

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 310 Naval Officers.

Mission: Cryptologic Warfare (CW) encompasses Signals Intelligence, Cyberspace Operations, and Electronic Warfare Operations in order to provide warfighting capabilities for Fleet Commanders to fight and win in the information domain. CW Officers deliver and operate systems that provide indications and warning, non-kinetic weapons, a reliable, secure and battle-ready global network, and lead in the development and integration of information operations (IO) capabilities into the Fleet.



Guiding Principles:

(1) **Warfare Competency:** CW Officers are the Navy's preeminent professionals in Signals Intelligence, Cyber, and Electronic Warfare by employing a thorough understanding of the tenets of IO, sensor/weapons, national systems' capabilities and limitations, and know how to optimally use all IO resources for "effects-based" warfare. CW skillsets including technical expertise in Defensive Cyberspace Operations and Computer Network Operations are needed today more than achieve tactical, strategic, and operational advantages afloat and ashore.

(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.

(3) **Professional Expertise:** CW Officers require knowledge of engineering and technology in order to understand how adversaries communicate (i.e. knowing how the signals are 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 CW Officers.

(2) **Direct Commission Officer (DCO):** The Reserve CW community has limited annual quotas for the DCO Program.

(3) **Change of Designator:** The CW community accepts a limited number of applications 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 CW Officers.

(5) **Inter-service Transfer (IST):** The CW 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 in 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. Consideration will be given to candidates possessing education and/or experience related to Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Special Pay/Bonuses: None.

Training Pipeline: Newly commissioned Naval Officers attend Officer Development School (five weeks). CW Officers attend the Information Warfare Basic Course (three weeks-waived in FY22) and the Cryptologic Warfare Officer Basic Course (13 weeks beginning May23). CW Officers must also complete the Cryptologic Warfare Officer Qualification Program at NIOC Colorado, within **36 months** of Commissioning or Change of Designator. CW Officers must complete the Information Warfare Officer (IWO) qualification within **60 months**.

Billet Assignment: Initial billet assignment will be coordinated through Commander, Naval Information Force Reserve (CNIFR). Follow-on billet assignments are made through Junior Officer APPLY (JOAPPLY). Optimally, CW Officers will initially be assigned to one of four major Navy Information Operations Commands in Colorado, 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> (CAC enabled)



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