



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
U.S. NAVAL FORCES SOUTHERN COMMAND
FPO AA 34099-6004

REFERTO:
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5 DEC 01

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on LCDR Donald A. Wright IV, 297-62-7661/1125,
USNR, 20 Nov 01

From: Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command
To: Commander, Navy Personnel Command (NPC-440C)

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM MID TOUR REPORT
(OPNAV 5700-5)

1. Forwarded.

L. E. Tant
L. E. TANT
Chief of Staff

Copy to:
USMLO Brazil
LCDR Wright (w/encl)

20 Nov 2001

From: LCDR Donald A. Wright IV, USNR, 297-62-7661/1125

To: Chief of Naval Personnel, Bureau of Naval Personnel (PERS-2)

Via: (1) Chief, U.S. Military Liaison Office, Brasília
(2) Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command

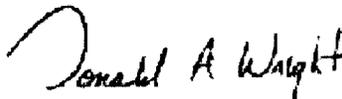
Subj: END OF TOUR REPORT FOR BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, CALENDAR YEAR 2001.

Ref: OPNAVINST 5700.7G

Encl: (1) Personnel Exchange Program End of Tour Report, Brazilian Naval War College

1. In accordance with ref (a), the End of Tour Report for the Brazilian Naval War College for calendar year 2001 is submitted.

Very Respectfully,



Donald A. Wright
LCDR USNR

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BILLET DESCRIPTION (Report Symbol OPNAV 5700-4) BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, FEB 2001-DEC 2001.

Date: October 29, 2001

1. Name: Donald A. Wright
2. Unit:
 - a. Commander US Naval Forces Southern Command (COMUSNAVSOUTH) Puerto Rico
 - b. US Military Liaison Office (USMLO) Brasilia
 - c. Brazilian Naval War College (Escola de Guerra Naval)
3. Location
 - a. Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.
 - b. Brasilia
 - c. Urca, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
4. Rank/rate
 - a. Incumbent: O4/LCDR
 - b. Current Manpower Authorization: O4/LCDR
 - c. Rank Desired: O4/LCDR
5. Billet Title: Student, Brazilian Naval War College-STU BRAZILIAN WAR COLLEGE; (Oficial Aluno, Escola de Guerra Naval) Command and Staff Course (Curso de Estado Maior para Oficias Superiores, CEMOS).
6. Billet Description
 - a. Student: BSC 99990
 - b. Level and Scope of Responsibility/Duties of the Individual: As a student, receive advanced technical and professional training to prepare for command and staff functions. Also to integrate, promote interoperability and establish a solid rapport with all levels of the Brazilian Navy and the invited officers of foreign navies.
7. Types of Aircraft/Ships: N/A
8. Type of Training (Enroute Training): Considerable lead-time is required for the Brazilian Naval War College course. The advanced Portuguese course at the Brazilian Army Language Center is (Centro de Ensino Profissional do Exercito, CEPE) is in December-January each year and the CEMOS course period is February-December. The normal route is for students to first complete Portuguese language training (for six months) in the US at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center DLIFLC in Monterey, CA. This will be followed by two days of check in and briefings at COUSNAVSOUTH Headquarters in Puerto Rico, prior to arriving in Rio de Janeiro, BR.
9. Qualifications
 - a. Required: A working or professional proficiency in the Portuguese Language.

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BILLET DESCRIPTION (Report Symbol OPNAV 5700-4) BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, FEB 2001-DEC 2001.

- b. Desired: A working or professional proficiency in the Portuguese Language with at least the minimum recommended DLPT II scores of S-1+, L-2, R-2. Language Proficiency is essential as CEMOS is a postgraduate level course with requirements to listen, read, speak, and write in the Portuguese Language. Note: I highly recommend and the Brazilian Navy requests that the new student should arrive at the beginning of December prior to the start of the CEPE language course. The first month is likely to be four hours of one on one instruction everyday. The second month will include speakers of other Romance Languages (Spanish). In addition to increasing one's exposure to Portuguese, the course is an excellent chance to meet the other exchange students for both the Army and Navy courses taught every year.
 - c. The selected officer must be professionally competent and suitable as a representative of the US as well as having the dedication, trustworthiness, and desire to serve in the PEP program.
10. Security Clearance: There are some lectures/presentations that are classified "secret" and one must have a SECRET Clearance to attend. Lectures and/or field trips that were deemed to be sensitive or classified by the Brazilian Navy were closed to foreign students. During these times, the foreign students were given study periods to prepare presentations or papers on related topics or scheduled for local facilities visits.
11. Remarks.
- a. Housing: Government housing is not available for PEP students so apartments must be rented on the local economy subject to State Department size and security restrictions along with DoD OHA restrictions. Due to security considerations, it is prohibited to live in houses in Rio de Janeiro. Additionally, one must live in an apartment with controlled access, 24 hour security, and not on the ground floor. OHA provides enough money to live in secure neighborhoods such as Ipanema/Leblon with ample space for families. Housing contracting arrangements are handled by the Consular Housing Section on the Sixth Floor of the Consulate. They have familiarity with the Brazilian Legal System and with convincing landlords that US consular personnel are a safe risk. (Brazilian Law provides extensive protections to the renter, which make evictions very difficult. As a consequence, landlords are extremely wary of renting to individuals who cannot provide a "fiador" (another apartment as collateral if the renter stops paying rent). The Consular Housing Section cannot act as a fiador but can provide certain other assurances to potential landlords. Additionally, once landlords rent to US military personnel, they learn that we present little, if any, risk and are generally willing to rent to us in the future.) The Move-in Housing Allowance (MiHA) will pay the realtor fee, a redecorating fee (if specified in the lease), and appliances such as air conditioners, refrigerators, stoves, if purchased in Brazil. (Higher quality stuff is available in the US but JFTRs will not pay for appliances bought outside the country.) The housing market is extremely tight during January-March so it is recommended to arrive earlier.

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BILLET DESCRIPTION (Report Symbol OPNAV 5700-4) BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, FEB 2001-DEC 2001.

- b. **Vehicles:** Military personnel are allowed to ship one vehicle to Brazil. I recommend buying one here, which can be done quite reasonably instead of waiting for it to clear customs (This process can take up to 5 months after arrival with no apparent reasons.) and is not practical if the time in country is going to be less than two years. Traffic can be described as anarchic at best with drivers driving in several lanes or several cars sharing a lesser number of lanes. Traffic signals at night are advisory in nature, so it is best to ascertain that other cars are not crossing your path before proceeding. USAA does not provide insurance coverage in Rio de Janeiro. Comprehensive coverage must be obtained from another company such as "Clements and Company" based in the US and from a local company based in Rio for mandatory coverage against third parties. Gasoline prices are around double the price of the US (at current exchange rates of R\$2.7/\$US). Motor oil is significantly more expensive.
- c. **Uniforms:** Each student is required to have a full set of uniforms readily available. It is a tradition of the Brazilian Navy to check in Service Dress White. Summer whites are frequently worn when VIPs visit the school. Normal class equivalent for the US Navy is Summer Khaki with name tag and ribbons. The Brazilians use a number code to denote specific uniforms. For example, Service Dress White is 5.3. It is recommended that students have at least 3-4 sets of summer khaki and 2-3 sets of summer white. Dry cleaning is available across the street from EGN with one uniform running approximately R\$15-20. Students are required to report to school either in uniform or suitable attire to include trousers, belt, collared shirt, and casual shoes. There is a back gate for runners or bikers. The Brazilians have a standard PT uniform of blue shorts with white stripe on the side, white tank top, and white socks. They can be purchased in shops here. Lockers/Showers are provided at the school.
- d. **Transportation:** Public buses run from downtown Rio to Urca (line 107) and Leblon to Urca (511-512). Cost is R\$1.20 as of December 1, 2001. These buses are not air-conditioned, clean, or all that safe and I generally don't like taking them except for short trips. Taxi from Leblon-Urca runs about R\$10-11. Additionally, there is an air-conditioned bus which runs along the beach through Leblon/Ipanema/Copacabana to Centro with a stop very close to the consulate that costs R\$3-4. This bus is very comfortable and most people who work at the consulate prefer this to driving. It is often faster to arrive at the school via bicycle with bike paths running along the beach to Urca. At EGN, parking is available but tight. Urca is a safe neighborhood if parking is full.
- e. **Official Documents:** Brazil requires that certain official documents be obtained in order to do conduct affairs in the country:
 - (1) **Passport/Visa:** Obtain while at DLI.
 - (2) **CPF:** Equivalent of an SSN. Needed for almost everything here. (Establishing a bank account or cellphone service). The consulate can obtain the number for you or it can be obtained through the Post Office (Coreio), Caixa Economica Federal, or Banco do Brasil. It is necessary to present a passport and a letter certifying residence. (The Sixth Floor of the Consulate will provide this letter.) One can obtain the number

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BILLET DESCRIPTION (Report Symbol OPNAV 5700-4) BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, FEB 2001-DEC 2001.

online after 5-6 days at

<http://www.receita.fazenda.gov.br/PessoaFisica/CPF/ConsultaAndamento.asp> upon entering the number of the receipt you are given. The card will arrive several months later.

- (3) Civilian ID: Consulate will help you fill out necessary documents and obtain. Takes about one month. Cannot start the process beforehand. Need to obtain before Brazilian government will accept processing of documents relating to personal property or POV in customs.
 - (4) Military ID. School will obtain for you. The easiest of all documents to obtain.
- f. Security Issues: Security Briefings are conducted upon arrival in Rio by the US Consulate Regional Security Officer (RSO). Rio de Janeiro is a high crime area and violent crime is common. All arriving officials should be well informed of the crime risks in the region and know the necessary precautions to take.
 - g. Rank/Experience of an Officer: This course is open to officers from all warfare communities. The more experience that an officer has acquired in the area of Planning and Operations, the greater the comfort level and feedback in warfare subject areas.
 - h. Language Requirements: As stated previously, the course is taught entirely in Portuguese but the instructors and students have a working knowledge of English, which I found crucial in the early phases of the course. Additionally, I found the purchase of an electronic dictionary and translation program to be extremely helpful in preparation of papers. This is not a substitute for careful review of papers or asking one's Brazilian sponsor to read them, but it is a good 60% solution. Students from each year's class usually put together a CD-ROM of all material promulgated in the course. It is an excellent source of information and study guide.
 - i. Field Trips and Visits. One of the most rewarding aspects of attending the EGN was the opportunity to take field trips throughout Brazil and in the local area. The visits were made to various ships and installations in the area and the Naval Air Station in Cabo Frio. Four field trips were conducted throughout the year with stops in two different cities on each trip. All field trips involved lectures and presentations at the various Naval facilities followed by question and answer periods. Lodging, transportation, and most meals were pre-arranged by the EGN staff. The third and fourth field trips were solely for the foreign students with one EGN instructor present as a guide/ liaison. The foreign students were scheduled for cultural and historical tours of the various cities to complement, and in some cases, in lieu of, base and military visits. The visits and field trips included:
 - (1) In Rio de Janeiro
 - (a) Helicopter Carrier Minas Gerais
 - (b) Aircraft Carrier São Paulo (Former French Carrier Marshall Foch)
 - (c) Naval Air Station São Pedro de Aldeia
 - (d) Latin American Defense Exposition
 - (e) Submarine Force

Subj: PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM BILLET DESCRIPTION (Report Symbol OPNAV 5700-4) BRAZILIAN NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, FEB 2001-DEC 2001.

- (2) Field Trips
 - (a) First Field Trip
 - (i) Brasilia: Cultural Activities
 - (ii) Manaus: Commander Naval Forces Amazon Region
 - (b) Second Field Trip
 - (i) São Paulo: Orientation on Brazilian Naval Nuclear Propulsion Development Program
 - (ii) Natal: Headquarters 3rd Naval District
 - (c) Third Field Trip (Foreign Students only)
 - (i) Fortaleza: Enlisted Basic Training Center
 - (ii) Salvador: Headquarters 2nd Naval District
 - (d) Fourth Field Trip (Foreign Students only)
 - (i) Foz de Iguacu
 - (ii) Belo Horizonte (Cultural Visits)

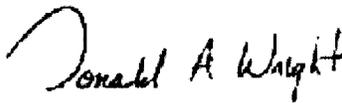
- j. Arrival in Brazil: I would recommend procuring a PO Box at the consulate before arriving and using it to mail items such as extra clothes before leaving the US. This can be done by contacting the APO officer (Current POC LCDR Devine at e-mail devinel@brasilia.mg.southcom.mil) Count on staying at a hotel for 8-12 weeks upon arrival and bring clothes as such. Single members are only entitled to 65% TLA upon arrival so bear this in mind when looking at per diem rates. Contact USMLO or sponsor to ensure that hotel reservation and arrangements to meet you at the airport have been made. Recommend bringing a laptop computer, and a cell phone compatible with GSM standard. (They are much cheaper in the US.) Recommend a trip to Brasilia in the first week to meet the MLO and to hand carry documents to Brasilia to speed the process of obtaining a civilian ID.

- k. Logistics in Brazil
 - (1) Commissary: Military Personnel have the ability to order up to 2000 lbs of goods per year from the commissary system. Currently flights occur bi-monthly. Accounts are setup through the MLO along with ordering and payment (by credit card.)
 - (2) AAFES: Shipping is also free, arriving on the monthly USAF logistics flight but this is Space-A. Handled in the same way.
 - (3) Medical: There is a doctor at the consulate whom the military can consult. He also has offices in Leblon and he has knowledge in navigating the Tri-Care System. Rio has excellent medical facilities for persons able to pay (Read Tri-Care). Prescriptions are available through the mail order system from the US or on the local economy. Prescription drugs seem to be reasonably priced here. Upon receipt of the military ID card, one gains access to the Brazilian Naval Health Care System which also offers excellent care.
 - (4) Mail: Delivery is somewhat problematic due to frequent changes in the system. I STRONGLY recommend setting up an electronic payment system for ALL BILLS with your bank prior to leaving the US. Don't count on getting bills in time. That being said, the APO at the consulate is excellent and extremely helpful.

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- (5) Internet Access: There is a free internet service here called Internet Gratis (IG). The phone number in Rio is 1500-2000 with user name ig and password ig. It generally provides reasonable download rates. No military member has succeeded in obtaining fast internet here at this point.
- (6) Points of Contact
 - (a) Escola de Guerra Naval: www.egn.mar.mil.br
 - (b) US Consulate Operator: 011-55-21-2292-7117
 - (c) Community Liaison Officer: Ext 2505. E-Mail: kskeef@state.gov
 - (d) USMLO: 2220-8880
 - (e) Marine Guards: 2220-0489
 - (f) Southern Command: (787) 865-5582/5584
 - (g) GSO Brasilia (To arrange shipment of automobiles 011-55-61-226-8470)

Very Respectfully,



Donald A. Wright
LCDR USNR