



February 1, 2008

Director's Message

The change is finally here -- as of today, the Operational Dress Uniform is the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region.

Congratulations to the following officers who were promoted today:

TO BE CAPTAIN:

Thomas E. Strong

TO BE COMMANDER:

Michael J. Hoshlyk

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. B. Kearse".

CAPT William B. Kearse, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

Announcements

PCS Reminder

Submit your NOAA Form 56-26 at least 150 days prior to your Permanent Change of Station so CPC can have your orders processed 120 days prior to the actual PCS. Thank you.

National Operations Center - Watchstanders Needed (Note phone extension change)

The NOAA Homeland Security Program Office in Silver Spring, MD is seeking 0-2 and higher ranking officers on assignments within the National Capital Region to serve as part time watch standers at the DOC NOAA Desk at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Operations Center (NOC) in Washington, DC.

The mission of the NOC is to integrate DHS and interagency planning and operations coordination in order to prevent, deter, protect, and respond to terrorists threats/attacks or threats from other man-made or natural disasters. The NOC is a 24x7, multi-agency operations center that collects all-threats and all-hazards information across the spectrum of federal, state, local, tribal, private-sector, and other key sources. Its mission is to be the primary national-level hub for domestic situational awareness, common operating picture, information fusion, information sharing, communications, and operations

coordination pertaining to the prevention of terrorist attacks and domestic incident management. The NOAA Desk is considered one of the critical department/agency desks within the NOC, providing a wide range of environmental information and forecasts from NOAA sources. The Desk is staffed by part-time watch standers from across line offices in the DC area, performed as a collateral duty, under the supervision of a senior desk officer on staff of the NOAA Homeland Security Program Office.

This opportunity provides an officer the chance to work in the Nation's premier interagency operational center where all federal departments and agencies are represented, to constantly maintain situational awareness of homeland security and all-hazards response across the nation. Exposure and visibility to senior officials in the Department of Homeland Security as well as other departments is provided. Volunteers are expected to be available for 1-2 eight hour day shifts per month, approved by their supervisor. Expansion beyond that availability is sought during times of crisis response at the NOC. Secret clearance is required. Training will be provided by the Senior Desk Officer.

Anyone interested in this opportunity should contact Captain Wade Blake at **301-713-3310 x129** or wade.blake@noaa.gov

Dental Appointment Information for Officers in the D.C. Area

Due to the recent deployments, Bethesda Naval Medical Center Dental Clinic currently has a shortage of staff. Therefore, they are often unable to provide follow-up dental services outside of the basic examination are currently referring patients to civilian dentists for follow-up care.

A Military Treatment facility (MTF) can refer NOAA Corps officers to a civilian dentist for specific procedures. Routine exams, cleanings and simple fillings do not require authorization. However, major dental services to include but not limited to; root canals, crowns, etc. require pre-authorization from LCDR Hobson-Powell prior to receiving services. Officers receiving dental care from a civilian dentist must present a copy of his/her uniformed services card to the provider. Please instruct the dental provider to submit billing information to: LCDR Hobson-Powell, NOAA/Medical Administration Branch, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The provider may also contact the Medical Administration Branch via phone for payment by credit card at 301-713-7718.

A FALLEN COMRADE

Captain Raymond M. Stone, NOAA (Ret.)

Captain Raymond M. Stone, NOAA (Ret.) December 26, 1914 - January 16, 2008 passed away quietly at his home in Piedmont, CA on the morning of January 16, 2008, shortly after reaching his 93rd birthday. Captain

Stone was born December 26, 1914 near Riverhurst, Saskatchewan, Canada. He graduated with honors from the University of California (at Berkeley) in June 1940, with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. On October 1, 1939, he was initiated as a member of the Chi Epsilon Fraternity, a National Honorary Civil Engineering Fraternity. He began federal service in the U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey, was appointed as a deck officer on December 16, 1940 and was commissioned as an ensign on December 16, 1941. During his career of 31+ years, Captain Stone served in 12 ship assignments, on the following ships: Lydonia, Marindin & Ogden, E. Lester Jones as Executive Officer, Hodgson as Executive Officer, Bowie as Executive Officer, Cowie as Executive Officer, Marmer as Commanding Officer, Explorer (2 tours) 1st as Junior Officer, then as Operations Officer and training officer, and Hydrographer (3 tours) 1st as Junior Officer, then later as senior watch officer, and then as Commanding Officer. During his 2nd tour of duty aboard the ship Explorer (1960-1961), he set up the Basic Officer Training Program and conducted the first 7 Basic Officer Training Classes. His other assignments included: geodesy parties; wire drag; CAA Liaison Officer; Assistant to the Chief, Chart Division; Assistant Chief and then Chief, Operations Division, Office of Hydrography & Oceanography; and then Associate Director, Office of Hydrography & Oceanography, and at the time of his retirement on March 31, 1972, he was serving as Director, West Coast Field Office, San Francisco, CA. While assigned at headquarters, he also served as a member of both the Officer Assignment Board and the Officer Personnel Board. During World War II, Captain Stone was awarded a Certificate of Service for honorably serving as a commissioned officer of the U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey, on projects for the Department of the Navy in areas determined by the Navy to be of immediate military hazard from December 7, 1941 to September 1, 1945. He also received the following awards: American Defense Service Ribbon with one Bronze Star, Atlantic War Zone Ribbon, and the Pacific War Zone Ribbon. Captain Stone was a lifetime member of the Retired Officer's Association and also a member of the Society of American Military Engineers. He was recently widowed by the passing of his loving wife of 20 years, Sue Mulborn-Stone. He is survived by his two sons Raymond W. Stone of Springfield, VA, and Edward M. Stone of Walnut Creek, CA; and one granddaughter, Jeanene L. Stone of Hagerstown, MD. Funeral Services will be held on February 5, 2008, 1:00 PM, at the Julia Morgan Chapel located at Chapel of the Chimes Funeral Home, 4499 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, CA 94611. Visitation and viewing will be February 4, 2008, from 5:00 PM until 8:00 PM.

Still Have Questions About the ODU?

The manual for the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) has been posted on-line and can be found at the following link:

http://www.noaaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/pdf/Operational_Dress_Uniform_Manual.pdf

This link, along with the ODU presentations located on the Commissioned Personnel Center (CPC) Home website, should help address some of the FAQ's about the ODU. In order to address some of the questions with the new uniform, officers from CPC have worn the ODU on recent trips to Kings Point, NY, MacDill AFB, FL, and Norfolk, VA.

Approved Retirements

The following officers have approved retirements. Be sure to thank them for their service to NOAA and nation and wish them the best the next time you see these officers!

CAPT Jon E. Rix	May 1, 2008
CAPT Stephen A. Kozak	May 1, 2008
CDR Julia N. Neander	May 1, 2008
CAPT Sean R. White	July 1, 2008
LCDR Stephen J. Thumm	July 1, 2008
CDR Thomas E. Strong	July 1, 2008
CAPT John W. Humphrey, Jr.	August 1, 2008

On the Horizon

Today The ODU is the prescribed uniform for all locations outside the National Capitol Region

February 17, 2008 Start date for BOTC 112

February 25, 2008 Start date for REFTRA 64

January-May, 2008 Billet Review

March 3-7, 2008 Selection Boards for O-6 to O-2

Please see NOAA Corps website for additional information:

Assignments: <http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/assignments.html>

Evaluations: <http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/evaluation.html>

Training: <http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/careermgmt/training.html>

Uniforms & Awards: <http://www.noaacorps.noaa.gov/cpc/perservices/awards.html>