



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

1430  
Ser 960/OU571059  
18 DEC 00

From: Chief of Naval Operations (N096)  
To: All Navy METOC Professionals

Subj: NAVIGATOR OF THE NAVY

1. The Chief of Naval Operations has recently designated the Oceanographer of the Navy as the "Navigator of the Navy." As the Navigator, I will serve as Navy's focal point for the development of technical standards for navigation plans, data standards, training, and navigation system certification.

2. Recent groundings and collisions undeniably show a need for a single coordinated policy focusing on improving navigation and facilitating a transition to electronic navigation. Viewing navigation as a subset of Geospatial Information and Services (GI&S), our METOC community is uniquely positioned and has the expertise to assist our warfighting brethren in improving navigation and facilitating a transition to more advanced navigation systems and procedures.

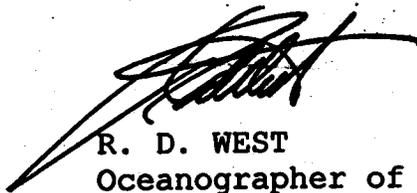
3. To ensure success, we will further develop our GI&S core competency and focus it on supporting Navigation. We are working with National Imagery and Mapping College (NIMC) and the METOC Detailers to cycle our Senior AG's and Officers through GI&S training. We are working with Naval Postgraduate School to invigorate GI&S education at the graduate level. Additionally, CNMOC has established a training pipeline through an International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) Certification course in conjunction with the University of Southern Mississippi to further bolster our community expertise in Hydrography

4. I expect the METOC professional to assist the warfighter with all GI&S and navigation issues. I do not expect every METOC officer to be an expert on GI&S and navigation, however I expect each officer to actively engage GI&S issues as an information broker. A list of GI&S and Navigation points of contact will be distribute to assist you as GI&S issues arise. Use your points of contacts aggressively to work your GI&S and navigation issues. Additionally, to provide each METOC officers with a basic understanding of GI&S and navigation, I have asked CNMOC

Subj: NAVIGATOR OF THE NAVY

to coordinate with NIMC in developing a GI&S Primer for METOC Officers to be delivered at each regional center by Jul 01.

5. The future of Naval METOC support is inexorably linked to GI&S and delivering a four dimensional cube of environmental and navigation data to the warfighter. As we move forward and expand our community's responsibilities, we enter a challenging and exciting time. It is a proud time to be a METOC professional in the United States Navy.



R. D. WEST  
Oceanographer of the Navy