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Navy Captain Honored with Leadership Award

(Washington, DC) Captain James P. Murray, U.S. Navy, received the prestigious “Major General Harold Mashburn, Jr. Award for Excellence in Leadership” during a ceremony held at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), a College within the National Defense University, that prepares selected military and civilians for strategic leadership success throughout the Department of Defense, U.S. government agencies, international military services, and private industry.

Throughout the academic year, students study strategic leadership and ethics as part of a rigorous curriculum leading to a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy. From this group of approximately 320 leaders, one emerges as the best of the best – a person who exemplifies the leadership qualities of the 35th Commandant of the College, Major General Harold Mashburn, a U.S. Marine Corps officer, who led the college from June 2000 through June 2003.

Murray is a 1976 graduate of St. Francis de Sales in Belle Harbor, New York, and a 1980 graduate of Xavier High School in Manhattan, New York. He holds a Bachelor of Arts

from Fordham University, Bronx, New York; a Master of Business Administration from the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington; and is a 2011 recipient of a Master of Science Degree in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Washington, DC.

In 2010 he was selected to join the recently established AFPAK Hands program. The objective of the AFPAK Hands program is to identify, select, train, and manage a cohort of military experts to bring greater unity and cohesion to the fight in Afghanistan. Members of the program will be placed in positions of strategic influence in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region. Captain Murray is currently studying Urdu, the official language of Pakistan, in preparation for his assignment as the U.S. Navy Liaison Officer to the Pakistan Navy in 2012.

A native of New York City, Murray was commissioned as a naval officer in 1985. He served in various active and reserve assignments and was recalled to active duty three times after 9/11: first to serve in Bahrain in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and then to serve as the Naval Coastal Warfare Planner in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. In January 2008, Murray was mobilized to active duty for the third time. During this mobilization, he served on the staff of Multi-National Corps–Iraq as the Chief of Biometrics. In July 2009, Murray was permanently recalled to active duty and was assigned as the Senior Military Officer in the Navy Special Projects Office of Operations and Plans. In early 2010, he was selected to attend the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Murray is a graduate of Surface Warfare Officer Division Officer Course, the Navy Legal Officer Course, and the NATO Reserve Officer Course in Rome, Italy. He holds a Joint

Professional Military Education (JPME) qualification from the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, and advanced JPME qualification from Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia.

A career naval officer, Murray wears the Surface Warfare Officer insignia and the Command Ashore pin. He has been awarded the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with one gold star, Navy Commendation Medal with one gold star, Navy Achievement Medal with two gold stars, Navy Unit Commendation, Joint Meritorious Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation with three bronze stars, and many other unit and campaign awards.

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