

# K-GRAM #14

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The second year in the life of any new organization is really a test of its foundational soundness, the structural integrity of its ability for governance, and its sense of strategic purpose. The Navy Net-Centric Warfare Group (NNWG) throughout FY09 met all of its operational and administrative objectives. We demonstrated our worthiness to the dictates of Total Force Integration. My humble and sincere thanks to All Hands. Well done. BZ!

Our NNWG team continues to operate, maintain and defend networks, conduct information operations, signals intelligence and space operations in “Total Force” support of our three major active duty commands: the Naval Network Warfare Command (NNWC), the Space and Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) Space Field Activity, and the U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM).

Our professional skills, capabilities and overall capacity remain valuable assets to all combatant commanders. For example, at the end of FY09, the NNWG had 152 of its Sailors engaged as Individual Augmentees (IA) in “Overseas Contingency Operations” (OCO). This was a significant rise over just twelve months previous when only 119 were on such orders. Please know that as of today we have 133 NNWG Sailors in the various Middle East locations; and, another 48 who are in the pipeline.

With the onset of the FLEET CYBER COMMAND/COMMANDER TENTH FLEET, we are eagerly awaiting the ramp up of this new effort. We have the skills. We have the capacity. My primary objective for FY10 is to place the NNWG squarely in the middle of this exciting new operational effort. We look with great anticipation towards our imminent role within Fleet Cyber Command (FLTCYBERCOM) and Commander TENTH FLEET (COMTENTHFLT). What an outstanding time to be a member of the Reserve Component!

Our current efforts within Computer Network Operations (CNO) are poised to grow and contribute on a much larger scale. We have a good number of personnel, officer and enlisted, who do this type of work as civilians or who already possess the requisite military certifications. Others work in related fields and could easily convert their talents with a stint at a professional training course.

The Naval Network FORCENet Enterprise (NNFE) Executive Steering Group (ESG) continues to complete its work and move forward with implementing our metrics collection, strategic communication, cross-functional teamwork, and maintaining a

current skill-set and capabilities database. NETWARCOM must be assured that each component of its Total Force is capable of contributing at a maximum level. We will need to establish this plan into the everyday best practices of the RC force and change with NETWARCOM.

This is a time of war and we must focus on being ready for the fight. When not on mobilization orders, the best “practice” is to actually perform real mission work. I expect our Sailors to carry out supported command professional operations on drill weekend and while on annual training. The electronic connectivity we enjoy at all of our drilling unit sites costs the taxpayers plenty. So, we need to maximize our output.

The NNWG still exists solely to integrate itself into its supported commands. This will not change. In its third year, the NNWG will continue to prosper and take all actions necessary to adapt to a rapidly changing environment while continuing to provide a highly skilled and ready workforce. Although the FLTCYBERCOM/COMTENTHFLT alignment is on the immediate horizon, we must also maintain our traditional proficiencies, skills and capabilities that will ensure our commitment to being a dynamic force multiplier.

My travels since publishing my last K-Gram had me visiting the NR NIOC Ft. Dix, New Jersey unit, conducting a national staff meeting, and touring the Army’s local IA training site for Sailors. Next I served as the Panel President (one of eight members) of the NNFE panel for the RC APPLY Board in Millington, TN, then immediately on to NR NIOC Detroit for my annual physical and an early, early morning run with the CPO Selects. I then flew down to CID Pensacola for a speaking engagement with our Prospective SEL course, along with presiding and speaking at the weekly AC “A” school graduation of CTR’s, CTT’s and IT’s. If you don’t think I was honored, then you do not know me well.

The end of August had me at the RC and AC flag meetings in Annapolis, Maryland, and early September saw me going all the way out to Portland, Oregon for the annual meetings of the Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association and the Navy Reserve Cryptologic Association --- once retired, our predecessors are extremely interested in how NNWC and the NNWG are keeping the professional lamp glowing. October will take me to NIOC Sugar Grove, West Virginia to present that AC command a “Big Navy” award for its outstanding drug abuse awareness campaign; also, the Vice, CMC and SIGINT Domain Director will conduct a unit visit of our NNWG Naval Security Force unit there. Things have been busy.

Last item. I have recently appointed **CAPT Jim Rodman** as the next Vice Commander for the NNWG. CAPT Rodman is an Engineering Duty Officer, Space Cadre VS4 qualified, and a fellow lawyer. He will succeed **CAPT Bill Rothwell** on 01DEC09. Also, the next Command Master Chief for the NNWG has been selected and announced to succeed **CMC CTRCM Pam Buelow** ... it is **CTRCM Armond “Allen” Banks!** Master Chief Banks will also begin his tour on 01DEC09.

That is all for now. TFK BT K