SECDEF Announces Flag Officer Nominations

ARLINGTON, Va. – The Secretary of the Navy and Chief of Naval Operations announced Feb. 1 the following nominations for appointment to the rank of rear admiral lower half:

Capt. Brian H. Bennett for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Bennett is currently serving as executive officer to commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, Tampa, Florida.

Capt. George E. Bresnihan for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Bresnihan is currently serving as chief of staff, Naval Supply Systems Command, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

Capt. Matthew Case for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Case is currently serving as executive assistant to the surgeon general of the Navy, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Carey H. Cash for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Cash is currently serving as commanding officer, Naval Chaplaincy School and Center, Newport Rhode Island.

Capt. Maximilian Clark for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Clark is currently serving as executive assistant, N98, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Adan G. Cruz for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Cruz is currently serving as deputy, Combat Systems and Integration, N96, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. John E. Dougherty IV for appointment to the rank of rear

admiral (lower half). Dougherty is currently serving as major program manager, Program Executive Office for Tactical Aircraft Programs (PMA 230), Patuxent River, Maryland.

Capt. Kavon Hakimzadeh for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Hakimzadeh is currently serving as programs and policy director, Aircraft Carrier Branch Head, N980C, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Keith A. Hash for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Hash is currently serving as program manager for Air Warfare, PMA-298, Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Maryland.

Capt. Tracy L. Hines for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Hines is currently serving as executive assistant to the chief of naval operations, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Stephen J. Jackson for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Jackson is currently serving as programs and policy director, Expeditionary Combat Branch Head, N957, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Kevin M. Kennedy for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Kennedy is currently serving as director, Surface Warfare Officer Distribution and Career Management Division (PERS 41), Millington, Tennessee.

Capt. Jeffrey J. Kilian for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Kilian is currently serving as chief of staff, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Brett W. Mietus for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Mietus is currently serving as the director of the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Integration Group, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations,

Washington, D.C.

Capt. Thomas P. Moninger for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Moninger is currently serving as executive officer to commander, U.S. Southern Command, Miami, Florida.

Capt. Martin J. Muckian for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Muckian is currently serving as chief of staff to commander, U.S. Submarine Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet; and chief of staff, U.S. Strategic Command Special Activities Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Capt. Gregory D. Newkirk for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Newkirk is currently serving as executive assistant to commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii.

Capt. Matthew C. Paradise for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Paradise is currently serving chief of staff, Naval Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet, San Diego, California.

Capt. Chase D. Patrick for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Patrick is currently serving as director, Navy Senate Liaison Office, Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Ryan M. Perry for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Perry is currently serving as force public affairs officer, Naval Special Warfare Command, San Diego, California.

Capt. Bradley N. Rosen for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Rosen is currently serving as chief of staff, Navy Installations Command, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Jonathan E. Rucker for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Rucker is currently serving as program

manager, COLUMBIA, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Christopher D. Stone for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Stone is currently serving as executive assistant to the vice chief of naval operations, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Nicholas R. Tilbrook for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Tilbrook is currently serving as executive assistant to deputy chief of naval operations for integration of capabilities and resources, N8, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Guido F. Valdes for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Valdes is currently serving as deputy commander, Naval Medical Forces Atlantic, Portsmouth, Virginia.

Capt. Alexis T. Walker for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Walker is currently serving as commanding officer, Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, Rhode Island.

Capt. David P. Walt for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Walt is currently serving as comptroller, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller), Washington, D.C.

Capt. Robert E. Wirth for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Wirth is currently serving as director, Submarine/Nuclear Officer Distribution (PERS 42), Navy Personnel Command, Millington, Tennessee.

Capt. Michael S. Wosje for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Wosje is currently serving as executive assistant to deputy chief of naval operations for warfighting requirements and capabilities, N9, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

Capt. Douglas L. Williams for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Williams is currently serving as technical director for Strategic Systems Program, Washington, D.C.

The board selected these officers to ensure the Navy has the right senior officers to employ, generate, and design the fleet for combat operations, recognizing that the continued preeminence of the Navy is inextricably linked to its ability to successfully change. To do so, the Navy needs innovative and bold leaders who think creatively and critically are their own toughest critic, challenge assumptions and take well-calculated risks that maximize effectiveness.

The board looked for officers with sustained, superior performance in O5 and O6 command who demonstrated key attributes such as: taking ownership while working collaboratively, looking at new ideas with an open mind, generating a culture of continuous learning, and showing absolute readiness to unleash the power of its people in leading men and women coming from widely varying backgrounds.