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

IN REPLY REFER TO
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Dear Colleagues,

We will fulfill our vows to you, for you answer our prayers. Psalm 65

God answers prayer. Yes, He really does. Last year I asked all chaplains to pray that God would send a full harvest of new chaplains to join our ministry in the Sea Services. God granted your requests - and more! I am excited to announce that 80 new chaplains have been added this year and we have fully met our recruiting goals. Moreover, this success comes three months before the end of our recruiting year! God is gracious indeed.

Our new recruits didn't mystically appear *ex nihilo* in full uniform ready for military service. Our recruiters logged tens of thousands of miles, visited hundreds of seminaries, colleges, and church conferences, sent thousands of e-mails and spent endless hours on the phone being pastors and friends. They distributed informational material by every conceivable means as they searched for the very best candidates. They persevered and did not grow weary in well doing.

In addition, countless Navy Recruiting Command team members worked long, hard hours preparing and mailing literature and ensuring paper work was done properly and on time to support the effort. You, too, came alongside providing leads, referrals and your own time and energy. By laboring together and trusting God's faithfulness we have been blessed with 52 civilians gaining direct commission, 15 reservists being recalled, and 13 CCPOs superceding to active duty service with the Navy Chaplain Corps.

Best of all, it is not over yet. The recruiters are still working numerous packages for FY03. Keep the press on - everybody!

Please set aside 1 July 2002 as a Day of Prayer for the Navy Chaplain Corps. Give thanks for God's faithfulness and the labors of the entire recruiting team - Chaplains Gary Carr, Vince Arnold, Michael Parisi, Kimberley Sawatsky, Herb Griffin, Brent Johnson, Heinz Malon and RP1 Jimmie Smith. I urge you to plan time with your staff and others to thank God for granting this rich blessing.

As you have opportunity, say thank you to our recruiting team for their labors. Continue to pray without ceasing that the "Lord of the Harvest" will continue to strengthen our entire Corps for the sake of his people and his kingdom.

Sincerely,

Barry C. Black

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, CHC, U. S. Navy
Chief of Chaplains