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

IN REPLY REFER TO
1730
Ser N097/00261
DEC 8 2000

Dear Colleagues:

Recently, Chaplain Jay Magness, Master Chief Darnell, Senior Chief Hutchins and I participated in underway operations on the maiden deployment of USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75). It may be the first time a Chief of Chaplains, Fleet Chaplain, Senior Enlisted Advisor and Fleet RP have deployed together. This experience enabled us to see the exciting and life-transforming work of the Command Chaplain, Captain Jesse Tate, and his incredible Religious Ministry Team. I participated in two uplifting prayer breakfasts, led a leadership symposium for the Chiefs Mess, listened to the joys and concerns of Sailors, and learned how chaplains and RPs can better serve those at sea and their family members. The Commanding Officer, Captain David Logsdon, asked me to offer the evening prayer from the bridge—what a country! God willing, at least quarterly, I will be underway to listen and learn.

These are exciting times to be a Navy Chaplain, Religious Program Specialist or Chaplain's Assistant. God is blessing our Chaplain Corps with new applicants for accession, favor with senior leadership, positive media coverage, and opportunities to meet your endorsing agents face-to-face. In the next two weeks, eleven prospective active-duty chaplains will be interviewed by the CARE board. Your referrals, visits to seminaries and prayers are bearing fruit. Please keep up the good work and continue to pray for the Chaplain Corps recruiters working diligently to access quality clergy-persons onto active duty.

Our senior leadership has affirmed our vision and focus of effort. Admirals Clark, Fallon, and Loy, as well as General Jones, have pledged their support in our effort to meet the free exercise needs of Sea Services people and their families.

The media has most favorably presented Chaplain Corps success stories to the public. Their focus is on your faithful ministry as God's agents of transformation. Please share positive articles about your ministry so I may share them with CNO, CMC and Commandant, USCG. If you would provide articles to your claimant or Service chaplains, they will forward the information to me.

At the 5 and 6 December National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces annual meeting here in DC, I briefed your endorsers on our Corps' vision, mission, guiding principles, community management and other vital initiatives. Many endorsers expressed their appreciation for the candidness of our presentation so expertly crafted by my Training Division and front office staff. They were especially pleased to hear about our commitment to prayer and our monthly Chaplain Corps-wide day of prayer.

Our next Chaplain Corps-wide day of prayer and fasting will be 21 December. Please set aside some time to pray for our Nation and its leadership, the Sea Services, our RMTs and of course, those you serve. Expect God to answer your prayers. Thank you for all you are and all you do everyday. God Bless you.

Fraternally,

Barry C. Black

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