

# K-GRAM #10

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Today is Inauguration Day for our new Commander-in-Chief, **President Barack H. Obama**. I was able to watch the ceremony on television from my civilian office in the “frozen tundra” --- formerly known as the Detroit Metropolitan area. The orderly transition of power in this country is a magnificent thing to behold. “Hail to the Chief!”

Speaking further of pride in country and that of the U.S. Navy, late last fall, the CNO, **Admiral Gary Roughhead**, approved for dissemination the new Navy Ethos. In a clear, concise manner, it tells everyone what we are all about:

*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.*

November and December were eventful, to say the least. During a couple of unit visits, I was able to attend and speak at the retirement ceremonies of **CTRCM Mike Longhi** (NR NIOC St. Louis; 38 years of service), and **CAPT Bob Craig** (IO Domain Director; NR NIOC Medina; 30 years of service). I also spoke at a couple of change-of-commands, that of **CDR Tom Overman** to **CDR Cheryl Gotzinger** at NR NIOC Ft. Lewis, WA, and **CAPT Mike Wilkins** to **CDR Linnea Sommer-Weddington** at NR NIOC Ft. Worth, TX. Just before the Christmas holiday break, I took part in a NNWG senior leadership visit (Deputy, Vice, N1R, Deputy N1R, and the CMC) to CNRF New Orleans. We were able to visit with each N-Code, as well as with the Commander Navy Reserve Forces Command, himself, **RDML John Messerschmidt**.

I began this calendar year with a quick stop-over trip to the West Coast for a visit to the Joint Space Operations Center and our RC unit (NR JSpOC; **CDR Matt Skone**, CO) located at Vandenberg AFB, California. The space domain is one of our NNWG

mission areas where I must quickly learn an awful lot, but my fascination continues. The next day we again headed westward towards Hawai'i (*no jokes about leaving the colder climes in January ...*) for four intensive days of briefings and tours of our active component supported commands and the NNWG reserve units on island: NR NIOC Hawaii and NR NSF Hawaii (**CDR Dave McDonald**, CO), NR NCTAMSPAC Oahu (**CDR Ken Christy**, CO). Kudos to all hands. BZ!

The end of this month will take me to Ft. Meade for a quarterly Executive Workforce meeting, and next month I will make a one-day visit to Navy Operations Support Center (NOSC) Saginaw, Michigan. **VADM Dirk Debbink**, Chief of Navy Reserve, directed that each of his RC flag officers "adopt" three NOSC's, make personal visits to our Sailors, and carry the Navy message throughout our country. February will also have me traveling to NNWC HQ Little Creek for a quarterly meeting of the RC Naval Network FORCEnet Enterprise (NNFE) Executive Steering Group (ESG), and then it is off to San Diego again for another Navy Reserve Flag Officers Training Symposium (NRFOTS).

Speaking of the RC NNFE ESG, it has completed the most difficult Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for two of its six charters that will identify and quantify the value of the RC to the Naval Network Warfare Command. Senior officer, enlisted and civilian professionals from within the NNWG and the Reserve Component of the U.S. Space and Warfare Systems Command (NR SPAWAR) have worked hard to document our common operational mission priorities, and settle on a methodology to capture the metrics. We also responded as a team to the short-fused U.S. Fleet Forces tasker known as the "Reserve Capabilities Review." Although we still await the final disposition of that report, please rest assured that we were able to validate 99% of what we do. As an aside, the NNWG will also soon publish its first-ever "Annual Report" covering FY08.

A final point ...

Given our busy civilian endeavors along with our Navy Reserve duties, it is easy for us living in the CONUS to forget those serving overseas on Individual Augmentee (IA) orders. We cannot afford such a luxury. We must always think about what is it that we can do to help that Sailor far away from home, or the family awaiting his/her return. The fight will continue since our skills, time, energy and professionalism are highly sought after by the active component.

That is all for now. TFK BT K