of Naval Operations has made it clear that individual augmentees (IAs) are critical to the Navy's effort in the war on terrorism. In a recent visit to Camp McCrady, S.C. to see the training of IAs, he said, "I'm anxious to pitch in as much as we possibly can for the duration of this war. Not only can we do our share, but [we can] take as much stress off those who are deploying back-to-back, home one year, deployed one year and now are on their third or fourth deployment." This article begins a JAG Magazine series of first-hand accounts from members of the JAG Corps in individual augmentee assignments.

**Lt. Chris Jeter, JAGC, USN
Task Force 134**

I start my day before the Baghdad sunrise. At 5:30 a.m., my roommate and I navigate the maze of T-barriers and CONEX boxes to the make-shift dusty gym. Back in our dormitory-style barracks, we grab a quick shower and glance at Armed Forces Network television as we dress for work. I normally get to the office by 8:00 a.m. in order to prep for the daily 8:30 a.m. meeting, which charts the course for the long day ahead. My workday normally lasts between 12-16 hours. This is my routine seven days a week at Task Force 134 – Legal, in Baghdad, Iraq.

I work in the Magistrate Cell. Instead of khakis and garrison covers, we arrive each day wearing desert cammies and 9mm pistols. This unassuming office, comprised of a double-wide trailer, is the "tip of the spear" for the legal process set up to ensure detainees receive due process under a myriad of international laws and U.N. Security Council Resolutions. Located

next to the Theater Internment Facility (TIF), I am struck daily by the sight of concertina wire, armed guards and detainees.

We spend our days pouring over six-part files filled with detainee information, witness statements and classified intelligence reports. The Magistrate Cell acts as the first independent legal review of a completed detainee packet. As an O-3, I apply the relevant legal standard, assess risk and identify the appropriate forum for adjudication.

The system employed by Multi-National Force Iraq includes multiple levels of review to ensure each detainee receives due process. The initial review following apprehension is completed by the detaining unit and is called a Detention Review Authority. The second review occurs at the TF 134 Magistrate Cell. Based on this review, the Magistrate Cell either recommends the detainee be expeditiously released or retained as an imperative security threat.

Based on the information provided by the Detaining Unit, the Magistrate Cell is also tasked with recommending whether a detainee should be referred to the Central Criminal Court of Iraq (CCCI) for criminal prosecution. Individuals not referred to the CCCI and detained solely as a security internee have their cases reviewed by the Combined Review and Release Board (CRRB) at least twice a year. Comprised of Gov-

ernment of Iraq (GOI) and MNF-I representatives, the CRRB is consistent with Article 78 of Geneva Convention IV. The CCCI or CRRB, depending on which forum the detainee is presented to, forms the third review in this system.

I make trips to the TIF to positively identify a detainee, view detainee property or complete any number of tasks. I feel far from home when I encounter the smell of the detention facility's concrete walls and hear the commands of U.S. soldiers translated into Arabic, echoing throughout the halls.

The aura of war is ever-present. Whether hearing the news of another U.S. casualty or passing the armed guards at the dining facility, my circumstances are unforgettable. When it's time to travel, we load into up-armored Humvees, talk over the rattling sounds of metal and proceed along ill-defined roads surrounded by fences and guard towers. My heart skips a beat when random mortar and rocket attacks hit nearby. It is common for the day's work to be interrupted by the sounds of sirens, explosions and

outgoing artillery rounds. We then don 40 lbs of body armor, trade our soft cover for a Kevlar helmet and plunge into the dust that leads home. After three months, I have finally learned to sleep through the sounds of helicopters, gunfire and loud speakers.

This is truly a

"This unassuming office... comprised of a double-wide trailer, is the 'tip of the spear' for the legal process set up to ensure detainees receive due process."

**-- Lt. Chris Jeter,
TF 134**

joint, combined, and coalition environment. Each day is a fusion of service cultures and traditions. Daily rides to the chow hall include Romanians, Australians and other foreign nationals.

The best part of my job is easy to identify. I most enjoy the opportunity to meet and interact with the young heroes who conduct daily combat missions. Their courage and professionalism is inspiring. I am proud to be a Navy JAG in Iraq – doing my part.

**LN2 Debra M. Bazan, USN
Task Force 134**

I arrived at Camp Cropper at the end of November 2006 not knowing what to expect. All I knew is that I was assigned to TF 134, Detainee Operations, working in the Magistrate Cell. When I volunteered for this assignment, I knew that it would change my outlook on life, and I wanted it to. I have come to realize that being here is more than just an event that changes your outlook — it requires so much more. It requires a change in your frame of mind. My day-to-day activities can seem quite repetitive, but it is the different people and encounters that make a difference — that can change a bad day into a good one, that can make a long day seem short, and that can make something small and insignificant seem important. Every day can seem like just another day, but it is another day that adds to what makes me the person I am.

I expected to have to sacrifice the luxuries that we are accustomed to, and even with all the changes you will not find me complaining. I went from working seven to eight hours a day, five days a week, to working 12 to 14 hour days, six and a half days a week; from being able to walk alone, to always having to have a battle buddy; from carrying a cute purse to carrying an M16; from going to the gym in running shoes to going in combat boots; from wearing a polyester cover to wearing a five pound Kevlar helmet.



Lt. Chris Jeter and LN2 Debra Bazan, assigned to Task Force 134 describe life as a JAG Corps Individual Augmentee

The everyday life here in Baghdad, Iraq has become a reality check to me. It has made me appreciate my family, my co-workers and myself so much more. I have come to the realization that I can do more than I have in the past, and that I am capable of pushing past those limits.

Every morning on my way to the Magistrate Cell, I take in the view of the new arrivals to the Theater Internment Facility,

trudge through the mud, and try to avoid the wind-blown smells from the truck that cleans the ‘port-a-johns.’ By 8:30 a.m. I am walking into our trailer, which is where I spend a majority of my time. The night shift attorneys are getting ready to head out and the day shift is settling in. We say our good mornings, try to make a decent cup of coffee, and

IA continued on page 6

have our morning meeting. Being here has brought people from different parts of the world and every branch of the military to work together.

The system employed by Multi-National Force Iraq includes multiple levels of review to ensure each detainee receives due process. The initial review is completed by the detaining unit. The second review occurs at the TF 134 Magistrate Cell. Based on this review, the Magistrate Cell either recommends the detainee be released or retained as a security threat.

Our work is important but having a supportive command, understanding family, and a good group of people to work with is what makes the difference out here. We have laughed together, struggled together, shared our holidays, and even shared some tears. I recently had a devastating house fire, and it amazed me how much my command, family, friends, Legalmen, and the JAG community came together and offered their support. I just wanted to push it all aside and deal with it when I returned home, but after talking with my officer-in-charge I realized that probably wasn't the best decision and that everyone was standing by with open hearts, ready to share my burden and help me through it.

At the end of every night, I walk home with my battle buddy, mark off another day on my calendar, get in a good workout at the gym, shower, take in the view of the pictures I have of my family next to my bed, and then say my prayers. I do all this with the distant sound of gun fire, helicopters taking off and landing, and the shaking of controlled detonations. All in all, I have come to appreciate, accept, and understand that with the closing of another day that I have done something to make my family, friends, co-workers and me proud.

Legalman Discusses Single Parenthood, Life as Individual Augmentee

By LN2 Veronica Ibarguen, *Joint Task Force-Bravo, Honduras*

Being a single parent in the military has always been challenging, but when duty calls you must sometimes leave your family behind. When I was told that I was going on an IA to Honduras for six months shortly after giving birth to my daughter, it was unexpected. Leaving my four-month-old was the hardest thing I ever had to do. I made arrangements to take my daughter to Texas, where my mother was going to take care of her for the duration of my IA. I had to pack, put all my household goods in storage and deal with numerous other issues along the way. The support I received from my family and my command made my preparations easier and helped with the stress.

After leaving my daughter with my mother and taking care of everything else, I attended a week's training at the CONUS Replacement Center in Ft. Benning, GA. When I arrived at Joint Task Force-Bravo, Honduras, it was quite obvious that this was very different from any of my previous commands. This was my first time working at a joint command. JTF-Bravo consisted of Army, Air Force and Navy personnel. I worked at the Command Judge Advocate Office, and the attorney I worked for was an Army JAG. Some of the services we provided were legal assistance, claims, military justice, civil law and immigration. It was a little rough at the beginning, and I spent most of my days learning Army procedures, doing research, and calling paralegals from U.S. Southern Command whenever I had any questions or concerns. I was extremely fortunate in that everyone was really helpful in assisting me with any issues that arose.

Along with working at the CJA office, I also volunteered every other weekend at the local orphanage. The conditions in which these children live were appalling. It made me realize two things: how lucky I am to have what I have and how we take our routine things for granted. We had fund raisers to buy school supplies, clothes, shoes and every day necessities, as well as some toys. To see the smiles on all the kids' faces was so rewarding. Spending time with the children made me feel closer to my daughter, and made me feel good about myself. Knowing that we are making a difference in Honduras and around the world is something that we all can take pride in.

My overall experience working at JTF-B was great. It was rewarding professionally and personally. I was given the opportunity to work with other services and the Honduran local nationals. As a service member and a family member, we all are faced with many challenges during our careers, and many require sacrifices. Whether a regular deployment, a TAD, or an IA, it's all part of serving our country and providing a better life for our families.

Navy JAG Visits Baghdad Military Legal Team

By **MCCS (SW/AW) Jon McMillan**
Navy News Stand

BAGHDAD – The Judge Advocate General of the Navy, Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald, visited the military legal team deployed to Baghdad March 10 and 11. He also met with operational commanders, observed two detainee trials at the Central Criminal Court of Iraq and observed the review of detainee cases at the joint Multi-National Forces and Iraqi Combined Review and Release Board.

More than 100 military attorneys and paralegals – mostly from the Navy and Air Force – are deployed as individual augmentees to Iraq supporting the Multi-National Force. Most of them work for Task Force 134, the task force charged with detainee command and control, ensuring due process and assisting Iraq rebuild its judicial, correctional and law enforcement system.

“This is incredibly important work for our attorneys and legalmen,” said MacDonald. “The Iraqi judicial system has to work. Trying to support and help Iraq rebuild their judicial system is so important because the Iraqi people need a viable police force and judicial system that will protect them.”

MacDonald said the mission places a high demand for attorneys and legalmen who are performing an integral role processing detainees housed at Multi-National Force Theater Internment Facilities in Iraq.

“The more assets we assign – the more individual augmentees – the quicker Task Force 134 can process detainees,” said MacDonald. “We are protecting due process rights of detainees as we move them through the Iraqi system so the detainees who should be released are; and the one’s who shouldn’t be released are not.”

Judge Advocate General Corps officers on the ground in Iraq said it was important for MacDonald to visit and meet the team here and see their working

and living conditions. “They’re happy to see the leadership come out and not only see what they do and where they do it, but the importance of what they do,” said Capt. Bruce MacKenzie, Task Force 134 legal advisor.

MacDonald also conducted two Admiral’s Calls while in Baghdad and briefed the audiences on the status of Individual Augmentee requirements and how the community is managing current and future requirements. MacDonald told the audiences that the demand for JAGs and paralegals is growing across the services and he and his staff are working on innovative ways to meet the needs of the operational commanders and ensure the active, reserve and civilian components of the JAG Corps contribute their fair share.

“We have to develop a long-term holistic plan,” said MacDonald. “The next year here is critical to ensure we source these requirements.”

According to MacDonald and his Senior Enlisted Leader, Master Chief Legalman (SW/AW) Steve Distefano, every Navy individual augmentee billet so far has been filled by volunteers. “When they get back they thank me for the opportunity to do this,” said Distefano. “They come back with a new sense of pride about what they do here as a Sailor and a legalman.”

During the two-day visit, MacDonald also reenlisted Legalman 2nd Class Mica Elizabeth Chinn and Legalman 2nd Class Debra Bazan, both Magistrate Cell paralegals at Task Force 134, in a ceremony at Al Faw Palace at Camp Victory.

“For him to come all the way from the states and reenlist us meant a lot,” said Chinn. “It shows he cares and we’re not just names or bodies to send to Iraq.”

MacDonald also visited JAG Corps officers and legalman in Bahrain and Afghanistan.



Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald reenlists Legalman 2nd Class Mica Chinn at Al Faw Palace located on Camp Victory.

Strategic Action, Transformation in Europe and Southwest Asia

By Capt. Mark Lawton &
Cmdr. Steven Haycock
EURSWA

The future for the Department of Defense, the Navy, and the Navy JAG Corps involves transformation. The unique challenges of the Global War on Terrorism, and the Navy and JAG Corps' support in winning it, require flexibility. In Europe, the operational merger of the staffs of Commander, Naval Forces Europe (CNE); Commander, Sixth Fleet; and Commander, Submarine Group Eight; and the physical relocation of the staffs from London and Gaeta to Naples, was consistent with CNE's call for an overall post-Cold War transformation of the Navy presence in Europe and Africa – "south and east." The creation of a new combatant command – Africa Command – is another transformational element in the Europe and Southwest Asia (EURSWA) AORs. Coincidentally, the Sending State Office in Rome, as directed by the EUCOM staff, was undergoing its own transformation that resulted in greater responsibility for CNE and Commander, Navy Region Europe (CNRE) – and additional duties for CNE and CNRE legal.

Consistent with these transformations, the JAG Corps instituted a new pilot project – or, rather, projects - to explore more efficient means to deliver legal services to both our command and individual clients. The EURSWA Pilot Projects serve as an excellent example of the JAG Corps' responsiveness to Navy leadership and a testament

to "lean" and "6 sigma" models for constant improvement in the areas of value, timeliness, and quality. When CNE announced his commitment to accelerating Navy Europe's Transformation efforts while shifting "south and east," Commander, Naval Legal Service Command (CNLSC) took advantage of this opportunity to innovate. The result was the ongoing EURSWA Pilot Projects.

Background

The JAG Corps' recent innovations in EURSWA began in October 2004, with an agreement between CNRE and OJAG/CNLSC, that merged shore-based staff judge advocate, foreign criminal jurisdiction, and prosecution services in Iceland, UK, Italy, Spain, and Greece. One year later, an Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Commander Navy Region Southwest Asia (CNRSWA), CNRE, and CNLSC extended, indefinitely, the pilot into SWA (Bahrain and Djibouti). As a result of these changes, the command went from a TSO with 25

people in 4 locations to a RLSO with 75 people in 8 locations. The RLSO CO, Capt. Mark Lawton, wears three hats: CO of the RLSO, SJA for CNRE, and SJA for CNRSWA. The RLSO EURSWA Pilot Project was linked to, and resulted in: initial elimination of certain judge advocate billets in Rota and Sigonella; planned closure of legal offices in Iceland, the UK, and LaMaddalena; and the elimination of the military judge billets in Naples to be replaced by a circuit judge "terms of court" concept with active and reserve judges coming forward to EURSWA during pre-planned times.¹

The EURSWA Pilot Projects also extend to the NLSO. After briefings in March 2006 in Naples to Rear Admiral MacDonald, the decision was made to shift the legal assistance and claims functions to the RLSO and for the NLSO to operate as a "defense-only" command for a trial period of one year. The specifics regarding the Pilot Projects are memorialized in a separate MOA signed by CNLSC, CNRE, and CNRSWA.

The Pilot Project MOA expands the RLSO's mission to include responsibility for Legal Assistance and Claims (including Foreign and SOFA claims from the Sending State Office in Rome) throughout EURSWA.² It shifts all Legal Assistance and Claims military personnel³ and civilian billets⁴ from the NLSO to the RLSO. Because of the differences in size between the RLSO and the NLSO under the Pilot, the MOA gives the RLSO responsibility for the majority of joint collateral duties.

The MOA gives the NLSO a

"We have seen the power and speed in which actions, images, and ideas impact military operations. This pace of change continually redefines the security environment in which we operate. Our Navy is on course and speed to match that pace"

-- CNO Guidance for 2007

“We are committed not only to continue the many transformation initiatives already underway in our community, but also to accelerate that transformation to ensure we always provide superb solutions regardless of the circumstances.”

-- JAG Corps 2020

focused, defense only, mission. Under the Pilot, the headquarters office in Naples is staffed with a Commanding Officer (Cmdr. Steve Haycock), a senior enlisted leader, a senior defense counsel, one additional defense counsel, and a first class legalman. The NLSO presence in Sigonella was scaled back from three judge advocates and three legalmen to one judge advocate and one legalman. The NLSO presence in Rota disappeared completely. Only the Branch Office in Bahrain, with one attorney and one legalman, remained unaffected. In total, nine people remain part of the new NLSO. This structure assumes that the requirement for defense services will diminish as CNE decreases the Navy's population in Europe.⁵

Due to the outstanding relationship and spirit of cooperation between the two commands, the planning and execution of the Pilot Projects went quite smoothly. A joint command planning committee in Naples met regularly to anticipate and resolve issues. In Naples and Sigonella, the NLSO swapped offices with the RLSO. After the Pilot began, the NLSO personnel who performed legal assistance and claims functions continued the mission from the same office spaces as part of the RLSO, ensuring a seamless transition for clients. IT equipment moved with individuals. SJAs and trial counsel, assuming responsibility under the Pilot for Legal Assistance in remote locations and in conflict cases, received two days of training from experienced NLSO LA providers and have continued to receive regularly scheduled legal assistance training. The opportunities for enhanced

professional development of judge advocates and legalmen attached to the RLSO are significant.

Measures of Success

The Pilot MOA set forth metrics in four areas: Quality of service, timeliness, efficiency, and corporate improvement. Quality of service is being measured with quantifiable customer satisfaction surveys administered to individuals for Legal Assistance and Defense services and to client commands for Command Services and prosecution. In addition, military judges are surveyed regarding counsel performance. Other quality-related issues to be measured include pre- and post-trial errors (to be captured by CMTIS), denials of requests for services, the nature and extent of JAG/LN training, and the creation of new services.⁶

Both commands are measuring timeliness of service by tracking customer wait times for appointments and/or services. CMTIS will measure certain processing times for courts and boards. The RLSO also tracks average processing times for NATO SOFA claims.

Positive results in the efficiency metric are apparent from the fact that NLSC is meeting demand in Europe with fewer personnel overall. The NLSO was reduced by an O-6 (CO), two O-4s (OICs in Sigonella and Rota), three O-3s (Defense Counsels in Sigonella and Rota), and two legalmen. In 2005, the RLSO cut officer billets in Rota and Sigonella and is slotted for additional officer billet reductions in Naples, Sigonella, and Rota in 2007/2008. While military

justice TAD costs have increased under the Pilot,⁷ as Defense Counsel must travel more often throughout the AOR to participate in courts-martial and administrative boards in areas without a NLSO presence, TAD costs are eclipsed by the savings realized by the NLSO's diminished footprint.⁸

Finally, the Pilot sets forth a metric for corporate improvement. The RLSO measures the number and the quality of command services and preventative law training conducted. The NLSO looks for ways to alert Sailors to the defense services available to them, even in locations without a NLSO presence.

Initial Impressions

Based on the results of individual client surveys, the RLSO believes it has maintained legal assistance quality throughout the AOR. In fact, because of increased emphasis and training, LA quality has been improved at remote locations such as Souda Bay and La Maddalena. Additionally, a larger command gives the RLSO greater flexibility and surge capability, allowing it to successfully support short-notice IAs and operational requirements (for example, recent mishap investigations in the Gulf and the English Channel). Finally, cross-training and intra-office rotations between prosecution and legal assistance permit greater professional development for judge advocates and legalmen alike.

Despite having fewer attorneys available than in the past, both NLSO client questionnaires and the results of courts-martial and administrative

EURSWA continued on page 10

boards suggest that the quality of defense services remains high. In addition, there have been no serious delays in providing service. Finally, potential billet savings significantly exceed the increased TAD costs associated with defense counsel travel.

At the same time, both commands have faced challenges. The RLSO needed to devise a method for handling conflict legal assistance cases in-house,⁹ and to work around the reduced capacity encountered in LA when judge advocates in Rota and Bahrain are involved in courts-martial or other trial counsel duties. The NLSO, for its part, is working to maintain client satisfaction for the 40% of its clients whose only access to a defense counsel is by phone. In addition, the NLSO is working to retain a robust role for the senior defense counsel in a reduced-attorney environment where conflicts of interest can arise.

During the first two quarters of the Pilot, outside legal support was critical. The supporting CONUS reserve legal command (NRLSO 111) shifted from the NLSO to the RLSO and the reserves have provided outstanding support to the “SJA” offices in LaMaddalena, Souda Bay and during base closure operations in Iceland and the UK. The CNE, NAVCENT, and NAVHOSP Naples judge advocates – plus their reserves - continue to provide superb support as Article 32 investigation officers. Clearly, without external support the project could not have flourished.

In summary, the EURSWA Pilot Project realizes the *JAG Corps 2020* mandate of developing expeditionary judge advocates and legalmen who are ready to fill any surge requirement with extremely short lead times. The project realizes maximum active-reserve integration and resource savings while more efficiently accomplishing the mission.

The Way Ahead

Whether the NLSO becomes a permanent Regional Defense Command (RDC) or part of a larger CONUS-based RDC has not been decided and will not be decided until the pilot projects, and a recently announced follow-on pilot project in the Southeast Region, run their course. The additional pilot project is intended to further test the model, “stress the system” in a robust military justice environment, and provide additional lessons learned and

analyses. Application of lean six sigma tools and the recent addition and implementation of CMTIS will allow the JAG Corps to capture much-needed metrics and data to objectively measure the EURSWA Pilot Project and improve the construct.

“Transformation” – learn it, live it, embrace it. Our clients are and we must as well.

Endnotes

1. The judiciary is also engaged in transformation. At the same time as the EURSWA Pilot, the Transatlantic Judicial Circuit was disestablished and EURSWA cases are now heard by judges traveling from the Northern Judicial Circuit in the US or deployed military judges in Iraq for cases in SWA. The change permitted the recapture of one O-6 and one O-4 Judge billet, formerly located in Naples.

2. Coincidentally, due to CNE delegation of authority to CNRE as designated commanding officer for FCJ cases under Navy cognizance in the EUCOM AOR, RLSO FCJ responsibility has increased and will result in greater RLSO interaction with the U.S. Embassies in Rome, Madrid, and Athens.

3. Under the MOA, several NLSO military personnel are temporarily assigned to the RLSO. In addition, CNP approved a request for transfer of reporting senior responsibility for these individuals to the RLSO CO.

4. Although attached to the RLSO, the civilian Budget Officer supports both the RLSO and the NLSO.

5. The number of courts-martial and administrative boards in the AOR has decreased in recent years, and will likely continue to decrease. However, personal representation services (consultations with clients that do not normally result in the formation of an attorney/client relationship) have held steady and, in fact, appear to be on the rise for FY-07.

6. As a defense-only command, the NLSO has not experienced requests for new types of services. Instead, the NLSO’s challenge is meeting traditional needs with Defense Counsel who are not co-located with their client over 40% of the time. The RLSO, on the other hand, has experienced the receipt of NATO SOFA claims responsibility from USSSO Rome, the advent of notarization services to overseas contractor personnel, FCJ responsibility for processing cases Italy-wide, and an expanded Legal Assistance practice at stand-alone SJA locations.

7. MilJus TAD cost was roughly \$15,000 in FY 05. With the commencement of the Pilot, costs in FY 06 rose to \$36,500. Costs for FY 07 are on course to be moderately higher still.

8. In order to eliminate misunderstandings, the Pilot MOA put CNRE and CNRSWA on notice that, while their costs would likely increase, “Big Navy” would almost certainly reap larger savings.

9. JAGINST 5803.1C (Rule 1.10) states that “Covered USG attorneys working in the same military law office are not automatically disqualified from representing a client because any of them practicing alone would be prohibited from doing so . . .” Nevertheless, to diminish even the appearance of conflict, RLSO makes every effort to service the conflicted client with an attorney at another RLSO office in the AOR.

“Transformation must be embraced as a process, not an end-state, with the ultimate goal of us remaining a Corps of legal professionals with indispensable value to the commanders, military personnel, and families we serve.”

-- JAG Corps 2020

Navy JAGs Take Lead Staff Judge Advocate Positions in Combatant Command Staffs

By Capt. Hank Molinengo
Operations and Management

Capt. Nan DeRenzi and Capt. Del Crandall were recently selected for Combatant Command Staff Judge Advocate positions at United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) and United States European Command (EUCOM), respectively. They are the first judge advocates in the Navy JAG Corps' history to be selected for these important positions. Capt. Corky Malcom was also selected by United States Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) to relieve Capt. Alan Kaufman this summer.

"Consistent with SECNAV and CNO Guidance for 2007, the JAG Corps is always looking for ways to partner and leverage capabilities with our sister services," said Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald, Judge Advocate General of the Navy. "We also realize that due to our unique experience in international and operational law, we have become uniquely qualified to shape national policy in these areas. We always nominate our best officers. I am proud of the numerous opportunities that we have been given to serve in these challenging and rewarding billets."

Under the leadership of a four-star Commander, SOUTHCOM, located in Miami, Florida, is responsible for providing contingency planning, operations, and security cooperation for Central and South America, the Caribbean (except U.S. commonwealths, territories, and possessions), Cuba and the Bahamas, and their territorial waters; as well as for the force protection of U.S. military resources at these locations. SOUTHCOM is also responsible for ensuring the defense of the Panama Canal and canal area.

"As Admiral Jim Stavridis, the SOUTHCOM Commander, is fond of saying, 'At SOUTHCOM, we don't launch missiles, we launch ideas,'" said DeRenzi. "The SOUTHCOM Area of Responsibility is inextricably linked to the economic, political, cultural, and security fabric of our own nation. I look forward to working with Admiral Stavridis and his staff to help forge a full-spectrum approach involving not only the U.S. military, but also the inter-agency process, to find cooperative solutions to the region's challenges."

Also under the leadership of a four-star Commander, EUCOM is responsible for all of Europe and the Middle East. Like SOUTHCOM, EUCOM plans for regional contingencies. Also in the near future, EUCOM will help stand up the new U.S. Africa Command.

"I hope to build on the great reputation that judge advocates already have at EUCOM as 'enablers' for the operators, planners, and administrative folks on the staff," said Crandall. "Serving overseas as a Navy Judge Advocate is an incredibly rewarding experience both professionally and personally. I have served in Japan, England, and Italy, and will soon PCS to Germany. All have been fantastic opportunities for me as well as for my family."

DeRenzi's and Crandall's selections bring to five the number of Navy judge advocates currently serving as combatant command SJAs. Other combatant command SJAs are: Capt. Kurt Johnson at United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM), Capt. Pete Pedrozo at United States Pacific Command (PACOM), and Kaufman at JFCOM.

The Navy JAG Corps' reputation as a cadre of outstanding international and operational law judge advocates has been recognized over the years. From 1997 to 2005, Rear Adm. Mike

Lohr, Rear Adm. Jane Dalton, and Rear Adm. (sel) Hal Dronberger served consecutively as the Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Capt. Jim Crawford was Pedrozo's predecessor at SOUTHCOM. Capt. Shelley Young, now retired, was the CENTCOM SJA during 9-11 and its aftermath. Rear Adm. (sel) Chip Wedan and Capt. Dan Donovan stood up JFCOM. The Navy JAG Corps has played a large part in the legal dialogue affecting GWOT and other combat operations.

"Serving as the COCOM SJA for U.S. Pacific Command was an exceptional experience," said Crawford. "The professional staff of a combatant commander is charged with the development and implementation of programs and activities in execution of the commander's theater vision and intent; a tremendous challenge. It was an honor to be a part of the PACOM team and contribute in some small way to the commander's efforts in this wide and diverse region."

The Navy JAG Corps appreciates these joint assignments for the professional growth and opportunity they afford our senior judge advocates. "This trend is important in that it reinforces, from the top down, the value of having a truly joint manpower structure at all levels within the Combatant Commander's staff," Crandall said.

Congratulations to the three captains. "We hope that judge advocate commanders and lieutenant commanders will be inspired by their example and the example of others who have served as Combatant Command SJAs," said MacDonald. "It is important that we continue to develop outstanding international and operational law judge advocates who are competitive for these critical joint assignments."

Judge Sharing: Judge Advocate Handles High-Profile Army Case

By Jen Zeldis
Public Affairs Officer

When Lt. Col. Paul McConnell first joined the Marine Corps, the idea that he would preside over an extremely high-profile Army case as a military judge was the last thing he could have imagined.

However, his career path would take him from a Marine Corps infantry officer to the judge's bench in Camp Lejeune, N.C., and then into an Army courtroom to preside over two Abu Ghraib detainee abuse cases. McConnell, currently the Circuit Judge for the Northern Judicial Circuit, was made available for the Abu Ghraib cases through a cross-service detailing memorandum of agreement (MOA) signed by all the services in 2005, allowing the service judiciaries to share judges when appropriate to do so.

McConnell joined the Marine Corps after graduating from Wittenberg University with a Bachelor of Arts in economics.

"I came from a family that preached some sort of service back to the country," said McConnell. "My father was an Army officer in WWII and I wanted to one-up him."

McConnell was commissioned as an infantry officer in 1990. He was a rifle platoon commander in Operation Desert Storm. He also deployed to Panama and Okinawa. In 1993, he decided to attend law school.

Attending law school was "more a personal goal I had since attending college," said McConnell. "I thought the Marine Corps was temporary, I would serve my country and then move on. I saw what some of my peers were doing as judge advocates and it seemed like an exciting thing to do."

McConnell graduated from Temple

University in 1996 and, after attending Naval Justice School, became a judge advocate in the Marine Corps. His first tour was at Camp Lejeune where he served in a variety of billets including: legal assistance, civil law, trial counsel, defense counsel, and as chief trial counsel.

In 2001, with the rank of major, McConnell was selected to be a military judge at Camp Lejeune.

There he presided over nearly 300 courts-martial in three years. After his tour as a trial judge, McConnell was sent to The Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School in Charlottesville, Va., where he obtained a Master's of Law degree in military law. This prepared him for his assignment in 2004 to be the Deputy Chief Judge of the Navy and Marine Corps Trial Judiciary under then Chief Judge Capt. John Rolph. McConnell has remained in the Washington Navy Yard office, but has switched hats from Deputy Chief Judge to his current position as Circuit Judge.

In September 2005, the Chief Judges from the Army, Navy/Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard signed an MOA implementing Rule for Courts-Martial 503. This rule allows the services to cross-detail military judges from other services to preside over general and special courts-martial world-wide.

"While Captain Rolph was the Chief Judge, he initiated what he called a 'Sea Enterprise Panel,' pursuant to Sea Power 21," said McConnell. "Among other things, the Sea Enterprise initiative looked at completely reorganizing the entire trial judiciary to gain maximum efficiency. We went from twelve circuits worldwide to six. One of the recommendations was to make greater use of the MOA."

In redoing the circuits, the Navy and Marine Corps Trial Judiciary elimi-

nated some of the single judge outposts in world-wide locations. One such area was the European judge billet located in Naples, Italy. Now, the Navy/Marine Corps Trial Judiciary may make greater use of the Army to help in Europe when needed.

"For example, there are three permanently stationed Army judges in Europe who are ready, willing and able to help if [a Sailor or Marine] is placed in pre-trial confinement in Germany," said McConnell. "These judges can do an arraignment, which helps eliminate speedy trial concerns."

In 2006, McConnell was detailed to preside over two Army cases that arose out of alleged misconduct occurring at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq. The Chief Judge of the Army, Col. Denise Vowell, had completed an investigation for the Army into the incidents that were occurring at Abu Ghraib prior to being assigned as the Army Chief Judge. Vowell would have to recuse herself from serving as a military judge for any case dealing with Abu Ghraib. She decided that because she was Chief Judge and all Army judges worked for her, it was a good opportunity to make use of the MOA.

"So she asked Captain Rolph to assist by making a judge available from the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary pursuant to the MOA and R.C.M. 503," said McConnell.

As Chief Judge, Rolph was a likely choice to preside over the cases, and did in fact preside over preliminary motions in both courts-martial. However, because he was soon to be reassigned to the appellate bench, he made McConnell available.

"I picked the two cases up as companion cases, in that they were both dog handlers and the charges were very similar," said McConnell. "Many of the wit-

nesses were the same. They had the same supervisors, and it was during the same months.”

McConnell donned the judicial robe, which is one of the differences in presiding over Army cases. In the Navy and Marine Corps, judges wear a military uniform in court vice a judicial robe.

“We’ve maintained the custom and tradition of the military service by having Navy and Marine Corps judges wear a military uniform while presiding over courts-martial,” said McConnell.

In the Army, Air Force, and the Coast Guard, judges wear judicial robes. The MOA addresses this difference and states, “If judicial robes are worn in the Trial Judiciary of the service of the requesting party, the detailed military judge should wear a robe provided by the requesting party.”

It is an easy legal transition for the cross-assigned judges because the Rules for Courts-Martial and the Military Rules of Evidence are the same. The Manual for Courts-Martial is the same for all the services. The Military Judges Benchbook, used to determine elements of an offense and how to instruct the members, is an Army publication and is also used by all the services.

“Any causal observer, even one who had been to law school, who watched an Army case and then watched a Navy/Marine Corps case, would probably be hard pressed to come up with any differences,” said McConnell. “But for those of us who do it on a daily basis, there are some differences that arise – but they don’t make a substantive difference. It is more stylistic.”

McConnell explained there are some customs and traditions that have developed over time that a judge from a separate service might not be aware of. One such difference came up while McConnell presided over his two Army cases.

“Each time a witness is finished testifying, it has been my

practice in our courts, to ask the counsel whether they want [the witness] to be ‘warned’ or ‘subject to recall,’” said McConnell. “The language we routinely use is: ‘Counsel, warning or recall?’ And usually if the counsel wants them to be subject to recall and able to testify later – that is when they will tell the judge we would like to have the witness held ‘subject to recall.’ And there is a particular warning we give the witness under those circumstances. In the Army, they don’t use that language. They accomplish the same result when the judge asks counsel if they want the witness excused ‘Permanent or temporary?’

“For two days when I would ask ‘Warning or recall?’ the counsel would look at me like I had two heads. We all adapted quite quickly to the stylistic differences.”

One other difference, addressed in the MOA, is the use of trial guides. Trial guides implement the Rules for Courts-Martial and the Military Rules of Evidence. The trial guide is set up by each service’s Chief Judge and varies slightly in the language that is used.

“You get really accustomed to your own trial guide,” said McConnell. “For example, I know to go to page 47 when we are at a certain point in the trial. But there are small differences, so you just

have to thumb around. But ultimately, the procedure is the same – one side presents their evidence, the other side presents their evidence and they are subject to the same rules of evidence.”

Even prior to the MOA, the service judges would get together to discuss military law when they attended the Interservice Military Judges Seminar. Hosted once a year by the Air Force at Maxwell Air Force Base, all active duty and reserve judges from all the services get together for a week to get updates on the law, and discuss various legal questions.

“It’s great to compare notes with the other judges,” said McConnell.

This type of interservice camaraderie and understanding helps to make the best use of the MOA.

McConnell explained that the services will make greater use of the MOA, especially as each of the services moves to more worldwide dispersion and smaller bases.

After five years as a military judge, next for McConnell is likely a non-judicial tour.

“I think being a military judge has given me a wonderful perspective, especially as it relates to military justice,” said McConnell. “When it comes to advising commanders on military justice, it is incomparable.”

McConnell will also bring a joint perspective to the military commander because of the MOA and the interservice dialog.

McConnell had a few words of advice to the new judge advocates aspiring to the bench.

“Have fun,” said McConnell. “The most fun and rewarding assignment is your first one, because you are entrusted with an enormous amount of responsibility so fresh out of law school. And, if you choose to remain in uniformed service – you’ll always be surrounded by selfless, patriotic Americans. Life is good.”

“Any causal observer, even one who had been to law school, who watched an Army case and then watched a Navy/Marine Corps case, would probably be hard pressed to come up with any differences. But for those of us who do it on a daily basis, there are some differences that arise – but they don’t make a substantive difference. It is more stylistic.”

– Lt. Col. Paul McConnell

Members of the Office of the Judge Advocate General Brief Marshall Center Students

By Capt. Bob Almand
OJAG General Litigation

Capt. David Wagner, Capt. Rob Blazewick, Capt. Bob Almand, Lt. Brian Halliden, and Lt. Brian Mizer briefed a class of 77 international students at the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces courthouse Feb. 12. The presentations outlined the Uniform Code of Military Justice and the relationship of military justice to

the federal system; Status of Forces Agreements (SOFAs) and cooperative engagement in the context of Task Force Horn of Africa; an overview of the Cavalese cable car incident in Italy, illustrating a mature SOFA in action; and an appellate case study involving the U.S./Japan SOFA.

This international audience was participating in the Program in Advanced Security Studies (PASS), offered through the Marshall Center's College

of International and Security Studies (CISS), Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. The Marshall Center is a leading transatlantic security and defense educational institution dedicated to the creation of a more stable security environment. Its educational programs help advance democratic defense institutions and relations, promote peaceful engagement, and enhance enduring partnerships between the nations of North America, Europe and Eurasia.

Villanova School of Law Welcomes Navy Judge Advocates

By Lt. Brian Halliden
OJAG General Litigation

On Feb. 15, four D.C.-area Navy judge advocates shared their operational experiences with students at Villanova University School of Law.

In the first of four 15-minute presentations, Lt. Cmdr. Scott Johnson, Code 11, discussed his recent assignment as legal advisor with the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan, where he assisted in establishing the Afghan National Army's first-ever military justice system. Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Leary, Code 14, then described his role as attorney-advisor from 2002 to 2005 with Special Operations Forces operating in Iraq and Afghanistan. Next, Lt. Kate Kadlec, Code 45, related her experiences in handling detainee operations with Task Force 134 in Iraq. Finally, Lt. Brian Halliden described his 2006 deployment to CJTF-Horn of Africa, focusing on the Task Force's efforts in civil military operations.

A lively 30-minute question-and-answer period followed, moderated by Villanova University law student, Lt. Eric Matheson, USNR. The audience of approximately 30 students and faculty posed insightful questions to each of the panel members.

"I was impressed by the consideration and respect that the law students and faculty showed us. They seemed to genuinely appreciate what Navy JAGs have accomplished in the field," said Leary.



Lt. Brian Halliden at Camp Kasenyi, Uganda while training Ugandan Army soldiers as part of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa's Human Rights training program.

An informal reception with the students and faculty followed, allowing each of the judge advocates to discuss not only their deployment experiences, but also their overall experiences in the JAG Corps.

"I thought the reception provided a great forum for us to discuss the JAG Corps," said Halliden. "It may not be quite like the TV show, but our experiences demonstrate that it can be a tremendously rewarding career."

U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals Takes Oral Arguments to George Washington Law School

The U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals heard arguments in the case of United States vs. Gallagher on Jan. 25 at George Washington University Law School. All the law school students were invited to observe the oral arguments as well as attend a luncheon with judge advocates from the Navy and Marine Corps. The U.S. Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals periodically holds oral arguments at various locations outside of military facilities to give members of the public a first hand view of the military justice system.



(left) Military and civilian defense counsel for United States vs. Gallagher. (lower left) Government for United States vs. Gallagher. (lower right) Capt. David Wagner talks with students during a lunch following the oral arguments. (middle right) Navy and Marine Corps judge advocates observe the case and, later, mingled with the law school students. (top right) One Marine Corps and two Navy judges hear oral argument at George Washington Law School.



National Security Personnel System

By Amy Stevens

Fiscal and Resource Services

OJAG Fiscal and Resource Services, Code 64, held question and answers sessions for employees and supervisors during the month of February and March. They also collected questions from the fleet. The following topics were addressed during these sessions.

Pay

Those employees eligible for WIGI promotions under the GS system received a pro-rated increase in base salary upon NSPS conversion. If the employee had completed one-third the time to reach the next step increase, the employee received one-third the amount of that step increase. Employees also saw a slight increase in locality pay as it is calculated as a percentage of base pay. Those employees already working at Full Performance Level (Step 10) did not receive any increase in salary. All employees under NSPS will now have the opportunity to compete for salary increases/bonuses based upon job performance.

Band Placement

The band into which you were placed was determined by HRO according to the guidance provided on the Civilian Personnel Management Service website (<http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/>). There are important considerations for employees to understand.

NSPS considers a “promotion” to be movement into a higher pay band. Therefore, employees who are in career ladder positions (i.e. former GS 7/9/11) have been placed into Band 1 and will be promoted into Band 2 upon reaching full performance level.

Employees who supervise only one individual are not considered supervisors. (There is an exception to this rule in the case of Division Directors.)

Employees who supervise more than one individual may have qualified to be placed in the Supervisory band.

For GS 9 and GS 10 supervisory positions with occupational codes that would be YA (Professional/Analytical) pay schedule, the employee converts to pay band 2 of the non supervisory pay schedule (YA) and is titled and coded supervisory under the mixed position criteria in SC1920.2.4 (e.g., a Supervisory Budget Analyst, GS 0560-9, converts to Supervisory Budget Analyst, YA 0560-2). GS 11 supervisory positions with subordinate employees in pay schedule YA, placed in YC 2 (Supervisory/Manager). GS 11 supervisory positions with subordinate employees in pay schedule YB (Technical/Support) placed in YC 1. However, if management determines the employee personally performs GS 11 work, the employee may be placed in the YA 2 band.

New Hires

New NSPS position descriptions (PDs) will be phased in as position descriptions are requested. New PDs will be simplistic in nature. Specific details regarding the job function will be found in job objectives rather than the PDs. In this transition period, pay setting guidance will be drawn from GS equivalents. This GS-based guidance will be phased out.

Ratings/Pay Pool

Employees will be rated based on their performance according to the expectations set in their job objectives. All job objectives have been constructed at the “3-Valued Performer” level. JAG raters will have a common understanding of the meaning of “3-Valued Performer” and all other ratings based upon standard NSPS Performance Indicators. Employees will not be compared or “ranked” to each other, but rather, will be compared to the “3-Valued Performer” level.



Supervisor and employee communication is key to the success of NSPS.

Job Objectives

Job objectives have been put in place for OJAG employees at this time. Employees should communicate closely with their supervisors to understand the expectations of performance and supervisors should discuss the job objectives with employees.

Communication

The supervisor-employee relationship will become increasingly important under NSPS. Supervisors and employees will need to have an open forum to discuss the employee’s progress toward completion of job objectives. Take the opportunity to speak often and provide constructive feedback about the employee’s performance. The more informed each supervisor and employee is, the more accurately each will be able to assess his/her completion of the job objectives. With good communication will come a positive work environment, which will breed opportunities for excellence.

For more information or to ask a question about NSPS, please contact Amy Stevens 202-685-5286 or at amy.stevens@navy.mil



Case Management Information System (CMTIS), Center for Naval Analyses (CNA) Study, and the Navy Enterprise System

It is important to understand three important and interrelated efforts being executed by the JAG Corps and the Navy. The Navy manages resources under the “Navy Enterprise System,” which allows resourcing decisions of supporting communities to be driven by identified needs of the warfare “Enterprises” (i.e., air, surface, undersea, net warfare and expeditionary combat) or domain “enablers.” As an enabler that provides legal services to the enterprises, the JAG Corps must be aligned with the needs of the Enterprises it supports.

To ensure the JAG Corps is correctly aligned to those needs at the right level of legal services and risk, we have contracted with the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA) to help us better understand and describe to the warfare Enterprises the services the JAG Corps provides with supporting data models, metrics and cost analyses. With this in hand, we can work cooperatively with those Enterprises to validate JAG Corps functions, capabilities, readiness impacts, and resources required to assist senior decision-makers determine levels of capability and acceptable risk. This permits identification of readiness impacts if resources are increased or decreased.

The JAG Corps contracted with CNA in October 2006 to complete a functional assessment of officer, enlisted, and civilian personnel manning levels, active duty and Reserve, workloads, and the way we deliver legal services to the Navy. This assessment involves three tasks: Task #1 will collect and document the work done by Navy lawyers, paralegals, and support staff; Task #2 will assess and model our personnel resources (i.e., numbers and skill sets, and whether military or civilian, active or Reserve, officer or enlisted) needed to

accomplish a set amount of work; and, Task #3 will model manpower and mission trade-offs to arrive at various levels of services. The results of this assessment will enable the JAG Corps to compete for resources under the Navy Enterprise System.

Since October 2006, CMTIS has collected data in all areas of our trial and defense practice, with additional modules collecting productivity data for Legal Assistance, Personnel Representation, Physical Evaluation Boards and Staff Judge Advocate services. CMTIS permits the JAG Corps to track and manage cases and workloads across the Enterprise while capturing attorney productivity and ensuring the timely disposition of military justice cases. CMTIS is the foundation for our data collection efforts to allow us to accurately measure work output, from which we can then determine our optimal personnel resource mix, and develop our capabilities or service levels. Ultimately, without full and complete CMTIS data, we cannot provide warfare Enterprises the information they need to assess and decide the level of legal services they want the JAG Corps Legal Community to provide.

To execute our *JAG Corps 2020* vision, we must look forward, not backward. Full implementation of CMTIS and completing the CNA study will provide us with the effects-based organization the Navy deserves when tough decisions on resource allocations are made in the overall Enterprise System. This requires the dedicated, daily, cooperation of all of our people. It is imperative that everyone participates in CMTIS. Please visit the Transformation Office NKO website for detailed materials on all of the above that will provide a more in-depth understanding.

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Awards

LNCM DONNA SAYERS RECEIVES KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE AWARD



Rear Adm. Flanders presents award to LNCM Sayers.

The Naval Personnel Development Command (NPDC) presented the Knowledge Management Community of Practice Award for 2006, to Master Chief Legalman (Surface Warfare) Donna Sayers. The award was in recognition of the Legalman Community of Practice on NKO.

The ceremony was held Feb. 9 at the Center for Service Support and the award was presented by Commanding Officer, Center for Service Support Rear Adm. M. Flanders, on behalf of NPDC.

Sayers received the award for her commendable achievement in the superior performance of her

duties as Naval Personnel Development Command Knowledge Management Community of Practice Administrator at the Center for Service Support, from January to December 2006

“While it was an honor and privilege to be recommended and selected for this award, the true satisfaction comes from the E-mail I receive from Sailors on a daily basis, both Legalmen and non-Legalmen, on how much my efforts on NKO have aided them in the ability to perform their jobs or prepare for advancement,” said Sayers.

JAG CORPS OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

Lt. Marc Brewen, from Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, was honored as the recent JAG Corps Officer of the Quarter.

Brewen is the Command Judge Advocate for NSB Kings Bay. His job consists of providing legal services to all the commands on base as well as the Trident Training Facility, Trident Refit Facility, SWFLANT, Marine Corps Security Forces Company, Naval Air Station Atlanta, Naval Supply School Athens, Ga. and Naval Weapons Station Charleston, S.C.

Brewen was very honored and extremely thankful for being recognized for his work. “I feel honored to be chosen because it is award based on the entire JAG Corps and not just Kings Bay,” Brewen said.

His main supporter and helper in getting this award was

Bonnie Cressey, who is his civilian paralegal.

“She is the back bone of this office,” said Brewen. “This little office provides service to a lot of commands and without her

we would not succeed at all. I am honored to be recognized and receive this award, but much of this is attributed to the assistance I receive from Bonnie.”



Lt. Marc Brewen with Capt. Mike McKinnon

*Submit your command awards
or photos to Natalie Morehouse at
natalie.morehouse@navy.mil*

Awards

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL & NAVAL LEGAL SERVICE COMMAND SAILOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Legalman First Class (Surface Warfare) Craig E. Lyons, on his selection as the Judge Advocate General's 2006 Legalman of the Year and Legalman Second Class (Surface Warfare/Aviation Warfare) Erica P. Queely, on her selection as the Commander, Naval Legal Service Command 2006 Sailor of the Year.

LN1 Lyons became a legalman in 2001 and is currently assigned to *USS Bataan* (LHD 5). The Commanding Officer of *USS Bataan* said he is the epitome of the can-do Sailor and cited his extraordinary involvement with the crew.

LN2 Queely became a legalman in 2003 and is currently assigned to Region Legal Service Office Southwest. She is renowned for her maturity, passion, and humility.

The competition was held at the Washington Navy Yard, from March 5-7, 2007. During their visit, the six finalists had the opportunity to meet with the Judge Advocate General of the Navy and Commander, Naval Legal Service Office. Additionally, they toured the Pentagon, U.S. Supreme Court, National Archives, Navy Memorial and Heritage Center, and the historic Washington Navy Yard Museum.

The three finalists for Judge Advocate General Legalman of the Year were: LN1 Veda L. May, assigned to Commander, Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; LN1 Lourdie B. Powell, assigned to *USS Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72); and Lyons.

The three finalists for Naval Legal Service Command Sailor of the Year were: LN1 Wanda D. Miller, assigned to Region Legal Service Office SE, Jacksonville, Fla.; LN1 Marcelo A. Carrillo, assigned to Naval Legal Service Office SW, San Diego, Calif.; and LN2 Erica P. Queely, assigned to Region Legal Service Office SW, San Diego, Calif.



Five of the six finalist visit Washington, DC and visit the sites.

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL CIVILIANS OF THE YEAR



Rear Adm. Bruce MacDonald, Annette Pigott and Antonette Babauta, Rear Adm. Houck, and Capt. Molinengo after an awards ceremony at the Washington Navy Yard.

Annette L. Pigott was selected as the Judge Advocate General's 2006 Senior Civilian of the Year, and Antonette L. Babauta was selected as the Judge Advocate General's 2006 Junior Civilian of the Year. All nominations received showed the tremendous effort and value the civilian corps brings to the JAG community.

Pigott serves as a paralegal specialist in the Office of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Widely acknowledged within the department as an expert in governmental ethics and standards of conduct, Pigott flawlessly managed the public financial disclosure program for over 100 flag officers and senior executive service members assigned to the OPNAV staff and Echelon II commands. Described as the backbone of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations' legal team, she is most deserving of this recognition.

Babauta serves as a legal assistant at Navy Legal Service Office Pacific, Branch Office, Guam. The foundation of the legal support staff, Ms. Babauta's experience, guidance, and devotion greatly enhanced all office operations and directly supported the global war on terrorism by allowing judge advocates and legalmen to deploy forward. Described by her commanding officer as an indispensable asset to the Guam Detachment because of her outgoing personality and sage wisdom, Ms. Babauta is truly deserving of this award.

Bravo Zulu to Ms. Pigott and Ms. Babauta for their outstanding accomplishments. We wish each of you continued success in 2007!



Photos from the Fleet



RLSO Japan sponsored the first ever Japanese Legal Advisor's conference in Yokosuka Japan from March 27-30. The purpose of the conference was to standardize foreign criminal jurisdiction procedures across US Naval installations in Japan and to seek ways to more efficiently resolve foreign criminal jurisdiction cases. There was participation by US Forces Japan legal personnel as well as senior level prosecutors from the Japanese Ministry of Justice.



LN2 Queely was chosen as the San Diego Council Navy League of the United States 2007 Junior Enlisted Woman of the Year. The announcement was made at the 46th Annual San Diego Naval Services Enlisted Women of the Year Awards luncheon. She competed against 24 other female Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard personnel from the Navy and Marine Corps Southwest Region.

Naval Support Activity La Maddalena (NSA) hosted a naturalization ceremony March 23 involving eleven sailors. Coordinating the preparations for the ceremony were Lt. Chad Olcott, LN1 Claudia Hogeboom, and Liliana Casini, and all of our RLSO EURSWA Branch Office there in La Maddalena.





Photos from the Fleet



Brothers Lt. John Clady and Lt. Col. Tom Clady, USA, recently reunited in Iraq.



JAGs with JAG
Lt. Stella Lane and Cmdr. Elena Escamilla of NR RLSO SE, ran in the Jacksonville River Run on March 10. Both are described as super attorneys and athletes, who score outstanding on the PRT.



Lt. Jeanine Womble, JAGC receives three award at CSTC-Afghanistan.



A group of Legalmen gathered for a photo after a VTC in Iraq.



Capt. Rodger's retirement on Feb. 13 with his wife, Terry Rodgers.



Photos from the Fleet



LNI(SW/AW) Jessica Amores from Commander, Carrier Strike Group ELEVEN (NIMITZ STRKGRU) was selected as COMTHIRDFLT 2007 Sea Sailor of the Year



Lt. Cmdr. Joe Carilli between Col. Patrick Uetz, USMC, SJA Multi-National Forces-West/I MEF (FWD) and the Deputy SJA and Lt. Col, Paul "Mongo" Boughman, USMC after receiving his Fleet Marine Force pins in Iraq.



Cmdr. Adrian Rowe served as an individual augmentee in Afghanistan.



Lt Jason Jones receiving his Fleet Marine Force pins in Iraq from his USMC superiors.



This is a drill! LN2 Swanlynn Morgan, Task Force 134 HQ Element volunteered to have an amputated arm, collapsed left lung and other major casualties on this training for a medical evacuation.



Capt. McGregor's retirement ceremony was on Feb. 2. He worked for the Tidewater Judicial Circuit. He is pictured with Chief Judge Capt. O' Toole.



JAG Retirements



Rear Adm. Jim Duffy



Capt. Alexander Whitaker

