

VITAL SIGNS

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Naval Hospital, Orlando, Florida

September 1994

NHO flies a yellow ribbon again!

Once again, Naval Hospital, Orlando has a yellow ribbon flying in front of the hospital. This time, the yellow ribbon is representing 14 staff members 12 of whom have deployed to help provide United Nations medical support to Croatia. At a ceremony on 17 August, 12 Blue Berets were honored. ETCM(SW) John Hagan, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, and CAPT Brant gave farewell remarks and CDR Laurence D. Conley, MC, USN, Senior Officer of the Blue Berets, spoke on behalf of those deploying. Navy Band Orlando added just the right touch to the ceremony ... their rendition of "I'm Proud to be an American" really stirred the emotions. NHO's Blue Berets deployed on 22 August.

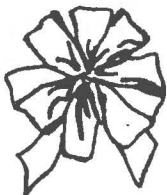
We are beginning to realize that Naval Hospital, Orlando will be called upon many more times to furnish medical support worldwide. See Page 11.



Well-wishers proceeding through the ranks were led by Master Chief Hagan.



Proudly showing off their Blue Berets are: Left to right, front row: DC1 James K. Knight; HM3 Dawn M. Jones; HM2 Christopher W. Sczublewski; LTJG Cheryl A. Lang-Bond, NC; LTJG Lynn M. Petzing, NC; and LT Nancy E. Marshall, NC. Back row: HM1 Warren C. Cowart; LCDR John A. Rothacker, NC; LCDR George M. Perez, MC; LCDR Randal J. Halter, MSC; AND CDR Laurence D. Conley, MC. Not pictured: SK3 Coxana L. Moss.



Do you remember . . . All those bundles for Bosnia?

In July Chaplain Diaz put out the call for us to donate clothes, shoes, and toys to be sent to Bosnia/Groatia. Members of the Fleet Hospital at Zagreb wanted to help the refugees in that area who had lost all of their possessions. The Chaplain's Office at Zagreb contacted Chaplain Diaz who put out the word to NHO staff. As a result of Chaplain Diaz's request, 2 bundles of shoes, 16 bundles of clothes, 1 bundle of sugar, and 8 bundles of toys were shipped. For the staff of the Fleet Hospital, 216 cards and letters were also sent.



Members of the Fleet Hospital Zagreb unload our boxes.



Members of the Fleet Hospital pose with some of their new friends from a nearby orphanage who received some of the toys. Chaplains Buenaventura and Garner with the assistance of RP Brewster and RP Shelton were the coordinators at the Zagreb end . . . the hospital coordinators were Chaplain Diaz, MS1 Arnold, and RP2 Edmonds.

Staff Pulse Beat



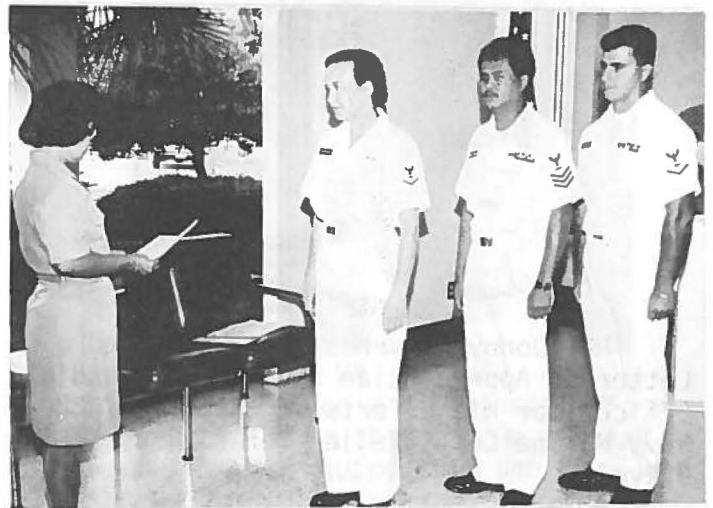
On 12 August, MSSN Melvin L. Savage, Jr., USN, Food Service Department, reenlisted and his wife, Katrina, received a Certificate of Appreciation for her support. CDR John L. Diaz, CHC, USN, served as reenlistment officer.



HMI Horace J. Kidd, USN, Administrative Assistant to the Director for Medical Services, reenlisted on 12 August. CAPT J. R. Crim, MC, USN, Head, Primary Care Clinic, served as reenlistment officer.



On 12 August, HN Timothy M. Taylor, USN, Urology Department, reenlisted. LT Denise Johnson, NC, USNR, 3 Multi Service Unit, served as reenlistment officer.



On 16 August, CAPT Rosalia F. Dy, MC, USN, Director, Branch Medical Clinic, presented Letters of Commendation and Appreciation to some of her staff. HM3 Lori R. Waltersdorff, HMI Alec Salunga, and HM3 Gabor Margitics, received letters from the Commanding Officer for their outstanding assistance during the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Benefit Fund Drive. Petty Officer Waltersdorff also received a Letter of Appreciation from the United States Defense Attache, Santiago, Chile, for her tireless efforts in assisting him to obtain his annual flight physical.



HMI Dennis F. Haugen, USN, Nuclear Medicine Division, was frocked to his new rate on 17 August. CAPT Brant presented the frocking letter.



HMC Procopio B. Bardeloza, Jr., USN, received a Letter of Appreciation from the Commanding Officer for his outstanding contributions as a member of the Hospital Corps Birthday Committee.



HM2 Donny Figueroa, USN, received a Letter of Appreciation from the Commanding Officer for his efforts in support of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Benefit Fund Drive.

Awards Ceremony of 24 August



HMC Clayton L. Dempsey, USN, Patient Contact Officer, received his certificate and hospital plaque for his selection for Naval Hospital, Orlando's Senior Leadership Award for January - June 1994. CAPT Michael E. Kilpatrick, MC, USN, Executive Officer, made the presentations.



Mrs. Margaret Wilsten, RN, Women's Health Care Clinic, received her certificate and plaque for being selected as Nurse of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter, 1994. CAPT Carol A. Peterson, NC, USN, Director for Nursing Services, made the presentations.



Mrs. Joanna M. Pullano, Operating Room Department, received her certificate and congratulations for her selection as Civilian of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter, 1994. She also received an "On-the-Spot" Award for her selection. CAPT Robert K. Daniels, Jr., MC, USN, Director for Surgical Services, made the presentations.



LT Laura A. Newport, NC, USNR, Intensive Care Unit, received the Navy Achievement Medal for her superior performance of duties while serving as Staff Nurse on the Medical/Pediatric, Surgical, and Intensive Care Units during her tour of duty at Naval Hospital, Orlando. LT Raymond J. Hood, NC, USN, Charge Nurse, Intensive Care Unit, made the presentation.



MS1 Arthur G. Drummond, Operating Management Department, received the Navy Achievement Medal for his professional achievement as General Service Division Officer and Manager of the BEQ. Through his efforts the BEQ not only passed the Management Assistance Inspection Team visit but the BEQ was acknowledged as the best BEQ in the BuMed claimancy. CAPT Joseph P. VanLandingham, MSC, USN, Director for Administration, made the presentation.



HM2 Brian J. Gilligan, USN, Bio-Medical Engineering Division, received a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer for his outstanding assistance during the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Benefit Fund Drive. LT Clontz made the presentation.



Mr. Walter Benford, Material Management Department, received a Letter of Commendation from the Commanding Officer of the Naval Dental Center at NTC. The letter was for his assistance in acquisitioning dental material and supplies for them during the third quarter, FY 1994. LT David T. Clontz, MSC, USN, his department head, made the presentation.



HA Tessa C. Waller, USN, GYN Department, received a Certificate of Commendation from the Navy Recruiting Command for her support to the Navy Recruiting Station, Orlando. LCDR Virgil A. Davila, MC, USNR, her department head presented the certificate.



Mr. Thomas R. Arnold, Facilities Management Department, received his ten-year Career Service Award from CAPT VanLandingham.



HN Robert L. Landers, USN, General Surgery Department, received a Letter of Appreciation from the Commanding Officer for his outstanding performance during his tour of duty. HN Landers has transferred to the 3rd Force Service Support Group, Okinawa. CAPT Daniels made the presentation.



Mr. Francis W. Fielder, Correspondence Management Division, received his twenty-five-year Career Service Award. The Award was presented by CAPT VanLandingham.

With the closing of the Urology Clinic, two of the Urology Technicians received Letters of Commendation for their outstanding performance.



HM3 Jason D. Sanford, USN, received his letter from CAPT Daniels.



HN Timothy M. Taylor, USN, accepted his letter from CAPT Daniels.



HM2 Nestor N. Lumbo, USN, Pharmacy Department, received a special plaque from the Commander, Naval Training Center, Orlando, for accumulating over 600 hours of volunteer work. CDR Franz R. Peterson, MSC, USN, Head, Pharmacy Department, made the presentation.



HA Yvonne M. Hall, USN, Branch Medical Clinic, received a Certificate of Commendation from the Navy Recruiting Command for her support to the Navy Recruiting Station, Orlando. CAPT Dy made the presentation.



HM3 James T. Buchanan, USN, Medical Records, NFA and NPS Branch, received a Letter of Commendation from the Office of the Deputy Commander in Chief and Chief of Staff, MacDill Air Force Base, for his support in the commissioning of the USS TYPHOON. LT James W. Elliott, MSC, USNR, Radiation Health Officer, presented the letter.



Mr. Marcial R. Remitera, Jr., Internal Medicine Department, received his fifteen-year Career Service Award. CDR Pedro V. Davila-Velazquez, MC, USN, Head, Internal Medicine Department, made the presentation.

Awards Ceremony of 7 September



Donald E. Hairston, MSW, Social Work Department, received his Twenty-year Career Service Award. HMC Thomas J. Leonhardt, USN, Administrative Assistant to the Director for Ancillary Services, made the presentation.



On 31 August, HM1 Peter C. Bennington, USN, Leading Petty Officer of the Minor Illness Nursing Division, reenlisted. LCDR Raymond J. Foster, NC, USN (Ret.) served as the reenlistment officer.



SH2 John C. Ball, USN, Material Management Department, received his First Good Conduct Medal. LT David T. Clontz, MSC, USN, Head, Material Management Department, made the presentation.



HN Heather R. Tennant, USN, Nursing Services, reenlisted on Friday, 2 September. LTJG Debra Y. Williams, NC, USNR, her Charge Nurse, served as reenlistment officer.



HM3 Samuel S. Collins, USN, Bio-Medical Engineering Division, received a Certificate of Commendation from the Commanding Officer, Headquarters Battalion, 2d Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, for his outstanding performance while assigned as the Customer Service Clerk, Division Surgeons Office. LT Clontz made the presentation.

Retirements



On 18 August, HMCS Dorothy A. Raab, USN, Administrative Assistant to the Director for Surgical Services, transferred to the Fleet Reserve. During the ceremony Senior Chief Raab received the Navy Achievement Medal for her professional achievement during her tour of duty at Naval Hospital, Orlando.



On 30 August, LCDR Kathryn J. O'Neal, NC, USN, Active Duty Women's Health Care Clinic, retired from Naval Service. At the ceremony in the Clements Room, LCDR O'Neal received the Navy Achievement Medal and a beautiful shadow box. Guest speaker was CAPT Carol A. Peterson, NC, USN, Director for Nursing Services.



On 31 August, LCDR Raymond J. Foster, NC, USN, retired from the Naval Service. During the ceremony CAPT Peterson presented him with a beautiful shadow box. CAPT Michael E. Kilpatrick, MC, USN, Acting Commanding Officer presented LCDR Foster with the Navy Commendation Medal.

Where did our "Blue Berets" go?

Our "Blue Berets" who deployed on 22 August were sent to Croatia as part of the United Nations medical support. Since we have shipmates over there, we now have a desire to know more about that area.

Bosnia-Herzegovina is a newly independent country that controls roughly only 10 percent of its area.

The country, commonly called Bosnia, has three main groups: Serbians, Croats and Muslims. Muslims make up 43 percent of the population, Serbs, 31 percent, and Croats, 17 percent. The country declared independence from Yugoslavia on March 3, 1992, and was immediately embroiled in a civil war.

Conflict has been a part of the history of the country since the Middle Ages and at the heart of the conflict is religion. Although all Bosnians are ethnically Slavic and speak Serbo-Croatian, the Serbians are generally Eastern Orthodox; Croats, Roman Catholic; and the Muslims are Serbian, Croatian or both.

The country is about 19,800 square miles in size and has a population of 4.1 million. The northern portion of the country, Bosnia, is wooded and hilly. The southern portion, Herzegovina, is flatter and primarily agricultural. The capital and largest city is Sarajevo.

Fighting broke out in Bosnia on March 22, 1992, when ethnic Serbs, aided by Serbian government forces, began attacking Muslim and Croat areas. Serbia, wanted Serb-held areas of Croatia. During the fighting, Serbians used "ethnic cleansing," a policy of expelling non-Serbs -- mostly Muslims -- from their homes in captured territory. This policy outraged international opinion when witnesses told of atrocities against Croats and Muslims in Serbian-held territory and detention camps. Since the civil war broke out, the United Nations and the European Community have been trying to get the opposing sides to negotiate a peace. Officials have called cease fires, but none have lasted.

Reprinted from Press Pack (American Forces Information Service)



For NHO Civilian Staff . . ."Life is a series of new beginnings!"

With the closing date for Naval Hospital, Orlando becoming more imminent with each passing day, the civilian staff is facing the anxiety of finding new employment. A new bulletin board has been placed outside the Lawson Room so everyone can keep track of where our fellow employees are going. As people leave, especially if they are leaving the area, they are being encouraged to send back post cards and notes about their new area.

So far we have bade farewell to: Christine Linn, Clinical Nurse, who went to Langley AFB, Hampton, VA. Al Gleason, Computer Specialist to Overseas Army - Germany. Cecilia Peredo, Budget Assistant to HRO, NTC, Orlando. Michael Stinnie, Food Service to the private sector in South Carolina. Mapale McDaniel, Medical Record Tech to the private sector in Florida. Basil Manning, Housekeeping Aid to City of Orlando (Lynx). Shelley Godwin, Pharmacy Tech to Marine Corps Base, Albany, Georgia. Deborah Martin, Clinical Nurse to private sector nursing.

Al Larrivee, Food Service Director, retired in Orlando. Debra Summers, Clinical Nurse to private sector nursing. Lee Powell Nurse Consultant, transferred with military spouse to Maryland. Mary Ann Johnson, Accounting Tech transferred with military spouse to Hawaii. Sharon Kowalski, Secretary, to TSD OA, Orlando. Paul Stroup, Medical Officer, relocated to North Carolina. Marisa Perez, Clinical Nurse, to private sector nursing.

Carolyn Dean, Purchasing Agent, to DLA, Clearwater. Pam Womack, Medical Record Tech to MacDill AFB, Tampa. Bev Middleton, LPN, to private sector nursing. Hilary Schwarz, Clinical Nurse to DHHS/IHS, Keams, Canyon, AZ. Cynthia Clark, Professional Affairs Assistant, to City of Orlando Police (911 Division). Bill Valentine, File Clerk, retired to South Carolina. Mayra O'Neill, Medical Clerk, report for active duty with Army Reserve. Ricardo Valdez, Medical Records Tech, to private sector employment. Jim Colorado, Medical Clerk, to Naval Hospital, Bremerton. Michael Boorde, Clinical Nurse, to DHHS/IHS, Keams Canyon, AZ.

TOTAL

QUALITY

LEADERSHIP

By LT M. L. Dasch, MSC, USN

Team Wednesday?

Team Wednesday will be a special day to recognize staff members who are part of a team making contributions to this command, to the Training Center or the local community.

This command, more than any other I have seen, recognizes people for their contributions. In a continuing effort to improve the way we recognize people, the command will now have a recognition day called "Team Wednesday." These Wednesdays will recognize team participation. Examples would be a PAT which has completed its work, key persons from Combined Federal Campaign or Navy Relief, or a group who participates in community volunteer efforts.

"Team Wednesdays" will be in addition to our already scheduled Wednesday morning award ceremonies which award personal medals, Letters of Commendation, etc. Look for upcoming announcements in the Plan of the Day announcing our "Team Wednesday" presentations.



The following have all been accepted with the VA:

Ann Hutto, Laboratory; Mike Denmon, Facilities; Jimmy Anthony, Supply; Cheryl Moran and Donna Neely in Urology.



CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS

CDR John L. Diaz, CHC, USN



BRIDGING THE GAP

HMCM Richard L. Nelson, USN

Dear God:

These rib-tickling letters from children to God have been collected by Michael Levine, author of The Address Book:

Dear God, I love to eat. Thanks for all the food. Pizza was the best idea you ever had! Ralph.

Are you in charge of babies? I have three sisters, which is good. But I would like to put in an order for a brother. I hope this special order won't upset you. Paul.

Dear God, old pal, how's it going, man? Can you fix it so my friends and me can stay out later in the summer? Chris.

Dear God, thank you for my parents, my sister Anita, and for my grandma and grandpa. They are all real warm and special. I forgive you for my brother Jeff. I guess you didn't finish working on him. Daniel.

Dear God, I saw the Grand Canyon last summer. Nice piece of work. Robert.

Dear God, my dad thinks he is you. Please straighten him out. Scott.

My sister, Tina has a girlfriend named Wendy. It would take a miracle to shut Wendy up. Got any left? Samantha.

Talking about letters ... when is the last time you wrote a letter to God? Now I don't have an official address and zip code, but I do know God's phone number ... it's P R A Y E R. God's line is never busy and He is always available.

We need more yellow ribbons

Since our Blue Berets deployed on August, we have temporarily bade farewell to more of our staff. On 26 August, HM1 Marvin L. Colburn, USN, Branch Medical Clinic, and HM3 Michael E. Castillo, USN, Minor Illness Clinic, departed to join the crew of USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD-41).

DEPMEDS

In recent months the hospital has recognized many groups, such as the Hospital Corps and the Medical Service Corps. While these are important, one group is often overlooked. This group is the Deployable Medical Systems (DEPMEDS), which are made up of MS, SK, MM, YN, SH, ET, MA, PC, RP, IC, PN, and RM ratings. The main purpose for the DEPMEDS at a Naval Hospital is for training and support of the fleet hospitals. In fact, this hospital deployed two DEPMEDS in August to Fleet Hospital Five for six months.

These personnel are as equally important as the medical staff in fulfilling Naval Hospital Orlando's mission and many of them hold key positions within the command. With these dedicated people taking care of material management, food service, security, and administrative functions, the medical trained personnel are available for patient care. Since this is a hospital and the majority of the staff is medical, the DEPMEDS personnel many times feel they are not part of the team. We need to take time to recognize these people for the important contributions they make to our goal of providing the highest quality of medical care.

I WOULD PERSONALLY LIKE TO THANK ALL THE DEPMEDS FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

3 September, HM1 Robin M. Babcock, USN, Branch Medical Clinic, and HM1 William L. Brown, USN, Pharmacy Department, deployed to support U. S. Naval Hospital, Guantanamo Bay. On 6 September, LCDR Wayne W. Beam, MC, USNR, Family Practice Department, LTJG Manuel Santiago, NC, USNR, Nursing Services, and ENS Lane J. Creamer, NC, USNR, Nursing Services, deployed in support of the 2nd Force Service Support Group, Grand Turk Island. On 8 September, LT David T. Clontz, MSC, USN, deployed to the USNS COMFORT.

TIP

CAPT R. H. Brant, MSC, USN

The key word today is readiness

In the last few weeks we have seen twenty-one of our staff members deployed on short notice. All of them were mentally prepared and in some cases quite excited. What we really don't know is if they were physically ready for the rigors of their new duties. Sure, we have our physical readiness test results and until recently, the body fat measurements (now replaced by height/weight standards). But these really don't define a condition of readiness, particularly when the sudden deployment is to a Marine Corps infantry support unit.

In the near future, we will be implementing the revised program requirements for physical fitness which mandate regular aerobic fitness training. The details of our implementation are being developed, but in the meantime, there is no need to wait. Those of you, who are subject to deployment, owe yourselves and your families the commitment to maintain your fitness at the peak of your potential. To do less is to assume a needless risk that you will deploy and not be able to keep up with your shipmates. In a worst case scenario, that could be a life threatening risk for you and for those around you.

I know that a good percentage of the staff, military and civilian, are committed to personal fitness and I applaud each of you. For those of you who have not maintained your capability, I suggest you give that your thought and attention voluntarily. We will implement mandatory programs, but you will get maximum benefit by recognizing the good it will do you in terms of your health as well as the protection it may afford you should you be sent to a hostile environment.

Awards Ceremony (Continued)



SH3 Curtis A. Pulliam, USN, Travel Division, received his First Good Conduct Award. LCDR Robert S. Wright, MSC, USN, Director for Resources, made the presentation.



Sherri M. Aslakson, Industrial Hygiene, received her Ten-year Career Service Award. CAPT Michael E. Kilpatrick, MC, USN, Acting Commanding Officer, made the presentation.



Linda W. Rieger, Nursing Services, received her Fifteen-year Career Service Award. CDR Lynette R. Eidem, NC, USN, Associate Director, Nursing Services, made the presentation.

I believe this hospital excels at all of its mission tasks, and I know that as we focus on readiness issues we will meet our self-imposed standards of excellence. Fitness does not come easy, but once achieved, it is not hard to maintain given a positive attitude. Start slow, but do start. Good luck.