



RHUMB LINES

Straight Lines to Navigate By



September 26, 2008

U.S. Fleet Forces, the Navy's Executive Agent for IAs

"Individual augmentees are doing an incredible job. We're asking a lot of you and your families, and you're all making a difference. When we listen to the national anthem, it's the land of the free. But remember, it's the home of the brave, and your spouses that are over there serving are the brave."

– **Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, at a recent picnic held for IA families**

Individual Augmentees are making a significant impact in more than 16 countries around the world, including: Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Djibouti, Germany, Cuba, Bahrain, Qatar, Colombia, Philippines, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Bosnia, Oman and Pakistan. Approximately 47% of the forces the U.S. Navy has serving on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan are IAs. They provide commanders with mission-tailored, globally distributed forces.

Streamlining IA Continuum for Sailors:

- U.S. Fleet Forces, the Executive Agent for the IA Continuum, has developed the [IA Common Operating Picture](#) (COP). The COP enables leaders with the necessary tools to provide high-quality care and support for our IA Sailors and families.
- The [Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System \(NFAAS\)](#) is an essential element for USFF to maintain the IA COP. Sailors should update their family contact information through NFAAS within 14 days of receiving IA/Global War on Terrorism Support Assignment (GSA) orders.
- Individual commands are responsible for designating a Command IA Coordinator (CIAC) who ensures Sailors and their families have the necessary information to properly prepare for their IA tour. More informed IA Sailors and families result in more mission-ready IA Sailors supporting the GWOT.
- USFF 100-day-plan will address IA Sailor-related issues to include IA/GSA detailing, in/out processing and training, medical readiness and post deployment reintegration.

Supporting those supporting our IA warriors:

- The Navy is committed to supporting IA Sailors and families with the same fervor and vigilance that traditionally deploying Sailors and families receive as shown in the recent [All Hands Magazine](#) and [All Hands Television](#).
- In this spirit, the Navy is codifying official parent command and ombudsman responsibilities for the various types of IA Sailors, including GSA Sailors, IA Manpower Management Sailors and Mobilized Reserve Sailors. This will ensure every IA family is receiving the traditional top-level family support throughout their IA tour.
- Comprehensive, tailored family support is essential. IA families will be able to determine the frequency they would like a Navy or Fleet Family Support Center representative to contact them.
- IA Families can keep abreast of the latest IA policies as well as network with other IA families through the monthly [IA Family Newsletter](#) and the [Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center website](#).

Key Messages

- IA Sailors and their families are an integral part of the Navy and mission success in current conflicts.
- The Navy IA Continuum has three elements: 1) Preparing an IA and their command for deployment, deploying them and ensuring their return; 2) Providing support to IA families; and 3) Ensuring the well being of IAs and their upward career progression in their respective specialties.

Facts & Figures

- More than 11,000 active and reserve Sailors are deployed or under orders to deploy for their IA tour.
- To date, more than 72,000 have served an IA tour since 9-11 and the start of OEF.
- GSA detailing began last year and to date, nearly 60 percent of the billets have been filled through the detailing process instead of pulling Sailors mid-tour from their duty stations.