SPECIAL DUTY – CRYPTOLOGIC WARFARE (1815)

Community Overview: The Reserve Information Warfare (IW) Programs (Intelligence, Cryptologic Warfare, Information Professional, Oceanography, and Space Cadre) are established under the cognizance of Commander, Naval Information Force Reserve (IW Reserve TYCOM) and Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. Cryptologic Warfare (CW) is a Restricted Line community comprising approximately 276 Naval Officers.

Mission: Cryptologic Warfare encompasses Signals Intelligence, Cyberspace Operations, and Electronic Warfare Operations in order to deliver effects through sea, air, land, space, and cyber domains at all levels of war.

Guiding Principles:

(1) Warfare Competency: CW officers are the Navy's preeminent professionals in Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), Cyberspace Operations (CO), and Electronic Warfare (EW)—these are their disciplines. They principally operate in the domains of cyberspace, the electromagnetic spectrum, and space—as warfighters with an adversarial mindset. CW skillsets including technical expertise in Defensive Cyberspace Operations and Computer Network Operations are needed today more than ever in countering those who seek to challenge, to compete, and to hold us at risk.

(2) Leadership: Leadership is a core competency for all Naval Officers. CW officers must be engaged and seize the initiative, motivate people, effectively apply resources and execute mission. As leaders in cyberspace, CW officers provide network defense across the Fleet while remaining postured to deliver effects against adversaries when directed.

(3) Professional Expertise: CW officers require knowledge of engineering and technology in order to understand how adversaries communicate (i.e. knowing how the signal or protocol was designed to function) and the human elements of adversaries (i.e. knowing adversary idiosyncrasies). CW officers build this expertise through a combination of formal education and experience gained through operations and successive career milestone tours.

Basic Eligibility Requirements: All candidates must be worldwide assignable and eligible for a Top Secret/Special Access security clearance and pass a counter-intelligence polygraph.

Accession Options:

(1) Navy Veteran (NAVET): The NAVET program provides the opportunity for officers leaving active duty and in the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) to affiliate in the Navy Reserve as Cryptologic Warfare Officers.

(2) Direct Commission Officer (DCO): The Reserve Cryptologic Warfare Community has limited annual quotas for the DCO Program.

(3) Change of Designator: The Cryptologic Warfare Community accepts a limited number of officers each year via the Change of Designator process.

(4) Appointment/Reappointment: Previously commissioned officers in the Navy or Navy Reserve may request Appointment/ Reappointment as Reserve Cryptologic Warfare Officers.

(5) Inter-service Transfer (IST): The Cryptologic Warfare Community accepts a limited number of officers in a reserve status each year from other services.

Academic/Professional Expertise:

(1) Required: Baccalaureate degree with a minimum 2.8 or greater GPA.

(2) Desired: Major fields of study directly related to cyber; Cyber Security, Information Security, Computer Science, Computer Forensics, Systems Engineering, or major fields of study in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Completion of calculus sequence (Calculus I and II) and calculus-based physics sequence with a C average or better. Education and/or experience related to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning is desired.

Special Pay/Bonuses: None.

Training Pipeline: Newly commissioned Naval Officers attend Officer Development School (five weeks) effective 1 October 2019. CW Officers attend the Information Warfare Basic Course (three weeks) and the Cryptologic Warfare Officer Basic Course (eight weeks - expected change to 20 weeks in FY21). CW Officers must complete the Cryptologic Warfare Officer Qualification Program within 36 months of Commissioning or Change of Designator or when Top Secret/Special Access is granted, whichever occurs later. CW officers must complete the Information Warfare Officer (IWO) qualification within 60 months.

Billet Assignment: Initial billet assignment will be coordinated through the Naval Information Force Reserve (NIFR) Regions. Follow-on billet assignments are made through Junior Officer APPLY (JOAPPLY). Optimally, CW officers will initially be assigned to one of three major Navy Information Operations Commands in Georgia, Hawaii, and Texas or Cryptologic Warfare Group Six located in Maryland.

Career Path:

(1) Depending on interests, background, and performance, Reserve CW officers have the opportunity for challenging assignments in units with ever increasing scope and responsibility. Typical areas of assignment focus include Cyber Operations, Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) and Electronic Warfare (EW).
(2) CW Officers are assigned to billets supporting Navy Information Operations Commands, NSA Cryptologic Centers, Fleet Cyber Command/TENTH Fleet, and Navy Cyber Warfare Development Group where they deliver operational support critical to our Combatant Commanders, Navy, and Joint missions. Additionally, there are CW billets on major Navy and Joint staffs, and with Navy Special Warfare.
(3) Advanced Education: Postgraduate education is important to career success and advanced technical degrees are common across the community.
(4) Active Duty Opportunities: Various types of short term orders (up to a year) and mobilization recalls are available, supporting Navy, Special Warfare, and Joint requirements. Expect to mobilize at least once after CW officer qualification.

Points of Contact:

Information Warfare Reserve Officer Community Managers:
(901) 874-4309 / 2976

Web site:

COMNAVIFORES
https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/cnifr/Pages/default.aspx

Web sites:

More Information at navy.com

Click Here!

Information Warfare Community on Facebook:

Click Here!

Information Warfare Reserve Officer Community Manager:
Click Here!

Updated: 3 Dec 19