

JAG

Volume II 2009

Magazine of the United States Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps



LAW STUDENTS COMPETE IN

Navy Moot Court

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ON THE FRONT COVER



CAPT Rob Sanders and LCDR James Carsten discuss career opportunities available in the JAG Corps after visiting the Navy recruiting trailer during a recess in court proceedings with Region Legal Service Office Southeast moot court competitor Tom Williams (Texas Tech University). Find out more about Region Legal Service Office Southeast Moot Court Competition on page 22!

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DEPUTY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL,
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The Judge Advocate General



This magazine's theme of training and education provides an excellent mechanism for looking back on the amazing accomplishments that we as a JAG Corps community have made in the past three years. Education and training are also the areas where we must grow in order to continue transforming and moving ahead as a community.

Congratulations to the Naval Justice School (NJS) for its third Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) "Education and Training Excellence Award." This annual competition is designed to recognize commands that demonstrate superior performance in meeting NETC's mission of providing the highest quality training to Sailors around the world. NJS has won this award for the third time, proving that they have a superior staff and curriculum. Well done to the staff!

Formal education at the school house is not the only way we cultivate our community. Another essential form of training is mentorship. Ms. Annette Pigott, a paralegal specialist to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, is a fantastic example of a mentor. Her patient guidance and mentorship of every judge advocate who has served

Special to JAG Magazine:

Department of Defense General Counsel



Feb. 10, 2009, I was sworn in as General Counsel of the Department of Defense. It is a great honor for me to return to the Pentagon. There are two basic principles that will guide me in office. I shared them with the Senate during the confirmation process and I share them with you here:

The first concerns the rule of law. Our advice concerning the rule of law must remain consistent throughout changing and challenging times. Adherence to the rule of law permits us to occupy the moral high ground, and display the very best of American values. As Justice O'Connor wrote in *Hamdi v. Rumsfeld*: "It is during our most challenging and uncertain moments that our nation's commitment to due process is most severely tested; and it is in those times that we must preserve our commitment at home to the principles for

in the Office of the Vice Chief of the Naval Operations has contributed to our community in immeasurable ways. In this edition, LT Mary Pohanka uncovers the "Pigott effect" through in-depth interviews with Ms. Pigott and with those who have benefited from her mentorship.

Effective ethics training is critical to our practice. In this era of expanded military involvement in strategic decision making, discussions and training in this challenging subject prepare our community to best advise our clients. LCDR David T. Lee of NJS wrote "Ethical Decision Making" with this in mind, challenging readers with the premise that knowing the correct legal answer may not be the same as knowing the "right thing to do."

LN1 Harrold Henck from NJS provides an update on Legalman education. As the demand for paralegal skills grows in the Navy, NJS is developing new ways to sharpen the skills of our Legalmen. LN1 Henck discusses NJS' approach to computer assisted legal research and the revised Paralegal Research and Writing course, both of which are designed to help our Legalmen become more proficient paralegals.

Recent law school graduate LT Guy Reschenthaler provides insights to potential recruits with his article recounting his experiences at Officer Development School. This story also reminds all uniformed members of the Navy legal community about where we all began and the basic skills, discipline, and general military

VADM MacDonald continued on page 5

which we fight abroad."

The second, which I believe I practiced and encouraged every day when I was Air Force General Counsel, is that a collegial and collaborative working relationship between civilian and military lawyers goes a long way toward timely, effective, and quality legal services and legal advice. I respect and admire the role military lawyers play and the important contributions they make, and I appreciate that, given their training and experience, they bring a unique legal perspective to the Department's mission in defending the Nation. The civilian lawyers in the Department also play a critical role; many have years of experience, a wealth of knowledge, and are the foremost experts in a particular area of the law.

I hope to meet as many of you as possible, and I look forward to working with all of you as we face the challenges that lie ahead.

JEH CHARLES JOHNSON
Department of Defense General Counsel

Sine Qua Non: Without Which it Could Not Be

Carefully prepared legal research and writing is the *sine qua non* of the successful case



By LNI Harrold Henck
Naval Justice School Public Affairs

When asked, attorneys and judges will often say the most important skill a legal assistant can have is the ability to write well. To achieve powerful legal writing, however, one must first be proficient in legal research and, second, must also know how to evaluate sources applicable to a client's issues.

Recognizing the JAG community's growing demand for these skills, the Naval Justice School's (NJS) revised Paralegal Research and Writing course is designed to help our legalmen become proficient paralegals.

"Our legalmen are being called upon to perform increasingly complex tasks, and the Legal Research and Writing course will give them the knowledge and comfort level they need to confidently conduct their work," according to LCDR Cassie Kitchen, NJS instructor.

The emphasis on legal research and writing reflects NJS's commitment to provide students with the skills they need to analyze and solve complex legal problems. The course recognizes that the average Navy legalman will serve in a wide variety of roles in his or her career, all of which will require effective analytical, research, and communication skills.

Therefore, the new curriculum emphasizes the improvement of research and writing skills in a two-week, 72

hour course. The class is taught to both active and reserve legalman by experienced Navy legal community officers and chiefs who bring extensive experience and knowledge into the classroom.

"The objective of the course is to equip the student with the information and skills needed to assist a JAG or SJA with basic legal research - finding and briefing cases, locating applicable statutes and regulations, and Shepardizing them," emphasized LCDR Kitchen.

The workshop-style course is designed to hone the student's writing and thinking skills by concentrating on basic principles of writing and analysis. Students also learn to use powerful research tools, including online facilities from LexisNexis as well as traditional book-based methods including journals, digests (case summaries), and government documents.

During the course, students first synthesize case law that is provided to them and apply the derived rules of law to a given fact situation. Students then repeat the synthesis and analysis process in a complete memorandum, after researching the law independently to find if it is applicable to the issues presented.

"Because our legalmen perform specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a JAG lawyer is responsible, we want to ensure that they have the best training possible," said LCDR Kitchen.

VADM MacDonald continued from page 4

knowledge that are at the core of being a Sailor.

Ms. Jen Zeldis contributes an article detailing the progress we have made in getting every judge advocate to post-graduate school. This initiative is a critical element of our transformation that we continue to work hard to make a reality.

Civilian education and training is an area that we are actively working to improve. In the previous edition of the JAG Magazine, Ms. Amy Stevens wrote in the JAG Corps Civilian column about the basic training requirements for our civilians from a human resources point of view. In this edition, she explains the first steps in the identification of paralegal training needs. After you read her article, I encourage you to send us your ideas and input. Civilian education and training is one of my top priorities before I leave office.

As always, I am interested in your feedback regarding the *JAG Magazine*. Please contribute by forwarding ideas about potential stories or, even better, volunteering to write an article about something you are doing. We hope you find the information in the *JAG Magazine* useful. Tell us the topics that you are interested in and the issues with which you are struggling so that we can include articles that will be both of interest and useful to your practice. Your input is the key to making this magazine a useful source of information.

BRUCE MacDONALD
Vice Admiral, JAGC, U.S. Navy

Military Justice Moot Court Competition

Law students build skills at moot court competition

By Natalie Morehouse
Deputy Public Affairs Officer

Navy legal professionals from Region Legal Service Office Southeast (RLSO SE) hosted their inaugural Military Justice Moot Court Competition at Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jax) Feb. 25-27.

“This competition promotes legal education and awareness of the actual issues arising in the military justice systems,” said RLSO SE Commanding Officer CAPT Paul Kiamos. “In moot court, the ‘case’ is purely fictional – but the experience for law students is truly invaluable.”

In an effort to uniquely implement the Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps recruiting guidance, RLSO SE invited six law schools from the Southeastern United States to this inaugural military moot court competition.

The competition attracted 18 law students interested in the military justice system from the following law schools.

- Florida Coastal School of Law
- Stetson University College of Law
- Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
- Texas Tech University School of Law
- University of Florida, Fredric G. Levin College of Law
- University of Georgia School of Law

“This is a wonderful opportunity for law students to come here and participate in a great competition, build camaraderie and learn team-building skills,” stated NAS Jax Commanding Officer CAPT Jack Scorby Jr. “It’s also a great opportunity for us to showcase what the Navy has to offer – and hopefully, some of these aspiring lawyers will become Navy JAGs.”

RLSO SE invited six judges to participate in the moot court competition. Chief Judge CAPT Daniel O’Toole, Judge CAPT Eric Price, and Judge Lt. Col. Vernon Couch from the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals in Washington, D.C.; former Judge and Commanding Officer of Naval Legal Service Office Southeast, CAPT Kirk Waits; Judge CAPT Moira Modzelewski from the Central Judicial Circuit in Norfolk, Va.; and Trial Judge CDR Bethany Payton-O’Brien from San Diego, Calif.

In addition to the moot court competition, the students toured commands at NAS Jax as well as Naval Station Mayport. They also enjoyed significant interaction with RLSO SE command



(From left) Matthew Wildner (Stetson University), Tom Williams (Texas Tech University), Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals Clerk LCDR Jim Carsten and Chris Tolbert (Texas Tech University) discuss career opportunities available in the JAG Corps after visiting the Navy recruiting trailer during a recess in court proceedings.

members and competition military judges.

“I’ve enjoyed my visit to NAS Jax immensely. Touring the flight simulator was golden, it was so much fun!” said Reshae Ridley, a law student at Texas Southern University. “Being in the Navy environment has given me a great insight into becoming a JAG officer. I’ve seen the TV show JAG, but seeing the real thing lets me observe the authentic polished and professional officers in a real environment.”

To prepare for the competition, each team was given a problem that was a post-trial argument to the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals. Each team had one month to prepare their brief for the moot court competition. Teams were randomly assigned as counsel for either the appellee or appellant – so each team had to prepare to argue both sides before the court.

“These students are very bright and exceedingly well prepared. The competition was keen and close. I think it’s very important for the future bar to have law students who want a career in the Navy with mentoring by senior naval judges and lawyers,” stated Chief Judge CAPT Dan O’Toole.

“This is a great opportunity for students to see the military justice system and the Navy lifestyle up close. It’s a valuable recruiting event for the JAG Corps,” said CDR David Berger, RLSO SE executive officer. “It gives us an opportunity to review each student’s research and evaluate their ability to make legal arguments. It’s an exciting opportunity and we hope to include more law schools in the future.”

The final round of the competition took place at the NAS Jax Officers’ Club on Feb. 27 and was followed by the awards ceremony. The winner of the overall competition was Florida Coastal School of Law. Tom Williams of Texas Tech University School of Law, was recognized for best oral argument.



Florida Coastal School of Law student James Carson presents his opening statements during the RLSO SE moot court competition held at NAS Jacksonville Feb 26. Visiting law students presented arguments in the fictitious case of U.S. vs. Jones to test their representational skills against opposing team members in a bid to win top prize in the competition.



Florida Coastal School of Law student James Carson carefully maneuvers the flight controls of a P-3 simulator during a tour of NAS Jacksonville.



Moot court competition law students and Navy Region Legal Service Office Southeast JAG officers toured NAS Jacksonville Heritage Park Feb. 25 to learn about naval aviation history.



Commander, Navy Region Southeast RADM Townsend Alexander (far right) and RLSO SE Commanding Officer CAPT Paul Kiamos (far left) congratulate the winning RLSO SE Moot Court team from Florida Coastal School of Law. (From left) Neal Buchanan, Kristin Rhodus, Wes Ridout and James Carson took home top honors for their briefs and oral arguments.

Photos by ATAA Adam Thomas

Annette Pigott: A Gem of the JAG Corps

By *LT Mary Pohanka*
Law Education Program

The gold standard. Phenomenal. World Series Champion. Saint-like. These are only a few of the phrases used by past and present judge advocates to describe one of the most respected and beloved civilian employees in the JAG Corps - Annette Pigott. Ms. Pigott has served as the Paralegal Specialist for the Office of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations (N09D) since 1984, and in that time she has become the cherished mentor of countless judge advocates. Through her patient guidance of nearly thirty officers who have come through N09D, Ms. Pigott has contributed to the JAG Corps in immeasurable ways. Notably, former Navy Judge Advocate General RADM James McPherson regards Ms. Pigott as “one of the top three people who most influenced [his] career.”

Ms. Pigott became a legend early in her career. After Ms. Pigott had only been in N09D (then N09BL) for a few years, former Navy Judge Advocate General RADM Donald Guter (then CDR Guter) found her to be the “corporate memory and the expert on all matters.” During his time there, he and Ms. Pigott completely redrafted the U.S. Navy Regulations, a massive undertaking that involved rewriting thousands of pages of regulations covering nearly every aspect of Navy life. To this day Ms. Pigott remains the official

keeper of the U.S. Navy Regulations, and she is undertaking yet another major revision. But to the JAG Corps officers who work with Ms. Pigott, she is more than just a co-worker. Ms. Pigott and RADM Guter, for example, trained for and ran the Marine Corps Marathon together.

Around the same time, another up-and-comer shared the N09BL office with Ms. Pigott. Then LT James Houck, now RADM Houck, describes Ms. Pigott as someone who “makes everyone around her look good and never, ever, seeks credit for it.” RADM Houck also remembers Ms. Pigott’s ability to always help the judge advocates in her office do their jobs better. This sentiment is shared by all who have worked with her. One officer, CDR Mary Reismeier, recalled fearing the rare days when Ms. Pigott was on leave. CDR Reismeier would hope that nothing unexpected would happen because Ms. Pigott was the one who always knew what to do. CAPT Kirk Foster held similar trepidations. Soon after he arrived in N09D, his deputy needed to take emergency leave. Although he told Ms. Pigott to go ahead and take her planned leave, she chose to stay. Breathing a huge sigh of relief even to this day, CAPT Foster admitted that he “would have drowned that week without her.” Ms. Pigott’s knowledge, expe-



Ms. Annette Pigott and VADM Bruce MacDonald during the 2007 JAG Civilian of the Year award ceremony.

rience, and uncanny intuition not only come in handy on a day-to-day basis, but also become essential in times of crisis.

From 1989 to 1992, Judge Ron Swanson was extremely grateful to have Ms. Pigott by his side as the Navy encountered Tailhook, the first Gulf War, and the *USS Iowa* turret explosion investigation. Judge Swanson describes Tailhook and the *Iowa* investigation as “extremely painful and stressful [times] for Navy leadership,” but through it all Ms. Pigott was a “steady hand on the rudder.” Ms. Pigott’s insight into the heart of the Navy, according to Judge Swanson, enables her to “provide support to the VCNO and CNO on ... things that make the Navy run.” Not many people know that Ms. Pigott was the official custodian of several of the Tailhook investigation files. According to RADM McPherson, Ms. Pigott kept those files under very tight lock and key. When he needed to look at some of the archives, she grilled him on his need to know and then closely watched him as he reviewed

the files. Her tremendous discretion and trustworthiness during that tumultuous time impressed Judge Swanson the most.

Ms. Pigott's ability to remain calm in the face of crisis was most apparent one day when she was working

with RADM McPherson. On May 16, 1996, the Chief of Naval Operations, ADM Jeremy Boorda, committed suicide. RADM McPherson remembers sitting in a meeting with the VCNO when the announcement was made. He returned to his office, stunned at the news, and Ms. Pigott asked him if he was okay. Then she calmly laid out the things they needed to do immediately in the face of the crisis. Ms. Pigott's "cool, gathered, and decisive action really gave a sense of control to a very chaotic situation," recalled RADM McPherson.

Ms. Pigott has yet another unique and extremely valuable skill - the ability to find in her monstrous stash of files an example of nearly any type of memo or letter ever written in N09D. CAPT Denise Stich was amazed at how Ms. Pigott could always dig into the files and pull out the precise gem they needed whenever they were stuck on an issue. LCDR Flo Yuzon remembers how Ms. Pigott would always know where to go when he was not sure where to start researching an issue. Ms. Pigott's memory of all the work produced in N09D and knack for finding these documents within minutes is unparalleled. This impressive skill earned Ms. Pigott the reputation of being the person who saves the day *every day*.

To many of Ms. Pigott's colleagues, however, she does more than save the day. Although we are taught in the Navy that everyone can be replaced, according to CDR Reismeier, there is no replacement for Ms. Pigott. CAPT Christopher Morin agrees, describing Ms. Pigott as someone who is "as close to indispensable as it comes in the Navy." Many judge advocates remember significant tasks they accomplished during their time in N09D, and all say it could not have been done without Ms. Pigott. LCDR Yuzon recalled the countless hours he and Ms. Pigott spent collecting evidence to support the Department of Justice in the prosecution of John Walker Lindh and collecting documents in support of the 9/11 Commission. CAPT Stich remembers Ms. Pigott's ability to expertly and single-handedly run the legislative coordination process for OPNAV. Ms. Pigott



Ms. Annette Pigott, LT Jim Houck, RADM(Ret.) Don Guter and Ms. Tonya Susaraba enjoying dinner in 1988.

complete success due in large part to Pigott's attention to detail and zealous preparation and planning."

But those who have had the fortune of working with Ms. Pigott will tell you that what impresses them the most is her selflessness and humility. CAPT Paul Kiamos describes Ms. Pigott as the "epitome of excellence without arrogance." CDR Erin Stone, the current judge advocate in N09D, explains: "[Pigott] tells the most entertaining stories about her time off, and in just about every story, she's taking care of someone besides herself - her mom or her dog or her neighbors or her community. But the central point of the story is never about what a great person she is. It's almost like it doesn't even occur to her what a big part she is of so many people's lives. I don't think a day has gone by that I'm not amazed by her." CDR Reismeier agrees and adds that everyone can be phenomenal for a flash, but Ms. Pigott demonstrates sustained brilliance.

It is this unusual combination of brilliance and humility that makes Ms. Pigott stand out. In fact, she is so well known that she has achieved one-name status. According to LT Michael Bahar, she is "known far and wide throughout the Pentagon and JAG Corps not as the VCNO paralegal, the N09D civilian, or even as Annette Pigott, but rather simply as Pigott." She is of such great value to the Navy and the JAG Corps that every judge advocate who rotates through N09D receives one key piece of advice: don't be the one who loses Ms. Annette Pigott!

As for Ms. Pigott's thoughts on her time in N09D, in true Pigott fashion, her favorite thing about working there is that she gets to "work with so many great JAG Corps officers." Never one who likes to bring attention to herself, Ms. Pigott prefers to make everyone around her look good. There is no doubt that Annette Pigott is an invaluable institution in the JAG Corps. She is truly a teacher and a mentor to us all. CAPT Foster stated it best when he said "anyone who has had any contact with Pigott comes away a better person for that experience." A better person indeed, and a better judge advocate.

Not Another Day at the Office: Experience at Officer Development School

By LT Guy Resenthaler
NLSO Mid-Atlantic

The loudspeaker screams, “Enemy vessel spotted!” and all on the deck of the “USS Buttercup” grab for support as a “torpedo” blasts our port side. A scout team led by a fellow judge advocate officer rushes below deck. He returns to report damage to water pipes and to the port bulkhead. My team grabs the needed tools and supplies and then rushes below deck. We are a group of five judge advocates. As we rush down, one of us laughs and says, “Great, a team of JAGs. Are we going to actually fix anything or just argue about it?”

Upon descent we see nothing but water. There is water blasting from the pipes above, gushing from the bulkhead, and quickly filling the entire compartment. I take my Juliet clamp, made to cover damaged pipes, and place it on a pipe overhead. My teammate does the same. We place each clamp close to the damaged area, but not directly over the gushing hole. On the count of three we simultaneously slide the clamps over the holes and hurriedly work to tighten the clamps, fighting through water that is now up to our knees and spraying at the sides of the clamps.

When we are done, we join the rest of our team. They are repairing the bulkhead with a rubber mat, plywood, and several pieces of 2' X 4'. We place the rubber and plywood directly on the hole. As I lean into the plywood, my teammates support our quick repair with the 2' X 4's. As we use sledge hammers to sure the “H structure,” I realize how high the water is rising. I look up to find little more than two feet remains before the entire compartment is filled. I know the “USS Buttercup” is just a training tool, designed to resemble a real Navy ship and floating in a large indoor pool, but it seems so real. As I watch the water rise, I cannot help but feel a little panic.

Just then, the instructor turns on the lights

and congratulates us. The water drains and we make our way to the deck. My teammate laughs, “We did it without a single argument!” Another says, “Sure beats slaving away on Westlaw all day.” We are all soaking wet, fighting to catch our breath, and in disbelief that our law degrees landed us on the deck of the “USS Buttercup.”

That was week four of Officer Development School (ODS). Just four weeks previously, I found myself sitting in a Newport, R.I., restaurant with a friend, asking him for advice. He had graduated from Pitt Law and was placed in the class ahead of mine. As we talked ODS survival and watched the Steelers crush the Browns, I could not help but feel a little nervous about reporting to the barracks later that night. My friend told me to lay low, get my work done, and catch as much sleep as possible.

He gave me the weekly breakdown of training. “The first week, it is all about physical fitness and getting checked out by every doctor on the base. You’ll get tons of shots, run twice a day, do tons of push ups, and at some point a dentist will examine your teeth. We get our hearing and eye-sight checked too. You’ll see.” He attacked another slice of pizza, watched the instant replay of a Steelers touchdown, and continued to fill me in. “Weeks two and three are boring. You wake up, run, go to chow, and then sit through hours of instruction. Week four is fun. You have firefighting training, water survival, and damage ship repair. My class is going into week five. I’ll come to your room before you leave and tell you what to expect.” I tried to remember everything he said as I left to check-in at the barracks.

The next morning I was greeted at “zero four hundred” by a pounding on my door. With tips gained from my friend, I knew this “shock and awe” greeting was coming. I jumped to my feet, made sure my roommate was ready, and opened the door. We were immediately instructed to, “Hit the deck and start pushing.” I tried to concentrate on pumping out pushups. I was feeling tired,



Students at Officer Development School go for a morning run in Newport, R.I.

stressed, and a little confused. When were we going to stop? Finally, we were told to get on our feet. Our senior chief, filling the role of drill sergeant, introduced himself. He screamed, “I don’t care if you’re a doctor, a lawyer, or a candlestick maker! You’re all in the Navy and I’m going to turn you all into Sailors!”

Over the course of the next several weeks, I found myself with doctors, lawyers, nurses, chaplains, nuclear instructors, and even one pharmacist. Through long morning runs, push ups, sit ups, and various other physical exercises, we were all dropping weight, getting toned, and appearing more like members of the military. Sitting through hours of class work, I found myself learning military history, traditions, and even strategy. I constantly reminded myself just how lucky I was. I was getting paid to work out and learn about the military. It was literally a dream come true as I found myself immersed in the ODS curriculum.

We soon reached the Holy Grail of ODS, “week four.” It was a joyous time when policy required that we receive six hours of sleep a night and suspended the morning runs and physical fitness training. We began the week “saving” the “USS Buttercup.” The next day we learned how to firefight. After sitting through hours of lectures on safety and firefighting techniques (including watching an hour of actual footage taken on the *USS Forrestal*), we donned the heavy and cumbersome firefighting equipment. The senior chief cranked up an actual fire that seemed to be three stories high. We manned the water hose and dashed the fire with water. We were then lead into a room designed to resemble a ship’s galley. A live fire blasted from the range and we grabbed fire extinguishers to combat the flames. I was in a full sweat due to the heat and physical exertion. The team worked well together and we subdued the flames. Once

again, I could not help to think that I was training as a fire-fighter, putting out real fires, and getting paid for it!

The next day was water survival training. We went through an exercise that simulated “jumping ship” in a storm during the dead of night. The instructors lined us up and we were escorted into the pool room. We took turns climbing a ladder to the top of a tower. The room was so dark I could barely see the person in front of me. The sound of a lightning storm at sea was played on the speakers. Periodically a strobe light flashed as mock lightning.

We were told to “jump!” I crossed my arms and legs and plunged from the platform tower into the “ocean.” When I emerged I saw my team leader holding a glow stick. It was the only light around and I swam toward it. Our team found our rescue raft and I climbed into it; then I helped others by pulling them into the raft.

Soon this week ended, it was time to graduate. After weeks of practicing, my class marched in formation during the ceremony. During the ceremony, I reminisced about the summer that was now coming to an end. I

graduated from law school, immersed myself in what seemed to be endless bar preparation, took the bar exam, and then reported to Newport, R.I. While I had many great times during training, I recall being lined up in “the pit” – a large area on base filled with coarse sand – and having instructors hose my class down with freezing cold water as we exercised. Even that, in retrospect, seemed to have been an absolute blast!

There are a lot of things one can do with a law degree. I feel fortunate, very fortunate, to have earned the opportunity to attend ODS. The skills learned, discipline acquired, and knowledge gained will help immensely in my career as a U.S. Naval Officer.



LT Guy Reschenthaler repairing damage to “USS Buttercup” while at Officer Development School in Newport, R.I.

NAPABA Welcomes the JAG Corps to Seattle



LT Sylvaine Wong with Alan Law and Erin Park, students from the University of San Francisco, at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association conference.

*By LT Hunter Abell
NLSO Northwest*

The Judge Advocate General's Corps recruited top candidates for the JAG Corps at the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) conference in Seattle, Wash. Nov. 21-22. Celebrating twenty years of advocating and promoting Asian-American law students and attorneys, the NAPABA conference offered minority law students and attorneys the opportunity to hear VADM Bruce MacDonald speak at a panel highlighting developments in military law. In addition, multiple junior JAG officers participated in a moot court event and a panel designed to highlight the benefits of legal careers in the military.

The ninety minute panel session that VADM MacDonald partici-

pated in, moderated by US Attorney Edward H. Kubo, Jr., covered a variety of subjects, including the constitutionality of the new UCMJ Article 120 statute, Rule of Law efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan, support to military personnel through programs like Hawaii's "Wounded Warrior" program, and the importance of effective interagency cooperation in war zones. Appearing with three other general and flag officers from the Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard, VADM MacDonald discussed the complex and changing nature of interagency work in war zones.

"One of the greatest challenges our JAGs face will be effectively moving in the interagency environment," commented VADM MacDonald. Reinforcing the point, VADM MacDonald concluded the panel presentation by asking for a show of hands by the

military officers present who had served overseas in an Individual Augmentee capacity.

Several junior officers played major roles in the convention's activities. LT Sylvaine Wong, LT Michael Hom, and LT Elizabeth Josephson represented the Navy at a panel presentation showcasing the benefits of a legal career in the military. Each officer explained their personal experiences and took questions from the audience. The audience appreciated hearing the views of junior officers who, only a few years ago, were themselves studying for the bar exam.

Audience satisfaction with the Navy presentations resulted in strong interest at the Navy JAG Corps recruiting table during the conference job fair. The recruiting table saw brisk activity throughout the two days of the job fair drawing the attention of over two hundred potential applicants. Interest was strong enough that some attendees desired to complete the senior JAG officer accession interview on the spot with NLSO NW Commanding Officer CAPT Pamela Ball. Law school student Chris Cimafranca participated in an interview and remarked, "I was a little apprehensive at first, but [CAPT Ball] made it very comfortable for me. She taught me more in one hour about the JAG Corps than I could have found out in a day looking at the website." Cimafranca also attended VADM MacDonald's presentation, and remarked of the panel presentation, "It was an eye opener for me. As a law student, it made the military much more accessible."



Legalman to the Commandant of Midshipmen at the **UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY**

By LN1 Demieka Wilson
RLSO Naval District Washington

At the Region Legal Service Office Naval District Washington (RLSO NDW) Branch Office Annapolis, I have one of the most unique jobs the Navy legal community offers – representing the RLSO at the Naval Academy.

The United States Naval Academy’s mission is “to develop midshipmen morally... and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor and loyalty...” I am proud to provide direct support to this mission. As a member of the legal support team to the Commandant of Midshipmen, the Commanding Officer of the Naval Academy Support Activity Annapolis, and the more than 5,000 midshipmen and active duty personnel. This billet provides a wide variety of legal aspects to the legalman who wants to tackle it all.

My responsibilities include providing notary services, responding to Congressional Inquiries, and providing assistance with claims and voting. I am also responsible for the preparation of conduct cases for disciplinary matters, non-judicial punishment, and administrative separation cases.

Midshipmen are processed under the “performance system” at the Academy. The performance system and non-judicial punishment are similar in that they both are used to maintain good order and discipline. The major difference is that the initial offense, if serious, has the potential to lead to separation from the Academy. Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Department of Defense police, and security can be utilized to initiate an investigation against

a midshipman. Once the performance office decides to send the accused to the Commandant, I prepare a package that includes character statements received from fellow midshipmen, class standing, grades, and ranking comments. Midshipmen are ranked not only by their company officer but also by their peers.

The Naval Academy is a wonderful place to work. The Naval Academy’s structure adds to the college atmosphere of class work and sports plus the military’s discipline, seamanship, and pride of country. Every college has pride, but the midshipmen’s pride starts their plebe (freshman) year and lasts throughout their lifetime. The Annapolis community and alumni sponsor midshipmen by becoming “sponsor parents” and opening their homes to add to the feeling of family and provide an escape from the rigorous day-to-day schedule.

On the campus grounds you can find the Naval Academy cemetery, where flag officers and midshipmen who died during enrollment are buried. Also, a statue of Tecumseh, “god of the 2.0,” can be found in front of the Bancroft Hall dormitory. He is dressed for the occasion to help prepare midshipmen for exams or football games.

This command encapsulates the total force concept. Midshipmen are not only taught by civilian professors, but also by officers and enlisted with advanced degrees and fleet experience.

The best aspect of this job is that I am surrounded by thousands of Sailors honored to wear the uniform and who display pride on a daily basis. Annapolis is filled with history and so is the Naval Academy; it is the perfect place for family and the perfect start for our future naval officers.

ETHICAL DECISION MAKING

By LCDR David Lee
Naval Justice School

Should a submarine on a stealth mission near North Korea respond to a distress call at sea if doing so would reveal its position? In dangerously severe weather conditions, should a commanding officer jeopardize the lives of members of a search and rescue team in order to rescue a man overboard?

While legal issues almost always exist in such situations, the decision can rest on an ethical assessment that goes beyond a strict reading of the law, one that does not lend itself to clear answers. Judge advocates have the unique privilege of serving as both attorneys and naval officers, and their advice can hinge on factors not learned in any substantive legal training. Our JAG Corps leadership has developed a program to assist judge advocates and members of the JAG Corps community in their leadership roles by fostering a culture of ethical decision making.

The JAG Corps's first step in this endeavor incorporated ethical decision making into its core curriculum at its leadership courses. The Senior Leadership Course, taught to incoming Naval Legal Service Command (NLSC) commanding and executive officers, provides initial training by analyzing ethical models and the underlying values behind every leadership decision. The annual Commander's Training Symposium, also for NLSC commanding officers, builds on previous training by providing tools for commanding officers to utilize in their own training sessions at their command.

In addition, the O-4 Leadership Training Symposium exposes judge advocates selected for promotion to O-4 to ethical decision making. There, discussions involve scenarios that distinguish between the ethical evaluation of a course of action and its legality. The JAG Corps also plans to incorporate ethical decision making discussions into other substantive legal courses. The next step is to conduct an Ethical Decision Making seminar at the May JAG Corps paralegal and civilian personnel symposium in San Antonio, Texas. All of these efforts aim to assist members of the JAG Corps community in their roles as community leaders

and complement the substantive legal training already provided.

Some of the most distinguished experts on military ethics have conducted training at our courses. Dr. Albert Pierce is the Director of the Institute for National Security Ethics and Leadership at National Defense University. CAPT(Ret.) Rick Rubel and CAPT(Ret.) Elizabeth Holmes teach at the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership at the U.S. Naval Academy. Each brings a wealth of experience on the topic of ethical decision making and their diverse expertise, experiences, and styles of teaching have provided students in the JAG Corps with a full spectrum of ethical perspectives.

After they receive training from the experts, NLSC commanding officers are tasked with developing and providing ethical decision making training to the members of their commands. Using some of the innovative training techniques initially provided by CAPT Rubel and Drs. Pierce and Holmes, several NLSC commands have creatively stimulated discussions of ethical decision making. Watching movies such as "Twelve O'Clock High," reading accounts such as Admiral Gehman's article on the *USS Cole* investigation, or discussing actual case studies such as the Marcus Luttrell story highlight ethical challenges faced by service members. Interactive videos such as "Last Call" allow participants to choose a particular course of action for the character and to observe the potential consequences of poor decision making.

One innovative command combined physical training with ethical decision making training by hiking up a local mountain and engaging in a roundtable discussion of ethics at the top. NLSC commanding officers have reported very positive feedback from command members regarding the training they are provided locally, with most people thoroughly enjoying these challenging and thought-provoking sessions.

Ethical decision making should prove effective in complementing our legal support to the Navy by ensuring our advice goes beyond the strict reading of the law. Knowing the correct legal answer may not be the same as knowing the right thing to do. In this challenging era of expanded military missions, discussion and training in ethical decision making enables judge advocates to better assist our military leaders with making the best possible decisions.

"Judge advocates have the unique privilege of serving as both attorneys and naval officers, and their advice can hinge on factors not learned in any substantive legal training."

PG School Quotas Continue To Rise

*By Jen Zeldis
Public Affairs Officer*

In 2006, the Navy JAG Corps made a commitment to provide postgraduate legal education to all career judge advocates. “I am convinced we will have in place the opportunity for every judge advocate to pursue his or her career path as a litigator, environmental lawyer, international or operational law specialist, or in a new area of the law such as information operations or intelligence law,” said VADM Bruce MacDonald, the judge advocate general of the Navy.

“Providing postgraduate education opportunities to our middle management JAG personnel will provide them with the competency and legal knowledge necessary to provide the best legal solutions across the array of issues facing military commanders, senior leaders and service members,” said CAPT Dawn Tompkins, the special assistant for transformation.

Through creative thinking and leadership, the JAG Corps developed a way to obtain this goal.

“The eventual goal is to send 20 students to civilian schools and 10 to the Army JAG School on an annual basis,” said CAPT Mark Hunzeker, the senior officer detailee. The 30 total billets a year will help the JAG Corps send all career judge advocates to postgraduate school.

In addition, leadership has extended the timeframe within which judge advocates can fit postgraduate education into their career. Instead of targeting only lieutenant commanders for assignment to postgraduate school, more junior and senior officers will also be eligible for PG school billets.

The Army JAG School

The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School (TJAGLCS) in Charlottesville, VA is the only ABA-approved law school in the military services. TJAGLCS is tuition-free for judge advocates and students can obtain an LLM in Military Law or International Law.

“VADM MacDonald was able to secure an increase in quotas at TJAGLCS by agreeing to provide an additional instructor to the school,” said CAPT Hunzeker.

For the academic year 2009-2010, the Navy JAG Corps will send six students to Army JAG School and will incrementally increase the number of students up to the limit of 10.

Civilian Institutions

Civilian institutions offer LLMs in trial advocacy, environmental, and international/operational law. For the academic year 2009-2010, the Navy JAG Corps will send 16 judge advocates to civilian institutions. While this is almost double the number the JAG Corps previously had, the JAG Corps is striving to obtain a total of 20 billets in the future.

One initiative that is being explored is a memorandum of understanding between the Navy JAG Corps and several civilian institutions. This approach could allow the JAG Corps to use the same amount of money it currently spends on 16 billets to fund 20 billets.

“This year we did a scrub of all of our subspecialty coded billets as part of a zero-based review,” said CDR Rebecca Conrad, the JAGC Officer Community Manager. “As a result of this scrub, we were able to increase our subspecialty coded billets – the ones that ultimately result in quotas, through a formula and quota conference process – from 169 to 216. This should result in an increase in our civilian PG school quotas.” CDR Conrad did caution that an increase in quotas does not necessarily mean an increase in funding. The JAG Corps will work to maximize the budget each year in order to utilize each quota.

The Work Ahead

“The investment we will make in affording postgraduate school opportunities to our judge advocates will reap great dividends for the Navy and the JAG Corps of the future,” said VADM MacDonald.

JAG Corps 2020 reiterated the JAG Corps’ commitment to professional excellence and integrity. It reads, “Every member of the Navy JAG Corps will meet the highest standards of professionalism and all members will receive the career-long legal and military professional education and training necessary to best serve naval, joint, and combined force needs.”

CAPT Hunzeker explained this process will take time. “We are trying to obtain the quotas and funding so that we can begin to create the conditions necessary to achieve that goal in the future,” he said.

Last year, the JAG Corps changed the postgraduate education selection process. There is no longer a postgraduate school selection board. The slating process determines attendance and curriculum for JAG Corps officers. The detailers recommend that all officers submit their postgraduate preferences during the slating cycle.

“The investment we will make in affording postgraduate school opportunities to our judge advocates will reap great dividends for the Navy and the JAG Corps of the future,” said VADM MacDonald.

NLSO Midlant Builds Military Appreciation Purchase Program

By Jen Zeldis
Public Affairs Officer

In an effort to make the process of purchasing an automobile more transparent and educational to military personnel and their families in the Hampton Roads, Va. area, the Navy Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (NLSO Midlant) partnered with local agencies and automobile dealerships to create the Military Appreciation Purchase Program (MAPP).

The brainchild of Mr. Dwain Alexander, a NLSO Midlant legal assistance attorney, the MAPP provides educational resources to service members or their families when they begin to negotiate a vehicle purchase at the automobile dealership. Military customers can go to the website www.mappva.com to find more information and a list of participating dealerships.

Included in the resources are: a notice of buyer's legal rights and a commitment to compliance from the dealership; a special point of contact at the dealership for questions and problem resolution; the fair market value of the vehicle being purchased as established by the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA), Kelly Blue Book (KBB) or, for new vehicles, the Manufacturers Suggested Retail Price (MSRP); an opportunity to have the contract reviewed by a legal assistance attorney or other party prior to the sale; and the explanation of the warranties and service contracts provided with each sale.

In response to a growing number of legal assistance cases resulting from car dealerships using abusive sales techniques such as misrepresentation and fraud, Mr. Alexander researched the issue. He found that the problems were extensive. For example, he found evidence of contracts and credit applications being submitted to banks with false information. Often, military members paid well in excess of the fair market value for vehicles or purchased cars that barely ran. Some service members paid for warranties and service contracts that were over-priced and ineffective. Others were talked into purchasing vehicles even though they did not have a license to drive. Mr. Alexander also found evidence of unlawful solicitation by car dealerships. Service members who were told they got the best deal possible were accepting loans at high interest rates because they did not shop for better credit terms. Some conduct, such as bank fraud, is criminal. A lot of the observed conduct is immoral or unethical and all of the conduct is bad for the service member.

"Unfortunately, only a small fraction of the Sailors who end up in these situations come to see an attorney," said Mr. Alexander. "Of those, only a few will be able to get out of their original contract. Worse, many of these auto dealers place binding mandatory arbitration agreements in their contracts. Binding mandatory arbitration agreements block the service member's

access to the courts for redress of wrongs and are frequently so cost prohibitive that it bars any redress."

In response to these findings, Mr. Alexander arranged a meeting with the representatives from the Department of Motor Vehicles, Motor Vehicle Dealer Board, the Better Business Bureau, and the new and used auto dealer associations.

"During our discussions, we focused on gathering all the information a service member needed in order to make an informed, intelligent decision of where and how to invest his or her money in the purchase of a vehicle," said Mr. Alexander.

With the service member's best interest in mind, the group came up with the educational materials that would best inform military customers. They also wrote an agreement for participating auto dealerships to provide this information to military customers prior to the purchase of a vehicle. In return, those participating dealerships receive MAPP certification, and the program and participants will be advertised to service members and their families on military bases in Hampton Roads.

"MAPP is based upon a Fort Campbell Code of Ethics program," said Mr. Alexander. "We modified it by including a 360 review with standardized form disclosures."

Under the program, MAPP dealerships agree to follow a code

"The heroes of this program are the dealerships who chose to make a difference to our service members through educational material with open honest disclosures," said Mr. Alexander.

of ethics and provide disclosures to service members and their families. The process begins when a service member or their immediate family member starts to work with a MAPP dealership. The military customer receives a disclosure statement that lists their rights under the program and discloses information about the

financial and legal aspects of the transaction. The document is completed, signed, and provided to the military customer before he or she signs a Buyer's Order, Retail Installment Sales Agreement or other contract to purchase.

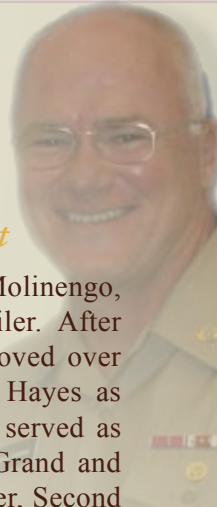
The premise of the program is that information is power. An informed consumer will have the information to determine the vehicle condition and history, the fair market value of the vehicle, and whether a warranty or service contract is needed. With the fair market value and an unsigned contract to purchase the service member can shop at his bank or credit union for the best credit terms based upon their credit worthiness.

"The dealerships have committed to assist those who protect our nation by reducing the stress, confusion, and harm that frequently occurs when an uninformed consumer engages in expensive financial transactions," according to the MAPP mission statement.

"The best way to fight the crime of misinformation is with truth and education. The heroes of this program are the dealerships who chose to make a difference to our service members through educational material with open and honest disclosures," said Mr. Alexander.

A Conversation with CAPT Mark Lawton

Vice Commander Naval Legal Service Command & Assistant JAG for Operations and Management



CAPT Mark D. Lawton reported for duty on Aug. 25, 2008 as the Assistant Judge Advocate General (Operations and Management)/Vice Commander, Naval Legal Service Command. The JAG Magazine staff sat down with CAPT Lawton to talk about his career, what that led him to this position, and his goals at the Office of the Judge Advocate General.

JAGMAG: What led you to become an attorney and what brought you to join the Navy JAG Corps?

CAPT Lawton: I had actually been interested in joining the Navy for a long time, in part because of family tradition. My dad was in the Navy during World War II and my brother served as a submariner. While working as a law clerk at a law firm in downtown Boston, I visited the local recruiting office. The Navy JAG Corps seemed to be a good fit, so during my second year of law school I applied for a commission.

JAGMAG: Could you tell us a little bit about yourself - your education and past work experiences?

CAPT Lawton: I am a native of Winchester, Massachusetts, and came on active duty in the JAG Corps via the student program back in 1985. I went to school in Boston, receiving my undergraduate degree from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Mass., in 1982, and my law degree from Suffolk University in 1985. While on active duty, I graduated from the Naval War College in 1995 and earned a masters degree in international and comparative law from Georgetown University Law Center in 1996, courtesy of the Navy JAG Corps.

I've been fortunate enough to have had what I consider to be great and challenging assignments throughout the course of my naval career. My first assignment following graduation from Naval Justice School (where my classmates included CAPTs Mike Boock and Jon Fink) was Naval Legal Service Office, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where I served as Defense Counsel, Trial Counsel, and Head of the Legal Assistance Department and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney. From there I went to San Diego, where I served as the Staff Judge Advocate for Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group THREE, a tour which included two deployments -- a world cruise with the *USS Enterprise* Battle Group and a deployment to the Persian Gulf with the *USS Nimitz* Battle Group.

In September 1991, I reported to OJAG's General Litigation Division, where I had the good fortune to work for now-retired CAPT Pete Wylie, as well as with Norton Joerg, Grant Lattin, Nan DeRenzi, Kirk Foster, Russ Shaffer, and Mike Palmer, all wonderful people and exceptional lawyers. In 1993, out of the blue, I received a call

from my detailer at the time, then LCDR Hank Molinengo, who asked me if I would consider being a detailer. After talking it over with my boss in Code 14, I moved over to the detailing shop, where I relieved Dave Hayes as the lieutenant detailer. From 1996 to 1998, I served as Executive Assistant (EA) to RADMs Biff LeGrand and Don Guter, after which I reported to Commander, Second Fleet/Commander, Striking Fleet Atlantic as Fleet Judge Advocate. From there, I reported in August 2000 to Naval Justice School where I served as the Executive Officer (XO). I served as Fleet Judge Advocate on the staff of Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Commander, JTF-519 in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii from 2002 to 2005, at which time I reported to Naples, Italy as Commanding Officer (CO), U.S. Region Legal Service Office, Europe and Southwest Asia.

JAGMAG: Do you think your previous positions helped prepare you for your current position?

CAPT Lawton: I would say for the most part, yes, my previous positions in the JAG Corps have prepared me for duty as an AJAG. For my particular position as the 06/Vice Commander, my past assignments as a CO, XO, and EA, as well as my days in the detailing shop, provided me with exposure to and experience with many of the issues I deal with on a daily basis here at OJAG. Additionally, having just recently served as a CO out in the field, I have a good appreciation for the many challenges currently being faced by NLSC commands and consider my current position to be a great opportunity to continue to work with many close friends to tackle these issues. While there are many things I like about this new assignment, the thing I like most is the opportunity to continue to work with truly hard-working and dedicated people, both here at headquarters and throughout the JAG Corps.

JAGMAG: What do you hope to accomplish during your three year tour? What are your priorities for NLSC?

CAPT Lawton: I plan to focus on ways that we, as a community, can accomplish the mission more effectively and more efficiently. We will also need to continue to provide outstanding support to the war on terror, continue our efforts to date in the area of transformation, and take care of our people by working to achieve an appropriate life-work balance and supporting their personal and professional growth. When I refer to "our people," I'm talking about everyone -- judge advocates, legalmen, and civilian teammates.

JAGMAG: Can you tell us a little bit about your leadership style?

CAPT Lawton continued on page 18

Legal Assistance Road Show in Western Iraq



*By CDR P. Garrett Triplett
Al Asad, Iraq*

There is sometimes a misconception that “legal assistance” involves the legal assistance providers sitting in their offices and waiting for clients to come by with legal questions. While there is some truth to that, legal assistance can also make an enterprising young judge advocate look like Harm from the television series “JAG.”

Such was the case this past summer. I had the opportunity to collaborate with the 3rd Marine Air Wing (Forward) Staff Judge Advocate’s Office (3rd MAW(fwd) SJA) and put on a Legal Assistance Road Show. There are quite a few small bases in our area of western Iraq. In fact, we have camps, battle positions (BPs), and combat outposts (COPs) in all sorts of out-of-the way places. While some of these locations have SJAs, the role of the SJA is primarily to advise the command. Legal

assistance comes second. What a ripe opportunity to get out, see how the other half lives, and help some Marines who could use it most!

We sent a three-person legal team to Camp Korean Village during the middle of the month and another team to Camp Al Qa’im at the end of the month. Both trips were exciting and productive. The second trip was much more so, because we convoyed to remote locations such as COP Gannon and BP Tripoli.

All told, we travelled about 500 miles on three different types of aircraft and convoy vehicles to make this Road Show work. We even spent one night on the bed of a five-ton truck for good measure. Fortunately, we did not have to employ any of our combat training as the travel was smooth sailing, if not a little tiring. Regardless, it was worth it to get out and make a difference to those Marines. It is a small price to pay to serve those who are making this place as safe as it is today.

CAPT Lawton continued from page 17

CAPT Lawton: I like to empower people, give them the tools they need to do their jobs, remove as many impediments as I can, and then get out of the way and let them do their jobs. I trust my subordinates to do their jobs, and expect them to let me know if/when issues arise that create challenges or get in the way of accomplishing their mission I also like to “get out and about” as often as I can, not to check up on people, but to get a feel for myself as to how things are going, look people in the eye and talk to them not only about their jobs, but their lives as well, and get to know them as best I can. I look forward to the opportunity to do that more and more as an AJAG and am delighted that both VADM MacDonald and RADM Houck strongly support increased travel opportunities and outreach by all of the AJAGs.

JAGMAG: Would you like to offer any advice to the legal community?

CAPT Lawton: This is an amazing time to be in the JAG Corps. There is so much going on in the way of transformation, and all of it is being done with the ultimate goal of making the JAG Corps a better organization in which to serve. Recognizing that this is YOUR JAG Corps, the community which hopefully all of you will be still serving in many years from now, I would urge you to take an active role in helping to chart the course ahead. Don’t be afraid to speak up, let the leadership know what you’re thinking, what concerns you might have, or how we might be able to do things better. We can’t fix things that we don’t know are broken, and your thoughts and ideas are important to us. So, my advice would be to speak up, get involved, and take an active part in charting the future course of the JAG Corps!



A User's Guide to E-Mail

Part 3: Dealing with Dangerous Erroneous Messages and E-Mail Overload

The third installment of the e-mail series that provides some rules for communicating through e-mail

*By Col Gary Brown, USAF
Senior Legal Advisor, Air Force Inspector General*

It is not just the automatic aspects of e-mail that can wreak havoc. Sometimes, bosses can create havoc all by themselves! Some bosses are infamous for asking subordinates to provide an honest opinion about a project and then forwarding the e-mail to others. This can create real problems if the honest input is not altogether complimentary. Word of the subordinate's criticism can migrate through an organization, making him look like a back-stabber or self-promoter. Bosses who forward "honest inputs" may find they can no longer get their subordinates to send them. I had a boss who made it crystal clear when he asked for an opinion whether I could expect the e-mail to remain private. He would say something like: "Recognizing your reply might be forwarded to _____, what do you think about ...?" This was enough to penetrate even my thick skull, and I knew to couch any comments in diplomatic terms (and provide particularly sensitive supplemental information to him in person). That is not to say it is good practice to send negative information by e-mail (see my article in the last edition of the *JAG Magazine*), but if the boss is asking for specific details, honesty should be the default position.

One final test for e-mail recipients is how they handle messages received in error. A Global Address List is a wonderful tool for finding people across the service, but it makes it unfortunately easy to click on a similar name and dispatch an e-mail in error. Having a common name myself, I have received college grades and other personal e-mails intended for like-named individuals. My rule is to reply to the sender (not to all recipients) that he or she probably was looking for another Gary Brown. In nearly every case, the sender has been apologetic, and that has been the end of it.

In addition to how it might reflect on their organization, e-mail recipients must worry about an even bigger problem – e-mail's effect on their intelligence.

A 2005 study argued e-mail lowers IQ more than smoking marijuana. What practical guidance does this conclusion offer? Should we have a "zero tolerance" policy toward e-mail? That is probably not necessary. The study concluded the divided attention caused by constantly checking e-mail is what causes the drop in intellectual ability. There

are easy solutions to this that you, the recipient of e-mail, control.

Walk out of your office once in awhile. Get out from behind your desk when you have a visitor so you are not constantly looking at the computer screen. Unless you are *really* important (e.g., an arbitrageur or commander of global thermonuclear forces), your e-mail can probably wait 10 minutes. It may be disappointing to think the world will actually not spin off its axis if you fail to answer an e-mail before the electrons are dry, but it is true. Michael Agger, in "The E-Mail Addict," notes that it takes about four minutes to recover mentally from any interruption. So, multiply each and every e-mail you check in a day by four minutes and you have a significant amount of wasted time, just because you constantly check your e-mail!

Another problem is the deleterious effect of electronic communications devices on our other communications skills. Interactions with live human beings, for the present, still merit the place of honor on the communications pyramid. It is easy to lose track of this when there are so many options for communicating that do not involve actual face-to-face meetings. Consider the introduction of the BlackBerry® into social discourse.

The BlackBerry is, to date, the most popular iteration of the portable device capable of receiving e-mail. Before the BlackBerry, important persons could only be reached via cell phone. Now, they can instantaneously receive all the work e-mail they would otherwise miss until the next duty day: unit car wash announcements, policy letters, and more!

BlackBerries have created a whole new set of problems in human relations. Children have reported their parents are thumb typing on the BlackBerry while driving, during school meetings, and even in the bathroom – to avoid being caught violating the rules the family established to limit use of the device! All this so whoever works with Mom or Dad does not have to decide if something is important enough to merit calling them at home. Send it all! Let Dad or Mom decide what is important ... it is not too difficult for them to read dozens of irrelevant e-mails and ignore the kids at the same time. The *Wall Street Journal* says the growing use of e-mail gadgets is spawning a generation of resentful children; it calls them "BlackBerry Orphans."

So when and how quickly should you respond? See the next *JAG Magazine* for the fourth and final installment.

Next in the series: Part 4 Timeliness

Naval Justice School 2009 Summer Course Schedule

Attorney Courses

Basic Lawyer Course (Newport): 26 MAY - 24 JUL, 3 AUG - 2 OCT
Basic Operational Law Training (Newport): 27-31 JUL
Basic Operational Law Training (Newport) (USMC): 27-31 JUL
Classified Information Litigation Course (Andrews AFB): 5-7 MAY
Computer Crimes (Newport): 3-7 AUG
Defending Complex Cases (Newport): 11-15 MAY
Estate Planning (Newport): 31 AUG - 4 SEP
Iraq Predeployment Legal Training (Newport): 6-9 JUL
Law of Military Operations (Newport): 8-19 JUN
Law of Naval Operations (Newport): 14-18 SEP
Legal Officer (Norfolk): 1-19 JUN, 13-31 JUL, 17 AUG - 4 SEP
Legal Officer (San Diego): 8-25 JUN, 20 JUL - 7 AUG, 17 AUG - 4 SEP
Reserve Lawyer (Newport): 22-26 JUN, 21-25 SEP
Senior Officer Course (Camp Lejeune): 22-26 JUN
Senior Officer Course (Millington): 10-14 AUG
Senior Officer Course (Newport): 15-19 JUN, 27-31 JUL, 24-28 AUG, 21-25 SEP
Senior Officer Course (Norfolk): 14-18 SEP
Senior Officer Course (Camp Pendleton): 14-18 SEP
Senior Officer Course (Pensacola): 8-12 JUN, 27-31 JUL, 21-25 SEP
Senior Officer Course (Quantico): 15-19 JUN
Senior Officer Course (San Diego): 1-5 JUN
Staff Judge Advocate (Newport): 20-31 JUL
Trial Refresher and Enhancement Training (Newport): 10-14 AUG

Dates and courses may change. Go to NKO or the NJS page on www.jag.navy.mil for current offerings.

Congratulations to Naval Justice School for receiving the 2008 Naval Education and Training Command Excellence Award!

Paralegal Courses

Legal Clerk (Norfolk): 13-24 JUL, 17-28 AUG

Legal Clerk (San Diego): 8-19 JUN, 27 JUL - 7 AUG, 17-28 AUG

Legalman Accession Course (Newport): 11 MAY - 24 JUL

Paralegal Research & Writing (Norfolk): 15-26 JUL

Paralegal Research & Writing (San Diego): 13-24 JUL

Senior Enlisted Leadership Course (Millington): 10-12 AUG

Senior Enlisted Leadership Course (Norfolk): 26-28 MAY, 9-11 SEP

Senior Enlisted Leadership Course (Camp Pendleton): 14-16 SEP

Senior Enlisted Leadership Course (San Diego): 26-28 MAY, 30 JUN - 2 JUL

Senior Legalman Course (Newport): 27-31 JUL

RLSO SW Learns From The Best

By *LTJG Jasmine Scott*
RLSO Southwest

On Oct. 15 and 16, CAPT Christian Reismeier of OJAG's Criminal Law Division, one of the most experienced litigators in the JAG Corps, traveled to San Diego to offer his unique insight and innovative teaching techniques to the judge advocates of Region Legal Service Office Southwest (RLSO SW). CAPT Kirk Foster, the commanding officer of RLSO SW, arranged the training to enhance the advocacy skills of judge advocates assigned to trial billets.

Trial counsel come to the job with a wide range of experience, from brand new judge advocates right out of Naval Justice School to seasoned military attorneys serving as military prosecutors for the first time. The training, designed and delivered by CAPT Reismeier, involved a review of general trial advocacy techniques but also included interactive practical skills exercises and discussions of



CAPT Reismeier discusses a legal motion with LT Tom Byrnes.

often overlooked aspects of the military justice process.

Counsel participated in a challenging game that involved identifying various motions that can be filed at various stages of a proceeding. The game involved recognizing and classifying burden-shifting motions, motions that could result in a dismissal of charges if granted, and motions that require a higher standard than preponderance of the evidence. Correct answers were rewarded with points similar in fashion to "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

Training was also provided in the role trial counsel play in screening

cases, drafting charges, and communicating various options to Convening Authorities. The various competing interests commanders face in dealing with military justice matters were explored with a view toward providing timely and effective military justice support.

As a former military judge, CAPT Reismeier provided valuable insight into how the perspective and role of the military judge differs from that of counsel and the importance of remembering how the limited factual view the judge has of the case requires well-written charge sheets and motions.

The entire RLSO SW trial shop attended the training, including LT Chad Bayse, LT Tom Byrnes, LTJG Jasmine Scott, LT Craig Warner, and Senior Trial Counsel, LCDR Chanda Mullen. The trial shop's paralegal, retired Marine Chief Warrant Officer Mr. Brian Duffy, also participated, bringing unique experience and insight into the discussions and exercises.

NLSO NW Steps Up Its Outreach Program

By *LT Elizabeth Anne O'Connor*
NLSO Northwest

The legal assistance (LA) department at Naval Legal Service Office Northwest (NLSO NW) is taking its services on the road. One of NLSO NW's primary command philosophies is service to the fleet. Accordingly, the LA department has sought to bring its services to Navy Region Northwest's sea and shore commands. As part of this proactive outreach program, the LA department is contacting commands individually to ensure that their legal needs are fully met. Civilians, enlisted limited duty personnel, legalmen, and judge advocates travel to Navy Region Northwest commands to provide legal assistance services in the command's own spaces.

The NLSO NW Branch Office

Whidbey Island caters its outreach efforts to the turnover of deploying squadrons. The staff coordinates with the squadrons' legal officers to set aside one full day for a pre-deployment brief. A legalman and a civilian notary go to the squadron to answer questions, execute powers of attorney, distribute will packets, and prepare clients for the lawyer's visit. A week later, a JAG Corps officer visits the squadron and meets individually with the service members and their spouses to review the will packets or address their other legal concerns. The judge advocate ensures that the squadron's legal needs are met prior to deployment, typically seeing between 30 and 40 clients in one day.

As LT Andrew Brown of Patrol Squadron ONE states, "The NLSO provided valuable answers to all of the

questions asked of them [in our spaces]. The end result, VP-1 left for deployment more operationally equipped to execute its mission of maritime patrol and reconnaissance."

The NLSO NW Bremerton office takes a similar approach to providing legal services to Naval Hospital Bremerton (NHB). In order to ensure that service members stationed at the hospital are able to maintain the hospital's mission to provide medical services to patients, a legal assistance attorney travels to the hospital once a month to see clients. This approach is very well received by the service members stationed at the hospital. Each month, the appointments overflow due to the high volume of service members electing this service. LT Christopher Baker, the Staff Judge

NLSO NW Outreach continued on page 27

RLSO SW Welcomes New American Citizens

By Vicki Alba
Navy Region Southwest

One hundred and thirty-three Sailors and Marines became U.S. citizens during the fifth annual Veterans Day citizenship ceremony aboard the *USS Midway* Museum on November 11, 2008. It was a fitting tribute to all veterans including more than 225,000 American veterans who served during the ship's 47-year career.

The service members stood proudly on the flight deck of the *USS Midway* Museum to take the oath of citizenship administered by Secretary Michael Chertoff, Department of Homeland Security. As a keynote speaker, the Honorable Frank Jimenez, the General Counsel of the U.S. Department of the Navy, also gave a stirring speech about his family coming to the United States from Cuba.

Even before becoming official citizens of this great country, many of the service members had already deployed overseas. Among those who became citizens were highly decorated service members such as Hospitalman Jefferson Talicuran, Naval Medical Center San Diego, who received a Purple Heart from President Bush in July 2008, and Corporal Henry Maldonado, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, who received



his second Purple Heart in 2004 for his service in Iraq.

Additionally, Hospital Corpsman Patrick Dabuet, Naval Medical Center San Diego, became an American citizen after nearly 20 years of service in the Navy. Region Legal Service Office Southwest (RLSO SW) was especially proud of Seaman Marta Motyl, who was temporarily assigned to Navy Marine Corps Trial Judiciary Southwest Judicial Circuit when she took her oath. More than 20 service members from *USS Peleliu*, having just returned from deployment, also took the oath of citizenship.

Joining the new citizens to celebrate the swearing in were presiding U.S. District Court Judge Janis Sammartino, President and CEO of the *USS Midway* Museum, RADM (Ret.) Mac McLaughlin, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

District Director, District 24, Paul Pierre and Commanding Officer, RLSO SW CAPT Kirk Foster.

Family, friends, and colleagues gathered to join the new Americans in their celebration. These new Americans hailed from the following 35 countries: Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, Micronesia, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Saint Lucia, Senegal, St. Kitts, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Venezuela, and Vietnam.

USCIS, in partnership with RLSO SW, worked relentlessly to ensure as many eligible, non-citizen service members as possible were included in this Veterans Day naturalization ceremony.

NLSO, RLSO Midlant Host Dining Out

By LT Guy Reschenthaler
NLSO Mid-Atlantic



CAPT David Wagner presiding over the mess.

On Oct. 25, 2008, the Naval Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (NLSO Midlant) and Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic (RLSO Midlant) hosted a Navy Dining Out. One hundred and nine guests were in attendance. Guests included area Navy staff judge advocates, local Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps judge advocates. An officer in the Royal Australian Navy was also in attendance.

The Dining Out was co-sponsored by the Commanding Officer, NLSO Midlant, CAPT David Wagner and

the Commanding Officer, RLSO Midlant, CAPT Lindy Bunn. CAPT Wagner presided over the mess. LT Mitch Eisenberg of RLSO Midlant filled the role of "Mr. Vice."

The festivities, held at the Norfolk Yacht Club, included the traditional "Parading of the Beef" by a bagpiper, numerous toasts, and, of course, comical fines. The commands hope to make the joint Dining Out an annual event, perhaps having the role of host rotate among all the services.



Team Leadership Training

By *LT Michael Hom*
RLSO Mid-Atlantic

I was in Williamsburg, Virginia. The weather was unseasonably warm and humid. It would have been an otherwise nondescript day, if I had not been a hundred feet in the air in the treetops, tethered to a steel cable. “This part of my job was never in *JAG Corps 2020*,” I thought to myself. As I braced myself for my zip ride across Lake Matoaka, thoughts of the morning’s events raced through my mind.

Region Legal Service Office Mid-Atlantic participated in a one-day leadership training event at the College of William & Mary’s low ropes course on Sept. 11, 2008. Normally, I would be annoyed by having to leave my work, but the prospect of watching 15 lawyers, tethered together, learning to “trust” each other on a ropes course, was too good to pass up. I could not wait to write the SITREP.

The day started with all officers, Sailors, and civilian employees forming a large circle to play a name game. After we all got to know each other better, we broke off into groups of about ten for the day’s events. Our groups were a mix of enlisted members, officers, and civilian employees and included one student facilitator from William & Mary, who provided us with rules of each station. Our task was to move from station to station, completing various obstacle courses and puzzles that required our cooperation and joint effort. We resembled a less attractive, but less dysfunctional episode of MTV’s “Real World – Road Rules Challenge.”

Our first station tasked our group with what looked to be a simple mission: use several pieces of cut pipe to transport a tennis ball into a bucket about 50 feet away, without having the ball touch the ground. Immediately, everyone started talking about what they thought we needed to do. Then an interesting dynamic

happened. The discussion seemed to diminish as several of the officers began to control the conversation. Several minutes and a couple of failed attempts later, we accomplished our task. It was remarkable to watch our rank structure work almost automatically. Realizing that some of the junior Sailors in our group seemed hesitant to contribute their own ideas, the officers made it a point to take a step back and let our junior Sailors lead for the rest of the stations.

At another station, our group was in the middle of a triangle, formed by three large trees. The trees were connected together by a thick rope, about five feet high. Our mission was to escape the triangle using nothing else besides a six-foot length of aluminum pipe. Our first thought was to pole vault ourselves out of the triangle. Now, did anyone in the group actually know how to pole vault? No. Did that stop us from trying? Heck, no. For those who have never tried to pole vault, it is much more difficult than it looks. After 20 minutes of failed pole vaulting, we decided to put one of our officers, LT Mitch Eisenberg, on his hands and knees near the rope and just use him as a step to cross over to the other side. It was not as sexy as pole vaulting, but it

worked. This experience taught me that sometimes you have to step on people to get where you want to go in the *JAG Corps*. Just kidding. It was a reminder that sometimes people have to sacrifice themselves for the benefit of the group. Thanks, Mitch!

Our final evolution of the day was a zip line ride across Lake Matoaka. The day was a truly great experience. It was rewarding to get to know other members of the command outside of command PT and GMT. We felt a sense of accomplishment whenever we were able to work together and accomplish our goals, no matter how small. We realized that none of us could have completed the evolutions alone and that teamwork is a beautiful thing when everyone is fully engaged. As I soared across the lake, through the overcast sky, in my pink helmet, I closed my eyes and thought, “It’s good to be a Navy JAG.”

“We felt a sense of accomplishment whenever we were able to work together and accomplish our goals, no matter how small.”



Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan Hosts Crime Prevention Meeting with Government of Japan

By CAPT Lance Cantor
U.S. Naval Forces, Japan

The U.S./Japan 54th Crime Prevention Liaison Council meeting took place on Nov. 13, onboard Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan. The Council has been meeting on a regular basis since 1977 and is an important bilateral exchange of information and ideas addressing crime prevention in Kanagawa Prefecture. The meeting was hosted by Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Japan (CNFJ) and included senior U.S. Navy personnel with cognizance over law enforcement matters and crime prevention.

Senior Japanese government officials from Kanagawa Prefecture and the city of Yokosuka attended and gave presentations on the status of criminal activity and joint prevention efforts. Areas of possible concern and ways to improve conditions were suggested consistent with the overall goal of reducing or preventing crime and enhancing the favorable relationship between U.S. Navy personnel and local communities. This was the first meeting of the Council since the March 19, 2008 murder and robbery of a Japanese taxi driver near the Fleet Activities Yokosuka base. A U.S. Navy Sailor is currently being prosecuted for that alleged crime by the Yokohama Public Prosecutors Office in Japanese Criminal Court. The murder and the recent home porting of *USS George Washington* in Yokosuka were main topics of conversation during the meeting.

CAPT Stuart Belt, commanding officer, Region Legal Service Office Japan (Force Judge Advocate, CNEJ), CAPT Greg Belanger, commanding officer, Naval Legal Service Office, Pacific and CDR Stephanie Smart, Fleet Judge Advocate for Commander, Seventh Fleet were members of the U.S. delegation, along with senior installation officials. CAPT Belt noted that although the March 19, 2008 murder was both heinous and extremely unfortunate, he was pleased and proud of the cooperation between the U.S. and Japan leading to the arrest and ongoing prosecution of the accused. He emphasized the importance of this type of meeting and of the candid exchange of information throughout the year. He continued that the Navy has tried to analyze the situation and create preventative measures and programs in an effort to do everything we can to prevent violent crime in the future.

Just prior to adjournment, RADM James Kelly, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan, specifically thanked the group for all its hard work and stressed that the Council's efforts are vital to the vitality of the U.S./Japan alliance. He stated that these activities are critical in order for the Seventh Fleet to continue its mission of ensuring Japan's security and peace in the region. He closed the meeting by thanking the Japanese contingent for the greatest relationship between the Navy and its homeport community in the world.



RADM James Kelly, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan, addressing the respective delegations and government officials at the Crime Prevention Meeting.

Naval Special Warfare Legal Conference

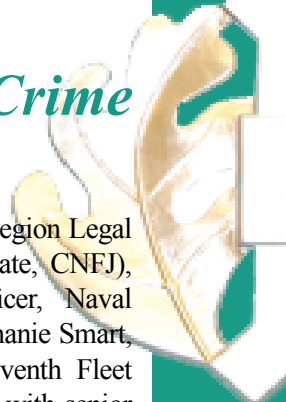
By LCDR Lori McCurdy
Naval Special Warfare Command

The Force Judge Advocate at Naval Special Warfare Command hosted a Legal Conference on Sept. 23 and 24 at Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, Calif. The conference provided the Naval Special Warfare (NSW) legal community, a chance to meet and discuss commonly-encountered issues. Approximately 20 judge advocates and legalmen attended from NSW component commands on both coasts, including several who had recently returned from deployments with Navy SEAL teams. The agenda focused on areas of legal practice frequently encountered by NSW judge advocates and legalmen such as military justice, law of armed conflict, rules of engagement, adverse administrative actions, JAGMAN



Naval Special Warfare Legal Conference participants.

investigations, ethics, FOIA, and environmental law. Attorneys and other subject matter experts came to speak from Special Operations Command, Navy Region Southwest, the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI), Naval Special Warfare Development Group, and the Coast Guard Deployable Operations Group.



JAG and Chicago NJROTC Outreach

By LT Jeffrey Gray
Navy City Outreach, Chicago

Navy legal professionals from Region Legal Service Office Midwest (RLSO MW) held a mock trial for 22 Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) cadets from Chicago-area high schools Dec. 22 and 23.

According to the Commanding Officer of RLSO MW, CAPT Tammy Tideswell, the two-day event was an opportunity for the high school students to learn the fundamentals of a courtroom trial.

“I was excited about the prospect of working with these earnest and enthusiastic students and showing them the opportunities to serve their country as both a naval officer and lawyer,” CAPT Tideswell said.

RLSO staff members spent two days working with the NJROTC students from George H. Corliss High School, Hyman G. Rickover Naval Academy, William H. Taft High School and Whitney M. Young Magnet High School.

Each student received instruction in courtroom procedures to conduct the mock courtroom trial. They were then assigned roles for the trial. The cadets assumed the roles of the judge, prosecutors, defendants, jury and witnesses from an actual Iowa civil court case involving the shooting of a suspected gang member by a police officer. Each student received a reading packet they were responsible for reviewing to become familiar with the case. The cadets were assigned a RLSO MW staff member who helped facilitate the students and their roles during the

mock trial in RLSO’s new state-of-the-art courtroom.

The mock trial was conceived, “to allow these students to have a first-hand experience in the courtroom and with its procedures,” said LT Elisabeth Gronvall, RLSO MW command services department head.

“We wanted to provide a sense of authenticity just like a real court, bound by the same procedures and rules. This helps students to understand exactly what role each of the different individuals in the courtroom – judge, attorneys, witnesses, jury, bailiff, and court clerk – does in the judicial system,” LT Gronvall said.

Rickover Naval Academy junior, Masten Meisels said participating in the event “definitely informed me what my future Navy options will be. I’m looking forward to serving as a naval officer and becoming a Navy lawyer in the future. I see this as an opportunity and a stepping stone to potentially serving on the Supreme Court.”

The idea for the mock trial came from

two separate events: a visit RLSO MW paid to Whitney M. Young Magnet High School in March 2008 and a Bureau of Navy Medicine outreach event held in Sept. 2008 at Naval Station Great Lakes. During the March visit to Whitney Young, CAPT Tideswell and her staff discussed Navy legal career opportunities with students. The effort had such an effect that a small group of students, led by senior Nicholas Rivera, decided to visit RLSO and sit through a murder for hire court-martial.

“When we learned that the Navy lawyers in the Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps were looking for five students from our school to participate in the two day hands-on mock trial during the winter school break, we must have had close to 20 students sign-up,” Rivera said.

The Bureau of Navy Medicine outreach event brought a group of students from Chicago to Naval Health Clinic Great Lakes and Naval Hospital Corps School where faculty and staff members provided the students with a chance to



Defense and prosecution teams anxiously prepare for opening statements. Mock defense team (left) consisted of (from left to right) mock defendant Jennifer Martinez, Patrick Birden-Didona, LCDR Paul Kapfer, and Daniella Castillo. Mock prosecution (right) consisted of (from left to right) Nicholas Rivera, LN1 Christie Richardson, and Martha Pita.



After briefing the mock trial case LT Elisabeth Gronvall distributes assignment packets to each student who has volunteered to play a role during the mock trial. Students spent hours studying the material and learning their role in preparation for mock trial.

learn about Navy health care and opportunities in Navy Medicine. The medical event was publicized in the base newspaper and was noticed by CAPT Tideswell and her staff. Inspired by what their peers in the healthcare profession had accomplished, CAPT Tideswell urged her staff to create a two-day outreach program consisting of an orientation session where students would be introduced to elementary concepts of law and

courtroom procedures, both civilian and military.

As an added bonus, the students also watched the Naval and military courtroom themed dramas “Billy Budd” (1962) and “A Few Good Men” (1992) during movie night at CAPT Tideswell’s quarters. By investing time and effort into developing such a program for young people, CAPT Tideswell hoped to light a fire and inspire the students to,

at the least, pursue a college education and, maybe, pursue a career in the legal profession or possibly the Navy legal profession.

“I was so impressed with the students. It was fascinating to watch them during the two days. They were highly motivated and focused during the mock trial. It’s a good generation, and I’m really proud of these kids,” she said.

NLSO NW Outreach continued from page 22

Advocate for Naval Hospital Bremerton, stated, “with nine percent of hospital staff now deployed, our personnel are more apt to neglect their legal problems, which is never a good long-term strategy. LT O’Connor and the NLSO have been critical in reaching these Sailors. They are making a difference for these clients and sending a message to NHB that the JAG Corps is really there for them.”

Further, the LA department is now offering a brand new legal brief on legal rights regarding children. The new brief, entitled “New Parents’ Rights, Responsibilities and Resources,” is a response to a high volume of clients misunderstanding the concepts of paternity, child support, and child custody. The brief is geared toward young, unmarried servicemembers who are pregnant or have a girlfriend expecting a child. The pilot brief was

tested in early November and received a great response. The brief first explains legal terms such as paternity, child support and child custody and details the court’s processes. The brief also exposes the service member to the administrative side of having children in the military. For example, the brief teaches servicemembers how to get their children on a Page Two, who gets Basic Allowance for Housing with dependents, DEERS and TRICARE enrollment, and the importance of estate planning. The brief concludes with a discussion of the extensive resources provided to service members in the Northwest. Initial feedback is positive. Plans are underway to bring the legal brief to *USS John C. Stennis* and *USS Emory S. Land* in the coming months.

All in all, the LA department at NLSO NW decided that a proactive approach to legal assistance is the best way to ensure that our service members are getting the services they need. So far, the proactive approach is a success.

JAG Leaders

Leadership is one of those things that can make or break an organization. It's a subtle quality, at times hard to define, but you know it when you see it in action. There are a few qualities that all of the leaders in the JAG Corps seem to possess: commitment to the legal community, initiative, integrity, perseverance, and professionalism. In the JAG Corps many fit the above leadership description. This regular column introduces a few of the JAG Corps leaders from Naval Legal Service Command.

Shipmate Spotlight



CDR Caren McCurdy

Region Legal Service Office Southwest's (RLSO SW) standout leader is CDR Caren McCurdy. As the Southwest Region Environmental Counsel, CDR McCurdy provides support and advice to shore installations and the fleet on operational and sustainability issues. CDR McCurdy's insights have earned the respect of subordinates, peers and seniors. She exhibits true superstar qualities, with a unique combination of intelligence, good judgment and a sense of humor. In every respect, CDR McCurdy is an exceptional role model and a true JAG Corps leader. Although the current position does not require supervisory skills, as a former detailee, CDR McCurdy remains dedicated to developing subordinates. CDR McCurdy was instrumental in creating the RLSO SW Mentor Program and is routinely sought out by junior judge advocates. Among her many other endeavors, she serves as a JAG recruiter at law schools within the area. CDR McCurdy is currently with the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan.

Would you like to recognize an exceptional shipmate? Submit your command's outstanding member and photos to natalie.morehouse@navy.mil

LCDR Paul Kapfer

The Region Legal Service Office Midwest's Recruit Training Command (RTC) heralds LCDR Paul Kapfer as one of our JAG Corps' true leaders. As head of RTC Legal Department, LCDR Kapfer runs one of the Navy's busiest staff judge advocate practices. Located in Great Lakes, Illinois, RTC is the Navy's only boot camp. Charged with the "Sailorization" of approximately 40,000 recruits per year, life at RTC offers little down time for LCDR Kapfer and his crew. For LCDR Kapfer, it's all about the 13 officers, enlisted personnel and civilians he supervises every day. During his tenure at RTC, he has made their quality of life, both at home and on the job, his number one priority. In addition to LCDR Kapfer's deep commitment to his people, he is known for the camaraderie he fosters through office celebrations and good natured joking among colleagues. He is also admired for his good old intrusive leadership -- recognizing potential issues in his folks' personal lives and effectively addressing them before they develop into problems.



United States Navy Ethos

We are the United States Navy, our Nation's sea power – ready guardians of peace, victorious in war.

We are professional Sailors and Civilians – a diverse and agile force exemplifying the highest standards of service to our Nation, at home and abroad, at sea and ashore.

Integrity is the foundation of our conduct; respect for others is fundamental to our character; decisive leadership is crucial to our success.

We are a team, disciplined and well-prepared, committed to mission accomplishment.

We do not waver in our dedication and accountability to our Shipmates and families.

We are patriots, forged by the Navy's core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. In times of war and peace, our actions reflect our proud heritage and tradition.

We defend our Nation and prevail in the face of adversity with strength, determination, and dignity.

We are the United States Navy.





The Fate of Africa: From the Hopes of Freedom to the Heart of Despair A History of 50 Years of Independence

By Martin Meredith

Book review provided by LCDR Mark Nevitt

If you think a future assignment will involve Africa, or if you are interested in learning more about the continent, you should read this book. The geographer George Kimble once famously said, “the darkest thing about Africa has always been our ignorance of it.” This book helps shine welcome light upon that darkness.

“The Fate of Africa,” published in 2005 but already on the Chief of Naval Operations’ Professional Reading List, is neatly organized and divided into 35 chapters. Each chapter addresses a particular country or region of Africa. This provides a nice roadmap for the reader to begin to decipher the different countries, regions, and history of this complex continent.

The book is fact-laden and reads at times like a history textbook. Do not worry; the history is fascinating. The author, British historian Martin Meredith, has written extensively on Africa. He asserts no personal opinions, letting the facts underlying Africa’s problems speak objectively and starkly for themselves. For example, Meredith points out that half of Africa’s 900 million people continue to live on less than \$1 a day, half of all African women are illiterate, and over 20 million people have died from AIDS in Africa since 1980. Today, the economic output of the entire continent of Africa is less than the country of Mexico.

Tracing the last 50 years from colonial independence to the present, “The Fate of Africa” begins with the initial hopeful spirit of independence that the continent experienced after World War II, as it was freed from the shackles of colonialism. It proceeds through the numerous despotisms and calamities that have led to the present sense of despair. The author does an extraordinary job describing the myriad personalities of African leaders from the charismatic and courageous Nelson Mandela to the ruthlessness of Zimbabwe’s Robert Mugabe and Uganda’s Idi Amin. The greed and perverse personalities of some countries’ leaders are shocking and at times difficult to read.

This is an exceedingly frank and pessimistic book. While the author does discuss the progress that countries such as South Africa and Botswana have made, he pulls no punches in presenting an unfiltered history of Africa and describing how many of Africa’s ills have resulted from corrupt African leadership.

This is a tough book to read. Nevertheless, I really enjoyed it. First, as a military officer who is working in the European/African area of responsibility, I found this book a terrific starting point to help make sense of Africa’s complicated history and issues that it faces. Second, this book adds historical perspective to many cur-

rent events. Readers can view Zimbabwe’s recent violent election, the scourge of AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, and the genocide in Darfur in a more informed light after reading this book. For example, to understand Zimbabwe’s recent violent election it may be helpful to know about the country’s beginnings as Rhodesia that brought Mugabe to power. The genocide in Darfur is presided over by Sudan’s President Bashir, recently indicted by the International Criminal Court. Yet Darfur is impossible to understand without knowledge of Bashir’s rise to power and the history of violence among Sudanese ethnic groups.

The strength of this book is the ability to encapsulate and document, in an interesting way, a broad subject within one text. Americans rarely learn about the breadth of African history and culture in school, and this book is a good way to attempt to fill this gap. The author concludes “The Fate of Africa” with a provocative sentence: “Fifty years after the beginning of the independence era, Africa’s prospects are bleaker than ever before.” Martin Meredith presents compelling factual evidence to support this assertion. Perhaps the challenge for all, in U.S. Africa Command or elsewhere, is ultimately to prove his pessimism wrong.

Check out *Lawyer, Liar, Pants on Fire* by former JAG Corps officer Elissa Wellikson. This is Ms. Wellikson’s first novel after spending the last 25 years practicing law, first in the Navy and then in corporate America.

Lawyer, Liar, Pants on Fire is the story of Rachel Goodman, a Jewish woman from Philadelphia who joins the Navy and is sent to Subic Bay in the Philippines for her first duty station after graduating from law school. Interspersed with accounts of military trials are descriptions of military life at an overseas duty station; the novel is a witty look at life in the military and is loosely based on Ms. Wellikson’s experiences in the JAG Corps.



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Book Review

Making NKO Work For You Upgrades and Updates

By Donna Sayers
Code 65

Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) Version 4 was launched Sep. 27, 2008. The upgrades were primarily for administrators, although you may have seen a few changes in Communities of Practice page layout and content. Hopefully, you have also noticed the improved search engine, which is now using a Google search application. There have also been some changes to the Library. The Library is no longer accessible to users, unless specifically allowed by Community Administrators.

NKO JAG Community Survey

The NKO JAG Community Survey opened on Oct. 1 and closed on Dec. 1. Surveys are the most useful tool we have available to measure your NKO experience. Measuring your experience helps us to make NKO a useful tool for knowledge sharing and community collaboration. For those of you who took the time to participate in this survey, thank you. We value your time and opinion, and we want to share with you the survey results, address some of the frequently documented comments, and describe some of the changes resulting from the release of NKO Version 4. The complete survey results can be downloaded from the JAG Main Page on NKO.

Although the survey results indicate that most people are at least satisfied with the JAG Community on NKO, we certainly recognize that there is room for improvement. The additional comments submitted by you are the most telling about your overall NKO experience and what we can do to improve it. While it is

impossible to address every comment submitted, the more frequent comments are addressed below.

The biggest complaint was the NKO Password Requirement. These requirements were not generated by the NKO developers in an effort to make your life miserable. NKO password requirements were implemented by NETWARCOM Computer Tasking Order 08-07 and JTF-GNO 07-015. These requirements were based on common attack vectors, such as socially engineered e-mail (phishing attacks), traditional logger username and password vulnerabilities (keylogging), and improper PKI installation. While NKO on the "NIPRNET" does not contain classified information, NKO is the gateway to applications that contain your personal information. These password requirements were necessary not only to protect the integrity of government computer systems, but also to protect your personal information. NKO added a CAC-enabled log-on in early 2009.

For those using passwords, there is at least one thing you can do to ease your password frustration. If you enter your password incorrectly more than two times, NKO will require you to change your password. If you realize your mistake, you can work around this issue. When directed to create a new password after two incorrect entries, click on "Cancel." Then re-enter your username and correct password, and you will be logged on to NKO.

One of the other frequently documented complaints was outdated information, such as the JAG directory, lineal list, and People Talk. The JAG directory and lineal list are updated monthly, and efforts are now being made to post the People Talk the

same day it is released. It is important to keep in mind that the JAG directory is only as up to date as personnel make it. The JAG directory is generated through the JAG Enterprise System. If you do not update your information in the JAG Enterprise System, then the directory will be out of date regardless of how often it is uploaded to NKO. This also applies to your NKO user profile. If you do not update your profile, then the NKO White Pages will also be out of date, making it difficult for people to locate you. Changes should be made in both the JAG Enterprise System and your NKO profile whenever there is a change in your information. To verify and update your NKO profile, click on the "manage profile" link above the "my bookmarks" window.

The third most frequently documented comment expressed is frustration with Navy eLearning, specifically that it does not show your course progress or update your transcripts when you have completed a course. In most instances, this is a result of a stubborn cookie file. You should delete your temporary internet files and cookie files before logging into NKO every time. This is good for your security and your internet browsing performance as well as insuring Navy eLearning courses will perform at their peak. To do this, click on "tools" in your browser toolbar, and then click on "internet options." Under the "general" tab, click on "delete files" and "delete cookies." As a precaution, the best thing to do before you exit the course is to print out your results. If the course you are taking does not have a built-in print function, you can take a screen shot of your progress by using Ctrl+Print Screen and then pasting it into a Word document. You

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE CONTENT MANAGERS

Knowledge Manager (Code 65)

Donna Sayers

Military Justice

Trial and Appellate Defense (Code 45)

LT Dillon Ambrose

Prosecution and Appellate Government (Code 46)

Maj Tai Le/ LT Duke Kim

Trial Judiciary (Code 05)

LtCol E. H. (Gene) Robinson

Criminal Law (Code 20)

LCDR Jonathan Stephens

Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals (Code 07)

LT Mike Maffei

Naval Justice School

Mr. Keith Farney/ Ms. Doris Soares

Civil Law

International and Operational Law (Code 10)

CDR Chris Corvo

Admiralty & Maritime Law (Code 11)

LCDR Ted Cook

Environmental Law (Code 12)

CAPT Jeffrey Luster

Administrative Law (Code 13)

CDR Mary Horrigan

General Litigation (Code 14)

LT David Fink

Claims, Investigations and Tort Litigations (Code 15)

Mr. Hal Dronberger

Legal Assistance (Code 16)

CDR Christine Luster

National Security Litigation and Intelligence Law (Code 17)

LCDR Mark Tilford

must always make sure your browser is configured properly before you begin any course on Navy eLearning. For browser configuration and other useful tips regarding Navy eLearning, visit the NKO Help Desk: <https://www.nko.navy.mil/portal/help/nko-nel-helpdesk/home/helpdeskhome>.

What's new on NKO for you?

Some of the other frequent comments included difficulty in navigating NKO, the NKO search engine, locating information, and cluttered pages. We will continue to make changes to the JAG NKO community in an effort to alleviate some of this frustration.

We recently started posting new documents, with a date on which it was posted. We have also added a descriptive title to the link. This descriptive title will not only help you find what you are looking for, but also enhance the new search engine. Additionally, we have added a Site Map to each Community of Interest and Community of Practice Main Page to help you locate information within the JAG Community.

Based on user comments, we have added two new pages to the community: references and JAG Careers.

The references page provides direct access to DOD, DON, and other agency publications, including JAG/CNLSC Instructions, NAVADMINS, ALNAVs, MILPERSMAN, Uniform Regulations, the U.S. Code, and the BUPERS Web Connection. The careers page provides information to users outside the legal community who are seeking information on becoming a judge advocate or converting to the legalman rating. On this page, you can also find the most current People Talk, People Talk archives, the JAG directory, lineal lists, a link to the JAG Enterprise System, the Naval Register, and information on the military justice litigation career track. We have also provided direct links to selection board information.

You may have also noticed a complete restructuring of the Communities of Practice within the JAG community. This change was primarily a result of the release of Version 4 and restrictions placed on access to the library. Once the restructuring is completed, you should see some improvements in usability throughout the NKO JAG community. This will also allow us to build more robust

communities, arrange pages by categories, and eliminate the clutter. One improvement is the creation of direct links to most frequently used documents. On those pages with a lot of information, Ctrl+F will allow you to search the page. This restructuring is currently in progress, and your patience is greatly appreciated.

Communications

Our legal community is relatively small compared to other Navy communities. Your participation and feedback have established us as one of the larger NKO communities in terms of uploads, downloads, and monthly page hits. Your input is essential to our ability to build a tool that is meaningful to you and the accomplishment of your mission. Should you have any comments or suggestions for the NKO JAG Community, please do not hesitate to contact the JAG Knowledge Manager, Ms. Donna Sayers, donna.sayers@navy.mil, or one of the Community of Practice content managers listed in the box above. Your opinion is always valued and welcomed.

Special Assistant for Transformation (SAT) Staff

CAPT Dawn Tompkins

(202) 685-7701

dawn.tompkins@navy.mil

CDR Michael Jaeger

(202) 685-7255

michael.j.jaeger@navy.mil

LCDR Kimberley McCann

(202) 685-5185

kimberley.mccann@navy.mil

LCDR Anne Marks

(202) 685-5462

anne.marks@navy.mil

JAG Corps 2020

CAPT Richard DeBobes

Capitol Hill has retained the talents of CAPT(Ret.) Richard DeBobes for almost the same amount of time as he spent in the JAG Corps.

Following a 26-year career in the Navy, CAPT DeBobes has worked for the Senate Armed Service Committee (SASC) for the past 20 years in a variety of capacities culminating in his current position as Staff Director. He has been involved with a variety of legal and policy issues ranging from national security strategy to the authorization of the use of force. He oversees a staff of 19 professional staff members and a like number of staff assistants and administrative personnel. He explained that one of his committee's most important functions is to produce the Department of Defense Authorization bill; the only authorization bill that is passed by the Congress on an annual basis.

CAPT DeBobes transitioned from the JAG Corps to the SASC when he was the Legal Adviser and Legislative Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS). In that position, he worked on the development and implementation of the Goldwater-Nichols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986. The Goldwater-Nichols Act made the

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs the principal military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense and the National Security Council and vested clear authority in the commanders of the combatant commands to accomplish their assigned missions.

"Naval Legal Service Office Norfolk commanding officer and legal counsel for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs were my favorite billets," said CAPT DeBobes. "I liked the JCS job because it was the pinnacle of a career and the most exciting and challenging job for a uniformed lawyer. I liked being a commanding officer because it was terrific opportunity to mentor a bunch of young lawyers and give them the opportunity to grow and mature."

Compliments of the JAG Corps, CAPT DeBobes earned an LLM in International Law from George Washington University and graduated Summa Cum Laude. He joined the JAG Corps in 1963 after graduating from Fordham Law School.

As for alumni advice, CAPT DeBobes said, "Try and experience as many varied challenges as possible and look to excel everywhere you go. You never know when you will have an opportunity to make a significant contribution to our Nation."

CAPT Pete Wylie

A simple measure of a mentor's success is the number of times the mentor is quoted by his or her protégés. Even though he retired 15 years ago, by this measure, CAPT (Ret.) Pete Wylie's influence is still apparent today.

CAPT Wylie is currently on staff at the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) as both the Corporate Secretary and the General Counsel. MOAA is the nation's fourth-largest veterans' organization, with some 370,000 members.

"The joy of working at MOAA is that, in my second career, I get to work on behalf of the same men and women – members of the military family – with whom and for whom I worked on active duty," he said. "Some are now retired, and others are still on active duty – but they're all, by my definition, the greatest group of Americans I know."

"Being the sole attorney for a multi-million-dollar corporation was somewhat daunting at first, but I had the privilege and good fortune to relieve Captain Henry Palau, another retired Navy judge advocate, who had been with MOAA for some 17 years," said CAPT Wylie. "Conscientious officer and gentleman that he is, he made sure, during our turnover, that when he departed I would be ready to handle all aspects of the job. In other words, I succeeded in large part because he made sure I would succeed. Similarly, the JAG Corps trains you to expect the unexpected, and to be ready for it when it comes – you're always training for what might be coming down the pike."

CAPT Wylie received his undergraduate degree from

Princeton University in 1966 and his law degree from the University of Virginia in 1969. He joined the Navy and immediately requested assignment to Southeast Asia. He reported in August 1970 to the staff of Naval Support Activity, Saigon, and for one year supported Navy and Marine Corps units throughout Vietnam as trial and defense counsel, military judge, and claims officer. This was the beginning of a 24-year career of success.

"The most satisfying billets from a legal perspective were in OJAG's Administrative Law Division and the Civil Litigation Division – practicing law in the strict sense of the word," said CAPT Wylie. "From a personnel perspective, my two assignments in the Personnel Division top the list; putting great people into assignments that fit their skills, and helping them develop as officers and attorneys and progress in their careers, was wonderfully satisfying. And from the perspective of being a naval officer, my 'operational' tours taught me so much – Vietnam, carrier duty, and being Commander Sixth Fleet's lawyer. I wouldn't trade those tours for anything."

The legal work was just as important to CAPT Wylie as was the mentoring of the next generation of judge advocates.

"Any success I had as a mentor was due, I suspect, to my having taken seriously a lesson I had learned from my father," said CAPT Wylie. "This lesson can be summarized as 'loyalty up deserves loyalty down.' Any leader – military, civilian, it doesn't matter – must

CAPT Wylie continued on page 33

Focus Group to Conduct Paralegal Review

By Amy Stevens

Fiscal and Resource Management

The last installment of this column in the *JAG Magazine* focused upon basic training requirements from a human resources perspective and how a particular type of training is justified for an employee. OJAG is now preparing for an intensive examination of training and career development opportunities in specific legal roles.

JAG Corps 2020 identified several professional development initiatives relevant to this examination. One is an emphasis on civilian personnel. Training and employee development are very important issues. Civilians are an immeasurable asset to the success of the JAG Corps. With a better understanding of the training process and how you and your supervisor can identify and request your training, we will be able to meet the JAG Corps' goal of maintaining a high performing workforce. This effort requires us to accurately define our civilian training and employee development requirements.

Fiscal and Resource Management was tasked with conducting a broad-based review of training requirements for all

civilian positions within the JAG Corps community. A working group made up of civilian and military personnel will identify paralegal training needs. Their efforts will focus on: (1) how best to use paralegals; (2) the duties required of paralegals; (3) the skills and knowledge levels needed to perform those duties; (4) the training required to achieve those skills and knowledge levels; and (5) the need for additional paralegals to meet future needs. To be comprehensive, we

“Civilians are an immeasurable asset to the success of the mission of the JAG Corps.”

will include military paralegal positions in the review.

This review will ensure we are aligned with DON policy that requires us to select employees for “training and development on the basis of needs and requirements identified in performance appraisals, position function changes, formal career program requirements, regulation issuances, strategic planning documents, and approved individual and organizational develop-

ment plans” (DON Civilian Human Resources Manual, subchapter 410). Our effort will attempt to understand both the utilization requirements and training needs for paralegals across the enterprise. Upon completion of the zero-based review on paralegals, we will expand our studies to other positions within the Navy legal community in an effort to understand both needs and requirements.

While this issue is given the serious consideration it deserves, employees are encouraged to continue identifying any training needs that align with the duties and responsibilities of their positions. Supervisory engagement is critical to success. Supervisors must be involved in identifying employee training needs. Sources for training could include classes provided by local Human Resource Offices, local community colleges, correspondence courses, etc. A highly trained workforce (military and civilian) will only serve to enhance the JAG Corps' ability to meet core mission goals with the highest standards of quality and professionalism.

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

CAPT Wylie continued from page 32

remember that he or she heads a team, and that in 99 cases out of 100 it's the team, not the leader, which gets the job done.” Finally, CAPT Wylie was able to offer a few pieces of advice to those newest members of the JAG Corps community.

“I think a young judge advocate will succeed if he or she conscientiously builds his or her skills, remains open to suggestions – having an occasional one-on-one conversation with one's immediate superior – ‘How am I doing, Skipper?’ – will demonstrate both initiative and a desire to

improve – and learns as much as he or she reasonably can about the operational side of the Navy,” said CAPT Wylie. “A good lawyer, military or civilian, knows a fair amount about his or her client's business. And being flexible – call it a ‘Have blues, will travel’ attitude – will help ensure worthwhile opportunities aren't overlooked.”

He added, “After the JAG Corps, I think most judge advocates will find personal and professional satisfaction in any other field that allows him or her to continue to *serve*. This can involve more service to one's country or a teaching position, or in any other comparable field of endeavor.”



LT Philip Angeli, currently deployed to TF 134 in Iraq, was promoted by CAPT Marty Evans, Legal Advisor, Task Force Legal, TF-134, on Nov. 1, 2008.



LCDR Tony Miani reenlisted **LNI Shenika Mayes** in November at the Navy Memorial in Washington, DC.

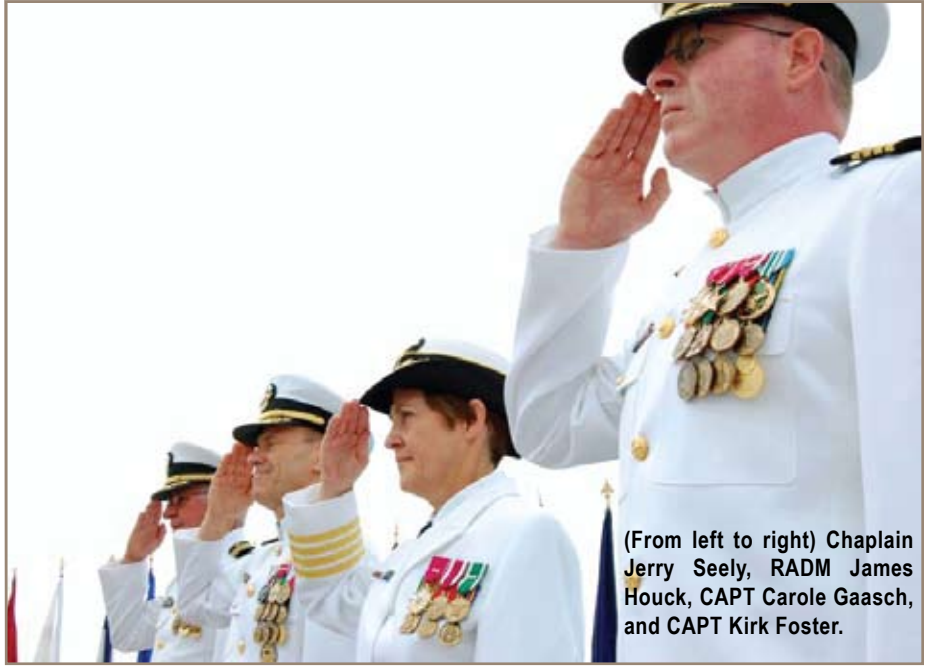


LNC Cynthia Baumgardner, an individual augmentee at Camp Bucca, was awarded her Chief's anchors on Sept. 16, 2008.

CAPT Paul Kiamos awarded **LNI Cleotis Robinson** the Navy Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his selection as the NLSC and RLSO SE Sailor of the Quarter.

LT Adam Moseley, assigned to the NLSO SE Branch Office Charleston, South Carolina, was selected as NLSC Junior Officer of the Quarter for the period of July to September 2008.

On Aug. 1, 2008 **CAPT Kirk Foster** relieved **CAPT Carole Gaasch** as the commanding officer of RLSO SW. Commander, Naval Legal Service Command **RADM James Houck**, was the guest speaker at the ceremony, which was held at Breaker's Beach Deck at Naval Base Coronado.



(From left to right) Chaplain Jerry Seely, RADM James Houck, CAPT Carole Gaasch, and CAPT Kirk Foster.



George Koonce **Michael Cole** **Davina Davis-Norris**

VADM Bruce MacDonald presented OJAG Longevity Awards to **George Koonce**, Administrative Office/JAG Personnel Support (Code 60), **Michael Cole**, Legal Assistance (Code 16), and **Davina Davis-Norris**, Knowledge and Information Services (Code 65). The OJAG Longevity Award was created to recognize a civilian employee's years of service with OJAG. Ms. Davis-Norris has worked for OJAG for 20 years. Mr. Koonce has worked for OJAG for 15 years. Mr. Cole has worked for OJAG for 10 years.

See your name in print! Submit your command awards and photos to natalie.morehouse@navy.mil



Mr. Thomas Banda of Code 65 is currently serving in Afghanistan at Camp Phoenix. He is pictured with a CH-47 Chinook in the background.



CDR Les Reardanz, an individual augmentee with International Security Assistance Forces in Afghanistan, stops to talk with some children.



LCDR Brandon Keith, LT Justin McEwen, and LCDR Collen Shook at Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training.



VADM Bruce MacDonald and the Sailors, Marines, and civilians assigned to U.S. Naval Forces Central Command. The group formed up in front of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Headquarters.



The members of TF 134/Combined Review and Release Board in Baghdad, Iraq.



LT Albert Cho (right) currently deployed to TF-134 Detainee Assistance Center at Camp Bucca, Iraq, was named winner in a lightweight bout at the Camp Boxing Tournament. LT Cho deployed from RLSO SW.



LT Carin Cozza is currently embarked on USS Kearsarge where she is supporting Operation Continuing Promise. The operation is engaged in various humanitarian activities throughout Central and South America.

Photos From The Fleet



TF134 MNFI CRRB, Baghdad basketball team: LT M. Gavin Montague, USN; Capt. Reese Hays, USAF; Capt. Adam Workman, USMC; LT Bryan Blackmore, USCG; and LT Justin McEwen, USN.

Office of the Judge Advocate General
Public Affairs Office
1322 Patterson Ave., SE, Suite 3000
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

