

9 July 1974

Dear Jud,

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter marking the end of my tour as CNO. and for your generous reflections on my efforts. I will always be grateful for the opportunity that I had to serve our wonderful Navy and nation during those years.

As a private citizen, I look forward to seeing you again in the not too distant future. You have my sincere best wishes for continued success and happiness.

Warm regards,

E. R. ZUMWALT, JR.

Rear Admiral J. L. Smith, USNR
Naval Reserve Readiness Command
Naval Reserve Center
Fort McHenry
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

SMITH, J. L.

Blaufox

3 July 1974

Dear Admiral Zumwalt,

I don't know why I've waited two years to write and tell you this. I guess I had hoped to meet you personally sometime.

At a time when America was a little short of heroes, it took a man of your stature and courage to provide the example. Sometimes, I am a little uneasy when I think about the US Navy without you. You were my guiding spirit. Whenever I got really stuck in something, I asked myself "What would Admiral Z do in this situation?" It seemed to help.

All I want to say is THANK you for all those hours - the frustration, the criticism, the grief you put up with to make the Navy a better career for people like me. I know now that my goal of becoming a 1650 officer must be within my reach. You have carried the ball 90 yards for me and I shall do my damndest to make it the last 10 yards and become

the Navy's first female 1650.

On June 29th, I retired the "Z HE LIVES" button which I have worn on the inside of my uniform blouse since 1970. I wish I could have been at Annapolis to wish you fair winds and following seas — even as a silent west. God bless you and may life continue to bring you the satisfaction you must have from knowing that you do your job well. Competence is among the highest of virtues. I respect you for it.

Sincerely,
Joy Schaefer
LtJG USN

9 July 1974

Dear Joey,

Thank you for your wonderful letter and your heartwarming vote of confidence regarding my efforts as Chief of Naval Operations. I was so fortunate--and grateful--to have had the opportunity to serve in that office, but even more to have had superlative Navy men and women such as you who stood with me in making needed changes, in riding out the storms, and in getting our wonderful organization moving again. For all of this, I reciprocate your thanks in full measure!

It would please me greatly to learn that you had achieved your 1650 designator goal and I hope you will keep me informed regarding this matter. One of my regrets in leaving office was my inability to do more to ensure true equality of opportunity for Navy women, but I am hopeful that passage of the Equal Rights Amendment and the continuing interest of American society will facilitate even greater progress in this area.

Schaefer, J.