

BUMED Oral History Project
Wallace M. Graves, III
Hospital Corpsman Senior Chief (SEAL), U.S, Navy, Retired
Synopsis and Glossary

Date and Location of Interview: 3 March 2011 San Diego Medical Center, San Diego, CA

Interviewer: COL Richard V.N. Ginn, USA, Ret.

SYNOPSIS:

HMCS Wally Graves was born in 1961 and grew up in Fort Myers, Florida. By the age of thirteen he was scuba diving and a Junior Olympian in gymnastics, and he graduated Fort Meyers High School in 1979, where he excelled as a competitive gymnast and swimmer. He attended Florida State University in Tallahassee for a short time, then Tallahassee Community College where he earned an A.S. and certification in 1983 as a paramedic/EMT, and as a scuba instructor in 1984. Enticed by the promise of adventure and the excitement of being a SEAL, Graves joined the Navy in 1984. He completed basic training and Hospital Corpsman A School at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, followed by the Marine Corps Field Medical Service School at Camp Pendleton, the Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training at Camp Pendleton, San Diego, and the U.S. Army Airborne Course at Fort Benning, Georgia.

HMCS Graves' initial duty assignment in 1986 was with SEAL Team Four at Little Creek, Virginia where he was formally awarded the SEAL Trident pin aboard ship off the coast of Honduras during a Solid Shield exercise. He completed the U.S. Army Jungle Operations Course at Fort Sherman, Panama, and deployed to Panama for Operation Just Cause in 1989. Graves' next assignment was in Sava, Puerto Rico, as an Independent Duty Corpsman with Naval Special Warfare Unit Four. This was followed by assignments to Seal Team One in Memphis, Tennessee, and the Special Operations Command in Hawaii. In 2003, Graves went to San Diego as the Senior Medical Enlisted Advisor for Naval Special Warfare Group (NSWG) 1, and during this tour he deployed to Iraq in 2005 as operations chief for SEAL Team Three.

After his retirement from active duty in 2006, HMCS Graves was hired as the first family support manager for Naval Special Warfare Group 1 in Coronado, California. In 2008, he was instrumental in efforts that secured \$1.7 million funding to develop a family wellness program for returning SEAL personnel

and their families, and he has continued as an energetic force in this effort for the SEAL community.

KEY WORDS:

Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC)
FOCUS: Families Overcoming Under Stress
GWOT: Global War on Terror
hyper vigilance
Koffman, Robert L., M.D., Captain, MC, USN; psychiatrist and prominent developer of Navy COSC and mental health Medical Care Teams.
Mental Health Access Task Force, DOD
Navy SEAL
Navy Special Warfare (NSW)
Operation Just Cause, Panama, 1989
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD
Resiliency

GLOSSARY:

4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment: historic black unit: descendent of 78th Tank Battalion, redesignated in 1941 as 758th Tank Battalion, the 1st tank battalion organized with black soldiers. The 758th was later reclassified as the 6th Heavy Tank Battalion. In 1963 the Army activated the 64th as a parent regiment with four battalions stationed in Germany. The 4/64 was deployed to Iraq in OIF.
11B: Army enlisted MOS for infantryman
18D: Army enlisted MOS for Special Forces medic
32d Street: The Naval Base San Diego is the largest U.S. Navy base; is commonly known as 32d Street due to the positioning of its main entrance.
101st Airborne Division (Air Assault); a famous division from WWII. Although the 10st retains its airborne nomenclature, in 1968 it was changed from an airborne (paratroop) division to an air mobile division and eventually to an air assault division.
160th SOAR: the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), headquartered at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.
AAU: American Athletic Union
ADHD: Attention Deficit and Hyperactive Disorder
ADVON: advanced echelon
AK: AK-47 assault rifle developed in the USSR by Mikhail Kalashnikov
Besachio, David, M.D., Radiologist: in in 2006 LT, MC, USN; 2011-2012 Radiology Fellow, University of Utah Medical School.
Brown, Thomas, L., RADM, USN: Commander, Special Operations

Command, South.

BUD/S: Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL; mandatory course graduation for SEAL certification.

C4: Composite C-4, commonly used plastic explosive

CAG: U.S. Army 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta, referred to as Combat Applications Group (also called Delta Force); is a counterpart to Navy SEAL Team Six (NSW Development Group)

Campbell, Justin S., Ph.D., LCDR, MSC, USN: research psychologist; with CAP Robert Koffman, MC, formed and deployed to Afghanistan with the first two mental health Medical Care Teams.

Center for Military Relationships and Families: LCLC, Inc, Seattle Washington, a closely held company doing business as Center for Military Relationships and Families.

CSH: Army combat support hospital; in Baghdad, the 86th CSH.

CISM: Critical Incident Stress Management; protocol developed by Jeffrey T. Mitchell, Ph.D., University of Maryland

CNIC: Commander, Navy Installation Command, Washington, D.C.

Corporate Kids: Corporate Kids Events, Inc.: a conference childcare company, Sacramento, CA.

COSC: Combat and Operational Stress Control

CSH: combat support hospital, is the Army Level III field hospital

DA: Direct Action; Direct Action Missions

Davidson, Jonathan R.T., M.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Duke University Medical Center, and Director of the Anxiety and Traumatic Stress Program; Developer of the Davidson Trauma Scale.

DTS: Davidson Trauma Scale

FID: Foreign Internal Defense

FOCUS: Families Overcoming Under Stress, Navy/Marine Corps resiliency training program for families; developed in collaboration of UCLA with BUMED, led by Katherine Lester, M.D.

Forewarned is Forearmed: title of briefing by David Grossman Gates, Robert M., Secretary of Defense, 2006-2011

Gottman, John and Julie Schwartz Gottman, founders of the Gottman Relationship Institute, Seattle, Washington: conducts couples therapy, workshops and training.

Grossman, David, LTC, USA, Ret.; lecture on combat stress, author of *On Killing*. B.S., Columbia College, Georgia; M. Ed. in counseling, university of Texas, 1990; military career included Instructor, USMA Department of Behavioral Sciences, 1990-1991 and Assistant Professor, Leadership Department, 1991-93.

Gulfport: Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport,

Mississippi

GWOT: Global War on Terror

Hadji: a Muslim who has made the required pilgrimage to Mecca.

The reference to Jonny Quest is to a cartoon series by that name which has a character named Hadji

Health Affairs: Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

Hussein, Saddam: Iraq dictator captured by U.S. forces 13 December 2003 and executed by the Iraqi government 30 December 2006.

IZ: International Zone, an area in central Baghdad, Iraq; also called the Green Zone.

Just Cause: Operation Just Cause; US invasion of Panama in December 1989 to remove and arrest Manuel Noriega, Panama dictator.

Jaafari, Ibrahim: Prime Minister Iraq Transitional Government, 2005-6.

JOC: joint operations center; also Jungle Operations Course
Karzai, Hamid; President of Afghanistan

Kernan, Joseph D., VADM, USN; Commander, NSW, 2007-8; Senior Military Assistant to Secretary of Defense, 2009-11.

Koffman, Robert S. M.D., Captain, MC, USN; psychiatrist; in 2011 Deputy Director Clinical Operations, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Bethesda, Maryland.

Lester, Patricia E., M.D., USCLA psychiatrist, founder of FOCUS

Maquire, Joseph, VADM, USN, Ret.; Commander, NSW, 2004-2007; Deputy Director for Strategic Operational Planning,

National Counterterrorism Center, 2007-present.

McKeathern, Margaret, M.D., CAPT, MC, USN: child psychiatrist, Director, Military and Family Health, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD.

Mental Health Task Force: DoD Task Force on Mental Health, Co-Chairs: VADM Donald C. Arthur, USN; Shelley MacDermid, Ph.D.; and LTG Kevin C. Kiley, USA ; Defense Health Board, 15 June 2007.

Mullen, Michael G., ADM, USN, Chief of Naval Operations; later Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, October 2001-September 2011.

Murphy, Michael, LT, SEAL, US Navy: posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during Operation Red Wings.

MWR: Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Nash, William P., CAPT, MC, USN, Ret. From 2005-8, Director of Combat and Operational Stress Control, HQ, USMC, Quantico, VA.

Newfound Harbor Marine Institute; marine science educational institute located on Big Pine key, Florida; sponsors Seacamp, a summer program for students.

NSW: Naval Special Warfare Command (also NAVSOC, NSWC)

Noriega, Manuel: Panama dictator overthrown by U.S. forces in 1989, was extradited to the U.S., and sentenced to imprisonment on drug trafficking charges; was extradited to France in 2010 where he was sentenced to seven years, and given a conditional release and extradited to Panama in 2011 where he was sentenced to 20 years confinement.

Nuclear Power Program: enlisted specialties as machinist's mate, electrician's mate, or electronics technician

Nuncio: During Operation Just Cause, the Panamanian dictator, Manuel Noriega, fled to the Apostolic Nuncio in Panama, City.

Obrecht, Robert, CDR, MSC, USN, neuropsychologist

Olsen, Eric T., ADM, USN, Ret; Commander, USSOC 2007-11; Dep. Cdr 2003-2007.

Operation Just Cause: U.S. invasion of Panama December 1989 to overthrow and arrest Manuel Noriega, Panama dictator.

Operation Red Wings: Joint operation in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, 2005.

PACOM: Pacific Command

POM: Program Objective Memorandum; a major document in the DOD Planning, Programming and Budgeting System (PPBS)

PSD: Personal Security Detachment

PTSD/TBI: post traumatic stress disorder/traumatic brain injury

Red Cell: joint service medical working group formed in the aftermath of the Walter Reed scandal in 2006; described as the genesis of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE-PH&TBI)

Resiliency Enterprise: Navy program to build resiliency in families and sailors.

Restropo: book by Sebastian Junger on a platoon of the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team in the Korengal Valley, Afghanistan; the title comes from the name of the first paratrooper in the platoon KIA, PFC Juan Sebastian Restropo, a Colombian naturalized U.S. citizen, the platoon medic.

Robinson, Adam M., M.D., VADM, MC, Surgeon General, U.S. Navy; retired 1 Jan 2012.

Route Irish: military name for 12 km Baghdad Airport Road used as a the main supply route (MSR) between the airport and the Green Zone.

Rozelle, David M., MAJ, USA; a below-the-knee amputee, wounded in Iraq in 2003 as a troop commander, 3d Armored Cavalry Regiment, returned to Iraq and the 3d ACR in 2005; he was the first amputee returned to duty in Iraq.

RP: Religious Program Specialist, US Navy chaplain assistant

SeaCamp: program for students conducted at Big Pine Key, Florida, by the Newfoundland Harbor Marine Institute.

Seven Domains: of Wellness: as defined by the University of California, Riverside: Social, Emotional, Spiritual, Environmental, Occupational, Intellectual, and Physical

SF: U.S. Army Special Forces

Snipes: enlisted sailors in engineering specialties such as machinist's mate and electrician's mate.

SOMAM: Special Operations Medical Annual Meeting

SOAR: 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Kentucky

SOCOM or USSOCM: United States Special Operations Command

SOCAPAC: Special Operations Command, Pacific

SOF: Special Operations Forces

Solid Shield: joint exercise in Central America; in 1985 demonstrated a large air and sea landing in Honduras designed to put Nicaragua on notice; a similar exercise was conducted in 1987.

Stokoe, Catherine: Director Family Readiness Programs for Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.

TLD: Third Location Decompression: Initial location for decompression of returning military personnel enroute from theater of operations to home base

Tidewater Community College (TCC), Norfolk, Virginia with campuses in the South Hampton Roads region of Virginia.

Tonga: Kingdom of Tonga, a constitutional monarchy of 176 islands in the South Pacific

TQ: Al Taqaddum Air Base, located about 74 KM west of Baghdad

USSOCOM: United States Special Operations Command (also called SOCOM).

WIC: Women, Infants and Children, Federally funded supplemental nutrition program for mothers, infants and children

Woodard, Kirsten, LCSW; Director, Family Programs Division, BUMED.

Willette, Perry, M.D., LCDR , MC, USN; now with Scripps Health, San Diego, CA

Wrecker: recovery variant of the Marine Corps Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV), the AAVR-7A1 (Recovery), called the "Wrecker"

RVNG 8/22/12