



Commissioned Corps BULLETIN

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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Surgeon General's Column

Henry David Thoreau wrote, "Things do not change; we change." In public health, change must always be driven by evidence. A quick history into our perspectives of leaded gasoline illustrates this point.

In December 1921, three engineers—Charles Kettering, Thomas Midgeley, and Thomas Boyd—reported tremendous success with their first test of tetraethyl lead as a fuel additive to improve engine performance. This new compound was touted as the rescuer of the American automobile industry.

Unfortunately, the use of tetraethyl lead created almost as many problems as it solved. In the summer of 1924, workers in several New Jersey and Ohio refineries became sick and died from lead exposure. Rumors circulated that the additive caused people to go mad before they died, causing some creative journalists to nickname the fuel 'loony gas.'

In May 1925, in response to this widespread public terror, Surgeon General Hugh Smith Cumming temporarily suspended the production and sale of leaded gasoline and appointed a panel of experts to investigate. He asked the committee to weigh "the possible danger" that might arise "with wide distribution of a lead compound" through its sale as a gasoline additive.

The committee had only 7 months to design and conduct its study, a timeline that the members criticized in their final June 1926 report. However, the committee ultimately maintained that there were "no good grounds for prohibiting the use of ethyl gasoline . . . as a motor fuel,

provided that its distribution and use are controlled by proper regulations."

Despite this conclusion, Surgeon General Cumming set the voluntary standard of 3 cubic centimeters per gallon (cc/g) for the oil industry to follow in mixing tetraethyl lead with gasoline.

More than three decades later, in 1958, Surgeon General Leroy Edgar Burney raised the lead standard to 4 cc/g (equivalent of 4.23 grams per gallon), maintaining that loosening of the voluntary standard posed no health threat to the average American. He stated, "During the past 11 years, during which the greatest expansion of tetraethyl lead has occurred, there has been no sign that the average individual in the U.S. has sustained any measurable increase in the concentration of lead in his blood or in the daily output of lead in his urine."

It wasn't until the scientific and technological breakthroughs of the early 1970s that researchers started to realize that even low-level lead exposure can affect nearly every system in the body, causing learning disabilities, behavioral problems, and—when present at very high levels—seizures, coma, and even death.

So we changed to respond to new scientific evidence. The automobile industry found new, safer ways to fuel car engines. At the same time, public health professionals implemented outreach activities to ensure that people received the best and most reliable health information possible.

Changing the way that the Nation behaved around leaded gasoline and other

lead products was not an easy process. Health professionals struggled to clearly communicate how simple lifestyle choices, like painting a home, could unintentionally harm children. New regulations were enacted to require industries to ensure that lead levels were safe for everyone, including vulnerable populations. The public eventually accepted this new information and adapted to it.

It was a lot to change in a short period of time, but Americans did it, and in the late 1990s, 434,000 American children had elevated blood levels—*down from nearly four million children in 1978.*

Almost 25 years ago, the world changed because we were able to adapt our thoughts and actions based on the new evidence about what constitutes a safe level of lead. Today, our world is once again changing. The drive for change comes from scientific breakthroughs, as well as from challenges brought on by emerging and re-emerging diseases, terrorist threats, and a diversity of health needs across the Nation and world.

The United States is therefore adapting, as are many of the U.S. government

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Surgeon General's Column

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Departments and Agencies designed to protect the Nation. For some, the core mission changed significantly after September 11. For example, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director, Robert Mueller, stated that after September 11 the FBI's mission immediately became "prevention of terrorist attacks." Other agencies have adapted to the changes by merging into the Department of Homeland Security, where the mission is to "lead the unified national effort to secure America."

Our mission as U.S. Public Health Service officers is to promote, protect, and advance the health and safety of the Nation while being ready to respond to emergencies and emergent public health issues. How we implement this mission needs to change in order to ensure that the country knows who we are, why we exist, and what skills and expertise we provide to them each day. In doing this, we will build upon our past successes, learn from our mistakes, and build a Corps that allows us to continue to find new and innovative solutions to the public health challenges we now face.

This is a culture change for many of us. It is not and will not be easy. I challenge you to help make it happen. Promote our strong legacy as the Nation's premier health care professionals. We have earned that distinction. We must build upon our noble past, not rest on it.

I ask you to continue to support Secretary Thompson's vision of the future for the U.S. Public Health Service that meets the challenges we now face, while truly representing the best of what we have already accomplished. Let us adapt so that we can continue to give America and the rest of the world the one thing that never changes—a strong, professional, outstanding USPHS.

Thank you for your amazing work.

VADM Richard H. Carmona
Surgeon General

Historical information about leaded gasoline was taken from the article "A Historical Perspective" by Jack Lewis in the May 1985 EPA Journal.



RADM Linda Tollefson Receives Veterinarian of the Year Award

On June 24, 2004, RADM Linda Tollefson received the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps Officer Veterinarian of the Year Award for advancement of veterinary medicine to improve and protect the public health. RADM Tollefson is the Deputy Director, Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

One of RADM Tollefson's outstanding contributions to improving public health is her work to establish and implement the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) for zoonotic enteric pathogens in animals and humans. This initiative successfully forged the direction for the FDA in how to handle the critically important public health issue of antimicrobial resistance as it relates to antibiotics in food-producing animals. RADM Tollefson brought together the efforts of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as the FDA to meet this overall public health challenge facing the Nation.

In a related effort, RADM Tollefson also successfully joined the NARMS program with the Retail Food Surveys within the FoodNet surveillance program. FoodNet shares information electronically with researchers and public health officials across the country that support policy decisions regarding drug resistant foodborne infectious diseases resulting from the use of antimicrobial therapy in food-producing animals. The data generated and follow-up outbreak investigations are vital to meeting the mission and goals of the PHS regarding this issue and safeguarding the health of the entire population. The identification of emerging resistance allows the agencies to focus educational efforts in the veterinary and human medical communities on the appropriate use of antimicrobial agents. In addition, preventing or containing the development of antibiotic resistance directly impacts the cost of health care by helping to ensure the continued effectiveness of antibiotics as well as stemming the morbidity and mortality from treatment failures due to resistance.



RADM Linda Tollefson

At the same time that RADM Tollefson is at the forefront of so many vital Center and Agency initiatives, she is also serving in a senior leadership position at CVM. As CVM Deputy Director, she shares the responsibilities with the Center Director to lead CVM's employees to develop and implement veterinary medical policy with regard to safety and effectiveness of animal drugs, feed additives, and devices; to provide the scientific and regulatory expertise required in surveillance and compliance activities; and to conduct toxicological and microbiological laboratory research studies that support pre- and post-market Center functions.

RADM Tollefson actively supports the PHS Commissioned Corps and the efforts by the Corps' senior leadership to transform and expand the Corps. She is an officer who is participating constructively in making the changes happen. To assist in providing more extensive FDA representation to the Office of the Surgeon General, RADM Tollefson has been appointed by Corps senior management to serve as alternate on the Surgeon General's Policy Advisory Council (SGPAC) and by the FDA Commissioner to co-chair a newly formed FDA Commissioner's

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RADM Linda Tollefson Receives Veterinarian of the Year Award

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Advisory Committee for the Commissioned Corps.

RADM Tollefson earned a Bachelor of Science degree in 1976, a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1980, and a Master of Public Health degree in 1984 with special training in epidemiology and biostatistics. She has authored numerous scientific articles and book chapters. RADM Tollefson earned Exceptional Capability Promotions to both the O-5 and O-6 grades and received many PHS honors and awards, including the Meritorious Serv-

ice Medal, the Outstanding Service Medal, and Commendation Medals, for her leadership in epidemiology and public health surveillance. She was the first female veterinarian in the Corps to reach the O-7 (Rear Admiral) rank when she was promoted on August 1, 2001.

Throughout her career, RADM Tollefson has clearly demonstrated her strong commitment to the Agency and to the Corps, with her foremost goal to protect the public health.

Retirements – August

Title/Name Agency/OPDIV/Program

MEDICAL

REAR ADMIRAL (UPPER)

Nathaniel Stinson, Jr. OS

CAPTAIN

George C. Baacke II IHS

Suzanne Binder CDC

Robert M. Castellan CDC

Timothy J. Dondero, Jr. CDC

Robert A. Gunn CDC

Terence H. Hamel IHS

Richard A. Knazek NIH

Julius R. Krevans, Jr. IHS

David M. Mannino III CDC

Craig R. Nicholson IHS

COMMANDER

William K. Kvien IHS

NURSE

CAPTAIN

Kathleen M. Kinsey IHS

COMMANDER

Angel M. Frazier HRSA

Ottilia A. Fuermann IHS

ENGINEER

CAPTAIN

Stephen S. Aoyama IHS

William G. Axlund IHS

Willard D. Daellenbach NIH

E. Crispin Kinney IHS

COMMANDER

Kenneth E. Olson II IHS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

CAPTAIN

Gail G. Buonviri IHS

Thomas A. Demarcus CDC

Richard W. Hartle CDC

Gary P. Noonan CDC

VETERINARY

CAPTAIN

Mark C. Haines NIH

PHARMACY

CAPTAIN

Thomas E. Dorworth NIH

COMMANDER

David V. Larson IHS

HEALTH SERVICES

CAPTAIN

Barry Bragin PSC

Nina F. Dozoretz HRSA

Joseph G. Sirmons DHS

COMMANDER

Doreen M. Melling PSC

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

Regarding Special Leave Accrual Policy—Annual Leave in Excess of 60 Days Must be Used by December 31, 2004

Manual Circular No. 368, "Annual Leave—Implementation of Special Leave Accrual Policy and Amendment," dated December 12, 2001 (available at—http://dcp.psc.gov/PDF_docs/Jan02ccb.pdf) assisted active-duty officers from losing entitlement to excess annual leave because of the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States and its aftermath.

The policy authorized active-duty officers who were unable to take annual leave because of the national emergency to carry up to 90 annual leave days from one calendar year to the next—provided that all officers use accumulated annual leave in excess of 60 days before the end of the third calendar year (**before December 31, 2004**).



October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Department of Health and Human Services is at the leading edge in providing education and information in an effort to reduce the incidence of domestic violence. Information on available programs and statistics may be found on the Department's Web site—<http://www.dhhs.gov>—under 'Families & Children.'

The goal of the Public Health Service (PHS) is to prevent domestic violence before it happens, and to provide intervention and rehabilitation as necessary. Although the number of reported incidents among PHS Commissioned Corps officers is relatively low, when it occurs, it not only affects the health and well-being of officers and their family members, but also compromises the mission of the PHS.

Active-duty and retired officers and/or family members concerned with this issue are encouraged to seek early assistance through the Uniformed Services' healthcare system's Family Advocacy Program, or through the civilian sector if outside the catchment area of a military facility. Officers or their family members may also obtain intervention by calling the Medical Affairs Branch, Commissioned Corps Support Services, Program Support Center, at 1-800-368-2777, option 2. These calls will be handled in a 'medically confidential' manner and information will be held in the strictest confidence.



Basic Officer Training Course Classes — March through July 2004

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**MARCH 2004
ROCKVILLE, MD**

Members of the Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA) staff, Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CAPT F. Behan, CDRs D. Taylor, M. Timmons, C. Wiseman, LT C. Oyster) had the honor to conduct a Basic Officer Training Course for 5 days during March in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD, for VADM Richard H. Carmona, Surgeon General and Commander of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, Department of Health and Human Services.

VADM Carmona is the first Surgeon General to complete this training and in doing so has demonstrated one of the most basic components of leadership—leaders lead by example. The Surgeon General asks much from officers, but nothing more or less than what is needed and what he himself is willing to do.

During the training there were bugle calls, a ringed binder, uniform inspec-



tions, a reaffirmation of the Oath, oral presentations, protocol drills, Q&A sessions, videos, interruptions followed by refocusing, an Oath Coin, book titled "Plagues and Politics," the earning of 'a coaster made of the finest, genuine, 100 percent veterinarian inspected leather', certificate, and an Independent Officer

Training Course password. The COTA staff heard the Surgeon General state that "once before he heard his Nation call, and served. Now once again the call was made, and again he serves—this time in the uniform of the USPHS Commissioned Corps."

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

**APRIL 7 - 9, 2004
ROCKVILLE, MD**

Members of the Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA) staff, Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CAPT F. Behan, CDRs D. Taylor, M. Timmons, C. Wiseman, LT C. Oyster) conducted an Inactive Reserve Corps (IRC) Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), April 7-9, in the Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD. The class was completed by 13 commissioned officers who traveled from 11 States.

The class experienced classroom style presentations, uniform inspections, classroom instruction, saluting exercises,

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Basic Officer Training Course Classes — March through July 2004

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Uniformed Service protocols, the National Naval Medical Center Uniform Shop in Bethesda, MD, Q&A sessions, the Metro, individual photos in uniform with the U.S. and PHS flags, a group photograph, evening experiences in Rockville, MD, special presentations planned over 5 additional days designed specifically for these IRC members, and a closing ceremony on April 16.

The closing ceremony began at 1:30 p.m. with a class procession, Presenta-

tion of Colors by the PHS Honor Corps (LT R. Bunnell, LT C. Corbie, LT E. Mayfield, LT R. Sauders), National Anthem, 'Welcome Address' by CAPT Behan (Director, COTA), 'We Thirteen' poem by CAPT McGraw, 'Class Reflections' by CAPT Fazen, 'Opening Remarks' by CAPT Sayers (Director, Office of Reserve Affairs), 'Special Quests' by RADM Grim (Director, Indian Health Service (IHS)), RADM Haffner (Food and Drug Administration), RADM Harry (IHS), and 'The Address' by RADM Williams (Chief of

Staff, Office of the Surgeon General), followed by graduation with the presentation of BOTC certificates.

Bonds were formed and individual identities generated. The class was energetic and most positive. Two class members shared experiences gained during very productive professional careers started in uniform during World War II.

All are ready to serve the Nation as officers in the IRC of the USPHS Commissioned Corps.

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

APRIL 19 - 21, 2004

ROCKVILLE, MD

Members of the Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA), Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CAPT F. Behan, CDRs M. Timmons, C. Wiseman, LT C. Oyster), at the request of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), conducted a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), April 19-21, at the University of Maryland's Rockville, MD, campus. The class was completed by 39 officers whose ranks ranged from Lieutenant Junior Grade to Captain. These officers are primarily serving with the National Health Service Corps as Ready Responders.

The days spent completing the BOTC were part of a comprehensive 2-week Ready Responder Spring Training Program conducted at various sites including: George Washington University; University of Maryland; Uniformed Services University; Naval Postgraduate Dental School; and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Selected examples of training experiences were: Advanced Cardiac Life Support; BOTC; Public Health Response to Terrorism; Weapons of Mass Destruction; Case Scenario Exercises; Mental Health and Disaster Preparedness; Epidemiology and Outbreak Disease Investigation; Personal Preparedness; Advanced



Trauma Life Support; Incident Command for Healthcare Workers; Disaster Response Planning Tabletop Exercise; Commissioned Corps Readiness Force (CCRF) and/or Red Cross Deployment; HRSA Ethics; CCRF Modules; Diagnosis and Management of Dental and Oral Facial Trauma; and Pediatric Advanced Life Support.

All officers were provided with a copy of the book titled "Plagues and Politics," an Oath Coin, and instructions to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC). Following successful completion of the IOTC, officers are awarded the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

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Basic Officer Training Course Classes — March through July 2004

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United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

MAY 14 - 16, 2004

ANCHORAGE, AK

Members of the Commissioned Officers Training Academy, Office of Commissioned Corps Operations (OCCO), (CAPT F. Behan, CDRs C. Wiseman, D. Taylor, LT C. Oyster), conducted two 3-Day Basic Officer Training Courses (BOTCs) in conjunction with the 2004 Public Health Conference held in Anchorage, AK. The first class was held May 14-16 in the Hilton Anchorage Hotel. This was the 66th BOTC class and was completed by 123 officers whose ranks ranged from Ensign to Rear Admiral. Officers traveled from 19 States, and were from all professional categories and major programs. It was a truly memorable experience for all.

The class experienced comments from RADM Holman (Food and Drug Administration); RADM Vanderwagon (Indian Health Service) who spoke about Iraq; CAPT Canton (Director, OCCO); CAPT Farrell, USN (Ret.) (Executive Director, Commissioned Officers Association); CAPT Van Hubbard (Disaster Medical Assistance Team); LTJG Slawinski (Commissioned Corps Readiness Force); and LCDR Keats,



an OCCO staff member who spoke about travel issues. Class member, CDR J. Bader, volunteered support by becoming the class representative.

Each officer completing the BOTC received access to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC), and is expected to complete the IOTC and

earn the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

At the conclusion of the third and final day of BOTC, much of the class participated in the Surgeon General's Run/Walk, Junior Officer Advisory Group meeting, and other excellent Conference programs.

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

MAY 21 - 23, 2004

ANCHORAGE, AK

Members of the Commissioned Officers Training Academy, Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CAPT F. Behan, CDRs Wiseman, D. Taylor, LT C. Oyster), conducted two 3-Day Basic Officer Training Courses (BOTCs) in conjunction with the 2004 Public Health Conference held in Anchorage, AK. This, the second class, was held May 21-23 in the Egan Convention Center. This was

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Basic Officer Training Course Classes — March through July 2004

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the 67th BOTC, and was completed by 91 officers whose ranks ranged from Lieutenant Junior Grade to Captain. Officers traveled from 18 States, and were from all professional categories and major programs. It was a truly memorable experience for all.

The class experienced comments from Deputy Surgeon General Moritsugu (Office of the Surgeon General); CAPT

Farrell, USN (Ret.), (Executive Director, Commissioned Officers Association); CAPT Van Hubbard (Disaster Medical Assistance Team); CAPT Susanne Caviness (Food and Drug Administration); CAPT Bill Knight (Program Support Center (PSC)); and Lou Ann Rector (PSC).

All officers completing the BOTC received access to the Web-based Indepen-

dent Officer Training Course (IOTC) and are expected to complete the IOTC and earn their Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

Many of these officers participated in the Surgeon General's Run/Walk, Junior Officer Advisory Group meeting, and other excellent Conference programs.

United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

JUNE 29 - JULY 1, 2004

ATLANTA, GA

Members of the Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA), Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CDR M. Timmons and LT C. Oyster with direct support from CAPT F. Behan and CDR C. Wiseman), at the request and funding of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), traveled to Atlanta, GA, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), June 29 through July 1, on the campus of Mercer University. The course was completed by 101 officers in ranks ranging from Ensign to Captain and serving with ATSDR, Federal Bureau of Prisons, CDC, Food and Drug Administration, Office of the Secretary, and U.S. Coast Guard.

The weather in Atlanta was hot outside, but the atmosphere was warm and friendly inside. Uniform inspections conducted by senior officers were precise, and the presentation of awards and singing of the Public Health Service (PHS) March made the course an experience to remember. This BOTC was a very large success due to the professional class participation of officers; leadership of senior



officers, CAPTs Hayes, O'Connor, and Steward; the daily assistance by volunteers of members of the Junior Officer Advisory Group; Atlanta Chapter of the Commissioned Officers Association (COA) led by LCDR Lankford; evening opportunities to continue over dinner; local sightseeing trip to the CDC Campus and 'Driving Miss Daisy' house tour; visit to a local ice cream shop; the informational address by COA Executive Director, CAPT Farrell, USN (Ret.); the ex-

pertise of the COTA staff; and the Key-note Address at graduation by RADM Williams, Chief of Staff, OSG.

Officers were provided instructions to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course leading to the awarding of the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

It was certainly a great day to be an officer in the PHS Commissioned Corps!

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United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps



Basic Officer Training Course Classes — March through July 2004

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United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps

BASIC OFFICER TRAINING COURSE

JULY 13 -15, 2004

ABERDEEN, SD

Members of the Commissioned Officer Training Academy (COTA), Office of Commissioned Corps Operations, (CDRs D. Taylor and C. Wiseman with direct support of CAPT F. Behan and CDR M. Timmons), at the request and funding of the Indian Health Service, traveled to Aberdeen, SD, to conduct a 3-Day Basic Officer Training Course (BOTC), July 13-15. The course was completed by 41 officers in ranks ranging from Ensign to Captain.

This BOTC was a very large success due to the professional class participa-



tion of officers, leadership of senior officers, and the expertise of the COTA staff. Officers were provided instructions to the Web-based Independent Officer Training Course (IOTC) leading to the awarding

of the PHS Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon.

It was certainly a great day to be an officer in the PHS Commissioned Corps!



Nurse Officer, CAPT Barbara L. Hsu-Trawinski, Receives Prestigious Public Health Service Award

CAPT Barbara L. Hsu-Trawinski has been awarded the Public Health Service (PHS) Meritorious Service Medal for her career accomplishments as a nurse officer with the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium. The Meritorious Service Medal is one of the highest and most prestigious awards that can be awarded to a PHS Commissioned Corps officer.

The award was presented to CAPT Hsu-Trawinski by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson and RADM Charles Grim, Director, IHS, during a gathering of Tribal leadership at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Anchorage, AK, on July 27, 2004.

CAPT Hsu-Trawinski was granted the award based on her outstanding and dedicated service to the Alaska Native population for the past 23 years.

Congratulations to CAPT Hsu-Trawinski on this major accomplishment!



(Left to right) Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, CAPT Barbara L. Hsu-Trawinski, and Indian Health Services Director, RADM Charles Grim.



Office of Force Readiness and Deployment

Current Responses

- Fort Thompson Service Unit, Aberdeen Area. Mental health support to address a high number of adolescent suicides among the Crow, Creek, and Sioux. Scheduled through September 7.
- Republican National Convention, August 27 through September 3.
- Medical Teams on-call during the Summer Olympics, August 13-29.
- Medical Teams on-call during the Para-Olympics, September 17-28.
- Anesthesia Support for Indian Health Service's Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation.
- Orange Alert: Deployment to Secretary's Command Center, Department of Health and Human Services. Scheduled through January 2005.
- Orange Alert: Secretary's Emergency Response Teams On-Call. Scheduled through January 2005.

Just Concluded Responses

- U.S. Forest Service Water System Surveys by Environmental Health officers and Environmental Engineers in Black Hills Forest of South Dakota and the El Dorado and Klamath Forest of California.
- Physician deployment to Kodiak, Alaska.

- Deployment to the Office of Commissioned Corps Operations to assist with incoming applications.
- Major League Baseball All-Star Game, Houston, Texas, on July 13.
- National Governors Association Meeting, Seattle, Washington, July 16-22.
- American Legislative Exchange Council in Seattle, Washington, and International Children's Games and Cultural Festival in Cleveland, Ohio, July 12 to August 4.
- U.S. Northern Command Exercise titled 'Determined Promise '04,' August 5-10.
- Democratic National Convention, July 23 to 30.

Upcoming Responses

Three Public Health Service (PHS) Environmental Health officers will be deployed to the Crow Service Unit of the Billings Area Indian Health Service on a short-term detail. These officers will assist with food service inspections, water, wastewater, and solid waste disposal inspections, and other environmental health issues during the annual Crow Tribal Fair being held in Crow Agency, Montana. This mass gathering of approximately 70,000 people will include about 100 food stands that require regular inspection to assure that appropriate food codes are being met. The Crow

Service Unit will provide for and assist with travel, per diem, and housing needs for officers.

On-Call Responses

Recently, the Corps has been called upon to be on an on-call status for a variety of high profile national security events. For each event, teams were designated for the east coast, central United States, or west coast, as needed. In addition, PHS officers were on-call to support an Incident Management Team in Washington, DC. It is anticipated that this on-call status will continue until after the Inauguration in January 2005.

Policy Issues

Please immediately review Manual Circular No. 377, Subject: "Basic Level of Force Readiness Standards for the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service," (available at <http://dcp.psc.gov/navigati.asp>) signed by the Acting Assistant Secretary of Health on July 2, 2004.

Training

Advanced training courses are posted on the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment Web sites. Please refer to the training section for details about these programs at <http://ccrf.hhs.gov/ccrf/training.htm>.



Recent Calls to Active Duty

Title/Name Agency/OPDIV/Program

MEDICAL

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

Stephen R. Benoit	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Sandra J. Boehlert	HRSA
Providence, RI	
Joseph P. Simon	DHS
Selfridge Air National Guard Base, MI	
Ernest E. Sullivan III	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Benjamin W. Tsoi	CDC
New York, NY	

LIEUTENANT

Deron C. Burton	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Kevin P. Cain	CDC
Atlanta, GA	

Title/Name Agency/OPDIV/Program

Daniel S. Chertow	CDC
Tallahassee, FL	
Amanda C. Cohn	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
John A. Dominguez	IHS
Phoenix, AZ	
Melto J. Eliades	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Eve C. Feinberg	NIH
Bethesda, MD	
Tista S. Ghosh	CDC
Greenwood Village, CO	
Steven A. Hankins	HRSA
Ganado, AZ	
Natasha S. Hochberg	CDC
Atlanta, GA	

Title/Name Agency/OPDIV/Program

Seema Jain	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Mark A. Katz	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Eileen W. Lau	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Karen C. Lee	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Mysheika R. Lemaile-Williams	CDC
Columbus, OH	
Felicia M. Lewis	CDC
Philadelphia, PA	
Mark A. Malek	CDC
Atlanta, GA	
Meredith L. McMorro	CDC
Atlanta, GA	

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Recent Calls to Active Duty

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<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>	<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>	<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>
MEDICAL (Continued)		Susan P. Pierce-Richards	IHS	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
LIEUTENANT (Continued)		Toppenish, WA		LIEUTENANT	
Rachel N. Plotinsky	CDC	Elizabeth S. Tanner	BOP	Darren Shields	IHS
Concord, NH		Ayer, MA		Taos, NM	
Kathleen A. Ritger	CDC	Tonya M. Toussaint	HRSA	LIEUTENANT J.G.	
Chicago, IL		Florence, AZ		Carla C. Cummins	FDA
Nippie S. Shah	CDC	Duane E. Wagner	BOP	Boston, MA	
Atlanta, GA		Chicago, IL		James S. Miller	EPA
Austin D. Sumner	CDC	LIEUTENANT J.G.		Washington, DC	
Oakland, CA		Pearl A. Alonzo	IHS	VETERINARY	
Rebecca H. Sunenshine	CDC	Pine Hill, NM		LIEUTENANT COMMANDER	
Atlanta, GA		Shannon M. Black-Eagle	IHS	Alexandra P. Newman	CDC
Stephen J. Swanson	CDC	Crow Agency, MT		Madison, WI	
Minneapolis, MN		Veneda T. Polite	IHS	LIEUTENANT	
Carolyn J. Tabak	CDC	Tuba City, AZ		Larissa A. Minicucci	CDC
Hyattsville, MD		Frenita M. Roberson	IHS	Fort Collins, CO	
Kathleen M. Terra	IHS	Tuba City, AZ		Julie R. Sinclair	CDC
Arcata, CA		Christine A. West	CDC	Charleston, WV	
Edward C. Weiss	CDC	Cincinnati, OH		PHARMACY	
Atlanta, GA		ENGINEER		LIEUTENANT COMMANDER	
DENTAL		LIEUTENANT		Carla D. Evans	IHS
LIEUTENANT		Joseph L. Jones	IHS	Tahlequah, OK	
Lavedita L. Parker	BOP	Pawnee, OK		Linda A. Samson	IHS
Atwater, CA		Dayton D. Newbrough	IHS	Tuba City, AZ	
Susan M. Wellman	IHS	Rapid City, SD		LIEUTENANT	
Schurz, NV		LIEUTENANT J.G.		Amy J. Albertson	IHS
NURSE		Yolanda Benally	IHS	Claremore, OK	
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER		Gallup, NM		Kwadwo A. Awuah	FDA
Cheryl A. Borden	FDA	Kurt J. Kesteloot	IHS	Rockville, MD	
Rockville, MD		Many Farms, AZ		Cleveland Brown IV	IHS
Dana C. Cruz	IHS	Harry T. Turtchanow, Jr.	IHS	Fort Defiance, AZ	
Anchorage, AK		Anchorage, AK		Nicole D. Bruxvoort	IHS
Brant B. Goode	CDC	SCIENTIST		Chinle, AZ	
Raleigh, NC		LIEUTENANT COMMANDER		John J. Carothers	IHS
Elvira D. Mosely	IHS	William N. Albrecht	EPA	Anchorage, AK	
Polacca, AZ		Las Vegas, NV		Laurelle A. Cascio	IHS
Rebecca S. Noe	CDC	LIEUTENANT		Santa Fe, NM	
Anchorage, AK		Robert M. Bossarte	CDC	Sonia Ceng	BOP
Beatrice V. Pacheco	IHS	Atlanta, GA		Brooklyn, NY	
Taos, NM		Sherry L. Farr	CDC	Benjamin Y. Danso	FDA
Kathleen Tyler	IHS	Atlanta, GA		Rockville, MD	
Phoenix, AZ		Susan H. Hariri	CDC	Amy L. Dedea	IHS
LIEUTENANT		Atlanta, GA		Gallup, NM	
Martin A. Foreman	IHS	Niloufar N. Kazerouni	CDC	Cynthia A. Dziowgo	IHS
Tuba City, AZ		Santa Fe, NM		Fort Totten, ND	
John B. Fitzgerald	HRSA	Andrea A. Kim	CDC	Carrie Edsitty-Hick	IHS
Queens, NY		Atlanta, GA		Gallup, NM	
Richard S. Forth	BOP	Eric A. Miller	CDC	Jennifer L. Essary	IHS
Petersburg, VA		Austin, TX		Shiprock, NM	
Selena M. Goodlin	NIH	Christina R. Phares	CDC	Joanna M. Ferraro	IHS
Bethesda, MD		Atlanta, GA		Cass Lake, MN	
Veronica M. Gordon	IHS	Miriam E. Sabin	CDC	Zaki S. Gad	IHS
Rock Hill, SC		Atlanta, GA		Phoenix, AZ	
Erica L. Grajales	IHS	Sukhminder K. Sandhu	CDC	Cedric B. Guyton	IHS
Phoenix, AZ		Washington, DC		Whiteriver, AZ	
Candice M. Hamel	BOP	Paul R. Seo	FDA	Carla D. Guzik	IHS
Fort Worth, TX		Rockville, MD		Tahlequah, OK	
Martin D. Hamilton	NIH	Richard A. Taylor	CDC	Alison Hargadon	IHS
Bethesda, MD		Austin, TX		Gallup, NM	
Darrell L. Harris	BOP	Kristin B. Uhde	CDC	Christopher J. Holmes	IHS
Butner, NC		Atlanta, GA		Talihina, OK	
Kim R. Jimmerson	BOP	John D. Van Sickle	CDC	Heather M. Huentelman	IHS
Arlington, TX		Atlanta, GA		Phoenix, AZ	
Goldie Nwachuku	HRSA	Fuyuen Y. Yip	CDC	Kris D. Hunley	IHS
Los Angeles, CA		Atlanta, GA		Talihina, OK	
Kristine N. Pickney	IHS				
Anchorage, AK					

(Continued on page 11)

Recent Calls to Active Duty

(Continued from page 10)

<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>	<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>	<i>Title/Name</i>	<i>Agency/OPDIV/Program</i>
Randi R. Lanier Talihina, OK	IHS	Kyle V. Sheffer Cherokee, NC	IHS	LIEUTENANT Christopher C. Lim Rockville, MD	HRSA
Katie E. Malone Warm Springs, OR	IHS	Courtney M. Suggs Whiteriver, AZ	IHS	Deanna Mark Shiprock, NM	IHS
Eun J. Oh Baltimore, MD	CMS	Monica I. Zeballos Rockville, MD	FDA	Chad J. Preiss Belcourt, ND	IHS
Dean J. Overmiller Butner, NC	BOP	THERAPY LIEUTENANT J.G. Felipe Guzman-Zamarron Rochester, MN	BOP	LIEUTENANT J.G. Kimberly D. Kosick Washington, DC	EPA
Ryan T. Nguyen Rockville, MD	FDA	HEALTH SERVICES LIEUTENANT COMMANDER Steven P. Higgins Cass Lake, MN	IHS	Christopher D. Lavers El Reno, OK	BOP
Mandy A. Parker Kayenta, AZ	IHS	Karyl L. Jennings Anchorage, AK	IHS	ENSIGN Rob P. Drewelow Bethesda, MD	IHS
Neel I. Patel Rockville, MD	FDA			Sarah R. Wheatley Bethesda, MD	IHS
Allison M. Paynter Shiprock, NM	IHS				
Katherine A. Raymond Ketchikan, AK	IHS				

OFRD Members Deployed to Florida to Help Staff Hospital After Hurricane Charley

Submitted by LCDR Gerardo (Jerry) Vazquez and LT Greg Dill

On Friday, August 13, DeSoto County, FL, experienced category four Hurricane Charley. Wind gusts over 120 mph destroyed power lines and trees, and anything not firmly rooted became a moving projectile damaging homes, buildings, and leaving roads impassable.

DeSoto Memorial Hospital, Arcadia, FL, which normally maintains 20 inpatients and 40 ER visits saw, in the matter of a few hours, a tripling in its patient load. Prior to the storm, the hospital was already experiencing a shortage in its nursing and pharmacy staffing and Hurricane Charley pushed the need for health professionals beyond the breaking point. The personnel shortage was aggravated not only by the tremendous increase in patient load after the hurricane, but all the local personnel were now living without power, water, or in some instances without housing.

Under coordination from the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) dispatched four U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps pharmacists to DeSoto Memorial Hospital to provide immediate pharmaceutical assistance. The deployed pharmacists included: CDR Muhammad Marwan, Bureau of Prisons (BOP), Dallas, TX; LCDR Tena Jessing, BOP, Lexington, KY; LCDR Gerardo (Jerry) Vazquez, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Tampa, FL; and LT Gregory Dill, FDA, Chicago, IL.



(Left to Right) PHS Commissioned Corps Pharmacist officers, LCDR Tena L. Jessing, LCDR Gerardo (Jerry) Vazquez, LT Greg Dill, and CDR Mohammad A. Marwan, were deployed to Florida in response to DeSoto Memorial Hospital's staffing needs following Hurricane Charley.

The four-person team became responsible for providing 24-hour coverage in support of one Disaster Medical Assistance Team ambulatory clinic, the hospital emergency room, the Medical/Surgical ward, Intensive Care Unit, and OB/GYN ward. By the end of the 2-week deployment, the hospital had provided treatment for over 917 patients and handled an inpatient load exceeding 149 admissions.

The hospital staff was extremely receptive and grateful for all the assistance during the deployment. Not only did the deployed personnel allow the hospital to meet the demand, but provided the local staff some downtime to attend to their own personal needs and help return their lives to normal.

Recent Deaths

Note: To report the death of a retired officer or an annuitant to the Office of Commissioned Corps Support Services (OCCSS), please phone 1-800-638-8744.

The deaths of the following retired officers were recently reported to OCCSS:

Title/Name *Date*

MEDICAL

CAPTAIN

Loren R. Mosher 07/10/04

COMMANDER

Gerald E. A. Miller 07/08/04

Bertha L. Moore 07/06/04

NURSE

COMMANDER

Doris D. Day 07/25/04

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

COMMANDER

Rick P. Ferguson 07/25/04

DIETETICS

CAPTAIN

Louise B. Jackson 07/25/04

Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual

NEW ISSUANCES

COMMISSIONED CORPS PERSONNEL POLICY MEMORANDUMS (PMM)

PPM 04-002, DATED JULY 21, 2004

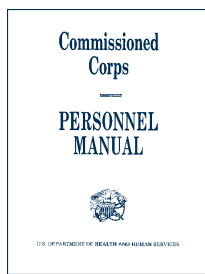
Subject: Policy Revisions and Clarifications for the Promotion Year 2004.

PPM 04-004, DATED AUGUST 27, 2004

Subject: Revisions and Policy Clarifications for Subchapter CC23.3, INSTRUCTION 4, "Appointment Standards and Appointment Boards."

PPM 04-005, DATED AUGUST 19, 2004

Subject: Implementation of Optometrist Retention Special Pay.



PPM 04-006, DATED AUGUST 18, 2004

Subject: The Basic Level of Force Readiness for Officers Detailed to the Armed Forces.

Please note: The PPMs listed above can be accessed on the Commissioned Corps Management Information System Web Site—<http://dcp.psc.gov>—click on 'Publications,' 'Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual.'



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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