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Chief of Naval Operations
Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350

March 4, 1975

Dear Admiral Zumwalt,

My wife and I are desperate, we do not know which way to turn with our situation that I am going to reveal to you.

Our daughter, Karen Reedstrom, had enlisted into the Navy last March for two years hoping to make a definite career in it. She also has a good chance to attend officers training school....and she also plans to sign up for another two years.

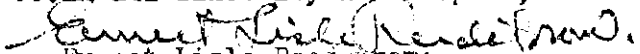
What has happened since, has made our hearts heavy with sorrow. She has moved off her base at Glenview Air Naval Station in Illinois, with another sailor who has filled her with lies to take advantage of her. They are, at this moment, living together some ten miles from the base, commuting back and forth together. Our daughter does not drive, and the possible chance that if something should happen to her boy friend, Karen cannot make her presence possible at her weather station, therefore, as we see it, she is critically endangering her position. Complications could arise and she certainly would be responsible for them. We have talked with her and her commanding officers both Commander John Haag and Captain Merchant, Post Commander....and cannot discourage her from moving off base with another man whom she is not married to.

Any sort of complications can come from this and with that I have learned that nothing can be done about it. I am surprised that the Navy allows their people with low rank and unmarried to continue this sort of thing. When I served in the Army in '51 and '52 I had to be married in order to live off base.....and I cannot understand this change.

Can we possibly obtain any assistance in this matter, or can you show us any other alternative that we may investigate. What makes matters worst, is that Karen is over 21 and should know her own mind.

Her only address as we know it is Karen Reedstrom, N.W.S.F. (Weather station), Glenview, Illinois, 60626. The sailor who is sharing her off base apartment is Ray C. Aguirre, Ag2, Barracks 22, Glenview Air Naval Station, Glenview, Ill.

We would appreciate any assistance possible. Thank you

...in all sincerity and respect,

Ernest Lisle Reedstrom: