

ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

ROUTINE

R 071832Z AUG 00 ZYB MIN PSN 770760J27

FM CNO WASHINGTON DC//N1//

TO NAVADMIN

UNCLAS //N05350//

NAVADMIN 202/00

MSGID/GENADMIN/PERS-60//

SUBJ/RIGHT SPIRIT CAMPAIGN//

RMKS/1. NAVY CONTINUES TO BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF REDUCING ALCOHOL ABUSE WHICH ULTIMATELY HAS AN EFFECT ON READINESS. WE HAVE SEEN ALCOHOL ABUSE INCIDENTS DROP FROM 6,815 IN 1996 TO LESS THAN 4,000 IN 1999. DWI INCIDENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED FROM 1,795 IN 1996 TO 983 IN 1999. WE LOST 17 SAILORS TO ALCOHOL RELATED MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES IN 1999, THE LOWEST IN MORE THAN 10 YEARS.

2. WE KNOW OUR SUCCESS IN CONTINUING THE REDUCTION OF ALCOHOL ABUSE IN NAVY HAS NOT OCCURRED OVERNIGHT. IT HAS TAKEN A CONCERTED EFFORT BY ALL HANDS SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE DRINKING AND THE CONCEPT THAT IT'S OK NOT TO DRINK, FROM THE DECKPLATES TO SENIOR LEADERSHIP. THESE SIGNIFICANT RESULTS ARE A PRODUCT OF NAVY'S RIGHT SPIRIT CAMPAIGN.

3. RIGHT SPIRIT HAS BEEN AND REMAINS THE CORNERSTONE OF NAVY'S ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION CAMPAIGN, AND IS KEY TO NAVY'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO REDUCING THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE ON READINESS. WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE, BUT OUR WORK IS NOT FINISHED. CONTINUED SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS TO DATE REQUIRES ACTIVE SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT OF ALL HANDS. ULTIMATELY EACH SAILOR MAKES A PERSONAL DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO DRINK; AND, IF THEY DO SO, THEY KNOW THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO DRINK RESPONSIBLY. RESPONSIBLE DRINKING MEANS THE RIGHT PLACE, THE RIGHT QUANTITY, AND THE RIGHT TIME. ANYTHING LESS THAN THIS CREATES UNNECESSARY AND UNWANTED RISK. NAVY LEADERS MUST ENSURE ALL HANDS KNOW THE CONSEQUENCES OF IRRESPONSIBLE DRINKING AND MUST SUPPORT THOSE WHO CHOOSE NOT TO DRINK. SAILORS WITH REPEAT

INCIDENTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE MISCONDUCT WILL BE APPROPRIATELY DISCIPLINED AND PROCESSED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SEPARATION.

4. SEVERAL INITIATIVES ARE ON THE HORIZON TO HELP US CONTINUE THE DOWNTREND OF ABUSE. THESE INCLUDE A NEW RIGHT SPIRIT VIDEO FOR OFFICER ACCESSION TRAINEES, REVISED EDUCATION COURSES, TV COMMERCIALS SUPPORTING RIGHT SPIRIT BEAMED TO SHIPS AT SEA, WEB-BASED TRAINING TO PUT MORE FLEXIBILITY IN COMMANDING OFFICER HANDS, AND NEW RIGHT SPIRIT MARKETING TOOLS FOR COMMAND DAPAS. WHILE PROGRAMMATIC IMPROVEMENTS WILL HELP, IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE, AT ALL LEVELS, THAT ALCOHOL ABUSE HARMS READINESS AND TODAY'S NAVY CANNOT AFFORD THAT. WE FULLY INTEND TO CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY ABUSE AND DEPENDENCY PROBLEMS, PROVIDE TREATMENT AND RESTORE INDIVIDUALS TO FULL DUTY UPON COMPLETION OF PRESCRIBED TREATMENT, EDUCATION AND INTERVENTION. WE ALSO FULLY INTEND TO BE FREE OF THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ABUSE ON FORCE READINESS. TO DO THIS REQUIRES A COMMITMENT ON YOUR PART AND EMPHASIS TO SUBORDINATES.

5. I WANT TO REEMPHASIZE TO ALL HANDS, OUR COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHT SPIRIT CAMPAIGN AND RESPONSIBLE DRINKING IN TODAY'S NAVY. LEADERSHIP, EDUCATION, AND INTOLERANCE OF THOSE WHO ABUSE ALCOHOL WILL CONTINUE TO ENHANCE EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE ALCOHOL ABUSE IN OUR NAVY. SHARE YOUR INITIATIVES, SUCCESSES, AND CHALLENGES WITH US.

6. POC IN THIS MATTER IS MR. MIKE BEECH, PERS-602, AT (901) 874-4500/DSN 882 OR E-MAIL: P602@PERSNET.NAVY.MIL.

7. RELEASED BY VADM N. R. RYAN, JR., N1.//

BT

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