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Navy Information Warfare and Cryptology Community Celebrates 76 Years

"From the groundbreaking work of the 'On-the-Roof Gang' and Capt. Joseph Rochefort's cracking of the Japanese navy code, to the Global War on Terrorism, the Navy's information warfare / cryptology community has been in the fight. This year we celebrate our 76th anniversary, honoring our past and embracing our future."

Rear Adm. Edward H. Deets, III, Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command

Information warfare officers, born from naval cryptology, are directly involved in every aspect of naval operations, deploying globally to support Navy and joint military requirements. They deliver vital information to decision makers by attacking, defending and exploiting networks to capitalize on vulnerabilities in the information environment.

History of Naval Cryptology

Naval cryptology can trace its history to the Civil War, when specially trained personnel intercepted and deciphered enemy signals and formulated ways to protect their own communication. The first radio transmission from a U.S. Navy ship in 1899 led to assignment of cryptologic duties to Sailors and Marines.

- In October 1928 the Navy and Marine Corps' first training class of radio intercept operators convened. The school's original location was in a blockhouse on the roof of the old Navy Department building, and graduates of the school were nicknamed the "On-the-Roof Gang."
- From 1928 to 1941, the schoolhouse graduated a total of 176 (150 Sailors and 26 Marines) enlisted radio operators, who formed the vanguard of naval cryptology. There are five survivors today.
- Maturation of naval cryptology from 1924 to 1935 culminated in the birth of the Communications Security Group on March 11, 1935, later renamed the Naval Security Group.

During WWII nearly 10,000 naval cryptologic personnel were deployed worldwide and supported every major campaign in the war. Since that time, cryptologists have played a direct role in every U.S. conflict and have evolved to meet the dynamic challenges of modern cyber warfare. Today the community is more than 11,000 strong.

A New Era of Warfare

- Sept. 15, 2005 – The Navy renamed cryptologic officers "information warfare officers" to reflect the expanded competencies of information operations and cyber warfare.
- Sept. 30, 2005 – The Naval Security Group was disestablished, and all missions were assumed by Naval Network Warfare Command.
- Oct. 1, 2009 – The Information Dominance Corps was established. The corps consists of four separate communities: IW/CT; Intelligence/Intelligence Specialists; Information Professionals and Technicians; and Oceanographers/Aerographers.
- Jan. 29, 2010 – U.S. 10th Fleet was recommissioned, and Fleet Cyber Command was established, assuming the Navy's cryptologic, information operations, cyber, electronic warfare and space missions.

Key Messages	Facts & Figures
• The IW/CT community executes the full spectrum of cyber, cryptology, signals intelligence, information operations, computer network operations (exploit, defend, attack), and electronic warfare missions. • Navy information warfare officers and cryptologic technicians are assigned to sea, air and shore commands around the world. They serve at the National Security Agency, the Pentagon, Navy information operations commands and regional cryptologic centers across the globe. • For more information on the IW/CT community visit their website.	• IW/CT current end strength includes: 1,229 active duty (AD) officers; 221 Reserve component (RC) officers; 9,558 AD and 778 RC cryptologic technicians; 455 Navy civilians. • The IW/CT force performs both national missions with the National Security Agency and fleet missions. • 36 percent of the force is forward deployed on ships, submarines, aircraft and in other tactical applications globally. • Navy CTs are trained in a total of 114 languages and dialects.