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I can either look at things as “glass half empty” or “glass half full.” A couple of weekends ago I visited the NR NIOC Detroit unit. One of my personal taskers was to successfully complete yet another PRT cycle. My next challenge is to figure out the level of reprimand for a brave soul who figured out that I “only” have three more PRT’s to go before I retire! I am not sure if that observation relates to a “half-empty-or-full” scenario. Either way, that Sailor’s career is toast (just kidding ...).

Since we last met, I have traveled to the Center for Information Dominance, Pensacola, Florida to deliver a speech to the assembled “Chiefly” students of the Prospective Senior Enlisted Leader course. While at Corry Station, I toured the schoolhouse where our young IT and CT wannabe’s learn the basics of our craft. I also was able to preside over a Friday morning “A” school graduation ceremony, and toured the NIOC Pensacola operations facility. It is indeed possible to “go home again!” The latter portion of September took me to Little Creek for the Senior IW Officer, plus the NNWC and NNWG training symposiums. Immediately thereafter it was on to Annapolis for the RC Flag and the All Flag conferences. My goodness, PowerPoint is alive and well, and I gained five pounds from all the conference break-time snacks!

Last weekend it was back to Little Creek for another NNFE ESG quarterly meeting followed by a training conference for IP officers within the RC. November will bring visits to NR NIOC Medina and JIOWC San Antonio, Texas, then to the NR NIOC St. Louis, Missouri. December takes me to the NR NIOC Ft. Lewis – Whidbey - Yakima, Washington area, and a year-ending excursion to NR NIOC Ft. Worth, Texas, and a couple of days at CNRF New Orleans.

Okay, now let’s talk a little “Command Information Officer” (a.k.a., CIO). My personal thanks goes out to our CIO team (**CAPT Marc Mancher, CAPT Patrick Murphy, IT1(SW) Brandon Darby, IT1(SW) Leroy Brown**) for moving us forward and integrating the NNWG ever more into the mainstream of NETWARCOM by creating a NNWC Reserve tab on the NETWARCOM Enterprise Work Space (NEWS):

<https://www.fleetforces.navy.mil/netwarcom/Resv/default.aspx>

We have just approved and posted on our NEWS home page the NNWG instruction that provides the guidance and business rules for how we will use NEWS to communicate and collaborate with each other:

<https://www.fleetforces.navy.mil/netwarcom/Resv/LIBRARY/NNWG%20NEWS%20Governance.pdf>

Our RC workforce is a bit unique because many of our number are not on-line everyday so having a central location where we can get up-to-date information is critical. Unlike NKO, NEWS also adds a layer of protection for us by way of a CAC. RESFOR has enabled all of us to have access to NMCI and now NEWS from our homes by providing each member of the Navy Reserve Component with a CAC reader and the Active Card Gold software so we have no inhibitors to moving forward.

I am very excited to know how much we have moved forward in our efforts with knowledge management and thinning the lines between NETWARCOM and its Reserve Component. **NKO** has served us well in the past and will continue to be our primary source of **training and community management** information in the future; **NEWS** is now our primary means for **operational and administrative** information and collaboration. The continued success of these initiatives now transitions into the hands of our unit leadership to exercise and expand the functionality of NEWS. Watch for more guidance on Wiki's, Defense Knowledge Online (DKO) and Defense Connect Online (DCO).

Some final points ...

The Holiday Season is almost upon us: Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa, and New Year's Day. I wish to personally thank each and every one of the Sailors of the NNWG for "Turning To" and moving us forward as a new command this past year. To our active component friends and counterparts, I thank you for believing in what the RC has to offer and using our talents to further the cause of the NNWC as a whole. For those serving in the Middle East, our thoughts and prayers are with all of you and yours; we are very appreciative of your professional service and personal sacrifice.

From my family to yours, "... *all the very best.*" That is all for now. TFK BT K