

**Navy Medicine Oral History Project
Oral History Interview Synopsis and Key Words
Commander Barry D. Adams, MSC, USN**

Date and Location of Interviews: DHHQ, Falls Church, VA, 4
October 2012

Interviewer: André B. Sobocinski, Medical Historian, BUMED

SYNOPSIS

Commander Barry Adams was born in Gorman, Texas in 1959, and raised in Cisco, Texas, and where his father was a missionary. He graduated Cisco High School in 1977 and would attend Abilene Christian University where he received a B.S. in psychology in 1984. He took a position as an investigator with the Texas Department of Human Services, and while there, completed a state-funded graduate program in social work at the University of Texas in Arlington, where he received his M.S.S.W. in 1987. He was 28 years old, and while he enjoyed the social work specialty, he also wanted to fly, but was turned down by the Air Force as too old for their flight program

However, seven years later he still had the desire to be involved in aviation, and when the Navy came calling with an offer of a commission as a medical social worker in the Medical Service Corps and its pathway to aerospace medicine, the deal was clinched. He received a direct commission as a lieutenant and reported to Orlando, Florida as the Chief, Family Service Programs for the Nuclear Power Training Command. This was followed as Chief, Behavioral Services at the Guantanamo Detention Hospital in Cuba, and in 2006, a move to Millington, Tennessee where he was the Clinical Credentials Consultant for the Navy Personnel Command.

From 2003-2006, CDR Adams completed a Ph.D. in social work at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, which was followed by assignment to BUMED as the Combat Stress Control Consultant from 2006-2008, and from 2009-2010 as the Director of Aeromedical Research, BUMED. During this period he deployed to Afghanistan from July-October 2010 with the JMHAT. Since 2010 he has been the Director of Deployment Health at BUMED. During this assignment he was appointed to the panel that investigated the 2009 mass shooting at Fort Hood, Texas, and a deployed to Afghanistan from December 2011-July 2012 as the OIC of Navy Mobile Care Team Five.

KEY WORDS

combat and operational stress (COSC)
military medical social work
mobile care team
Navy medicine
Operation Sea Signal

KEY FIGURES

Bergthold, Richard D., Ph.D. CAPT, MSC, USN: Clinical Psychologist; in 2010, Deputy Director, Deployment Health, BUMED; currently Chief of Staff, National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE), Bethesda.

Campbell, Justin S., Ph.D., LCDR, MSC, USN; Clinical Psychologist

Cintron, Charles, HM2; NCOIC MCT 5; Psychiatric Technician; home town Carolina, Puerto Rico

Fischer, Jaclyn, LCSW, LT, MSC; Assistant OIC, MCT 5; home town: Brielle, NJ.

Flaherty, Karen, RADM (Upper Half), USN, Ret.; Deputy Chief BUMED for Wounded, Ill and Injured, 2009-2010; Deputy Surgeon General, 2010-2012.

Rivas, Moses, HM1, Psychiatric Technician, NCOIC, MCT 5; home town: Temecula, CA.

Smallidge, Tara, Ph.D., LT, MSC: Research Psychologist, MCT 5; home town: Boston, MA.

Taylor, Marcus K., Ph.D., LT, MSC: Exercise and Sport Science; assigned to NHRC, San Diego.

GLOSSARY

BHNAS: Behavioral Health Needs Assessment Survey

Black Hawk: Army UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter

COSC Doctrine: "Combat and Operational Stress Control," MCRP 11-C / NTTP 1-15M, 20 December 2010. The Navy and Marine Corps doctrine makes no mention of the MCT

Dyess Air Force Base: A Strategic Air Command base located near Abilene Texas, is home of the 7th Bomb Wing, one of two B-1B wings in the United States. It was established as Abilene Army Air Base in 1942.

FOB: forward operating base

Gardez: FOB Gardez located near Gardez City, Afghanistan

Ghazni: FOB Ghazni located in Ghanzi Province, Eastern Afghanistan, along the road from Kabul to Kandahar.

Fort Hood shooting: Major Hassan Nidal, MC, USA, an Army psychiatrist, shot and killed thirteen people in a massacre at Fort Hood, Texas on 5 November 2009.

Haqqani Network: Islamic terrorist group affiliated with the Taliban.

helicopter accident, 1999: On 7 December 1999, a Marine CH-46D helicopter with 18 Marines and sailors on board crashed while attempting to land on the USNS Pecos T-AO-197 in the Pacific Ocean off San Diego. The helicopter hit the water upside down. Six Marines and one sailor, a corpsman, were killed.

IA: Individual Augmentee; sailors who support or "augment" another Navy, Marine Corps or Army command. Sailors usually go to their IA assignment on temporary or TAD orders and return to their current or parent command once they complete their assignment. Assignments vary in length from a few months to a year or more. In January 2011, the Navy IA program on its Facebook page stated there were 9,532 Navy IAs (4,793 Active Duty and 4739 Reserve). In September, 2011, BUMED reported there were over 15,000: Bettios, Iona N., CAPT, IA Deployment Support and Readiness, M92, BUMED; Email Msg 23 Sep 2011, Subj: Deployment After Action Reports.

JMHAT: Joint Mental Health Advisory Team; team under the lead of the Office of the Army Surgeon General with support of the Navy and Air Force Surgeons General and the Marine Corps Medical Officer. JMHAT-7 was in OEF July-August 2010 as the first joint MHAT; its purpose was to assess behavioral health in Army and Marine units, to examine the delivery of behavioral health in the command, and to provide recommendations to the command.

JTF 160: joint task force under the command of the U.S. Atlantic Command, was formed for the processing of nearly 51,000 Cuban and Haitian immigrants in Operation Sea Signal.

Koran burning in Afghanistan: On 22 February 2012, U.S. military personnel at the Bagram Detention Facility burned copies of the Koran from the facility's library that had been used by the Taliban to write messages to each other. After five days of protest at the facility, thirty people were dead, including four Americans, and there was rioting elsewhere, especially in Kabul.

Koran burning in Florida: On 20 March 2011, Terry Jones, pastor of a thirty member church in Gainesville, Florida, publicly burned a Koran. This sparked worldwide protests, including rioting in Mazar-i-Sharif, Afghanistan, which killed an estimated thirty members of a United Nations assistance team, including seven Americans. On 10 September 2012, Jones went to Times Square, New York City, to deliver an anti-Islamic speech, but was drowned out by the crowd singing the Beatles song, "All You Need is Love."

Lagman: FOB Lagman, located near Qalat in southeastern

Afghanistan, is named for Army SSG Anthony Lagman, KIA 3004.

Lightning: FOB Lightning is located across the road from FOB Ghazni, Afghanistan.

Mazir-i-Sharif: Located in north Afghanistan, is the capital of Balkh Province and the fourth largest city in Afghanistan.

MHAT: see JMHAAT.

Naval Forces Central Command: the Navy component of U.S. Central Command, headquartered in Tampa, Florida.

Navy Individual Augmentee Combat Training (NIACT): course conducted for IAs at Fort Dix, New Jersey; Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and other Army posts.

NHRC: Naval Health Research Center, San Diego, CA: conducts expeditionary medical research, development, test and evaluation for the NMRC, NMSC and BUMED.

NMRC: Naval Medical Research Center, Silver Spring, MD

NMSC: Navy Medicine Support Command, Jacksonville, FL, with five subordinate commands:

NAVMEDLOGCOM: Navy Medical Logistics Command

NMMPT&E: Navy Medicine Medical Personnel, Training and Education Command

NMISSA: Navy Medical Information Systems Support Activity

NMCPHC: Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center

NMRC: Navy Medical Research Command

Operation Sea Signal: U.S. Atlantic Command humanitarian operation conducted by JTF 160 August 1994-February 1996 in response to large influx of Cuban and Haitian immigrants who were housed at Guantanamo Bay, with overflow of Cuban immigrants housed in Panama; most of the 21,000 Haitians were repatriated; nearly all the Cubans were admitted to the U.S.

PRT: provincial reconstruction team. The PRT initiative was first established in 2002 in Afghanistan. The PRT leader is a civilian who reports to the State Department. Membership includes military, State Department, and subject matter experts. Training is currently conducted at the Joint Maneuver Training Center at Camp Atterbury, an Indiana National Guard training base.

Salerno: FOB Salerno, located near city of Khost; nicknamed "Rocket City" due to frequency of attacks. The Haqqani Network suicide attack 1 June 2012 turned into an hour-long firefight.