

**U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
November 2001**



**ANTHONY PRINCIPI '67,
SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
TO SPEAK AT NOVEMBER LUNCHEON
(WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2001)**

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<http://www.usnaaaa.com>

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EVENTS CALENDAR:

11/13 Chapter Board Meeting
11/28 November Luncheon (Wednesday)**
TBD GPTV Army-Navy Challenge
12/01 Army-Navy Football Game Party
12/18 December Board Meeting
12/21 December Luncheon

** (Please note reservation procedures in the
"Chapter Events & Announcements" section.)

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fellow alumni, there are a lot of exciting events coming up for us in the next few weeks.

First up is the special November Chapter luncheon on Wednesday, November 28th, at the Cherokee Town Club. The Secretary of Veteran's Affairs for the Bush administration, Anthony Principi, USNA '67, is our guest speaker. (Remember that this replaces our usual Chapter luncheon on the third Friday of the month at Jock's & Jill's). See another section of this newsletter for place, time, and reservation information. (Reservations are required.)

The annual Army-Navy GPTV (Georgia Public Television) Fund Raiser Challenge, originally scheduled for the evening of Thursday, November 29th, has been postponed. It appears the network had a scheduling conflict. We are working to reschedule the event will get information out as soon as we receive it.

And, of course, the big event... the annual Army-Navy Football Game Party at TJ's on Saturday, December 1st. Let's be sure to have a big turnout again this year to watch the Mids beat the Woops for the third straight year! More information on the event is in this newsletter.

There are two more important national events coming up.

The first is Veteran's Day on Sunday, November 11th. With many of our active duty

shipmates at war in the Middle East, there is no better year than this to honor them for their service and their steadfast devotion to duty while in harms way. By the time this is published, I hope to have the current year 2001 Veteran's Day poster and some additional info posted on our web site.

And finally, Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, November 22nd. Again, what better year than this to take time to be still on that day and reflect on all of those things that we have to be thankful for in this country, many of which we have come to take for granted over the years. What a truly blessed people we are to live in the United States and have the rights and freedoms that many peoples in the world could never even imagine or dare to hope for.

God bless America, and God bless our troops deployed in the Middle East.

Oh, and another thing... BEAT ARMY!

Bob Schultz '71

CHAPTER EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON SPEAKER – SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Make your reservations *today* to hear Anthony Principi '67, Secretary of Veterans Affairs speak at our November Luncheon. This will be the first time in the Chapter's 55-year history that we have been honored to have a member of the President's Cabinet as our guest speaker! And he is one of us, Class of '67.

What: Anthony Principi '67, Secretary of Veterans Affairs speaks at November Luncheon

When: 12 noon, *Wednesday*, November 28, 2001

Where: Cherokee Town Club

155 West Paces Ferry Road, Atlanta

Dress: Gentlemen, coats; Ladies, appropriate

Cost: Twenty-Five dollars (\$25.00) per person

Parking: Valet, no charge

Tipping: None allowed

Reservations: A MUST! Your check is your reservation. Please mail your checks before Wednesday, November 21st payable to USNAAAA

to: Jim Ravenel, '45

230 Lakeview Ridge East

Roswell, Georgia 30076-3205

Please include the names of your guests with your check so name tags can be provided. Be sure to wear your nametag.

Guests: Encouraged and Welcomed!

Questions: Jim Ravenel '45, 770-992-1515

Postponed: Army-Navy GPTV Fundraising Challenge

Our evening with Georgia Public Television has been postponed due to a scheduling conflict at the network. Navy and Army teams were originally scheduled to work the phones Thursday, November 29th, 2001 at the GPTV studio offices for the annual Army/Navy GPTV Fund Raising Challenge. We are working to reschedule the event, and we will get information out as soon as we receive it. For information, please call or email Mike Herger at (404) 378-2122 (h)/mjherger@hotmail.com.

Army-Navy Football Game Party Saturday, December 1st

Army is hosting this year's annual event at TJ's Sports Bar & Grill (2880 Holcomb Bridge Rd Alpharetta, GA). Come help cheer the Navy team to victory over the woops!

Doors open at 10:30am, and breakfast will be served. Kick-off is at 11:30am, and lunch will be served at 11:45. \$15/person, \$10/under 10, pay at the door, reservations not required.

JANUARY 2002 LUNCHEON SPEAKER

The Academic Dean of the U.S. Naval Academy, Rear Admiral Bill Miller, Sr. (retired) has agreed to speak to the Atlanta Chapter at the January luncheon. The luncheon will be held on the third Friday of the month, January 18th, as usual.

General Zeb B. Bradford, USA (retired) addressed Academy Connect participants

To a crowd of USNA, USMA, USAFA, and USCGA graduates at the second quarterly Academy Connect business-networking event, General Bradford described his role as Vice President for International Strategic Planning for Primerica, a subsidiary of Citigroup. Before the General's presentation at Emory University's Goizueta Business School, over forty service academy graduates dined together. General Bradford described the lessons learned while growing Primerica's business into Spain and the challenges associated with moving into Asia. Academy Connect's next event is scheduled for February 2002.

Major General Gordon J. Duquemin, USA (retired) speaks at October luncheon

The October Luncheon Speaker was introduced by Jim Hatch '47.

Graduating from West Point in 1947, General "Duke" Duquemin served in Korea and Vietnam, is a graduate of the Naval War College, and spent 3 years in Saudi Arabia training the Saudi National Guard. He is currently a military consultant for Channel 11.

The General opened his remarks with praise – based on his personal experience – for Naval Air, specifically the Corsairs in Korea and the helicopters in Vietnam.

General Duquemin provided an overview of Saudi Arabia: the country, the history, and the people.

Describing some of the challenges/idiosyncrasies of training the National Guard, which is largely made up of conscripts from the Bedouin tribes, General Duquemin said that one of the main differences in philosophy between the Bedouin trainees and the (western) trainers was the concept of "repair": the mindset of the Saudi conscripts was to "replace" instead. After all, if your camel or donkey breaks down in the desert, you just shoot it and get a new

one, right? Another noticeable cultural issue was the fact that there were no Fords and no Coca-Cola: Both are made in Israel, and the Saudis would not use anything manufactured by the Israelis.

Mechanical repairs were important: Weather-wise, the temperature ranges from 30 degrees at night to 140 degrees during the day, which causes condensation problems, among others. And terrain-wise, the area was compared to a moonscape, barren and rugged.

General Duquemin also described the five pillars of Islam: 1) There is one God, 2) all Muslim men must pray to Mecca 5 times daily, 3) Fasting is required during Ramadan, 4) Everyone must give 2.5% of their net worth in alms, and 5) everyone who is able must make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in his life.

A major change in the political landscape occurred recently when King Faad turned over the reins to Prince Aziz, who is not such a strong US supporter. On the cultural side, Desert Storm was a major challenge to the Saudis because the US troops stationed in Saudi Arabia included women who, in our culture, have freedoms and responsibilities (especially in the military) that are significantly greater than those of the Saudi women.

Concerning Osama Bin Laden, General Duquemin said that we are now in the eighth year of Bin Laden's declared "100-year campaign" against the US.

Discussing Afghanistan, General Duquemin remarked that that country has about 28 million people, of which 38% are Pushtuns. Temperatures range from 20 to 100 degrees, and there are many fertile valleys and natural resources. 75% of the world's opium comes from Afghanistan. There are only about 16 miles of railroads (around Kabul), 33 airports, and 40,000 cars in the country. Life expectancy is 47 years for men and 46 years for women. There is only a 30-plus percent literacy rate. The Kyber Pass, a strategic route into northern Afghanistan, is nearly impregnable: When the British tried to take control of it, only one man survived.

The Russians tried to take control of Afghanistan for 10 years, and failed. The US armed the Afghan defenders until the Russians were defeated, then we pulled out and civil war between the various tribes

began. In 1994, a “King of the Muslims” with the support of the Taliban united the tribes. He was opposed by a group called the Northern Alliance, which we support today.

Osama Bin Laden supported the Taliban, and they provided him shelter and a base of operations. He brought over 6000 associates into Afghanistan. His organization is well funded by legitimate and illegitimate businesses, and he has several lieutenants who will carry on his “100-year campaign” if he cannot. In other words, “it’s going to be a long war.”

Addressing current operations, General Duquemin said that

- The humanitarian ration drops are just a drop in the bucket compared to what is needed by the Afghan people in those areas
- Psychological warfare (leaflet drops) is difficult because of the low (30+%) literacy rate
- The Taliban have/had 40,000 soldiers, 650 tanks, a few planes, and they are very much in control the terrain
- We have inadequate intelligence in the area because of previous funding cuts and no real “clearing house” for information between different intelligence organizations
- Bin Laden is like the “Ford Foundation” of terror
- This is a war of will, not a war of religion
- Possible strategies include more funding for the Northern Alliance to buy

equipment, get intelligence, and encourage Taliban defections; hire mercenaries to attack the Taliban; increase humanitarian aid (but it’s difficult until the Taliban are gone); and give money and equipment to the Pakistanis to get additional intelligence.

General Duquemin then answered questions from the audience, and Chapter President Bob Schultz presented him with the coveted USNAAAA barbecue apron. And although severely outnumbered at this event, after the meeting closed with the traditional singing of “Navy Blue and Gold” General Duquemin responded with a hearty “Beat Navy!”

Present at the October luncheon were Johns Jaudon ’55, Bill Dentz ’55, Dale Herndon ’56, Jim Ravenel, ’45, Bill Wideman ’35, John Stark ’51, Linda and Robert Schultz ’71, Gen. Duke Duqueni USMA ’47, Col. Jim Cobb USMA, Jim Hatch ’47, Charles Hill ’42, Walter Anderson, Dick Fitzgerald ’62, Seth Waller ’93, Sean Banks ’96, Nick Ward ’74, Mike Miller ’56, Ray Wassel ’75, Scott Olsen ’85, Ray Vuicich ’89, Peter Kellogg ’65, Frank Roescher ’59, Michael Lester ‘ 85, Bob Bush ’65, George O’Connell ’35, Reggie Vachon ’58, Edgar Vaughan ’78, Paul Hurst ’62, Lorie Moore ’64, Bill Holmes ’64, Paul Smith ’42, Art Warner ’42, Perry Stephens ’51, Matthew Kirby ’94, Carl McCallum, Art Butler ’61, John Fry ’80, Jim Slemenda ’66, Brian Pilger ’93, Bill Miller ’88, Walt Coakley ’54, and Jim Coe ’86.

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