



MAR 13 1990

COMMANDER IN CHIEF
U.S. ATLANTIC COMMAND

5 March 1990

Dear Admiral,

Many thanks for your thoughtful congratulatory letter. I see the Navy entering a time of challenge, possibly greater than any since your watch. I'll need lots of support and am most grateful for yours.

I value your input on the pulse of our surface community. Within recent years, there have been several conspicuous examples of non-traditional paths to four-stars, and these may be the basis for the concern you have detected. Frankly, I don't think these examples represent a trend, and I hope future slates will reassure our officers that performance at sea remains key to success.

Regarding briefings for former CNO's, I agree fully. We're going to do more of them. We can't afford not to with the pace of change today.

Very respectfully,

FRANK B. KELSO, II
Admiral, U.S. Navy

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*cc 3-13-90
Paul Miller
at home*