



E. R. ZUMWALT, JR.
ADMIRAL, U. S. NAVY (RET.)

17 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL

Subj: Correspondence for action re
IC-1 BEARDSLEY, Lyle G.

Encl: (1) Personal ltr from Colen B. Beardsley of
5 Aug 1975

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded for appropriate action.
2. It is requested that I be provided a copy of the reply.

i. Copper
for E. R. ZUMWALT, JR.

Bn Kus

Suitland, Md. 20023 (Tel: 735-0521)
August 5, 1975

ADM (R) Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20025

Ref: IC-1 Beardsley, Lyle G.

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

I am appealing to you in desperation brought about by the "run-around" I have been getting recently, and to which my brother, Lyle, has been subjected to since early 1974. This appeal concerns him.

IC-1 Beardsley has served well as a career Navy man for the past 18½ years. He thinks highly of the Navy, and has encouraged many to join, including myself, throughout his career. But in the last two years his concern for the good of the Navy has been strained by a severe crisis at home. His wife, Joyce, has developed psychiatric complications concurrently with a heart condition. (This can be verified from naval dependents' medical records.) At present, her condition is such that she can't even drive a car; she is alone whenever Lyle is aboard ship. She resides in Norfolk, and I am geographically, the closest aid and relative she has. Of course, this weighs heavily on Lyle. He has gone through channels repeatedly, asking for a "humanitarian reassignment" to any shore station for the balance of his service time until retirement -- about 1½ years hence. The Executive Officer and the Captain of his ship, LST 1179 (home based at Little Creek Amphibious Base, Norfolk, Va.) have recommended favorably for Lyle's shore assignment, TO NO AVAIL.

Since I reside in the Washington metropolitan area, I volunteered to contact BUPERS on Lyle's behalf. I have just spoken on the telephone with YNCS Brace (tel:) and quote his response after my explanation of the case:

"We can't take into consideration his value to the Navy or the effect of his morale on the morale of the ship or on the men under him. There is a manual we must follow. We already have medical documentation, but I doubt anything more will come of it. Even though the case will be reconsidered because of the Exec's second recommendation, I doubt the decision will be any different. We can't make exceptions from the manual."

From experience, I know the impact one man's morale has on an entire ship's company. I'm also aware of your deep interest in the cost-effectiveness value of Navy men's morale. Therefore, I appeal to you for guidance. I am one of the many who feels your policies did more for the good of the Navy than any previous leader to date. Again, what can a loyal Navy man do in a case like this so he may continue to give the Navy his best?

Sincerely,

Colen B. Beardsley

Colen B. Beardsley