

NCIS BULLETIN

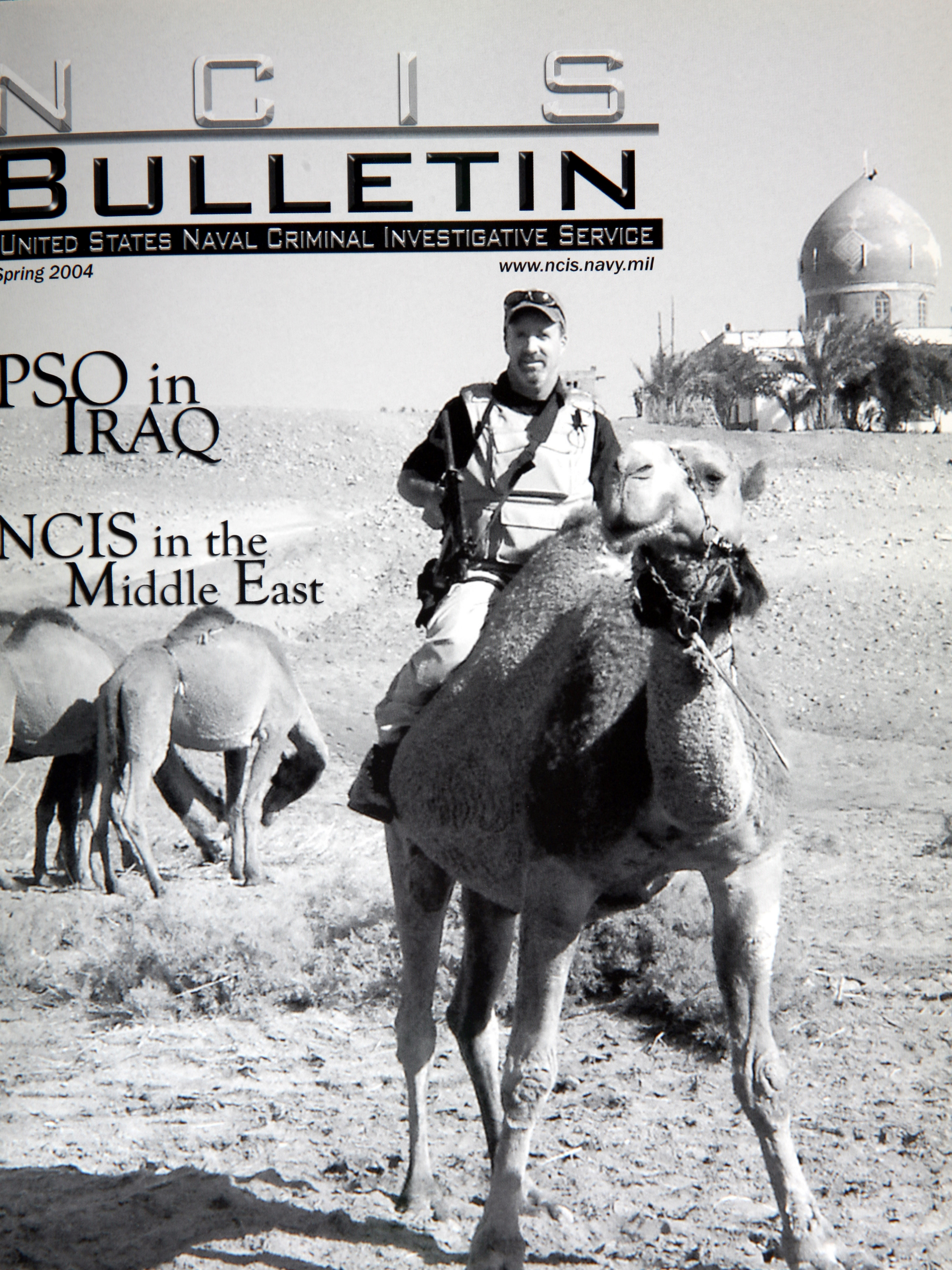
UNITED STATES NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

Spring 2004

www.ncis.navy.mil

PSO in
IRAQ

NCIS in the
Middle East





Bulletin

SPRING 2004



- 2 **A Few Days with the PSO in Iraq**
- 9 **Afghanistan, Sun, Sand and CITF**
- 14 **NCIS in the Middle East**
- 19 **Memorial to Kylan Jones-Huffman**
- 20 **NCIS Goes Hollywood**

- 26 **The NCIS Reorganization**
- 28 **2004 Retirements**
- 29 **Plank Owners**
- 30 **MTAC**
- 32 **NCIS Adopts New Logo**

Cover Photo: SSA Matt Butler tests his skills on a camel.

Director of Communications
Thomas F. Houston
Bulletin Editor
Sara P. Johnson
Bulletin Design & Layout
Janet Reynolds
Contributing Editor
Paul T. O'Donnell

The *Bulletin* is your tool for exchanging information, and your input is essential. Please feel free to contact me at:
(202) 433-9624
(202) 433-0904 (fax)
sajohnso@ncis.navy.mil

There is a need for enhancing communications between Headquarters and the field elements of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). We satisfy this need and increase our effectiveness in serving the Department of the Navy by selectively publishing information of interest to the members of the NCIS. This *Bulletin* is intended for use by all members of NCIS.



from Director David Grant

In February, I traveled to Kuwait, Baghdad and Bahrain with Navy General Counsel Mora and CIFA Director Burt to meet with CPA Ambassador Paul Bremer, the NCIS PSO and CI teams and other personnel for some informative briefings about the NCIS mission in the Middle East. I also had the honor of being present for the ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the new Middle East Field Office (MEFO) facility.

Despite the intensity of the environment, which was described by some as “surreal,” the importance of the mission was clearly understood by our people, and morale was high. The trip made a lasting impression upon me, and I left with a strong sense of pride for the selfless dedication and commitment of our people during this momentous period in history.

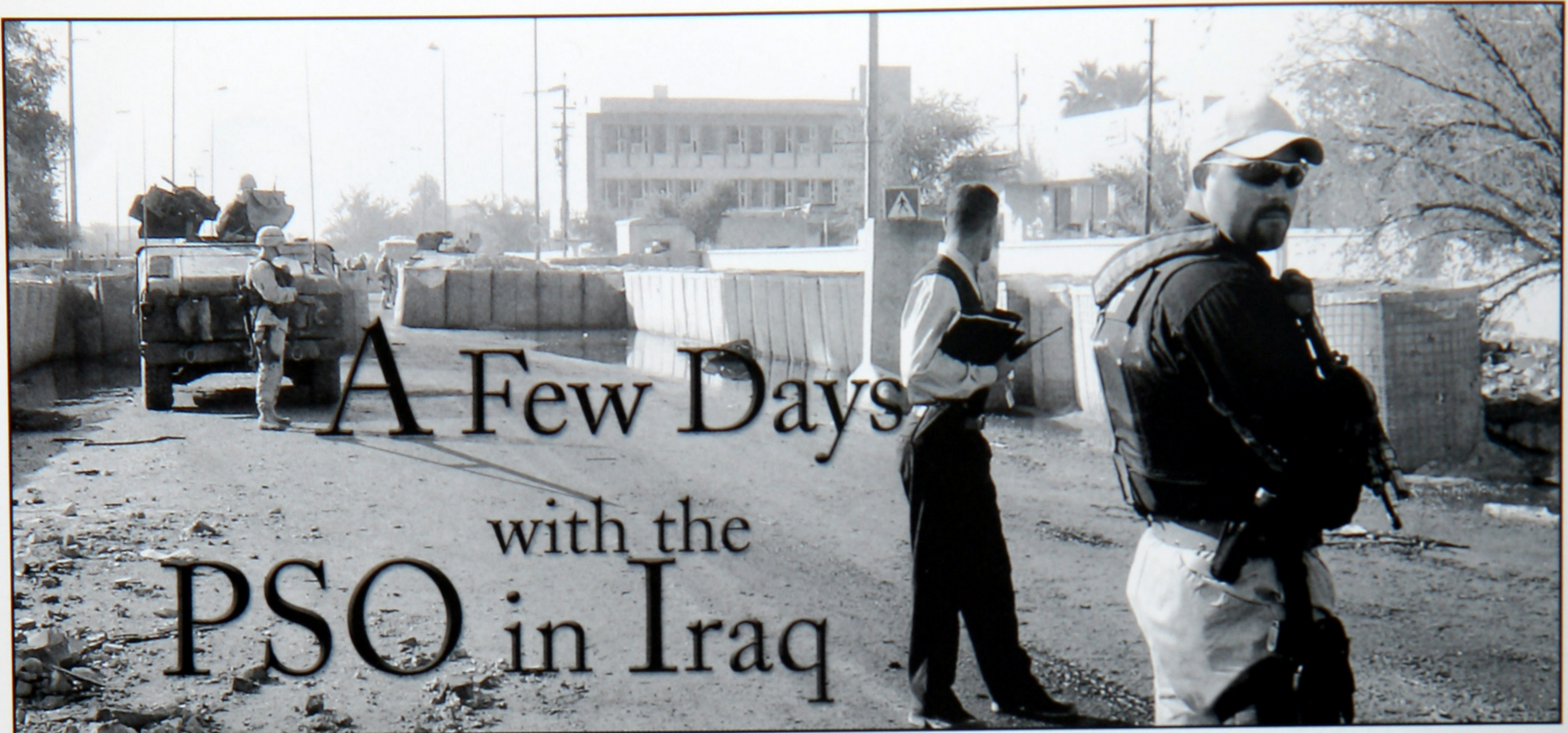
The NCIS presence in Iraq and throughout the world is a reminder of how our mission has expanded as we address the war on terror. The demand for our services and expertise has never been greater. As part of the DoD capability, we have partnered with our foreign and domestic counterparts to support a spectrum of diverse missions: the Criminal Investigation Task Force and participation on the Joint Terrorism Task Forces to name a few. Our resources are stretched to their very limit. This new operating environment calls for flexibility, adaptability and increased accountability from everyone involved. It is a reflection of the character

of NCIS personnel that the vast majority of these TDY assignments have been filled by volunteers.

This is an extraordinary time to be part of the NCIS family. In our agency’s history, there has never been more recognition and appreciation—both internally and externally—for what we do. NCIS senior staff have regular contact with the highest levels of leadership within the Department of the Navy who understand and value our mission. Our visibility is at an all-time high due to a number of factors, including the popularity of the TV series “Navy NCIS.” With such a strong spotlight focused on our agency, we cannot afford to fail in carrying out our mission.

Our agency is responding to the challenges that face us by undergoing a transformation that is making us stronger and more effective. To reflect this transformation, we recently adopted a new logo that is pictured on this page (see article on page 32), and a completely new external NCIS website is soon to be launched.

The demands upon NCIS employees are diverse and necessitate professionalism, timeliness and thoroughness as we go about our day-to-day responsibilities. No longer is the traditional, reactive law enforcement model adequate given the complex and increasingly blurred terrorist, intelligence and criminal threats to our Navy/Marine Corps Team. Thank you for your continuing extraordinary efforts to fulfill the NCIS mission.



By Special Agent Terry L. Moreau, EUNA

Editor's note: SA Moreau was a member of the Protective Service Operation in Iraq from November 2003 to February 2004. Here is his first-hand account of that challenging assignment.

Life as a Protective Service Operations (PSO) member in Iraq is almost like life anywhere else: there are emotional ups and downs, boredom and busy work, periods of laughter and moments of danger. The difference is that in Iraq, intensities are multiplied, and relief is months away. Every detail member with a pulse is on duty with all equipment ready and operational 24 hours a day. It is a job that demands heavy concentration and quick decisions. When I was there, the team consisted of eight Special Agents: Rob Terwilliger, Michael Lanasa, Matt Ashton, Nick Wellein, Jonathan Robbins, Omar Lopez, SSA Matt Butler, and me.

There is no routine day. A lot of the precious down time is consumed by maintaining vehicles and weapons, exercise and an occasional movie and beer. The schedule is always subject to change. The only thing to count on each day is that there will most likely be a movement—and often more than one.

We work seven days a week protecting Mr. Michael Gfoeller, the Regional Coordinator for the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) South-Central Region. In terms of geography, his area of responsibility is the largest in Iraq — from Wasit province bordering Iran to the east, to Al Anbar province bordering Jordan to the west. We frequent

Ramadi, Fallujah, Najaf, Kabala and Diwaniyah, and call Hillah home. It can never be said that Mr. Gfoeller is a prisoner in his own compound, and so by extension, neither are we.

That is part of the reason why South-Central has been a political success. Five of the six provinces in the region are predominately Shiite, with only Al-Anbar province, home to Ramadi and Fallujah, containing mostly Sunni Muslims. Infrastructure varies widely. There are some relatively modern roads and buildings, but there are mostly mud huts and open sewers. Mr. Gfoeller's emphasis on grass-roots contacts and taking a personal role in many CPA projects means that he's a frequent flyer of "NCIS Air." All indications are that he is happy with his NCIS detail. He recently said, "I have never seen the equal of this PSO for professionalism and grit."

Travel from Kuwait to Al-Hillah

Following eight months of continuous service in Iraq, Mr. Gfoeller was finally able to leave the Middle East for a short vacation and consultations in Washington, DC. After dropping him off at the airport in Kuwait City, the team secured some equipment and prepared for the grueling drive from Kuwait City to Hillah. After all, the acting Regional Coordinator, Ambassador Hume Horan, needed a security detail as well.

At a military checkpoint just south of the border, we fueled the Suburbans and got the latest

intelligence on our route to Hillah. There was bad news. Dutch intelligence reported a credible threat of attacks along the primary artery we use to get to Hillah. Military Police had shut down the route and were diverting traffic up Highway 1, the modern highway that connects southeastern Iraq with Baghdad.

From the looks of the map, it would be an easy drive; the six-lane divided highway would almost take us to Hillah's back door. Why, we wondered, had we not wanted to take this route in the first place?

Crossing the border into Iraq would be like traveling back in time were it not for the refrigerators and other modern merchandise lined along the road as if being introduced to Iraqi consumers. Kuwait City, merely one and a half hours to the south, parades wealth unimaginable to many Americans, let alone Arabs. Yet only a few feet north of the border, Iraqi children wait beside mud huts begging for scraps of food or bottles of water. Dirty, tattered clothes, and hunger, however, cannot conceal the enthusiasm the

children have for incoming coalition vehicles. Wide smiles and "thumbs ups" usually accompany the children's begging.

Driving north, things quickly go south. Within a few kilometers, the scars of the coalition invasion are evident. Charred tanks and armored personnel carriers dot the roadsides, but there are far fewer than one would expect. It seems that the rank and file Iraqi military made at least one rational decision in this area at the war's beginning: they ran.

Giving company to charred armor, however, are coalition and civilian vehicles apparently destroyed by the infamous Improvised Explosive Devices (IED). Occasionally, tractor-trailers, now a normal sight along Iraq's highways, appear on the side of the road damaged by IEDs then destroyed by looters. What are more common on the highways though are spots of blackened, chopped asphalt randomly appearing in a lane as evidence of an IED detonation.

On both sides of the road, one finds absolute desolation. The landscape looks the same in all



The PSO Team posing at the Military Parade Ground in Baghdad. Pictured from left to right: SA Omar Lopez, SA Rob Terwilliger, SA Terry Moreau, SSA Matt Butler, SA Matt Ashton, SA Michael Lanasa, SA Nick Wellein, and SA Jonathan Robbins.

directions: flat, sandy and dead. The wind sometimes lifts fine grains of sand across our path. Older maps of this region refer to this area as the “marshlands” of southern Iraq. On the trip down, Mr. Gfoeller had told us how Saddam, in his hatred for the Shiites, had diverted the water flow that fed this region so that the Shiites and their land died of thirst. “Just twenty-five years ago,” he said, “This used to look like the Florida Everglades. Now mothers send their children out to beg passers-by for water.”

Two hours up Highway 1, it became clear why the alternate route should be the last resort. What



SA Omar Lopez in front of the police station in Al-Hidaria.

had been a smooth, four-lane divided highway suddenly alternated between bumpy dirt roads and small strips of asphalt that were announced by enormous thuds as the vehicles found them in the blinding dust. Visibility was reduced to 15 feet. The dust clouded the eyes and choked the lungs of everyone in the rear vehicle. Oncoming convoys of supply trucks led by Humvees suddenly appeared, as did civilians who looked at us with unwelcome eyes from the side of the road.

Along the highway, overpasses appeared out of nowhere, some fully constructed, but most only partially complete. A lot of the overpasses here permit only single or double lane roads to cross the main

highway – there are no entrance or exit ramps except those created by drivers’ meager disobedience in an authoritarian, pre-liberation Iraq. Even more odd, though, are the overpasses that have no road, but merely cross over the highway from west to east. It seems that for the regime, road construction was dedicated to moving Saddam’s army to Kuwait and Iran.

An hour south of Hillah, the convoy stopped at a US Army checkpoint for a short breather and inspection of the chase vehicle’s tires which had been especially tested by the road conditions. One of the rear tires had a fist-sized bulge developing on the side of the tread. The team needed a judgment call. Change the tire now in the relative safety of the checkpoint, or try to make it to Hillah before darkness fell and diminished our safety.

We decided to continue ahead and hope that the tire would hold out. By now the sun was fast setting and the cool desert air was taking its toll on the “shooters in the chase” (agents in the last vehicle of the motorcade whose responsibility it is to engage threats). Moreover, the short bench seat – built especially to accommodate shooters covering the sides and rear of the convoy – was taking its toll on two unfortunate posteriors.

As the last ray of sunlight vanished from the horizon, we finally reached Hillah. Our bodies were stiff, and our minds were exhausted. At least two behinds were totally numb. Before food or showers, though, we prepped the equipment for the next day’s movements, whatever they might be. Breaking away to respective rooms, the voiced consensus about the route we had taken was simple: never again.

The Ramadi Run and Return

Movements to Ar-Ramadi have never been the favorites of Hillah-based PSOs. Even an uneventful drive to Ramadi is hard. The drive takes a little less than two hours, the longest of our “routine” movements, taking the convoy past the southern and western sides of Baghdad, past Fallujah, and deeper into the so-called Sunni Triangle. Always alert, this particular movement just seems to drain everyone.

One of the previous team's jaunts to the western city was interrupted by a mortar attack on the building in which Mr. Gfoeller was having a meeting. On the first trip, our convoy was halted by Military Police who were clearing an IED from the opposing lanes. A few members could see over the



SAs Ashton and Wellein keep watch outside a private home in Karbala.

top of the guard rail to watch the Army robot carry away a 10-inch cylinder topped with black tar.

The ride this day, however, was exceptionally smooth. It helped to see two low-flying Apache helicopters patrolling our route. Ambassador Horan, filling in for Mr. Gfoeller, was ready to depart Camp Champion — home of the 82nd Airborne Division in Iraq — early enough to be in Hillah around sunset. Camp Champion is located in one of Saddam's former palaces on the Euphrates in the city of Ramadi. Like the ride to Ramadi, the return trip was uneventful. After dropping off the Ambassador, the team readied the equipment for the next day and started filing into the dining hall.

At about 1745, two deep cracks split the air over the compound. Folks began scrambling in different directions and someone in the dining hall yelled, "mortar attack!". SSA Matt Butler weaved through the scrambling bodies out of the dining hall toward the principal's office, where he found another agent securing the Ambassador in the office bathroom. The remaining team members arrived soon thereafter

or were directed elsewhere by SSA Butler.

Because the detail had the only available night vision goggles in the compound, Special Agent Jonathan Robbins accompanied the Ghurkas defending the base to provide any intelligence not seen by the naked eye. Special Agent Wellein, whose room and gear are outside the main compound building, reported to the team and the principal seeing incoming small arms fire from across the river. Much of the immediate information obtained by the Ambassador came from NCIS agents who had first-hand accounts of the attack as well as the means to communicate them directly to the Ambassador in his safe location.

While Ambassador Horan donned an NCIS vest and helmet, two more loud cracks boomed near the compound. Machine-gun emplacements around the compound periodically returned fire, which echoed through the building's concrete walls. Despite the bustle around him, though, the Ambassador calmly commented about the weight of the vest (about 40 pounds) and the thrill of the excitement around him. He loved the fact that his vest said "POLICE" across the front, and took a minute to pose for a photo. He remarked that he wished his son, an FBI agent, could see him now.

The commotion was over as soon as it began. The after-action conference revealed that the rounds had overshot the compound and landed on a nearby farm and schoolhouse. Everyone was happy with the detail's performance. Within a couple of weeks, the detail had a large office beside the principal.



SA Nick Wellein keeps watch in Karbala.

Last Minute Run to the ASP

This was supposed to be a quiet day. Ambassador Horan had planned to spend an administrative day around the compound until, at the morning staff meeting, someone mentioned that an abandoned Iraqi military base was a few miles north. With less than 20 minutes notice, the team was awake, geared up and ready for the ride.

A few miles north of the CPA compound sits a decrepit, bombed military base — thousands of meters of flat, dusty desert broken by countless mounds of rubble that used to be ammunition bunkers. While some bunkers and hangars remained intact, coalition aircraft or missiles had destroyed the majority during the war. The unintended consequence, it seems, was to shower the desert floor with unexploded ordnance. To the detail, the base was a danger. To a terrorist, it is a shopper's paradise.

The Iraqi guards protecting the abandoned base were well-intentioned, but clearly unprepared to protect the expansive former base. Two guards guided the motorcade along the safe route between crushed bunkers and roadside ordnance. The role of the PSO is to provide wise counsel to the principal about safety, but Ambassador Horan chose to visit the base, so we provided the protection.

The Ambassador wanted to see the contents of a small brick building off the primary road, so we



SA Matt Ashton steadies Ambassador Horan as they walk through an abandoned munitions area. SA Mike Lanasa leads the way.



SSA Matt Butler posing with local children.

dismounted and walked gingerly through the dirt. Everywhere one looked was ordnance: mortar rounds, grenades, and artillery shells. Special Agent Matt Ashton grabbed the back of the boss' vest to secure him lest he stray from the cleared path ahead.

The building was stacked with crates of weaponry. One room was full of rocket-propelled grenades, another full of mortar rounds. This is not uncommon, a US Army colonel explained to Ambassador Horan. There are abandoned bases like this scattered all over the country. "The Marines did a study on this," the colonel continued. "If we were to gather this country's entire ordnance into one pile and destroy 600,000 pounds a day, it would take us seven years to finish the job."

The Best Possible News

On this day, Mr. Gfoeller's schedule called for lunch at a farm outside of Kifl, south of Hillah. It would be our second visit to a remote, one-room building in the middle of a date palm grove.

Our first visit here was memorable, not only because it was the full team's first movement after arriving in Iraq, but also because of the gastronomic duel between SSA Butler and Special Agent Wellein. The hosts had brought a tray of food out for the team to eat. A full sheep's head rested atop a wide bed of white rice. After a few dares and a monetary commitment, Butler and Wellein each plucked an eyeball from the head, chewed, swallowed and kept it down. Neither got sick, and both earned their money.

This day's drive into farm area seemed different than last time. The Iraqi people seemed less inclined to wave or smile, something sensed by the principal who commented on the public malaise.

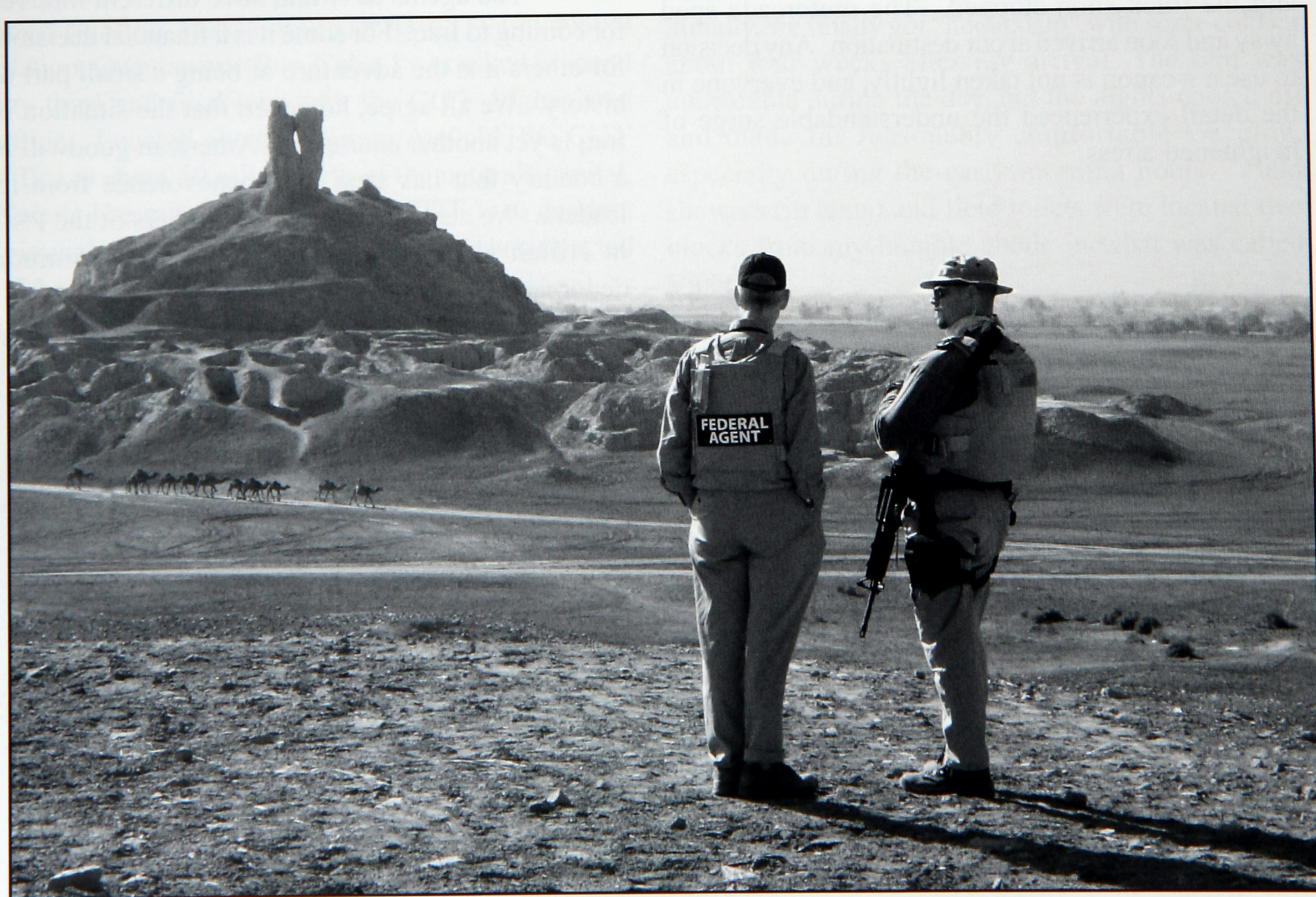
Dinner started shortly after our arrival, and the team posted outside the small building. After a few minutes, gunshots could be heard in the distance. By now, this did not necessarily alarm us.

Iraqi police officers assured us that there was

nothing to be concerned about. First, they said, there was a wedding celebration nearby. Then the story was that there was a police range in the vicinity. Within a few minutes, however, the gunfire started getting closer and was now coming from all directions. Before long, the sky was erupting. The town mayor ran out of the small building and ordered the police to investigate. Now we were concerned.

Three police officers crammed into the cab of a small truck and sped off toward town. Within a couple of minutes they came racing back, one holding his wrists together and saying, "Saddam!" At first we thought they were saying that Saddam loyalists were coming. Then the haze of confusion lifted after a translator explained that Saddam had been captured! Soon the lunch guests poured from the building to take photos, offer congratulations and fire a few rounds into the air.

On the ride out of the farm area that afternoon, we witnessed an amazing turnaround in public disposition. Children and even women (unusual for this culture) ran to the road to clap and give us a



Ambassador Hume Horan and SA Matt Ashton chat while admiring the view of the Tower of Babel.

“thumbs-up.” Some of the men on the road held their wrists together—to mimic handcuffs—while others danced and clapped at the sight of the American convoy. Even in this remote area, where electricity is sporadic and running water is poured from a can, good news travels fast.

The Contrasts of Iraq

One “down” afternoon, with no movements planned, the team decided to travel to the nearby Tower of Babel for a group photo. However, as luck would have it, the principal caught wind of the plan and wanted to go along. The afternoon became a movement after all.

Making the final turn, the motorcade became mired in traffic, forcing the shooters in the chase vehicle to temporarily halt traffic. One truck several vehicles back, though, drove around the other stopped cars, into the median and headed straight for the motorcade. One agent repeatedly warned the truck to stop but to no avail. At the last moment, the agent began firing and the truck soon stopped. The motorcade sped away and soon arrived at our destination. Any decision to use a weapon is not taken lightly, and everyone in the detail experienced the understandable surge of heightened stress.

Within minutes of that event, the team and principal were enjoying the solitude and beauty of the Tower of Babel. According to the Bible, this was where God gave people different languages and scattered them about the Earth. The next moment, a line of camels meandered into view from the south, creating the best possible photo op. This is a prime example of one of the contrasts of being on detail in Iraq.

There is a melodramatic cliché describing the lives of soldiers and cops as “hours of boredom punctuated by moments of terror.” Life in Iraq for the PSO is more the opposite. Here, there is the inherent danger of working and living in a hostile environment. Travel anywhere is unsafe, and there is constant unease about the possibility of an attack, whether in the compound or on the road. But our hours of continuous tension are sometimes interrupted by moments of delight. For in Iraq, out of nowhere, one sometimes sees through the strain to discover an ancient wonder like the ruins around Babylon.

The agents in Hillah have different motives for coming to Iraq. For some it is a financial decision, for others it is the adventure of being a small part of history. We all agree, however, that the situation in Iraq is yet another example of American goodwill in a country that has seen little benevolence from its leaders. We also agree that the members of the PSO in Hillah share at least one emotional common denominator: pride.



Special Agent Terry L. Moreau (the author of this article) stands atop Saddam's Babylon Palace and looks out over the Shatt Al-Hillah River which feeds into the Euphrates. Terry joined NCIS in September 1999.



The Criminal Investigation Task Force (CITF) is an operational/field criminal investigative unit. Their mission is to investigate offenses committed against U.S. military and civilian personnel and other U.S. nationals, and against U.S. interests by members of the Taliban, Al-Qaeda, and other terrorist organizations or individuals as directed by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. It is comprised of intelligence analysts, investigative agents and support personnel representing active and reserve Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps service members as well as civilian employees of agencies including Army CID, NCIS, Air Force OSI, and other representatives of the federal law enforcement community.

After serving two temporary duty assignments with the Department of Defense Criminal Investigation Task Force (DOD CITF) at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, I was asked to spend my third and final tour with the CITF Afghanistan office. Located aboard Bagram Airfield, the CITF office is about 50 miles north of the nation's capital, Kabul. The mission of the DOD CITF is to conduct criminal investigations of persons known or suspected of being involved in national, international or transnational terrorism aimed at U.S. persons, places and interests.

For my upcoming assignment, I was issued three sea bags of equipment that included everything from desert camouflage uniforms to boots, chemical suits, gas mask, canteens and everything else needed for a long campout in the desert. I departed for Afghanistan on June 10, 2003 and three days later made a combat landing into Bagram Airfield aboard an Italian Air Force C-130 cargo plane. Bagram Air Base sits at 4,800 feet out on the Shomali Plain. It is surrounded by the Hindu Kush mountain range, which has peaks rising about 20,000 feet. When cargo planes take off, it is not unusual to see them flying in circles to gain the altitude necessary to clear the mountain ranges on their way out of the area.

After a welcome at the reception center, I was met by the U.S. Army CID agents with whom I would be working at CITF-A. The office at Bagram had five CID agents, one U.S. Army military intelligence analyst, two interpreters and one liaison officer. There were two additional Army CID agents assigned to CITF-Kandahar, which is approximately two hours by air if there isn't a dust storm. After being introduced to everyone in the office, I was shown to my quarters, a GP-Medium tent, which I shared with one to three other people, depending on who came to visit us. Although it was not air-conditioned initially, we finally got "hooked up" with some cold air about four weeks after my arrival. The tent was unbearable during the day, but the nights cooled off and made for reasonably comfortable sleeping, especially during the early morning hours. Field showers (in tents) and field toilets were located two blocks from my humble abode in what was called Viper City.

Afghanistan is a dangerous place, and all service personnel, including our coalition partners, were required to carry a weapon everywhere they went on base. That is not a problem if you are a special agent like me who is issued a pistol, but if you are an enlisted soldier in the 82nd Airborne or 10th Mountain Division, carrying an M-14 sniper rifle, squad automatic weapon, M-16, or even an M-4 carbine can be a chore. I eventually got used to seeing soldiers running in the morning with their long guns, but never did get used to seeing them bring their weapons into the toilets and field showers.

Whenever folks from our office left the base, we were required to travel in convoys of two or more cars, wear 40-pound Level Four body armor (great

way to lose weight in the summer), have a long gun and pistol, and possess a minimum load of ammo which was 250 rounds. When we traveled, each of our cars typically had a two-way radio, a satellite phone, a case of water and a case of Meals Ready to Eat, just in case we broke down, got thirsty, got hungry and /or wanted to call someone to say hello or to send help. Seemingly, there are no rules of the road and traveling can be anything between amusing and downright dangerous. We traveled every week between Bagram and Kabul — about an hour trip — and I never got tired of seeing shepherds tending their sheep, goats and camels in the desert; nomad tents huddled together out in the distance; or the buses and cars so full of men, women and children you thought they might burst open.

Kabul is a city thick with cars, congestion and people. There is never a shortage of sights to see, like a guy riding a donkey full gallop on the street in front of the American Embassy, or someone herding a flock of goats along a busy thoroughfare. Although you have to “keep your head on a swivel” to avoid being hurt or killed, visiting the city was always a great experience, whether we went there on business or pleasure.

Working in a joint environment was very interesting, especially at Bagram, where we had U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, along with units from a variety of nations, including: Germany, Poland, Italy, South Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Great Britain, New Zealand, Egypt, Thailand, UAE, and Norway.



A typical traffic scene in Kabul: donkeys, cars, motor scooters and assorted chaos.

Military commands from several additional countries, including Turkey, Canada and Greece, were represented in Kabul. There are about 9,000 U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan, and being an NCIS agent in that big “sea of green” can be a lot of fun, especially when they are trying to figure out what a “Navy” guy is doing in a place that doesn’t have enough water to float a rowboat.

On September 3, I returned to the United States and concluded my commitment with CITF. The work being done by the special agents, intelligence analysts and support personnel—whether at Guantanamo Bay, Ft. Belvoir, Bagram, Kandahar or in Iraq and Kuwait—significantly contributes to protecting U.S. persons, places and interests the world over. Although my contribution was small in the overall scheme of things, it was a privilege being asked to participate and an honor to have had the chance to serve with the men and women of the CITF.



Special Agent Wayne Goldstein has been with NCIS since January 1982. In this photo, he is standing beside his Toyota Land Cruiser after an Afghan tanker truck accidentally side-swiped his vehicle in the desert.



NCIS AGENTS PROVIDE SUPPORT IN IRAQ

By SA Mike Donnelly

It starts with a call: “You have been selected to go to Iraq in support of the counterintelligence mission for the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) Iraq.”

Three days later I was at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) receiving Iraq Theater of Operations (ITO) training for a mission new to NCIS. We would be providing counterintelligence support directly to the joint service, multinational forces occupying Iraq after the removal of Saddam Hussein from power.

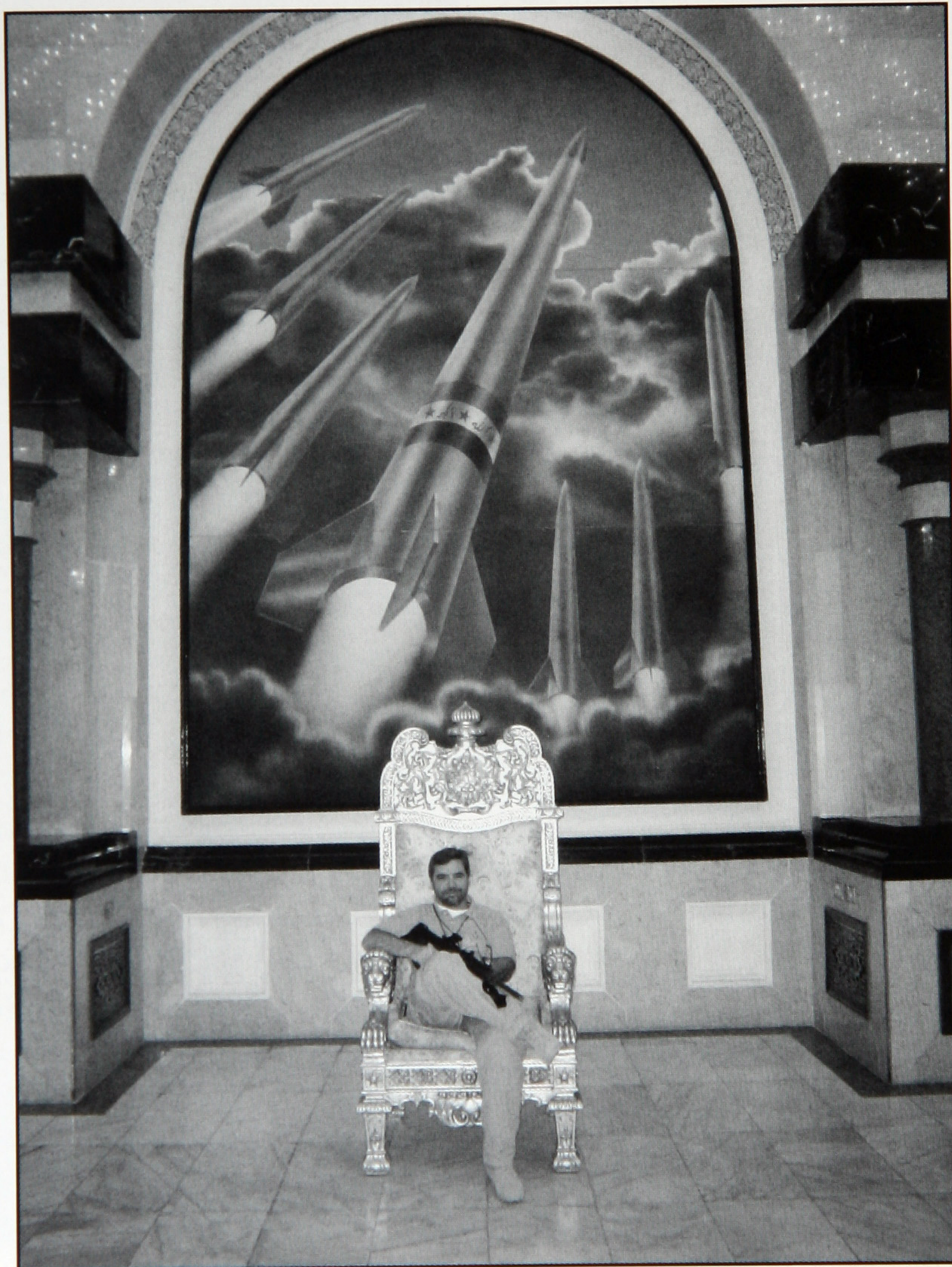
After the training came the gear issue, shots, and getting my personal affairs in order. My family was in a state of shock upon learning that I would be in Iraq for three months. On the nightly news, they watched the devastation caused by bombs, missiles and other attacks — and now I would be in the middle of it as an NCIS Special Agent working in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

When the NCIS team arrived in Iraq, we were

struck by how dusty the place was. Everything was covered in a fine dust — the streets, buildings, trees....everything. We had to spend the night at Baghdad International Airport (BIAP) because the roads to and from the BIAP are so prone to Improvised Explosive Device (IED) attack that nighttime travel is curtailed. Twelve snoring men all shared the same transient personnel tent in a tent city that appeared to have been constructed on six feet of loose gravel. A trip to the restroom entailed a quarter mile walk through that ankle-bending mess.

The next day we made the high-speed convoy run to the CPA “Green Zone.” The Green Zone is a one square mile heavily guarded enclave set in the middle of Baghdad. It is the region of Baghdad that was the exclusive domain of the Ba’ath Party elite during Saddam’s reign.

The curving Tigris River serves as a border and a natural defensive feature on two sides of the Green Zone. The rest of the area is walled off with 12-foot high concrete slabs known as Texas Barriers. We quickly found out that the Green



SA Mike Donnelly sitting on the throne that Saddam used in the main Presidential Palace in Baghdad.

Zone is subjected to repeated mortar and rocket attacks. Every night there is constant small arms fire, and many spent bullets fall within the Green Zone. It is considered to be “relatively” safe. The area outside the Green Zone is known as “being in the red” or the “Red Zone.” It is definitely not safe.

We joined a number of US Air Force OSI agents who had been on the ground in Iraq as part of the CPA CI mission for the past six months. No one had ever looked happier to see NCIS agents show up than those guys. They had been worked to death and knew they could accomplish so much more with a full complement of NCIS agents on board.

It took some time, but eventually the full NCIS CPA CI team was in place. One agent was assigned to the northern part of Iraq with an OSI team out of Irbil. Other NCIS agents were assigned to locations in Basra in the south, and in Al Hillah in what is known as South Central. The rest of the NCIS agents worked out of Baghdad on either the Central Team or the Palace Team.

At each of these locations, there was a need for all of the NCIS CI support we could bring to bear. As one young agent arrived in country, he quietly let it be known that he had no counterintelligence experience and was not sure what he was supposed to do. He was told that he was in the best place in the world to learn how to run CI source operations, and it would be a very fast education.

The men and women of CPA CI work daily in the “Red Zone.” They strap on their level four vests, tactical holsters, M-16’s and other gear, and out they go. In small teams they meet sources and



Typical dusty ride through the countryside.

work liaison contacts with U.S. and other Coalition Forces. They meet these people in Iraqi Police stations, Iraqi governmental ministries, or Coalition strongholds. Each of these locations is the target of deadly VIED bombings and RPG attacks. These courageous agents make these trips “into the red,” fully knowing that there are thousands of enemy



NCIS and OSI CPA CI members at Baghdad International Airport. Left to right: SA Mike Willaby, OSI; ASAC P. Scott Milburn, NCIS, SEFO; SA Kirk Downs, NCIS, NEFO; SA Mike Donnelly, NCISHQ; ASAC Rich Abude, OSI

insurgents — aligned with any one of dozens of different organizations — who hope to kill them.

When their day is done, they return to their quarters and face a potential barrage of rockets each night. On a really good night, there is no incoming, but you can hear a USAF C-130 gun ship flying overhead. The sound of its cannon is heard going pop-BANG, pop-BANG, as it sends artillery shells into suspected enemy positions. When the gun ship lets go a blast from her chain gun, and you hear the brrrrrrrrrrraaaaat of hundreds of shells being shot in a few seconds, it is usually followed by a cheer from the man camps where the CPA personnel live.

The work environment ranges from palatial to trailer parks. Even those who work in Baghdad in the former Republican Palace are plagued by the ever present dust, too few computers with SIPRNET connections, and cramped spaces. It is not unusual

to see rats scurrying across the telephone conduit while agents are preparing their Intelligence Information Reports (IIR). The production of IIRs is the most noticeable result of the collection efforts being performed by the NCIS agents in the ITO. The intelligence information put out by the CPA CI agents is shared with U.S. and Coalition military forces who, in turn, use the intelligence to build targeting packages against former regime elements, foreign fighters, and foreign intelligence officers who wish harm to our forces.

Working with the men and women of CPA CI in Iraq is a unique and dangerous assignment. The NCIS and OSI agents deployed to Iraq have apprehended numerous enemy insurgents and have

provided intelligence that has led to the capture of scores of others by military maneuver units. We are proud of the honorable service of each NCIS and OSI agent assigned to CPA CI whose efforts are responsible for saving the lives of Coalition personnel.

But what about the agent who admitted upon arrival that he had no idea how to work CI? Within four weeks of being in Iraq, he had written numerous IIR's, recruited sources, interrogated captured foreign fighters and become a solid performer as an NCIS Special Agent on a CPA CI Team. That's what I call "on the job training."



Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) members in Al Hillah next to the Euphrates River. From left to right: ASAC Scott Milburn, NCIS, Curt Cox, Analyst, CIFA, SA Pat McCarthy, OSI, SA Kirk Downs, NCIS, SA Pam Alley, OSI, SA Lionel "Blue" Owen, OSI, SA Mike Donnelly, NCIS, and "Sam" the interpreter.



On February 8th 2004, the NCIS Team Basra provided a close PSO to His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales, during his surprise visit to Iraq. The British security detail requested the support from NCIS, and that was quite an honor for the team. During the trip, Prince Charles visited British troops in Basra at a palace that once belonged to Saddam Hussein. After the visit, the team flew back to the Basra International Airport where they were met by CPA Ambassador Paul Bremer. Security was tight during the five and a half hour visit. SSA Tony Cox is pictured above at the far right.



Left to right: Crandell Griffin, Tony Cox, Prince Charles, Michael Sliwa (partially obscured), Chad Slagle, David Poff, Jim Amann, and Rich Duwelius



Bedouin children in the desert holding Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) and bottled water given them when the CITF convoy stopped for a visit. Photo by SA Wayne Goldstein

A parking attendant outside a restaurant where the CITF Afghan Team dined. Generous tipping is appreciated. The attendant would ensure that nobody placed an IED (improvised explosive device) on your vehicle. AK-47s are commonplace.



The Hindu Kush mountains are visible in the background from Bagram Airfield, located 4,800 feet above sea level in the Shomali Plain. Viper City, one of the several tent cities aboard Bagram Airfield is where the U.S. Forces and the CITF resided. Photo by SA Wayne Goldstein

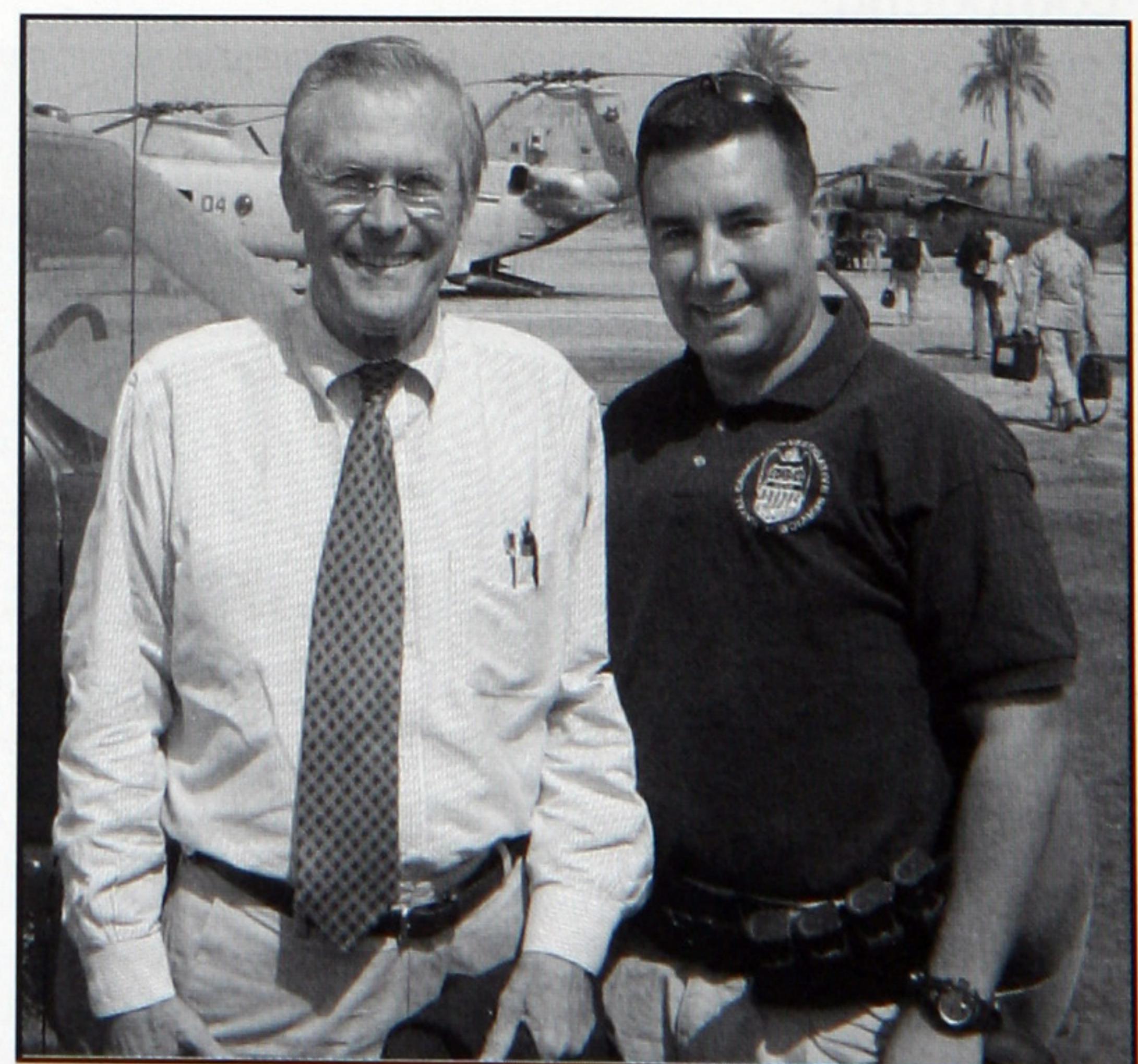
Saddam Hussein had counterfeit U.S. currency printed and glued onto floor mats, which were placed at the entrances of buildings so his Republican Guards could wipe their feet.



(left to right) SA Yale Carnevale, SA Ed Jex, Ambassador Michael Gfoeller (Hillah principal), SA Joe Brummund, SA Greg Huska, SA Mike Adams, SA Pat Byrne, SA Rick Rendon (USMC).



Shiek Abdul TaCool, a.k.a. Special Agent Mark Cranfill in Basra.



*Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Special Agent Joseph Brummund of the PSO detail in Hillah.
Special Agent Robbins posted on the rooftop of a local school in Basrah.*

Brant, Mora, Burttt Visit the Middle East

By Sara Johnson, Communications Directorate

In February 2004, Director Brant traveled to the Middle East with a group including the Honorable Alberto Mora, General Counsel of the Navy, and David Burttt, Director of the Counterintelligence Field Activity (CIFA). The first stop was Kuwait where the group had the opportunity to meet with the Basra Counterintelligence (CI) Team and the outgoing/incoming Protective Service Operations (PSO) teams for some informative briefings about the CI and PSO missions in Iraq. The group toured the Shuaiba Area Authority Port and had an evening social with the NCIS teams and other personnel.

The group then took a military flight from Kuwait to Baghdad where they met with MGEN Barbara Fast, C2, CJTF-7; Ambassador Paul Bremer at the Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters; MGEN Jon Gallinetti, USMC, CJTF-7 Chief of Staff; toured the Green Zone; and had a social/dinner with members of the CI and PSO teams. An all hands meeting was held with the Director, CIFA and the General Counsel. En route to the airport, the group visited the Criminal Investigation Task Force compound.



Air Force OSI PSO member leads the way for Director Brant, David Burttt and Alberto Mora after visiting MGEN Fast.



Members of the PSO Team outside the CITF compound in Baghdad

The last stop was Bahrain where the Director met with Shaykh 'Abd Al-'Aziz Al-Khalifa, Bahrain National Security Agency. The group met with VADM David Nichols COMFIFTH FLT; was briefed by N2/N3; met with Bahrain Public Security; and had a town hall meeting with NCIS personnel in Bahrain.

During the Director's visit, a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place to celebrate the opening of the new NCIS Middle East Field Office (MEFO) facility. In addition to Director Brant, CIFA Director David Burttt, VADM David Nichols and other dignitaries were present for the this well-attended event. The master of ceremonies was Middle East Field Office SAC Mark Clookie.



Director Brant, VADM Nichols and SAC Clookie at the new Middle East Field Office facility.



Kylan Jones-Huffman

Navy Reservist and Former NCIS Employee

Killed in Iraq

By Sara Johnson, Communications Directorate

On August 21, 2003, LT Kylan A. Jones-Huffman, USNR, a member of the Coalition Forces, was shot and killed by an unidentified assailant in Al Hillah, Iraq, while a passenger in a SUV that was stalled in traffic. Jones-Huffman, a 31-year-old Santa Cruz, California native, was a specialist on the Middle East and had traveled to Iraq to brief incoming personnel.

Jones-Huffman graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1994 and earned a master's degree from the University of Maryland. He was released from active duty in August 2001 and started working at NCISHQ where he served as a civilian intelligence specialist. Kylan joined the reserves in May 2002.

Mike Dorsey, DAD of the MTAC, presented a eulogy at Kylan's memorial service at the U.S. Naval Academy. Some excerpts appear below:

We first came to know Kylan as a history professor and naval officer at the Naval Academy in March 2001. Bright, knowledgeable, intuitive, capable, Kylan has been described as the perfect blend of academic scholar, intelligence analyst and naval officer. He possessed all of the intellectual and operational talents we at NCIS desperately needed to form the nucleus of our intelligence analytical cadre. Kylan simply stood out from all of the rest. He quickly grasped complex concepts and ideas that would take others months, if not longer, to master. Kylan had an affinity for foreign languages. He was fluent in German, self-taught in Farsi and Arabic, and was recently learning Turkish. His linguistic abilities greatly complemented his terrorism and geo-political analytical skills.

With very little formalized intelligence training, Kylan quickly mastered the art of intelligence analysis. There really are not a lot of intelligence professionals

among the many government employees, military or civilian, who are considered true experts in their field. There are even a fewer number of individuals who have become true experts in the field of terrorism analysis. Kylan was the exception to this rule. As we established the MTAC, we had a limited number of analysts. Kylan became known as our "rest of the world analyst" because he could do it all. He became an expert on Al-Qai'da, the Middle East, the Far East, and certainly Europe. No other single intelligence analyst possessed his level of knowledge, skills, talents and dedication for our mission.

Kylan had a passion for his work, and he exhibited that to us daily over the two years that we worked with him here in Washington, DC as well as in Bahrain. He was an integral part of the success of NCIS, both here in Washington and in our Middle East Field Office. He will be greatly missed by all NCIS personnel who have had the honor and privilege of knowing and working with him. We at NCIS truly loved and respected Kylan for the wonderful person that he was, and he will be in our hearts and minds forever.

Editor's update: An interview with an eyewitness to the murder of Kylan Jones-Huffman resulted in the apprehension of the suspect in February 2004. The suspect was taken into Coalition Provisional Authority (Counterintelligence) and NCIS custody and questioned by NCIS special agents, with the assistance of a CPA CI contract linguist. After several days of questioning, the suspect confessed to shooting at the vehicle occupant because he knew it was an American. On February 17, the suspect was remanded to the U.S. Army at Abu Ghyriab Prison pending adjudication.

NCIS GOES

HOLLYWOOD



Series becomes a hit with TV viewers.

by Paul O'Donnell

The first call came in late October 2002. Producers from the hit TV show JAG were interested in developing a pilot about NCIS with the goal of creating a new series about our agency. This interest came as no surprise to NCIS. The Communications Directorate had already been contacted by about a half dozen producers and show runners in Hollywood — a newly formed TV department of RKO pictures; a group of young producers from Universal Studios working under the guidance of Dick Wolf, creator of Law & Order; and an Australian company. All were serious about pitching a new TV series on NCIS to the networks, and our agency was suddenly a hot commodity in Tinsel Town. Communications Director Tom Houston began to truly believe that it was just a matter of time before NCIS had a primetime TV series. “It was a race to the finish line,” he recalls, “and Belisarius Productions (producers of JAG) definitely had the edge because of their credibility within the TV community and their experience in dealing with the Navy and Marine Corps.”

From the outset, NCIS wanted to cooperate with Belisarius Productions as much as possible in order to play a role in shaping the series. The first order of business was to acquaint the producers with NCIS. Tours of the field offices in San Diego and Pendleton and of the forensic lab were quickly set up, and meetings with a variety of agents and lab personnel were arranged. The producers met with dozens of agents. They were interested in the agents' backgrounds, interesting cases they had worked, and anything else that emphasized NCIS' uniqueness within the law enforcement community. It was clear that they were very interested in getting to know the real NCIS.

Then the plot outline for the pilot program began to come together. It would be a murder case that featured the forensic investigative capability of

NCIS and would include a terrorism element as a subplot. As fall progressed, discussions with the producers and writers became longer and more frequent. Different ideas were discussed and refined. A generic Secret Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) became the show's NCIS MTAC; the lead character, Special Agent Jethro Gibbs, went from an active duty marine to a marine reservist; and the character of a medical examiner was added. Photos of various NCIS facilities were forwarded to assist in the set design. Samples of NCIS supplies and clothing used in the field were sent to the wardrobe offices at Belisarius Productions.

In January 2003, CBS President and CEO Les Moonves announced that the network was considering NCIS as a series for the fall, and the momentum increased. In February, the network and production company agreed on the lead actor. Mark Harmon, star of several TV series and movies, would play the part of Special Agent Gibbs.



Actress Pauley Perrette looks on as (left to right) Chemist Nathan Salazar, intern Corey Maggay and Senior Chemist Bob Blackledge from the Regional Forensics Lab demonstrate the results of an experiment.

In March, just prior to the filming of the pilots, SAC Rick Warmack of the Los Angeles Field Office met with the creator and executive producer Don Bellisario. "Don is a down-to-earth, straightforward kind of guy," recalls SAC Warmack. "It was apparent from the outset that he understood the agency and how we do business." Within a few days, SAC Warmack headed down to the Pendleton Field Office with Mark Harmon for a top-to-bottom orientation of NCIS. Eventually, at the suggestion of NCIS, all of the actors would spend time at NCIS field offices and with NCIS personnel to learn more about their roles. Actor Mike Weatherly traveled to Pendleton; David McCallum spent a day at NCISHQ; the Regional Forensics Laboratory in San Diego hosted Pauley Perrette; and Sasha Alexander spent time on the firing range with SSA Debbie Rocco and on the set with SSA Marie Acevedo. All of the actors expressed amazement at the breadth and depth of NCIS responsibilities.

Following the success of the pilots, which were broadcast on the JAG TV show in April 2003, CBS decided to order a TV series based on NCIS. The actual name of the series went through several transformations until "Navy NCIS" was finally chosen. However, Bellisario is determined that the name of the show will eventually be shortened to just NCIS.

NCIS input into the show comes from several sources. Retired Special Agent Leon Carroll, former SAC of the Northwest Field Office, was hired in September 2003 as a technical advisor to the show. Leon works daily with the cast and crew to answer questions about investigative procedures and NCIS protocols (see interview on page 22). SAC Rick Warmack and Regional Forensic Lab Director Dawn Sorenson have been instrumental in sharing story ideas and acting as sounding boards for the writers. A team at NCISHQ also reviews early versions of each script. Even with these various means of input, the show often differs from the real NCIS because it is fiction, created to be entertaining. As Mr. Houston explains, "Sometimes the producers take our suggestions to heart because they are deeply committed to getting it right, and other times they do not listen as closely. My bottom line is that they get our name and our investigative protocols right; NCIS special agents and

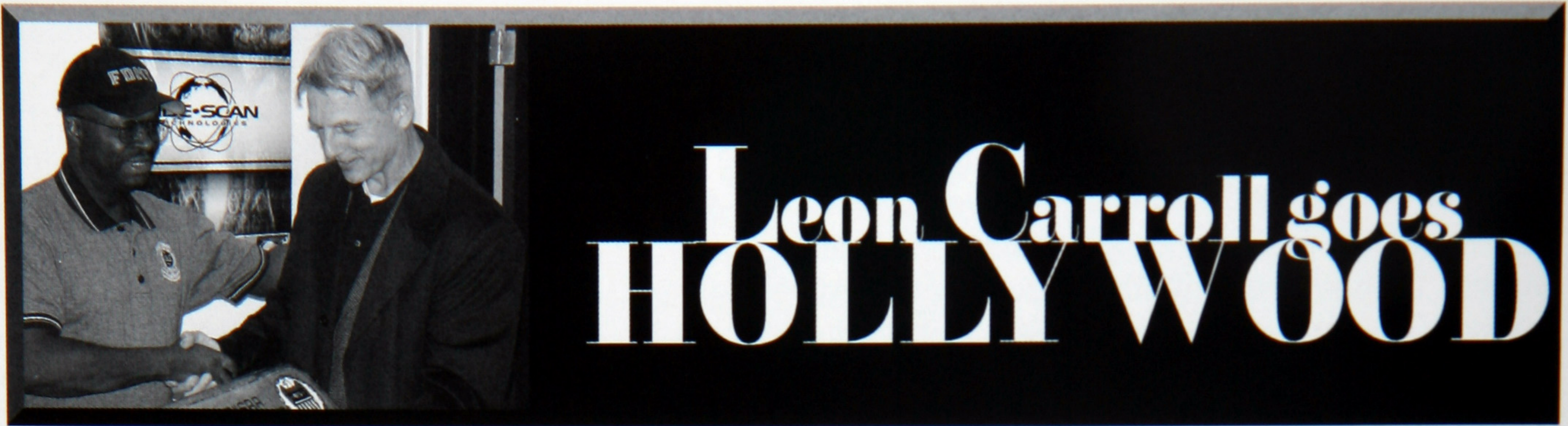
professional staff are the heroes week-to-week; and our agency is portrayed in a positive light."

CBS recently picked up "Navy NCIS" for a second year. The show's ratings continue to hold steady. It reaches an audience of between 12 and 15 million viewers per week and is now broadcast in more than 100 countries outside of the U.S. In the television business, this represents success against extraordinary odds. Thousands of ideas for TV pilots are presented to the networks each year. Of those, several hundred are chosen to be scripted as pilots. Of those, even fewer are actually produced as pilots. And of the pilots, only a few dozen are ordered as TV series. Even if they do become TV series, many don't make it past the first year.

Navy NCIS has certainly given increased visibility to our agency and its unique mission. Traffic to the NCIS website nearly doubles on Tuesday nights (when the show airs) and Wednesday mornings, and special agent applications have grown as well. NCIS personnel all over the world now regularly recount how people with whom they come into contact smile as they recognize the name of our agency. In the words of Director Brant who visited the set of the show in October 2003, "The show represents unprecedented publicity for our agency. NCIS is now a household name to millions of Americans."



Director Brant recently visited the Navy NCIS set while on the west coast. Pictured here, left to right: Mark Harmon, Sasha Alexander, Director Brant and Michael Weatherly.



Leon Carroll, a 23-year veteran special agent with NCIS who retired from his annuitant position last fall, now consults as a technical advisor for Belisarius Productions on the set of "Navy NCIS." *The Bulletin* recently interviewed him about his new job.

Q: What is your typical day like on the set of Navy NCIS?

LC: Like the real NCIS, there are no two days that are ever alike. Depending on what scene is being shot and where, I try to arrive an hour before the call time. I talk with props and wardrobe to make sure the agents look like real agents, allowing a little added flair for Hollywood. I will discuss the set-up of crime scenes, interrogations and search and seizure processes with the set director and assistant directors. You will notice that we try to do something a little different in each episode. If we did everything exactly the same, it would get pretty stale after awhile. I work with the actors on how NCIS agents say and do things, especially the many acronyms that are used in the military. I will normally get a couple of calls a day from the writers or researchers about NCIS policy to assist them when writing their scripts.

Q: What is the most common question you are asked by cast and crew?

LC: The most common questions from actors pertain to how real agents conduct themselves in their daily work life, typical NCIS jargon and what to wear at crime scenes. "Do I need to wear gloves?" and "Do I have to wear an NCIS ball cap?" are fairly common questions. The members of the crew tend to want to hear "sea stories." Most of them had never heard of

NCIS before the show, and they often try to make comparisons to other law enforcement agencies.

Q: What impression do the cast and crew have of the real NCIS? How much do they know about our agency now?



Technical Advisor Leon Carroll confers with a cast member on the set of "Navy NCIS."

LC: The actors are extremely professional and respectful of our reputation as a premiere federal law enforcement agency. That starts at the top with Creator/Executive Producer Don Bellisario who commented that he doesn't want any NCIS agent to appear incompetent. The cast and crew have met many NCIS employees, agents and support staff since we average at least one visit a week. This week alone, we had visits from a team headed to Iraq and from others assigned to NCIS offices here in the area. They are treated like royalty on the set by both cast and crew. Mark Harmon sets the tone in that regard.

Now the cast and crew have the utmost respect for what we do for the Department of the Navy and our country. Before they started working on the show, many of them thought NCIS was created just for the TV series.



Washington Field Office ASAC Mark Russ (center) chats with Mark Harmon and Leon Carroll on the set of "Navy NCIS." ASAC Russ accompanied Director Brant on his trip to Los Angeles in October 2003.

Q: What is the biggest surprise for you so far after having worked full-time on the show?

LC: The biggest surprise for me is the detail in which a show is shot. I knew TV crews worked long hours but didn't quite realize why until I started working on the show. The crew averages 14-hour days and, for about a month, that was six days a week. One of the things I always tell people when they visit is that no matter how long we work on a given day—and we have had several 20-hour days—the incredible thing is that one day of filming only amounts to about five minutes of air time.

Q: Where do the writers get their story material?

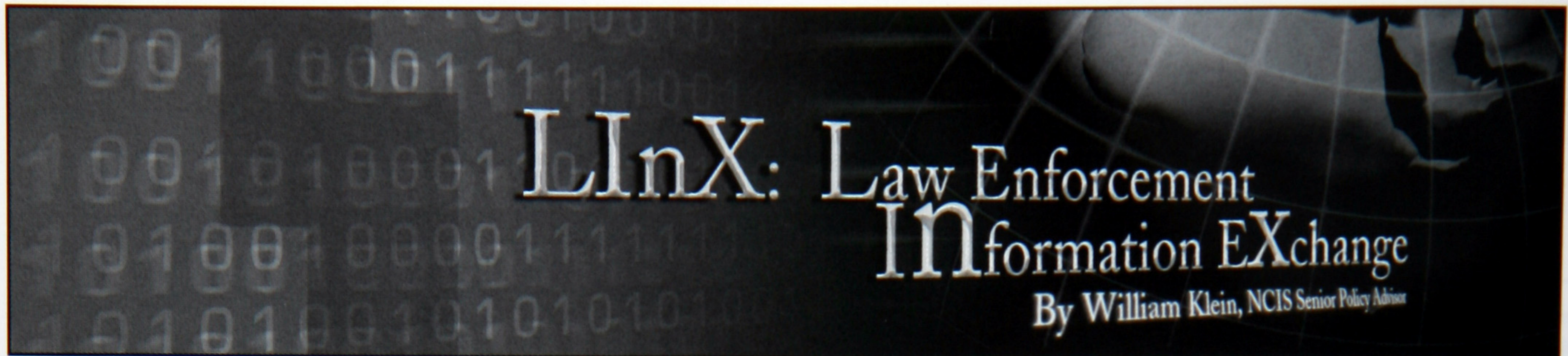
LC: The show has had a number of writers associated with it since the beginning. Some of the shows in the beginning were loosely based on real NCIS cases. "Hung Out to Dry" (episode #2) and "The Curse of Lt. Schilz" (episode #5) immediately come to mind. "Hung Out to Dry" was loosely based on an incident

at Camp Lejeune, NC and "The Curse of Lt. Schilz" was based on a recently resolved cold case involving a missing Vietnam era Disbursing Officer. Case agents on either case would have a hard time recognizing their efforts in the television version.

Currently the writers start with an idea for a story and then attempt to fit NCIS procedure around it. Often it's an idea that creator Don Bellisario throws out there. For example, we were on location in downtown Los Angeles shooting the end of the third episode ("Dirty Little Secret"), and Don was visiting in Mark Harmon's trailer. Out of the blue, Don suddenly stated, "I want to do a story about a submarine." The result of that was "Sub Rosa" (Episode #7) written by George Schenck and Frank Cardea. Don wrote "Bette Noir" (Episode #16) and spent hours talking to Rick Warmack (currently SAC Norfolk) about how they could get a body into the NCIS headquarters building. That was a great episode and will lead to future episodes, but it has no close relation to anything that NCIS has actually done. I've also received many ideas from NCIS folks and plan to offer these as possible story lines for next season.



Actors Mark Harmon, Michael Weatherly, and Sasha Alexander take a few minutes to rehearse their lines on the set of "Navy NCIS."



In fiscal year 2003, NCIS initiated two cornerstone initiatives to expand information sharing between local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in Department of the Navy (DON) strategic locations. Recognizing that data is the key to detecting and neutralizing potential threats to the DON's strategic assets – principally the Navy's nuclear fleet and related infrastructure – NCIS launched these initiatives, known collectively as the Law Enforcement Information Exchange (LInX), in the Hampton Roads, Virginia and Puget Sound, Washington areas. LInX has the potential to deliver a vast array of previously unavailable law enforcement information to NCIS, along with new tools to exploit it. Work is well underway to bring these projects to fruition in fiscal year 2004.

As part of their normal activities, local law enforcement agencies collect significant quantities of information on criminal activities and suspicious incidents in areas of strategic interest to the DON. However, police officers who respond to such events usually have little knowledge of what might constitute a potential threat. Normally, the responding officer will document the result of a response to an event by preparing a report that is sent to the agency's record management system. In most instances, only the officer who prepared the report and their immediate supervisor know the contents of this report. These reports are not typically entered into a shared database that can be accessed by law enforcement personnel from other agencies in the region.

Thus, law enforcement officers from those other agencies – including NCIS – are not normally aware of the existence of a potentially significant report unless the responding officer takes the necessary initiative to convey that information to other agencies. Moreover, since the responding officer will

not usually have knowledge of similar suspicious activities in other jurisdictions in the region, their appreciation of the value of the information possessed is limited. With this being the case, it is not likely that the information will be passed along to others.

There are two major deficiencies with this arrangement. First, since these reports reside in unconnected record management systems, a huge quantity of potentially important information is never seen by law enforcement agencies that need it for threat analysis or crime-solving. Second, because these individual record management systems have no full text query capability or advanced analytical tools, investigators face additional challenges discovering information that may help “connect the dots” of a previously unknown terrorist or criminal threat – especially across jurisdictional boundaries.

To help address these gaps in knowledge and analytical capability, NCIS launched two LInX initiatives designed to pool the criminal justice data held in the disparate record management systems of multiple law enforcement agencies in the Hampton Roads and Puget Sound areas. These locations were selected as lead sites primarily because of the significant presence of DON strategic assets in these regions. Additional factors considered were the presence of existing telecommunications networks and the nature of inter-departmental relationships in these areas.

In essence, NCIS will establish two regional data warehouses where investigative data from law enforcement agencies in the Hampton Roads and Puget Sound areas, respectively, will be replicated and combined with local NCIS criminal investigative data. As soon as an individual officer's report is entered into his or her agency's record management

Forensic Lab Notes

system, the data will be replicated to the local LInX data warehouse. Each of the warehouses will be equipped with advanced query and analytical tools that can be applied across all of the data in that warehouse. It will be up to each participating agency to determine which investigative data is sent to the local warehouse.

This arrangement will enhance crime-fighting and increase public safety by giving the participating agencies in a region the ability to share, query, and analyze information on an unprecedented basis. For local authorities, it will enable access to their counterparts' criminal records and new analytical tools at virtually no cost. For NCIS, it will significantly increase the flow of information to the agency, enhancing its ability to protect DON strategic assets and infrastructure, as well as reduce crime. Of note, NCIS personnel will be able to access and search all of the information captured in each of the LInX data warehouses via the NCIS "K-Net." This will enhance the agency's ability to correlate and analyze data drawn from different fleet concentration areas. NCIS also intends to forward the regional data to the Joint Terrorism Task Force office in each of these locations.

The Hampton Roads and Puget Sound LInX projects are slated to come fully on-line in mid-2004. In Hampton Roads, 12 law enforcement agencies have agreed to participate with NCIS. Another 12 have agreed in the Puget Sound area. The hope is that once these systems come on-line and the benefits are realized, more law enforcement agencies, including other federal agencies, will want to participate.

Meanwhile, plans are also underway to initiate additional LInX projects in fiscal year 2005 to better protect the Navy's other strategic assets. Priority areas for future implementation will include Jacksonville/Kings Bay, Pearl Harbor, San Diego and New London.

In 2002, the NCIS Regional Forensic Laboratory in Norfolk, Virginia, began to accept audio cases. Using the latest in computer software and electronic circuitry, audio samples submitted on tape (cassette, micro cassette, DAT), mini-disc, or compact disc are processed using analog and digital filters, equalization and gain adjustments in an effort to improve speech intelligibility.

An example of how this technology can be used comes from NCIS audio guru Charlie Fishel who cites a sexual assault case. "I received a cassette tape containing a pre-text conversation from a date rape victim to her assailant, attempting to get him to admit to the attack. Because of malfunctioning recording equipment or an old cassette tape, the playback speed was so diminished that much of the conversation was unintelligible; the tape either played too slow or too fast."

"Using Diamond Cut Live/Forensics state-of-the-art computer software, I was able to digitize the recording (converting it to a .wav file), and use a speed correction function to readjust various segments of the recording. This restored much of the playback to a more normal, intelligible speed that made it more useful to the investigation. This type of speech enhancement is certainly one of the most dramatic improvements made in evidence recording since the lab began accepting audio cases."

Since late 2002, the audio enhancement section has received approximately 20 cases that have involved fraud investigations, sexual assault and child abuse cases, and homicides. Please note, however, that the laboratory does not offer transcripts of speech passages, voice recognition, or interpretation of ambient sounds.

For questions regarding audio enhancement, please contact Charlie Fishel at 757-444-8615 (DSN 564-8615) or via e-mail at cfishel@ncis.navy.mil.

THE NCISHQ REORGANIZATION

By Special Agent Michael Wiest, Director's Advisory Board

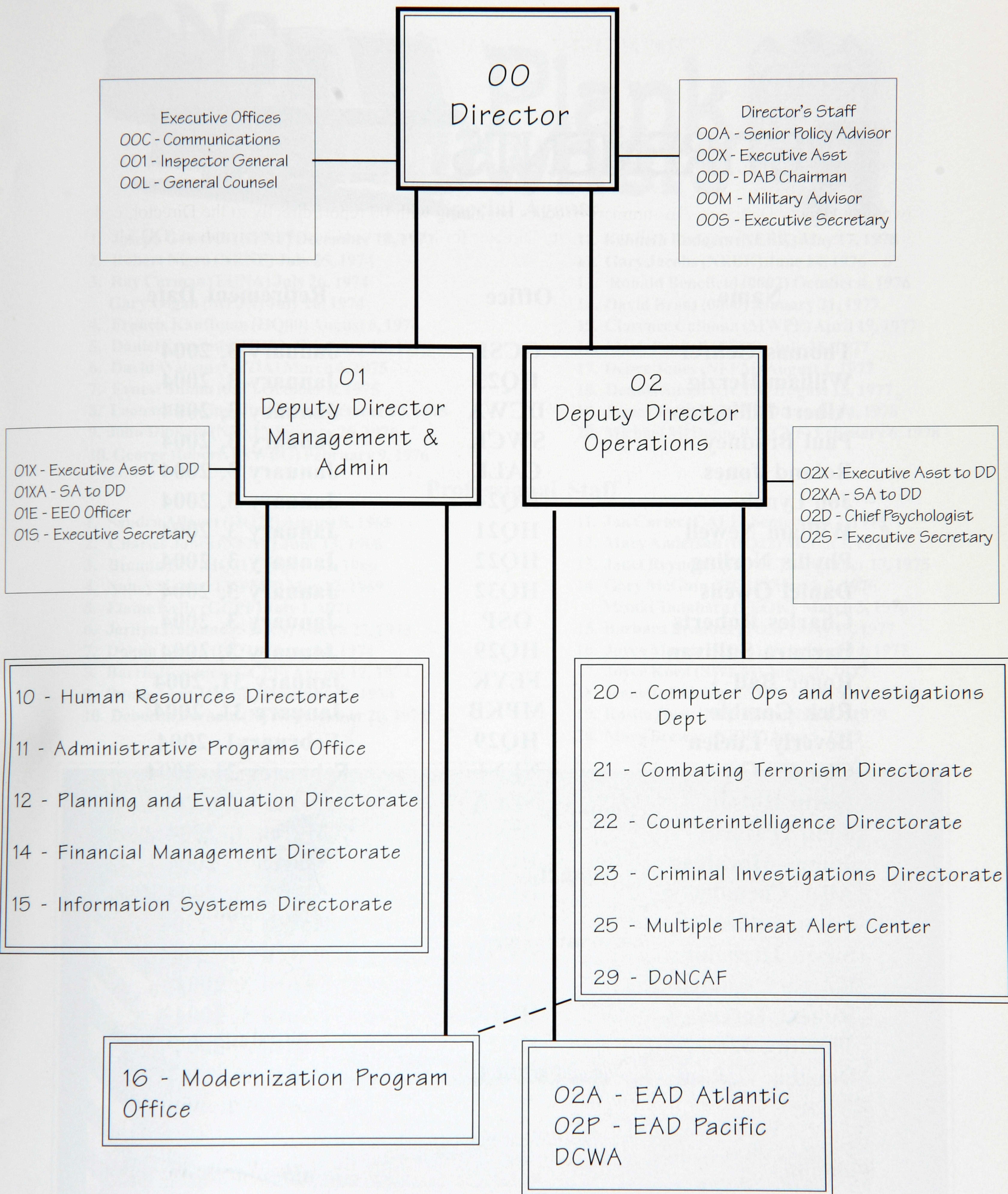
In accordance with the NCIS strategic plan and to better facilitate ongoing modernization efforts, NCIS headquarters recently underwent a reorganization. The reorganization has changed some long-standing office codes and designators and brings into alignment the operational and administrative support responsibilities of NCISHQ. The primary purpose of the reorganization is to better align the functional responsibilities of the two new Deputy Directors. To summarize, codes beginning with 00 report directly to the Director, codes beginning with 01 are aligned with the Deputy Director for Management and Administration (DD M&A), and codes beginning with 02 are subordinate to the Deputy Director for Operations (DDO).

The new office codes took effect on March 7, 2004, and are being utilized for all correspondence. The new organization charts as well as a quick reference guide with complete details on the old and new codes are available on NCISnet under the "Agency" tab. The org chart is also provided on the next page.

The changeover to new codes will likely cause some minor interruption in service and errors in routing, delivery, etc. The various headquarters codes affected by the changes are making all efforts to ensure a smooth transition, and these changes should largely be transparent to the field. Any questions or comments can be directed to Special Agent Michael Wiest at 202-433-8829 or via e-mail at mwiest@ncis.navy.mil.



During a special ceremony at the Pentagon on October 29, 2003, Retired Agent and Naval Reservist Chuck Briant was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds sustained in Iraq. The Purple Heart is a combat decoration awarded to members of the armed forces of the U.S. who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of the enemy. Pictured from left to right are Director Brant, SA Briant, Deputy Director for Operations Tom Betro, and Executive Assistant Director for Criminal Investigations Greg Scovel, who attended the ceremony.



RETIREMENTS



Name	Office	Retirement Date
Thomas Gehrer	GCSL	January 3, 2004
William Herzig	HQ23	January 3, 2004
Albert Billington	DCWA	January 3, 2004
Paul Bradney	SWCK	January 3, 2004
Roland Jones	CALE	January 3, 2004
Jon Lynch	HQ24	January 3, 2004
William Newell	HQ21	January 3, 2004
Phyllis Norling	HQ22	January 3, 2004
Daniel Owens	HQ32	January 3, 2004
Charles Roberts	OSP	January 3, 2004
Barbara Sullivan	HQ29	January 3, 2004
Roger Ball	FEYK	January 31, 2004
Rich Gamble	MPKB	January 31, 2004
Beverly Edelen	HQ29	February 1, 2004
Charles Coyle	NFNF	February 21, 2004
Kevin Hutson	NEEA	February 29, 2004
John O'Hara	HQ08	March 1, 2004
James Macaluso	HQ27	March 1, 2004
Allen Carballo	HQ22	March 3, 2004
Susan Villas	NEEA	March 31, 2004
Susan Hrenchir	SWND	March 31, 2004
Gregory Golden	NFNF	April 3, 2004
Robert Torres	HIHN	April 3, 2004
Timothy James	HQ22	April 3, 2004
Douglas Gallant	CALE	April 30, 2004



Plank Owners'

Special Agents



1. Joseph Gewerth (NFNF) December 18, 1972
2. Robert Nigro (NENP) July 25, 1974
3. Ray Carman (EUNA) July 26, 1974
Gary Logan (MPJX) July 26, 1974
4. Francis Kauffman (HQ00) August 6, 1974
5. Daniel Symonds (HQ23) February 10, 1975
6. David Watson (GCDA) March 6, 1975
7. Ernest Simon (02P) October 6, 1975
8. Leonard Lawing, Jr. (FEYK) October 20, 1975
9. John Dipilato (NFNF) January 26, 1976
10. George Roberts (NWBG) February 9, 1976

11. Kenneth Rodgers (NEBK) May 17, 1976
12. Gary Jacobs (NEBK) June 14, 1976
13. Ronald Benefield (0002) October 4, 1976
14. David Brant (0000) January 31, 1977
15. Clarence Calhoun (MWPE) April 19, 1977
16. Mark Pendell (FEPR) July 25, 1977
17. Debra Jones (NFFM) August 1, 1977
18. Dennis Smith (GCPA) August 15, 1977
19. James Tuttle (NFFM) December 4, 1978
20. Michael McDonnell (GCPF) February 6, 1978

Professional Staff

1. Sandra Allport (HQ22) August 8, 1965
2. Charles Jones (NFNF) June 13, 1966
3. Brenda Lee (HQ11) August 22, 1966
4. Nancy Hooker (MPMP) May 12, 1969
5. Elaine Kelly (GCPF) July 1, 1971
6. Jerilyn Hamand (SWZS) March 27, 1973
7. Donna Green (HQ10) June 24, 1974
8. Barrie Rommes (GCPF) August 12, 1974
9. Donna Lucy (GCSL) December 2, 1974
10. Deborah Parham (NFNF) October 20, 1975

11. Jan Carter (CALE) September 2, 1975
12. Mary Anderson (HQ22) March 3, 1975
13. Janet Reynolds (HQOC) November 17, 1975
14. Gary McGuin (HQ15) March 3, 1976
Misaki Tanahara (FEOK) March 3, 1976
15. Barbara Bradbury (OSP) May 10, 1977
16. Joyce Morris (HQ11) November 14, 1977
17. Joyce Koen (SWLM) June 20, 1977
18. Jeanette Eldridge (NFNF) October 1, 1978
19. Rosita Dyck (NFNF) October 22, 1979
20. Mary Brewer (NFNF) June 5, 1979

"My Commitment to America"

By Christina Rose

Grade 10, 16 years old

Junior ROTC

Lackey High School, Charles Co., MD

(Daughter of Wayne Rose,

NCISHQ Information Specialist)



Ever since September 11, I have felt more committed to serve my country, even though I didn't lose any family or friends. The whole nation suffered a loss from 9/11, but we also gained a lot. Before 9/11 everyone was just doing their own thing and not taking time to stop and think too much about God or even each other. Everyone just took life for granted. But after 9/11, when people saw that life was so precious and could be gone just like that, everyone started to care about each other. People started going to church, and we started to come together as a nation. We began working together, comforting each other and offering help and support. It's a shame that it took something that dramatic to bring a change.

My commitment to America is to join the military and serve this wonderful country that I live in. I will reach my goal by doing my best in school and by getting involved in extra-curricular activities such as ROTC. This will put me ahead when I go to enlist in the military. I want to be able to do wonderful things just like the soldiers in Iraq have done this past year and are still doing. I want to be able to have that pride of knowing that I have made a difference and that it will be a part of history. I want to give citizens the same kind of secure feeling I have had while growing up, knowing someone is protecting us. One day it will be my turn to be that someone.

MTAC Moves into New Spaces, Adds New Personnel

By Paul O'Donnell, Communications Directorate



Late in the evening of November 5, 2003, a call came into the Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) alerting the watch that anthrax had been possibly detected in the Navy's mail processing facility in Anacostia. MTAC swung into action and notified the FBI, NORTHCOM, NCIS field offices, and Navy commands and installations throughout the US of the incident. Over the next two days, MTAC continued to collect, analyze and disseminate real time information as it was received by NCIS special agents working on the case. It pushed out information nationwide through the Department of Homeland Security's Joint Regional Information Exchange system. In essence, MTAC served as the hub for information about the incident for dozens of intelligence and law enforcement agencies throughout the National Capital Region. Fortunately, the incident turned out to be the result of a false positive.

NCIS Deputy Assistant Director Mike Dorsey, the chief of the MTAC, says the anthrax incident is one example among many (both classified and unclassified) of the capability and value of the MTAC for the Department of the Navy. "The most important part of our job is getting good, timely information to those who need it. We're connected to networks from around the intelligence community. We have ties to real-time law enforcement data, and, of course, we have the resource of the information that our people provide us from their locations around the world. As the word about MTAC's capability continues to grow, we've seen the demand for the informational products we produce grow at a fast clip."

The MTAC operates as a 24/7 warning and analysis center, issuing indications and warning of threats to Navy and Marine Corps personnel and assets around the world. The center is staffed by a

100-person team consisting of military personnel and NCIS intelligence specialists, special agents and professional staff.

The MTAC is an outgrowth of the Navy Antiterrorist Alert Center (ATAC) which was established in December 1983 to address the terrorist threat after the bombing of the Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, and the murders of Navy officers in Greece and Central America. In October 2003, MTAC moved into its present state-of-the-art facilities at NCIS headquarters, located at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC. The center capitalizes on NCIS' unique capability to fuse and analyze counterintelligence, cyber, criminal and security

information to ensure the safety of our troops, security of sensitive information and protection of Department of Navy property.

In addition to producing foreign intelligence and terrorist threat alerts and analytical products, the MTAC also produces the Department of the Navy's Uniform Crime Report and the Department's annual Foreign Intelligence Threat Study. It has also been established as the central production point for all NCIS operational publications, keeping top Department of Defense executives apprised of the potential dangers and hazards faced by the men and women of the Department of the Navy.



Pictured here, left to right, Lowell Shuster, Rick Wilson and Don Johnson pause for a photo while cycling on Mount Snoqualmie.

In August 2003, NCISFO Northwest Cycling Team (Special Agents Rick Wilson, Don Johnston, and Reserve Agent Lowell Shuster) successfully completed the "Courage Classic" charity bike ride. The team cycled 184 miles, over three mountain passes (Snoqualmie, Blewett and Stevens), with a total elevation gain of 7,068 feet in three days. The ride was physically and emotionally demanding, especially the 43 mile climb up the backside of Steven's Pass.

The team, along with 415 other riders, raised over \$250,000 for the Child Abuse Intervention Department of the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital in Tacoma, WA. The hospital treats an average of four child abuse victims per day. The ride's slogan "do it for the kids" kept "Team NCIS" persevering for the duration of the ride. Team NCIS prepared for the ride by cycling the "Seattle to Portland" (STP) ride earlier last summer, with Johnston and Shuster riding 151 miles in one day.

NCIS ADOPTS NEW LOGO

By Sara Johnson, Communications Directorate

NCIS announces its new, more modern logo. The logo was created to better represent our progressive mission and values and to better align and modernize our message. The final design is a result of extensive research and consultation with individuals and focus groups both internal and external to NCIS including the NCIS field offices in Europe, Norfolk and San Diego, a group of SACs, as well as representatives from the Navy, Marine Corps, local/state/federal law enforcement, the security industry, private citizens and others.

The logo consists of four elements – the NCIS signature and name, the badge, world map and a double-edged arc or swoosh graphic. Together the signature letters and badge overlay a world map, indicative of the worldwide reach of the agency. The meaning of the graphic swoosh is two-fold: it captures the speed at which NCIS reaches around the globe and the initiatives it takes to stay on the forefront of our ever-changing missions.

The full name of the agency – NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE – is an integral part of this logo to complement NCIS' increased visibility among the public as well as its

law enforcement counterparts. The NCIS special agent badge graphic remains a vital and prominent part of the logo.

The combination of these graphic elements signifies the new image of NCIS and its transformation into a premier federal law enforcement agency that has attained increased recognition and appreciation among its law enforcement and DoD counterparts as well as the general public.

The significance of the NCIS badge has not been changed and will continue to be the calling card for our agents. The seal is still available for use, but the old logo will be phased out.

Graphic standards and guidelines for using the new logo will soon be distributed, and it is adaptable for a number of uses. In addition, NCIS will soon unveil its new external website that will serve to further align our new image and modernize our message.





The Special Agent of the Year Award Ceremony was held on December 18, 2003 at the Navy Museum on the Washington Navy Yard. In addition to the traditional award categories of criminal investigations, counterintelligence and fraud, this year's ceremony introduced the new category of counterterrorism. The award recipients were SA Michael McCorkle for Counterintelligence, SA Michelle Baker for Criminal Investigations, SA Mario Palomino for Counterterrorism, SA Terrence O'Connor for Fraud, and Reserve Agent Drew Lieb for Counterterrorism (pictured here with Alberto J. Mora, Navy General Counsel (far left) and Director Brant (far right)). In addition to their selection as Special Agent of the Year, each agent was also awarded the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award. In another first, Reserve Agent Drew Lieb became the first NCIS reservist to be selected for this honor.



February 15, 2004:

Special Agent Albert L. Washington, Jr. escorts the Iraqi suspected of murdering LT Kylan A. Jones-Huffman, USNR. SSA David M. DiPaola is in the background providing backup for the escort. The suspect eventually confessed to Special Agents Washington and DiPaola during interrogation.



**NCIS Special Agent Basic Training (SABT) 401
January 14 – March 2, 2004**

Front Row: Sherilyn Klueber, Kay Een, Kiyomi Parish, Brent Shelton (Counselor), Kevin Hartig (Counselor), Patrick Ott (Counselor), Michele Starostka, Randy Dulay, Joana Alvarado

2nd Row: Mark Johnson, Greg Ryan, Julia McLellan, Cheryl Clement, Lucy Harris, Le Thaniel Pugh, Tristy Walters, Elizabeth Toomer, Foster Curtiss

3rd Row: Angel Cruz, Andrew Emley, Andrzej Lewandowski, Michael Miller, Alfonza Jackson, William Garris, Stephen Colyer, David Coutts, Angelo Manginelli