

NCIS Bulletin

United States Naval Criminal Investigative Service

www.ncis.navy.mil

Spring 2003

*Countering Terrorism -
Putting the Pieces in Place*

Plus:

*Okinawa Responds to
Terrorist Attack*

Special Agent Afloat

*When Your Ship Comes In -
Will It Be Safe?*

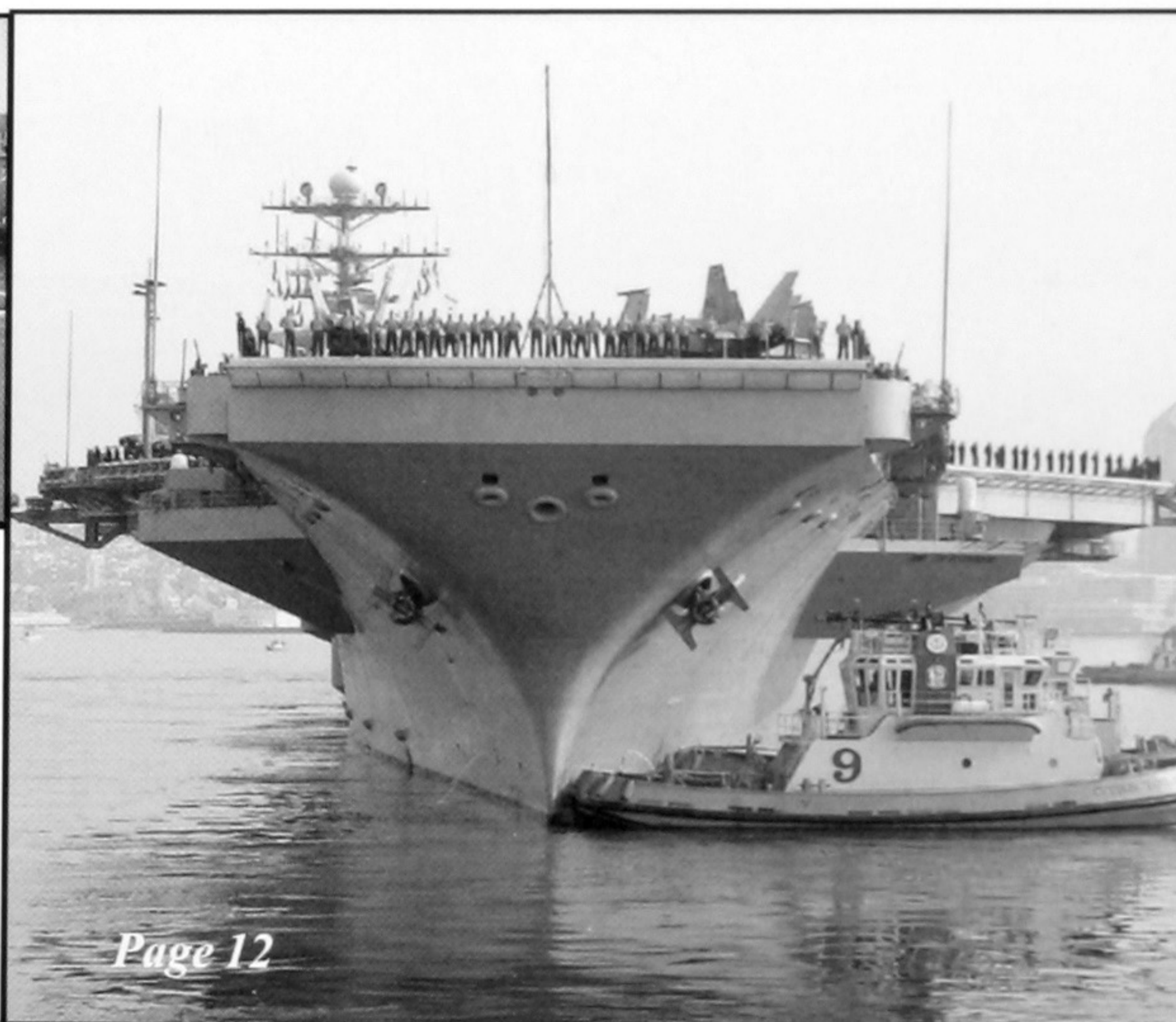


Bulletin

Spring 2003



Page 8



Page 12



Page 12



Page 10



Page 17

2 *Countering Terrorism: Putting the Pieces in Place*

8 *When Your Ship Comes In - Will It Be Safe?*

10 *Special Agent of the Year Awards*

12 *Special Agent Afloat*

16 *Okinawa Responds to Terrorist Attack*

18 *Recent Retirements*

20 *Reservists Fill Law Enforcement Gaps*

21 *Memorial to SA Rubin Diaz*

22 *Forensic Notes*

24 *Recent Visits/Events*

The NCIS Bulletin is produced by the Communications Directorate. It is an internal document and is intended for use by all current and retired members of NCIS and their immediate families. Due to the nature of the information in this document, it is not intended for public release. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the United States, Department of Defense or Department of the Navy. Any comments or suggestions should be forwarded to: Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Communications Directorate, (Code 07), Washington Navy Yard, 716 Sicard Street, S.E., Suite 2000, Washington, D.C. 20388-5380.



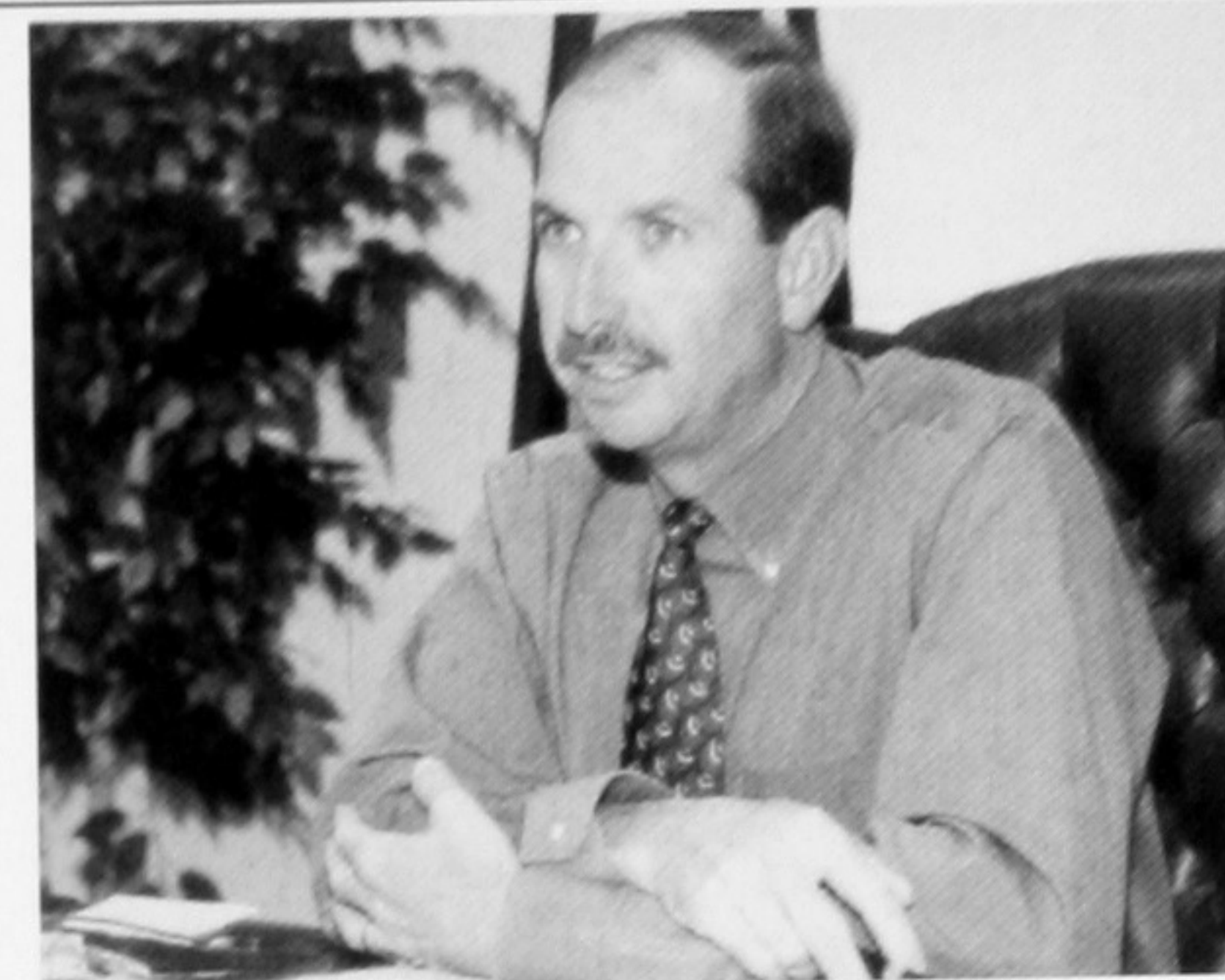
FROM THE DIRECTOR

For some time now, I have been articulating the NCIS mission in terms of our three new operational goals for the agency: preventing terrorism, protecting secrets, and reducing the impact of crime, or "PPR" for short. I am very happy to report that we have moved into Phase II of our strategic planning process, as crucial elements of the strategy are laid into place.

Right now, we're implementing the program plans for each of the operational goals. These plans flesh out the ways and means necessary to accomplish the goals. Our initial emphasis has been on our number one goal, preventing terrorism, and this edition of the *Bulletin* focuses on that goal.

As we shift from PowerPoint to reality, we are moving personnel and dedicating resources to implement PPR. The Counterterrorism Directorate has settled into newly renovated spaces on the second deck at Headquarters, and in December, we began construction of the new Multiple Threat Alert Center (MTAC) on the third deck. Even without new spaces and communications gear, the MTAC is getting compliments from the fleet and has even attracted the attention of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

In addition to the strategic planning process, NCIS has been pursuing a complementary modernization initiative for nearly a year. Our Modernization Team put together a great product that was subsequently reaffirmed by two independent entities: the Naval Inspector General and the Undersecretary of the Navy's Zero-Based Review (ZBR) team. These studies have con-



firmed what you in the field have known for some time—our infrastructure is antiquated and inhibits our ability to complete our mission.

The ZBR, however, went beyond merely examining the NCIS infrastructure; it assessed the roles and missions of the entire agency. After an intensive review, an independent contractor hired by the Navy Staff validated NCIS' roles and missions, noting that the "operational Navy and Marine Corps [are] generally complimentary about NCIS." Based on the conclusions of the ZBR, the Department of the Navy is in the process of substantially increasing NCIS' funding in fiscal year 2004. Part of this money will be used to improve our communications and information technology infrastructure, while the rest will be used to make other upgrades necessary to effectively carry out our operational goals.

These are challenging times, but we're meeting the challenges head on. Together, we're making significant contributions to the war on terrorism, and I commend everyone on their dedication and hard work.

David L. Brant

Assistant Director for Communications

Thomas F. Houston

Bulletin Editor

Larry Jackson

Bulletin Design & Layout

Janet Reynolds

Senior Contributing Writer

JOC Barbara Shupe

The *Bulletin* is your tool for exchanging information, and your input is essential.

Please feel free to contact me at:

(202) 433-8829 (office)

(202) 433-0904 (fax)

LBJackson@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.



For decades, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) has investigated crime and conducted counterintelligence for the Navy and Marine Corps. Commanding officers have come to expect that NCIS will respond to the scene of a crime or act of espionage, conduct an investigation, and go away. This responsive posture is the classic law enforcement model, and it is outdated.

The threat of terrorism represents a clear and present danger to Americans—one that many would have considered unthinkable just 18 months ago. Today it is a particularly acute reality to those who visibly represent the United States and its military forces at home and abroad. Any service member, regardless of rank, can be the target of a terrorist or spy just by virtue of membership in the military.

The devastating assaults on the USS COLE, the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have demonstrated that simply responding isn't enough. As Chief of Naval Operations Vern Clark says, "We can't afford to keep shooting behind the duck." Protecting the fleet, both in homeport and overseas, requires a revised model—one that is more proactive than reactive.

Preventing Terrorism

The number one goal of NCIS is to prevent terrorism and other hostile acts against Department of the Navy (DON) forces and installations. The premise is simple and direct: the operational readiness of DON

forces is vital to the national security of the United States. NCIS can best contribute to that readiness by conducting offensive operations to disrupt terrorism, and by enhancing the Department's defensive posture.

NCIS accomplishes the strategic goal of preventing terrorism through five operational strategies:

- 1) Disrupting terrorist activity to eliminate or minimize the threat;
- 2) Sharing information to enhance deterrence and prevention;
- 3) Influencing activities and support efforts to maximize DON security;
- 4) Hardening targets by identifying and fixing security weaknesses;
- 5) Maintaining a high-quality investigative response.

Under these five operational goals falls a wide range of activities in support of programs designed to prevent terrorism and protect U.S. Navy and Marine Corps assets. These activities, conducted on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy, include identifying criminal and intelligence threats, coordination with law enforcement counterparts, information sharing with Department of Defense (DOD), federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, assessing, monitoring, and reporting on the vulnerability of critical as-

sets and any threats to these assets, and a full range of liaison activities designed to deter and mitigate threats to naval operations.

Strategy 1: Disrupting Terrorist Activities

In many ways, the business of countering terrorism is analogous to countering foreign intelligence organizations during the Cold War. While the military might not be fighting a hot war, the unseen war between foreign intelligence and U.S. counterintelligence never ceases. All potential enemy information must be collected, evaluated, and disseminated so that appropriate action can be initiated.

Traditional counterintelligence strengths—strong ties with law enforcement and counterintelligence agencies in the U.S. and overseas, source networks, collecting and assessing human intelligence—provide the basis for many of NCIS's operations to disrupt terrorism. These operations focus on tier 0-4 terrorist groups or on local groups that pose a significant threat to DON forces or installations. Preemptive operations can be directed against all levels of terrorist organizations and are designed to exploit weaknesses, disrupt activities, map affiliations and support infrastructure, and expose possible surveillance of DON personnel or locations.

Having a secure fence line is important, but once the enemy is in the sentry's view, they are already conducting operations, and we have lost the opportunity to intercept them during the planning stages. To that end, NCIS is building an increased capability to detect enemy "movement" beyond the base fence line. While this isn't a new concept for overseas installations, the singular focus on terrorist groups within the United States represents a radical shift for the agency.

NCIS field offices run low-level source operations to collect human intelligence, review every suspicious incident and pursue all viable investigative leads to resolve them. When information is potentially actionable, the field office disseminates it throughout NCIS to bring all relevant resources to bear on the issue.

Strategy 2: Sharing Information

In today's complex operating environment, the

"As five 'suspicious-looking' men unloaded a submersible craft from a truck into the waters near Bremerton Naval Base, Wash., local police and Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents converged.

A concerned citizen spotted the men at about 4:30 p.m. Nov. 4 and immediately called authorities.

The men refused to identify themselves to local police, but when NCIS agents arrived, they identified themselves as Navy SEALs.... [S]imilar such [reports] have paid off, officials said.... There are two ongoing investigations resulting from such reports in the northwest region of NCIS...."

Navy Times, November 25, 2002

traditional distinctions among terrorism, foreign intelligence operations, and criminal activities are blurring. What appears to be a simple crime, say the theft of an ID card machine, may actually be a precursor to action by terrorists or a foreign intelligence service. Criminal activities, such as smuggling, may in fact be funding terrorist organizations. In such an environment, information cannot be compartmentalized, yet the sheer volume of information precludes simply sharing every bit of it with the fleet.

To address this fleet concern, NCIS created the Multiple Threat Alert Center. Manned around the clock, the MTAC is a centralized collection, fusion, analysis, and dissemination platform to produce intelligence that informs both the fleet and NCIS antiterrorism operations. It provides indications and warnings of possible terrorist activity to the fleet, as well as other law enforcement and intelligence organizations. In every case, the goal is to get as much useable information to the end recipient as they are cleared to have. This means providing highly classified information to operational commanders and unclassified but informative information to those who need it. From operational commander to gate guard, everyone gets the appropriate information.

Resident within the MTAC are analysts and agents with the knowledge, tools, and expertise to assess information from open sources, national intelligence agencies, and law enforcement organizations. This information can then be fused with information about Navy and Marine Corps operations and vulnerabilities to generate predictive analyses. These analyses enable unit commanders to establish the maximum force protection measures when most necessary, while conserving resources whenever possible.

MTAC current intelligence products on terrorism are disseminated via dedicated Address Indicator Groups (AIGs) down to the unit level and to specific units as the situation dictates. All MTAC analytical products and NCIS Threat Assessments are available on Intelink on the NCIS homepage for access by other Navy, DOD, and intelligence community consumers. The MTAC also provides terrorism briefs for battle groups and amphibious ready groups prior to deployment. The briefs contain an overview of the terrorist threat in the deployment region and an update on terrorist tactics and weapons, and are tailored to meet the individual needs of each deploying group. Blue Dart (UNCLAS, Operational Immediate) messages are generated for imminent threats.

To ensure that DON benefits from the cross pollination among federal law enforcement agencies, NCIS details senior special agents to Joint Terrorism Task Force offices throughout the U.S., with a focus on the fleet concentration areas. These task forces,

sponsored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), are comprised of local representatives from federal, state, and local law enforcement. They share and act on information, relying on the unique skills and investigative specialties of the participating organizations to ensure that no potential threat goes unchecked.

Strategy 3: Maximizing DON Security

In many cases, actions to improve security are beyond the purview of NCIS. In these instances,

NCIS, in concert with the FBI, arranged for Norfolk, Va. to be the latest venue for a pilot program known as the "Law Enforcement Information Sharing Project." The first project, already underway in St. Louis, Mo., which shares law enforcement/investigative information among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, has had promising initial results. Once fully matured, this program has the potential to provide NCIS with timely information that Fleet Force Protection planners may use to craft appropriate responses and force protection measures.

NCIS must influence another organization, such as a command, contractor, or other government agency, to take action.

For example, after September 11th, NCIS agents noticed security vulnerabilities at multiple general aviation airports in the vicinity of San Diego, Calif. Clearly the security of these facilities is not within the jurisdiction of NCIS, yet until the weaknesses were shored up, there was a significant threat to naval ships, personnel, and installations. NCIS notified the government entity responsible for security at the airports of the potential dangers, but was told that the problem could not be addressed immediately. NCIS then worked with the other agency to use NCIS assets to mitigate the threat until the agency could bring its own resources to bear.

Strategy 4: Hardening the Target

The widespread availability of sophisticated explosives, weapons and intelligence gathering systems provides even the smallest countries, narcotics traffickers, and guerrilla or terrorist groups with significant capabilities to inflict harm on operational Navy and Marine Corps elements. To fight effectively, a commander must know his strengths and vulnerabilities. NCIS assists the fleet by providing vulnerability assessments for U.S. Navy installations and foreign airports and sea ports of call.

Integrated vulnerability assessments identify for base commanders weaknesses that could be exploited by terrorists and suggests options that may eliminate or mitigate those vulnerabilities. A typical assessment will:

- Validate and update the local threat assessment,
- Review antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) plans,
- Determine the effectiveness of AT/FP training programs,
- Assess the physical security of mission critical resources and facilities,
- Analyze the threat information, collection, and dissemination process,
- Identify any shortfalls that preclude or limit execution of the AT/FP Plan,
- Assess critical infrastructure to ensure continuous mission essential operations,
- Conduct a crisis management exercise to validate the AT/FP plan, and
- Make recommendations for improvements.

Accurate assessment of foreign port security is an increasingly vital part of the NCIS mission. Before the attack on the USS Cole in October of 2000, overseas assessments were conducted only in a limited number of ports and only when there was reason



Imagine this scenario: a terrorist phones in a bomb threat to a base. All of the base leadership and critical response personnel muster in the crisis response center, when a propane tank adjacent to the building explodes, causing the building to collapse. A recent vulnerability assessment at a base in the western U.S. found such a scenario to be quite plausible, given the close proximity of an above-ground propane tank to the base crisis center. The base, which has addressed 85% of the noted vulnerabilities, is examining alternatives for the tank.

for concern. Now all commercial ports entered by U.S. Navy ships, as well as airports used by DON aircraft, are assessed.

These assessments, referred to as Airfield and Port Integrated Vulnerability Assessments (AIVA/PIVA), are conducted on a periodic basis, well before U.S. Navy ships and planes arrive. They provide commanders an evaluation of the static force protection posture of the airfield or port. A typical

In March 2002, U.S.S. Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) made a high-profile visit to the port of Marseille, France. Yet this historic visit—the first time a nuclear-powered American aircraft carrier docked pierside in France—almost didn't happen.

Tensions were running high, since TR would be the first U.S. carrier portcall in Europe after the events of September 11, 2001. French and U.S. security forces had taken all possible precautions and Navy authorities gave the go-ahead for the visit. Yet the morning of TR's arrival, contrary to predictions by French police services, the dockworkers decided to demonstrate.

When the people who support such a major visit arrived at the port entrance, they found the gates chained closed with lines of angry dockworkers behind them. Soon the demonstrators began to burn tires, while rental car agents, tour guides, husbanding agents, vendors, and security personnel watched helplessly through the fence as the ship made its final approach.

Aboard the ship, the crew saw throngs of people, smoke coming from the gates, and a pier devoid of the normal support services. It didn't look inviting. Fortunately, Special Agent Dwight Clayton, the NCIS referent based in Marseille since 1997, was working his network, while keeping Navy authorities in Washington, DC apprised. Clayton soon arranged for a French Navy zodiac to take him to the aircraft carrier via the commercial shipping channel. Dripping wet from the ride, Clayton was able to brief the situation, allay the Commanding Officer's concerns, and enable the ship to have a very successful port call.

report contains an evaluation of the security forces, and identifies weaknesses associated with the configuration of the port and airfield facilities, surrounding terrain, host nation agreements, and U.S. security measures allowed by the host nation. It also contains recommended security measures to be used during all force protection conditions with engineering drawings and narratives describing how to employ mea-

sures and where and how the resources (barriers, fencing, lights, etc.) can be obtained and positioned. The assessment also addresses shore and waterside security threats and mitigating measures (swimmers, fast boat, limpet mines, etc.).

For many years, a ship visit to a foreign port has been a complicated diplomatic, navigational, and logistical evolution. Since the attack on the Cole, it is also a complicated force protection evolution. NCIS often deploys agents to the port of call well in advance of the ship's arrival. They work with host-nation law enforcement to ascertain what, if any, terrorist or criminal elements might threaten the ship or crew and evaluate the risks associated with the threat. Based upon information from this pre-arrival liaison, the Commanding Officer can make the best-informed decision on whether to enter port.

Strategy 5: Responding Rapidly

In those cases where prevention fails, NCIS must get the right personnel to process a crime scene as soon as possible. Getting to the scene quickly is critical because so much evidence can be lost if the scene isn't properly secured and investigative leads rapidly pursued. A scene that is contaminated—whether inadvertently or intentionally—can compromise future prosecutions.

Because NCIS personnel are stationed overseas, they are able to respond more rapidly to terrorist incidents outside the United States than most other U.S. law enforcement agencies. NCIS was the first or among the first federal law enforcement on scene at the Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia, the embassy bombing in Nairobi, Kenya, the USS Cole bombing, the recent bombing of the French tanker Limburg off Yemen, the shooting of two Marines in Kuwait, and the bombing in Zomboanga, Philippines. [see story, page 16.]

Sovereign nations do not have to allow us into their country, even when U.S. personnel may have been injured or killed there. Each rapid deployment requires coordination with U.S. and foreign governments to ensure that NCIS personnel will have access to the crime scene, witnesses, and physical evidence that may be collected. Each incident requires a tailored response to ensure that the right equipment (communications, forensics, surveillance) and the right skills (linguists, forensics, physical security) get to the scene.

On November 28, 2002, twin terrorist attacks shook the east African country of Kenya. "NCIS SA Jim Kenworthy was the first American on the ground in Mombasa in the wake of the attacks providing time sensitive information to the Embassy on the situation on the ground while Embassy officers were enroute to Mobassa." AMEMBASSY NAIROBI Cable, December 18, 2002

Because NCIS has organic response capabilities, the agency can surge the right resources from around the world. In the case of the USS Cole investigation, for example, one of the key case agents deployed from San Diego, while forensic specialists flew to the scene from Bahrain and Italy. The recent bombing in the Philippines saw the first operational deployment of a specially-equipped van and team of forensic specialists. The concept, which was tested only a few months prior to the bombing, was developed by the NCIS Far East Field Office in response to the attacks of September 11th.

Transforming to Counter the Threat

Although preventing terrorism requires many of the criminal investigative skills and abilities that have been critical to NCIS in the past, effectively carrying out the goal requires a completely different information infrastructure.

In the past, the fairly archaic NCIS information infrastructure was an inconvenience to mission accomplishment. Agents in the field working criminal investigations could afford to delay writing their reports until they could get back to a computer, or they could borrow an unclassified machine, if necessary. Coordination with other offices was limited, and could often be accomplished with a telephone call. Although reports would be keyed into a database and transmitted to Headquarters, actionable information did not generally need to be disseminated beyond the field office.

Preventing terrorism demands immediate exchange of information, often at the secret or top-secret level. Field offices must convert from doing most of their routine business on unclassified networks to secret and top-secret networks. More measures for

safeguarding information have to be built, installed, or implemented at over 140 offices around the world. Agents and analysts in the field must be equipped with the means to rapidly and securely transmit critical sensitive information—information that could prevent the next terrorist attack.

In addition to the increased demands on the NCIS information infrastructure, the war on terrorism requires additional manpower. At Headquarters, a new Counterterrorism Division and a more robust MTAC require staffing. Field office counterterrorism opera-

"Current level of IT and communications infrastructure does not support mission."

"Knowledge management capabilities, a core requisite for an intelligence gathering and investigative organization, is [sic] woefully lagging."

NCIS Zero-Based Review Outbrief to the Undersecretary of the Navy, Bearing Point Consulting Services, December 10, 2002.

tions and investigations likewise demand manpower. With just over 2,000 special agents and professional staff, NCIS does not have a vast pool of personnel resources to address these increased burdens. As a result, the organization has been forced to reallocate people from other, more traditional investigative activities. Commanding officers may notice a decreased capability on the part of NCIS to address the criminal activities that were formally a primary focus of the agency, but limited resources demand that NCIS criminal investigative activity must be focused against high-impact crimes, particularly those involving significant consequences to the DON.

Though NCIS is a small organization, it is agile. The agency has adjusted to the war on terrorism and the ensuing changes in very short order. Although the transformation continues, a revised strategy is largely in place, with new equipment, new personnel, and new training entering the pipeline. Consequently, sailors and Marines around the globe are safer from acts of terror than they were just a year ago.

**When your
ship
comes in,**



**Will
it
be
Safe?**

By JOC Barbara Shupe
Communications Directorate

When a U.S. ship pulls into a foreign port, the safety of that port is on everyone's mind, from the saltiest commanding officer to the most inexperienced recruit. They all want to know: Is this port secure? The answer lies in Port Integrated Vulnerability Assessments (PIVAs) conducted by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS).

Accurate assessment of port security is an increasingly vital part of the NCIS mission. Special agents and civilian assessors based in field offices in Yokosuka, Japan, Bahrain, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, Singapore and Naples, Italy, conduct PIVAs in hundreds of ports. The field offices are supported by Law Enforcement Physical Security (LEPS) teams based in San Diego and Norfolk.

"The purpose of a PIVA is to ensure our warships' commanding officers are completely informed about any vulnerability issues the foreign ports we enter may have," said NCIS Port Assessment Program Manager Lane Ford. "This will allow the commanding officer to determine if adequate protection can be provided."

"Before the attack on the USS Cole (DDG 67) in October of 2000, PIVAs were conducted, but only in limited ports and only when concern was an issue," Ford said. "Since then, all foreign commercial ports entered by U.S. Navy ships are assessed."

This surge in demand for PIVAs created an immediate need for support to the field offices. "LEPS

reservists conducted PIVAs until a permanent party became available," Ford said.

Training for PIVA assessors was scheduled in three waves of four weeks each and taught at Little Creek, Va. The first two classes trained more reservists and representatives from the fleet, Ford said. The third was the first class composed entirely of civilians, five of whom became civilian assessors on August 23. They are: Mike Bryant, Frank Boyd, Carlos Alers, Raymond C. Morgan, and Ted Zahorbenski. Ford said civilian training will continue, but there are no plans to convene additional formal classes.

The civilian students all had law enforcement or military security backgrounds, and were selected according to "whomever had the background best suited to our needs," Ford said.

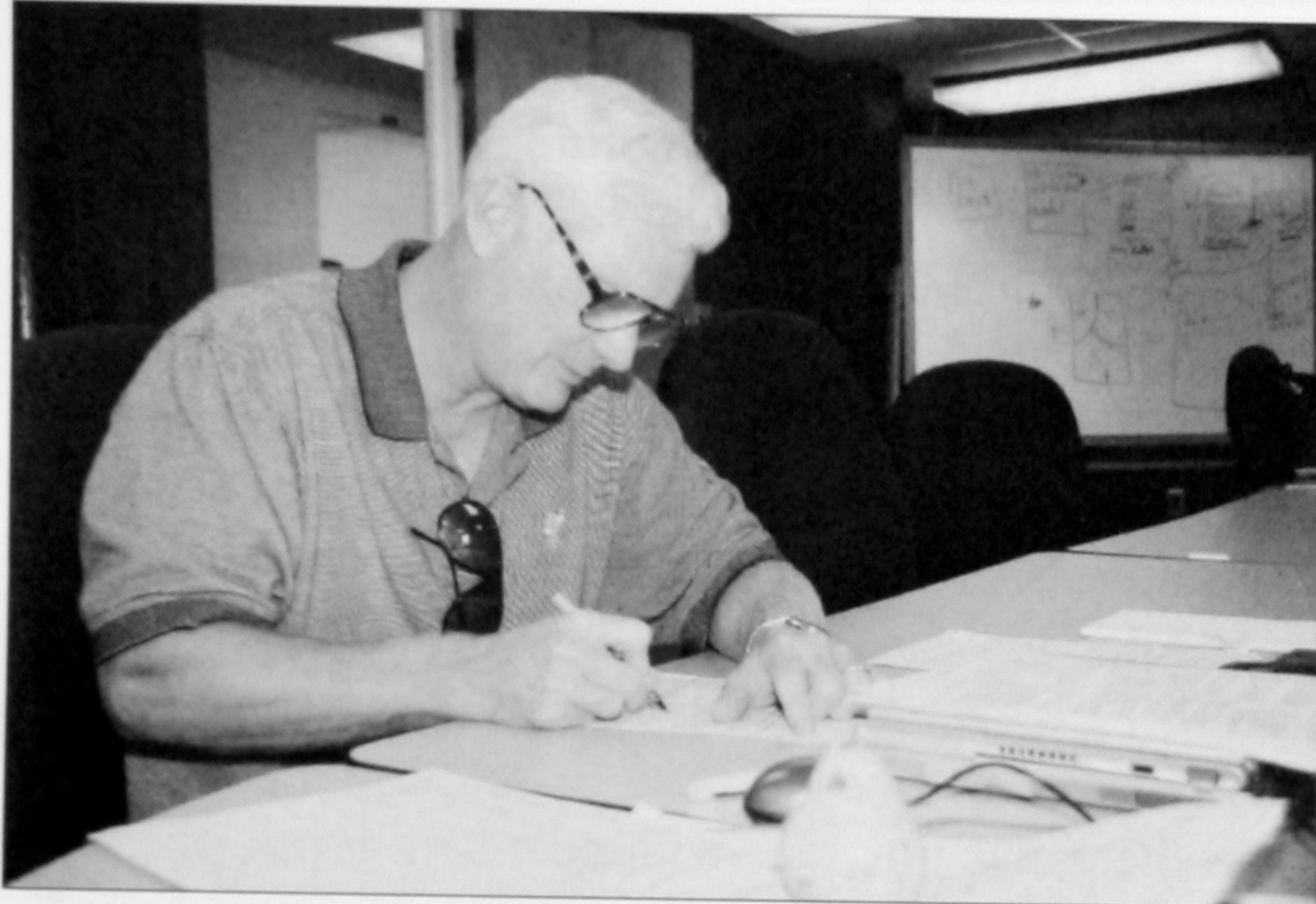
Mike Bryant, 50, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, was a security officer for 24 years, specializing in air base defense. On Sept. 11, 2001, he was living with his wife, a DoD teacher, in Yokosuka, and getting bored with retirement.

"I got so angry (about the attacks) that I got on the web and went to DoD web sites looking for a security job," he said. "I wanted to put my security experience to work. I found the PIVA job and applied."

Bryant said he'll be on the road a lot, but he and his wife are used to it.

"My last three years in the Air Force, I was on an inspection team," he explained. "We traveled all over the world. As part of the PIVA team, I expect to travel 10-14 days a month, but will be based in Yokosuka."

Joining Bryant in Yokosuka is Frank Boyd, 45, who retired from a Navy career as a specialist in seaport security. Boyd's long history in law enforcement and force protection began in the Navy, where he rose to the rank of senior chief petty officer before being commissioned as a Limited Duty Officer



Mike Bryant, a retired U.S. Air Force lieutenant colonel, is now assigned in Yokosuka as one of the five civilian assessors.

in 1987. After 20 years in explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), including a tour as the Officer in Charge of an EOD detachment, Boyd retired in 1997. He spent about two years as a deputy sheriff, and then joined the NCIS mobile training team Atlantic. Most recently, he was with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), but said he was missing the operational side of his vocation.

"I found out about (PIVA training) through NCIS Code 30," Boyd recalled. "And I thought, 'This is my chance to get back into the operational mode.'"

Not only is he operational again, Boyd said he and his family are also looking forward to living in Yokosuka.

"My wife is Japanese, our son is half Japanese. When I saw the opening I had to apply. They selected me, and here we go."

Boyd explained the procedure assessors and agents would follow during an assessment.

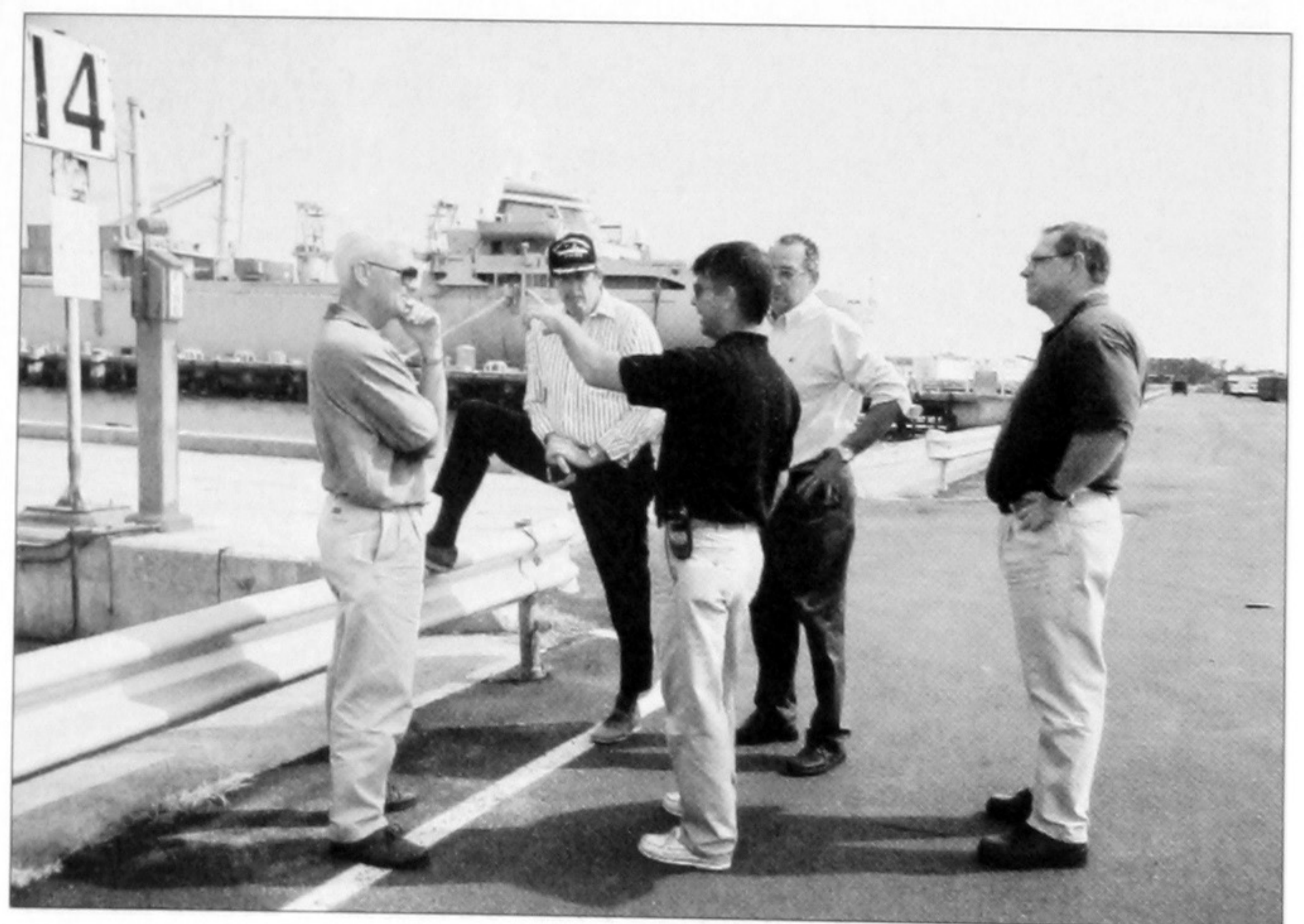
"We will work closely with the special agents," he said. "We will meet up at a port and conduct an in-depth survey. The agent will cover the threat assessment (criminal and counterintelligence) and I will cover the physical security part of it. A few of the questions we will evaluate are: 'Can we safely bring the ship into this port? Will the ship be able to provide proper security during its stay?'"

A few of the tools the assessors have available to make those determinations include laptop computers, digital cameras for taking photos during evaluations, hand-held GPS (Global Positioning Satellite) devices to log longitude and latitude, range finders, and the old standby, binoculars.

Also enjoying a homecoming is Carlos Alers, 50, who hails from Puerto Rico and will be based there again with NCIS. Alers was an MP in the Army, then became a civilian security officer with the Navy in Puerto Rico for 11 years.

"The Puerto Rico base I worked at was getting ready to close," he said. "I heard about this job, applied, and got it." "As part of the PIVA team I will be based out of Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, and will conduct PIVAs in the Caribbean area, and in the Central and South America region."

"I took the job to help make sure our ships are safe," Alers said. "We want to prevent what happened to the Cole from happening again."



Working in Norfolk, pictured left to right: Michael Bryant, Lane Ford, Tom Bartee, Carlos Alers, and Frank Boyd.



On December 4, 2002, NCIS held its Special Agent of the Year awards ceremony at Headquarters. In addition to family members and a large NCIS HQ audience, all 13 NCIS Special Agents in Charge, former Director Jack Guedalia, and 31 NCIS annuitants attended the ceremony, making it the largest ceremony in recent history.

After SA Mike McLean piped "God Bless America," Assistant Director Tom Houston introduced each of the awardees: SA Mike Marks for Counterintelligence, SA Pete Rozman for Economic Crimes, and SA Matt Timmons for General Crimes. Deputy Assistant Directors Steve Smith, Kate McKenna, and Dave Elwell elaborated on each of the agents' accomplishments before Director Dave Brant pinned each with the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

Special Agent of the Year for Counterintelligence Mike Marks

Stationed in Bahrain for over nine years, SA Marks saw the office go from four to over 25 people, and traveled all over the middle east and Africa, spending nearly half of his time on the road. He is the NCIS country expert on the United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Egypt, Oman, and Israel. A recognized expert on post-blast investigations, SA Marks was the first federal agent aboard the USS Cole after the attack in Yemen, and his relationships with the host nation were critical to the success of that investigation. His source network in the Fifth Fleet AOR is so productive that two operations were developed to collect the information developed, and are vital to the successful prosecution of the war on terrorism. The commander of one special operations forces element supported by SA Marks complimented him by saying, "SA Marks is welcome to join my special operations force troops anytime, anyplace." As Special Agent Steve Smith noted in his remarks, "There is no greater compliment."

Special Agent of the Year for Economic Crimes Pete Rozman

A graduate of California State (Long Beach) and qualified flight instructor, SA Rozman joined NCIS in September 2000, and was assigned to the San Diego Field Office procurement fraud squad. In her remarks, Special Agent Kate McKenna said that despite his fledgling status, SA Rozman was able to establish an excellent working relationship with the Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP) in San Diego, which had previously been very resistant to working with NCIS. Assigned to integrate the fraud program with acquisition priorities of NADEP San Diego, Rozman developed a source network and identity-protected witnesses, and provided fraud awareness, force protection, and technology protection briefings to the employees of NADEP. His efforts led to significant product substitution and corruption investigations and a 91-count indictment against a contractor.



Director Brant congratulates SA Pete Rozman while Deputy Assistant Director McKenna prepares to present his award.

Special Agent of the Year for General Crimes Matt Timmons

Hired on at NCIS Resident Agency Camp Pendleton only nine months prior to the ceremony, SA Timmons previously worked with NCIS as a Marine CID agent. "Proud," "hardworking," and "talented" are some of the words Special Agent Elwell used to describe SA Timmons. His proactive efforts against narcotics distributors and illegal firearms dealers have been critical to reducing the effects of crime on the Department of the Navy. SA Timmons' performance on several high-profile investigations resulted in confessions and successful prosecutions, and led to significant recoveries. As case agent on a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional investigation into illicit firearms and explosives transactions, SA Timmons has been instrumental in identifying several suspects. SA Timmons credited the teamwork at NCISRA Camp Pendleton for his success.



Left to Right: SA Dave Elwell, SA Matthew R. Timmons and Director Brant.



Pictured left to right: Director Brant, SA Mike Marks, Mrs. Jamie Timmons, SA Matt Timmons holding son Andrew, daughter Cailey Rozman, SA Pete Rozman holding daughter Cassandra, Mrs. Christine Rozman and former Director SA Jack I. Guedalia, retired.



Special Agent Afloat

By JOC Barbara Shupe

Imagine you are a very young U.S. sailor who is one minute enjoying hard-earned shore leave and the next is a prisoner in a Turkish jail! And worse, the cause of a burgeoning international incident! Fortunately for one hapless sailor—and U.S. relations with Turkey—an NCIS Special Agent Afloat (SAA) was there to help work things out.

“The sailor was arrested during a port visit to Antalya, Turkey, for climbing to the top of a prominent statue of the country’s revered former leader, Ataturk,” recalled Supervisory Special Agent Mark Cranfill, formerly the SAA onboard the now-decommissioned USS Coral Sea, who intervened on the sailor’s behalf. “The incident resulted in the incarceration of the sailor in what might be diplomatically described as harsh and extremely austere conditions within a Turkish penal facility.

“The sailor had been injured subsequent to his arrest, was facing a possible two-year prison term for violating ‘Ataturk Laws’ and there was growing media interest in Turkey and the U.S.,” Cranfill said. “As the incident began to take on international overtones, I joined a team of senior State Department representatives to conduct negotiations with Antalya municipal officials to secure the release of the imprisoned U.S. sailor.

“After 30 hours of near-continuous negotiations, the Antalya chief of police released the sailor to NCIS custody because he believed the concerns of his country could best be appreciated if they were kept between law enforcement representatives,” Cranfill said.

Although sailors who run afoul of the local law overseas don’t generally end up in the international

spotlight, the potential is there. And SAAs like Cranfill, who was a police officer and detective for seven years before joining NCIS, say the law enforcement bond among police officers worldwide can often turn off such a spotlight—or at least reduce the glare.

As the sole representative of NCIS, the SAA is a civilian “sheriff” responsible for a carrier battle group (CBG) or amphibious readiness group (ARG) of multiple ships and up to 8,000 sailors and Marines. Agents are assigned for one year, which includes a six-month deployment. The SAA program is one of the most demanding, challenging and visible assignments that an NCIS special agent can experience during his or her career. It’s also an assignment unique among federal law enforcement organizations—and to NCIS, according to Cranfill, who is now the coordinator for afloat operations in the Atlantic.

“Because the Special Agent Afloat’s mission aboard a deployed combatant encompasses almost every conceivable mission NCIS is called upon to provide,” Cranfill said, “...it’s a good representation of one of many jobs that set our organization apart.”

Life Under a Microscope

When the SAA program opened to female agents in the mid-‘90s, Special Agent Cheryl Diprizio didn’t hesitate. Already an NCIS veteran with eight years of law enforcement experience in North Carolina, this assignment seemed tailor-made.

“As I recall, the only carriers open to women then were the training carriers, which did not deploy,” she explained. “I was onboard the (carrier) USS George Washington doing a one-week TDY when I

got the word that NCIS was looking for female agents to bid for the SAA program." In March 1994, Diprizio reported aboard the USS Eisenhower (CVN 69, home ported in Norfolk), becoming the first female agent assigned to a forward-deployed combatant.

"When I reported, I was one of the first five women assigned to the ship, and I served until July '95. My tour was scheduled to be 12 months, but the ship was going into refit, so I just stayed on until she went into the yard.

"Of the 5,500 crewmembers, about 500 were women, and a fair number were in the wardroom.... Because Ike was the first combatant to sail with women crewmembers, we were under a microscope," Diprizio recalled. "It seemed there was press onboard the ship every day of the cruise!"

Breaking new ground as the first woman in a previously all-male stronghold, while working in the fishbowl of media interest, was not an issue for Diprizio.

"There was no resistance to me as a female special agent," she said. "I had no problems there whatsoever. The problems I did have were not gender related. Some people just didn't like having a civilian onboard 'our' aircraft carrier. However, that went away fairly quickly. There was no glass ceiling as far as I was concerned. Of course, early on I had to prove myself as an agent, but so does everyone else, whatever their career field."

Overseas she had to prove herself to local officials port by port.

"I think I worked nine of Ike's port calls," she said. "I did have some trouble with foreign police



SA Maureen Evans sizes up one of the F/A 18 Hornets aboard the George Washington.

departments that were not used to working with a female, but that went away too. The secret is in how you present yourself. As long as you present a professional appearance and demeanor, they will respect you. Go in like a lady and a professional and you will be treated like both."

A Different Perspective

While she won't miss some aspects of shipboard life, such as trying to sleep through the noise permeating her berth below the #3 catapult, Diprizio said she has an appreciation of her time at sea and the lessons she took away from it.

"Being an SAA made me a better agent in follow-on assignments," she said. "You are granted department head status on a ship and are their subject matter expert, so you are expected to have answers and solutions to problems when needed.

"For another thing, you come to an understanding of the job sailors have to do. You realize that their focus is making these big gray things move, operate and return safely. I realized that these sailors work extremely hard 24-7 underway and that they're held to a higher standard when on duty. That's probably why they sometimes do stupid things when off duty."

Like Cranfill, Diprizio learned how a "stupid thing" could escalate in a foreign country.

"During the cruise, we had two sailors get into trouble on their last night ashore. One had already been apprehended and the local civilian police were trying to get him to sign a statement that wasn't written in English! I was at the police station as a representative of the USN, trying to explain to the authorities who I was, how we could help if they were looking for a specific sailor or evidence on the ship. Unfortunately, I was also telling the sailor not to sign the statement, so the police ended up letting him go and charging me with obstructing justice! In retrospect, I believe it was because they weren't used to dealing with a woman. Anyway, I called the field office, and we finally worked it out. I shoved off with the ship, and all ended well.

"My cruise was a good cruise," DiPrizio said. "I would say it has probably been the best job I have had in this agency as far as learning about the job, the Navy, the world—everything! You're out there on

your own. It was exciting, educational and fun all at the same time!”

Adapting to the War on Terrorism

SAA Maureen Evans deployed onboard the Norfolk-based carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) in February as its first female SAA, responsible for about 7,500 sailors and Marines in the battle group.

After joining NCIS in 1997, Evans volunteered for the SAA program to strengthen her exposure to the counterintelligence side of the mission.

“Most of my training in law enforcement focused around death investigations and forensic training. Doing those types of investigations day in and day out, you tend to lose sight of the whole picture of the NCIS mission.

“As a Special Agent Afloat, you are one of the very few civilians onboard and it is a big adjustment. Not only are you trying to adjust to ‘ship life’ and being in the minority as a civilian, all of the ship’s personnel are adjusting to you as well.”



R & R at sea: SA Maureen Evans(back, right) having a non-alcoholic beer during a steel beach picnic.

Evans credits her years in law enforcement for giving her the strong communications skills that have enabled her to succeed in this billet.

“When I first volunteered for the SAA program, 9-11 had not happened and I pretty much knew the things that were expected of me as an SAA. September 11 changed all that and the job required of an SAA.”

“Because of the war on terrorism, I have found that there are fewer criminal cases on the ship while we are underway, even less when we are deployed in the 5th Fleet AOR. The crew is focused on the mission and most are busy with the constant flight ops and just wanting to get the job done.

“Port calls have changed dramatically. There is much more emphasis on the force protection (FP) mission of protecting the ships and their crews. My FP briefs for port calls are very detailed.”

Despite the new and escalating demands of her role afloat, Evans said the best part so far has been all the people she has met and the friends she has made. As “shipmates” they can commiserate about the uniqueness of shipboard life—such as having to walk several passageways in your bathrobe to get to the head to shower, enduring man overboard drills at 0300, and the thrill of being catapulted off an aircraft carrier at 2Gs in a COD (Carrier Onboard Delivery—the C-2A Greyhound).

On the Forefront of World Events

SAA Jeff George knows all about nautical living, from a slightly different perspective. He is the Staff Counterintelligence Officer (SCIO) onboard the USS Bataan (LHD 5), home ported at Norfolk as part of a three-ship ARG. George said he volunteered for the intelligence billet because he wanted to get his “wife and children back to the East coast, to be near the rest of the family, and to pick up (GS-)13.” He also noted “I saw the benefit of independent duty when it came time (to bid) for a management position.”

With years of duty as a Marine MP and CID agent in Hawaii, and a newly minted bachelor’s degree, George joined NCIS in September of 1998. He said he’d always seen NCIS as “the next level.”

“We moved on May 23, 2001; I dropped the family off on June 1, and on September 11, 2001, we deployed! (The surprise attack left) crewmembers on leave who were stranded in Hawaii and Alaska—all over the world—who couldn’t get to their ships.”

Having been a major case response officer for years, George said he felt well qualified in the criminal areas, but deployment as an SAA on 9-11 brought a slew of challenges.

“A normal day began at 0530 and ran to 2200,

seven days a week! There were meetings to attend and briefs to give. I was part of the group that transferred the (Afghan) detainees from the (USS) Peleliu (LHA 5) to the Bataan. I researched issues pertaining to the detainees, such as their living conditions during confinement onboard. Out there I was the top cop, so I had to be fluid. You have to keep in mind that your job is not to be reactive to criminal acts; your job is intelligence.

“In the SCIO billet you are part of the staff, one of the people the commodore looks to for intelligence he can’t necessarily get elsewhere in theater. Often I was able to get information to him before his regular sources because we have SCIOS at all the CINCs.”

The fast pace of the war on terrorism made time fly toward the date of the ARG’s return from deployment—until they got the news they’d been extended.

“When we were told we were being extended, we sucked it up and did it,” George said. “We have a mission, and the mission requires us to stay until it is done.”

In George’s case, the ARG’s deployment lasted seven months.

“The toughest adjustment for me was being always at sea. I think maybe I was off the ship 45 or 46 days in seven months!”

This former Marine said the best part of his assignment was the camaraderie with the Navy.

“There was good interaction,” George said. “I established good friendships with the staff...and I learned how to run on the deck very well!”



Pasni, Pakistan: an LCAC comes ashore to ferry SA George and detainees out to the USS Bataan under cover of darkness.



LTjg Chris Lucka and SA Jeff George (right) head back to the beach in a 5-ton truck after transporting detainees, including John Walker Lindh.



by SA Gary VanOrden

Early in the evening of October 2, 2002, a motorcycle-mounted bomb blasted through the wall of a known liberty location for U.S. troops in Zamboanga City in the Philippines. Three people died and several were seriously injured. Among the dead was Sergeant First Class (SFC) Mark Wayne Jackson, U.S. Army, possibly the target of the terrorist attack.

Shortly before midnight, NCIS Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Tim Reeves in Manila called SSA Gary Van Orden at the NCIS office in Okinawa. Reeves got straight to the point, “A bomb killed an American Soldier in Zamboanga. When can the MCRT (Major Case Response Team) deploy from Okinawa?”

Within minutes, and with limited information regarding the scene, the Okinawa MCRT went to work. SA Jeff Rodriguez went to work rallying his team, as SSA Van Orden began work to obtain a C-130 in the middle of the night. SA Darrell Paul soon arrived at NCISRA Okinawa to assist with gear selection and preparation for the unique mission. SA Burt Nakasone, Forensic Consultant, provided invaluable advice and guidance at the early stages of the deployment and ultimately took control of operations on

the scene. (Rodriguez and Nakasone had barely unpacked their bags after returning from a post-blast training course in the United States as part of the Okinawa MCRT readiness-training program.)

Three hours later, the team—consisting of Van Orden, Rodriguez, Nakasone, and SAs Brian Brittingham and John Boscia—was packed and ready to fly. By 7:00 a.m., the MCRT van was loaded aboard a KC-130 attached to VMGR-152 at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS), Futenma. Because of SFC Jackson’s U.S. Army affiliation, Special Agent Mark Howell, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division Okinawa, accompanied the NCIS team.

Despite some security-related delays, the team was on the ground at Edward Andrews Air Base in Zamboanga, RP by 6:45 p.m. Waiting for them were NCIS Special Agents Bill Heath and Joe Kennedy—in the Philippines providing support to exercise Talon Vision—who provided a situation update. The crime scene was secured for the night, due to the threat situation; so, the team used the time to discuss jurisdictional issues and disposition of collected evidence with the Legal Attaché at the U.S. Embassy, SA Jim Nixon of the FBI.



SA Nakasone (center) and MCRT leader SA Rodriguez meet with SOCO personnel in Zamboanga.

The next morning (October 4th), an armed convoy escorted the MCRT van to the scene. Upon arrival at the scene, it was clear that the MCRT would be operating in the face of several unique challenges to include excessive scene contamination, dispersal of collected evidence among host nation agencies, constant international and local media presence, a dangerous security situation, extremely hot/humid weather and constant vehicular movement through the scene.

Eleven heavily armed Marines took care of the security issues, while the MCRT focused on the tasks at hand. The first hurdle was to quickly establish

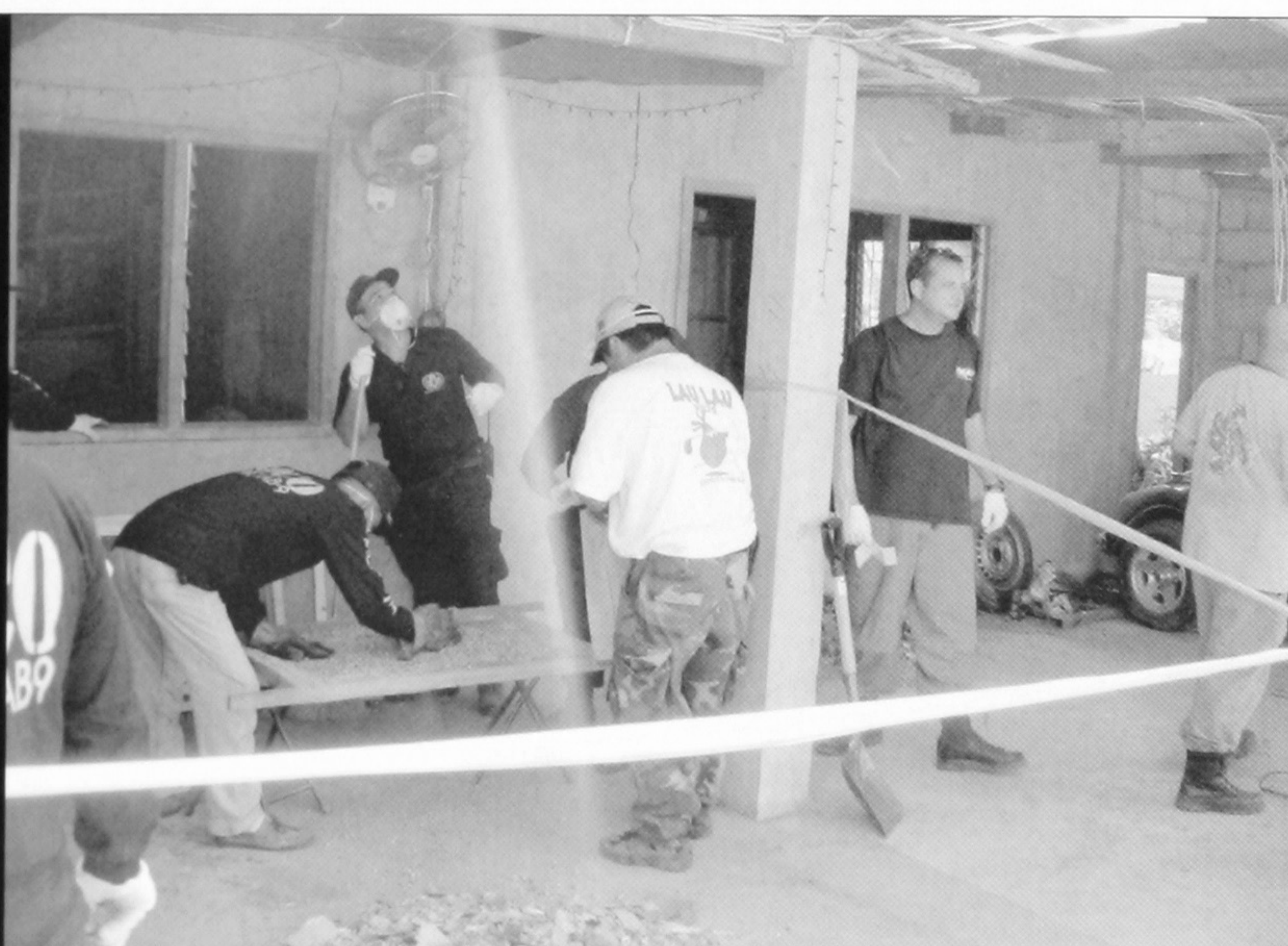
known information from the Philippine National Police (PNP) lab personnel, the Scene of Crime Operations (SOCO) personnel and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team. According to Van Orden, the level of cooperation was outstanding: all of the Philippine law enforcement organizations were completely open to working with the NCIS team.

After the team had a better grasp on the situation, SA Nakasone made the call to process the scene “by the numbers,” as if NCIS were the first agency on the scene. As they collected evidence under the baking sun, MCRT members found themselves giving limited instruction on photography, sketching, searching and other techniques as they worked side-by-side their host nation counterparts. By evening, the team had managed to collect most of the evidence.

The next and final day entailed evidence processing and preparing the MCRT van and gear for the trip back to Okinawa. “Because of the challenging mission, assignment to the NCISRA Okinawa MCRT is completely voluntary,” said Van Orden. “Despite the long hours, the extreme environmental conditions and the high terrorist threat, the agents remained motivated and focused on the mission in Zamboanga.”

In the eyes of the team, the three-day mission to Zamboanga had clearly demonstrated that innovative concepts could play a vital role in the NCIS strategy to prevent terrorism.

SA Nakasone (center) and SA Rodriguez (right) process the scene.



Recent Retirements



SA Jim Lindner retired on November 2, 2002, after serving 25 years with NCIS. He is pictured here, from left to right: Director Brant, Ms. Winnifred Feeley (Jim's Aunt), Ms. Margaret Lindner, (Jim's Mother), SA James F. Lindner, Ms. Virginia Lindner (Jim's sister) and AD Tom Betro. Jim has taken a job with CIFA (Counterintelligence Field Activity) and will be remaining in the Washington, DC area.



Joe Orrigo retired October 3, 2002 after 23 years of service. Joe is now working for ACS as a senior advisor/counterterrorism planner assigned to the Counterintelligence Field Activity. He is surrounded by his family here, from left to right: sister, Donna; son, Joseph; daughter, Jennifer; wife, Karen; son, James; SA Joe Orrigo; father, Mario; mother, Ella; brother, Rev. Mario Orrigo; and family friend, John Mahoney.



SA Bernye Ayer retired on October 1, 2002, and is pictured here receiving her retirement credentials from SA Vic McPherson (current ARNISSA President). She and her husband Cliff (on left) will remain in the Washington DC area. Bernye has taken a job with Beta Analytics International, Inc., supporting the Army G-2 initiative in research and technology protection. Bernye and Cliff's daughter, Alex, is now a Junior in a Northern Virginia high school.



SA Brian Stamper was presented with the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award at a HQs ceremony in honor of his retirement. Brian retired on November 30, 2002, after 25 years of service with NCIS and is now one of our retired annuitants.

Retirements since October 1, 2002:

Bernadine Ayer	0022	10/01/02
Joseph Orrigo	0020	10/03/02
Earl Fenner	CALE	10/05/02
Jeffrey Walton	0022	10/05/02
Donald Bruce	0022	10/29/02
Harlan Rossman	0023	10/19/02
Larry Cusey	NFFM	10/31/02
James Lindner	0023	11/02/02
Bruce Smart	SDND	11/02/02
Michael Brown	0023	11/30/02
Brian Stamper	0030	11/30/02
Thelma Fugere	MPMP	01/03/03
Barbara Gobel	0021	01/03/03
Joseph Landin	NFNF	01/03/03
Claudia Potts	SDPY	01/03/03

Reservists Fill Law Enforcement Gaps

By Lt. Leslie Hull-Ryde

SINGAPORE — When resources are strapped and spread too thinly, it's time to tap into the reserves, which is just what the Naval Criminal Investigative Service did after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. More than 100 reserve agents were recalled to active duty for at least a year.

"We're filling in and will continue doing so as situations dictate," said Emmett Jones, a naval reserve commander-agent who was stationed in Singapore for seven months. "Some reserve agents are even extending on recall to support a variety of missions overseas."

"The idea is to make sure every area is covered and someone is there doing the job."

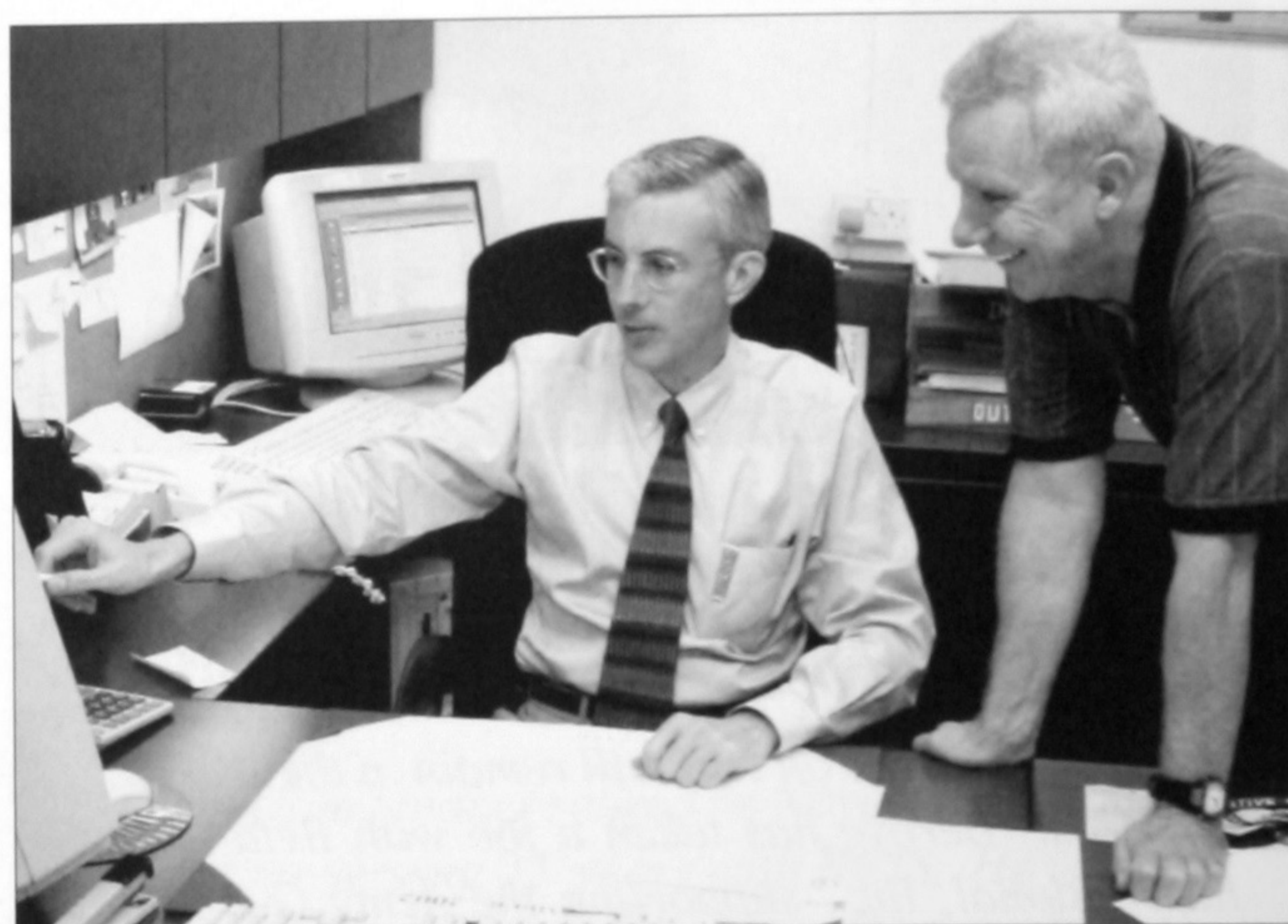
Since last October, Bob Mulligan, resident agent in charge of the NCIS office here, has had six reserve officer-agents support his staff. While in the Lion City, they have been involved in every facet of NCIS operations.

Force protection for ships visiting Thailand, Australia, India and Tonga has been supported by some of Singapore's NCIS reservists. In addition, they've helped with major exercises like Cobra Gold and Co-operation Afloat Readiness and Training. They've conducted numerous security clearance background investigations and assisted in major investigations ranging from computer hacking, child molestation, rape and suicide.

"They bring a world of civilian experience to NCIS," said Mulligan, who's employed policemen, lawyers and a state judge among the reservists deployed here.

"It's great to have a talent pool to draw on in the event of a crises. They are well trained and can operate in any NCIS office throughout the world with very little ramp up time."

Many of the reserve agents have law enforcement, investigative or legal backgrounds. They are a "natural fit" to the NCIS organization.



"Outstanding" is how Bob Mulligan, left, describes the support of the reserve officer-agents like Emmett Jones.

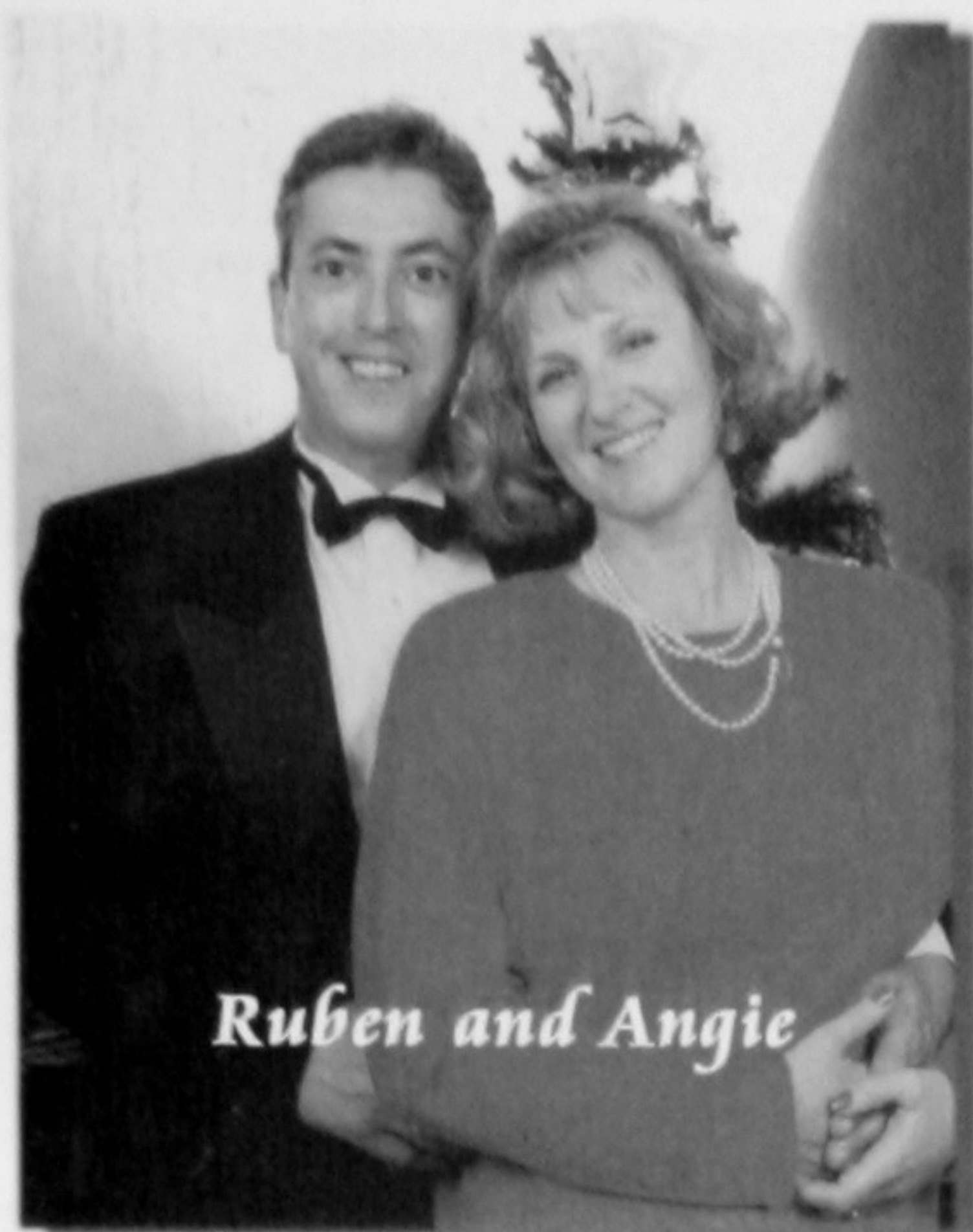
"I could not have successfully carried out the NCIS mission in Southeast Asia without reserve support," said Mulligan. "They hit the ground running and never stopped."

"They contributed greatly to the safety and security of U.S. [Department of Defense] forces in this area of responsibility."

The NCIS reserve program runs its own credentialing program. Naval officers who are credentialed through a specialized training program carry badges and the "agent" title. The training includes criminal investigations, fraud investigations, protective service details and counterintelligence.

Reserve officer-agents come from the intelligence community. Enlisted sailors also fill vital support roles, such as intelligence specialists, yeomen and supply types.

"As professionals in civilian life, they bring a vast amount of real-world experience," said Mulligan. "And their performance—regardless of rank—has been nothing short of outstanding."



Ruben and Angie

Ruben Diaz, Jr. **30 April 1955 - 3 January 2003**



*Daughter - Katherine
Age 9*

One of our own has been taken from us. We deeply miss Ruben and mourn his passing....

Every person wants to leave a mark on this world. Ruben left quite a mark....

He grabbed life by the horns. He lived life at full speed, never stopping even up until his untimely death....

If you met Ruben, you'd never forget him. Most people didn't. This quality—a combination of diplomacy and a lively sense of humor—made him an excellent ambassador for NCIS. He had an innate ability to smooth things over, to make things right.... Time and again, senior NCIS leadership was thanked by outside agencies for Ruben's assistance and expertise. Time and again, his supervisors at NCIS sat back in amazement at Ruben's gift of gilded gab, which got us out of more than one jam....

After Ruben was assigned to our office in Rota, Spain in 1989, he spearheaded an operation that many call the greatest foreign counterintelligence achievement in the history of our agency. The operation, named "Frozen Tundra", was an extremely sensitive, offensive, intelligence operation run during the Gulf War. It was dangerous, risky and certainly not for the faint of heart.

Ruben initiated and managed Frozen Tundra from start to finish. The operation had a direct impact on the outcome of the war. In fact, Ruben's work helped hasten the end to the Gulf War and as a result saved an untold number of lives. His work won him NCIS Agent of the Year and DoD Counterintelligence Agent of the Year honors. It serves to this day as the model for wartime counterintelligence operations.

Even after these great professional accomplishments, Ruben never slowed his pace. During his last assignment here in Florida, he traveled extensively throughout Latin America, working tirelessly in support of ship visits and military exercises. Ruben's work ethic served as an example to our entire agency right up until the end of his life.

It is with very heavy hearts that we now bid you goodbye, Ruben. We salute you and thank you for years of patriotic service to our agency and our country. Rest in peace.

Excerpts from Director Dave Brant's eulogy for Special Agent Ruben Diaz.



while in Europe



*while assigned to
Red Blanket*



in the office

Forensic Notes

“All that glitters”

By Robert Blackledge

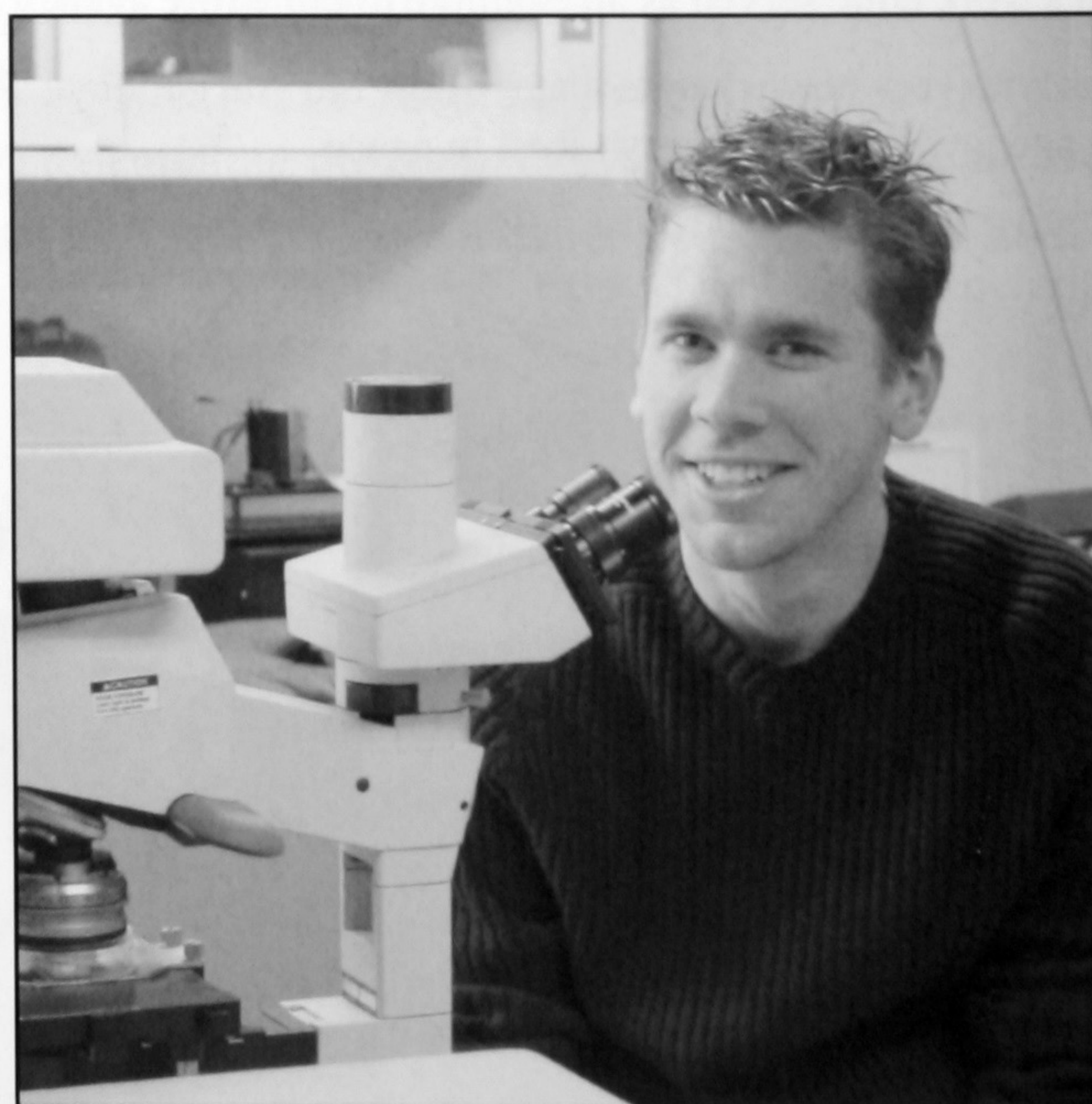
As the old saying says, “All that glitters is not gold.” However, glitter particle trace evidence just might be as good as gold if it helps to form a positive association between a sexual assault victim and a suspect. Today, glitter particle cosmetic products are very popular among young women and teenage (and even pre-teen) girls. There is a high probability of transfer of these particles in sexual assaults, abductions, or any crime where there is intimate contact between victim and assailant (or environments associated with a suspect, such as his apartment or the trunk of his car).



Forensic Intern Klaya Aardahl is studying the evidentiary value of glitter particles.

The NCIS Regional Forensic Laboratory in San Diego applied for and received a research grant from the California Association of Criminalists. Grant funds are earmarked for a project designed to produce a protocol for the recovery and comparison of glitter particle cosmetic traces. NCISRFL-San Diego has two interns working on the study. Both interns are enrolled in a Master of Science in Forensic Science degree program with National University, San Diego.

For his role in the study, Scott Kirkowski is focusing on optimizing methods for the detection and recovery of glitter particles from evidence items and crime scenes. Kirkowski will then develop and assess various methods for characterizing and comparing glitter particles. Kirkowski has a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in chemistry from the University of San Diego.



Forensic Intern Scott Kirkowski is studying methods for glitter evidence collection.

Klaya Aardahl is focusing on assessing the evidentiary value of glitter particle trace evidence. Aardahl has a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in biology from George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia. Prior to coming to San Diego, Aardahl worked as an NCIS intern under Special Agent John Marsh at the "Death Desk" at NCIS headquarters.

The following illustrates the importance of Aardahl's part of the study: Let's assume that a sexual assault victim was wearing a glitter particle cosmetic product, and that some glitter particles matching this product were recovered from the clothing of a suspect. However, at the trial the suspect's attorney says, "Today, these glitter particle cosmetic products are so popular that they are virtually everywhere. My client could have picked up these glitter particles on his clothing from just about anywhere!" Unless this assertion can be refuted with solid scientific data, the usefulness of glitter particle trace evidence in helping to establish an association between the victim and the suspect will be considerably weakened.

Kirkowski and Aardahl have collected and characterized many different brands and types of com-

mercial cosmetic glitter particles. From this assortment, they have selected as target particles four different specific types, specific in terms of size, shape, color, surface morphology, and chemical composition. Aardahl will then collect tape liftings from two different types of environmental sources. One source will be booths in bars and restaurants. (Yes, it's a tough job, but someone has to do it.) The other will be the back seats of police cars as they are brought into the station at change of shift. She will then use a microscope to search these tape lifts. Her findings will help to give insight into the following two questions. 1) In general, how ubiquitous are glitter particles in the general environment? 2) If one has a specific target particle, how likely is it that one or more of these particles would be picked up on one's clothing from the general environment?

Robert Blackledge has been a chemist with NCIS RFL San Diego since February of 1989. He is also an adjunct professor in the Master of Science in Forensic Science degree program at National University, San Diego, and is serving as the thesis advisor for Kirkowski and Aardahl.



John O'Connor (on left), son of Special Agent Jack O'Connor and member of the USA MahJong Team, wins the silver medal at the World MahJong Championship held in Tokyo, Japan in October 2002. Congratulations John!

Recent Visits/Events



Director Brant discusses counterterrorism issues with ABC Anchor John Miller on the Navy Yard.



Recent visit of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force which included the Japanese Director of Naval Intelligence (standing left of Asst. Director Blincoe)



Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Security and Information Operations, Carol Haave visited Director Brant in early November.



MTAC, Arriving!

Deputy Director John McEleny, Cmdr. Jim McIlmail, Director Brant, Deputy Asst. Director Mike Dorsey, Asst. Director Ralph Blincoe, Asst. Director Greg Scovel and BUI (SCW) Frady, NMCB 24, prepare to break ground for the new MTAC at HQ.



Re-employed Annuitants

Kneeling: Bill Klemp, Bob Robbins, Dan Fernandez, Larry Ferrell, John Y. Roberts, Leon Carroll, Larry Coleman, W. Dale Laing, Vic McPherson

Standing: Jeff Walton, Sam Shine, Tony D'Amico, Mike Chimarys, Bruce Smart, Al Marretta, Brian Stamper, Leo Barron, "Jeff" Baker, Joe Landin, Marshall Whidden (partially hidden), Burke McMurdo, Charlie Strickland, Ray Larabee, Larry Remaklus, Doug Tomaso, Earl Fenner, Bob Cathcart, Tom Boley

For the second year in a row, a three-day seminar was held at the Washington Navy Yard for Re-Employed Annuitants. Presentations included strategic vision by Director Brant, DSS training by the DSS International Projects Officer, and Field Training Agent/Coordinator training by SA Tammy Key, Code 30. The majority of annuitants have been tasked to help with the accelerated processing of agent applicants and the backlog of DSS investigations overseas. During the first year, annuitants closed over 2,000 DSS investigations and participated in over 600 special agent screening boards.

Note: The following annuitants were not included in the above photograph:

Harlan Rossman, Jim Austin, Al Zane, Mike Bruggeman, Mike Brown, Bob Hartley, Frank Melia and Jim Simprini.