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Superintendent's Welcome. Rear Admiral
Robert C. Chaplin, USN, Superintendent of the
Naval Postgraduate School

Chaplin, Robert C.

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Superintendent's Welcome

Rear Admiral Robert C. Chaplin, USN, Superintendent of the Naval Postgraduate School

Note: RADM Chaplin assumed command of the Naval Postgraduate School on April 3, 1998. His predecessor was RADM Marsha Evans, USN, who retired from the U.S. Navy in December, 1997.

In greeting the attendees, RADM Chaplin noted that the Third International Symposium on Technology and the Mine Problem was the first group that he has welcomed since assuming his present role. RADM Chaplin noted the theme "To Change the World" and noted the enormous challenge that we face in military minecountermeasures and in humanitarian demining . He noted the devastation caused by Rogue Groups around the world as well as the major role that the United States has assumed in demining .

RADM Chaplin stressed the appropriateness of the Naval Postgraduate School as the site for this Symposium Series saying that " NPS is the vision place for the Sea Services of the United States and the vision place for technology for the U. S. Armed Services and, indeed, for the World.

Sponsors Welcome

Dr. Fred E. Saalfeld , Deputy Chief of Naval Research and Technical Director of the Office of Naval Research

Note: Dr. Saalfeld spoke for all of the Symposium Sponsors, the Office of Naval Research, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defence for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict, and the U.S. Army Night Vision Laboratory.

The slide entitled A Special Welcome addresses the members of the three NATO Mine Countermeasures Working Groups that held one of their periodic meetings in Monterey so as to attend the Symposium.

Dr. Saalfeld spoke to the theme of the Symposium To Change the World as we know it with regard to Technology and the Mine Problem. He emphasized that technology is part of the answer. The other major aspects are Doctrine Procedures

In his next slide, Dr. Saalfeld provides General Perspectives of the Mine Problem. Those time epochs can also be characterized as today s Navy (product improvement and improvements in concepts of doctrine and utilization); the acquisition of materiel that has completed the development cycle; and the application of frontier science for the Navy after Next .

Dr. Saalfeld quoted Mr. Larry Lynn, outgoing Director of DARPA , in his clarion call to the technical community to address the Mine Problem.

The next several slides amplify the technical challenges and opportunities in each of the epochs that were described earlier. Note that each slide calls for attention to Affordability .

Affordability is important. This may very well represent a paradigm shift . Certainly it impacts and changes the way we think of science and engineering .

As we move toward the future we see differences in operational concepts and concepts of operations. We also see continuing and increasing emphasis on reducing Total Ownership Costs . The exhortation is to think in terms of systems, procedures, and organization.

Dr. Saalfeld noted the crucial roles played by the Naval War College and the Naval Postgraduate School. (Editor's Note: The Prospective President of the Naval War College was in the audience).

With no claim to prescience, Dr. Saalfeld presented his view of the Next Thirty Years, the National Security Environment for which we must be prepared. Key attributes of the future are uncertainty and agility.

On the slide marked Future View, Dr. Saalfeld emphasized the technical challenges associated with In-Stride Organic Capabilities Sensors and, impacting everything Affordability.

Then, moving into Future Capabilities, with the Joint Countermine C4I (JCM ACTD) as a 1998 "jumping off place", Dr. Saalfeld reiterated his triad paradigm - Think in Threes Detection - A Dual Problem How do you know mines are there? How do you know mines are not there? (The proofing problem) Identification - What are they? Neutralization

Put the above on the time lines of the present, acquisition, and the Navy after Next. Above all, Think the problem through - watch for sub-optimizations and the traps that arise from unanticipated consequences; Think Systems.

Dr. Saalfeld's final slide gave the Symposium "Marching Orders". Reported by: Albert M. Bottoms, General Chair of the Symposium Series.

Address

Major General Edward Hanlon, Jr., USMC Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (N85)
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

(Editor's Note: General Hanlon spoke without notes. This precis of his talk is keyed to his view-graphs.)

General Hanlon began his talk by recognizing a number of distinguished leaders and participants in the solution of the "mine problem". Specific recognition went to RADM John Pearson, USN (Ret); RADM Ric Williams, USD (Ret); RADM Chuck Horne, USN (Ret); Mr. Jim Thomsen, CSS; Capt Bill Parish, USN, Commander, CSS; the contingent from ONR - Dr. Fred Saalfeld, Dr. Doug Todoroff, and others; and the team from the Naval Postgraduate School - Prof. Jim Eagle, Mr. Al Bottoms, and the current Ellis Johnson Chairholder, Dr. Tom Muir.

Gen. Hanlon began his talk by quoting Roger Thompson's quote from ADM Forest Sherman, USN - "When you can't go where you want to when you want to; you have lost command of the Sea."

In recent years we have faced major challenges in Submarine Warfare, ASW, Fleet Air Defense; now the challenge is Mine Warfare - particularly mine countermeasures.

With the diminishing threat of thermonuclear armageddon comes a paradigm shift in American military and national security thinking to "Expeditionary". Each of the Armed Services is developing expeditionary concepts and capabilities. On Slide 5, General Hanlon quotes Gen Wilhelm, USMC, now Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Southern Command.

Slide 7 outlines the N85 "portfolio". Slide 8 places Mine Warfare in its Navy Expeditionary context.

Slide 9 summarizes the grim statistics behind the proliferation of the mine threat. Available on the open market - at trade shows and the like - are illustrated, "Sears Roebuck"-type catalogues of mines and mine technology. Cash and carry. Cheap.

General Hanlon reminded his audience of the cost-effectiveness of mines (slide 10). In a Navy of diminishing numbers, damage to any high-value target at sufficient level to take out of action constitutes a mission kill. This is the source of the term "showstopper". The threat of mines introduces delay to military deployments. A mine threat causes Lloyds to increase insurance rates or to stop insuring entirely with, in the case of the Persian Gulf, escalation in the costs of petroleum products. The threat of mines is a weapon of economic warfare.

Before turning to Mine Countermeasures, General Hanlon brought up the legitimate role that Offensive Mining plays in Naval Tactics and Strategy and under generally recognized and practiced protocols for Sea Mines. Slide 11 summarizes the uses and effects.

Turning now to Mine Countermeasures, General Hanlon spoke of the "world class" force and capabilities that the U.S. Navy possesses. Slide 12 summarizes our Order of Battle. However, even with the emerging capabilities that are conferred by new ship acquisitions; the U.S. Navy MCM force is a legacy force from the Cold War. Slide 13 shows the Changing Requirements.

Slide 14 shows the hoped-for evolution in the MCM Force Mix. With renewed emphasis on expeditionary activity and forward deployment to reduce response times comes the necessity to have mine countermeasures capabilities organic to or immediately in support of the deployed forces. Slide 16 depicts the changing emphasis and mix over the near future.

Slides 16-19 depict the technical and operational content of the planned changes - what the Navy is trying to do. General Hanlon was very candid in calling the implementation of this "game plan" the hard stuff. There must be fiscal resource There must be the supporting and enabling technology There must be sustained support in Congress, in the Administration, and from the Navy hierarchy.

General Hanlon talked about the potential windfall of resource that exists in the submarine force. There are a number of operational roles in Minefield reconnaissance and in minefield breaching in which the submarine may play key parts given the success of technological developments. He spoke in glowing terms of the potential contributions to technology from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory of CALTECH and of the operational enhancement that may come to U.S. Navy Mine Countermeasures from the 50 attack submarines.

General Hanlon stressed the necessity for the academic-industry-government team to go forward together in the exploitation of emerging technology. Slide 21 shows some of the MIW Technology Programs and Slide 22 shows some of the new programs in FY99. Look at the bottom of that slide. New ideas are always welcome. Slides 23-25 provide challenges to the audience. In particular, note on Slide 25 that the First MINWARA International Meeting, originally scheduled for London in September, 1998, will not take place until April, 1999. However, there will also be an international meeting in Sydney, Australia, in conjunction with the Australian Defence Science and Technology Organisation.

General Hanlon concluded his remarks by touching upon the necessity for U.S. Armed Forces to be ready for the demining needs of Peacekeeping operations. Prior to taking his current position he had been in Sarajevo and in Bosnia. He found that peacekeeping involved sea mines as well as land mines.