SPECIAL DUTY – MARITIME CYBER WARFARE OFFICER (1885)

Community Overview: The Reserve Information Warfare (IW) Programs (Intelligence, Cryptologic Warfare, Information Professional, Oceanography, Maritime Cyber Warfare Officer, and Space Cadre) are established under the cognizance of Commander, Naval Information Force Reserve (IW Reserve TYCOM) and Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command. The Navy's Information Warfare Community's mission is to defeat any enemy by using Assured Command and Control, Battlespace Awareness, and Integrated Fires to achieve Freedom of Maneuver across all warfighting domains. Maritime Cyber Warfare Officer is a Restricted Line community comprised of approximately 60 Naval Reserve Officers.

Mission: Maritime Cyber Warfare Officers (MCWOs) deliver warfighting capabilities and effects through cyberspace taking defensive actions to frustrate our adversaries' offensive plans and deliver offensive effects to defeat them. MCWOs will plan, develop and execute these capabilities to undermine their capabilities and enhance our own.

Guiding Principles:

(1) Warfighting Competency: Maritime Cyber Warfare Officers are skilled operators that plan, execute and integrate the full continuum of cyberspace activities required to ensure freedom of action across all the Navy's warfighting domains and deny the same to our adversaries. MCWOs with skillsets including technical expertise in Defensive Cyberspace Operations are needed today more than ever in countering our adversaries.

(2) Leadership: Leadership is a core competency for all Naval Officers. MCWOs must be engaged and seize the initiative, motivate people, effectively apply resources and execute mission. As leaders in cyberspace, MCWOs plan, coordinate and direct computer network operations across the Fleet remaining postured to deliver non-kinetic effects against adversaries when directed.

(3) Professional Expertise: MCWOs require knowledge of defensive cybersecurity principals, tool and techniques to protect our own capabilities and undermine our adversaries' ability to use theirs.

MCWOs build this expertise through a combination of education, training and experience gained through repeated operational tours within the Navy's Cyber Mission Force.

Basic Eligibility Requirements: All candidates must be worldwide assignable and eligible for a Top Secret/Special Access security clearance and be willing to undergo 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 Maritime Cyber Warfare Officers.

(2) Direct Commission Officer (DCO): The Reserve Maritime Cyber Warfare Officer Community has limited annual quotas for the DCO Program.

(3) Change of Designator: Reserve MCWO considers re-designation applications via the Change of Designator process available at https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Career-Management/Community-Management/Officer/Reserve-OCM/Selected-Reservists/RC-IWC/.

(4) Inter-service Transfer (IST): Reserve MCWO 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 3.0 or greater GPA.

(2) Desired: Major fields of study directly related to computer science, computer programing, information security and assurance, network administration, artificial intelligence/machine learning, cloud computing, internet security, data science, information technology, computer/digital forensics, computer engineering, software engineering, systems engineering, network operation, cyber security, software, or information systems.

Special Pay/Bonuses: None.

Training Pipeline: Newly commissioned Naval Officers attend Officer Development School (five weeks). New MCWOs must complete the Cyberspace Operations Planner Course (COPC) and U.S. Cyber Command Personnel Qualification Standard (PQS) within 36 months of commissioning or change of designator. After completing the PQS, they will attend the Information Warfare Basic Course (three weeks) and 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) or Senior Officer APPLY board.

Career Path:

(1) Reserve MCWOs have the opportunity for challenging assignments in units with ever increasing scope and responsibility as watch officers, team leaders, planners, operational officers, and mission commanders. Typical areas of assignment focus include Defensive Cyber Operations, Computer Network Operations and Exploitation Analysis.

(2) MCWOs will conduct repeat operational and leadership tours within the Cyber Operation Force (COF) and Cyber Mission Force (CMF), including tours on Cyber Mission Teams (CMTs) and Cyber Protection Teams (CPTs). MCWOs will have the opportunity to conduct Exploitation Analyst (EA) and Interactive On-Net Operations (ION) training.

(3) Senior MCWOs will have opportunities for O5 and Major Command supporting Fleet Cyber Command/ Commander Tenth Fleet (FCC/C10F) US Cyber Command (USCC), Joint Force Headquarters Cyber (JFHQ-C), Cryptologic Warfare Group 6 (CWG-6), and Navy Cyber Defense Operations Command (NCDOC).

Points of Contact:
Information Warfare Reserve Officer Community Managers:
(901) 874-4309/2976

Web sites:
COMNAVIFORES
https://private.navyreserve.navy.mil/cnifr/Pages/default.aspx (CAC enabled)

Web sites:

More Information at navy.com

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Information Warfare Community on Facebook:

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Updated: 8 Jun 23