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

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Dear Colleagues,

We continue to serve God and you, gratified by unfolding providence. Chaplain Iasiello, Chaplain Bigger and I continue to participate in PDTCs and travel to listen and learn.

I just returned from Coast Guard Training Center (CGTC), Cape May, New Jersey, and a wonderful visit with Commanding Officer, Captain Sally Brice-O'Hara, and her chaplain, Commander Derek Ross. I appreciate Chaplain Ross' commitment to quality ministry and offer my sincere thanks to Seaman Beedle who drove Chaplain Ross and me for four hours through a blinding snowstorm so I could get home.

Returning from Cape May, I was privileged to speak at Marine Corps Base Quantico and Howard University Divinity School. These visits allowed me to talk with, and give recruiting materials to, people interested in the Chaplain Corps. Chaplain Corps recruiting remains a challenge—we need your continued support. Recruiters can't do it all. If your military ministry has been rewarding—tell your story! Remember: *Every* Chaplain and RP is a recruiter.

Next, I flew to San Diego to launch the Manpower Realignment Policy Development Work Group. This group labored to define an acceptable and achievable policy on cooperative and collaborative ministry. Currently, operational units are under served. In fact, many deployed units have no religious ministry support team at all. To address this problem, shore installation staffing standards will be updated. I'm proud of this group's work; they've embodied cooperation and teamwork preparing us for a productive future. Without their work, no manpower realignment can take place.

And now, back in DC, we continue preparations for the Senior Leadership Conference (SLC) 2001. This conference will provide an opportunity to confirm our Corps' strategic direction. The conference theme, "*UNDERWAY: Serving God's People in the 21st Century*," indicates the vision, mission and guiding principles of our innovative, life-transforming ministry to Sea Services people. Pray that SLC 2001 will be profitable for the entire Chaplain/RP community.

God bless you.

In His Service,

Barry C. Black

BARRY C. BLACK
Rear Admiral, CHC, U.S. Navy