

Hall, Kim

From: McPherson, Victor
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2003 1:42 PM
To: Hall, Kim
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----

From: M. SHERMAN BLISS [mailto:sigma@nccn.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2003 5:34 AM
To: McPherson, Victor
Subject: Re:

Vic and Kim, I think there is some confusion between the organization, known as NIS after Feb 66, and the overhead headquarters structure known first as the Naval Security and Investigative Command and later as the Naval Investigative and Service Command. NIS, per se, has only had three name changes, i.e., ONI (Security Division), NIS, and NCIS.

Some editorial comments/suggestions:

1947, per the Delimitations Agreement, by Presidential directive, only the FBI and the Navy, Army, and Air Force were authorized to conduct investigations of sabotage, espionage and subversion.

1981, NIS granted major claimant (Echelon 2) status.

1966, the Naval Investigative Service was established in response to a DOD initiative that the Navy should have a single agency with the principal responsibility of conducting criminal investigations. (Note: From that date on "counterintelligence" investigations were conducted focusing on the violation of criminal law involved.) NIS Field Offices (NISFO's) were established concurrently replacing District Intelligence Offices and the District Intelligence Officer, now designated CO of the NISFO, reported to the Director, NIS, vice the Naval District Commandant. (A monumental change)

1982 (recommend delete all after "in an effort..." due to the complicated explanation required.)

.....
 Note: Although I cannot pinpoint dates, in my view, the really significant developments in the history of what became the NIS/NCIS were the retention of civilian agents at the end of WWII, - along with the conversion of some active duty Naval officers to civilian agents - the subsequent and continued expansion of that civilian agent corps, the transformation of the Security Division of ONI and the District Intelligence Offices into a unified command with centralized control and lines of command, along with standardized policy and procedures.

Another note, although it might sound like I think my ox is being gored, I believe it inappropriate to identify certain later directors such as Nedrow and Brant, for whom I have the greatest respect, without identifying the several others who contributed significantly to the development of the organization, e.g., Jack Lynch, Earl Richey, myself, Bert Truxell, Charlie Lannom, Brian McKee, etc. Rather than identifying any one or two, I would recommend depersonalization and simply omit names.

I am sending a copy of this to Earl Richey for whom I also have great respect to afford him a special opportunity to comment on my failing memory and add his won. I

Best wishes in this effort, Sherm Bliss

10/2/2003