



*Aerial view of Okinawa and Normandy Halls*

*“...that all may labor as one.”  
President Dwight D. Eisenhower*



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Norfolk, Virginia 23453-1702



National Defense University  
Marshall Hall, 300 5th Avenue, S.W.  
Fort Lesley J. McNair  
Washington, D.C. 20319-5066

The Dedication  
*of*  
The Rear Admiral  
Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.  
Distance Learning Center  
*August 13, 2008*



Joint Forces Staff College  
*Norfolk, Virginia*



## Commandants

**Major General Thomas G. Darling, USAF**  
*30 July 1981–1 August 1984*

**Major General Kenneth A. Jolemore, USA**  
*1 August 1984–30 July 1987*

**Major General John R. Dailey, USMC**  
*30 July 1987–28 July 1989*

**Brigadier General Stanley Kwieciak, Jr., USA**  
*28 July 1989–8 November 1991*

**Brigadier General Momoe S. Sams, Jr., USAF**  
*8 November 1991–24 August 1993*

**Brigadier General Marvin R. Esmond, USAF**  
*24 August 1993–5 April 1995*

**Brigadier General Roger E. Carleton, USAF**  
*5 April 1995–16 July 1996*

**Brigadier General William R. Looney, III, USAF**  
*16 July 1996–19 June 1998*

**Major General Franklin J. Blaisdell, USAF**  
*26 June 1998–9 June 2000*

**Major General Edward L. LaFontaine, USAF**  
*9 June 2000–9 May 2002*

**Brigadier General Roosevelt Mercer, Jr., USAF**  
*9 May 2002–3 January 2003*

**Major General Kenneth J. Quinlan, Jr., USA**  
*27 June 2003–6 October 2006*

**Major General Byron S. Bagby, USA**  
*6 October 2006–28 July 2008*

## The Dedication of The Rear Admiral Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr. Distance Learning Center *August 13, 2008*

### Sequence of Events

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1:00 p.m. | Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arrival of the Official Party</li><li>• National Anthem – Dr. Theodore Forte</li><li>• Invocation – LCDR Mark Winward, CHC, USN, Command Chaplain</li><li>• Welcome – IS2 Ashley Haley, USN, Voice of the College</li></ul>   |
| 1:15 p.m. | Dedication <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video Tribute</li><li>• Address – COL James J. Frazier, USA, Interim Commandant</li><li>• Presentation of Commemorative Plaque</li><li>• Dedication of the RADM Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr. Distance Learning Center</li><li>• Acceptance Remarks – RADM Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr., USN (ret.)</li></ul> |
| 1:55 p.m. | Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concluding Remarks – COL James J. Frazier, USA, Interim Commandant</li><li>• Benediction – LCDR Mark Winward, CHC, USN, Command Chaplain</li></ul>  |
| 2:00 p.m. | Reception in MacArthur Auditorium Lobby   |



## Rear Admiral (Upper Half) Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr., U.S Navy (retired)

Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr. was born on July 15, 1924 in Mobile, Alabama. He attended McGill Institute, Spring Hill College, and the United States Naval Academy, graduating in 1946.

His 34-year naval career included service on a variety of ships and in many types of aircraft. He also served as a test pilot, flight instructor, and squadron commander.

He graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College and the senior course at the Naval War College, where his thesis on international affairs received top honors by earning the prestigious President's Award. In 1964, he received the degree of Master of Arts in International Affairs from George Washington University.

In June 1965, he began a combat tour in Vietnam as prospective Commanding Officer of Attack Squadron Seventy-Five. On July 18, 1965, Denton was leading a group of twenty-eight aircraft from the USS INDEPENDENCE in an attack on enemy installations near Thanh Hoa, when he was shot down and captured by local North Vietnamese troops.

He spent the next seven years and seven months as a prisoner of war, suffering severe mistreatment and becoming the first U.S. military captive to be subjected to four years of solitary confinement.

A Commander when he was shot down, he was recommended for and promoted to the rank of Captain while a prisoner. He was confined at several prison camps in and around Hanoi, frequently acting as the senior American military officer of all American POWs.

His name first came to the attention of the American public in 1966, during a television interview arranged by the North Vietnamese in Hanoi. During the interview, after the Japanese interviewer's recitation of alleged U.S. "war atrocities," he was asked about his support of U.S. policy concerning the war. He replied: "I don't know what is happening, but whatever the position of my government is, I support it fully. Whatever the position of my government is, I believe in it, yes sir. I am a member of that government and it is my job support it and I will as long as I live."

## Commandants

**Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons, USAF**  
*13 August 1946–29 June 1948*

**Vice Admiral John L. Hall, Jr., USN**  
*30 June 1948–5 July 1951*

**Lieutenant General Andrew D. Bruce, USA**  
*6 July 1951–31 July 1954*

**Vice Admiral David M. Schlatter, USAF**  
*1 July 1954–31 July 1957*

**Vice Admiral Charles Wellborn, Jr., USN**  
*31 July 1957–20 March 1960*

**Major General John S. Upham, Jr., USA**  
*1 June 1960–30 April 1962*

**Major General Robert H. Wienecke, USA**  
*28 May 1962–10 July 1963*

**Major General Stanley Holtoner, USAF**  
*22 July 1963–16 July 1965*

**Rear Admiral Lawrence R. Daspit, USN**  
*16 July 1965–31 October 1967*

**Major General Frank W. Norris, USA**  
*1 November 1967–16 November 1970*

**Major General James F. Kirkendall, USAF**  
*16 November 1970–25 January 1974*

**Rear Admiral Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr., USN**  
*25 January 1974–28 June 1977*

**Major General L. Gordon Hill, Jr., USA**  
*28 June 1977–30 June 1980*

**Major General Robert B. Tanguy, USAF**  
*30 June 1980–30 July 1981*

In a typical year, JFSC educates nearly 3500 students. Employing approximately 300 military and civilian faculty members and support personnel. The College brings over \$26 million to the local Hampton Roads economy each year.

The JFSC campus includes **Normandy Hall**, which contains faculty office spaces, seminar rooms, and support staff; **Okinawa Hall**, dedicated in September 1999 by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, provides student access to advanced wargaming technology and an extensive, specialized, modern military library, focused on joint and coalition operations, military history, operational warfare, and operations other than war; and **Marianas Hall**, from which the JFSC Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Division offers a full range of activities including a fitness center, gymnasium and various outdoor facilities.

Located in Normandy Hall, the **Distance Learning Center** is a state-of-the-art multi-media suite consisting of a classroom, two video-conference rooms, and an auditorium.



*The Distance Learning Center Auditorium*

Throughout the interview, while responding to questions and feigning sensitivity to harsh lighting, he blinked his eyes in Morse Code, repeatedly spelling out a covert message: "T-O-R-T-U-R-E". The interview, sold to ABC was broadcast on American television on May 17, 1966, was the first confirmation that American POWs in Vietnam were being tortured.



He was released on February 12, 1973, when he again received international attention as the spokesman for the first group of POWs returning from Hanoi to Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines. As he stepped from the plane, Denton turned to the microphones and said: "We are honored to have had the opportunity to serve our country under difficult circumstances. We are profoundly grateful to our Commander-in-Chief and to our nation for this day. God bless America."



In April 1973, he was promoted to Rear Admiral. In his last tour of duty, Admiral Denton served as Commandant of the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia, for three and a half years. During his tour, he was credited with reinforcing NATO solidarity and hosted a highly successful NATO symposium of top national and NATO commanders, as well as academic, journalistic and corporate leaders.

In 1977, Denton retired from the Navy and returned to Mobile where he soon founded and led the non-profit organization "Coalition for Decency" (CFD) and served as a consultant to the President of Spring Hill College.

He was elected to the United States Senate in November 1980. In so doing, he became the first Republican ever elected by popular vote to the U.S. Senate from Alabama, the first resident of Mobile elected to the U.S. Senate, the first Catholic elected to any statewide office in Alabama, and the first retired Admiral or General elected to the U.S. Senate by any state. He served in the Senate from January 1981 to January 1987. His major committee assignments included: the Judiciary Committee where he

chaired the Sub-Committee on Security and Terrorism; the Labor and Human Resources Committee where he was Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Aging, Family, and Human Services; the Armed Services Committee; and the Veterans Affairs Committee. He re-named and re-formed CFD as the National Forum Foundation with goals supporting National Security through "Peace through Strength," the concept of One Nation under God, the strength of the institution of the family, and other goals paralleling and developing support for his principle Senate projects.

In 1985, he established the highly acclaimed international aid program now known as "The Denton Program." Working on a space available basis with the U.S. Military, this program has transported over 50 million pounds of critical equipment and supplies to needy people throughout the world at reduced or no cost to international humanitarian organizations.

Following his U.S. Senate term, he was appointed in 1987 by President Ronald Reagan to be Chairman of the Presidential Commission on Merchant Marine and Defense, which he led throughout its two-year mandate.

In 1998, under the auspices of NFF, Denton established the TRANSFORM Program, which is similar to the Denton Program but uses commercial space available. This Program has immeasurably greater potential for increased volume of shipping of aid and has been praised throughout the world for its work.

He married the former Jane Maury. On Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2007, Jane died from complications of a heart attack she suffered three weeks earlier. She was 81. They have seven children, fourteen grandchildren, and three great granddaughters.

His major military decorations include: the Navy Cross, Dept. of Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Three Silver Stars, Distinguished Flying Cross, Five Bronze Stars, Two Air Medals, Two Purple Hearts, Combat Action Ribbon as well as numerous combat theater, campaign, and occupation awards.

He holds the following honorary degrees: Doctor of Humane Letters, Spring Hill College, Doctor of Humanities, St Leo's College, Florida; and Doctor of Laws, Troy State University, Alabama.

He is featured in the National Archives online and traveling exhibit, "Eyewitness." The exhibit consists of artifacts, documents, video and audio recordings depicting the 25 most influential people in American history. The website can be accessed at: [www.archives.gov/exhibits/eyewitness](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/eyewitness).

## The Joint Forces Staff College

JFSC pursues a culture of innovation and adaptation, in an environment of intellectual rigor, in order to stretch the minds of our nation's emerging military leadership... encouraging critical thinking to conceive and apply joint solutions for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century battlefield while transforming to keep pace with the information age. The current mission of JFSC is to educate officers and other national security leaders in joint, multinational, and interagency operational-level planning and warfighting, to instill a primary commitment to joint, multinational, and interagency teamwork, attitudes, and perspectives.

JFSC is comprised of four separate Schools. The **Joint and Combined Warfighting School (JCWS)** evolved from the original 22-week course. It instructs students on the integrated strategic deployment, employment, sustainment, conflict termination and redeployment of joint forces. JCWS holds four 10-week classes each year. An optimum class would consist of 220 U.S. Officers, 30 International Officers, and 15 Interagency Civilians.

The **Joint Advanced Warfighting School (JAWS)** graduated its inaugural class in June 2005. JAWS produces graduates who can create campaign-quality concepts, plan for the employment of all elements of national power, accelerate transformation, succeed as joint force planners and be creative, conceptual, adaptive and innovative. JAWS is an 11-month course for a small group of select officers.

The **Joint Continuing and Distance Education School (JCDES)** manages joint education for the Reserve Component and delivers the "blended" Advanced Joint Professional Military Education (AJPME) program that combines resident and distance learning to educate officers and builds upon the foundation established in JPME Phase I to prepare these officers for joint duty. JCDES also includes the Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education (SEJPME) program, an e-learning course designed to prepare senior enlisted leaders assigned to or slated to serve in a joint organization.

The **Joint Command, Control, and Information Operations School (JC2IOS)** conducts specialized short courses for senior enlisted personnel and officers that meet the requirements directed by the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff, and Combatant Commanders. The school consists of an Information Operations (IO) Division and a Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) Division.