

17 May 2004

Greetings,

**TRAVEL TO OIS AND CLERKSHIPS:**

You should receive an e-ticket via e-mail approximately **10 days** from your travel date. Check NOWS regularly to see the status of your request.

**OIS GRADUATION INFORMATION:**

A Reception occurs that last Thursday evening with Graduation Friday morning. You will be checking out directly after the ceremony. Generally by 1200 or so, folks have all departed. Any departing flight arrangements should not have a show time before 1400.

**FOLLOWING UP WITH HPSP STAFF:**

Because of the fact that approximately 10% of the e-mails I get from you are follow up e-mails such as "I faxed a document to you yesterday, did you receive it?" I have asked our staff to implement a step whereby they should send you an e-mail directly when they receive your fax (taking me out of the loop). This will improve our process, but I ask that you **give us a week before sending your follow up messages**. Some of you seem to expect same day service, and although every now and then you may get a quick response from me, when I have to forward your e-mail on, it will usually take longer. Thank you for your patience.

**QUICK NOTE FROM NOWS**

When you enter the NOWS website to request orders, you will see a blurb that states something to the effect of: "30 day processing time is required for orders involving travel". This DOES pertain to you, so when you are requesting orders for a clerkship, you must allow for 30 days. If you are requesting school orders, 2-3 weeks should be sufficient time to process your request.

**For those of you attending OIS this summer, I'm sending an article from this week's Navy and Marine Corp Medical News to give you an idea of what to expect:**

**Naval Officer Indoctrination School Makes Changes**

*By Lt. Daniel Van Trump, Officer Indoctrination School staff instructor*

NEWPORT, R.I. - Officer Indoctrination School (OIS) at Newport, RI, is shorter, but not easier.

The former 6-week course reduced training time by one week, in keeping with Navy wide adjustments to leadership courses. OIS, now

a five-week course, has become more "rigorous," according to Capt. Daniel Walker, OIS director.

"Each week is intense," said Walker. "Leadership is taught from day one."

Each week features a specific topic. The first week focuses on in-processing/orientation. The second week provides a broad view of the Navy. The third week is professional development. The fourth week is dedicated to assessing the students' performance, academically and professionally. The last week focuses on leadership development and culminates in a Pass in Review graduation ceremony.

Of the 800 to 1,000 officers OIS graduates annually, 90 percent are physicians, nurses, dentists, and allied health personnel in the Medical Service Corps. OIS also trains officers entering the Judge Advocate General Corps and Nuclear Reactor Specialists.

"The most exciting facet of our curriculum is we utilize an adult education approach to teaching topics vice the old 'stand in front and lecture.' We require the students to collaborate in study groups, to develop and present assigned topics, and also remain prepared for frequent room and personnel inspections," states Lt. Amy Hunt, assistant curriculum standards officer at OIS.

In some ways, OIS has become what some students would consider "stricter." Classes run longer and are scheduled on weekends. Student liberty now begins at a later time and is based on each student's performance. New OIS candidates are also now encouraged to only bring a limited amount of civilian attire, as they should expect to remain in their uniforms most of the time. A list of items to bring is available on the OIS Web site at <https://otcn.cnet.navy.mil/ois/>.

"We want to get the word out to new officer candidates coming in, so they know what to expect in this training environment," added Walker. "Yes, it is very rigorous, but the point is to better prepare the Navy's future leaders."

Other changes to OIS include the addition of Recruit Division Commanders, who are Navy chief petty officers. The chiefs act as senior enlisted technical experts on basic military indoctrination, drill and inspections.

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Have a marvelous week!

Registrar