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

IN REPLY REFER TO
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17 May 02

Dear Colleagues:

Over the last six weeks, I have written you about the progress of our Strategic Plan. One of the most exciting facets of our progress is the involvement of chaplains and Religious Program Specialists around the world. Their creativity and vision is inspirational, and the work being done sets a strong foundation for our Corps for years to come.

In this last letter on the Strategic Plan, I shall address the progress of Priorities Seven and Eight. Although these priorities are smaller in scope, both are critical to our ministries.

The theme of Priority Seven is "enhance external and internal communications" and is being coordinated by CAPT Alan Keiran. Progress under this initiative includes "partnering with key military and civilian persons to tell them the Navy Chaplain Corps story," and "developing and implementing an internal communications strategy."

There are two initiatives under this priority, both under the leadership of CDR (Sel) Mark Steiner. The focus of Initiative 7.1 is to "develop and implement a public affairs strategy at all levels." Most notably, since 11 September, the Chaplain Corps has partnered with key military and civilian agencies to tell the Navy Chaplain Corps story. Initiative 7.2 focuses on the "development and implementation of an internal communications strategy." Significant developments within this initiative include a new electronic newsletter, "*Throughout and Beyond*," weekly Letters to the Corps, and conversion of "*The Navy Chaplain*" to an online publication.

CAPT (Sel) Shelia Robertson and her staff at the Chaplain Resource Branch are overseeing Priority Eight: "leverage technology to support the mission." Developments include a newly designed and user-friendly Chaplain Corps website (www.chaplain.navy.mil), the placement of the Coast Guard informational link on the CHC web site, and the purchase of

video equipment to develop video streaming links on the web site.

Cutting edge technology enhances dynamic ministry by providing critical ministry resources to religious ministry teams (RMTs) ashore and afloat while helping "tell the story" of what RMTs are doing Navy-wide.

Priorities within the Strategic Plan help to keep us on course today while preparing for tomorrow. Your faithful participation and creative leadership will make for a successful Strategic Plan,implementation but more importantly make a difference in the lives of the men and women we are called to serve.

Fraternally,

Barry C. Black

BARRY C. BLACK
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