



Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Quantico, Va.

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NCIS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) celebrated its 50th anniversary Feb. 4 aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., with senior leaders from the Department of Defense, Navy, and Marine Corps; NCIS personnel from the National Capital Region; retired NCIS personnel; and former NCIS Directors David Brant, Thomas Betro, and Mark Clookie.

A 90-minute multimedia presentation highlighted significant milestones and cases that have shaped NCIS, including deploying to Vietnam in the 1960s and 1970s; responding to the USS Cole and Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks; building the Multiple Threat Alert Center in 2002 as the DON's center for the collecting and disseminating threat information; and supporting contingency operations in conflict areas around the world.

The presentation concluded with video messages from the casts of "NCIS" and "NCIS: Los Angeles" congratulating NCIS personnel on their accomplishments during the past five decades.

Said Director Andrew Traver during his closing remarks: "Although much is different from 1966 – our name has changed several times and our mission has evolved – the core qualities of our agency have stayed the same. We continue to have a passion for working thorough and timely investigations that stop at nothing to get to the truth, as well as a strong family spirit that unites us, regardless of how distance or time separates us."

In addition to thanking Navy leaders, Marine Corps leaders, and law enforcement community partners for their assistance and support, Director Traver gave special thanks to NCIS retirees and current personnel before calling the former NCIS directors to the stage to cut the celebratory cake.

"To the retired NCIS community, thank you for your dedicated and professional work over the years. You have established the legacy and culture of NCIS that current and future employees of our agency will build upon. Current NCIS employees stand on your shoulders. To current NCIS personnel, you are part of history in the making. Your dedication to the mission will ensure that our agency will continue to thrive for the next 50 years and beyond."

Within the DON, NCIS is responsible for investigating felony crime, preventing terrorism, and protecting secrets for the Marine Corps and the Navy. Employing approximately 2,000 personnel, some 1,100 of whom are Federal Special Agents, NCIS operates from more than 150 locations around the globe and on every aircraft carrier and big-deck amphibious assault ship at sea.

NCIS' roots date back to 1882 when Secretary of the Navy William H. Hunt established the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to collect technical information on the world's major naval powers. In the 1960s, a Department of Defense study determined there needed to be a dedicated agency to perform the investigative mission of ONI, and on Feb. 4, 1966, the Naval Investigative Service was born. Since then, NCIS – under various names, including the Naval Security and Investigative Command and the Naval Investigative Service Command – has evolved to become a premier Federal law enforcement agency.