



RHUMB LINES

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U.S. Navy Individual Augmentees – The New Joint Warrior-Sailors

“Our Sailors are doing a tremendous job as Individual Augmentees, and it's our job as leaders to support our IA Sailors and their families. The centerpiece for our support and communication begins with each command having an active, engaged and effective Command IA Coordinator. Getting this position right in every command that is sending our Sailors forward to the fight as an IA pays great dividends for our IA Sailors and their families.”

– Adm. J. C. Harvey, Jr., Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command

Thanks to the Individual Augmentee process, the Navy is developing joint warrior-Sailors who possess a unique skill-set, tailored to support combatant commanders. These IA Sailors are expanding the contributions of the Navy to the joint force both today and into the future with their interagency, coalition, and non-governmental agency experience, and their growing knowledge throughout the range of military operations.

Navy IA 101

- IA Sailors are making a significant impact all over the world, including: Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, Djibouti, Germany, Cuba, Bahrain, Qatar, Colombia, Philippines, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Sudan, Bosnia, Oman and Pakistan.
- IA Sailors are diligently serving in several overseas contingency operations missions including: provincial reconstruction teams, detainee operations, expeditionary medicine, counter-improvised explosive device and combat support, civil affairs, Navy construction teams, electronic warfare support, maritime and port security, airlift support, naval special warfare and joint task force headquarters.
- Parent commands are responsible for designating a Command IA Coordinator, or CIAC (pronounced kayak), who ensures IA Sailors and their families have the necessary information to properly prepare for and complete their IA tour. More informed IA Sailors and families result in more mission-ready IA Sailors and better prepared families.

Resources for the IA Sailor, Family and Commands

- The one-stop shop website for the IA continuum is www.ia.navy.mil. It has pertinent information about the IA training pipeline, Navy IA policy, and contains links to sites relating to the IA continuum.
- Two social media websites continually communicate the IA continuum message to both the Navy and public. Become a fan on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Navy-Individual-Augmentees/56426523395?ref=ts> and a follower on Twitter at http://twitter.com/Navy_IA.
- Active and Reserve IA Sailors and family members are invited to attend Returning Warrior Workshops (RWW) held throughout the country. The RWWs focus on reintegration into home and civilian life upon returning from overseas contingency operations. To learn more about RWWs, visit <http://www.ia.navy.mil/rww.htm>
- The Fleet and Family Support Program provides IA Sailors and families with deployment support services, including readiness briefs, discussion groups, and outreach calls. Visit <https://www.nffsp.org>

Key Messages

- IA Sailors and their families are an integral part of the Navy and mission success in overseas contingency operations.
- Supporting and communicating with IA Sailors and families is a top priority of senior leadership.
- Many Sailors returning from IA tours say they feel a greater sense of accomplishment thanks to their work overseas. To watch interviews with IA Sailors, visit: <http://www.navy.mil/media/multimedia/iaex/iaex.html>

Facts & Figures

- Since 2002, more than 79,000 Sailors have served as IAs in 16 countries across the globe.
- Approximately 47% of the forces the U.S. Navy has serving on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan are IAs.
- 61% of IAs are deploying in traditional Navy jobs.
- Number of U.S. Navy IAs that are “Boots on Ground” is 5,014 active duty, 5,659 reserve force, and the total Boots on Ground is 10,673.
- 2,124 IA Sailors have earned the Bronze Star; 26 Purple Heart; 957 Meritorious Service Medal.