



NPS IN THE NEWS

Weekly Media Report – Oct 4 - 10, 2022

Further reproduction or distribution is subject to original copyright restrictions.

RESEARCH:

[Exploration of Wolfpack Tactics Earns Submariner Recognition in Operations Research](#)

(Navy.mil 7 Oct 22) ... MC2 Lenny Weston

Advancements in technology towards secure communication between submarines will significantly affect how they could operate in groups, or modern “Wolfpack Tactics.” This award-winning analysis conducted by U.S. Navy Lt. Spencer Kitten, a recent graduate from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), addresses undersea warfare concepts that support NAVPLAN 2022 efforts to strengthen our nation’s integrated deterrence.

STUDENTS:

[Sea Control 385 – Navy Cyber Workforce with Chris Landis \[Audio Interview\]](#)

(CIMSEC 6 Oct 22) ... Anna Mcneil

Sea Control is joined by CDR Chris Landis, USN to discuss his article, “Develop Separate Navy Cyber and Signal Warfare Communities.”

CDR Landis has been recognized for his sustained superior performance in C4I/IT as one of the 2021 AFCEA Copernicus award winners, and has experience in defensive cyber operations. He is currently a Computer Science PhD candidate at the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

FACULTY:

[Why Erdogan Might Choose Wat with Greece](#)

(War on the Rocks 5 Oct 22) ... Ryan Gingeras

“The islands you occupy do not bind us, we will do what is necessary when the time comes. As we say, we can come suddenly one night.” Weeks have now passed since Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan explicitly threatened to invade Greece, using the same language he deployed before previous Turkish military operations in Syria. A myriad of issues divide Athens and Ankara, but Erdogan has now focused his rage upon Greece’s militarization of its Aegean islands. While the Greek military presence there has remained largely consistent over the last several decades, Ankara insists that it is in violation of the 1923 and 1947 treaties that established Greece’s sovereignty over the islands... Ryan Gingeras is a professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the **Naval Postgraduate School** and is an expert on Turkish, Balkan, and Middle East history. He is the author of six books, including the forthcoming *The Last Days of the Ottoman Empire* (to be released by Penguin in October 2022). His *Sorrowful Shores: Violence, Ethnicity, and the End of the Ottoman Empire* received short-list distinctions for the Rothschild Book Prize in Nationalism and Ethnic Studies and the British-Kuwait Friendship Society Book Prize. The views expressed here are not those of the Naval Postgraduate School, the U.S. Navy, the Department of Defense, or any part of the U.S. government.



NPS Community Mourns Passing, Honors Legacy of Rear Adm. James Greene

(Navy.mil 6 Oct 22)

The passing of a respected institutional leader brings with it a period of mourning within the community and the loss it feels, but there is also opportunity to take stock in, and respectfully celebrate, the legacy he or she has created. Such is the case with the passing of Naval officer, patriot, leader and educator, Rear Adm. James B. Greene Jr.

Taiwan's Defense Minister accuses Chinese regime of destroying tacit agreement in Taiwan Strait

(TheBL 6 Oct 22)

For nearly 70 years, China tacitly acknowledged the unofficial median line, but in 2020 the regime denied and said it "did not exist.", Oct 06, 2022...However, Christopher Twomey, a scholar from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**, told Reuters that he believed the U.S. Navy considered the median line as a "political artifact" rather than a legal one.

Weaponize PME to Improve the Force

(CIMSEC 6 Oct 22)

If the sea services and the defense community are to improve and sustain human capital to accomplish the missions of the future, they must create a more educated workforce by incentivizing nontraditional and self-study Professional Military Education opportunities. War is a human endeavor. This fact applies universally to all conflicts, regardless of when they are fought, where there are fought, or what weapons are used to fight them. The human factors of war dominated Napoleonic Europe and the trenches of World War I, just as they did in Al Anbar for the last two decades and in Kharkiv today. Any future conflict, particularly between great powers with technologically exquisite platforms, will be built on a human foundation. The United States Department of Defense and the sea services must invest in their people as much or more than they invest in their things... Captain Robert Holmes, USMC, is a graduate student of Eurasian regional security studies and a Eurasian Foreign Area Officer at the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

ALUMNI:

Appointment Made to Sedona Oak Creek School District

(SignalsAZ0258877 4 Oct 22)

(Paso Robles Press 6 Oct 22)

Yavapai County School Superintendent Tim Carter is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. David Price, to the Sedona Oak Creek Joint Unified School District Governing Board. The appointment will be effective October 2, 2022 and will expire on December 31, 2024...Mr. Price is a graduate of Camden High School in San Jose, California. He completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Science from the United States Naval Academy and two Masters Degrees. One in Astronautical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School and another in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. He is married, and the couple have resided in Sedona since 2020. The couple have two (2) grown children. Mr. Price served honorably and retired from the United States Navy as a Captain, where he served as an aviator, engineer, and educator.

4 Key Military Posts Still Without Permanent Leaders

(Malaya Business Insight 6 Oct 22) ... Victor Reyes

The commander of the AFP Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) retired from the service yesterday, bringing to four the number of key military posts without permanent leaders... He holds two master's degrees – Master of Science in Defense Analysis from US **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, California, USA and Master in Public Management-Major in Department and Security from the Development Academy of the Philippines.

School District Provisionally Appoints New Trustee

(Paso Robles Daily News 6 Oct 22)

The Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees met for most of the day Tuesday to interview and then select a replacement to serve the balance of the term of Chris Bausch, who resigned on Aug. 26, to join the Paso Robles City Council. Seven applicants, including Peter J. Byrne, Kenneth E. Enney, Jr., Dale Irving Gustin, Randall V. Jordan, Matthew McClish, Sheila Kaye Page, and Kenneth Parish completed the required paperwork and



met all qualifications for consideration... In 2008 he was selected to command the Marine Corps Training Battalion at the Presidio of Monterey where he was responsible, at any one time, for the training of over the 1,000 Marines attending the Defense Language Institute and **Naval Postgraduate School**. His assignment lasted from Aug. 2009 until his retirement in Nov. 2011.

Personnel Note: Susan Evans, Bentley Nettles Join Gray Robinson's National Alcohol Beverage Practice

(Florida Politics 6 Oct 22) ... Drew Wilson

Each brings more than three decades of experience working in the alcohol beverage regulatory sector... Nettles received his master's degree in homeland security from the **Naval Postgraduate School**, his law degree from the South Texas College of Law Houston, and his bachelor's degree in business administration from Texas A&M University. He is licensed to practice law in Texas and Louisiana.

Education Roundup: Aultman College Preview Day is Wednesday

(CantonRep 9 Oct 22)

Aultman College is opening its doors for a Preview Day at 6 p.m. Wednesday. This is an open-house-style event for interested students... **Casey (Miller) Lucius** grew up in Brewster and graduated from Fairless High School in 1994. She attended Ashland University before joining the Navy in 1997. She was trained in naval intelligence and served on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. In 2000, she earned a master of arts in national security affairs from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and later earned a Ph.D in political science from the University of Hawaii. In 2005, she moved to Vietnam to work as the operations assistant to the U.S. ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi. Upon returning to the U.S. in 2009, she began teaching national security decision-making at the Naval War College in Monterey, California. During this time, she served on the local City Council for four years and ran for U.S. Congress in 2016. She has also written two books on political decision-making and campaigns. In 2017, she and her family moved to Naples, Florida, where she works for the City of Marco Island.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

November 7-11: [JIFX 23-1](#)

November 11: Veteran's Day (Federal Holiday)



RESEARCH:

Exploration of Wolfpack Tactics Earns Submariner Recognition in Operations Research

(Navy.mil 7 Oct 22) ... MC2 Lenny Weston

Advancements in technology towards secure communication between submarines will significantly affect how they could operate in groups, or modern “Wolfpack Tactics.” This award-winning analysis conducted by U.S. Navy Lt. Spencer Kitten, a recent graduate from the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), addresses undersea warfare concepts that support NAVPLAN 2022 efforts to strengthen our nation’s integrated deterrence.

Kitten was one of five graduating U.S. Navy students from the NPS Department of Operations Research (OR) selected to present their theses to a panel of judges, professors and peers for the Military Operations Research Society (MORS) Stephen A. Tisdale Thesis Award competition.

When the dust settled, Lt. Spencer Kitten’s examination of submarine force tactics through his thesis, “Revisiting Submarine Wolfpack Tactics Using Computational Methods,” was selected as the winner of the Summer Quarter’s MORS/Tisdale award.

The Undersea Warfare Development Center (UWDC) at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., sponsored and supported Kitten’s research.

“We strongly believe in supporting the next generation of Operations Research trained naval officers and are happy to have had the opportunity to sponsor and help shape Lt Kitten’s research,” noted Dr. Michael W. Kopp, Head, Submarine Operations Research Group at UWDC. “We are exceedingly pleased that the selection committee agreed with our assessment that his work deserved special recognition and look forward to seeing his future contributions to the submarine force.”

“I was humbled to have been selected for this award among so many other excellent candidates,” added Kitten. “When I first came to NPS, I knew that I wanted to work on a project that would have a direct and positive impact to naval thought. This award is a realization of that effort, and I am deeply honored.”

The MORS Tisdale award recognizes a graduating student from the OR department for outstanding thesis research that offers operating effectiveness and has highest potential for near-term impact on the security of the U.S. and its allies.

“Rather than a competition, the faculty in the OR department like to view this event as a celebration of the outstanding work of our students, as well as recognize how much they have learned in two very fast and intense years of study,” said U.S. Navy Cmdr. Nicholas Ulmer, Operations Research Department Program Officer.

The research Kitten conducted as part of his thesis was a simulation using data farming techniques as well as intelligent experimental design to revisit submarine wolfpack tactics in the modern era.

“Models like mine will be used to inform submarine strategy in crucial battlespaces, specifically on coordination and communication matters,” said Kitten. “Much of the existing literature on joint operations is tailored to a submarine operating in concert with non-submerged assets such as a battlegroup. Usually, when submarines operate together, very specific procedures are issued that are only relevant for the duration of the event. It would be exciting to see more general advice for submarines employed with other submarines.

“I think the most interesting exploration for this research will involve simple changes in the assumption of the simulation design,” he added. “Time permitting, I’d like to continue to explore this subject and to stay involved with the military operations research community at large.”

Ulmer says competitions like the MORS/Tisdale Award are a win/win for the fleet, and all participating students. The Navy benefits from students’ research on real problems impacting the service, he says, while the students get the experience of briefing peers and leaders on those problems while also participating in their discipline’s broader community.

The MORS/Tisdale award is named in honor of Lt. Cmdr. Stephen A. Tisdale, a dual-degree graduate from NPS in 1989. Tisdale perished in a military aircraft accident on March 21, 1991, while serving with



Patrol Squadron (VP) 50 off the coast of California. Tisdale's outstanding and influential thesis, "Assessing Optimal Utilization of Potential Anti-Satellite Architectures," won the MORS prize for his graduating class, and he was recognized as NPS' top Space Systems Operations student.

[Exploration of Wolfpack Tactics Earns Submariner Recognition in Operations Research > United States Navy > News-Stories](#)

[Return to Index](#)

STUDENTS:

Sea Control 385 – Navy Cyber Workforce with Chris Landis [Audio Interview]

(CIMSEC 6 Oct 22) ... Anna Mcneil

Sea Control is joined by CDR Chris Landis, USN to discuss his article, "Develop Separate Navy Cyber and Signal Warfare Communities."

CDR Landis has been recognized for his sustained superior performance in C4I/IT as one of the 2021 AFCEA Copernicus award winners, and has experience in defensive cyber operations. He is currently a Computer Science PhD candidate at the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Sea Control 385 – Navy Cyber Workforce with Chris Landis | Center for International Maritime Security \(cimsec.org\)](#)

[Return to Index](#)

FACULTY:

Why Erdogan Might Choose Wat with Greece

(War on the Rocks 5 Oct 22) ... Ryan Gingeras

"The islands you occupy do not bind us, we will do what is necessary when the time comes. As we say, we can come suddenly one night." Weeks have now passed since Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan explicitly threatened to invade Greece, using the same language he deployed before previous Turkish military operations in Syria. A myriad of issues divide Athens and Ankara, but Erdogan has now focused his rage upon Greece's militarization of its Aegean islands. While the Greek military presence there has remained largely consistent over the last several decades, Ankara insists that it is in violation of the 1923 and 1947 treaties that established Greece's sovereignty over the islands.

As I argued in June, a conflict between Greece and Turkey appears not only possible but probable. A close reading of recent statements by Turkish officials, as well as the pattern of events over the last months, have only increased the risk. Serious consequences likely await both Turkey and Greece should the two states come to blows. Yet Erdogan's rhetoric, as well as his interests and ideology, suggests that Ankara may be willing to brave those risks.

Prelude to a Threat

There were signs early in the summer that tensions between Greece and Turkey were waning. With the conclusion of an agreement to allow Sweden and Finland to apply for NATO membership, Erdogan appeared far more intent upon striking another blow against Kurdish militias inside Syria — an operation he has postponed under Russian and American pressure. Fears of renewed Greek-Turkish hostilities spiked again in early August with the launching of a new Turkish drilling ship purportedly bound for contested waters in the Mediterranean. But despite high expectations in the Turkish nationalist press, the voyage proceeded to waters safely within the confines of Turkey's immediate coastline.

The summer lull ended in the last week of August after Turkish media reported several incidents between the Turkish and Greek militaries. The first encounter, according to the Turkish Ministry of



Defense, occurred when Greek warplanes harassed Turkish jets taking part in a NATO mission over the Mediterranean. Days later, Turkish officials claimed a Greek S-300 anti-aircraft system locked onto Turkish F-16s near Crete. Anonymous Greek denials of the encounters did little to stem Ankara's outrage. With both incidents occurring during centennial ceremonies marking the end of the Turkish War of Independence, Erdogan lambasted Greece's deployment of the Russian-made S-300 as evidence of Greek malevolence and infidelity to NATO. It was in this context that Turkey's president threatened to come without warning for Greece's islands.

Erdogan's words drew quick criticism. Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis decried his speech as intentionally aggressive, coming from a leader who appears "to have a strange fixation with my country." The U.S. State Department subsequently reiterated Washington's desire for "all parties to avoid rhetoric and to avoid taking actions that could further exacerbate tensions," stating that the sovereignty of Greece's Aegean islands "is not in question." Some observers inside and outside of Turkey have suggested that Erdogan's falling poll numbers served as the primary inspiration for his outburst. Facing re-election in 2023, he may be attempting "to turn the tide" by appealing to nationalist voters who have failed to rally to his base.

The Politics of Demilitarization

Since Erdogan's speech in early September, Turkish media, in coordination with the country's official Ministry of Communication, have kept up a steady drumbeat of commentary on the Aegean. Among the most consistent criticisms voiced by official and popular critics is the belief that Greece has unlawfully militarized its islands off the Anatolian coast. This assertion is predicated upon clauses in two separate treaties addressing Greece's sovereignty over its islands. According to the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne, "no naval bases or fortifications" are to be built on the five main islands in the North Aegean. Nevertheless, the terms do allow Greece to maintain a "normal contingent" of regular troops there. Conversely, the 1947 Treaty of Paris states unequivocally that the Greek Dodecanese Islands to the south "shall remain demilitarized." Greece, however, maintains the terms were meant as a promise to Italy, which ceded the islands to Athens after World War II. Since Italy had seized the islands from the Ottoman Empire in 1913, Turkey was excluded from negotiations in 1947, therefore making the pledge moot with respect to Ankara.

It is difficult to find Turkish commentators today willing to fully parse the contradictory nature of these agreements. Without fail, voices across Turkish media refer to Greece's Aegean territories as the "the islands under demilitarized status (gayri askeri statüdeki adalar)." The zombified use of this expression has been accompanied by a breathless stream of reporting regarding the placement of troops and equipment on the islands. Multiple online sources have posted articles with still images of supposedly illicit bases and airfields from across the Greek Aegean. Commentators repeatedly reference the existence of tens of thousands of Greek soldiers garrisoned on the islands. The basis of these numbers, however, appear to come from studies conducted more than 30 years ago. Recently, Turkey's official news outlet, Turkish Radio and Television, published drone photos showing Greek ships offloading dozens of armored vehicles on the Greek islands of Lesbos and Samos. Commentators in Turkey immediately seized upon the images of evidence of Greece's desire to "militarize" the Aegean. More ominously, the Turkish Foreign Ministry has repeatedly declared that a failure to demilitarize the islands could formally call their sovereignty into question.

Erdogan himself has made it clear that Greece's acts in the Aegean are not the sole source of tension. Since the 2019 signing of a mutual defense cooperation agreement between Washington and Athens, he has vilified U.S. support for Greece, rejecting claims that American efforts in the region are aimed at supporting Ukraine's war against Russia. His supporters in the Turkish media regularly amplify these doubts. Washington's goal, it is often claimed, is to besiege Turkey. The lifting of the U.S. arms embargo on the Republic of Cyprus, as well as U.S. support for Kurdish militant activities in Syria, are often cited as further evidence of this plot. It increasingly appears that Erdogan has come to believe the worst of American intentions. Washington's delivery of arms to Greece, he declared before the United Nations, constituted "a covert occupation." American and European support, he then warned Athens, "will not save you."



What Does Erdogan Want?

There are many reasons to doubt the seriousness of Erdogan's threats. A slight majority of Turkish voters, according to one poll, remain convinced his words are simply an electoral strategy meant to "create an agenda" ahead of next year's vote. An even larger share, 64% according to the survey, do not believe there is "enmity between the Turkish and Greek peoples." There is even less doubt that a conflict between Greece and Turkey would have a devastating effect upon the fragile economies of both states. Tourism revenue, particularly from resort towns on the Aegean coast, constitutes about 15 percent of Turkey's gross domestic product (and about 18 percent of Greece's). Both states depend heavily upon maritime shipping for trade. Before COVID-19, 87 percent of Turkish commerce was transported via seaside ports of entry. In addition to any potential economic damage, the international ramifications of conflict would be no less grave. Both the United States and the European Union have intimated a lack of tolerance for any attack on sovereign Greek territory. Conversely, neither Brussels nor Washington appears to possess any patience for Turkish claims of Greek aggression.

However, few in Greece appear willing to take Erdogan's words lightly. In recent weeks both print and television discussions of Turkey have been more focused on the possibility of war. With Greece headed toward its own elections in 2023, Mitsotakis has staunchly declared that any direct threat toward Greek sovereignty is a "red line" for the country. While vocally critical of the government's decision to sign a defense accord with the United States, opposition leader Alexis Tsipris has sought to balance his desire to unseat Mitsotakis with his own commitment to defend the country in the case of conflict. There are other, less subtle signs that Athens is preparing for the worst. News reports in July suggest that the Greek military has begun deploying an anti-drone "umbrella" on the Aegean islands using Israeli technology. More recently, Greek and French naval vessels have conducted joint exercises in the Aegean Sea as part of a broader mutual defense pact signed in 2021.

The risks of conflict, however, do not appear to fully deter Erdogan or his electoral opponents. Kemal Kilicdaroglu, head of Turkey's largest opposition party, lambasted Erdogan's pledge to "come suddenly one night." A real leader, he argued, would replicate Turkey's 1974 invasion of Cyprus and simply seize Greece's "occupied" islands without threats or warnings. A spokesperson from the nationalist IYI Party echoed these sentiments. Erdogan, he maintained, had demonstrated his inability to lead by not making Greece "pay a cost" for dispatching armored vehicles to Samos and Lesvos. While he did not believe a war between Greece and Turkey was possible, he was certain any conflict would lead to Greece losing its islands. Perhaps the most sensational demonstration of pro-war sentiment has come from Erdogan's coalition ally, nationalist leader Devlet Bahceli. In July, he happily posed with a map depicting most of Greece's Aegean islands, including Crete, as Turkish territory. More recently, Bahceli declared before the Turkish Grand National Assembly that the "sovereignty, property rights, maritime jurisdiction and airspace" of multiple Greek island "undoubtedly and legally" belong to Turkey.

While not necessarily pointing to an immediate conflict, this general confluence of opinion regarding Greece begs an obvious but elusive question: What would Ankara hope to achieve with further escalation? In the absence of clearer demands from Erdogan, few in the Turkish media have dared to speculate at length. Several former senior military officers have suggested blockading Greece's islands, or attacking them outright, in the hopes of removing suspected bases and weaponry. A far more comprehensive and nuanced course of action can be found in the writings of Hasan Basri Yalcin, a frequent news commentator and former head of research at Turkey's foremost think tank, the Foundation for Political, Economic and Social Research (SETA). Erdogan's threat to "come without warning," he believes, was the beginning of a long-term operation aimed at taking over the Aegean islands. Legally speaking, he argues Ankara should charge Greece with violating the Lausanne and Paris Treaties, thus invalidating Athens' sovereignty over its territories. "The best example for such a strategy," Yalcin concludes, "is Cyprus." An invasion and occupation of Greece's island territory, like Turkey's attack on Cyprus in 1974, would help "re-determine the status of the islands."

Why would Erdogan choose to pursue this course of action? Perhaps, as one commentator has argued, Erdogan's personal frustration with Greece's increased strength and visibility in the international arena will push him to escalate. The desire for an electoral boost, or even his constitutional ability to postpone



the vote under the threat of war, could also play a role. There also seems to be a general air of Turkish confidence regarding the result of any confrontation with Greece. In this regard, Turkey's political climate bears a strong resemblance to that of the United States before the 2003 invasion of Iraq. In the same way many Americans viewed Iraq as an overripe threat to Middle Eastern security, there is a similarly palpable sense of Turkish exasperation and impatience when it comes to Greek issues. As with Washington's approach toward Saddam Hussein in 2002, there is a strong sense of optimism in Ankara that any conflict with Greece would be short, decisive, and victorious. Turkey, after all, has humiliated Greece on the battlefield more than once before. In the same way Kosovo, Bosnia, and the Gulf War appeared to exemplify America's military superiority to Iraq, Turkey's commentariat generally shares Erdogan's self-assured belief that the country's interventions into Syria, Nagorno-Karabagh, Iraq, and Libya have demonstrated Turkey's own military prowess. And like the hints of bigotry found in American news coverage of the war in 2003, prominent Turkish commentators also describe their Greek antagonists as inherently weak and effeminate. In short, if Erdogan does choose war, it may be because he, like many others, believe success is assured.

Of course, a Turkish attack on Greece would cause potentially irreparable harm to Ankara's relationship with the United States, the European Union, and NATO, particularly given Greece's defensive pact with France and the robust presence of U.S. personnel in the Aegean. In the shadow of the invasion of Ukraine, any attempted occupation of Greek territory would undoubtedly earn Erdogan immediate and unenviable comparisons with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Given these circumstances, it seems almost impossible to imagine Erdogan discounting the grave diplomatic, political, and economic consequences of such an action.

And yet, history indicates that he may be willing and able to endure the fallout. In 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus despite the damage it inflicted upon its relationship with the United States and NATO. In Syria, Erdogan delivered upon his threats of invasion after long telegraphing his intentions to establish a "security zone" in the north of the country. Turkish troops continue to threaten to expand their occupation in the face of repeated warnings from Washington. Rather than shy from confrontation, Erdogan has touted these advances as an effort to defeat a NATO and American conspiracy to destroy Turkey. If Erdogan believes, as one columnist put it, that "America is our enemy, and not Greece," then it is possible he sees the risks of a rupture as a regrettable but still essential price to be paid in the name of Turkish national security.

Ryan Gingeras is a professor in the Department of National Security Affairs at the **Naval Postgraduate School** and is an expert on Turkish, Balkan, and Middle East history. He is the author of six books, including the forthcoming *The Last Days of the Ottoman Empire* (to be released by Penguin in October 2022). His *Sorrowful Shores: Violence, Ethnicity, and the End of the Ottoman Empire* received short-list distinctions for the Rothschild Book Prize in Nationalism and Ethnic Studies and the British-Kuwait Friendship Society Book Prize. The views expressed here are not those of the Naval Postgraduate School, the U.S. Navy, the Department of Defense, or any part of the U.S. government.

[Why Erdogan Might Choose War with Greece - War on the Rocks](#)

[Return to Index](#)

NPS Community Mourns Passing, Honors Legacy of Rear Adm. James Greene

(Navy.mil 6 Oct 22)

(NPS.edu 6 Oct 22)

The passing of a respected institutional leader brings with it a period of mourning within the community and the loss it feels, but there is also opportunity to take stock in, and respectfully celebrate, the legacy he or she has created. Such is the case with the passing of Naval officer, patriot, leader and educator, Rear Adm. James B. Greene Jr.



Greene's honorable career of service to the nation, to the Navy, and to the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), has forged an impactful, lasting legacy that remains as strong as ever today on the university's Monterey campus, and well beyond.

"Rear Adm. Jim Greene was truly one of a kind," said NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ann E. Rondeau in a message to the campus community. "He was a patriot, a warrior, a hero, a leader, a mentor, a colleague, and a friend to so many at NPS, and many more beyond the campus gates. He will be missed."

Greene served the U.S. Navy for more than 50 years ... 31 years on active duty with an additional 20 years as a member of the faculty at NPS. Greene excelled at being a Sailor and Naval leader throughout his three-plus decades of active-duty service. He began his career as a Surface Warfare Officer, with numerous wartime deployments to Vietnam, the Indian Ocean, and the Persian Gulf. In addition to his graduate studies at NPS, other assignments of note include project manager for the AEGIS project, the DOD's largest acquisition project, from 1984-1987; Senior Military Assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition from 1987-1990; and, Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Logistics from 1991-1995.

Not to be overlooked, Greene's impact on the AEGIS program, and in particular on the DDG-51 Arleigh Burke-class destroyer program – the longest, and some consider the most successful shipbuilding program in U.S. Navy history – led to his status as "a legend in PMS-400."

Throughout his career, Greene experienced first-hand the impact of acquisition on his fellow Sailors, and on the nation. His deep commitment to ensuring Sailors had the most technologically-advanced systems protecting their lives and enabling their fight, developed through the most responsible and respectful means possible, led Greene to continue his career focused on defense acquisition. And it was in acquisition that he would soon forge a legacy that would impact all Sailors, and in a sense, every service-member across the DOD.

Upon his retirement from active duty, Greene returned to NPS as the university's Chair of Acquisition in 2002, and launched the Acquisition Research Program (ARP) the following year. He envisioned a world-class resource where the nation's leading experts could explore all facets of the complex realm of defense acquisition.

As the program grew and evolved over the years, Greene watched the organization become what he had envisioned. Acquisition experts across the nation applying sound research to the profession's key challenges and issues, advancing acquisition practices across the entire Department of Defense, and in turn, impacting every warfighter throughout the service, as well as the overall security of the nation he loved.

"Jim Greene was a one-of-a-kind warrior in developing the Acquisition Research Program," said Professor of Practice Raymond Jones, chair of the NPS Department of Defense Management. "His efforts led to the largest repository of defense-focused acquisition research in the DOD as well as across academia.

"The impact of this work has led to significant cost and performance improvements across many defense acquisition programs over the years," Jones continued. "Jim's work, and the team that he led, were noted by senior DOD and government officials as being a national resource second to none."

Dr. Keith Snider, who served with Greene as the ARP's principal investigator for 15 years, saw the program's development and impact first-hand.

"Through ARP, Jim made defense acquisition research compelling and rewarding," Snider said. "His engagements with DOD sponsors made it possible for academic researchers, who otherwise would have little or no interest in defense acquisition, to receive financial grants and data for work on sponsors' challenging acquisition problems. As a consequence, a significant number of civilian university faculty members now specialize in acquisition-related studies."

Greene took the advancement of the ARP, and the work that bore its name, very seriously. Over the years, NPS' acquisition program generated, literally, thousands of research papers, theses, technical reports and the like, and Greene read every single one of them. And it should be noted that generating this level of output took herculean efforts in securing resources ... During his tenure at NPS, Greene brought



in over \$60 million in reimbursable funding to support the research efforts of over 700 NPS graduate students, 40 NPS faculty and dozens of academic partners.

“Jim was a man of service ... His mission at NPS was to mentor and get resources for NPS faculty and warrior-scholars to give them the knowledge and critical thinking skills needed in today’s ever shifting environment,” said ARP founding program manager, Karey Shaffer.

“In acquisition, the ‘valley of death’ is often an unintended byproduct of an aging acquisition system that wasn’t built for the speed of modern innovation,” she added. “Jim’s unique skillset and perspective gave him the uncanny ability to navigate that valley.”

“Jim was a dedicated professional that ensured only the highest quality products were introduced into the ARP repository,” said Jones. “He personally read every line of every paper and report that was submitted for acceptance into the program. His knowledge of the subjects and his personal attention to each author, resulted in exceptional work that was read at the highest levels of our government.”

Greene held a genuine fondness for students and would use every relationship and connection he had cultivated throughout his career to support and advance their work.

“Jim was extremely generous of his time with students and very proud of the student component of ARP—not only NPS students but also students of those civilian university faculty with ARP grants,” said Snider. “He read each ARP student capstone report and sent particularly noteworthy reports to DOD/DON leaders along with personal commendations for the student authors.”

But his advocacy for students didn’t stop there, Snider said.

“At each annual symposium, he spent time with every student represented in the ‘poster show’ and made sure to connect them with influential attendees,” he added. “And in his briefings to and discussions with external stakeholders, he always praised the level of student contributions to ARP and the key role that their research played in their graduate education.”

As Greene’s legacy, the Naval Postgraduate School Acquisition Research Program, approaches its 20th year in service, those on campus who have been closely involved in the program can provide testament to his impact ... And they are powerful indeed.

“Essentially, Jim elevated acquisition research to prominence both within and outside of DOD,” claimed Snider.

“The weapon systems we have today have Greene’s DNA through his persistent quest for excellence in research and studies produced through the ARP,” added Jones.

“He often said, ‘If you don’t mind who gets the credit, you can accomplish anything,’” recalled Shaffer. “We need more Jim Greene’s in the world. People that tackle hard problems for no other reason than it is the right thing to do.”

A memorial service at Arlington National Cemetery will be held at a date to be determined.

[NPS Community Mourns Passing, Honors Legacy of Rear Adm. James Greene > United States Navy > News-Stories](#)

[NPS Community Mourns Passing, Honors Legacy of Rear Adm. James Greene - Naval Postgraduate School](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Taiwan’s Defense Minister accuses Chinese regime of destroying tacit agreement in Taiwan Strait

(TheBL 6 Oct 22)

For nearly 70 years, China tacitly acknowledged the unofficial median line, but in 2020 the regime denied and said it "did not exist.", Oct 06, 2022. (Spotlight on China/Screenshot via TheBL/YouTube)

According to Reuters, Taiwan’s Minister of National Defense Chiu Kuo-cheng said that the Chinese communist regime has destroyed a tacit agreement on military action between the two sides by crossing an unofficial “median line” in the Taiwan Strait.

Chiu told Taiwan’s parliament during a committee meeting on Wednesday, October 5:



“The median line was supposed to be a tacit agreement for everyone.”

Chiu added, “That tacit agreement has been destroyed.”

After House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited Taiwan in August, the Chinese regime escalated aggressive large-scale military exercises around the island. China’s navy has often crossed the line to show its angry protest against the visit.

Taiwan Minister of Foreign Affairs Joseph Wu in August said that he wanted “to make sure that the median line is still there, to safeguard peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.”

However, Christopher Twomey, a scholar from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**, told Reuters that he believed the U.S. Navy considered the median line as a “political artifact” rather than a legal one.

Reuters reported that for nearly 70 years, China tacitly acknowledged the unofficial median line, but in 2020 the regime denied and said it “did not exist.”

The median line is in the middle of the Taiwan Strait and is around 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Taiwanese waters.

A couple of days ago, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told CNN in an interview that He sees that China is changing its mode of action, which the U.S. called a “new normal” for military activities around Taiwan.

[Taiwan's Defense Minister accuses Chinese regime of destroying tacit agreement in Taiwan Strait - The BL](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Weaponize PME to Improve the Force

(CIMSEC 6 Oct 22)

If the sea services and the defense community are to improve and sustain human capital to accomplish the missions of the future, they must create a more educated workforce by incentivizing nontraditional and self-study Professional Military Education opportunities. War is a human endeavor. This fact applies universally to all conflicts, regardless of when they are fought, where there are fought, or what weapons are used to fight them. The human factors of war dominated Napoleonic Europe and the trenches of World War I, just as they did in Al Anbar for the last two decades and in Kharkiv today. Any future conflict, particularly between great powers with technologically exquisite platforms, will be built on a human foundation. The United States Department of Defense and the sea services must invest in their people as much or more than they invest in their things.

Professional Military Education (PME) is a key vessel for this human investment, but the sea services are not doing enough to compel their top performers to seek out valuable PME as a career enhancing opportunity. Put more emphatically, there is not enough incentive for Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen to pursue self-study education programs, either concurrently to their primary MOS duties or as part of a dedicated PME tour. This lack of incentive is best reflected in the risk one assumes to their chances of O-5 promotion and command tours should they embark on a nontraditional PME program. This causes an exodus of the sea services’ top performers before their talents can be fully utilized. Adding additional PME opportunities reserved for top performers and decoupling nonstandard PME and decreased promotion and command opportunity will go far in developing a more intelligent naval workforce that is well prepared for the future’s challenges.

The Problem

The personnel evaluation systems of the sea services do not create incentives for well-meaning servicemembers to pursue nontraditional or self-study PME. In any fleet unit, the axiom that “learning is good, but doing is better” reigns supreme.¹ The command climates throughout the naval workforce implicitly communicate this through evaluation methods that are abstractly comparative and do not adequately reflect the gains to be had from a more educated and intelligent workforce. The metrics used



to compare servicemembers against each other are largely the same across each service's force and do not appropriately weight self-study PME against basic MOS proficiency. Any time spent studying and learning beyond typical MOS training and standard "roadmap" PME courses is viewed as time that could be better spent in the office or in the field. While this article does not argue in the least against putting the time in when it is needed, the most driven servicemembers should have more and better opportunities to self-educate.

Moreover, it is nearly impossible to communicate to one's chain of command when gains in technical competence or tactical proficiency are earned through individual PME. While these gains may be lauded for what they are, the return on investment for the individual servicemember does not hold. This feedback loop then creates a self-fulfilling prophecy at the institutional level: the sea services' top performers writ large do not pursue self-study PME because this is time they must spend outperforming their peers in basic tasks and duties, and connecting this outperformance to additional PME is not feasible in most command climates. Note that this argument does not mean that a poorly performing Marine should be able to just read a book to compensate for their shortcoming; it means that an imminently qualified Marine should not be penalized for pursuing a nontraditional education program that is concurrent to their professional duties, assuming their performance is already above reproach. If the sea services can modify their evaluation practices, the best members will take advantage of it, and the services will collectively benefit from a more educated force.

The final deterrent to many servicemembers' aspirations towards PME and career progression comes in the form of increased risk to O-5 promotion and command opportunities. Simply put, the sea services do not value increased education as much as they do increased experience. Promotion boards expect to see a standard conveyor belt of "key billets" that culminates in a selection to O-5 command. While certain levels of experience are necessary to ensure successful and effective command, this model creates institutional groupthink amongst its leaders and stifles the creativity of its most imaginative service members.

Promotion boards reinforce this trend through the people and career paths they prioritize for promotion and command. This reinforcement then trickles down and compels resultant career decisions amongst the company grade officers and junior staff noncommissioned officers throughout the individual services. Even those who would prefer a nontraditional PME approach do not seek it out simply because they cannot assume the risk to their career. This hesitancy is amplified by the services' manpower management practices, which are designed to check requisite career progression boxes that collectively make members competitive for O-5 command.

This requirement to maintain competitiveness for O-5 command is present whether a particular servicemember wants the opportunity or not. The sea services are missing a valuable opportunity and bypassing a valuable talent pool strictly through the use of a short sighted and outdated promotion model. Everyone is treated like they are a future ship's captain or infantry battalion commander – regardless of personal aspirations – and this is a mistake.

A Proposed Solution

This article now proposes two potential answers to the aforementioned problem. Both are designed to increase the incentive for servicemembers to pursue self-study PME, with one approach creating the opportunity to do so and the other removing any potential negative side-effects to one's career progression.

1) Choose Your Own (PME) Adventure: If the sea services want to truly revamp and weaponize their approach to PME, this is one of the most nontraditional opportunities to do so. PME selection boards – be they for company grade, field grade, or top level school allocations – can set aside a small portion of their allocations for only the highest performing servicemembers on the board and allow them the chance to design their own PME program. Prospective students would get to pick the school (a traditional university, PME institution, trade school, or other options), the field of study, and the recommended utilization tour upon completion of the program.

There are two methods to solicit these programs. The first is to field said programs from individuals seeking to embark on them before a given PME selection board convenes. Boards will then convene and



determine, much like they do for every PME program, if the requested program fits the needs of the service and the servicemember is of sufficient quality and talent to warrant approval to the program. The second method is to select those servicemembers for this self-designed PME option, then instruct them to build and submit their program for approval. Either approach is feasible, however the first approach of solicitation then allocation most likely nests better within the current timelines of PME selection and rotation dates.

Note that this option is in no way a “free ride” or “vacation” for the servicemember. Potential self-designed programs should nest within a member’s professional duties and fit the general needs the member fulfills for the service. The servicemember, who will most likely spend a considerable amount of time away from traditional military installations and communities, should also uphold basic tenets of military life (physical fitness, military appearance, off duty conduct, etc.) throughout the program. Moreover, these programs would also warrant substantial utilization tours and service obligations once completed, so the services will benefit from continued retention of their best performers in fields these members actually want to be in. The author is not naïve to personnel requirements of the sea services and this option is not meant erode the potential pool of ships’ captains, department heads, or battalion commanders. It is merely an entrepreneurial recommendation for the services to better utilize their top performers, with effects that will ripple down throughout the entire force.

2) “Learn More and Do Better”: The sea services must eschew the notion that “learning is good but doing is better.” This is a false dichotomy that assumes a zero sum game between personal development and professional competence, where one comes at the expense of the other. This is ridiculous, yet promotion boards implicitly communicate this at every convening. Myopic rules about what constitutes a “key billet in grade” should be discarded in favor of a more wholistic look at the entire person up for promotion or command. Is the Marine Corps really assuming increased risk by promoting an already high performing and self-educated Major to Lieutenant Colonel without a traditional Executive Officer or Operations Officer tour? This article submits that there is minimal risk in this decision. Is there a proper combination of education and experience that can allow a potential ship’s captain to bypass a department head tour in favor of a nontraditional education program? This article again posits that there is indeed a combination of learning and doing that can compensate for the standard cookie cutter approach of career progression.

What this requires is a massive shift in the mindset of the services and their leaders. Once promotions and command allocations better account for self-driven PME, trust will rise amongst the naval workforce to pursue individual improvement opportunities. The relationship between personal development and professional competence is not zero sum but complimentary. By learning more, servicemembers will do better.

Conclusion

The sea services will need people – not equipment – to do the hard things that are sure to come in the next conflict. The wars of the future will transcend current known quantities such as weaponizing and single domain warfare. This future war will be cognitively rigorous, and the leaders who can think effectively first will be the ones who attack effectively first. An educated and intelligent naval workforce is a requirement if the sea services are to succeed in these future wars. Professional Military Education, long an area of investment in our human capital, needs to be revamped and better weaponized to attract and retain the brightest minds in the naval force. Leaders at all levels must provide incentives for self-study PME, not judging it against time spent in the office but more so as a compliment to this time. Leaders must also realize when individual increases in proficiency arise from entrepreneurial PME initiatives and laud them.

Institutionally, the sea services should allow for the best and brightest servicemembers to design their own PME program, provided that it nests within their professional duties and the needs of the service. The services’ highest leaders must champion the notion that education does not equal a degradation of experience but more so an increase in potential performance. Promotions should reflect this shift in mindset, effectively communicating to the workforce that there is minimal risk to one’s career if they seek out education. Combining these grassroots and institutional-level efforts will increase the intelligence and



commensurate performance of the naval workforce, provide apparent levels of career satisfaction for all involved, and allow the sea services to better fight and win the next war.

Captain Robert Holmes, USMC, is a graduate student of Eurasian regional security studies and a Eurasian Foreign Area Officer at the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Weaponize PME to Improve the Force | Center for International Maritime Security \(cimsec.org\)](#)

[Return to Index](#)

ALUMNI:

Appointment Made to Sedona Oak Creek School District

(SignalsAZ0258877 4 Oct 22)

(Paso Robles Press 6 Oct 22)

Yavapai County School Superintendent Tim Carter is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. David Price, to the Sedona Oak Creek Joint Unified School District Governing Board. The appointment will be effective October 2, 2022 and will expire on December 31, 2024.

This non-partisan seat was vacant due to the fact that Board Member Barbara Trautwein, resigned “due to circumstances outside of her control”. We appreciate the efforts Mrs. Trautwein put forward in supporting students and the community while a member of the Governing Board.

Mr. Price is a graduate of Camden High School in San Jose, California. He completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Science from the United States Naval Academy and two Masters Degrees. One in Astronautical Engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and another in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. He is married, and the couple have resided in Sedona since 2020. The couple have two (2) grown children. Mr. Price served honorably and retired from the United States Navy as a Captain, where he served as an aviator, engineer, and educator.

Mr. Carter believes “Mr. Price will work hard to better understand the role of the Governing Board and will work to balance the needs of students, parents, staff, and the taxpayer. He appears to relate to all segments of the community and should work effectively with his fellow Board Members. His background in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) should serve him well in this endeavor”.

Mr. Carter accepted letters of interest and interviewed five (5) well qualified applicants on September 26th at Sedona Red Rock High School. He then spoke individually with each of the seated members of the Governing Board, members of the school staff and administration, and several area residents prior to making the appointment.

Mr. Price will be sworn in on Wednesday, September 28th. He has not indicated if he intends to run for this seat in the 2024 election cycle for a new elected term starting in 2025. Mr. Carter may be reached at 928-925-6560 (cell) and Mr. Price may be reached at 831-233-8131.

[Appointment Made to Sedona Oak Creek School District - Signals AZ](#)

[PRJUSD Provisionally Appoints Trustee for Two Years • Paso Robles Press](#)

[Return to Index](#)

4 Key Military Posts Still Without Permanent Leaders

(Malaya Business Insight 6 Oct 22) ... Victor Reyes

The commander of the AFP Western Mindanao Command (Westmincom) retired from the service yesterday, bringing to four the number of key military posts without permanent leaders.

Lt. Gen. Alfredo Rosario Jr. relinquished his post to Marine Brig. Arturo Rojas in rites presided over by AFP chief Lt. Gen. Bartolome Bacarro at the Westmincom headquarters at Camp Navarro in Zamboanga City.



Rojas will lead Westmincom as its acting commander, pending the appointment by President Marcos Jr. of a permanent commander. He will handle the job in concurrent capacity as Westmincom deputy commander for external defense operations.

There are now four key positions in the Armed Forces that are occupied by officers in an acting capacity.

Two of the posts, Navy chief and AFP vice chief, were vacated last month by now-retired Vice Adm. Adeluis Bordado and Lt. Gen. Erickson Gloria, respectively.

Navy vice commander Rear Adm. Caesar Bernardo Valencia and AFP deputy chief Vice Adm. Anthony Reyes have been designated as acting Navy chief and AFP vice chief, respectively.

Also lacking a permanent commander is the AFP Southern Luzon Command (Solcom). The post was vacated by Bacarro when he assumed command as AFP chief last August.

Solcom is currently headed by Solcom deputy commander Brig. Gen. Armand Arevalo, also in an acting capacity.

Before becoming the Westmincom deputy commander for external defense operations in July last year, Rojas was the commander of both the Joint Task Force Tawi-Tawi and 2nd Marine Brigade.

A member of the Philippine Military Academy class of 1990, Rojas spent the early years of his military career with the Marine Battalion Landing Team 34, Marine Battalion Landing Team 9 and the Force Reconnaissance Battalion.

He holds two master's degrees – Master of Science in Defense Analysis from US **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, California, USA and Master in Public Management-Major in Department and Security from the Development Academy of the Philippines.

Rojas is a recipient of numerous medals, including four Distinguished Service Stars, a Distinguished Service Medal, an Outstanding Achievement Medal, a Gold Cross Medal, and two Distinguished Navy Cross, among others.

Bacarro said Westmincom is in best hands, noting Rojas' "extensive knowledge and experience."

Rosario, of the PMA class 1988, bowed out of service upon reaching the retirement age of 56. He led Westmincom for more than a year.

"Today I have these mixed feelings of sadness, nostalgia, and happiness. I am sad and nostalgic because I will be leaving behind the organization, co-workers, and friends whom I have worked with for quite some time," said Rosario.

"Yet, I am happy because I will now have all the time to be with my family and with a sense of pride knowing that I am leaving Western Mindanao command in a better state. I am contented, knowing that I was able to sustain what my predecessors have started," said Rosario.

The posts of Westmincom and Solcom commander, Navy chief and AFP vice chief were among those given a fixed three-year term under Republic 11709 that took effect last July 1.

The others given a three year-term under the law were the AFP chief; AFP deputy chief; Army chief; Air Force chief; commanders of the Northern Luzon Command, Western Command, Visayas Command, and Eastern Mindanao Command chief; and the AFP Inspector General. The law also gave a four-year-term to the PMA superintendent.

Officers appointed to these positions will get the fixed term once designated to the posts after the effectivity of the law.

[4 key military posts still without permanent leaders \(malaya.com.ph\)](http://malaya.com.ph)

[Return to Index](#)

School District Provisionally Appoints New Trustee

(Paso Robles Daily News 6 Oct 22)

The Paso Robles Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees met for most of the day Tuesday to interview and then select a replacement to serve the balance of the term of Chris Bausch, who resigned on Aug. 26, to join the Paso Robles City Council. Seven applicants, including Peter J. Byrne, Kenneth E.



Enney, Jr., Dale Irving Gustin, Randall V. Jordan, Matthew McClish, Sheila Kaye Page, and Kenneth Parish completed the required paperwork and met all qualifications for consideration.

The seven were separated into two groups, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, with panel interviews by the current board members who had selected a total of twelve questions the applicants were given in advance to be prepared to answer. Following a brief introductory statement by each applicant, they were asked in rotating order to answer six of the twelve questions, asked by each of the six board members. Applicants were then offered the opportunity to make a brief concluding statement summarizing their reasons for applying.

Public comment was taken in person, online, and via phone. When deliberations began, each board member identified their top four candidates for continuing consideration, then informally narrowed the field to the final two. Lt Col Kenneth Enney, Jr. was provisionally appointed as a trustee with a vote of 4-2. Enney's appointment is for two years. He will take the oath of office on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at the regular board of trustees meeting.

Enney, Jr. USMC (Retired) served as a Marine Corps intelligence officer from 1989 to 2012. He deployed in combat during operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan and Pakistan). He served as an instructor at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, served as a military advisor in Colombia and Peru, and as a military liaison to Chile.

From 2007 to 2009, he served at Intelligence Department Headquarters Marine Corps (Pentagon) as the chief of the Intelligence Manpower and Training Branch. His responsibilities included oversight of the training and assignment of the Marine Corps' 10,000 Intelligence personnel, Marine Corps language training, and the assignment of Marines to the Defense Attaché System.

In 2008 he was selected to command the Marine Corps Training Battalion at the Presidio of Monterey where he was responsible, at any one time, for the training of over the 1,000 Marines attending the Defense Language Institute and **Naval Postgraduate School**. His assignment lasted from Aug. 2009 until his retirement in Nov. 2011.

In April 2012, he moved his family to their ranch in San Miguel where they grow grain and raise cattle. He continues to teach at local Central Coast colleges. He holds an undergraduate degree in international affairs from George Washington University; a master's in business administration from Pepperdine University, and a master's in national security affairs from **Naval Postgraduate School**. He is a graduate of the Marine Corps Amphibious Warfare School, Command and Staff College, Joint Staff College, and Air War College.

[School district provisionally appoints new trustee - Paso Robles Daily News](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Personnel Note: Susan Evans, Bentley Nettles Join Gray Robinson's National Alcohol Beverage Practice

(Florida Politics 6 Oct 22) ... Drew Wilson

Each brings more than three decades of experience working in the alcohol beverage regulatory sector. GrayRobinson has made two hires to its alcohol regulation team.

The firm announced that former Director of the U.S. Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau's Office of Industry and State Outreach Susan Evans and former Executive Director of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Brig. Gen. Bentley Nettles have joined the firm's National Alcohol Beverage Practice.

The industry veterans each bring more than three decades of experience working in the alcohol beverage regulatory sector with a keen understanding of state and federal alcohol beverage policy and rulemaking standards.

"We are pleased to announce Susan Evans and General Bentley Nettles have joined forces with our National Alcohol Beverage Practice to address the regulatory needs for our clients," said GrayRobinson Regulated Products Section Chair Richard Blau. "Both Sue and Gen. Nettles have an impressive



background and extensive relationships and are highly regarded in this esoteric area of law. Sue's regulatory experience and industry relationships combined with General Nettles' deep experience in the mechanics, logistics, and policy objectives that define the regulator-industry member relationship will be immensely valuable to our clients."

Evans will work as an alcohol beverage consultant in GrayRobinson's Washington, D.C., office, where she will use her experience working with federal agencies to provide the firm's clients valuable insight on matters such as federal alcohol labeling, licensing, trade practice and other regulatory compliance responsibilities.

"I'm excited to continue sharing my knowledge of the federal alcohol beverage regulations and to further assist alcohol industry members nationwide," Evans said. "I've long respected the attorneys and advisors at GrayRobinson, and I'm thrilled to join the National Alcohol Beverage Team."

At TTB, Evans led efforts to enhance relationships with industry members and state government counterparts through education and communication. She began her federal career at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, transitioning from working in the field to ATF's headquarters D.C., where she worked as director of the alcohol labeling office.

When TTB was created in 2003, she was appointed the first assistant administrator of headquarters operations, overseeing the Alcohol Labeling and Formulation Division, Scientific Services Division, Regulations and Rulings Division, and International Affairs Division. She later became TTB's first executive liaison for industry and state matters, serving as an advocate and educator for industry members and state regulators.

She earned a bachelor's degree in history and sociology from Grove City College.

Nettles joins GrayRobinson as an alcohol beverage consultant in the Key West office. He will work with clients on matters involving retail, hospitality, state alcohol labeling, licensing, trade practice and other regulatory compliance responsibilities, with a special focus on Texas regulation and compliance.

"I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the nationally recognized alcohol beverage practice at GrayRobinson," Nettles said. "Texas is the second largest alcohol beverage market in the United States and home to more than 59,000 alcohol license businesses. Having served within the alcohol beverage space in Texas for many years, I understand what it takes for those in the industry faced with regulatory compliance challenges to navigate their way through the process. I look forward to taking this knowledge and the knowledge of the stellar GrayRobinson team to create innovative opportunities for clients."

Nettles previously served as director of TABC, successfully implementing several historic legislative improvements during his tenure. Nettles also led the consolidation of multiple license and permit types, helped develop new standards simplifying the process for malt beverage manufacturers to enter the industry, and implemented efficiencies in policy and rulemaking to improve transparency and ensure stakeholder participation.

Nettles received his master's degree in homeland security from the **Naval Postgraduate School**, his law degree from the South Texas College of Law Houston, and his bachelor's degree in business administration from Texas A&M University. He is licensed to practice law in Texas and Louisiana.

He served in the Texas Army National Guard and did a military fellowship in national security policy at Tufts University.

During his service with the Texas Army National Guard, Nettles received the Legion of Merit, Double Bronze Star Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart, Operation Enduring Freedom Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and Double Stars Operation Iraqi Freedom Campaign Medal.

[Personnel note: Susan Evans, Bentley Nettles join GrayRobinson's national alcohol beverage practice \(floridapolitics.com\)](http://floridapolitics.com)

[Return to Index](#)

Education Roundup: Aultman College Preview Day is Wednesday
(CantonRep 9 Oct 22)



Aultman College is opening its doors for a Preview Day at 6 p.m. Wednesday. This is an open-house-style event for interested students.

The event includes tours of college facilities and classrooms, the opportunity to meet with students, faculty and staff and presentations about the various programs in nursing, radiography, social work, medical assisting and the health sciences, as well as College Credit Plus for high school students.

The event is free, but reservations are required. To learn more and RSVP, visit www.aultmancollege.edu/open-house. Aultman College is next to Aultman Hospital at the corner of Dartmouth Avenue and Seventh Street SW. For more information about Aultman College, visit www.aultmancollege.edu.

Distinguished Fairless Falcons to be inducted in November

The Distinguished Fairless Falcons classes for 2020, 2021 and 2022 will be inducted together in November during a ceremony at Fairless High School. Due to the pandemic, the induction ceremonies had been postponed. Those who receive the Distinguished Fairless Falcon Award become members of the Fairless Hall of Honor.

The Class of 2020 Distinguished Fairless Falcons

Greg Colaner is a 1975 graduate of Fairless High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Education from Bowling Green State University in 1979 and a license to practice nursing home administration in 1983. He joined the Altercare company in 1986, where he served as the Administrator of Altercare Navarre. He held a succession of positions including president of Absolute Health Services and later assumed his role as president of Altercare in 2003.

Casey (Miller) Lucius grew up in Brewster and graduated from Fairless High School in 1994. She attended Ashland University before joining the Navy in 1997. She was trained in naval intelligence and served on an aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf. In 2000, she earned a master of arts in national security affairs from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and later earned a Ph.D in political science from the University of Hawaii. In 2005, she moved to Vietnam to work as the operations assistant to the U.S. ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi. Upon returning to the U.S. in 2009, she began teaching national security decision-making at the Naval War College in Monterey, California. During this time, she served on the local City Council for four years and ran for U.S. Congress in 2016. She has also written two books on political decision-making and campaigns. In 2017, she and her family moved to Naples, Florida, where she works for the City of Marco Island.

The Class of 2021 Distinguished Fairless Falcons

Scott Budge grew up in Brewster and is a 1980 graduate of Fairless High School. He also graduated from the two-year welding program at R.G. Drage. He obtained his vocational career license from Kent State University and has taught welding and metal fabrication for 31 years at R. G. Drage Career Technical Center. He is a CWI certified welding inspector and provides this service back to his students for free certifications. He serves on Labor Management and District Leadership Teams as well as the Student Learning Objective, Oil and Gas, and Alumni Committees. He volunteers to coordinate the regional and state of Ohio Skills USA competitions and serves as a judge at these events. He sits on the National Visiting Committee as a representative through the National Science Foundation for WELD-ED and is the president of the Stark County Area Vocational Educators for R. G. Drage. He received the 2016 Plummer Memorial Education Award, sponsored by the American Welding Society. He and his students designed and fabricated the Falcon that graces the front of Fairless High School.

Jane (Myers) Williams is a 1975 graduate of Fairless High School. In addition to being the starting center for the girls' basketball team, she began her career in the entertainment industry early as a Thespian Award Winner at Fairless. Jane attended the University of Tulsa, before heading to New York City in 1978. She has worked in the costume departments of over 35 movies and TV shows. She is the founder/director of Morningside Theatre Company in Edina, Minnesota, where she has taught theater to kids every summer for the past 12 years.

The Class of 2022 Distinguished Fairless Falcons

Davina Gosnell is a 1960 graduate of Brewster High School. She earned her diploma from the Massillon City School of Nursing, her BSN from the University of Pittsburgh, a master of science and Ph.D in nursing from the Ohio State University. She was the dean of the College of Nursing at Kent State



University and was a professor and founding director of Hiram College's Department of Nursing. During her career, she worked in foreign countries and was a consultant for the World Health Organization.

Tim Stith was a teacher in the Fairless Local School district for most of his career, having served from 1973-1998 as a sixth-grade teacher. He was a coach of Fairless cross country and track and field teams. He was Stark County Track Coach of the Year (1978), All-Ohio Cross Country Coach of the Year (1978), All-Ohio Track Coach of the Year (1979). He served as president of the Fairless Education Association and was a science teacher who served on curriculum committees at the local and state levels. He is a cross country, track, and swimming referee for OHSAA.

[Education roundup: Aultman College Preview Day is Wednesday \(cantonrep.com\)](#)

[Return to Index](#)

