



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL
1 UNIVERSITY CIR
MONTEREY CA 93943-5000

IN REPLY REFER TO:

September 19, 1997

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, USN (Ret.)
1000 Wilson Boulevard
Suite 3105
Arlington, Virginia 22209-3901

Dear Admiral:

I spoke with your office recently requesting that you speak about leadership with a special group of young naval officers at the Naval Academy. Your secretary asked me for a short note explaining the program and the details. I also mentioned my intention to invite you to speak when I was on the phone recently with, Howard Kerr, my old USS Leahy friend and shipmate. He may have mentioned it to you.

Admiral Larson, the Superintendent at the Academy, has contracted with the Naval Postgraduate School to develop and teach a new one-year masters degree program in Leadership Education and Development. The students are the annual 15-20 Lieutenants/Lieutenant Commanders and Marine Corps Captains/Majors ordered in each year to be new Company Officers for the midshipmen. The officers, who would normally have been ordered in for a two-year tour, will be ordered in for three years and will be full-time students in the masters program the first year. It is being taught at the Naval Academy by rotating Naval Postgraduate School professors who come from Monterey to Annapolis to teach their classes. Upon graduation, the students begin their two-year Company Officer tour leading and developing midshipmen.

The program is not just about preparing the graduates to be more effective leaders and role models in the difficult and important job of molding midshipmen. The curriculum also teaches them at a postgraduate level about leadership and its development in others to be applied throughout their subsequent careers. They will receive a subspecialty code in Leadership Education and Development so that the Navy can utilize them in the future with its leadership programs and policies.

The first class convened in July of this year with 12 Navy Lieutenants. My responsibility is to provide a speaker program as part of the curriculum. There will be about ten highly credible speakers during the year from diverse sectors whose participation will help us synthesize the classroom study. The speakers are asked to spend a two hour period with the class, usually with prepared remarks followed by questions and discussion. The next day I hold a follow-on

two-hour class to process the session and relate it to the curriculum. Our first speaker this year was Admiral Bud Edney. Former Senator Bill Brock will speak on October 9th.

You might recall that I taught the elective in Senior Leadership at National Defense University from 1987-88 where you came and spoke of leadership to my class with great effect. Whatever you choose to talk about would be valuable to the students. I do have some suggestions as you decide. These young officers don't have the first hand memories of your extraordinary tour as CNO that I have. The circumstances called for transformational leadership, which you provided in extraordinary fashion. So, your reminiscences of meeting that kind of challenge, in itself rare, would be particularly relevant and instructive to them. You have also been leading and helping others lead outside the military since you retired from the Navy. Your comparison of leadership in and out of the Navy would also be of great interest. I want to get them thinking about future leadership needs in the Navy, even the notion of the Navy deliberately crafting a profile of the Naval Warrior of the 21st century. I hope you will include your own projections into the future about the nature of leadership in and out of the Navy.

Your office and I are seeking a time and date that would be agreeable for you to speak. Both day and evening sessions are possible. The sessions are held in Luce Hall, Room 205, at the Academy. If you would prefer, I would be pleased to pick you up for the drive to Annapolis and return.

I thank you for considering this request, Admiral, and hope you can honor us with your participation. We are quite excited about the curriculum and its potential for the Navy. I'm eager to see you again. Howard says you are traveling about 100 days a year!

Very respectfully,



Dana P. French Jr.
Capt, USN (Ret.)

Frederick, Maryland 21701

Fax

Handwritten notes:
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